



# 3D Printed Force-Torque Sensor (FTS) Calibration

Jon Urcelay and Aleksander Skrede

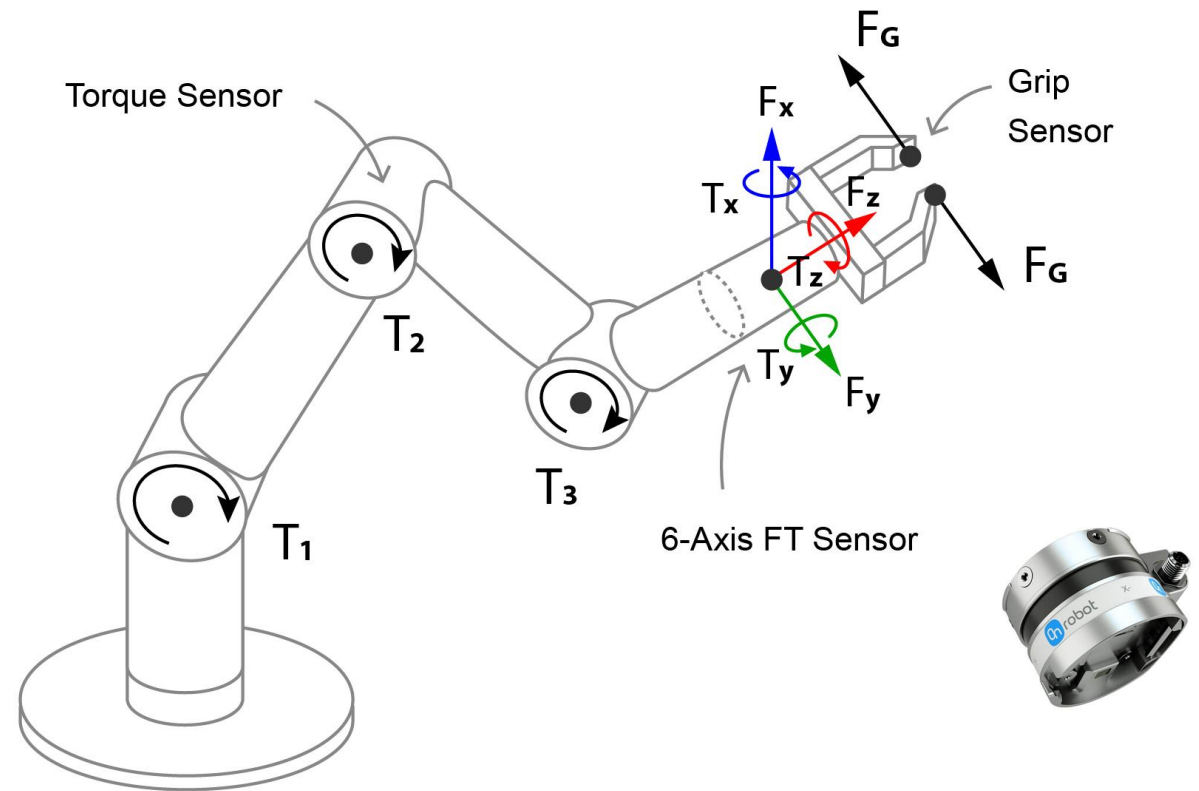
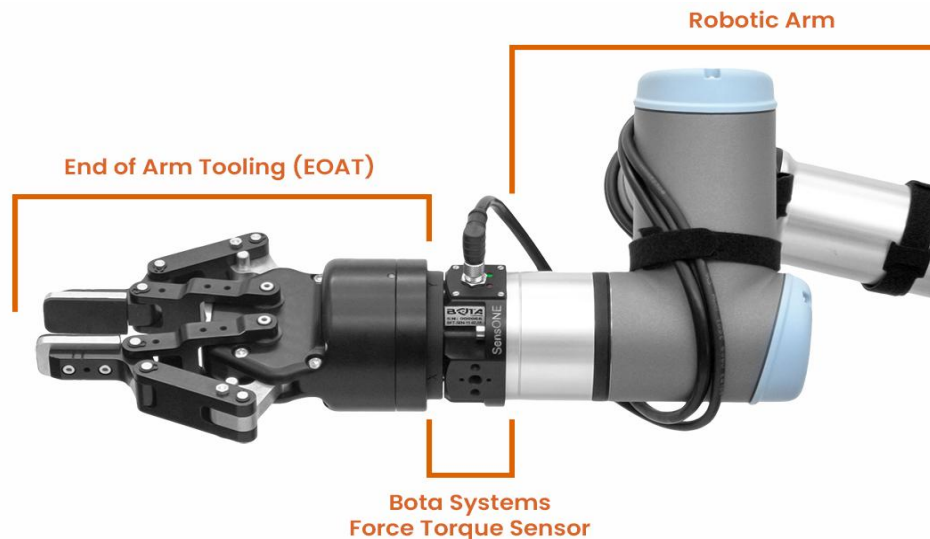


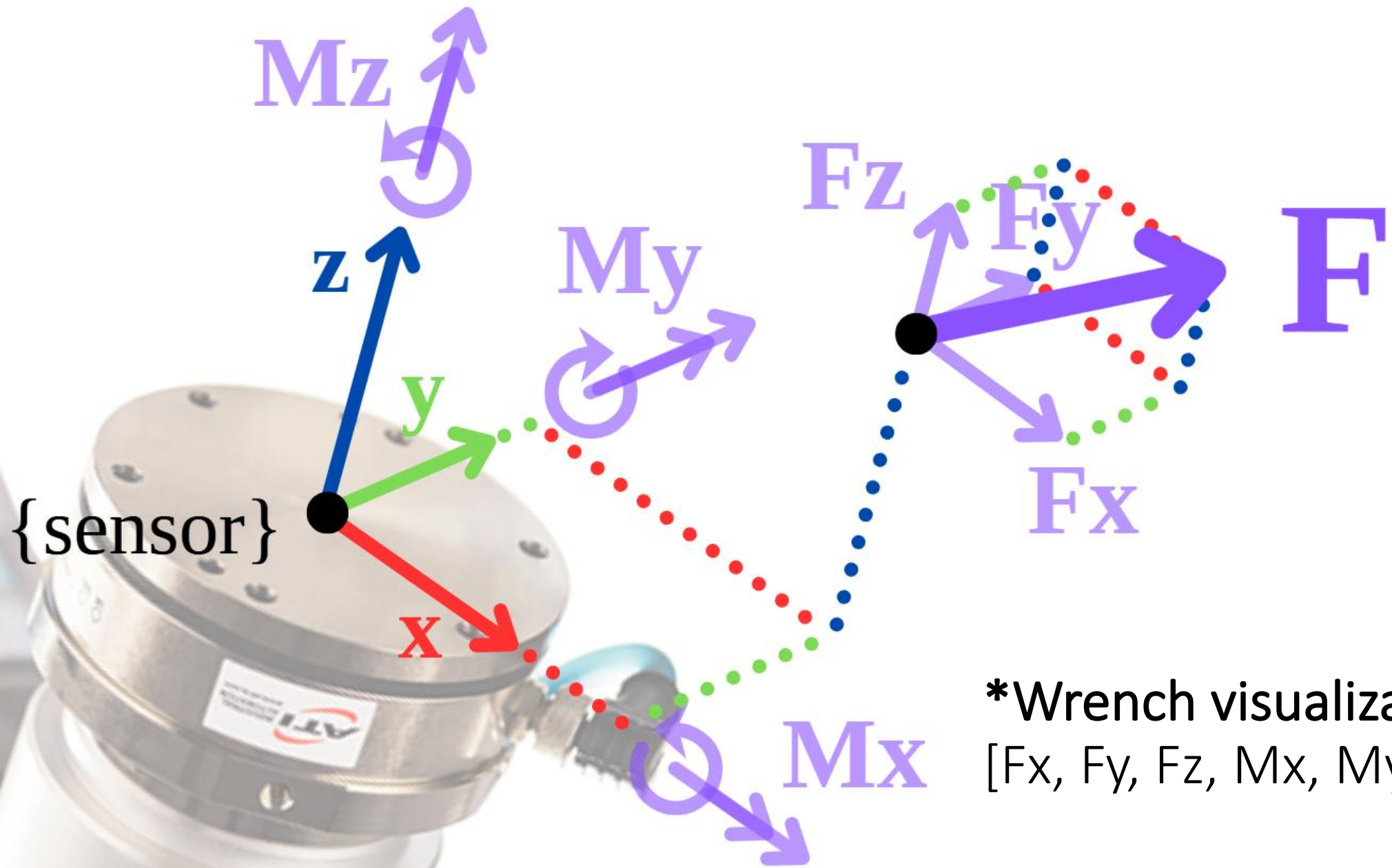
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# What is a 6 Axis Force-Torque Sensor (FTS)?

