



WPI

Force Controllers for daVinci in AMBF Simulator

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Introduction & Background

Da Vinci Research Kit (dVRK):

- An Open teleoperated surgical robotic system consisting of master and slave sides

Patient Side Manipulator (PSM):

- Comprised of two tool manipulator arms and one endoscope
- 7 DOF for dexterous and natural hand manipulation

Master Tool Manipulator (MTM):

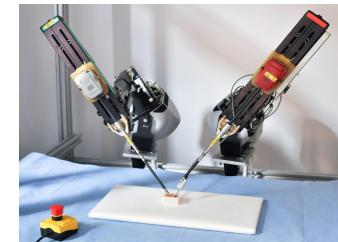
- Comprised of two haptic manipulator arms
- 7 DOF for dexterous and natural hand manipulation

Control challenges

- Lack of feedback from haptic devices
- No compliant controller available for either the PSM or MTM



a) Clinical da Vinci system



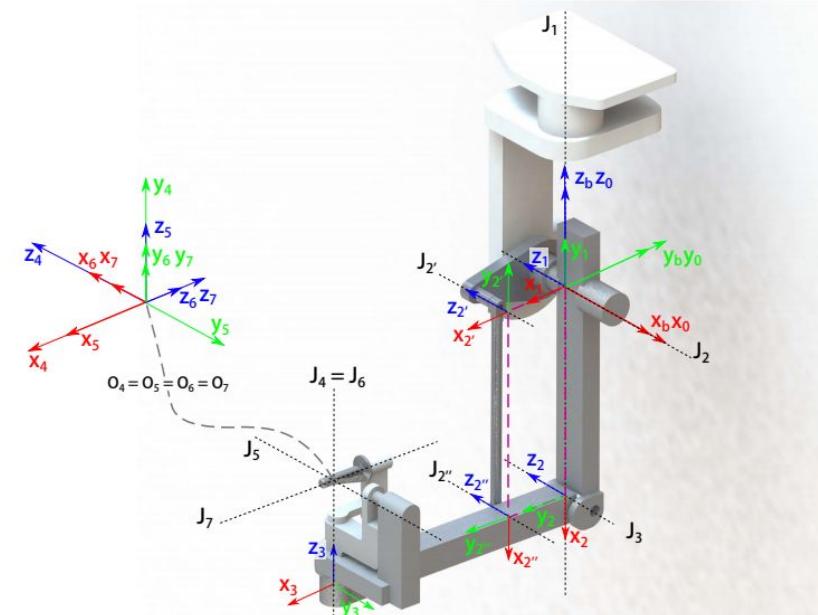
b) PSM arms of dVRK [1,2]



c) dVRK MTM [5]

MTM Kinematic Model

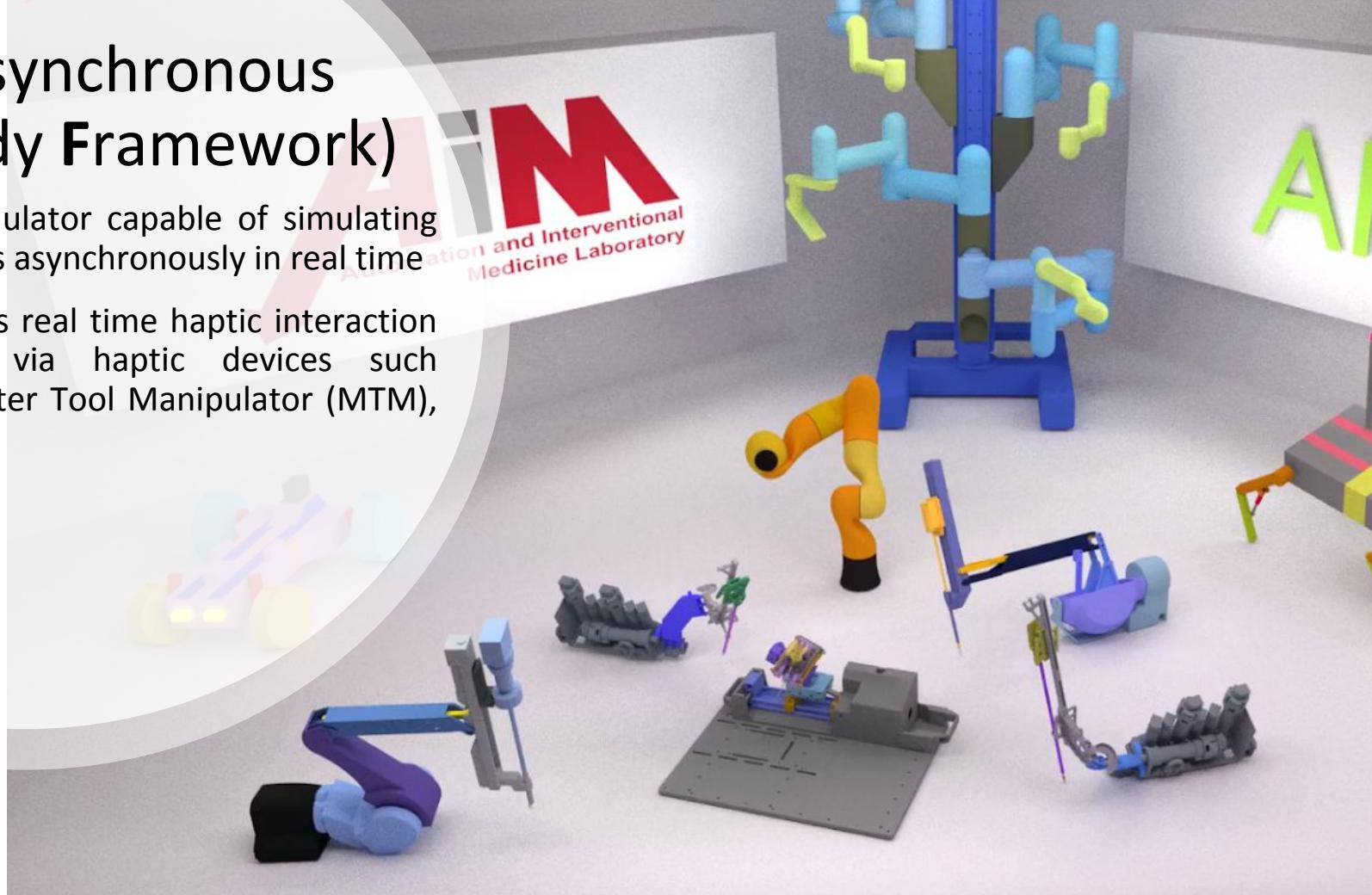
- Overall structure rotates about the vertical axis of J1 of an angle θ_1
- Revolute joints with axes J2, J2', J2'' and J3 form a 2-DOF parallelogram mechanism
- Two actuated joints of the parallelogram are those about axes J2 (angle θ_2) and J3 (angle θ_3)
- the axes J4, J5, J6 and J7 intersect in the same point and correspond to revolute joints with angles θ_4 , θ_5 , θ_6 and θ_7
- All the joints are actuated by a motor, with the exception of the two revolute joints of the parallelogram about axes J2' and J2''



