

SCE 594: Special Topics in Intelligent Automation & Robotics

Lecture 26: Floating-base Manipulators



Outline

- Overview Floating-Base Manipulators
- Recap: Dynamics of Fixed-Base Manipulators
- Dynamics of Floating-Base Manipulators



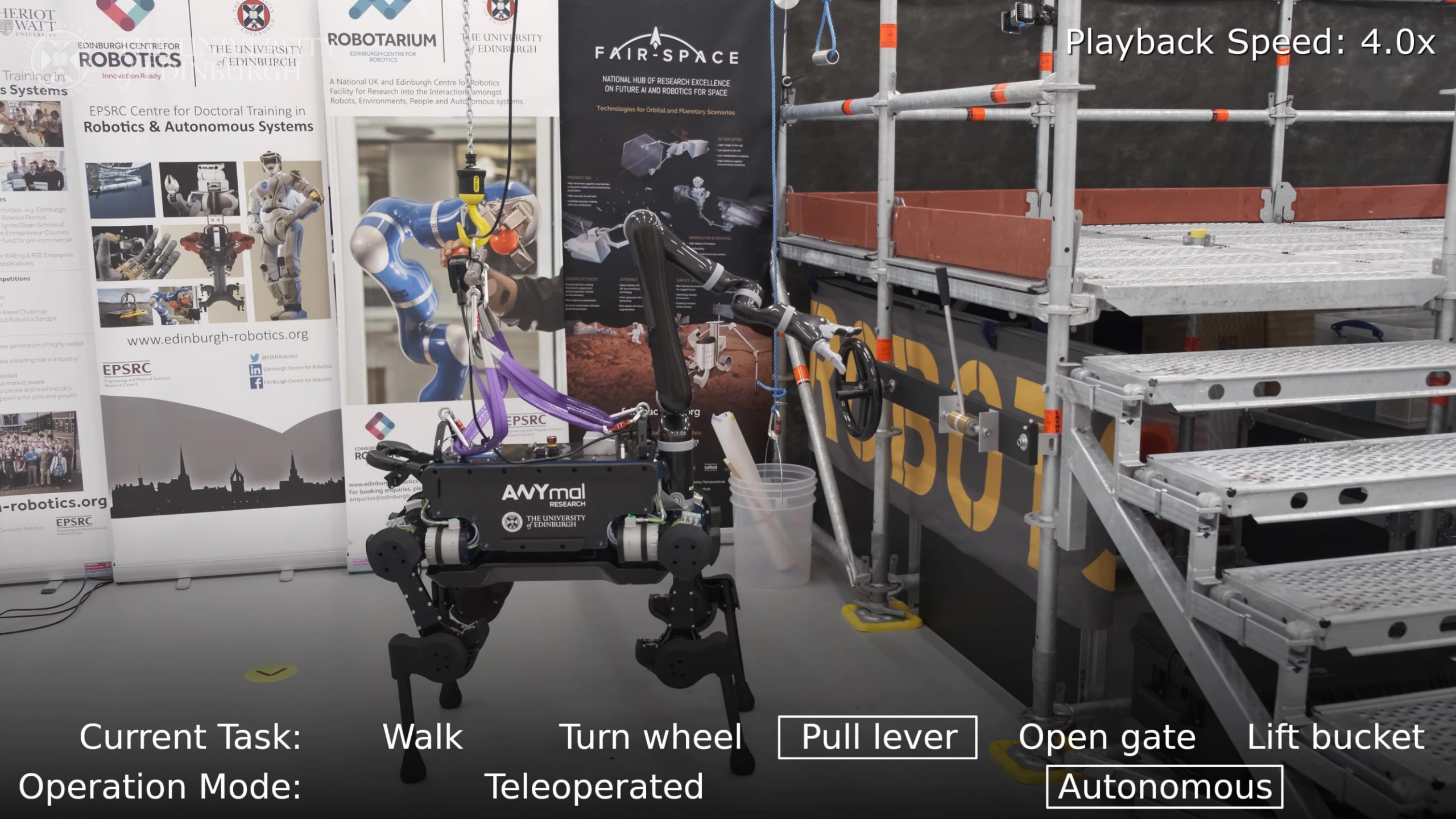
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Fully Autonomous



Playback Speed: 4.0x

Current Task:
Operation Mode:

Walk

Turn wheel

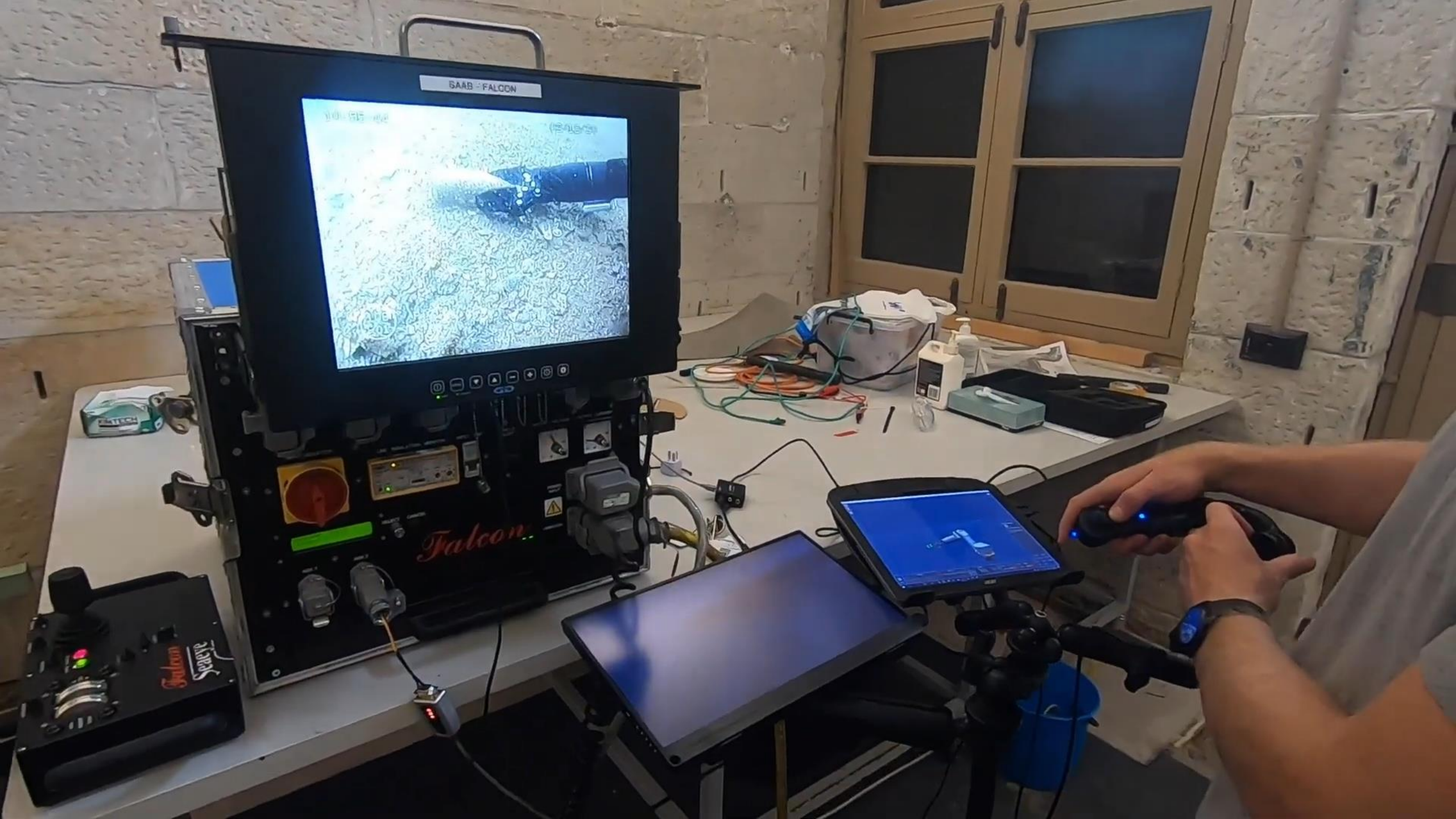
Pull lever

Open gate

Lift bucket

Teleoperated

Autonomous



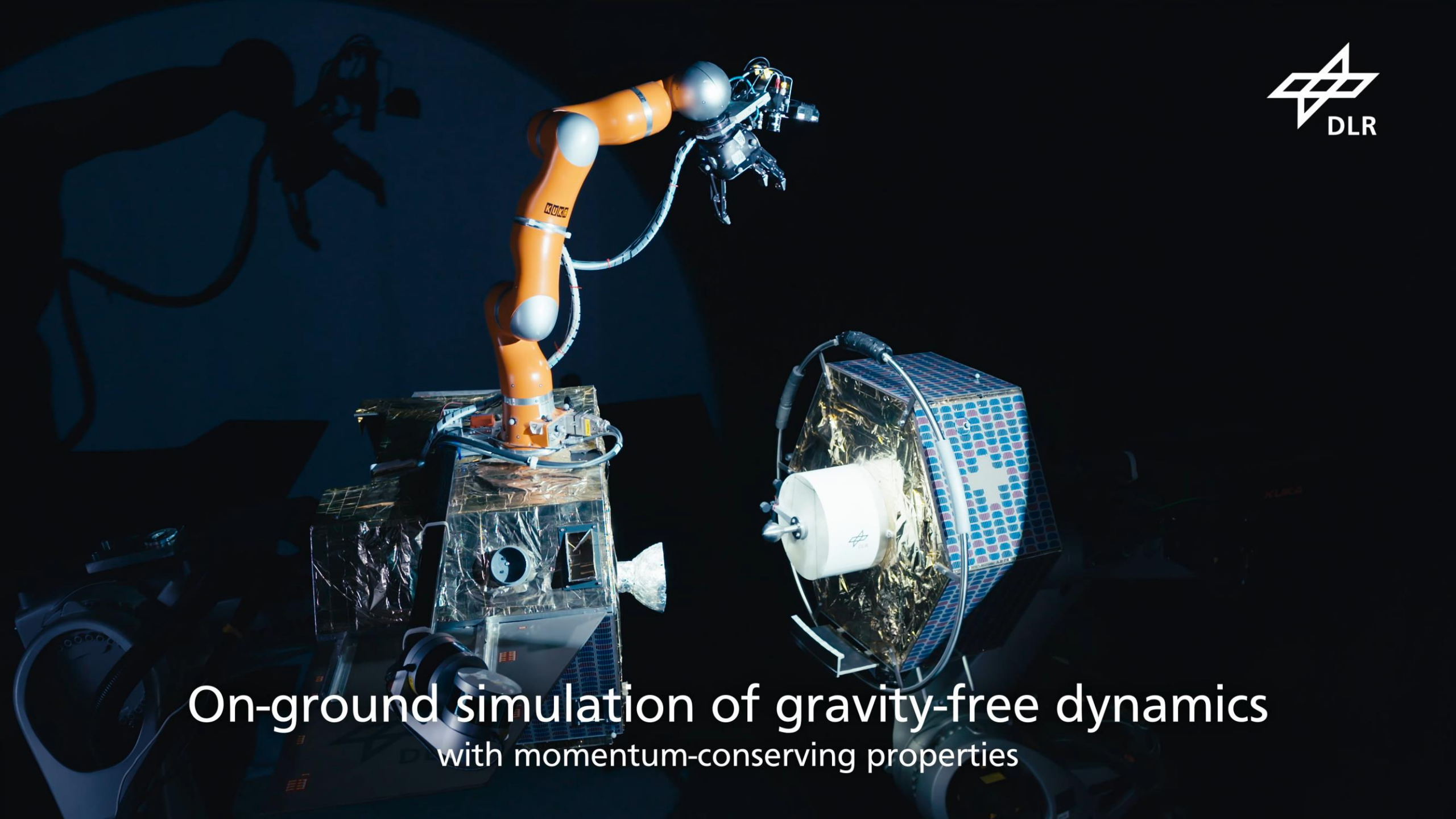
SAAB FALCON

Falcon

Falcon
Severe



Change the joint configuration in midair

The background of the slide is a photograph of a laboratory experiment. An orange KUKA robotic arm is positioned over a satellite model. To the right, another satellite model is shown, featuring a blue and white checkered pattern and a white cylindrical component. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source coming from the left, casting long shadows. The text "On-ground simulation of gravity-free dynamics with momentum-conserving properties" is overlaid in white at the bottom.

On-ground simulation of gravity-free dynamics with momentum-conserving properties

Complexity of Floating-base Manipulators

- **Fixed-base:** All degrees of freedom (DOFs) are typically actuated.
- **Floating-base:** The base is unactuated (or indirectly actuated), leading to under-actuation.