- Device to measure Force and Torque/Moment in 6 axis:  
Wrench =  $[F_x, F_y, F_z, M_x, M_y, M_z]$
- Used in robotic arms



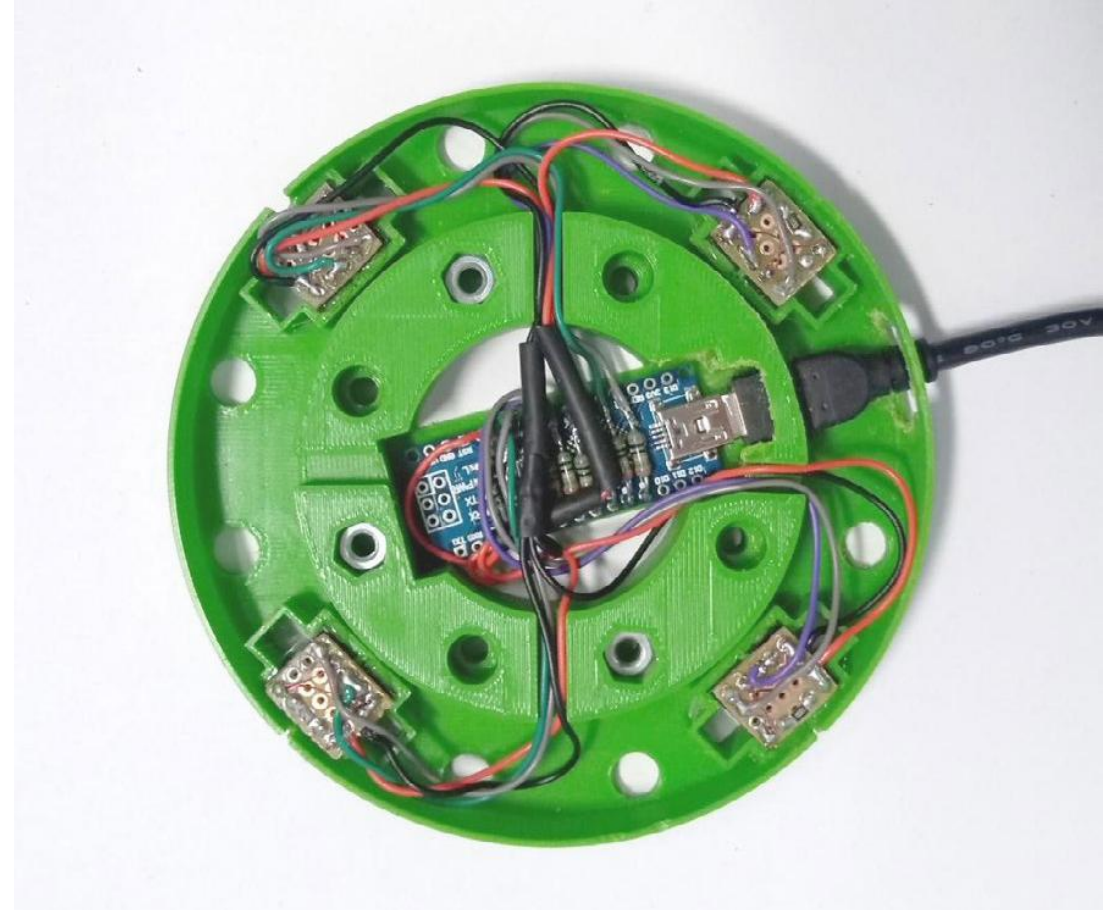


\*Wrench visualization  
[ $F_x$ ,  $F_y$ ,  $F_z$ ,  $M_x$ ,  $M_y$ ,  $M_z$ ]

# 3D Printed 6-Axis FTS

Components:

- x8 Fork-type sensors
- Arduino Nano Vishay 1103
- 3D Printed parts

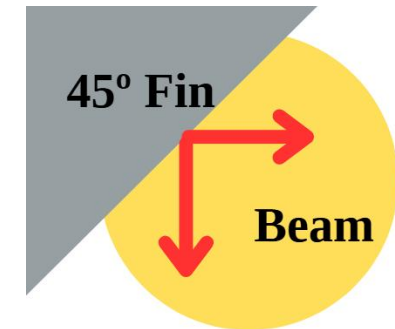
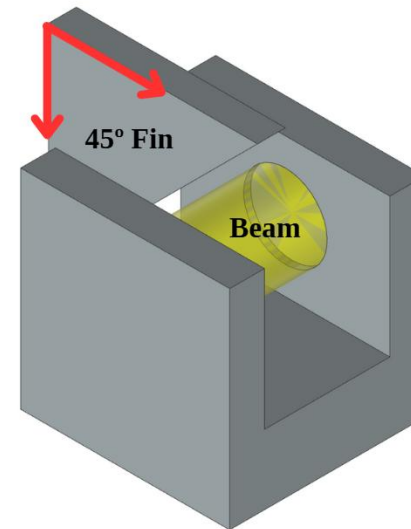
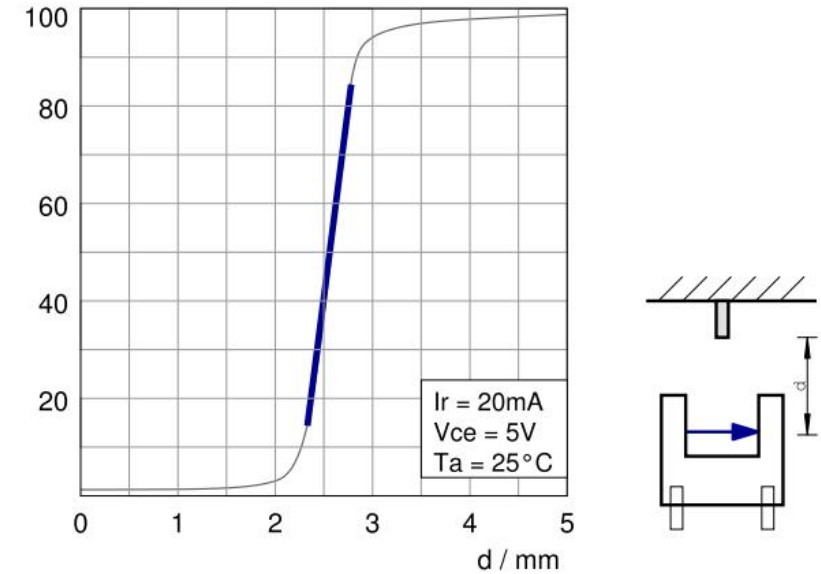


Original paper: [3D Printed Low-Cost Force-Torque Sensors | IEEE Journals & Magazine | IEEE Xplore](#)

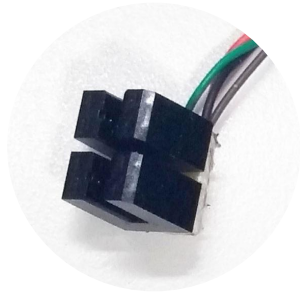
Original code: [TAMS-Group/tams\\_printed\\_ft: Low-cost 3D printed force-torque sensors, including ROS drivers, CAD designs, and Arduino firmware.](#)

# Fork-type sensors

- Emitter: infrared LED
- Receiver: phototransistor
- Light beam is blocked when an opaque object (fin) moves into the slit, changing the receiver's current
- 45° fin: measurement in two directions = 2 Degrees Of Freedom (DOF)