Master tool Manipulator (MTM) kinematics with Denavit-Hartenberg frames [7]

AMBF (Asynchronous Multi Body Framework)

- AMBF is a simulator capable of simulating multiple robots asynchronously in real time
- It also provides real time haptic interaction with robots via haptic devices such as dVRK's Master Tool Manipulator (MTM), Razer Hydras



Why AMBF!?

- Support for closed loop/parallel mechanisms (such as the dVRK MTM)
- Built-in position (PID) and effort (torque) controller
- Compatible with ROS and Python client
- Readily available robot models such as dVRK and KUKA lbr
- Uses YAML file format, a human-readable file format, for model description!

Robot representation (YAML **vs.** URDF)

YAML

- “YAML is not a Markup Language”
- Non-hierarchical model
 - (i.e each link has its own parent and child)
- Can define closed loop mechanisms
- Can be used as a universal description format

URDF

- Unified Robot Definition Format
- Hierarchical model
 - (i.e single parent and multiple children)
- No support closed loop mechanisms
- Not a universal format

YAML file description

- Body

```
BODY link1:  
  name: link1  
  mesh: link1.STL  
  mass: 1.0  
  collision margin: 0.001  
  scale: 1.0  
  location:  
    orientation: {p: -0.0, r: 0.0, y: 0.0}  
    position: {x: 0.0, y: 0.0, z: -1.197}  
  inertial offset:  
    orientation: {p: 0, r: 0, y: 0}  
    position: {x: 0.0, y: -0.017, z: 0.134}  
  friction: {rolling: 0.01, static: 0.5}  
  damping: {angular: 0.95, linear: 0.95}  
  restitution: 0  
  collision groups: [0]  
  color components:  
    ambient: {level: 1.0}  
    diffuse: {b: 0.0054, g: 0.2702, r: 0.8}  
    specular: {b: 1.0, g: 1.0, r: 1.0}  
    transparency: 1.0
```

- Joint

```
JOINT base-link1:  
  name: base-link1  
  parent: BODY base  
  child: BODY link1  
  parent axis: {x: 0.0, y: 0.0, z: 1.0}  
  parent pivot: {x: 0.0, y: 0.0, z: 0.103}  
  child axis: {x: 0.0, y: 0.0, z: 1.0}  
  child pivot: {x: 0.0, y: 0.0, z: 0.0}  
  joint limits: {high: 2.094, low: -2.094}  
  controller: {D: 2.0, I: 0, P: 1000.0}  
  type: revolute
```

RBDL:

- Rigid Body Dynamics Library is a C++ based dynamics library
- Available for use in python using the wrapper module
- Contains essential rigid body dynamics algorithms
 - Articulated Body Algorithm (ABA) for forward dynamics
 - Dynamics modeling using **Recursive Newton-Euler Algorithm (RNEA)**
 - Composite Rigid Body Algorithm (CRBA) for the efficient computation of the joint space inertia matrix
- Comprehensive support for both kinematic and dynamics modeling
 - Forward and inverse kinematics
 - Handling of external constraints such as **closed-loop** contacts
 - Forward and inverse dynamics, Jacobian, inertia , ...

Challenge : NO Documentation ! ! !

Ref: <https://rbdl.bitbucket.io>

YAML to RBDL model

- For calculation of the dynamics, RBDL takes “rbdl.model()” object as an input to access all the required information such as:
 - Mass, inertia, center of mass location, ...
 - Description of the kinematic chain of the robot model
 - Joint and contact types
- Parameters from a YAML file need to be parsed into an RBDL model
- This conversion is handled by a custom-made parser class which constructs the RBDL model by receiving the YAML file as an input!

YAML to RBDL parser

YAML file
(..kuka7Dof.yaml)

```
model = YamlToRBDLmodel("/path/to/file.yaml")
```

