

SCE 594: Special Topics in Intelligent Automation & Robotics

Lecture 27: Impedance Control III



Outline

- Recap last lecture
- Desired Impedance in 6D
- Admittance Control



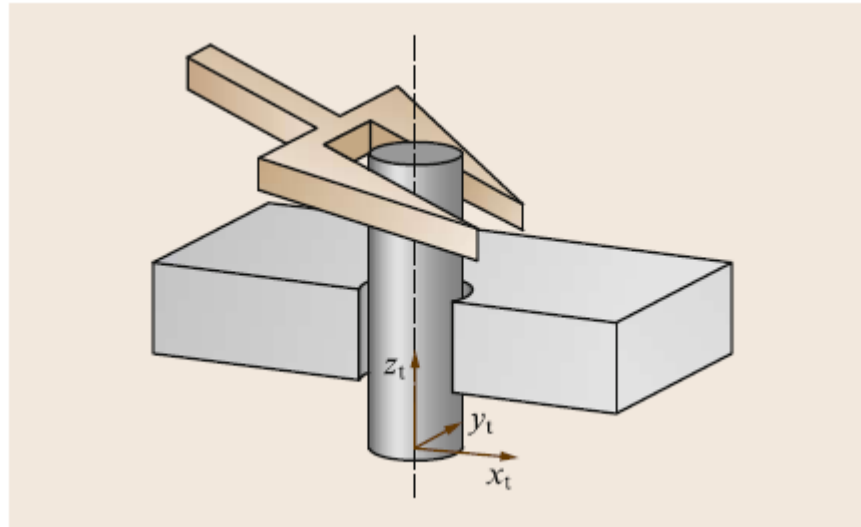
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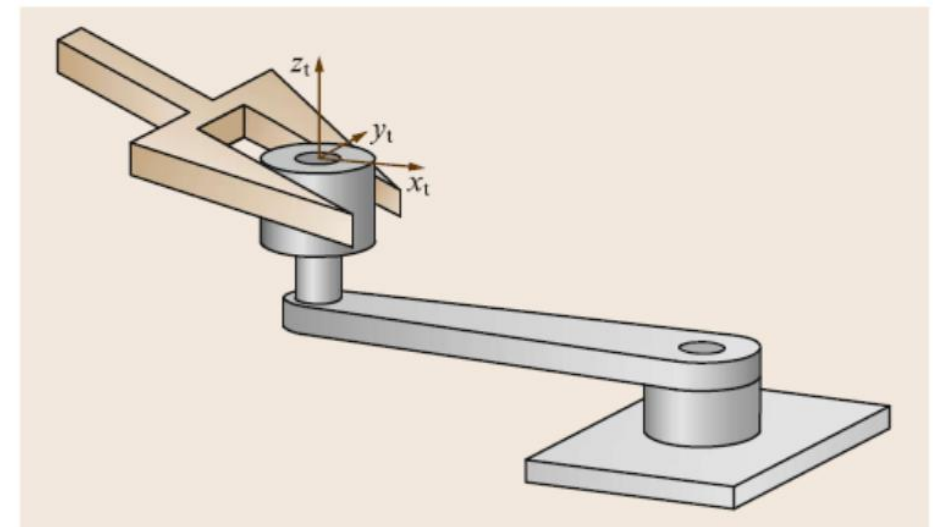


Recap: Interaction Control

- Controlling **either** the pose **or** wrench requires perfect knowledge of the task environment and when contact occurs or not, which is clearly not possible in practice.
- Instead, the **behavior** (relation between the wrench and pose) of the controlled robot could be modified independent of the environment.



