

PROFILE	Researcher at Gepetto Team, LAAS-CNRS. Strong background in optimization and control, and significant hands-on experience on torque-controlled legged robots.
RESEARCH INTERESTS	<p>Robotics multi-contact planning and control, legged locomotion and perception for motion planning and control.</p> <p>Artificial Intelligence optimal control, trajectory optimization, and reinforcement learning. (watch this video for more details about my research interest).</p>
EDUCATION	<p>PhD in Bioengineering and Robotics January 2014 - April 2017 Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia & Università degli Studi di Genova.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thesis title: Planning and Execution of Dynamic Whole-Body Locomotion on Challenging Terrain. Advisor: Dr. Ioannis Havoutis, Dr. Claudio Semini and Prof. Darwin G. Caldwell <p>M.Sc. in Mechatronic Engineering GPA 4.85/5 September 2009 - June 2013 Mechatronic Group at Simón Bolívar University, Venezuela (2-year program)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thesis title: Learning from Demonstration using Dynamic Movement Primitives in Excavator Robots (Outstanding Mention). Advisor: Prof. Gerardo Fernández-López <p>B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering GPA 7.49/9 September 2003 - December 2008 Antonio José de Sucre National Experimental Polytechnic University, Venezuela, (5-year program) Graduated rank 1st/34. Acknowledgements as the best internship thesis.</p>
WORK EXPERIENCE	<p>LAAS - CNRS</p> <p>Postdoc Researcher November 2017 - to date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efficient differential dynamic programming algorithm for multi-contact motion control in humanoid locomotion. Research in novel methods for receding horizon control and planning for multi-contact locomotion. Force feedback in optimal control. <p>Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia</p> <p>Research Fellow January 2014 - November 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Novel motion planning and control methods for legged locomotion on challenging terrain. Envisioning the software framework for perception, planning and control for quadrupedal robots. Developing of a software toolbox (called DWL) for easy prototyping (c++ with Python bindings) optimization, robotics, planning, control and visualization. <p>Simon Bolivar University</p> <p>Lecturer April 2012 - March 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching control system for undergraduate students. Developing of general purpose software for Model Predictive Control. <p>Academic Assistant September 2009 - April 2012</p>

- Teaching and preparation activities in control system lab for undergraduate engineering students.

Industrias Climáticas

Design Engineer

March 2009 – September 2009

- Designing of air-conditioned machines, e.g. evaporative, condenser, compact and chillers units.

SKILLS

Robotics and Computer Science

- Motion planning and trajectory optimization for legged robotics.
- Whole-body control, rigid-body dynamics and torque-control.
- Nonlinear, stochastic, convex and mixed-integer optimization.
- Supervised learning, learning from demonstration and reinforcement learning.
- State estimation, terrain mapping and computer vision.

Mechatronics and Software

- Hydraulic and pneumatic systems, mechanical design.
- CAD tools (SolidWorks, Inventor, AutoCAD, MSC Nastran, ANSYS)
- Signal processing, digital electronics, IO, and computer architecture.
- C++, Python and Matlab (more than 7 years of experience).
- Robot middlewares (ROS, LCM, YARP) and real-time systems (Xenomai).
- Open-source (OpenCV, PCL, Octomap, Pinocchio, Gazebo, Bullet, etc).
- Revision control tools (GIT, SVN and HG).
- Linux and OSX development environment.

Soft-skills

- Self-motivation, self-confidence, optimism and divergent thinking.
- Questioning, introspection and organization.
- Open to feedback, idea exchange and persuasion.
- Mentoring, public speaking and humour.

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Spanish (native), Italian (fluent), Japanese (basic)

PROJECT PORTFOLIO

Dynamic legged locomotion 2014 - 2017

- Motion planning for legged locomotion on challenging terrain.
- Terrain mapping for legged motion planning and control.

Software framework for locomotion 2014 - 2018

- Envisioned DLS lab software framework: simulation, control, planning, perception and communication.
- Legged locomotion toolbox: “[Dynamic Whole-body Locomotion \(DWL\)](#)” library.
- Real-time control interface with ROS and Xenomai.
- Visualization tools (e.g. [whole-body state plugin](#)).

MPC for robotics 2013

- Open-source library for [Model Predictive Control \(MPC\)](#) over ROS.

Autonomous backhoe machines 2010 - 2012

- Learning from Demonstration for autonomous execution of backhoe tasks.
- Control and state estimator.
- 3D terrain mapping and perception.

Design a waste compactor machine 2008

- Mechanical and hydraulic circuit design.
- Machine automation.

