

# Advanced Robot Control and Learning

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## Chapter 2: Task Space Modeling and Control

# Advanced Robot Control - Outline

## Differential Geometry in Robotics

### Task Space Modeling and Control

#### Modeling

- Review on Kinematics and Differential Kinematics
- Differential Kinematics for Redundant Robots
- Review on Joint Space and Task Space Dynamics
- Dynamics of Redundant Robots

#### Control

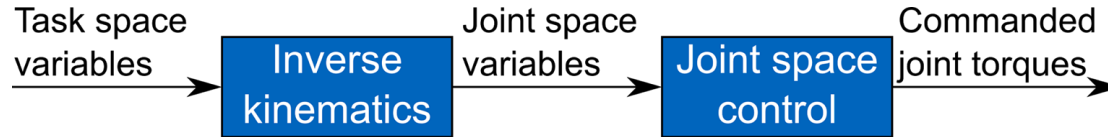
- Joint Space versus Task Space Control
- Example: Computed Torque Control in Task Space
- Motion/Torque Nullspace
- Task Prioritization
- Nullspace and stability

## Modern Methods of Robot Control

# Differential Kinematics (Revisited)

Tasks mostly related to end-effectors motion and contact forces  
(dynamic behavior)

- First intuition: kinematic control



Issue: solving inverse kinematics!

- To satisfy requirement of high performance control:
  - Model dynamic behavior as observed at the end-effector
  - Control motion and contact forces through control forces directly acting at level of end-effector
  - Generate these control forces by applying corresponding joint torques (through force transformation)

# Differential Kinematics (Revisited)

## Manipulator **geometric model**

$$\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{q})$$

with

- Generalized joint coordinates  $\boldsymbol{q}$
- End-effector configuration coordinates  $\boldsymbol{x}$

## Manipulator **kinematic model**

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{x}} = \boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{q})\dot{\boldsymbol{q}}$$

- Describes the time-derivatives of the end-effector parameters  $\dot{\boldsymbol{x}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  at a given configuration  $\boldsymbol{q} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  as linear functions of the joint velocities  $\dot{\boldsymbol{q}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- $\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is the Jacobian matrix with elements

$$J_{ij}(\boldsymbol{q}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial q_j} f_i(\boldsymbol{q})$$

# Differential Kinematics (Revisited)

Interpretations of the Jacobian matrix

- Matrix relating the time derivatives  
*Manipulator kinematic model* (seen previously)  
$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}}$$
- Matrix relating the differential  $\delta\mathbf{q}$  of joint coordinates to the differential  $\delta\mathbf{x}$  of end-effector configuration parameters  
*Manipulator differential model*

$$\delta\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})\delta\mathbf{q}$$

Dimension of Jacobian matrix  $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

- $m$  is the degree of freedom of the end-effector configuration ( $m = 6$  in Cartesian space)
- $n$  is the degree of freedom of the manipulator
- In the following, we assume  $m = n$  and that the Jacobian is invertible

# Joint Space Dynamics (revisited)

Robot model in joint coordinates:

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}) = \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{in}}$$

with:

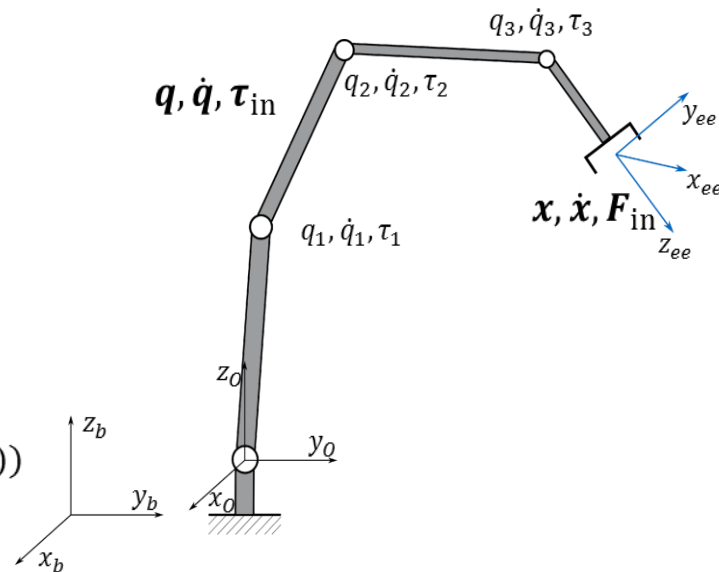
- $\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}, \ddot{\mathbf{q}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : joint positions, velocities, accelerations
- $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ : robot mass matrix
- $\mathbf{c}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : centrifugal and Coriolis forces
- $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : gravitational force
- $\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{in}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : command torques in joint space