Insertion of a cylindrical peg into a hole

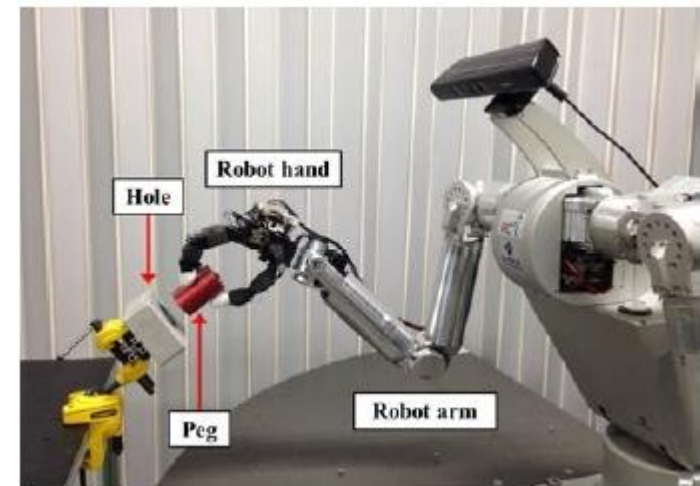
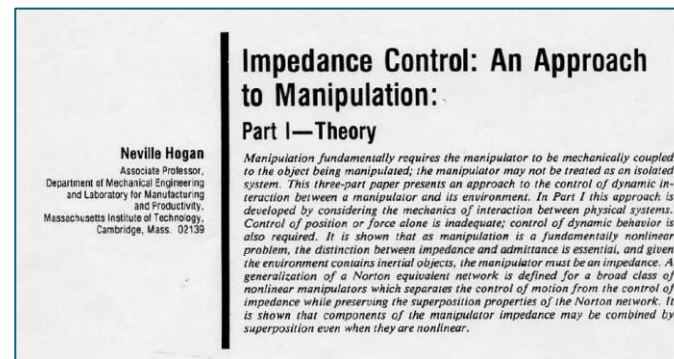


Turning a crank with an idle handle



Recap: Impedance Control

- Neville Hogan's idea of impedance control is that instead of commanding exact positions or forces, the robot is controlled to **behave like a mechanical impedance**:
 - It responds to external forces with a desired relationship between force, position, and velocity, like a spring-damper-mass system.
- The key is shaping the robot's **dynamic behavior** — its *stiffness*, *damping*, and *inertia* — to match the interaction task needs.

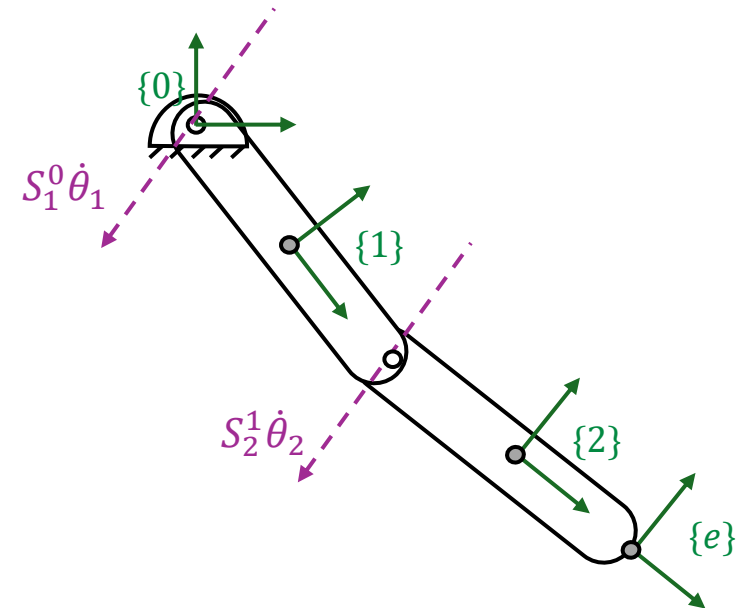


Recap: Joint-Space Dynamics

- Now we consider the impedance control problem of a n -link manipulator governed by

$$M(\theta)\ddot{\theta} + C(\theta, \dot{\theta})\dot{\theta} + B(\dot{\theta})\dot{\theta} + g(\theta) = \tau_{\text{con}} + \tau_{\text{int}}$$

- where $\tau_{\text{con}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are joint control torques and $\tau_{\text{int}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are torques due to interaction with the environment.