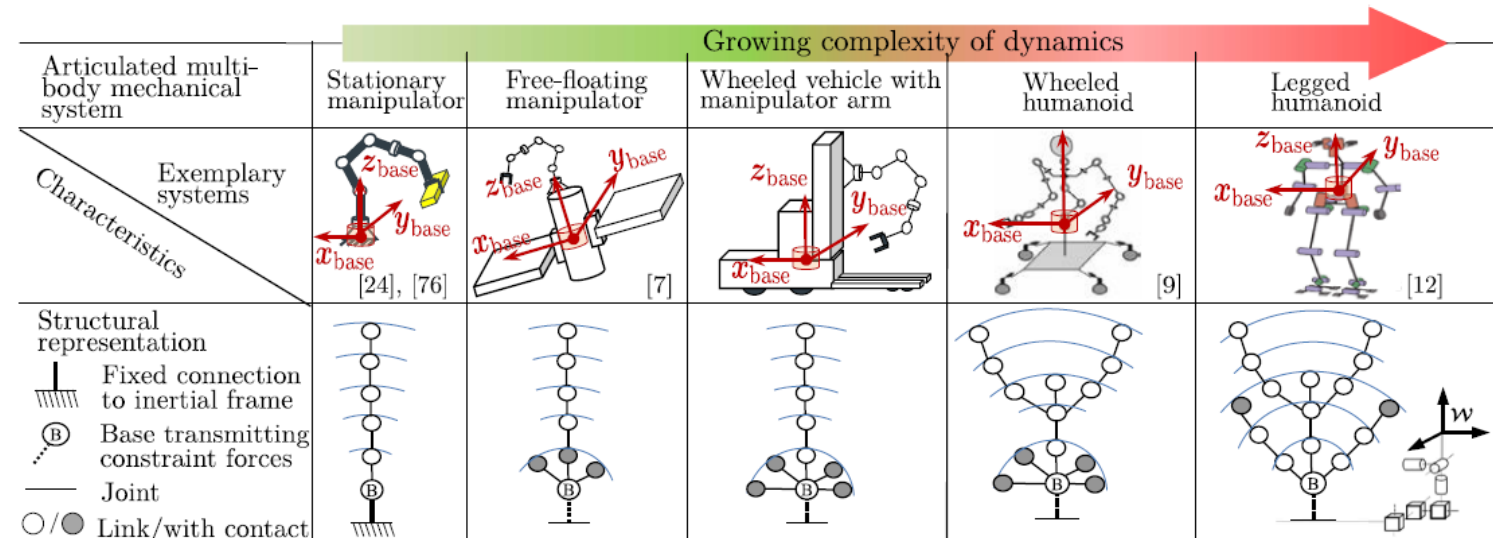


Figure from Mazin Hamad et al. IEEE TRO 2023



Complexity of Floating-base Manipulators

- **Fixed-base:** The base is stationary; dynamics are primarily local to the manipulator.
- **Floating-base:** Base and arm(s) dynamics are tightly coupled, and the base has holonomic or non-holonomic constraints.

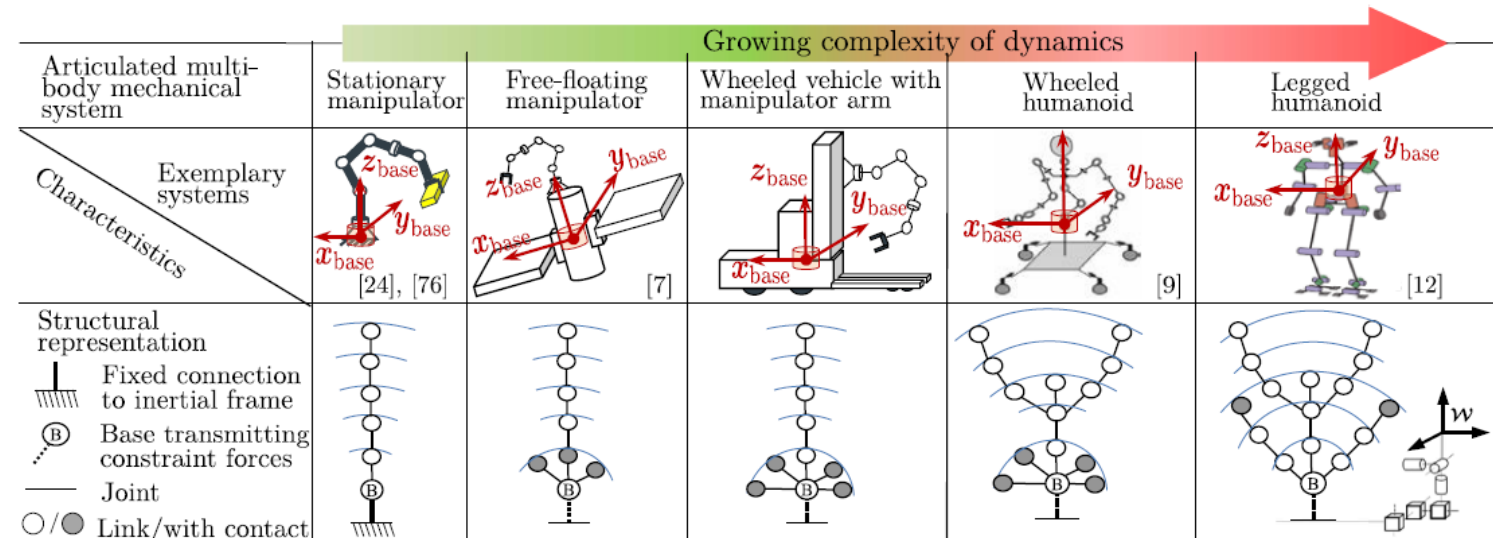


Figure from Mazin Hamad et al. IEEE TRO 2023



Complexity of Floating-base Manipulators

- **Fixed-base:** Stability is not a concern as the base is immobile.
- **Floating-base:** Especially in ground or legged platforms, stability is dynamic and must be actively maintained.

