

Chapter 1 Robotics History

Lecture Notes for A Geometrical Introduction to Robotics and Manipulation

Richard Murray and Zexiang Li and Shankar S. Sastry CRC
Press

Zexiang Li¹ and Yuanqing Wu¹

¹ECE, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology

June 30, 2012

Updates: Shankar Sastry, Koushil Sreenath and Roberto Horowitz
Aug 24 2024

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- 2 Ancient History (3000 B.C.-1450 A.D.)
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Robots and Robotics

Definition: Robot

“A mechanical device that sometimes resembles a human and is capable of performing a variety of often complex human tasks on command or being programmed in advance.”

“A machine or device that operates automatically or by remote control.”

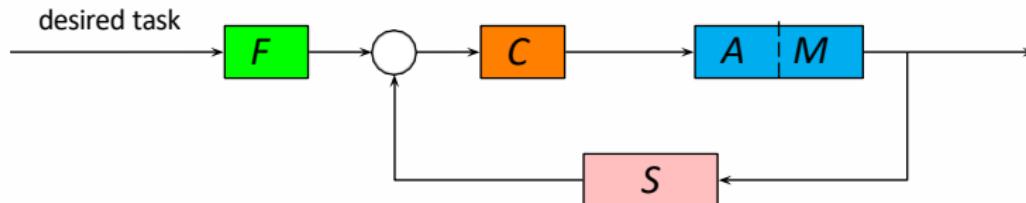
American Heritage Dictionary

Definition: Robotics

Science and technology of robots.

Robots and Robotics

◊ Function block description:



- C: Control (Kinematics, dynamics, control)
- A: Actuators (Motors, drives, servos, and transmissions)
- M: Mechanisms (Synthesis and design)
- S: Sensors (Signal processing, estimation, data fusion)
- F: Feedforward (Motion planning and generation)

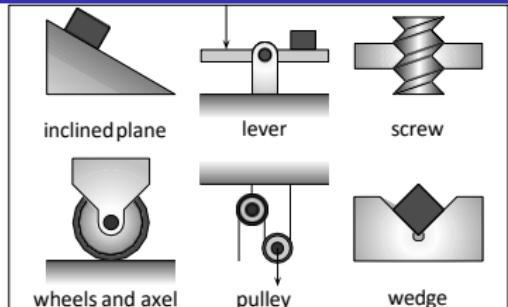
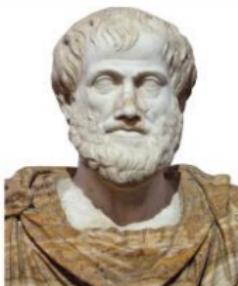


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1.2 Ancient History (3000 B.C.-1450 A.D.)



"If every tool, when ordered, or even of its own accord, could do the work that befits it... then there would be no need either of apprentices for the master workers or of slaves for the lords."

Figure 1.1: Egyptian statues (3000 B.C.)

Figure 1.2: Aristotle (384-322 B.C.): Six basic machine elements and description of a robot

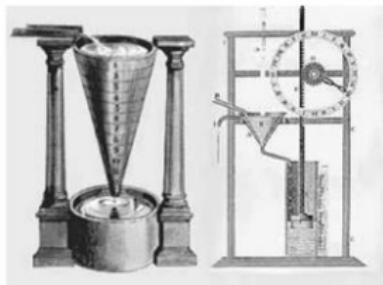


Figure 1.3: Ctesibius (Greek engineer, 270 B.C.): Water clock

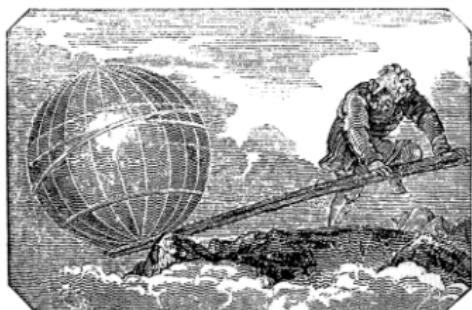
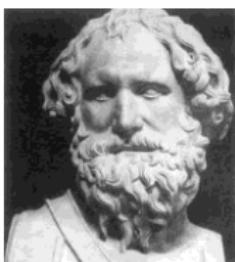
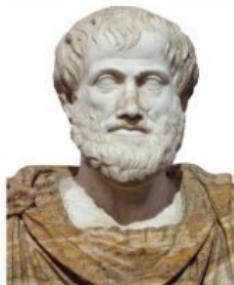


Figure 1.4: Archimedes (287 - 212 B.C.): Using six machine elements for machine design

1.2 Ancient History (3000 B.C.-1450 A.D.)



Figure 1.1: Egyptian statues (3000 B.C.)



"If every tool, when ordered, i
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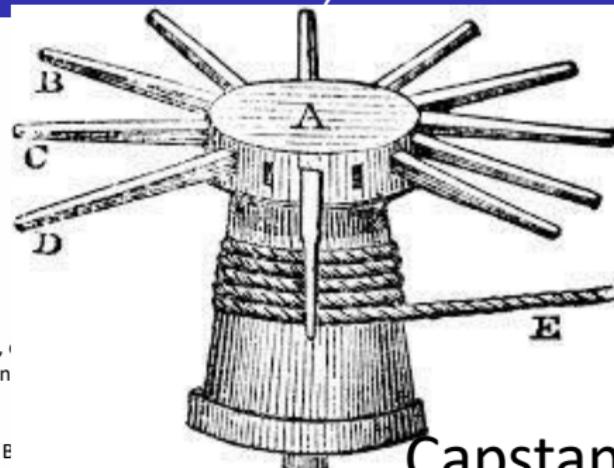


Figure 1.2: Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)

Figure 1.2: Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)