Recap: Geometric Jacobian

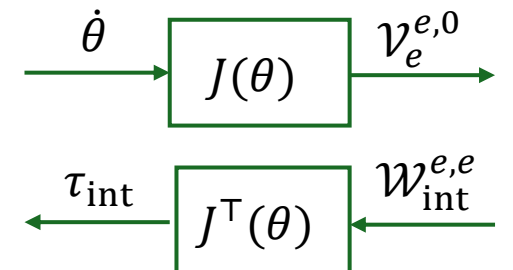
- The geometric Jacobian is a matrix that linearly maps the joint velocities to the end-effector's twist

$$\mathcal{V}_e^{e,0} = J(\theta)\dot{\theta}$$

- The dual (or simply transpose) of the geometric Jacobian linearly maps any wrench at the end effector to joint torques

$$\tau_{\text{int}} = J^T(\theta) \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

- It provides an instantaneous kinematic relation between the **joint space** and the **task space**.



Recap: Task-Space Dynamics

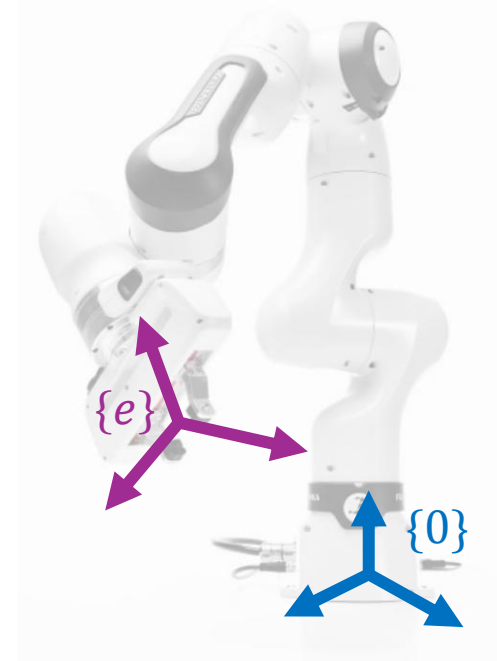
- A human interacting with a robot arm will experience the behavior given by

$$\underbrace{\Lambda(\theta)}_{\text{Apparent inertia}} \dot{v}_e^{e,0} + \underbrace{\eta(\theta, v_e^{e,0})}_{\text{Apparent nonlinear friction}} v_e^{e,0} + \underbrace{\gamma(\theta)}_{\text{Apparent gravitational forces}} = J^{-T}(\theta) \tau_{\text{con}} + \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

Apparent
inertia

Apparent
nonlinear friction

Apparent
gravitational forces



$$\Lambda(q) := (J(q)M^{-1}(q)J^T(q))^{-1}$$

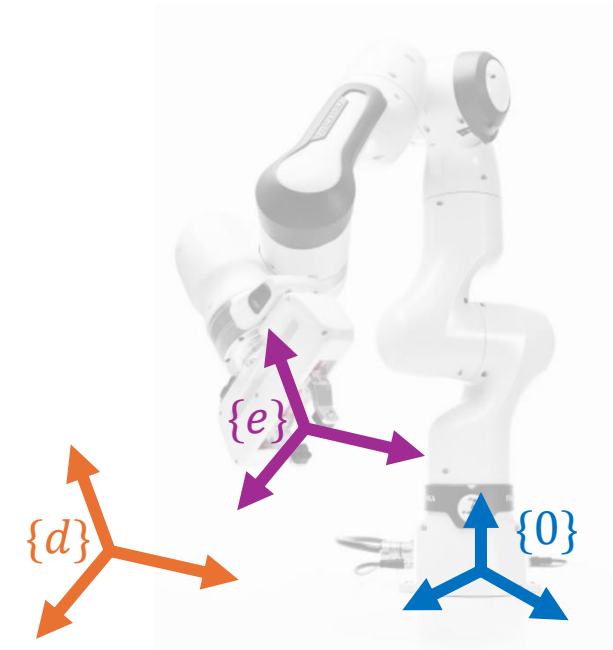


Recap: Desired Task-Space Dynamics

- We can now shape the task-space dynamics to be our **desired behavior**

$$\mathfrak{M} \ddot{q} + \mathfrak{B} \dot{q} + \mathfrak{K} q = \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

where $q \in \mathbb{R}^6$ characterizes the error* between $\{e\}$ & $\{d\}$.