RBDL model
(kuka7Dof_model)

```
def YamlToRBDLmodel(data, Bodies, Joints):
    file_path = "/home/sonu/KUKA_7Dof/blender-kuka7dof.yaml"
    data = yaml_loader(file_path)
    model = rbdl.Model()
    model.gravity=[0,0,-9.81]
    no_of_bodies, random_var = Bodies_count(data)
    mass = get_mass_array(data, Bodies)
    mass_arr = np.array([[1],[1],[1],[1],[1],[1],[1],[1]])#good
    com_val = get_inertial_offset(data, Bodies)
    inertia_val = get_inertia_values(data, Bodies)
    parent_dist = get_parent_pivot(data, Joints)
    J_type = get_joint_type(data, Joints)
    joint_rot_z = rbdl.Joint.fromJointType ("JointTypeRevoluteZ")
    joint_fixed= rbdl.Joint.fromJointType ("JointTypeFixed")
    child_axes = get_child_axes(data, Joints)
    parent_axes = get_parent_axes(data, Joints)

    for i in range(0, no_of_bodies):
        # Creating of the transformation matrix between two adjacent bodies
        trans = rbdl.SpatialTransform()
        if i == 0 :
            trans.E = np.eye(3);
            # print("R is\n", trans.E);
            trans.r = [0.0, 0.0, 0.0];
            # print("T is\n", trans.r);
            print("T is\n", trans);
        else:
            # get parent and child axes of the pair
            child_axis = dicttoVec(child_axes[i-1][0])
            parent_axis = dicttoVec(parent_axes[i-1][0])
            # Find the rotation matrix between child and parent
            r_mat = rot_matrix_from_vecs(mathutils.Vector(child_axis), mathutils.Vector(parent_axis))
            r_mat_np = MatToNpArray(r_mat)
            # print("R is", r_mat_np)
            trans.E = r_mat_np
            # print("R is\n", trans.E);
            trans.r = parent_dist[i];
            # print("T is\n", trans.r);
            print("T is\n", trans);

        # Creating Inertia matrix with just principle Inertia values
        I_x = inertia_val[i][0]
        I_y = inertia_val[i][1]
        I_z = inertia_val[i][2]
        inertia_matrix = np.array([[I_x, 0, 0], [0, I_y, 0], [0, 0, I_z]])
        # Creating each body of the robot
        body = rbdl.Body.fromMassComInertia(mass[i], com_val[i], inertia_matrix)

        # Specifying joint Type
        if i == 0:
            joint_type = joint_fixed
        else:
            joint_type = joint_rot_z
        # joint_type = rbdl.Joint.fromJointType(joint_name[i][0])
        print("joint type is", joint_type);
        # Adding body to the model to create the complete robot
        model.AppendBody(trans, joint_type, body)
        # print(i)

    return model
```

Just specify the YAML file path and Voila!

Gravity compensation

- Used to overcome torques generated by the robot's masses

Generalized equation of motion equation

$$\vec{\tau} = M(\vec{q})\ddot{\vec{q}} + V(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}) + G(\vec{q}) + \vec{\tau}_d$$

Using inverse dynamics given zero velocity and acceleration terms, we have:

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = G(\boldsymbol{q})$$

- Purpose
 - To test the accuracy of the dynamics model
 - Is further used for the impedance controller
- Criteria for the implementation
 - The robot should hold any given position
 - No need for use of any other controllers (meaning accurate model)

M : inertia matrix

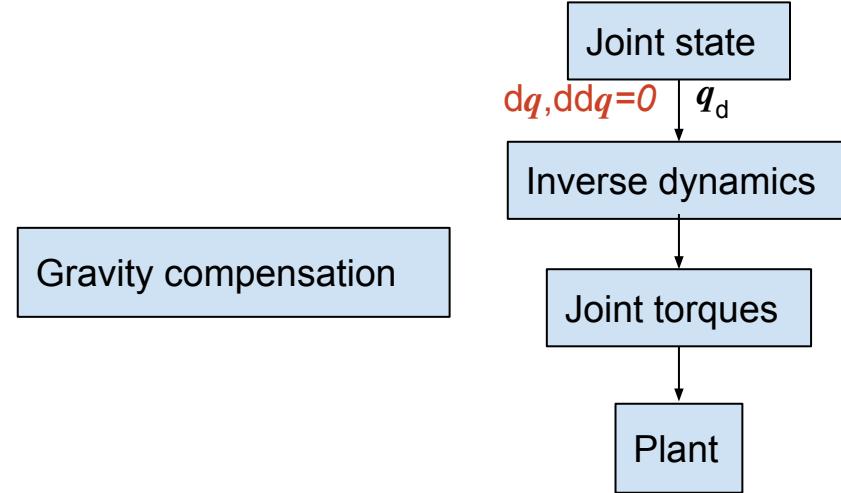
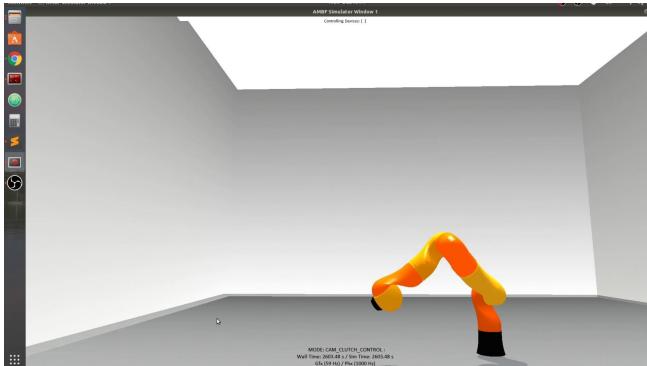
V : velocity dependent matrix

τ_d : disturbance torques

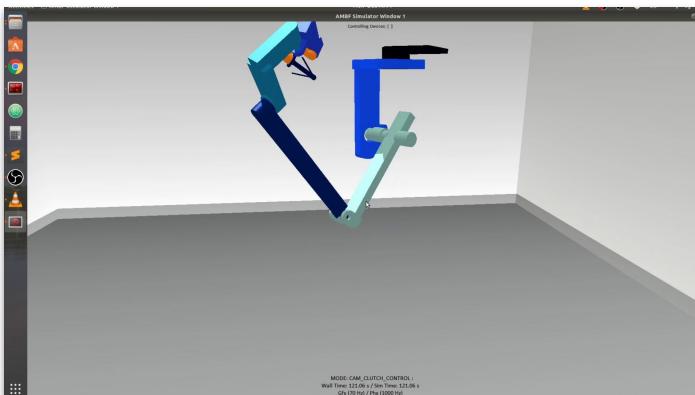
G : gravity matrix

Gravity compensation (contd.)