Forward kinematics: local mapping between manifolds ( $Q$  and  $SE(3)$ )

$$\mathbf{f}: Q \rightarrow SE(3), \quad \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q})$$

$\mathbf{f}$  is a local 1:1 mapping between manifolds for

- Non-redundant manipulators ( $\dim(Q) = 6$ )
- In non-singular configurations



# Task Space Dynamics

End-effector equation of motion in  $SE(3)$  space

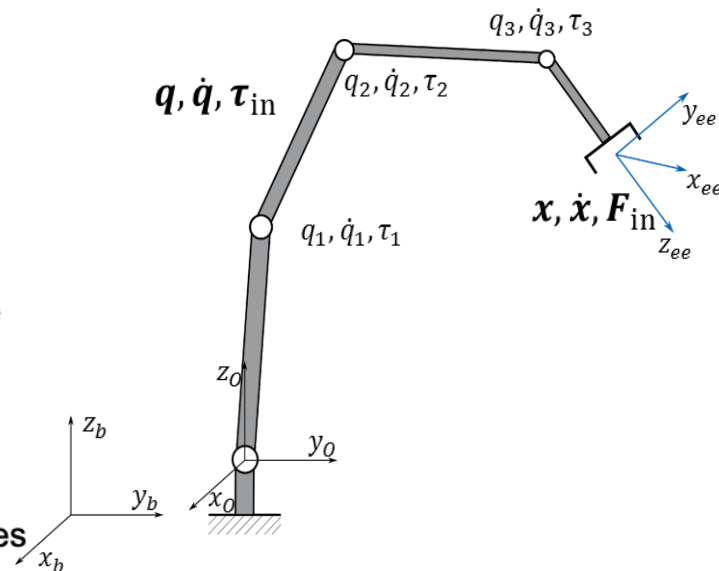
$$\mathbf{M}_C(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{c}_C(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) + \mathbf{F}_g(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{F}_{in}$$

with:

- $\mathbf{x}, \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \ddot{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : task variables, velocities, accelerations
- $\mathbf{M}_C(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ : mass matrix in Cartesian space
- $\mathbf{c}_C(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : centrifugal and Coriolis forces in Cartesian space
- $\mathbf{F}_g(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : gravitational force in Cartesian space
- $\mathbf{F}_{in} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : command forces in task space

Note:

- Task space variables commonly reproduced from joint space variables through kinematic mappings!
- Indeed, robots hardly equipped with sensors measuring the end-effectors





# Joint space/Task space relationships

- Identity between two quadratic forms of kinetic energy:

$$\frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q}) \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{x}}^T \mathbf{M}_C(\mathbf{q}) \dot{\mathbf{x}}$$

with the kinematic model ( $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}}$ ) (non-redundant robots)

$$\mathbf{M}_C(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{J}^{-T}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{J}^{-1}(\mathbf{q})$$