*this error will be defined later



Recap: Alternative formulations

- Impedance Control law 1

$$\tau_{\text{con}} = J^T(\theta) \left[\underbrace{\Lambda(\theta)\dot{\mathcal{V}}_e^{e,0} + \eta(\theta, \mathcal{V}_e^{e,0})\mathcal{V}_e^{e,0} + \gamma(\theta)}_{\text{task-dynamics compensation}} - \underbrace{(\mathfrak{M}\ddot{x}_d + \mathfrak{B}\dot{q} + \mathfrak{K}q)}_{\text{desired behavior}} \right]$$

- Impedance Control law 2

$$\tau_{\text{con}} = J^T(\theta) [\eta(\theta, \mathcal{V}_e^{e,0})\mathcal{V}_e^{e,0} + \gamma(\theta) - (\mathfrak{B}\dot{q} + \mathfrak{K}q)]$$

- Impedance Control law 3

$$\tau_{\text{con}} = J^T(\theta) [\gamma(\theta) - (\mathfrak{B}\dot{q} + \mathfrak{K}q)]$$



Recap: Comparison

Impedance Control 3

- Control Law:

$$\tau_{\text{con}} = J^T(\theta)[\gamma(\theta) - (\mathfrak{B}\dot{q} + \mathfrak{K}q)]$$

- Task-space controller
- Uses Geometric Jacobian
- Goal: Regulate end-effector to x_d with compliant behavior
- End-effector behaves like Cartesian spring-damper

PD + Gravity Compensation

- Control Law:

$$\tau = g(\theta) - K_p(\theta - \theta_d) - K_d\dot{\theta}$$

- Joint-space controller
- Does not Use Geometric Jacobian
- Goal: Regulate joints to θ_d
- Each joint behaves like spring-damper



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Desired Impedance in 6D

- Let's take a closer look at the desired impedance behavior

$$\mathfrak{M} \ddot{q} + \mathfrak{B} \dot{q} + \mathfrak{K} q = \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

- Caution must be considered in defining this impedance in a geometrically consistent manner.



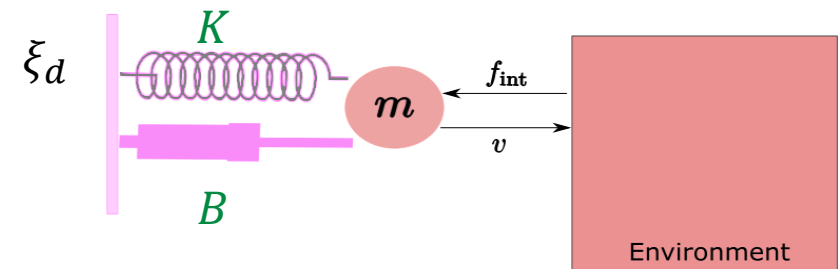
Desired Impedance in 6D

- Let's take a closer look at the desired impedance behavior

$$\mathfrak{M} \ddot{q} + \mathfrak{B} \dot{q} + \mathfrak{K} q = \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

- For the point-mass case, we had that $q := \xi - \xi_d \in \mathbb{R}^3$, and the desired impedance behavior:

$$m \ddot{q} + B \dot{q} + K q = f_{\text{int}}$$



Desired Impedance in 6D

- Let's take a closer look at the desired impedance behavior

$$\mathfrak{M} \ddot{q} + \mathfrak{B} \dot{q} + \mathfrak{K} q = \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