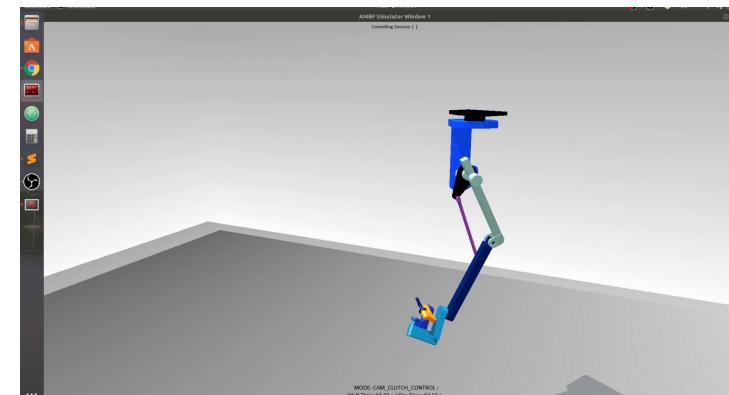
Gravity compensation for the KUKA arm:



Gravity compensation for the MTM:



a) Serial MTM arm



b) Full MTM arm

Impedance controller

Goal:

Control the relationship between the robot motion and the contact force as required for the task.

Benefits:

- Simultaneous force and motion control
- Suitable for tasks involving human-robot interaction



Impedance Control for Soft Robots*

[P. Song, Y. Yu and X. Zhang, "Impedance Control of Robots: An Overview," 2017 2nd International Conference on Cybernetics, Robotics and Control \(CRC\), Chengdu, 2017, pp. 51-55](#)

*[Keppler, Manuel, et al. "Elastic Structure Preserving Impedance \(ES \$\pi\$ \) Control for Compliantly Actuated Robots." 2018 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems \(IROS\). IEEE, 2018.](#)

Mathematical Formulation

$$m\ddot{x} = F + F_{\text{ext}}$$

$$F = \left(\frac{m}{M_d} - 1 \right) F_{\text{ext}} + m\ddot{x}_0 - \frac{m}{M_d} (D_d \dot{e} + K_d e)$$

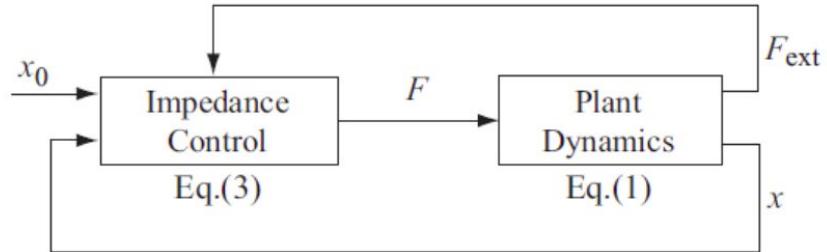
D_d : Damping Matrix

K_d : Stiffness Matrix

M_d : Desired Inertia Matrix

m : Inertia Matrix in Task Space, $m = (J^T)^{-1} M(q) J^T$

$M(q)$: Inertia Matrix in Joint Space

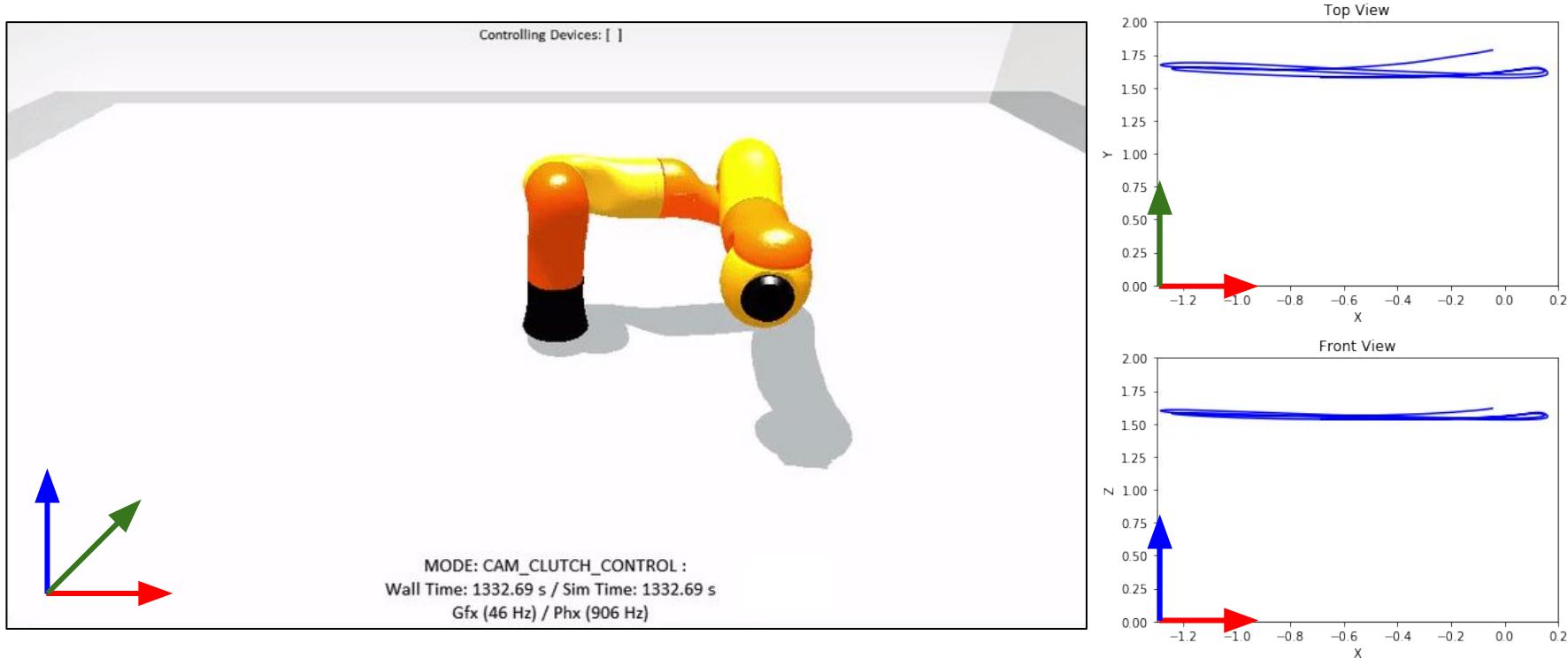


Reference:

RBE-501 Robot Dynamics Lecture 13

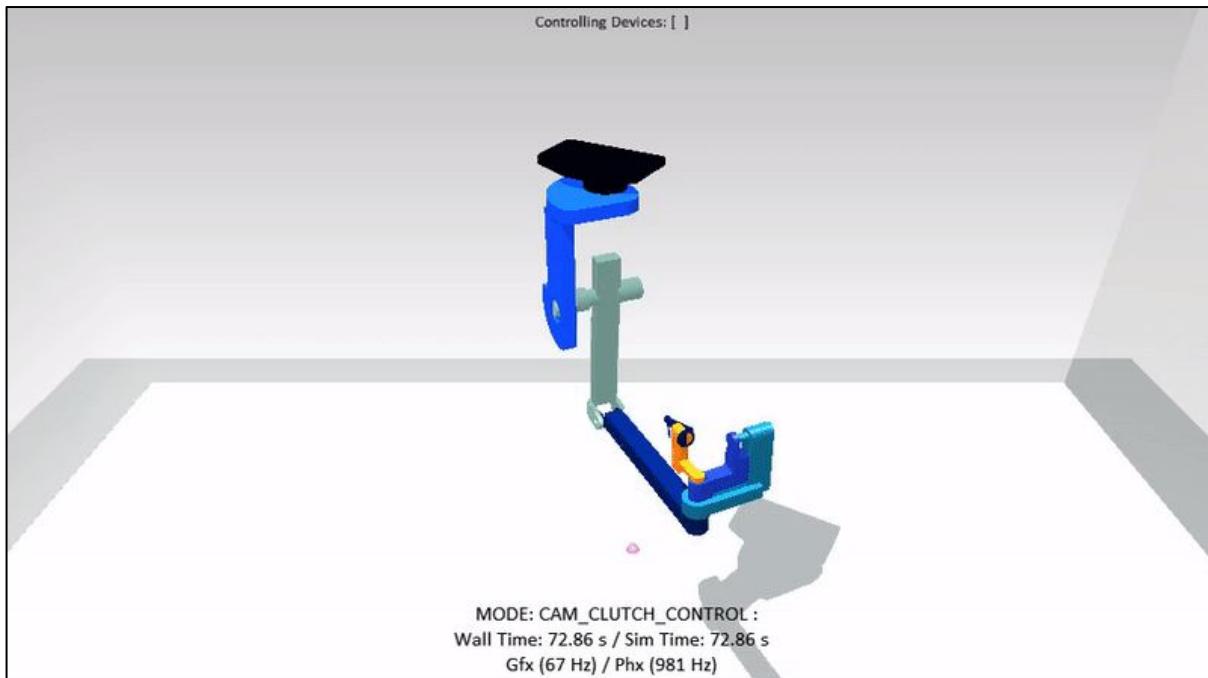
Robotics 2 by Prof. Prof. Alessandro De Luca: http://www.diag.uniroma1.it/deluca/rob2_en.php