Capstan

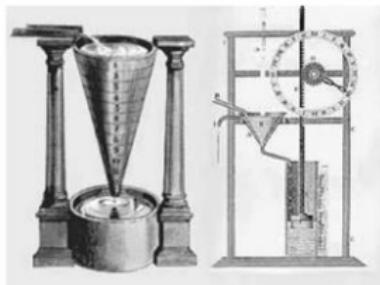


Figure 1.3: Ctesibius (Greek engineer, 270 B.C.): Water clock

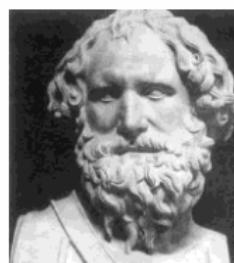
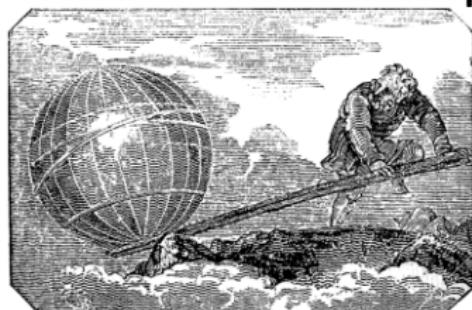


Figure 1.4: Archimedes (287 - 212 B.C.): Using six machine elements for machine design



Ancient History (3000 B.C.-1450 A.D.)



Figure 1.5: Heron of Alexandria (85 A.D.): Automatic theater and a steam engine



Figure 1.6: Zhang Heng (100 A.D.): South-pointing Chariot (non-magnetic differential mechanism)



Figure 1.7: Al-Jazari (1200 A.D.): Automata and first use of crank



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Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)

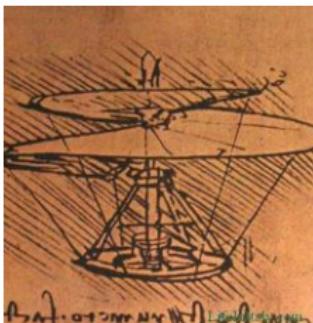


Figure 1.8: Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519): Numerous machine designs recorded in Codex Atlanticus, Manuscript B and Codex Madrid (watch the da Vinci movie).

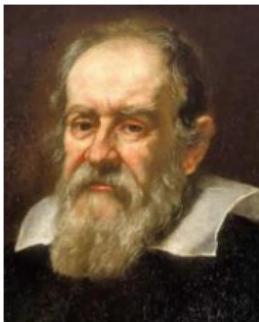


Figure 1.9: P. Ambroise (Paris 1564): Design of a mechanical hand

Figure 1.10: Galileo Galilei (1564-1642): Mechanics of motion

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)

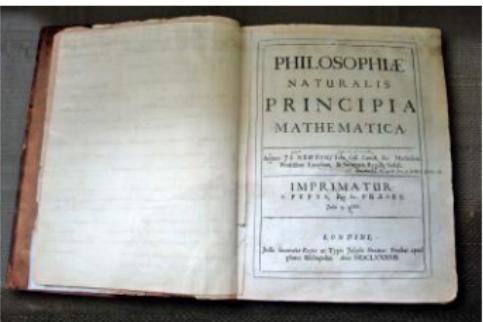
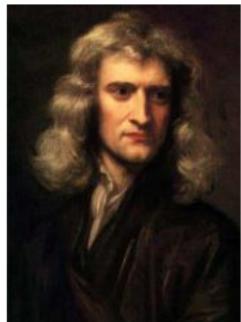


Figure 1.11: Isaac Newton (1642-1727): Calculus and Laws of Motion

Figure 1.12: L. Euler(1707-1783): Rigid dynamics and Euler's equations

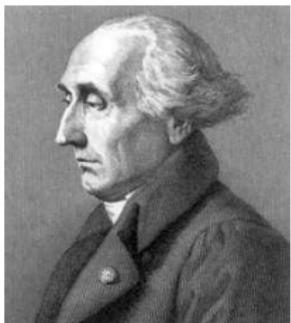


Figure 1.13: J. Lagrange (1736-1813): Calculus of variation and Principles of least action.

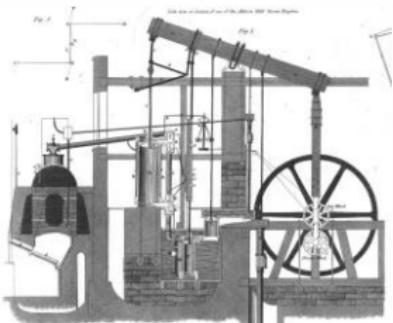


Figure 1.14: J. Watt(1736-1819): Sun and planet gear, centrifugal governor, parallel motion linkage, and double acting engine.

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)

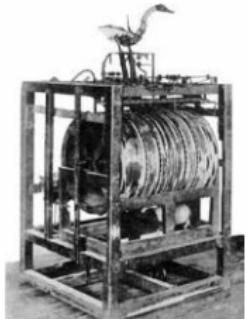


Figure 1.15: J. Vaucanson (French 1738): Automata and the duck.



Figure 1.16: P. Jaquet-Droz (1770): The writer and piano player.



Figure 1.17: A.M. Ampere (1775-1836): Kinematics.



Figure 1.18: J. Jacquard (1801): Automated loom controlled by punched cards.

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)



Figure 1.19: F. Kaufmann (1810): Mechanical Trumpeter.



Figure 1.20: G. Boole (1815-1864): Theory of binary logic.

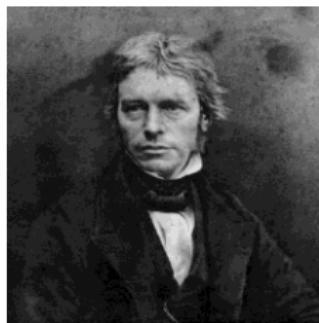


Figure 1.21: M. Faraday (1821): electromagnetic rotation and motors.

