Assignment 1

Out: Tuesday, 20 January 2015
Due: Tuesday, 27 January 2015

Overview: In this assignment, you'll tell me about your robotics experience and one cool robot.

1. Write a paragraph or two describing your prior experience with robots (if any). If you have worked on a robot system, which one(s)? What is your background in Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering, and/or Electrical and Computer Engineering?

2. What do you most want to learn about this semester?

3. Do you have any concerns about the course?

4. What email address do you want used for the class Google group?

5. Describe one cool robot that you have seen (1-2 paragraphs). Your description should include the application domain, the sensors used on the robot, and how autonomous the system is. Include a reference to the web link or other source where you saw the robot. You can include a photo of the robot, if you’d like.

Your answers to the questions above should be turned in at the start of Tuesday’s class in hard copy.

Note: In addition to this assignment, you should turn in a one page discussion of each of the two papers handed out in class on Tuesday, 20 January. Each week, you should turn in a written discussion of each of the papers for that week (one page per research paper; can be a bit longer, if necessary). In this discussion, you should briefly summarize the paper (no more than two or three sentences), then discuss the pros and cons of the paper’s approach. You should also list at least three issues that you would like to discuss about the paper; these issues could be in the form of questions, if you’d prefer. These summaries must be original work and should include proper citations if you take any material from other sources. See the sample paper critique distributed in class for an example.