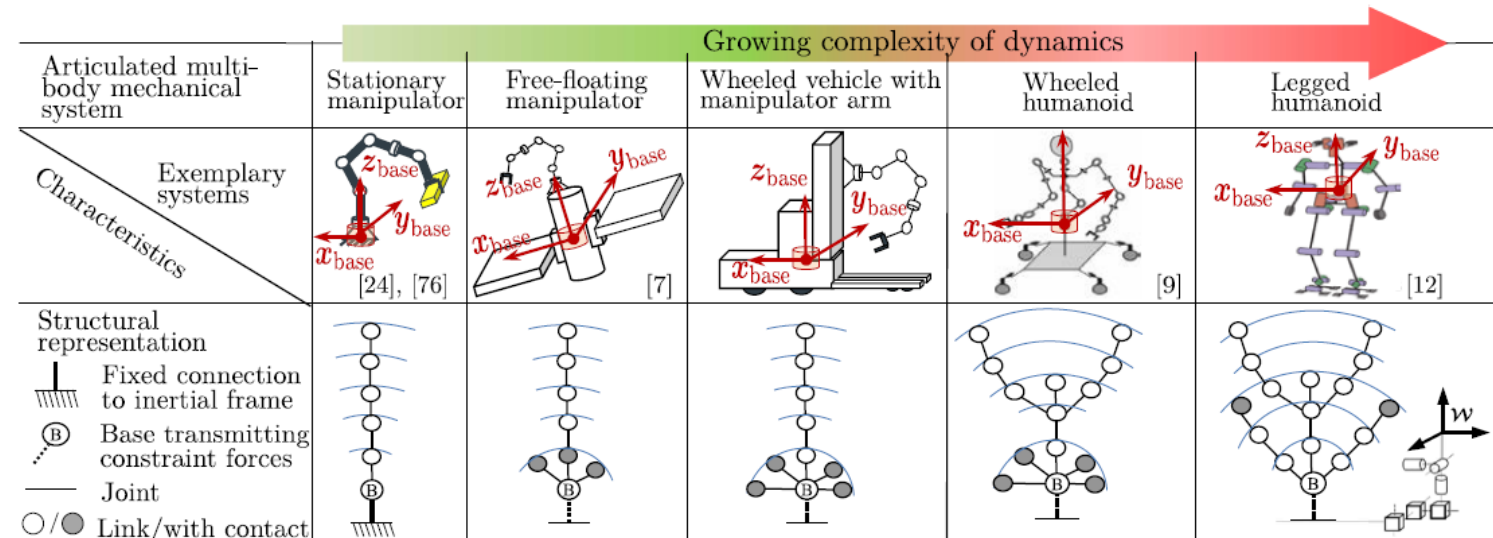


Figure from Mazin Hamad et al. IEEE TRO 2023



Complexity of Floating-base Manipulators

- **Fixed-base:** External reaction forces are naturally transferred to the environment.
- **Floating-base:** Internal forces and torques cannot rely on ground reactions (linear and angular momentum must be managed by control carefully)

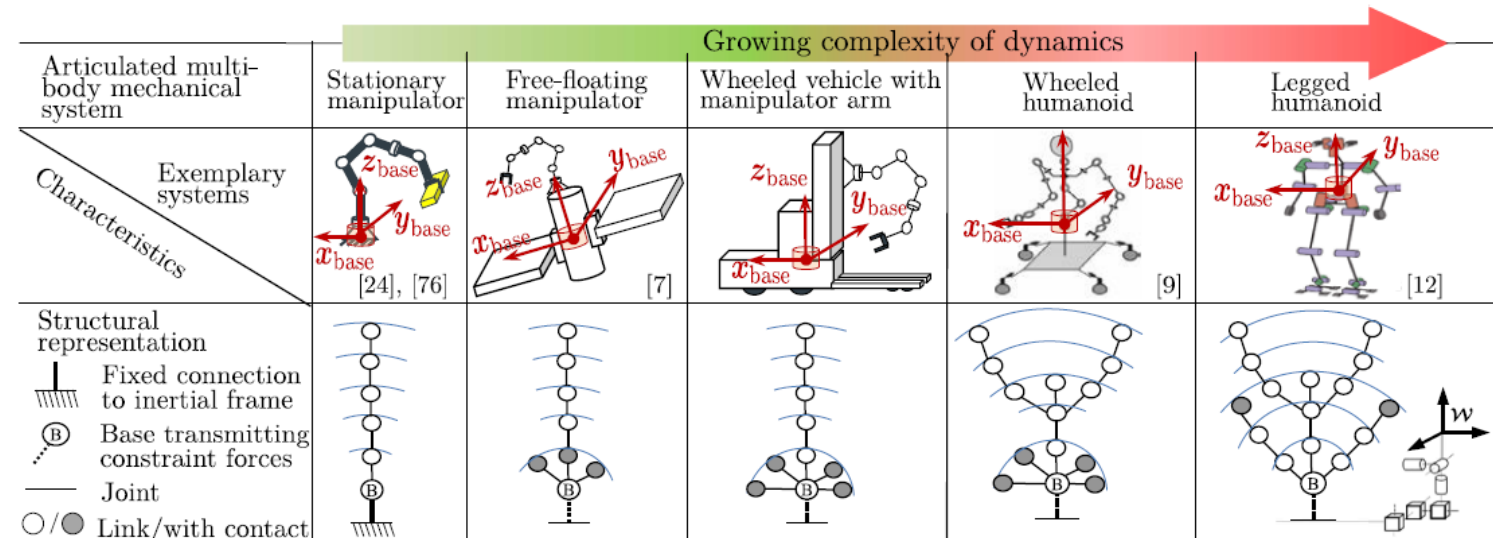


Figure from Mazin Hamad et al. IEEE TRO 2023



Complexity of Floating-base Manipulators

- **Fixed-base:** Simpler joint-space or task-space control suffices in many cases.
- **Floating-base:** Requires whole-body control, prioritization, and constraint handling.