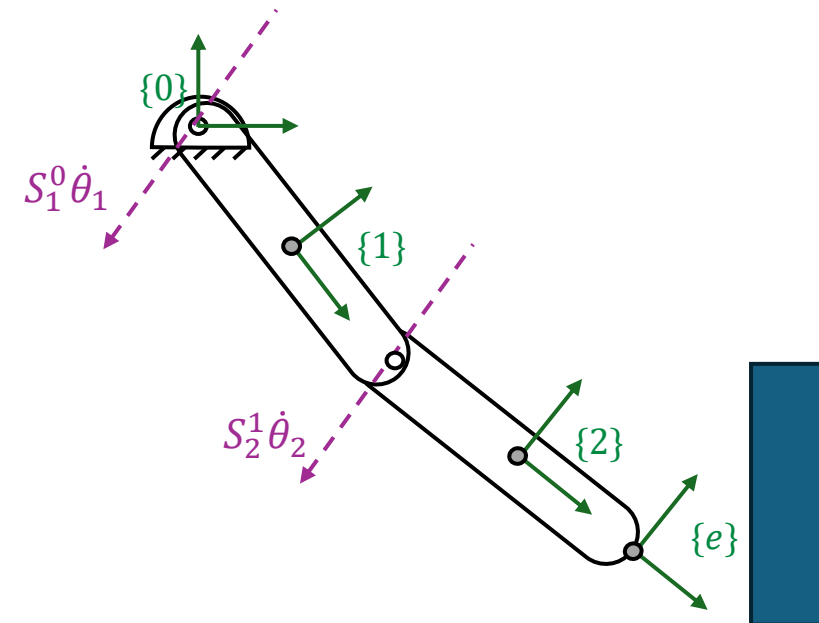
- Similarly for planar robots, the task space is $SE(2)$ such that

$$\bullet H_e^0 = \begin{pmatrix} c_\phi & -s_\phi & \xi_x \\ s_\phi & c_\phi & \xi_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e} = \begin{pmatrix} \tau_{\text{int}} \\ f_{x,\text{int}} \\ f_{y,\text{int}} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Therefore, orientation is simply 1-dimensional

- We have that

$$\bullet q := \begin{pmatrix} \phi - \phi_d \\ \xi_x - \xi_{x,d} \\ \xi_y - \xi_{y,d} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

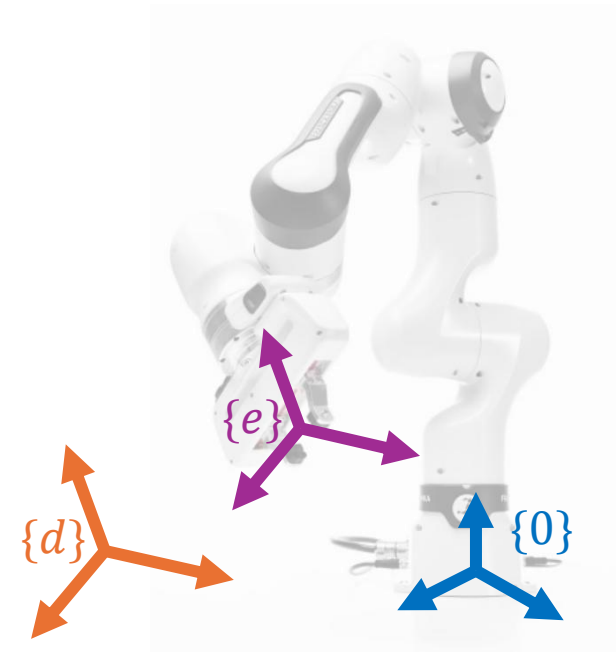


Desired Impedance in 6D

- Let's take a closer look at the desired impedance behavior

$$\mathfrak{M} \ddot{q} + \mathfrak{B} \dot{q} + \mathfrak{K} q = \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

- However, for a generic spatial robot, we cannot simply define the error $q \in \mathbb{R}^6$ as $q = H_e^0 - H_d^0 \notin SE(3)$.