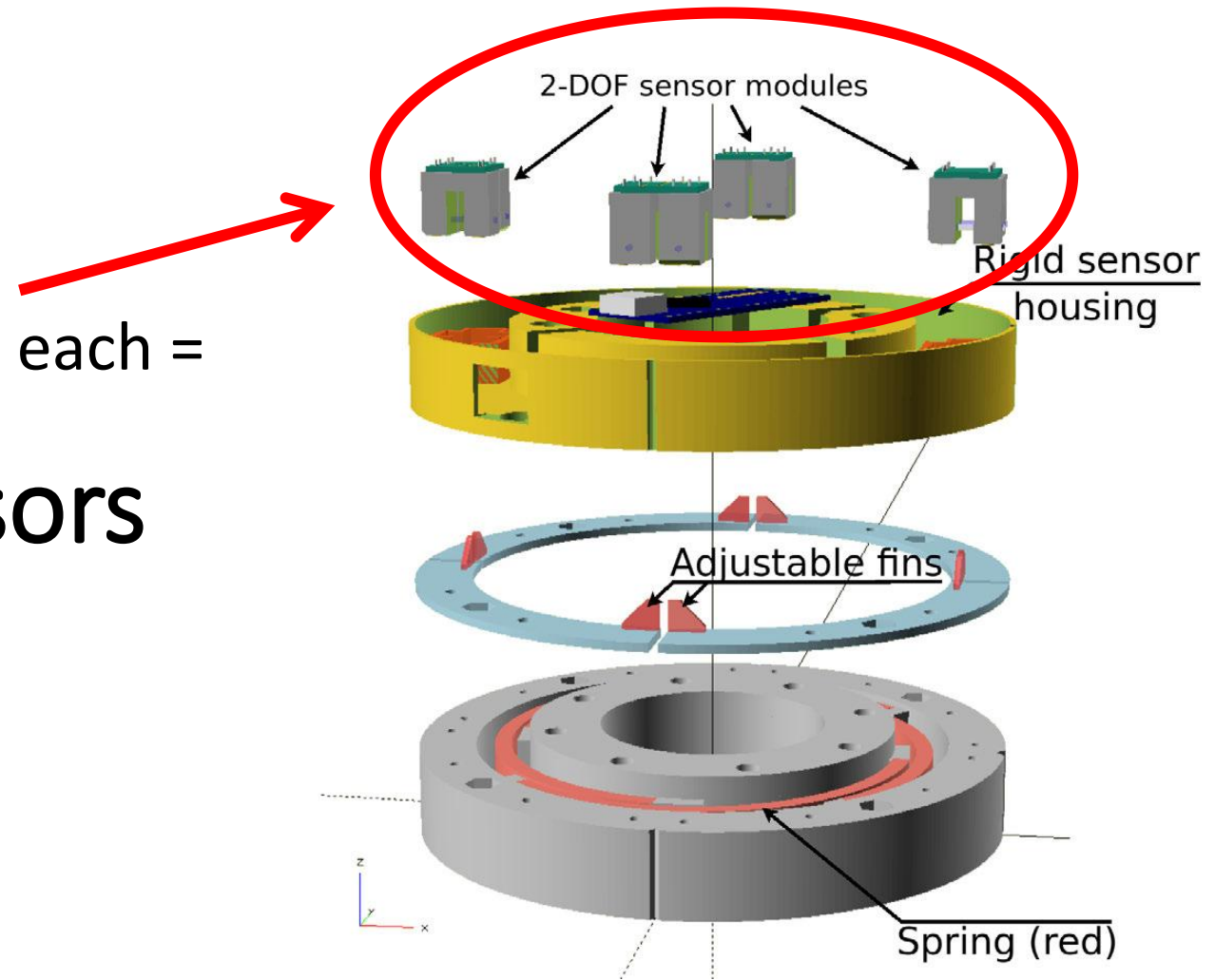


= 1 module

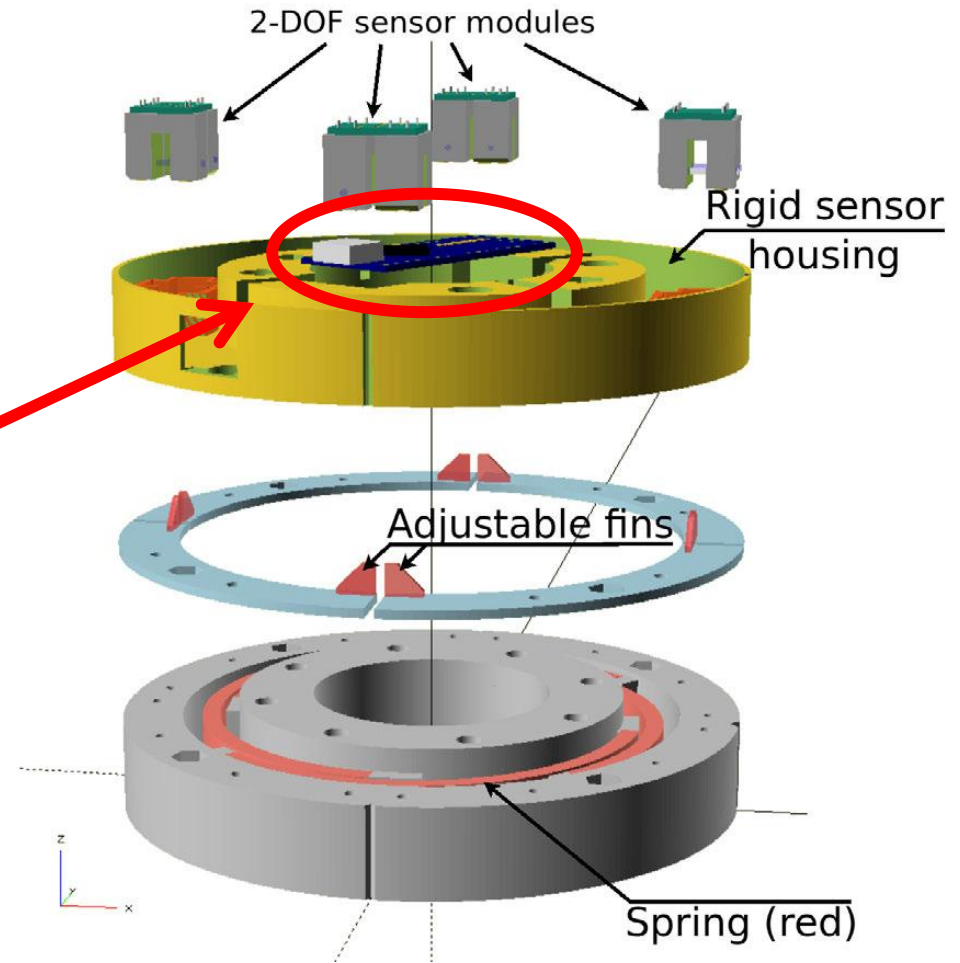
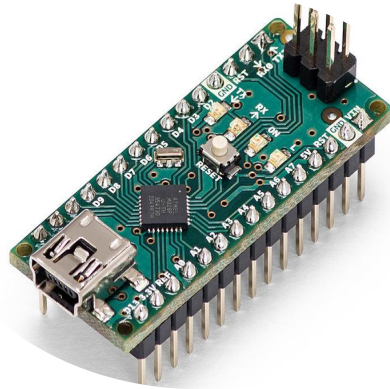
x4 modules with 2 sensors each =