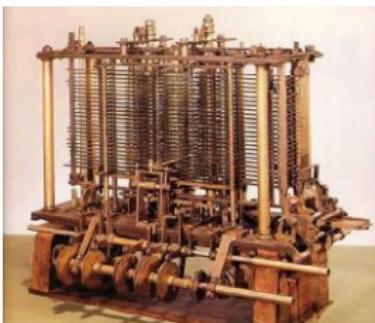
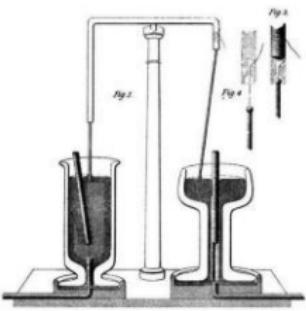


Figure 1.22: C. Babbage (1822): Difference and analytic engines.

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)

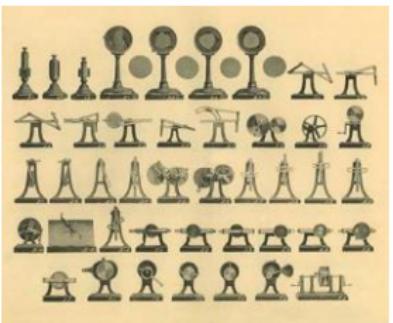
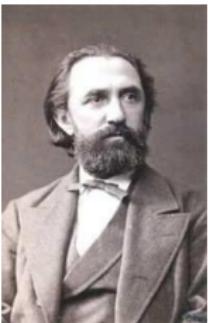


Figure 1.23: F. Reuleaux (1829-1905): Lower pairs and modern kinematics.



Figure 1.24: Nikola Tesla (1898): Remote controlled robot boat.

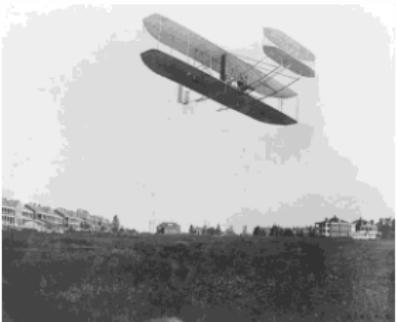


Figure 1.25: O. Wright (1908): First powered flight.



Figure 1.26: Henry Ford (1903): Assembly-line method of automated production.

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)



Figure 1.27: Karel Čapek (1921): Coined the word “ROBOT” in a play called “RUR”(Rossum’s Universal Robots)



Figure 1.28: V. Bush (1927): Analog computer.

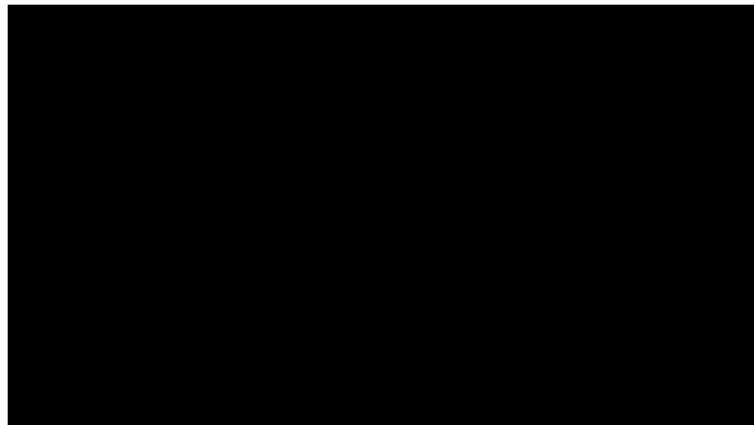


Figure 1.29: Nyquist and Bode (1932, 1938): Classic control.



Figure 1.30: A. Turing (1936): Machine Intelligence

Bomb Drops



Norden Bombsight

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)



Figure 1.31: H. black (1898-1983): Negative feedback

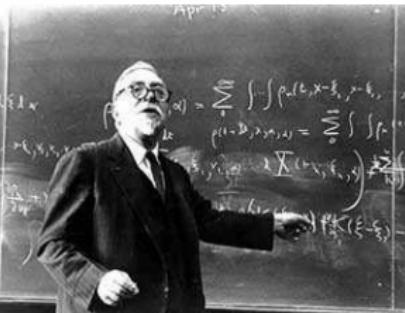


Figure 1.32: N. Wiener (1894-1964): Cybernetics



Figure 1.33: Hazen (1934): Theory of servomechanism.



Figure 1.34: R. Kalman (1930-): Modern control and Kalman filter

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)

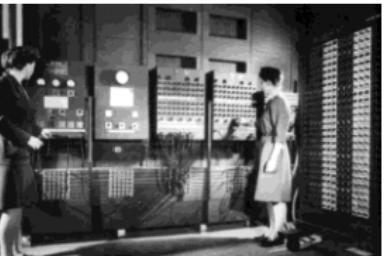


Figure 1.35: J. Eckert and J. Mauchley (1946): developed ENIAC, electronic digital computer



Figure 1.36: J. Von Neumann (1903-1957): Game theory and Von Neumann architecture.



Figure 1.37: Goertz at Argonne & Oakridge National Lab (1948): Telemomanipulator.

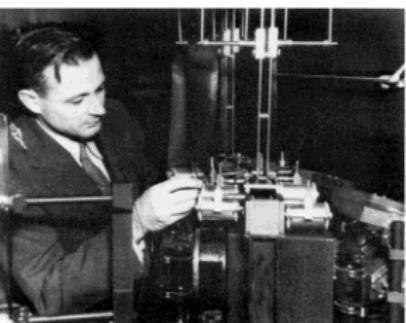
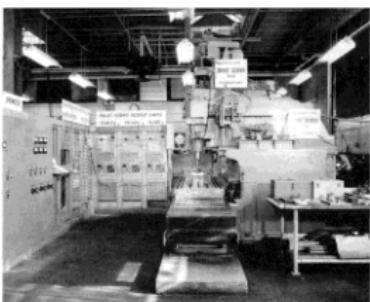


Figure 1.38: G. Brown (1952): First CNC machine and APT



The MIT numerically controlled milling machine

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)

“

- 1.A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm.
2. A robot must obey any orders given to it by human beings, except where such orders would conflict with the First Law.
- 3.A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Law.