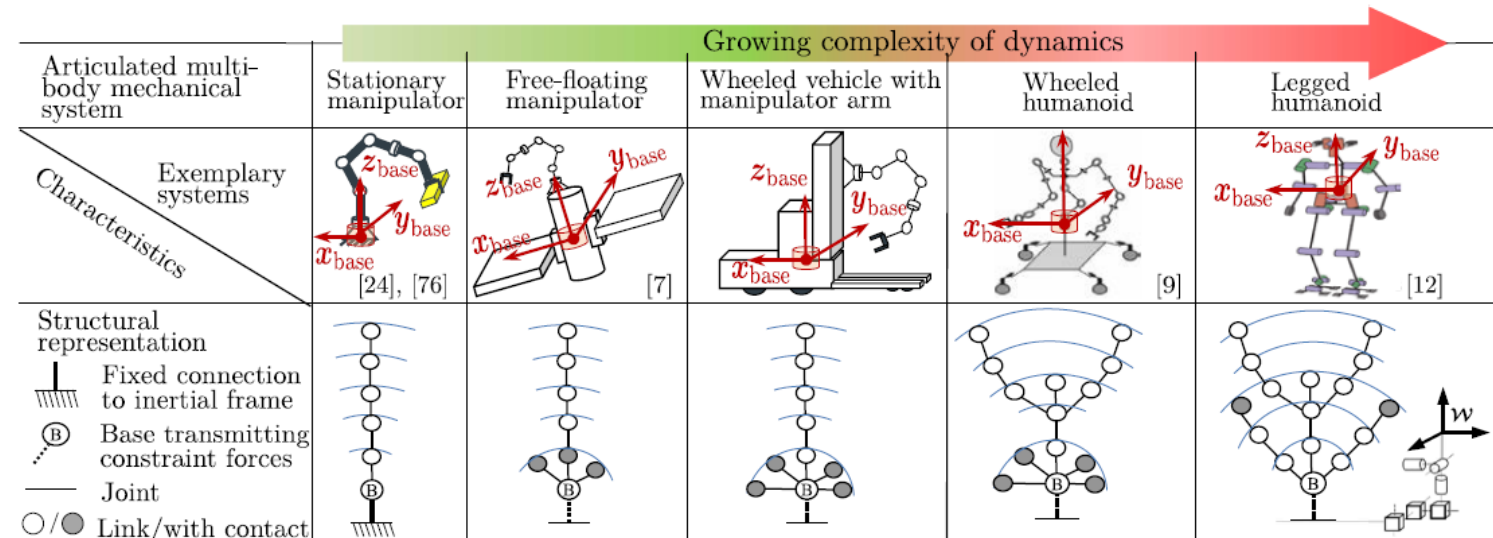


Figure from Mazin Hamad et al. IEEE TRO 2023

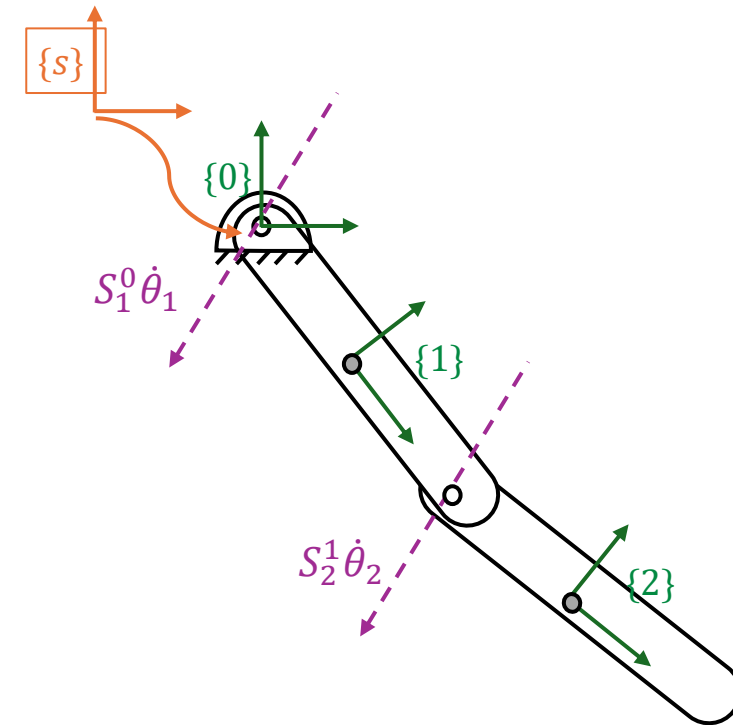
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- Overview Floating-Base Manipulators
- **Recap: Dynamics of Fixed-Base Manipulators**
- Dynamics of Floating-Base Manipulators



