ECE209AS (Fall 2025)

Computational Robotics

Prof. Ankur Mehta (mehtank@ucla.edu)

Problem set 10 | Society, sociology, humanity, and other topics in robotics

Due Tue, Dec 2, 2025 @ 9am PT

Key takeaways

After this lecture, you should understand:

- What are (some) other problems within robotics, and how they can be framed within the formulation that we've learned over this course.
- How the decisions we make as engineers translate to effects on humans—not just directly, but also through layers of societal indirection.

Assignment

- 10(a). Choose one of your classmates' team final projects (not your own!), and write a short 3-5 sentence evaluation of possible second-order societal impacts of their proposed solution. That is, assuming their technology effectively solves their stated problem and accomplishes their stated motivation, what other (positive or negative) non-technical effects might result from the adoption of their technology?
- 10(b). Would you be willing to let us use your correct responses as (anonymized) examples for the class?