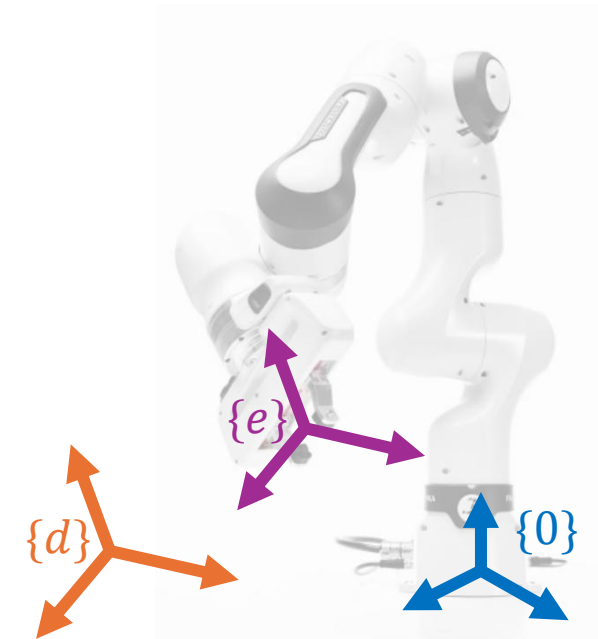
Common approaches

1. Split translation and rotation

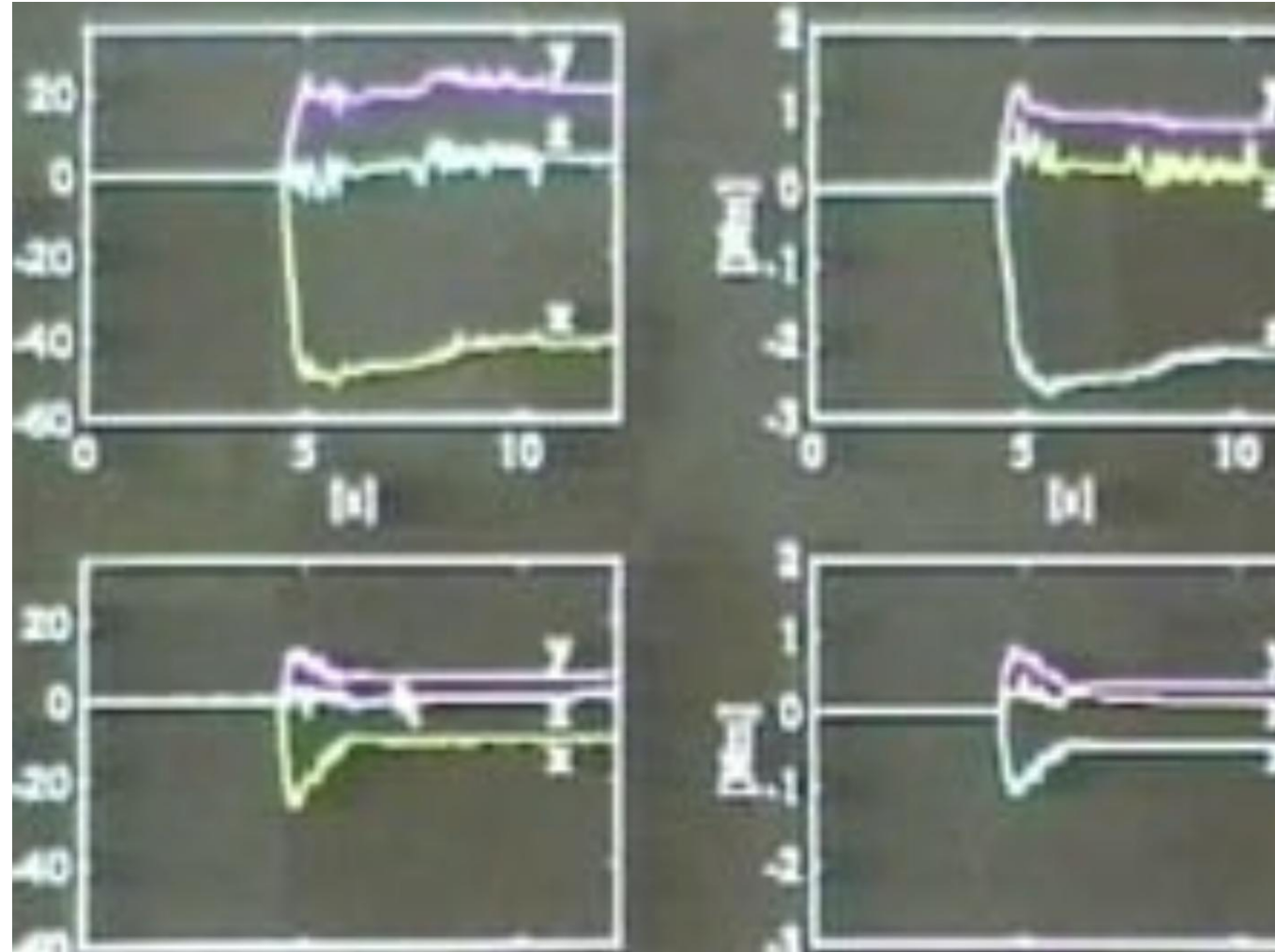
- $q = \begin{pmatrix} e_R \\ e_\xi \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^6$
- Relative displacement $e_\xi := \xi - \xi_d \in \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\mathfrak{M} \ddot{q} + \mathfrak{B} \dot{q} + \mathfrak{K} q = \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