Figure 1.39: I. Asimov (1950): Three Laws of a robot

”

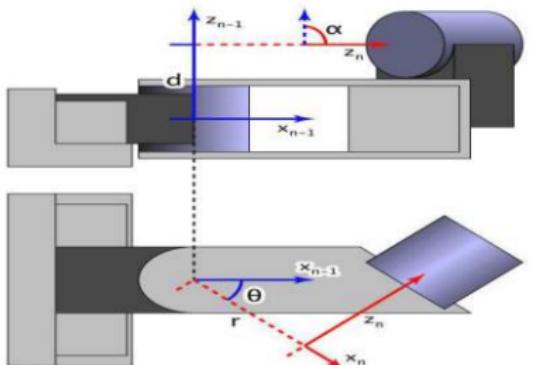


Figure 1.41: J. Denavit and R.S. Hartenberg (1956): Homogeneous transformations for Lower-pair mechanisms.

Figure 1.40: George Devol filed first robot patent (1954).



Figure 1.42: A. Newell and H. Simon (1956): Expert system

Early History (1451 A.D.-1960)



Figure 1.43: Marvin Minsky and John McCarthy (1956): AI lab at MIT

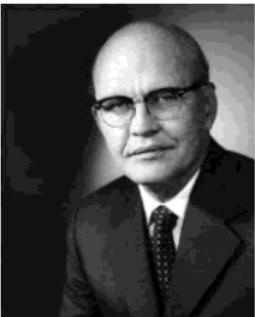


Figure 1.44: J. Kilby and R. Noyce (1958-1959): Integrated circuit

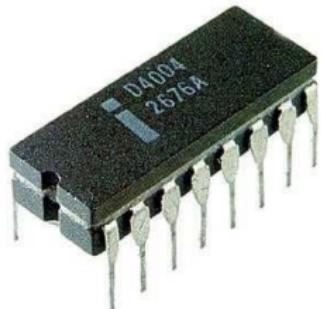


Figure 1.45: F. Faggin, T. Hoff and S. Mazor (1971): First microprocessor

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Modern History (1961-)



Figure 1.46: George Devol and Joseph Engelberger founded Unimation (1961), which installed the first industry robot at a GM plant in Trenton, New Jersey.



Figure 1.47: American Machine Foundry (AMF 1960) markets Versatran, a cylindrical robot.

Figure 1.48: Stewart and Gough (1960): Stewart platform

Modern History (1961-)

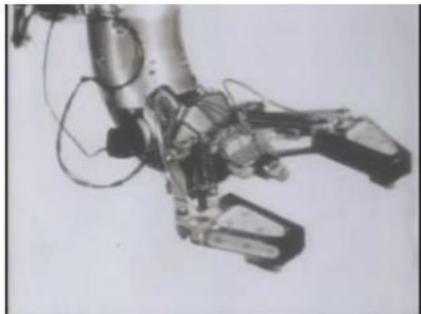


Figure 1.49: H. A. Ernst (MIT 1961): Computer control of mechanical arms using touch sensor.



Figure 1.50: Stanford University(1963): Rancho Arm, the first artificial robotic arm to be controlled by a computer.



1.51: Research on robot kinematics and design initiated by B. Roth (1964), D. Pieper (1968), K. J. Waldron (1972), etc.

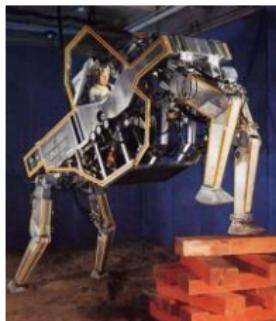


Figure 1.52: R. Mosher at General Electric(1968): quadruped walking machine (11 ft tall, 3000lb)

Modern History (1961-)



Figure 1.53: Kawasaki robots in Japan with a patent from Unimation (1968)



Figure 1.54: V. Scheinman (1969): The Stanford arm



Figure 1.55: Draper Lab (1970) (RCC Device), SCARA robots by H. Makino, Japan (1978), Adept Robotics (1982)



Figure 1.56: Yaskawa engineers coined the term "Mechatronics" (1971)

Modern History (1961-)



Figure 1.57: Waseda University develops Wabot-1 (1973) and Wabot-2 (1980)

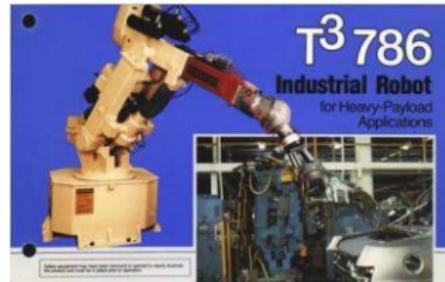


Figure 1.58: Cincinnati Milacron (1974): (T3 Robots) Payload (100lb)

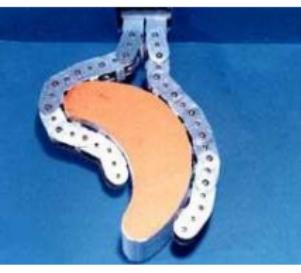


Figure 1.59: S. Hirose (1976): The soft gripper



Figure 1.60: Viking 1 and 2 space probes, equipped with robot arms (1976)

Modern History (1961-)

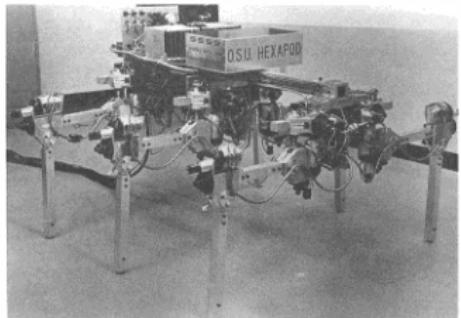


Figure 1.61: OSU Hexapod (1977)



Figure 1.62: Star Wars (1977): R2-D2 and C-3PO

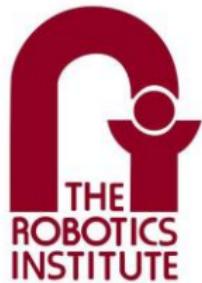


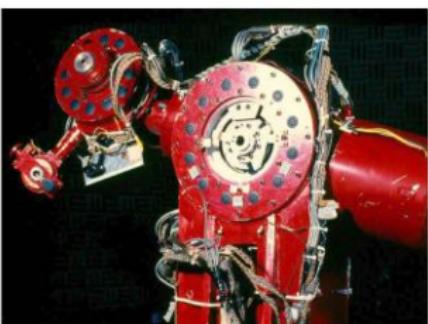
Figure 1.63: Robotics Institute at CMU is established (1979), leading to first PhD program in Robotics.