ACADEMIC VISITS	Visiting researcher Agile and Dexterous Robotics Lab (ADRL), ETH Zurich, Switzerland.	2016
INVITED TALKS	Oxford Research Institute University of Oxford, Oxford, UK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Title</u>: Motion planning for legged locomotion on challenging terrain. Gepetto Team LAAS, CNRS, Toulouse, France <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Title</u>: Planning and execution of dynamic whole-body locomotion on challenging terrain. 	December 1st 2017 April 28th 2017
AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Master thesis with Outstanding Mention. Simón Bolívar University. 2013. ▪ Best internship thesis. Antonio José de Sucre National Experimental Polytechnic University. 2008. 	
PEER-REVIEW ACTIVITIES	TMECH, RAL, ICRA, IROS, Humanoids, ASME Dynamic and System Conference.	
PUBLICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> [1] C. Mastalli, I. Havoutis, M. Focchi, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, <u>Motion planning for quadrupedal locomotion: coupled planning, terrain mapping and whole-body control.</u> (under-review). [2] R. Budhijara, J. Carpentier, C. Mastalli, N. Mansard, <u>Differential Dynamic Programming for Multi-Phase Rigid Contact Dynamics.</u> (under-review). [3] M. Focchi, R. Orsolino, V. Barasuol, C. Mastalli, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, <u>Heuristic Planning for Rough Terrain Locomotion in Presence of External Disturbances and Variable Perception Quality.</u> (under-review). [4] C. Mastalli, M. Focchi, I. Havoutis, Buchli, Jonas D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, <u>Trajectory and Foothold Optimization using Low-Dimensional Models for Rough Terrain Locomotion.</u> IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2017. [5] B. Aceituno-Cabezas, C. Mastalli, H. Dai, M. Focchi, A. Radulescu, D. G. Caldwell, J. Cappelletto, J. C. Grieco, G. Fernandez-Lopez and C. Semini, <u>Simultaneous Contact, Gait and Motion Planning for Robust Multi-Legged Locomotion via Mixed-Integer Convex Optimization.</u> IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL), 2017. [6] R. Orsolino, M. Focchi, C. Mastalli, H. Dai, D. G. Caldwell, and C. Semini, <u>Application of Wrench based Feasibility Analysis to the Online Trajectory Optimization of Legged Robots.</u> IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL), 2018. [7] C. Mastalli, I. Havoutis, M. Focchi, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, <u>Hierarchical Planning of Dynamic Movements without Scheduled Contact Sequences.</u> IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2016. [8] C. Mastalli, I. Havoutis, A. W. Winkler, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, <u>On-line and On-board Planning and Perception for Quadrupedal Locomotion.</u> IEEE International Conference on Technologies for Practical Robot Applications (TE-PRA), 2015. 	

- [9] A. W. Winkler, **C. Mastalli**, I. Havoutis, M. Focchi, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, [Planning and Execution of Dynamic Whole-Body Locomotion for a Hydraulic Quadraped Robot on Challenging Terrain](#). IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2015.
- [10] **C. Mastalli** and G. Fernandez-Lopez, [A Proposed Architecture for Autonomous Operations in Backhoe Machines](#). International Conference on Intelligent Autonomous Systems (IAS), 2015.
- [11] R. Jamisola and **C. Mastalli**, [Bio-inspired holistic control through modular relative Jacobian for combined four-arm robots](#). International Conference on Advanced Robotics (ICAR), 2017.
- [12] N. Certad, **C. Mastalli**, J. Cappelletto and J. C. Grieco, [Extracting Points Features from Laser Rangefinder Data Based on Hough Transform](#). IEEE Andean Regional Conference (ANDESCON), 2014.
- [13] **C. Mastalli**, D. Ralev, N. Certad and G. Fernández-López, [Asymptotic Stability Method for PID Controller Tuning in a Backhoe Machine](#). Dynamic and System Conference, 2013.
- [14] **C. Mastalli**, J. Cappelletto, R. Acuña, A. Terrones and G. Fernández-López, [An Imitation Learning Approach for Truck-Loading Operations in Backhoe Machines](#). International Conference on Climbing and Walking Robots and The Support Technologies for Mobile Machines (CLAWAR), 2012.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Member of the international group SGAC-Latin “Latin Space Generation” attached to a program of the United Nations UN (since 2008 until 2012).
- Founder and Head of Technical of the F-SAE Group of Antonio José de Sucre National Experimental Polytechnic University UNEXPO (since 2007 until 2008).