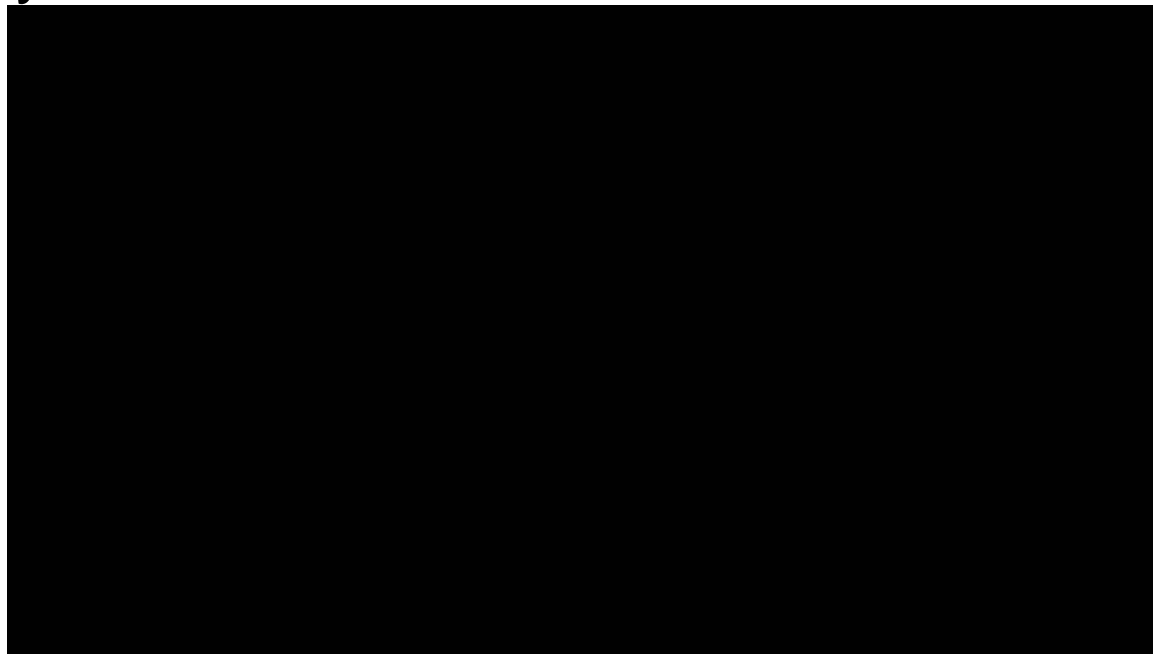
- $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q});$   $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{f}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$
- $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}};$   $\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{J}^{-1}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{x}}$
- $\mathbf{F}_{\text{in}} = \mathbf{J}^{-T}(\mathbf{q})\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{in}};$   $\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{in}} = \mathbf{J}^T(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{F}_{\text{in}}$

# What is Redundancy?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9jhWTrv9rY>

# Redundancy in Robotics



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZYBC8Lrmdo>

## Example – Franka Emika

- Task space:  $m$  dimensional  $m \leq 6$
- Joint space  $Q$ :  $n$  dimensional

**Redundant manipulator:  $n > m$**   
With  $(n - m)$  degrees of redundancy

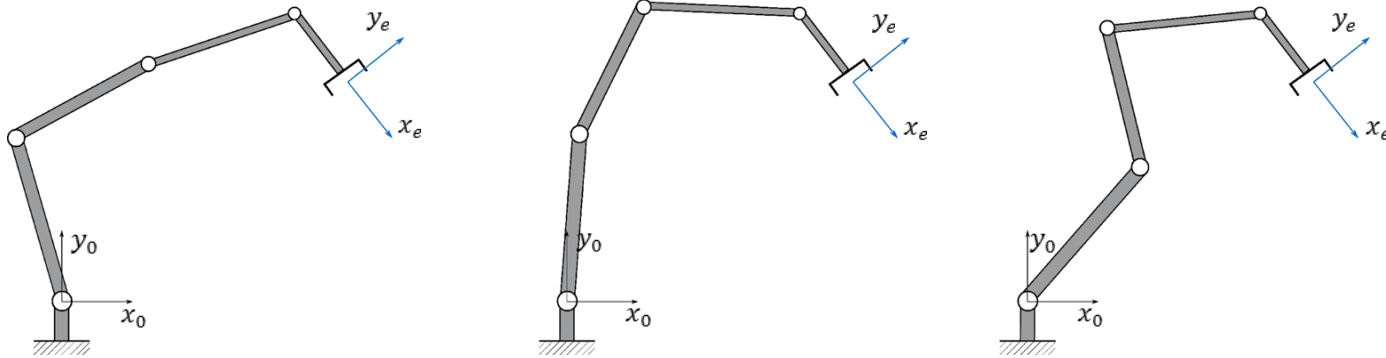
$$n = 7, m = 6$$



Source: Franka Emika

- Additionally, task redundancy  $\longrightarrow$  concerns all type of manipulators!