Relative orientation	Method	Limitations
$e_R = \phi - \phi_d$	ϕ : Euler-angles	Stiffness behavior becomes coupled in the 3 axes.
$e_R = S^{-1}(\log R_d^\top R)$	$\log : SO(3) \rightarrow so(3)$ Exponential Coordinates	singular or ambiguous at $\theta = \pi$.
$e_R = \frac{1}{2} S^{-1}(R_d^\top R - R^\top R_d)$	R : Rotation matrix	Error magnitude decreases near 180° and becomes zero at exactly 180° , which leads to slow convergence.



Importance of Geometric Consistency



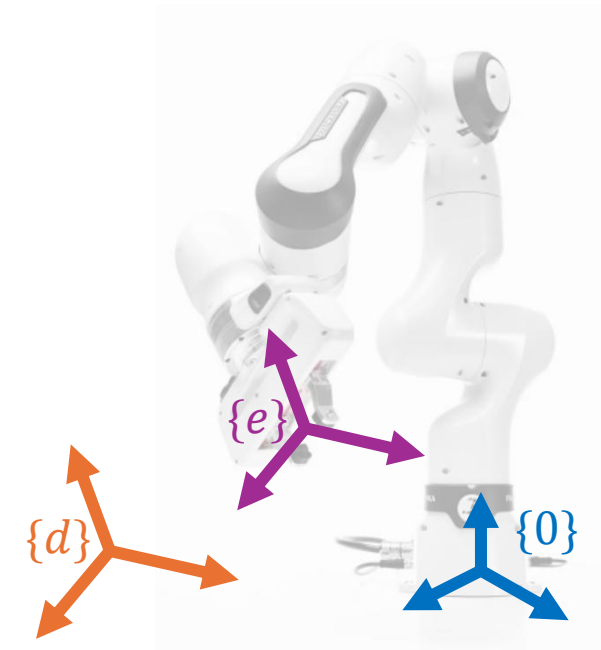
Common approaches

2. Energy-based Approach on SE(3)

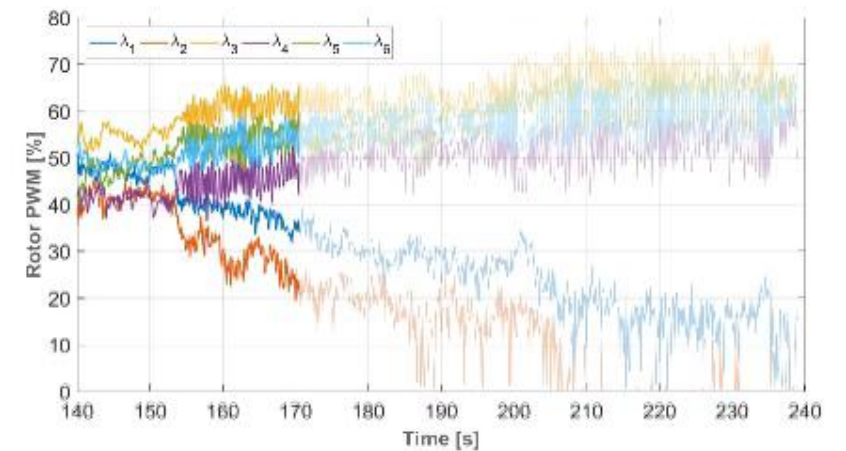
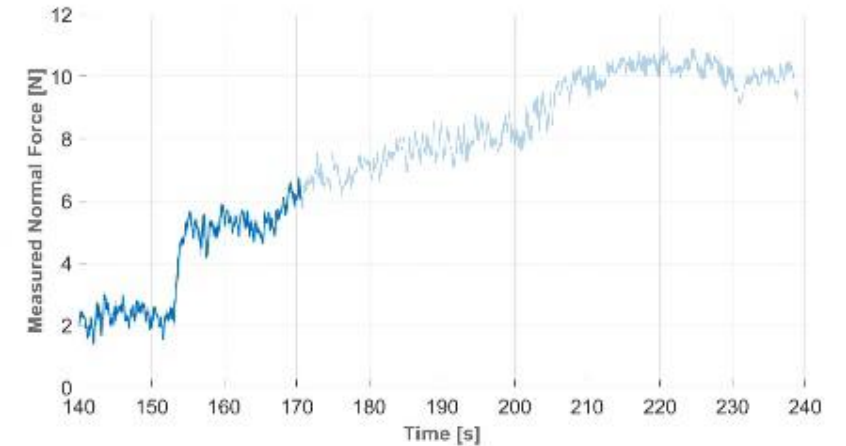
$$\mathfrak{M}\dot{\mathcal{V}}_e^{e,d} + \mathfrak{B}\mathcal{V}_e^{e,d} + \beta_H^* \left(d\Psi(H_e^d) \right) = \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e}$$