1.64: Research on robot control initiated by J. Luh, M.W. Walker, R. Paul (1980), S. Arimoto (1984), D.E. Whitney (1977), J. Salisbury (1980), M. Raibert and J. Craig (1981), N. Hogan (1985), M. Mason (1981), O. Khatib (1987), etc.

Modern History (1961-)



Figure 1.65: M. Raibert (1980) (RI, CMU & AI lab, MIT): Hopping, Robots, Monoped, biped and Quadped. Dynamically stable quadruped robot BigDog created by Boston Dynamics (founded by M. Raibert in 1992) with the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech (2005).



1.66: Research on robot dynamics initiated by J. Luh (1980), T. Kane (1983), R. Featherstone (1983), etc.

Figure 1.67: H. Asada and T. Kanade at CMU (1981): Direct drive robots

Modern History (1961-)

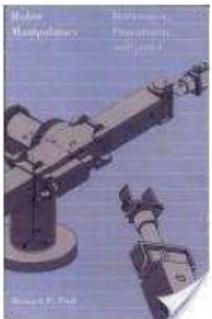


Figure 1.68: R. Paul (1981): Robot Manipulators: Mathematics, Programming, and Control. MIT Press.



Figure 1.69: NASA (1981): Canadarm

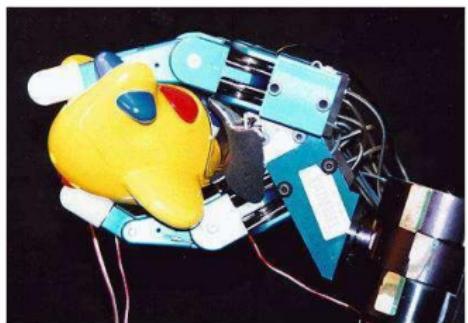
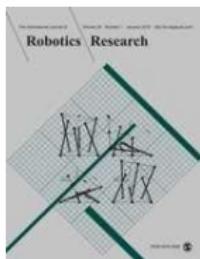


Figure 1.70: K. Salisbury (1981): Salisbury Hand



Figure 1.71: Fanuc of Japan and General Motors form a joint Venture (1982): Fanuc Robotics America.

Modern History (1961-)



1.72: International Journal of Robotics Research (1982), IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA, 1985), and IEEE Journal of Robotics and Automation (1985)



1.73: R. Brockett (1983): Product of exponential formula for robot kinematics, and D. Montana (1986): Kinematics of contact.

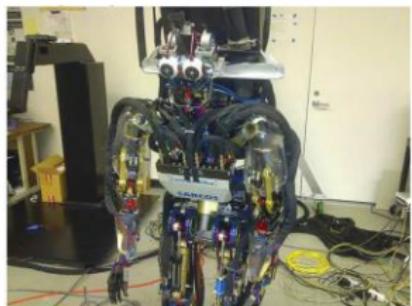
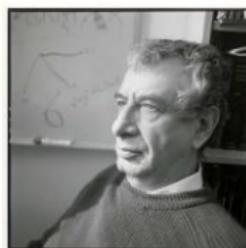


Figure 1.74: Sarcos, Utah (1983): Entertainmentrobot.



1.75: Motion planning research initiated by J. Schwartz and M. Sharir (1983), Lozano-Perez (1983), J. Canny (1988), and O. Khatib (1986).

Modern History (1961-)

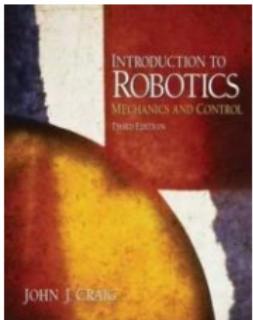


Figure 1.76: J. Craig (1986): Introduction to Robotics: Mechanics and Control. Addison-Wesley.



Figure 1.77: Odetics Walking robots (1988)



Figure 1.78: Utah/MIT (1989): Utah/MITHand

Figure 1.79: R. Brooks and A.M. Flynn (MIT, 1989): "Fast, cheap and Out of Control: A Robot Invasion of the Solar System"

Modern History (1961-)



Figure 1.80: ABB of Switzerland acquires Cincinnati Milacron, creator of PUMA (1990)



Figure 1.82: R. Clavel (1991): Delta robot



Figure 1.81: iRobot was founded in 1990 by Rodney Brooks, Colin Angle and Helen Greiner after working in MIT's Artificial Intelligence Lab (1990)



Figure 1.83: Da Vinci robot by Intuitive surgical (1995)

Modern History (1961-)



Figure 1.84: NASA (1996): Sojourner, NASA (First Manned Robot to land on Martian Surface)



Figure 1.85: DLR Hand(1998)



QURIO

Figure 1.86: Sony (1999): AIBO robots



Figure 1.87: EPFL (1999): High Mobility Wheeled Rover, SHRIMP

Modern History (1961-)



Figure 1.88: Honda (2000):Humanoid Robot, ASIMO



ASIMO (1989-2000)



