

## 6.894 Legged Locomotion in Robots and Animals

Handout No. 02

September 14, 1999

### Policies

#### Grading Policy

- Participation: 35%
- Final Project: 35%
- Problem Sets: 20%
- Paper Presentation: 10%

#### Participation

Class participation is encouraged and expected. Missing one class will go unnoticed; missing two will be noticed; missing three will affect your grade.

#### Final Project

The final project can be on anything which is related to legged locomotion. It can be based on your own research or thesis but the majority of the work must be done this term. A three to ten page write-up is required. The length of the write-up is dependent on the type and scope of your work. For example, a simulation or device can speak a lot on its own while a review of papers in a certain area of the field would require a more substantial write-up. Simple mathematical analysis of the problem being investigated can go a long way (see any of Tom McMahon's papers for examples of this). A proposal of one to two pages will be due by Halloween and a ten minute presentation will be required on the last or second to last day of class.

One or two students may use the laboratory simulation software on a Leg Laboratory computer. Students who have access to a computer on the AI Lab network can also use the software.

#### Problem Sets

Problem Sets will typically be relatively easy mathematical problems, or relatively unsolvable essay questions. Work with whomever you want and use any resources except blatant

copying of other's work. Reference all sources of information. Problem Sets will be collected and given a check, plus, or minus grade.

### **Paper Presentation**

Each person will be required to present one of the class papers. This should consist of a qualitative discussion covering: simple discription of the work; why the work was done; how it was done; and what it showed. Simple quantitative analysis/examples are good but don't get bogged down in the math. Results presented at a 12 year old level are important. Don't assume too much about your audience.

The presentation should last no more than 12 minutes and hit on the most important or interesting parts of the paper. The presenter will also start the discussion on the given paper. Presentations will be graded check, plus, or minus on basis of clarity, understanding and effort. We emphasize the importance of clarity in the presentation.