Recap: Fixed-base Dynamics

- Structure:
 - $n \times$ Rigid Bodies
 - $n_r \times$ 1-DOF Revolute Joints
 - $n_p \times$ 1-DOF Prismatic Joints
 - Frame $\{i\}$ is attached to i -th body, $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$
 - Frame $\{0\} \equiv \{s\}$ is stationary.
- Configuration Space:
 - Unconstrained: $Q_{free} := (SE(3))^n$
 - Constrained/Reduced: $Q = \underbrace{S^1 \times \dots \times S^1}_{n_r} \times \underbrace{\mathbb{R} \times \dots \times \mathbb{R}}_{n_p}$
 - $\dim Q_{free} = 6n$, $\dim Q = n$



$$n_r + n_p = n$$



Recap: Fixed-base Dynamics

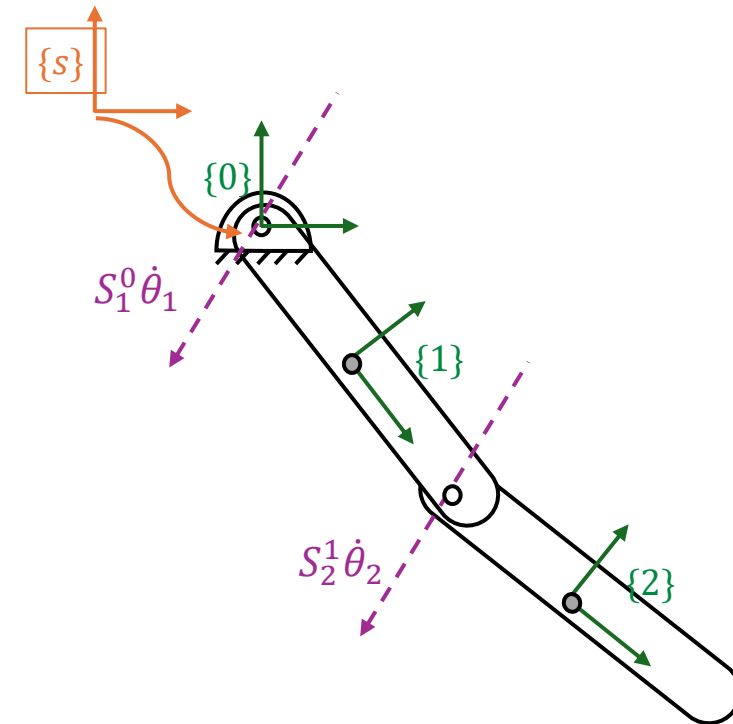
- 1-DOF Joints:

- Joint configuration: $q_i \in \mathbb{S}^1$ or $q_i \in \mathbb{R}$

- Joint velocity: $\dot{q}_i \in \mathbb{R}$

- Relative Pose: $H_i^{i-1}(q_i) = H_i^{i-1}(0) e^{\tilde{S}_i^{i-1} q_i} \in SE(3)$

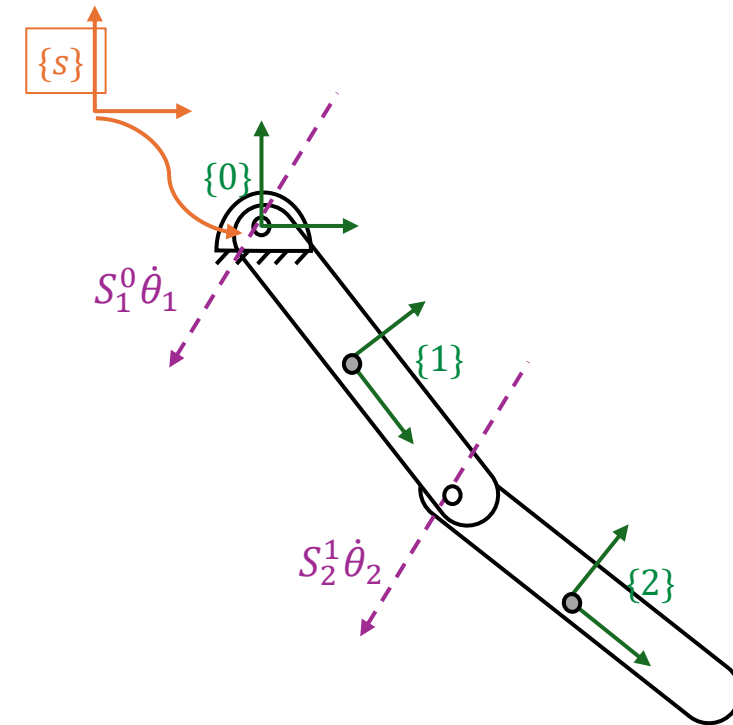
- Relative Twist: $\mathcal{V}_i^{i-1} = S_i^{i-1} \dot{q}_i \in \mathbb{R}^6$