# Example – RRRR Manipulator



- Kinematic redundancy: four DOFs ( $n = 4$ ), position and orient the end-effector ( $m = 3$ )
- No influence on solvability of direct kinematics:  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q})$
- Inverse kinematics:  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{f}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$  no unique solution, infinite joint configurations resulting in the desired end-effector configuration
- And differential inverse kinematics  $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}}$  ?

# Differential Kinematics for Redundant Robots

- Recall:  $J(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q})}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m = \dim(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $n = \dim(\mathbf{q})$
- Redundant robots: more independent variables ( $n$  robot DOFs) than linear equations ( $m$  end-effector DOFs)  $\longrightarrow$  underdetermined system of linear equations
- Jacobi Matrix is not quadratic, hence not invertible
- Approach: differential inverse kinematics as an optimization problem
- Cost-function to minimize:

$$\mathbf{g}(\dot{\mathbf{x}}) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \dot{\mathbf{q}} \rightarrow \min$$

- Subject to:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = J(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}}$$

- Solution: Left-handed Pseudo-inverse

# Dynamics of Redundant Robots

- $m < n \longrightarrow$  set of task coordinates  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  are insufficient to fully specify the configuration  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  of a redundant robot
- Remember:

- $\mathbf{M}_C(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{c}_C(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) + \mathbf{F}_g(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{F}_{in}$
- $\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{J}^{-1}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{x}}$
- $\mathbf{F}_{in} = \mathbf{J}^{-T}(\mathbf{q})\boldsymbol{\tau}_{in}$
- $\mathbf{M}_C(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{J}^{-T}(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{J}^{-1}(\mathbf{q})$

Redundant robots:  
the Jacobian  $\mathbf{J}_{n \times m}$  is not quadratic, hence  
not invertible!

- Solution:

**Right Pseudo-inverse matrix:**  $\mathbf{J}_{n \times m}^\#$

$$\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}^\# = \mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathbf{J}^\#\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}^\# = \mathbf{J}^\#$$

$$(\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}^\#)^T = \mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}^\#$$

$$(\mathbf{J}^\#\mathbf{J})^T = \mathbf{J}^\#\mathbf{J}$$

- Weighted Pseudo-inverse:  $\mathbf{J}_A^\# = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{J}^T(\mathbf{J}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{J}^T)^{-1}$
- Moore-Penrose Pseudo-inverse:  $\mathbf{J}^\# = \mathbf{J}^T(\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}^T)^{-1}$  with  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}$

# Dynamics of Redundant Robots

- Dynamic behaviour in taskspace...
  - $\mathbf{M}_{C,R}(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{c}_{C,R}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) + \mathbf{F}_{g,R}(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{F}_{in}$  ... becomes incomplete for redundant manipulators in motion!
  - $\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{J}_A^\#(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{x}}$
  - $\mathbf{F}_{in} = \mathbf{J}_A^{\#T}(\mathbf{q}) \boldsymbol{\tau}_{in}$
  - $\mathbf{M}_{C,R}(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{J}_A^{\#T}(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{J}_A^\#(\mathbf{q})$
- $\mathbf{J}_A^\#(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{J}^T(\mathbf{J}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{J}^T)^{-1}$ : different  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  → different  $\mathbf{M}_{C,R}$ 's!
- Solution...
 

First compute the inverse, also called mobility matrix:  $\mathbf{M}_{C,R}^{-1} = \mathbf{J}\mathbf{M}^{-1}\mathbf{J}^T$
- We have:  $\mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{M}_{C,R}^{-1} \mathbf{p} = E_{kinetic}$  for  $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{M}_C \dot{\mathbf{x}}$



# Dynamics of Redundant Robots

- So far...