- Potential Function on SE(3) - $\Psi(H_e^d)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \phi_1(R_d^T R) + \frac{1}{2} \|p - p_d\|_{\mathcal{K}_2}^2 \\ & \phi_1(R_d^T R) + \frac{1}{2} \|R_d^T(p - p_d)\|_{\mathcal{K}_2}^2 \\ & \phi_1(R_d^T R) + \frac{1}{2} \|R^T(p - p_d)\|_{\mathcal{K}_2}^2 \\ & \phi_1(R_d^T R) + \frac{1}{2} \|(R^T + R_d^T)(p - p_d)\|_{\mathcal{K}_2}^2 \\ & \phi_1(RR_d^T) + \frac{1}{2} \|(R + R_d)(p - p_d)\|_{\mathcal{K}_2}^2 \\ & \phi_1(RR_d^T) + \frac{1}{2} \|R^T p - R_d^T p_d\|_{\mathcal{K}_2}^2 \end{aligned}$$



Impedance Control of Fully-actuated Hexarotor



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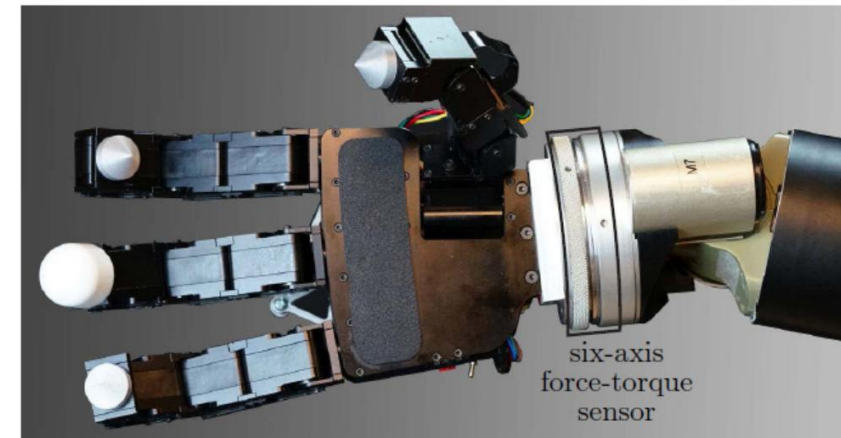


Admittance Control

- In an admittance-control algorithm, the wrench applied by the user at the end-effector is sensed using a force/torque sensor.
- The robot then should respond with the desired end-effector acceleration \ddot{q}_d satisfying

$$\ddot{q}_d = \mathfrak{M}^{-1}(-\mathfrak{B}\dot{q} - \mathfrak{K}q + \mathcal{W}_{\text{int}}^{e,e})$$

- Using the inverse kinematics, one can transform this to desired joint accelerations $\ddot{\theta}_d$ and then use the inverse dynamics to calculate the control torques.



Impedance: Motion input, Force output
Admittance: Force input, Motion output

Admittance Control of UR5e

Admittance control
with low dampning

<https://youtu.be/OZGieHzbpAg?si=gf4W2h0xHJwbRoc9>



Admittance Control of Quadrotor



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2itwFJCgFQ>