Segway



Ball Bot



Gyrover



Segway



Ball Bot



am Blue



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Segway



Ball Bot



Ham Blue



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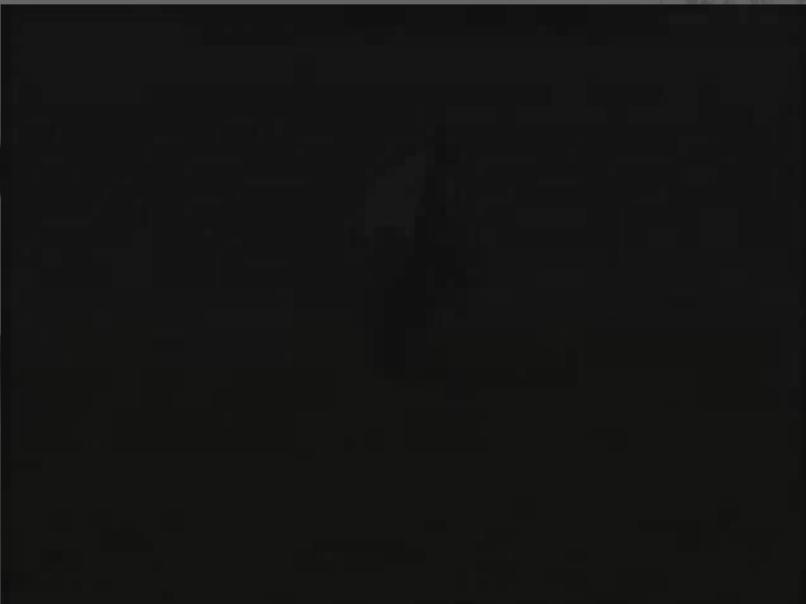
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Segway



Ball Bot



Blue



Gyrover

Modern History (1961-)



Figure 1.89: Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA, 2004-): DARPA Grand Challenge



Figure 1.90: DARPA Grand Challenge: Stanford's Stanley



Figure 1.91: DARPA Grand Challenge: Team Blue

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New Vistas 0: Industrial Robotics



Figure 1.26: Henry Ford (1903): Assembly-line method of automated production.



Figure 1.80: ABB of Switzerland acquires Cincinnati Milacron, creator of PUMA (1990)



Figure 1.50: Stanford University(1963): Rancho Arm, the first artificial robotic arm to be controlled by a computer.



Play/Pause Stop
Figure 1.82: R. Clavel (1991): Delta robot



KUKA LBR iiwa



Amazon/Kiva

Kiva Systems



New Vistas 2: Autonomous Driving



Play/Pause Stop

Figure 1.89: Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA, 2004-): DARPA Grand/Urban Challenge



TESLA



UBER ATG



Tesla FSD Beta



New Vistas 3: Aerial Robotics



Austria attacks Venice, 1849



A.M. Low's "Aerial Target," 1916



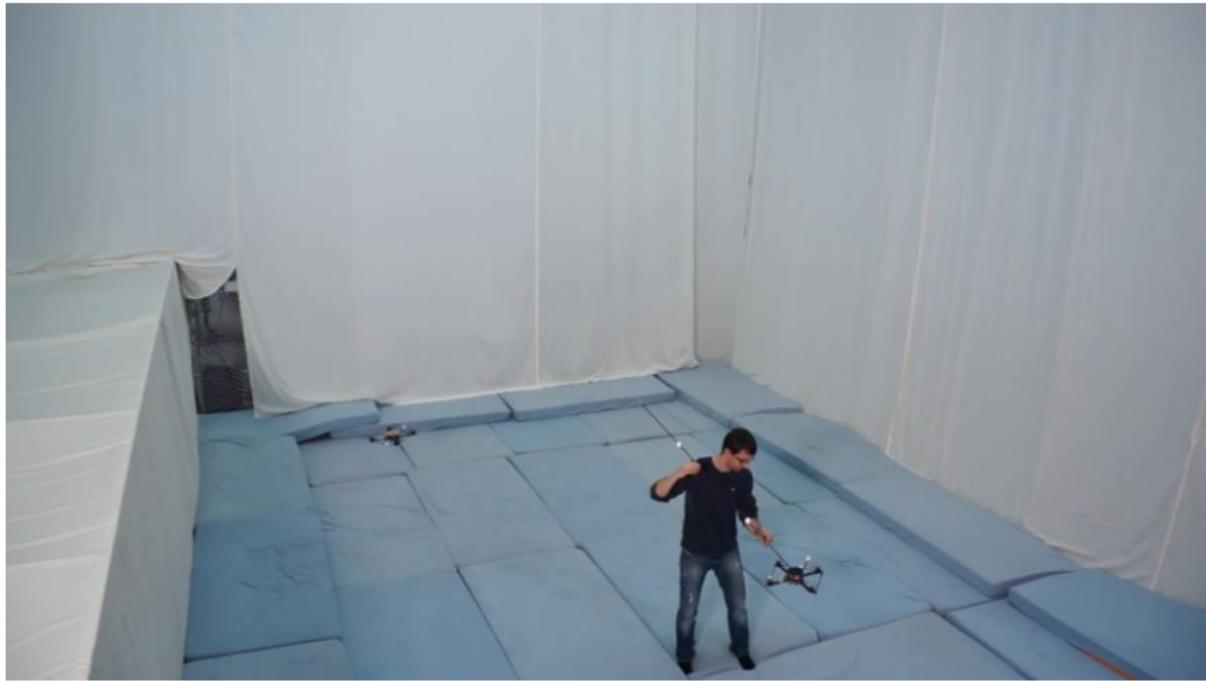
DJI Phantom



Berkeley Aerobots Sastry
2003

Crazyflie

ETH Zurich – Raf D'Andrea



Mark Mueller's Hyper Lab UCB

Cirque du Soleil, ETH Zurich and Verity Studios



New Vistas 4: Extreme Locomotion



Play/Pause Stop



Play/Pause Stop



Play/Pause Stop

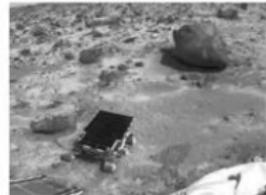


Figure 1.65: M. Raibert (1980) (RI, CMU & AI lab, MIT): Hopping, Robots, Monoped, biped and Quadpeds. Dynamically stable quadruped robot BigDog created by Boston Dynamics (founded by M. Raibert in 1992) with the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech (2005).