Recap: Fixed-base Dynamics

- Recursive Newton-Euler Inverse Dynamics

- $\mathcal{V}_i^{i,S} = \text{Ad}_{H_{i-1}^i} \mathcal{V}_{i-1}^{i-1,S} + S_i^{i,i-1} \dot{q}_i$
- $\dot{\mathcal{V}}_i^{i,S} = \text{Ad}_{H_{i-1}^i} \dot{\mathcal{V}}_{i-1}^{i-1,S} - \text{ad}_{S_i^{i,i-1} \dot{q}_i} \left(\text{Ad}_{H_{i-1}^i} \mathcal{V}_{i-1}^{i-1,S} \right) + S_i^{i,i-1} \ddot{q}_i$
- $\mathcal{W}_{i-1}^{i,i} = \mathfrak{T}^{i,i} \dot{\mathcal{V}}_i^{i,S} - \text{ad}_{\mathcal{V}_i^{i,S}}^\top (\mathfrak{T}^{i,i} \mathcal{V}_i^{i,S}) + \text{Ad}_{H_i^{i+1}}^\top \mathcal{W}_i^{i+1,i+1}$
- $\tau_i = (S_i^{i,i-1})^\top \mathcal{W}_{i-1}^{i,i}$



For $i = 1$, $\mathcal{V}_0^{0,S} = 0$



Recap: Fixed-base Dynamics

- Compact Newton-Euler Inverse Dynamics

- $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{L}(q) \mathcal{S} \dot{q}$
- $\dot{\mathcal{V}} = \mathcal{L}(q) \mathcal{S} \ddot{q} - \mathcal{L}(q) \text{ad}_{\mathcal{S} \dot{q}} \mathcal{A}(q) \mathcal{V}$
- $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{L}^\top(q) \mathfrak{T} \dot{\mathcal{V}} - \mathcal{L}^\top(q) \text{ad}_{\mathcal{V}}^\top \mathfrak{T} \mathcal{V}$
- $\tau = \mathcal{S}^\top \mathcal{W}$

Unconstrained Variables

$$\mathcal{V} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{V}_1^{1,\textcolor{brown}{S}} \\ \vdots \\ \mathcal{V}_n^{n,\textcolor{brown}{S}} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n}, \quad \mathcal{W} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{W}_0^{1,1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathcal{W}_{n-1}^{n,n} \end{pmatrix} \in (\mathbb{R}^{6n})^*$$

Constrained/Reduced Variables

$$\dot{q} = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \tau = \begin{pmatrix} \tau_1 \\ \vdots \\ \tau_n \end{pmatrix} \in (\mathbb{R}^n)^*$$



Recap: Fixed-base Dynamics

- Compact Newton-Euler Inverse Dynamics

- $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{J}(q)\dot{q}$
- $\dot{\mathcal{V}} = \mathcal{J}(q)\ddot{q} - \mathcal{L}(q) \operatorname{ad}_{\mathcal{S} \dot{q}} \mathcal{A}(q) \mathcal{V}$
- $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{L}^\top(q) \mathfrak{T} \dot{\mathcal{V}} - \mathcal{L}^\top(q) \operatorname{ad}_{\mathcal{V}}^\top \mathfrak{T} \mathcal{V}$
- $\tau = \mathcal{S}^\top \mathcal{W}$

Geometric Body Jacobian of all n -links

$$\mathcal{J}(q) = \begin{pmatrix} S_1^{1,0} & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ \operatorname{Ad}_{H_1^2(q)} S_1^{1,0} & S_2^{2,1} & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ \operatorname{Ad}_{H_1^3(q)} S_1^{1,0} & \operatorname{Ad}_{H_2^3(q)} S_2^{2,1} & S_3^{3,2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \operatorname{Ad}_{H_1^n(q)} S_1^{1,0} & \operatorname{Ad}_{H_2^n(q)} S_2^{2,1} & \operatorname{Ad}_{H_3^n(q)} S_3^{3,2} & \cdots & S_n^{n,n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{J}_1^{1,s} \\ \mathcal{J}_2^{2,s}(q) \\ \mathcal{J}_3^{3,s}(q) \\ \vdots \\ \mathcal{J}_n^{n,s}(q) \end{pmatrix}$$



Recap: Fixed-base Dynamics

- Reduced Dynamics

- $\mathcal{V} = J(q)\dot{q}$
- $\dot{\mathcal{V}} = J(q)\ddot{q} - \mathcal{L}(q) \operatorname{ad}_{S\dot{q}} \mathcal{A}(q) \mathcal{V}$
- $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{L}^\top(q) \mathfrak{T} \dot{\mathcal{V}} - \mathcal{L}^\top(q) \operatorname{ad}_{\mathcal{V}}^\top \mathfrak{T} \mathcal{V}$
- $\tau = S^\top \mathcal{W}$

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} = \tau$$

$$M(q) := J^\top(q) \mathfrak{T} J(q)$$
$$C(q, \dot{q}) := J^\top(q) [-\mathfrak{T} \mathcal{L}(q) \operatorname{ad}_{S\dot{q}} \mathcal{A}(q) - \operatorname{ad}_{\mathcal{L}(q) S\dot{q}}^\top \mathfrak{T}] J(q)$$



Recap: Fixed-base Dynamics

- Reduced Dynamics with gravity and end-effector wrench

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) = \tau + J_e^T(q)\mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$
$$\mathcal{V}_e^{e,s} = J_e(q)\dot{q}$$



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