## CARLOS MASTALLI

## ROBOTICS RESEARCHER



https://cmastalli.github.io/, carlos.mastalli@gmail.com, (+33) 76 758 1484 Gepetto Team, LAAS-CNRS, Citizenship: Italian & Venezuelan

#### **PROFILE**

Postdoc Researcher at Gepetto Team, LAAS-CNRS. Strong background in optimization and control, and significant hands-on experience on torque-controlled legged robots.

# RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Robotics** multi-contact planning and control, legged locomotion and perception for motion planning and control.

**Artificial Intelligence** optimal control, trajectory optimization, and reinforcement learning. (watch this video for more details about my research interest).

#### **EDUCATION**

**PhD in Bioengineering and Robotics**January 2014 - April 2017
Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia & Università degli Studi di Genova.

- <u>Thesis title</u>: Planning and Execution of Dynamic Whole-Body Locomotion on Challenging Terrain.
- Advisor: Dr. Ioannis Havoutis, Dr. Claudio Semini and Prof. Darwin G. Caldwell

**M.Sc. in Mechatronic Engineering** GPA 4.85/5 September 2009 - June 2013 Mechatronic Group at Simón Bolívar University, Venezuela (2-year program)

- <u>Thesis title</u>: Learning from Demonstration using Dynamic Movement Primitives in Excavator Robots (Outstanding Mention).
- Advisor: Prof. Gerardo Fernández-López

**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  $1^{st}/34$ . Acknowledgements as the best internship thesis.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

#### LAAS - CNRS

### Postdoc Researcher

November 2017 - to date

- Develop of a real-time differential dynamic programing algorithm for multicontact motion control in humanoid locomotion.
- Research in novel methods for receding horizon control and planning for multi-contact locomotion.
- Force feedback in optimal control.

## Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia

#### Research Fellow

January 2014 - November 2017

- Develop of novel motion planning and control methods for legged locomotion on challenging terrain.
- Develop and envision software framework for perception, planning and control for quadrupedal robots.
- Develop a software toolbox (called dwl) for easy prototyping (c++ with python bindings) optimization, robotics, planning, control and visualization.

#### Simon Bolivar University

Lecturer

April 2012 - March 2014

- Teaching control system for undergraduate students.
- Develop of general purpose software for Model Predictive Control.

Academic Assistant

September 2009 - April 2012

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

#### Industrias Climáticas

## Design Engineer

March 2009 - September 2009

• Design and installation of air-conditioned machines, e.g. evaporative, condenser, compact and chillers units.

# TECHNICAL SKILLS

#### Robotics and Computer Science

- Practical and theoretical knowledge on Robotics, Optimization and Optimal Control (e.g. Ipopt, qpOASES, QuadProg and CMAES), Motion and Path Planning, Whole-body Control, Mapping and Machine Learning.
- Programming languages: C++, Python, Matlab and object-oriented design (more than 7 years of experience).
- Proficiency in Robot Operating System (ROS), Lightweight Communications and Marshalling (LCM), and Simulation Laboratory (SL).
- Practical experience on real-time systems (e.g. Xenomai).
- Proficiency in OpenCV, PCL, Gazebo and Bullet.

#### Mechatronics

- Practical and theoretical knowledge on Hydraulic and Pneumatic Systems, Mechanical Design.
- Proficiency in standard mechanics software: SolidWorks, Inventor, AutoCAD, MSC Nastram, ANSYS, Working Model 3D, MAPLE and Simulink.
- Theoretical knowledge on Mechanical Fatigue and Heat Transfer.
- Practical and theoretical knowledge on Signal Processing, Digital Electronics, Power Electronic, Instrumentation, Computer Architecture and Electro-Mechanic Actuators.

#### Software and Project Management

- Proficiency in Linux, OSX and Window based development environment.
- Proficiency in revision control system like GIT, SVN, and HG.
- Proficiency in software for object-oriented design like DIA.
- Ability to independently develop software development plans, including timeliness and test procedures.
- Comfortable with abrupt changes to project deadlines and job responsibilities.

#### 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 PredictiveControl (MPC) over ROS.

#### Autonomous backhoe machines

2010 - 2012

• Lerning from Demonstration for autonomous execution of backhoe tasks.

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- Control and state estimator.
- 3D terrain mapping and perception.

## Design a waste compactor machine

• Mechanical and hydraulic circuit design.

Machine automation.

# ACADEMIC VISITS

## Visiting researcher

2016

2008

Agile and Dexterous Robotics Lab (ADRL), ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

### INVITED TALKS

## Oxford Research Institute

December 1st 2017

University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

• Title: Motion planning for legged locomotion on challenging terrain.

### Gepetto Team

April 28th 2017

LAAS, CNRS, Toulouse, France

 <u>Title</u>: Planning and execution of dynamic whole-body locomotion on challenging terrain.

#### AWARDS

- 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**

- [1] C. Mastalli, I. Havoutis, M. Focchi, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, Motion planning for quadrupedal locomotion: coupled planning, terrain mapping and whole-body control. (under-review).
- [2] M. Focchi, R. Orsolino, V. Barasuol, C. Mastalli, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, Heuristic Planning for Rough Terrain Locomotion in Presence of External Disturbances and Variable Perception Quality (under-review). (under-review).
- [3] C. Mastalli, M. Focchi, I. Havoutis, Buchli, Jonas D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, Trajectory and Foothold Optimization using Low-Dimensional Models for Rough Terrain Locomotion. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2017.
- [4] 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, Simultaneous Contact, Gait and Motion Planning for Robust Multi-Legged Locomotion via Mixed-Integer Convex Optimization. IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL), 2017.
- [5] R. Orsolino, M. Focchi, C. Mastalli, H. Dai, D. G. Caldwell, and C. Semini, Application of Wrench based Feasibility Analysis to the Online Trajectory Optimization of Legged Robots. IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL), 2018.
- [6] C. Mastalli, I. Havoutis, M. Focchi, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, Hierarchical Planning of Dynamic Movements without Scheduled Contact Sequences. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2016.

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- [7] C. Mastalli, I. Havoutis, A. W. Winkler, D. G. Caldwell and C. Semini, Online and On-board Planning and Perception for Quadrupedal Locomotion. IEEE International Conference on Technologies for Practical Robot Applications (TE-PRA), 2015.
- [8] 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 Quadruped Robot on Challenging Terrain. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2015.
- [9] C. Mastalli and G. Fernandez-Lopez, A Proposed Architecture for Autonomous Operations in Backhoe Machines. International Conference on Intelligent Autonomous Systems (IAS), 2015.
- [10] 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.
- [11] 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.
- [12] 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, pp. 821–830.

## 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).

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