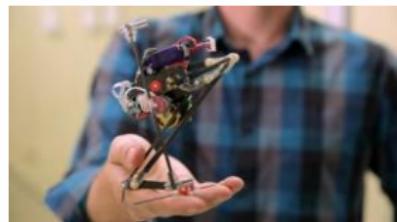
Figure 1.84: NASA (1996): Sojourner, NASA (First Manned Robot to land on Martian Surface)



ATLAS, Boston Dynamics



Snake robots, CMU Choset Lab



Salto, UCB Fearing Lab



Berkeley Humanoid, Sreenath's Lab UCB

New Vistas 5: Manipulation



Figure 1.9: P. Ambroise (Paris 1564): Design of a mechanical hand.



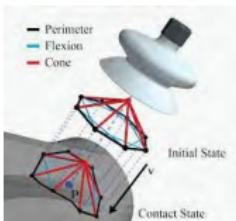
Play/Pause Stop
Figure 1.78: Utah/MIT (1989): Utah/MIT hand



Play/Pause Stop
Figure 1.85: DLR Hand (1998)



"Jamming" robot manipulator



Dex-Net 2.0, UCB Goldberg Lab



Google Robotics "arm farm"

OpenAI – Solving the Rubic's Cube Single-Handed



New Vistas 6: Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)

“

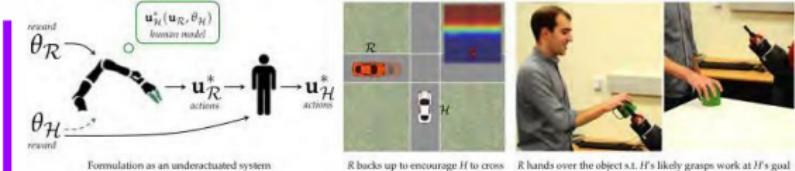
1. A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm.
2. A robot must obey any orders given to it by human beings, except where such orders would conflict with the First Law.
3. A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Law.

”

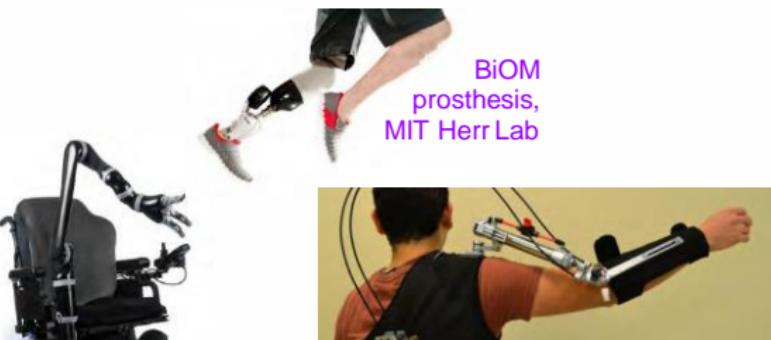
Figure 1.39: I. Asimov (1950): Three Laws of a robot



BCI, University of Pittsburgh, 2008



Human intent inference, UCB Sastry / Dragan Lab



Robot-Aided Surgery



Play/Pause Stop

Figure 1.83: Da Vinci robot by Intuitive surgical (1995)