**x8 Fork-type sensors**

2 DOF each sensor



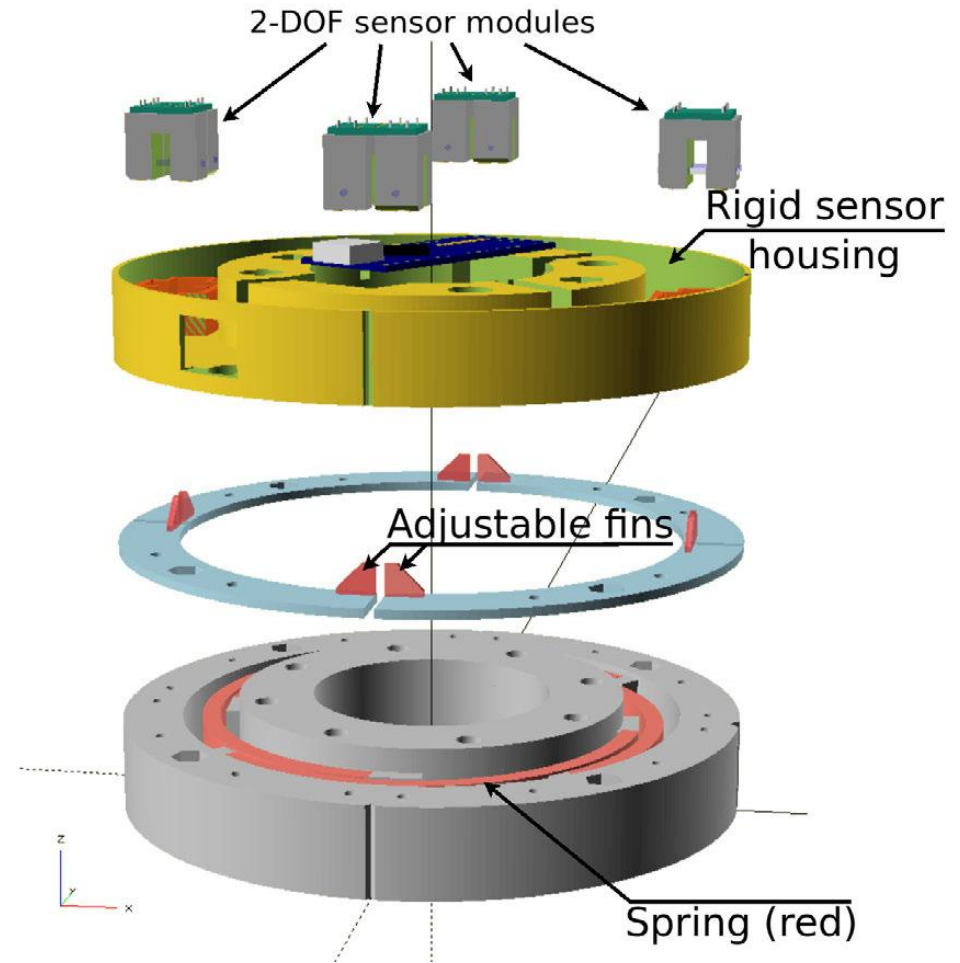
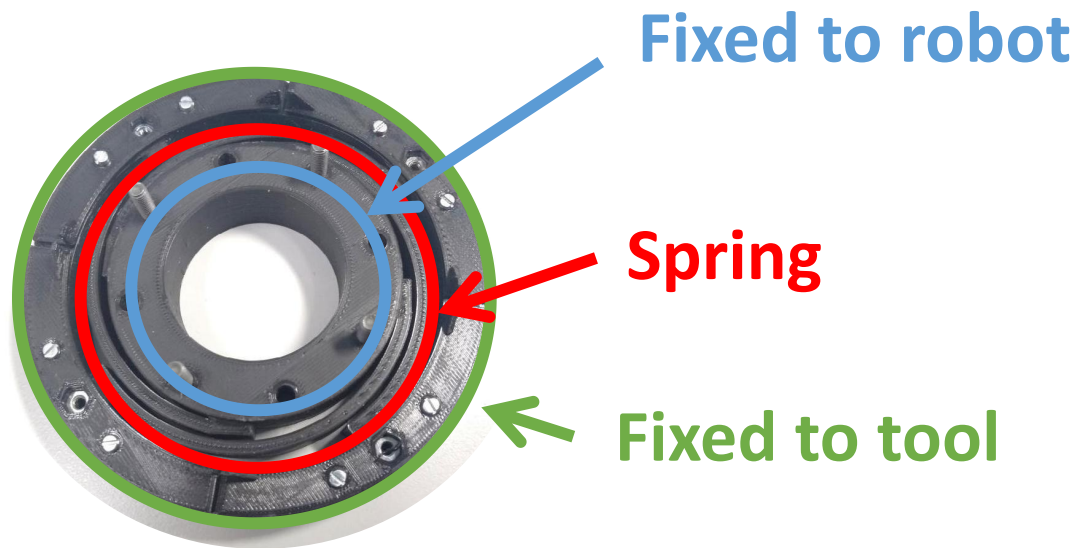
# Arduino Nano Vishay 1103





# 3D Printed parts

- Rigid sensor housing
- Adjustable 45° fins
- Spring part



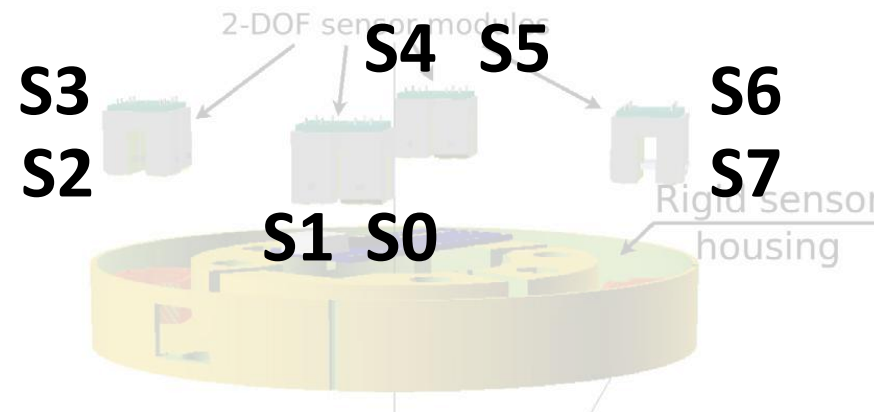
# Setup from PC

- Upload “.ino” code to Arduino Nano using Arduino IDE



[tams\\_printed\\_ft/firmware/ft-big-octo-1103/ft-big-octo-1103.ino at master · TAMS-Group/tams\\_printed\\_ft](#)