- $J_A^\#(q) = A^{-1}J^T(JA^{-1}J^T)^{-1}$
- $M_{C,R} = (JM^{-1}J^T)^{-1}$
- $M_{C,R}(q) = J_A^{\#T}(q)M(q)J_A^\#(q)$

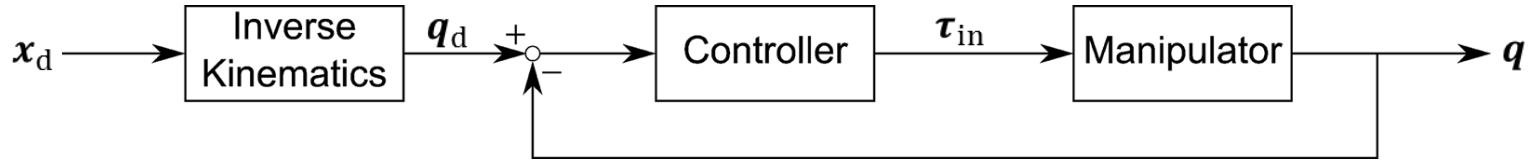
Let  $A = M(q) \dots$

$$J_M^\#(q) = M^{-1}J^T(JM^{-1}J^T)^{-1}$$

Exercise: Re-check the equivalence of  $M_{C,R}$  with this expression of Jacobian pseudo-inverse

# Joint space versus Task space Control

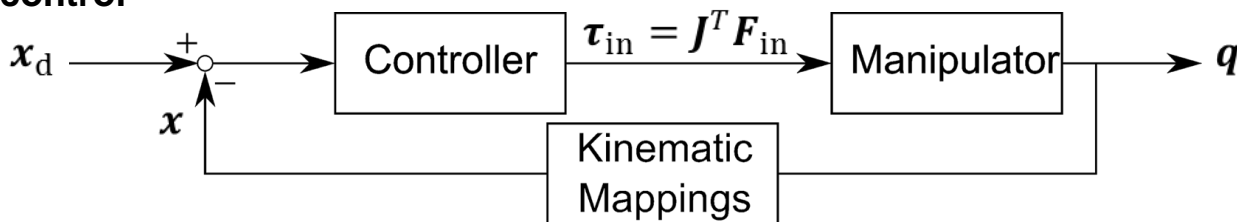
## Joint space control



- Controller is typically designed to track desired joint motion
- But user specifies motion in terms of the end-effector coordinates
  - Motion first needs to be mapped in joint space via kinematic inversion
- During task execution measurements from joint states allow feedback controller to calculate the joint torques needed to track the desired joint motion
- Assumption: a time sequence of joint motions
  - Online trajectory adjustments are difficult to realize!

# Joint space versus Task space Control

## Task space control



- Increasing challenges typical robotic environment
  - Moving from the typical shop floor to human surroundings
- Online modifications become inevitable
- Task is described in the end-effector space and its precise control is of interest
  - Joint space control schemes are out of place
- While directly minimizing the task error
  - No need for explicit calculation of inverse kinematics
  - Inversion on velocity level: (generalized) inverse of the Jacobian

# Computed Torque Control in Task space

- Problem: tracking control of time-varying trajectory  $\mathbf{x}_d(t), \dot{\mathbf{x}}_d(t), \ddot{\mathbf{x}}_d(t)$
- Including the manipulator dynamic model allows for effective trajectory tracking!
- Recall: End-effector equation of motion in  $SE(3)$  space

$$\mathbf{M}_C(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{c}_C(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) + \mathbf{F}_g(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{F}_{in}$$

- Intuitive approach: cancel out the nonlinear terms and decouple the dynamics

Selected control structure (PD controller):

$$\mathbf{F}_{in} = \hat{\mathbf{M}}_C(\mathbf{q}) \left( \ddot{\mathbf{x}}_d + \mathbf{K}_p(\dot{\mathbf{x}}_d - \dot{\mathbf{x}}) + \mathbf{K}_v(\dot{\mathbf{x}}_d - \dot{\mathbf{x}}) \right) + \hat{\mathbf{c}}_C(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) + \hat{\mathbf{F}}_g(\mathbf{q})$$