Telesurgery Workstation 1999
Sastry

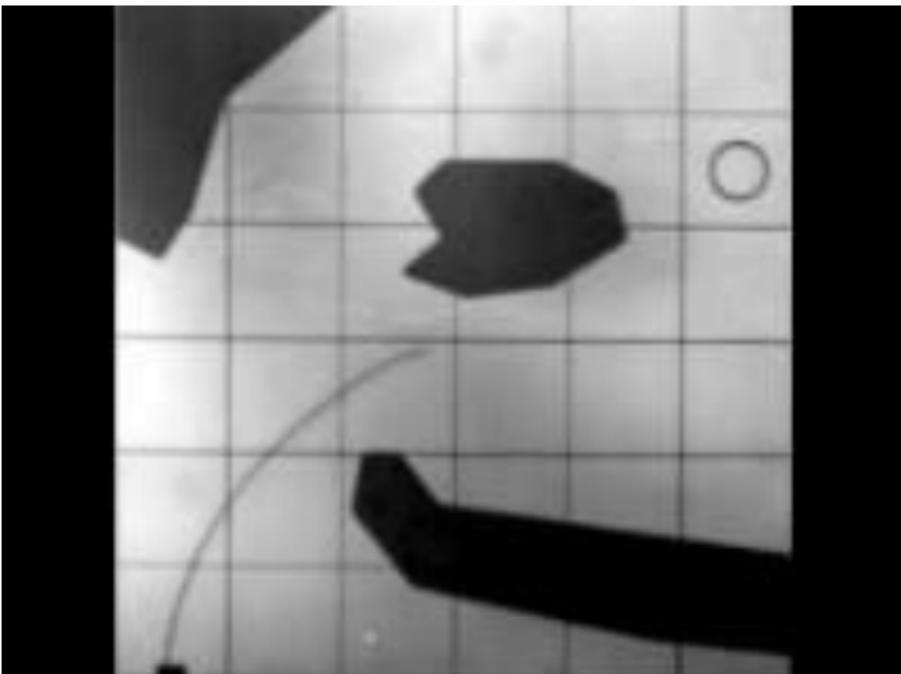


Phantom haptic device



Robot cutting and suturing,
UCB Goldberg/Abbeel Lab

Steerable Needles



New Vistas 7: Soft Robotics



Play/Pause Stop

Figure 1.59: S. Hirose (1976): The soft gripper

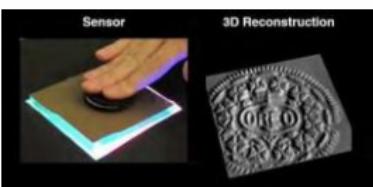


G. Pratt (1995): Series elastic actuator (SEA)

Okamura Lab



Octobot, Harvard Lewis Lab



GelSight sensor, MIT

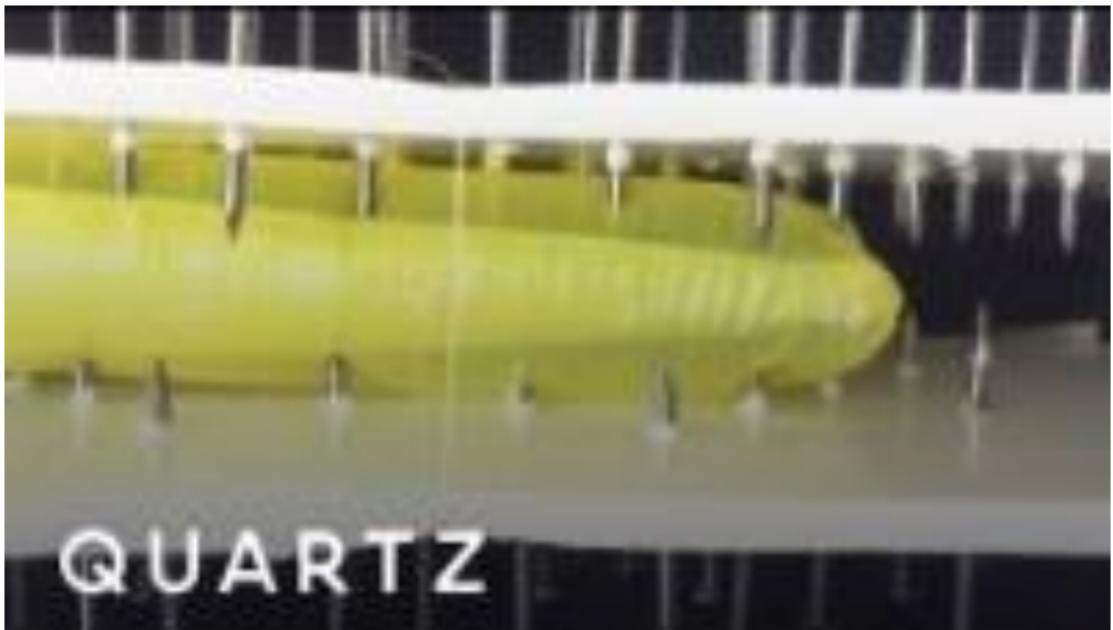


Soft optical sensor/actuator, UCB Bajcsy/Fearing/Goldberg Lab



Soft exoskeleton, UCB Bajcsy Lab

Vine Robots



New Vistas 8: Space Robotics



SpaceX Grasshopper



SpaceX Starship



NASA Perseverance

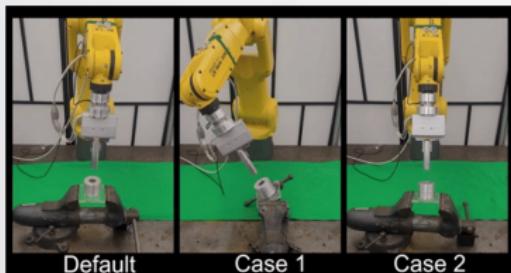


NASA Ingenuity

New Vistas 9: Machine Learning

Horowitz' Lab UCB

Contact-rich Robot Manipulation Task Learning
Leveraging Group Invariance and Equivariance



- A differential geometric control approach to increase transferability in learning robot manipulation tasks that involve contact-rich interaction with the environment.
- A control law and a learning representation framework that remains invariant under arbitrary SE(3) transformations of the manipulation task definition.
- Based on utilizing a recently presented geometric impedance control (GIC), the gain scheduling policy is trained in a supervised learning fashion from expert demonstrations.
- A hardware implementation on a peg-in-hole task is conducted to validate the learning transferability and feasibility of the proposed approach.

Video demos from UC Berkeley

SE(3) Special Euclidean Group – the set of all rigid body rotations and translations

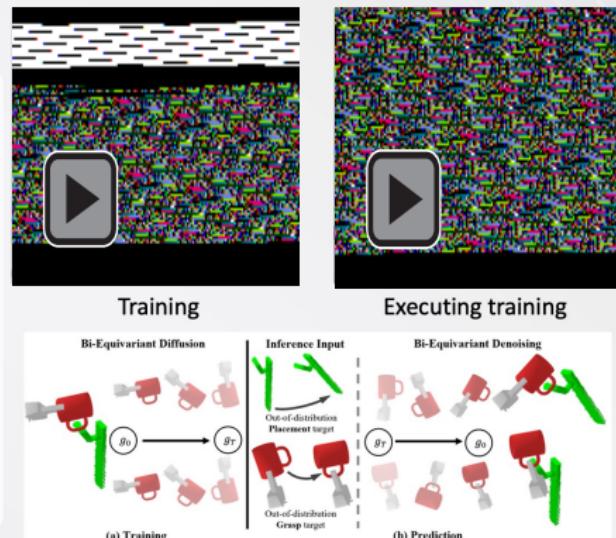
<https://sites.google.com/berkeley.edu/equivariant-task-learning/home>

New Vistas 9: Machine Learning

Horowitz' Lab: Diffusion-EDFs: Bi-equivariant Denoising Generative Modeling for Visual Robotic Manipulation

- We are working on Diffusion Equivariant Descriptor Fields (Diffusion-EDFs), a novel approach that incorporates spatial roto-translation equivariance, i.e., SE(3)-equivariance to diffusion generative learning models.
- By integrating SE(3)-equivariance into our model architectures, we demonstrate that our proposed method exhibits remarkable data efficiency, requiring only 5 to 10 task demonstrations for effective end-to-end training.
- Our approach showcases superior generalizability compared to previous diffusion-based vision manipulation methods.

Video demos from Prof. J. Choi's laboratory in Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea



<https://sites.google.com/view/diffusion-edfs>

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