- Read **raw sensor values** from the serial port:  
use “serial” in PyCharm



$$S = \begin{bmatrix} S0 \\ S1 \\ S2 \\ S3 \\ S4 \\ S5 \\ S6 \\ S7 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
import serial
port = 'COM3'
baudrate = 115200
ser = serial.Serial(port, baudrate, parity=serial.PARITY_NONE)
data = ser.readline()
(str_D, seq_number, error_mask, s0, s1, s2, s3, s4, s5, s6, s7) = \
    [t(s) for t, s in zip((str, int, int, int, int, int, int, int, int, int, int), data.split())]
s = [s0, s1, s2, s3, s4, s5, s6, s7]
```

# Calibration's objective: find C, L and Q

$$W = C + LS + QS^2$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{bmatrix} F_x \\ F_y \\ F_z \\ M_x \\ M_y \\ M_z \end{bmatrix} \\
 (6 \times 1)
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{bmatrix} C_{Fx} \\ C_{Fy} \\ C_{Fz} \\ C_{Mx} \\ C_{My} \\ C_{Mz} \end{bmatrix} \\
 (6 \times 1)
 \end{array}
 +
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 L_{Fx0} & L_{Fx1} & L_{Fx2} & L_{Fx3} & L_{Fx4} & L_{Fx5} & L_{Fx6} & L_{Fx7} \\
 L_{Fy0} & L_{Fy1} & L_{Fy2} & L_{Fy3} & L_{Fy4} & L_{Fy5} & L_{Fy6} & L_{Fy7} \\
 L_{Fz0} & L_{Fz1} & L_{Fz2} & L_{Fz3} & L_{Fz4} & L_{Fz5} & L_{Fz6} & L_{Fz7} \\
 L_{Mx0} & L_{Mx1} & L_{Mx2} & L_{Mx3} & L_{Mx4} & L_{Mx5} & L_{Mx6} & L_{Mx7} \\
 L_{My0} & L_{My1} & L_{My2} & L_{My3} & L_{My4} & L_{My5} & L_{My6} & L_{My7} \\
 L_{Mz0} & L_{Mz1} & L_{Mz2} & L_{Mz3} & L_{Mz4} & L_{Mz5} & L_{Mz6} & L_{Mz7}
 \end{bmatrix} \\
 (6 \times 8)
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{bmatrix} S_0 \\ S_1 \\ S_2 \\ S_2 \\ S_3 \\ S_4 \\ S_5 \\ S_6 \\ S_7 \end{bmatrix} \\
 (8 \times 1)
 \end{array}$$

# Calibration's objective: find C, L and Q

$$W = C + LS + QS^2$$

$$+ \begin{bmatrix} Q_{F_x00} & Q_{F_x01} & Q_{F_x02} & Q_{F_x03} & Q_{F_x04} & Q_{F_x05} & Q_{F_x06} & Q_{F_x07} & Q_{F_x11} & Q_{F_x12} & \cdots & Q_{F_x77} \\ Q_{F_y00} & Q_{F_y01} & Q_{F_y02} & Q_{F_y03} & Q_{F_y04} & Q_{F_y05} & Q_{F_y06} & Q_{F_y07} & Q_{F_y11} & Q_{F_y12} & \cdots & Q_{F_y77} \\ Q_{F_z00} & Q_{F_z01} & Q_{F_z02} & Q_{F_z03} & Q_{F_z04} & Q_{F_z05} & Q_{F_z06} & Q_{F_z07} & Q_{F_z11} & Q_{F_z12} & \cdots & Q_{F_z77} \\ Q_{M_x00} & Q_{M_x01} & Q_{M_x02} & Q_{M_x03} & Q_{M_x04} & Q_{M_x05} & Q_{M_x06} & Q_{M_x07} & Q_{M_x11} & Q_{M_x12} & \cdots & Q_{M_x77} \\ Q_{M_y00} & Q_{M_y01} & Q_{M_y02} & Q_{M_y03} & Q_{M_y04} & Q_{M_y05} & Q_{M_y06} & Q_{M_y07} & Q_{M_y11} & Q_{M_y12} & \cdots & Q_{M_y77} \\ Q_{M_z00} & Q_{M_z01} & Q_{M_z02} & Q_{M_z03} & Q_{M_z04} & Q_{M_z05} & Q_{M_z06} & Q_{M_z07} & Q_{M_z11} & Q_{M_z12} & \cdots & Q_{M_z77} \end{bmatrix} \quad (6 \times 36)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} s_0^2 \\ s_0 s_1 \\ s_0 s_2 \\ s_0 s_3 \\ s_0 s_4 \\ s_0 s_5 \\ s_0 s_6 \\ s_0 s_7 \\ s_1^2 \\ s_1 s_2 \\ s_1 s_3 \\ s_1 s_4 \\ s_1 s_5 \\ s_1 s_6 \\ s_1 s_7 \\ s_2^2 \\ s_2 s_3 \\ s_2 s_4 \\ s_2 s_5 \\ s_2 s_6 \\ s_2 s_7 \\ s_3^2 \\ s_3 s_4 \\ s_3 s_5 \\ s_3 s_6 \\ s_3 s_7 \\ s_4^2 \\ s_4 s_5 \\ s_4 s_6 \\ s_4 s_7 \\ s_5^2 \\ s_5 s_6 \\ s_5 s_7 \\ s_6^2 \\ s_6 s_7 \\ s_7^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (36 \times 1)$$