- $\hat{\cdot}$  denotes estimates of the inertia matrix, centrifugal and Coriolis forces, gravitational force
- $\mathbf{K}_p, \mathbf{K}_v \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  are positive definite gain matrices

Requirements:

- Direct drives (no gearbox) or
- Torque control  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_{in} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})^T \mathbf{F}_{in}$

# Computed Torque Control in Task space

Assumption:

Perfect estimates ( $\hat{\mathbf{M}}_c(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{M}_c(\mathbf{q})$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_c(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = \mathbf{c}_c(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{F}}_g(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{F}_g(\mathbf{q})$ )

- Resulting linear, decoupled error dynamics of the closed loop system:

$$\dot{\mathbf{e}} + \mathbf{K}_v \dot{\mathbf{e}} + \mathbf{K}_p \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{0}$$

with

$$\mathbf{e} = (\mathbf{x}_d - \mathbf{x})$$

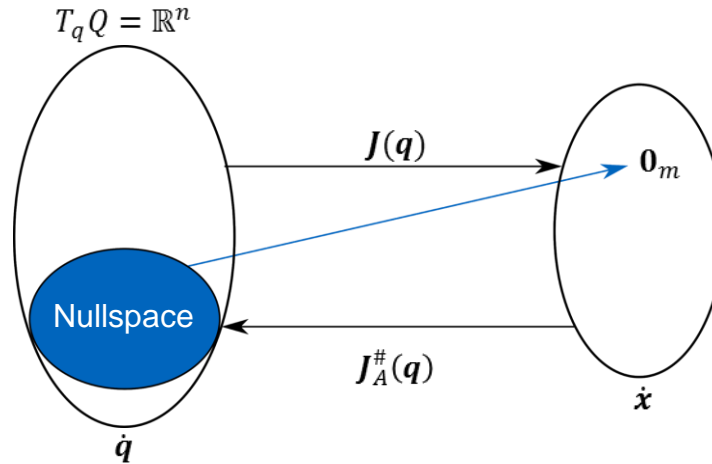
Choice of diagonal matrices  $\mathbf{K}_v$  and  $\mathbf{K}_p$

- For critically damped error dynamics:

$$k_{v,i} = 2\sqrt{k_{p,i}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

Controller

# Nullspace – Motion



- Self-motions:  $J(q) \dot{q}_N = 0$
- Solutions:  $\dot{q}_N = (I - J_A^\#(q)J(q)) \dot{q}_0$
- Inverse kinematics:  $\dot{q} = J_A^\#(q) \dot{x} + (I - J_A^\#(q)J(q)) \dot{q}_0$

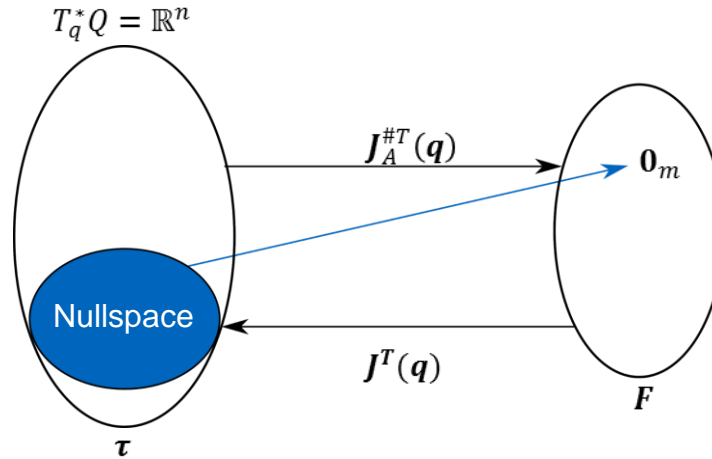
# Interpretations of the Pseudoinverse

- What is the role of the weighting matrix  $A$  ?
- So far:
  - $\dot{q} = J_A^\#(q) \dot{x}$  (no self-motion)
  - $J_A^\#(q) = A^{-1} J^T (J A^{-1} J^T)^{-1}$
- For  $A = I \longrightarrow J^\# = J^T (J J^T)^{-1}$  the inverse kinematics will minimize  $\|\dot{q}\|$  under the constraint
$$\dot{x} - J(q)\dot{q} = 0$$
- Generally, for a weighting matrix  $A$  we minimize the norm  $\|\dot{q}\|_{A^{-1}}$
- For example  $A = \frac{1}{2} M^{-1}(q)$  we minimize the kinetic energy