Trajectory Tracking via Impedance Control on KUKA-LBR

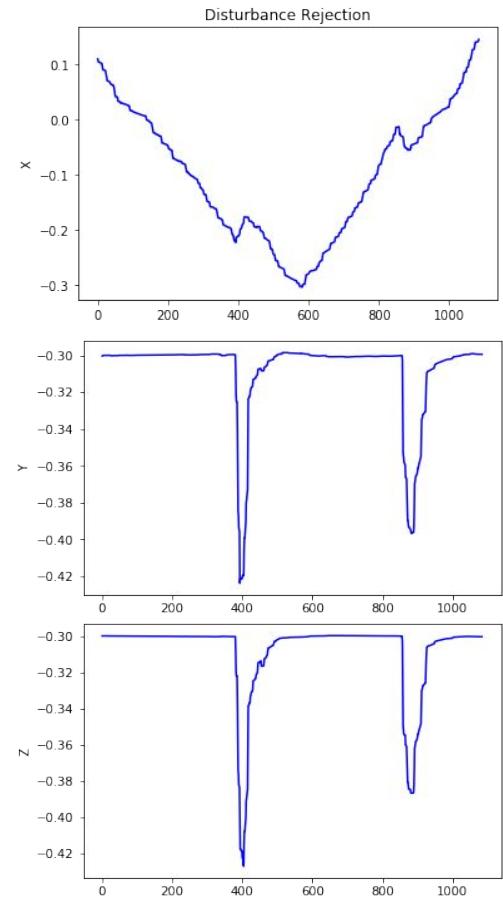


KUKA-LBR tracking linear trajectory along X axis

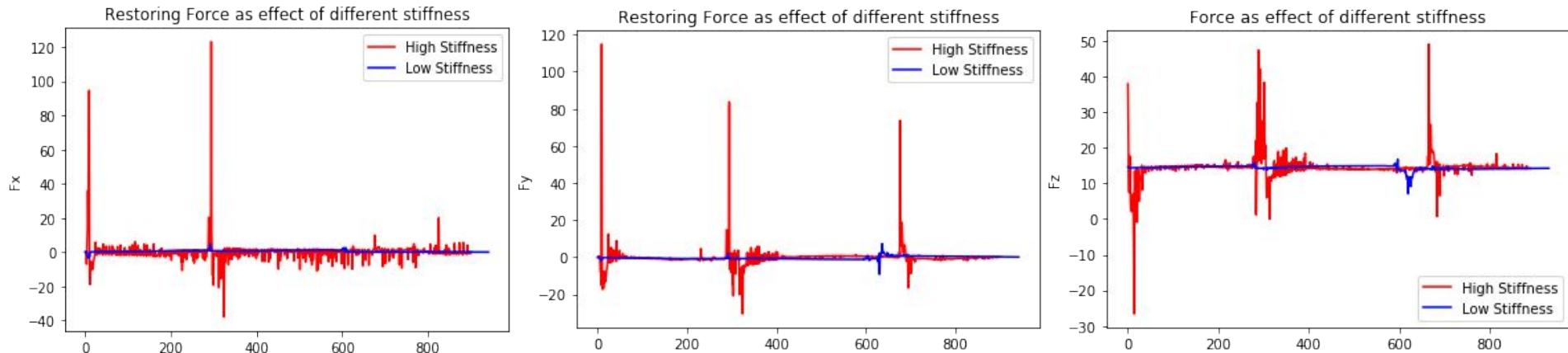
Rejection to External Perturbation



Disturbance Rejection via Impedance control for MTM



Force at the end Effector for different stiffness



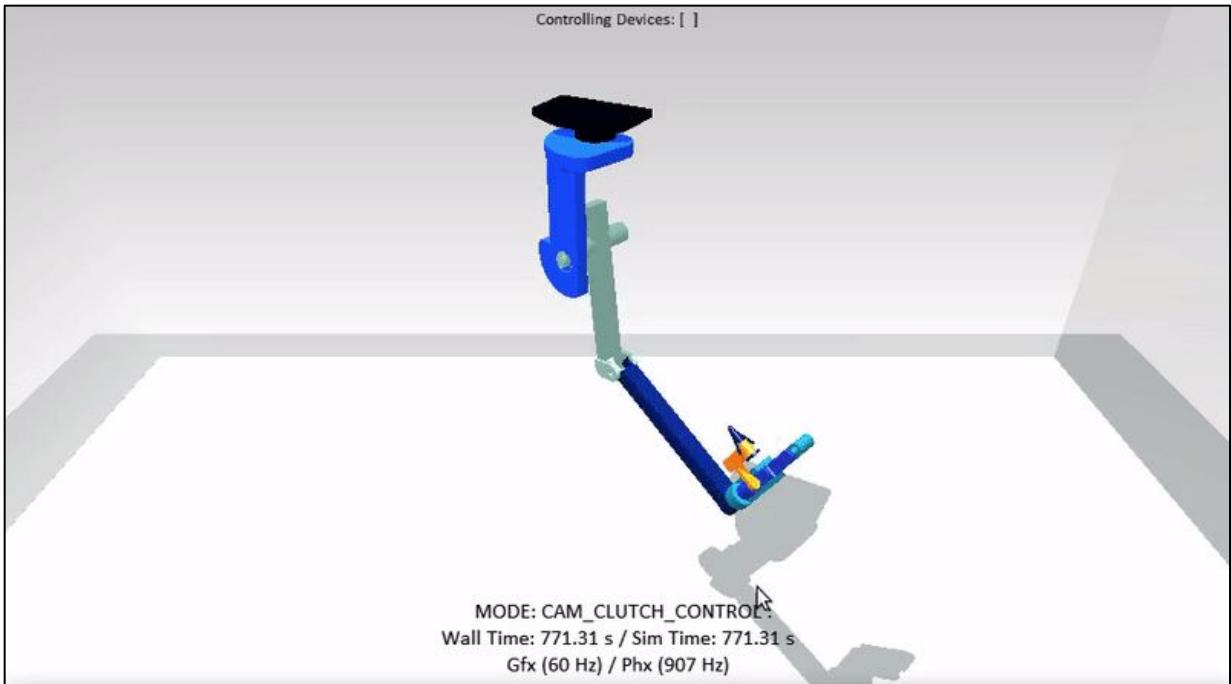
Gains:

$$K_p = 1$$

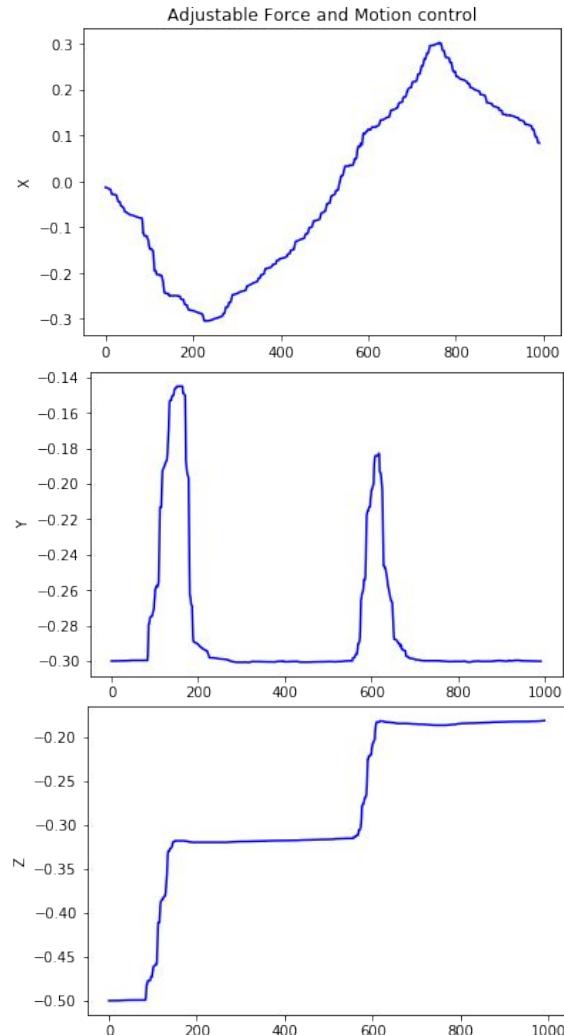
$$K_d = 0.1$$

$$M_d = 0.005$$

Control of Force and Motion Relationship

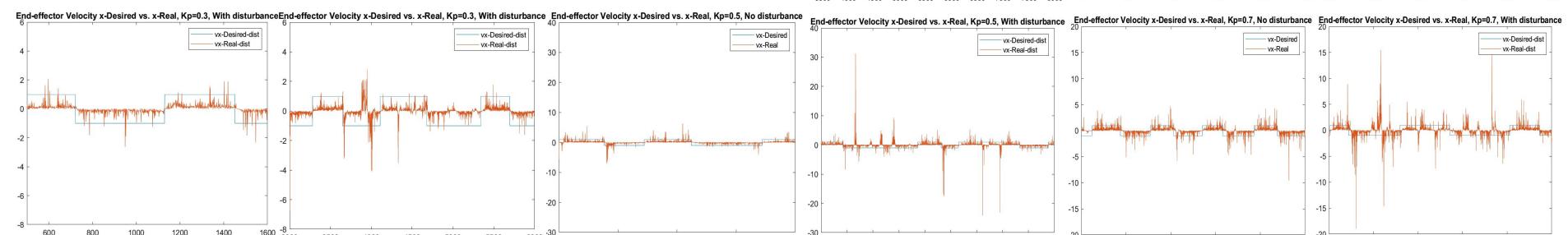
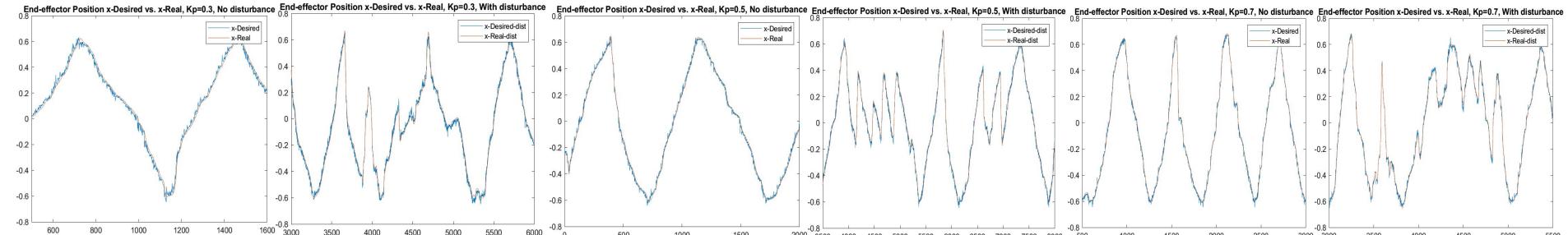


MTM tracking the linear trajectory along X axis while being flexible in motion along Z axis



KUKA-LBR Tip Position/Velocity Within/out Disturbance, Kp=0.3/0.5/0.7: Desired vs. Real

x-axis unit: ms
y-axis unit: m

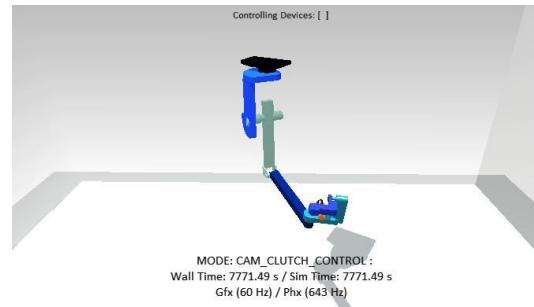
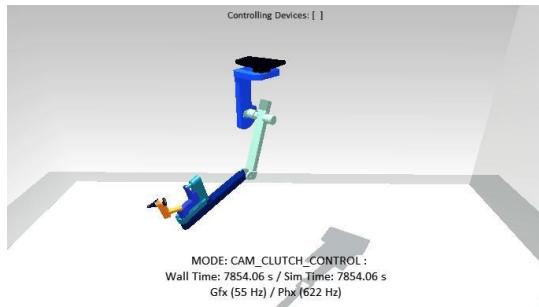


x-axis unit: ms
y-axis unit: m/ms

MTM impedance controller with $K_p=0.3/0.5/0.7$

$X_{\text{desired}} = -0.4 \text{ m} \sim +0.35 \text{ m}$

$V_{\text{desired}} = 0.5 \text{ m/s}$



$K_p=0.3$

$K_d=0.0001$

$M_d=0.02$

$K_p=0.5$

$K_d=0.0001$

$M_d=0.02$

$K_p=0.7$

$K_d=0.0001$

$M_d=0.02$

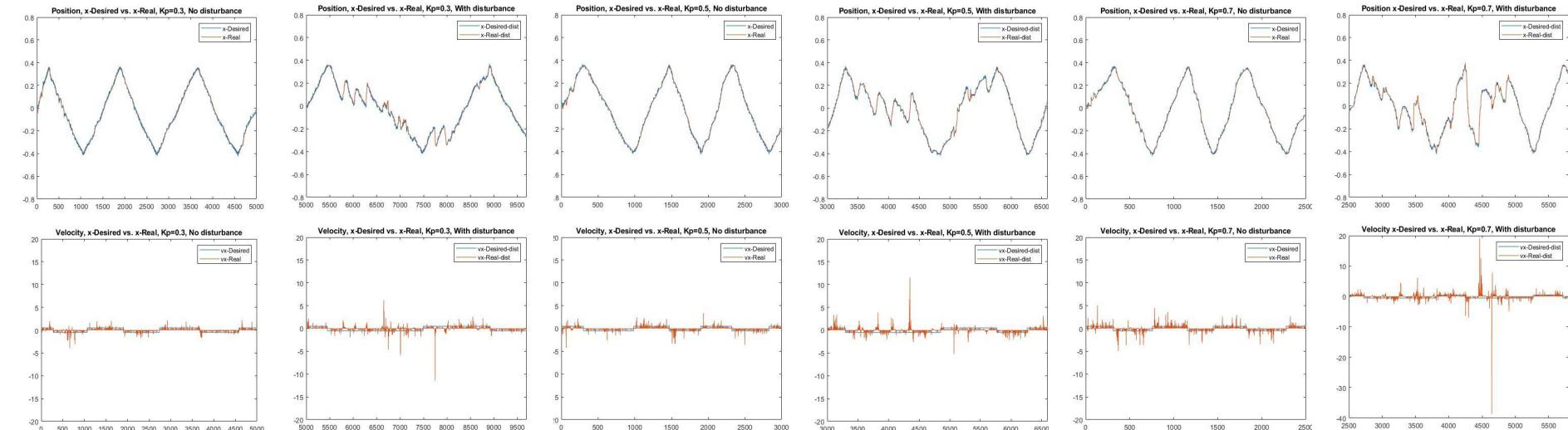
As K_p increases, feedback force and real-time velocity increase:

Advantage: response rate increase

Drawback: system easily being disturbed or unstable

MTM Tip Position/Velocity Within/out Disturbance, Kp=0.3/0.5/0.7: Desired vs. Real

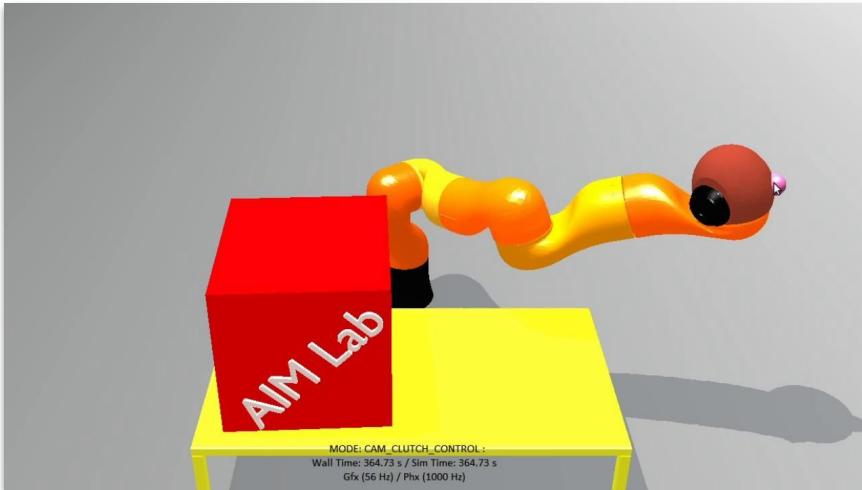
x-axis unit: ms
y-axis unit: m



x-axis unit: ms
y-axis unit: m/ms

Performance comparison (PD VS. Impedance)

Compliance to obstacles:



Impedance controller with low stiffness in the x direction

- Ability to set desired stiffness of the end-effector in the cartesian space
- Low stiffness provides lower interaction force at the end-effector
- Desired when operating in environments where robot interaction with the surrounding environment is of importance



PD controller

- Lack of compliance when encountering an obstacle
- Relatively easier implementation
- Desirable in applications where fast response and short settling times are required

Summary

- ✓ Derive the dynamics models of MTM and KUKA arms
- ✓ Implement the impedance controller on MTM and KUKA arms
- ✓ Fully automated method to parse YAML file into model in RBDL
- ✓ Two fully documented working robot model examples with working dynamics and controllers for the AMBF simulator
- ✓ New function for the python API to get inertia of the bodies from AMBF
- ✓ Additional controller implementation gravity compensation and CTC

Acknowledgments

Special thanks to (Dr.)Adnan Munawar for his support and guidance throughout this project

References

- [1] www.Intuitive.com
- [2] <https://sites.google.com/site/davidvgealy/research>
- [3] <https://github.com/WPI-AIM/ambf>
- [4] <https://www.kuka.com>
- [5] https://research.intusurg.com/index.php/Main_Page

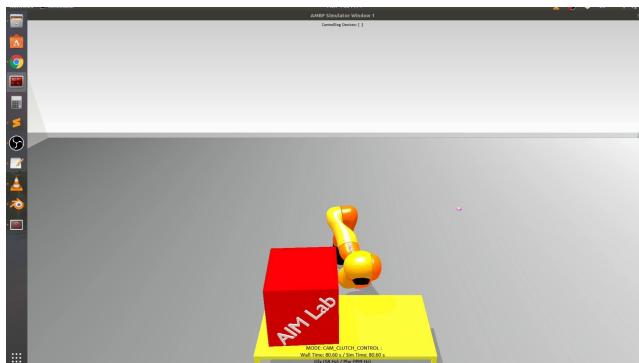
Thank you!



Inverse dynamics controller

Computed torque controller (CTC)

- Given desired position, velocity, acceleration compute the required joint torques
- Error terms are added with the desired acceleration
- Purpose
 - Test the full dynamics model
 - Used for comparison with the impedance controller to highlight the differences



Kuka arm using Impedance controller following a trajectory in the Y direction

$$\ddot{\tau} = M(\vec{q})\ddot{\vec{q}} + V(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}) + G(\vec{q}) + \vec{\tau}_d$$

$$u = M(q)a_q + V(q, \dot{q}) + G(q)$$

\vec{u} = The set output (i.e. motor torque)

$a_q = \ddot{q}_d$ = The second derivative of the input command trajectory

$$a_q = \ddot{q}_d(t) - K_p e - K_V \dot{e}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e &= \dot{q} - \dot{q}_d \\ \dot{e} &= q - q_d \end{aligned}$$

K_p : diagonal stiffness matrix

K_V : diagonal damping matrix

e: position error

de: velocity error

$$u = M(q)[\ddot{q}_d(t) - K_p e - K_V \dot{e}] + V(q, \dot{q}) + G(q)$$