# How to find C, L and Q?

**1** Collect data of known  $\mathbf{W}$  (  $W_{ref}$  ) and its corresponding  $\mathbf{S}$

**2** Fit the linear regression model.  $W = C + LS + QS^2$

- Find a solution for the **Ordinary Least Squares (OLS)** method:
  - Linear coefficients only: C and L, ignore Q
  - Combining linear and quadratic coefficients: C, L and Q

$$\min_{C,L,Q} \sum_{i \in Cal} \left( W_{ref,i} - W_{est,i} \right)^2 + \lambda \cdot ||C, L, Q||$$



# 1 Data collection method: Theory

Compute Wrench (  $W_{s,est}$  ) with:

- Known **weight (m)** and **COG's position ( $r_s$ )**
- Known **orientations (RPY)** using UR3e

\*COG = Center Of Gravity

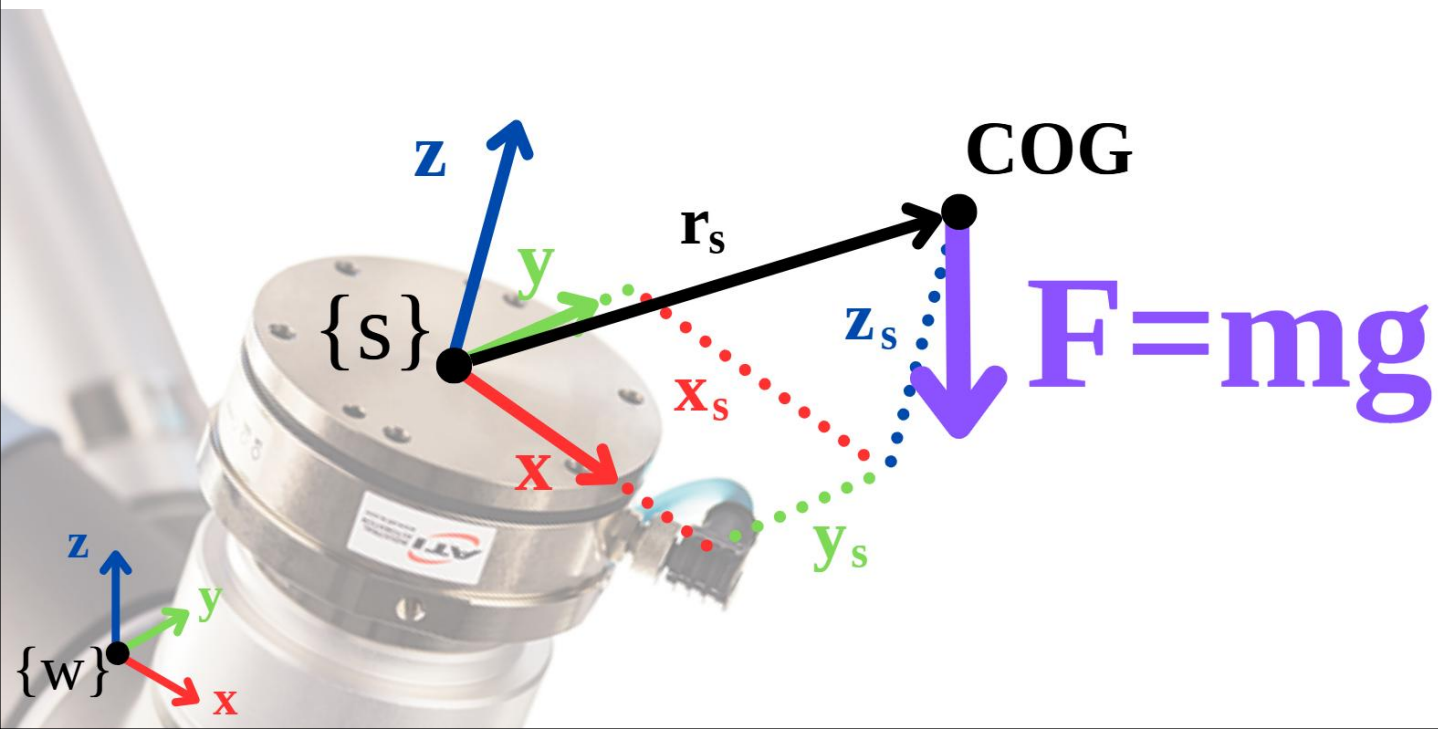
\*RPY = Roll ( $\phi$ ), Pitch ( $\theta$ ), Yaw ( $\psi$ )

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} F_w = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -mg \end{bmatrix} \quad r_s = \begin{bmatrix} x_s \\ y_s \\ z_s \end{bmatrix}_{COG} \\ R_{ws} = R_z(\psi)R_y(\theta)R_x(\phi) \end{array} \right.$$

**Knowns:**

$$\rightarrow F_w, r_s, R_{ws} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} F_s = R_{sw}F_w = R_{ws}^{-1}F_w \\ M_s = r_s \times F_s \end{array} \right. \boxed{W_{s,est} = \begin{bmatrix} F_s \\ M_s \end{bmatrix}_{(6 \times 1)}}$$

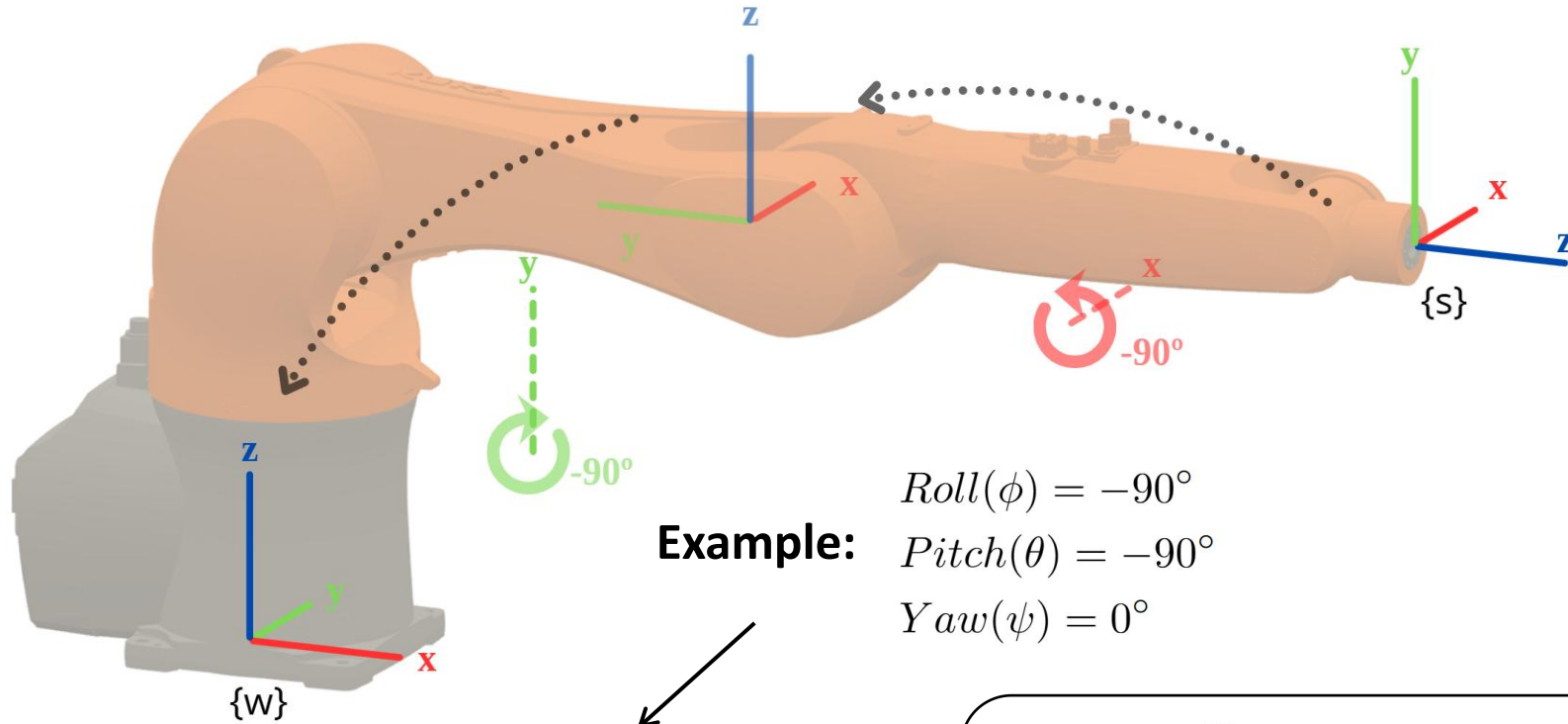
**Knowns:**  $F_w = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -mg \end{bmatrix}$   $r_s = \begin{bmatrix} x_s \\ y_s \\ z_s \end{bmatrix}_{COG}$



# Knowns:

Rotation matrix from  
{sensor} to {world} frame

$$\longrightarrow R_{ws} = R_z(\psi)R_y(\theta)R_x(\phi)$$



$$R_x(\phi) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ 0 & \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_y(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_z(\psi) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi & 0 \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Example:**

$$Roll(\phi) = -90^\circ$$

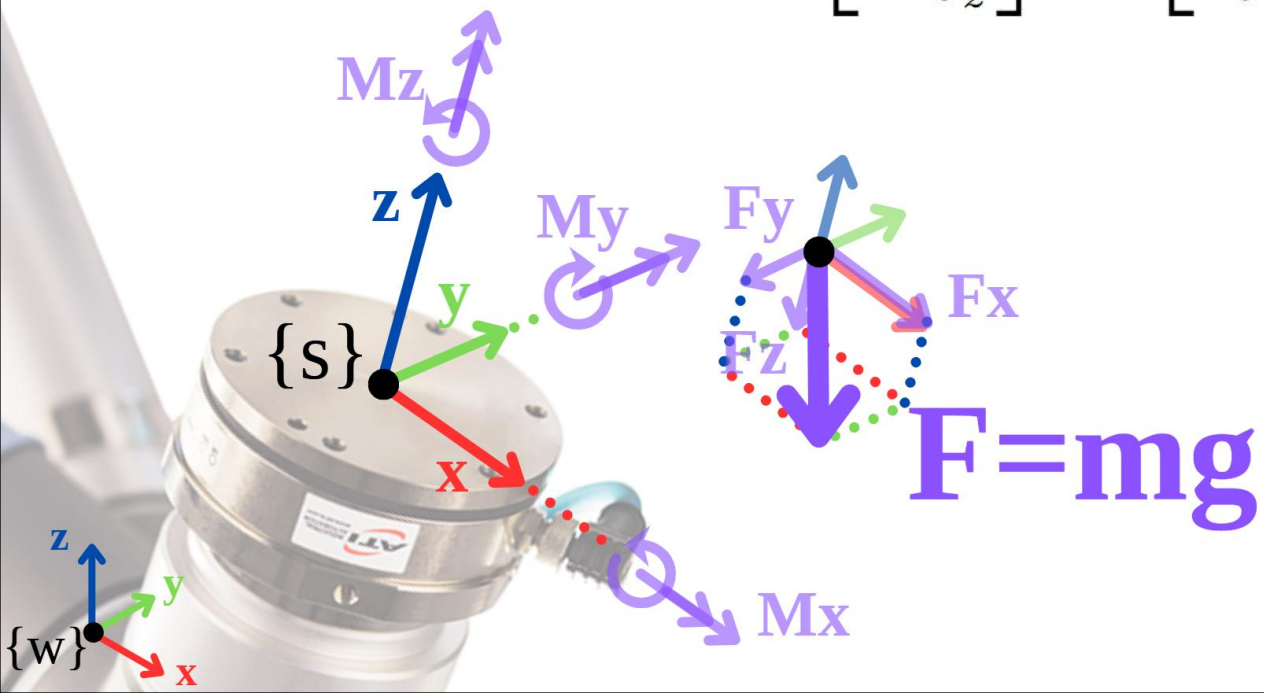
$$Pitch(\theta) = -90^\circ$$

$$Yaw(\psi) = 0^\circ$$

$$R_{ws} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{w\{s\}} & y_{w\{s\}} & z_{w\{s\}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_{ws} = \begin{bmatrix} c_\psi c_\theta & c_\psi s_\theta s_\phi - s_\psi c_\phi & c_\psi s_\theta c_\phi + s_\psi s_\phi \\ s_\psi c_\theta & s_\psi s_\theta s_\phi + c_\psi c_\phi & s_\psi s_\theta c_\phi - c_\psi s_\phi \\ -s_\theta & c_\theta s_\phi & c_\theta c_\phi \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} F_s = R_{ws}^{-1} F_w \\ M_s = r_s \times F_s \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} F_{sx} \\ F_{sy} \\ F_{sz} \end{bmatrix} = R_{ws}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -mg \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} M_{sx} \\ M_{sy} \\ M_{sz} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_s \\ y_s \\ z_s \end{bmatrix}_{COG} \times \begin{bmatrix} F_{sx} \\ F_{sy} \\ F_{sz} \end{bmatrix} \end{cases}$$