$$\|\dot{q}\|_{A^{-1}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{q}^T M(q) \dot{q}$$



# Nullspace – Torque



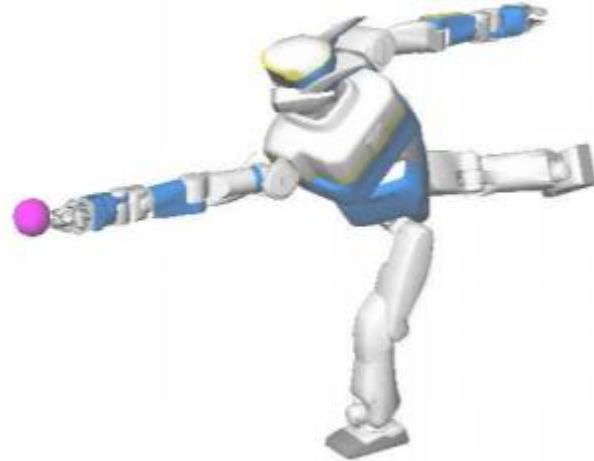
- Self-motions:  $J_A^{\#T}(q)\tau_N = 0$
- Solutions:  $\tau_N = (I - J^T(q)J_A^{\#T}(q))\tau_0$
- Commanded joint torque:  $\tau_{\text{in}} = \underbrace{J^T(q)F}_{\text{primary task}} + \underbrace{(I - J^T(q)J_A^{\#T}(q))\tau_0}_{\text{secondary task}}$

# Nullspace Control and Task Prioritization

- Humanoid robots are highly redundant robots (usually up to 30 or more DoF).
- They can use null space control and task prioritization to handle several tasks at once.

Task: Reach the ball.

But more importantly: **Save your balance!**



# Nullspace Control and Task Prioritization

## Nullspace control

- No twist

$$0 = J(q)\dot{q}_N \Rightarrow \dot{q}_N = (I - J_A^\#(q)J(q))\dot{q}_0$$

- No wrench

$$\tau_N = J^T(q) 0 \Rightarrow J_A^{\#T}(q)\tau_N = 0 \Rightarrow \tau_N = (I - J^T(q)J_A^{\#T}(q))\tau_0$$

## Task prioritization

- On velocity level

	primary task	secondary task
$\dot{q}$	$J_A^\#(q) \dot{x}$	$(I - J_A^\#(q)J(q))\dot{q}_0$

- On torque level

$\tau_{in}$	$J^T(q)F$	$(I - J^T(q)J_A^{\#T}(q))\tau_0$
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# Stability in the Nullspace

- Robot converges in the Cartesian space, but unstable in the nullspace?!
- Remember:
  - $\mathbf{M}_{C,R}(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{c}_{C,R}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) + \mathbf{F}_{g,R}(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{F}_{in}$
- The computed torque approach leads to
  - $\ddot{\mathbf{e}} + \mathbf{K}_v \dot{\mathbf{e}} + \mathbf{K}_p \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{0}$
- Now the nullspace component's possible responsibilities:

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_0 = -\mathbf{K}_v \dot{\mathbf{q}}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_0 = -\mathbf{K}_p (\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{q}_0)$$

- Avoidance for end-stops
- Singularity avoidance
- Other optimization criteria

# References

- O. Khatib, Lecture Notes: Advanced Robotic Manipulation
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- O. Kanoun, Contribution à la planification de mouvement pour robots humanoïdes, PhD diss., 2009.