$$W_{s,est} = \begin{bmatrix} F_{sx} \\ F_{sy} \\ F_{sz} \\ M_{sx} \\ M_{sy} \\ M_{sz} \end{bmatrix}$$

# 1 Data collection method: Hardware



3D Printed FTS  
assembled on UR3e

+



Jig to apply known  
weight to FTS  
(4 possible poses)

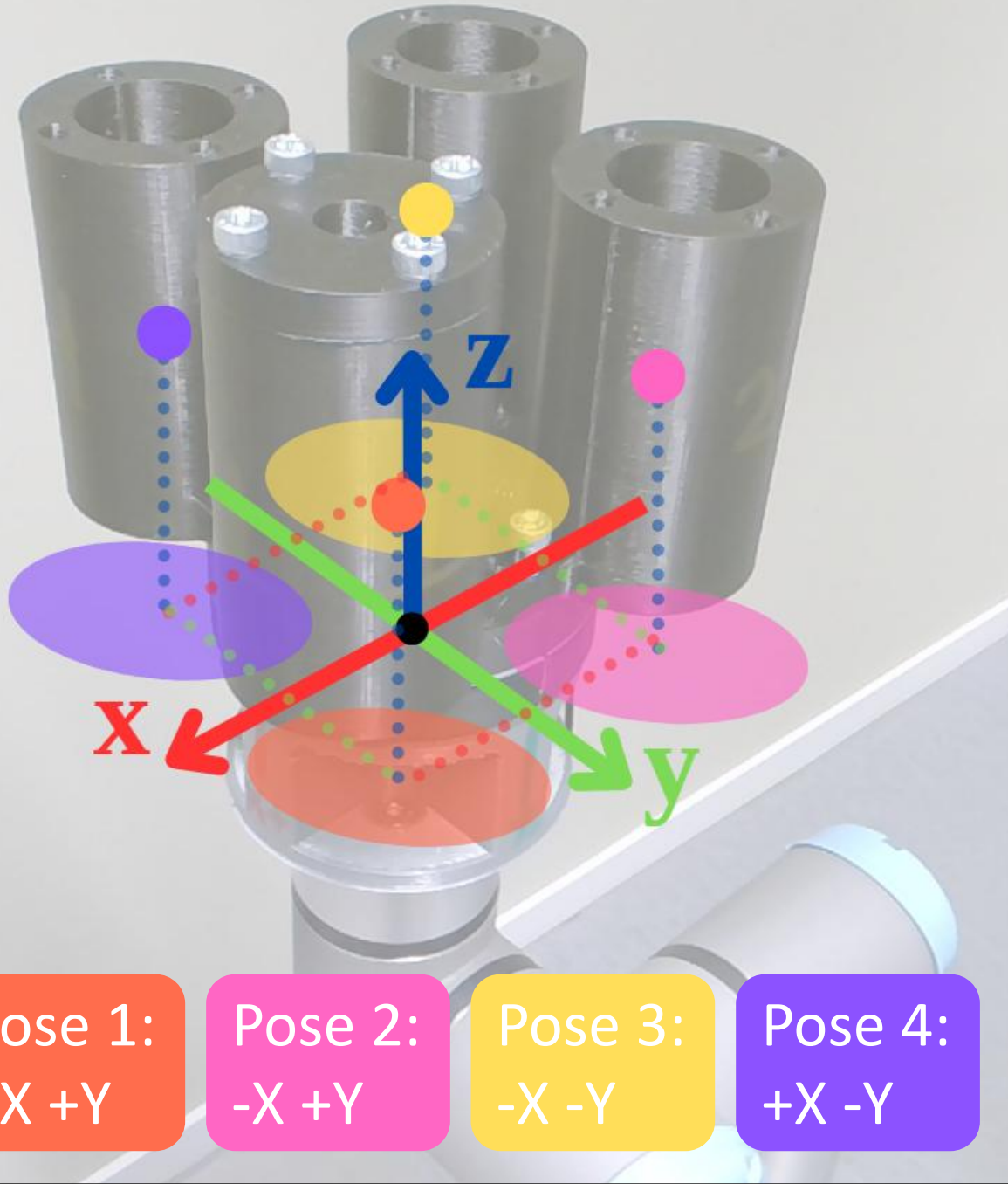
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FTS with jig in UR3e  
(weight in pose 1)

# Values for $m$ & $r_s$

\*Different  $r_s$  per pose



$r_s$  = COG Coordinates in  $\{S\}$

Object	Mass (kg)	$X_s(m)$	$Y_s(m)$	$Z_s(m)$
Jig	0.309	0	0	0.045
Cylinder	0.679	$\pm 0.042$	$\pm 0.042$	0.055
Top	0.040	$\pm 0.042$	$\pm 0.042$	0.105
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.028</b>	<b><math>\pm 0.029</math></b>	<b><math>\pm 0.029</math></b>	<b>0.054</b>

$$\sum_{i=1}^n m_i \mathbf{r}_{COG} = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \mathbf{r}_i$$



# 1 Data collection method: Code

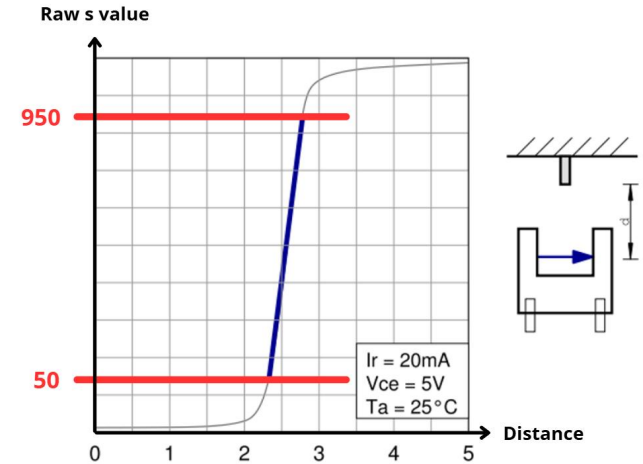
- Full code in GitHub: [ionurce/FTS\\_Calibration: Code for calibrating a 3D Printed Force-Torque Sensor](https://github.com/ionurce/FTS_Calibration)
- For each timestamp, save raw sensor values and estimated wrench in a CSV file in the next format:

[Timestamp, Fx, Fy, Fz, Mx, My, Mz, s0, s1, s2, s3, s4, s5, s6, s7]

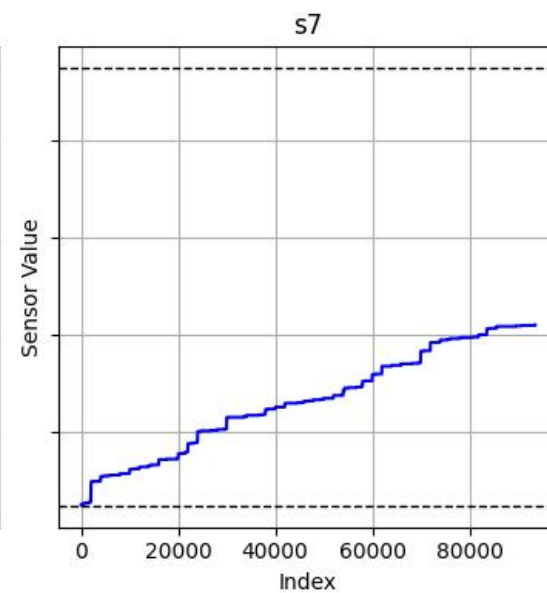
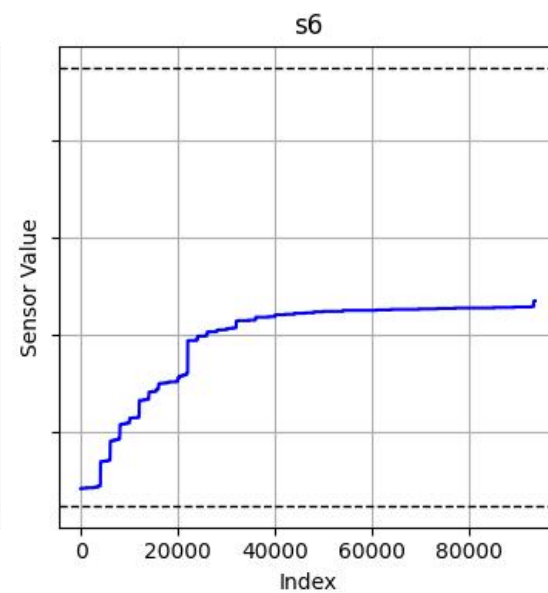
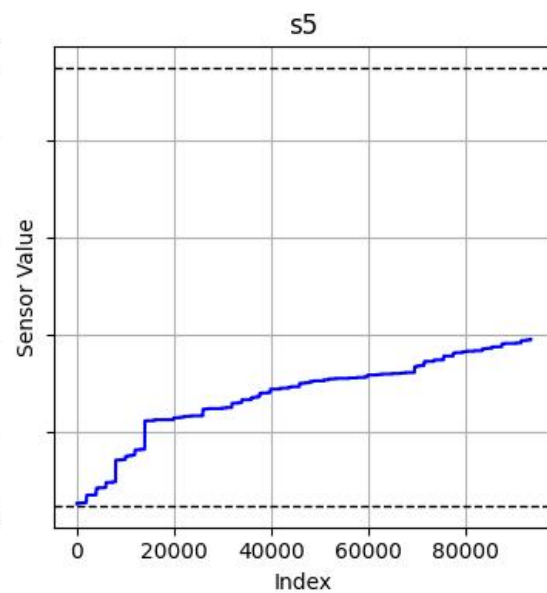
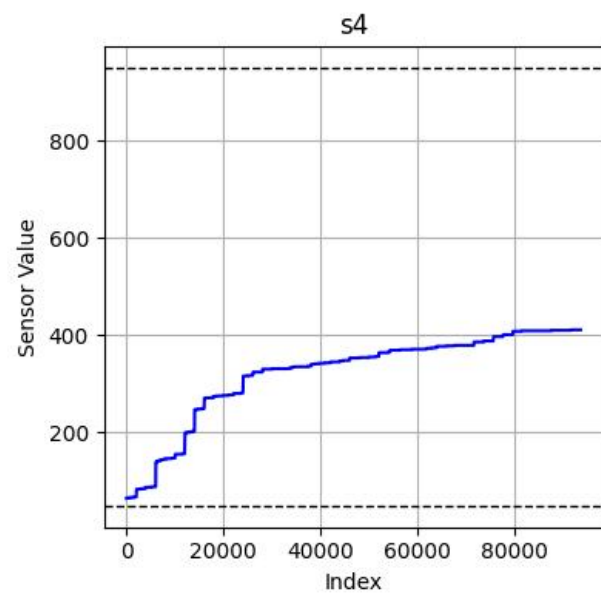
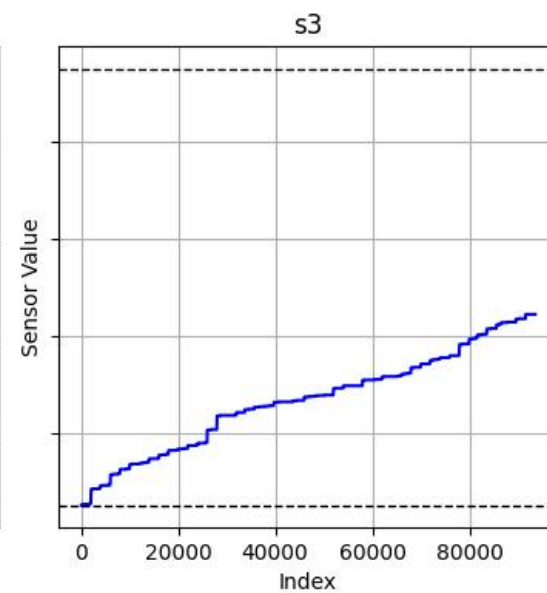
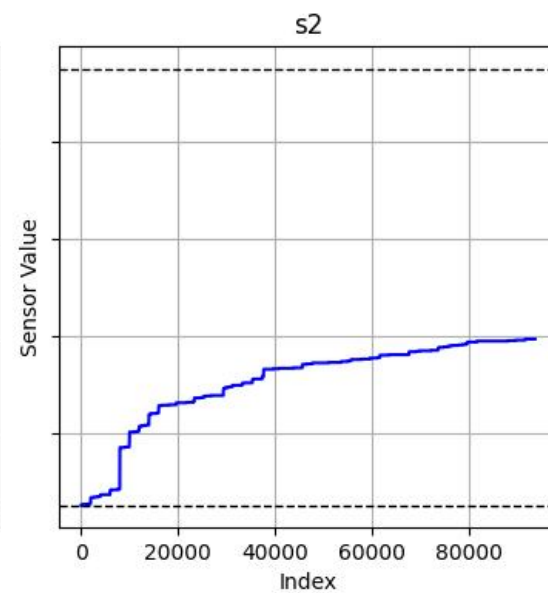
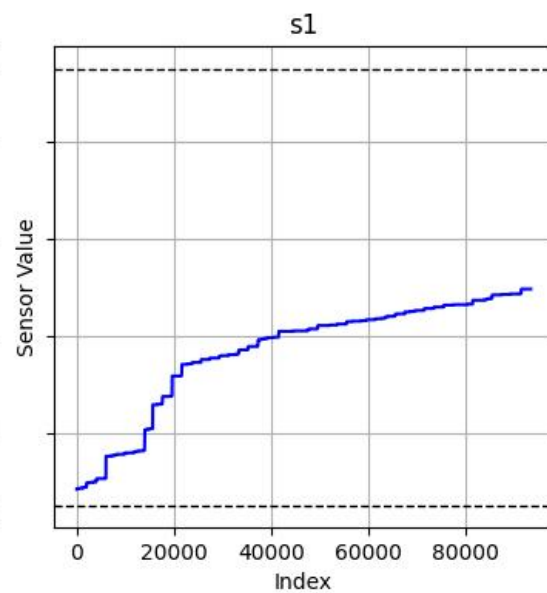
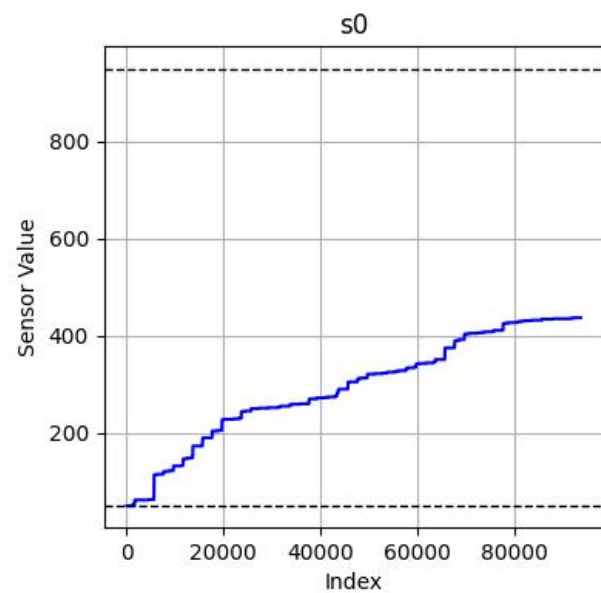
```
# Create CSV
filename = f'Datasets/11_final_extra/data/data_{pos}_R{roll}_P{pitch}_Y{yaw}.csv'
csvfile = open(filename, 'a', newline='')
fieldnames = ['Timestamp', 'Fx', 'Fy', 'Fz', 'Mx', 'My', 'Mz',
              's0', 's1', 's2', 's3', 's4', 's5', 's6', 's7']
writer = csv.DictWriter(csvfile, fieldnames=fieldnames)
```

# 1 Collected data

- **x5** different mass **positions**:
  - 0: Empty jig, no cylinder and no top.
  - 1, 2, 3, 4: Positions for cylinder in the jig (with top).
- For each position, **x12** different **axis poses**:
  - x6 orthogonal, with gravity acting in: +X, -X, +Y, -Y, +Z, -Z.
  - x6 random, with gravity acting on different combinations of X, Y, Z.
- For each pose: 2.000 datapoints ->  $5 \times 12 \times 2.000 = 120.000$  datapoints
- **Removing** datapoints with raw sensor values **out of range**:



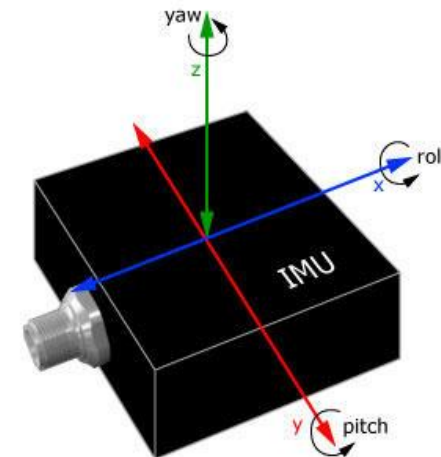
**93.585 total datapoints**



# 1 Other ways of collecting data [W and S]

[Timestamp,  $F_x$ ,  $F_y$ ,  $F_z$ ,  $M_x$ ,  $M_y$ ,  $M_z$ ,  $s_0$ ,  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ ,  $s_3$ ,  $s_4$ ,  $s_5$ ,  $s_6$ ,  $s_7$ ]

- Using another calibrated sensor:
  - Calibrated sensor measures Wrench -> Save W
  - Sensor to be calibrated measures Raw Sensor Values -> Save S
- With IMU and known mass
  - IMU measures accelerations -> Estimate position and orientation of sensor  
+ Knowing the mass -> Estimate and save W
  - Sensor to be calibrated measures Raw Sensor Values -> Save S
- Multiple ways in your imagination



## 2 Fit the linear regression model: Theory

- Linear regression: statistical method used to model the relationship between a dependent variable (W) and an independent variable (S) by fitting a linear equation to the observed data.
    - Observed data: collected dataset with W and S datapoints
    - Linear equation with quadratic values ->
    - “Model relationship” -> Find C, L and Q
- $$W = C + LS + QS^2$$
- Use Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) to find best fitting C, L and Q.
  - Regularization using Ridge Regression or LASSO.

# Ordinary Least Squares explained

Stop when RSS is small  
/ not changing more

Iterate with next

Training datapoint:  $S, W_{ref}$

\*RSS = Residual Sum of Squares

Start with  
random  
coefficients

C, L, Q  
Coefficients

$$\beta_j = \{C_k, L_{kl}, Q_{kq}\}$$

$$k \in (1 \dots 6)$$

$$l \in (1 \dots 8)$$

$$q \in (1 \dots 36)$$

$$6 + 6 \times 8 + 6 \times 36 = 270$$

$$j \in (1 \dots 270)$$

New  
coefficients

$$\beta_{j,next} = \beta_j - \frac{\partial RSS}{\partial \beta_j} \beta_j$$

$$W_{est} = C + LS + QS^2$$

$$RSS = \sum_{k=1}^6 (W_{ref,k} - W_{est,k})^2$$

$$\frac{\partial RSS}{\partial \beta_j} = -2 \sum_{k=1}^6 (W_{ref,k} - W_{est,k}) \cdot \frac{\partial W_{est,k}}{\partial \beta_j}$$

- For $\beta_j = C_k$	- For $\beta_j = L_{kl}$	- For $\beta_j = Q_{kq}$
$\frac{\partial W_{est,k}}{\partial C_k} = 1$	$\frac{\partial W_{est,k}}{\partial L_{kl}} = S_l$	$\frac{\partial W_{est,k}}{\partial Q_{kq}} = (S^2)_q$



# Regularization techniques

- One of the differences with OLS is replacing RSS with:

- Ridge: 
$$\sum_{k=1}^6 (W_{ref,k} - W_{est,k})^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^{270} \beta_j^2$$

- LASSO (Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator):

$$\sum_{k=1}^6 (W_{ref,k} - W_{est,k})^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^{270} |\beta_j|$$

- More details: [Ridge Regression vs Lasso Regression - GeeksforGeeks](#)

## 2 Fit the linear regression model: code

- Full code in GitHub: [ionurce/FTS\\_Calibration: Code for calibrating a 3D Printed Force-Torque Sensor](https://github.com/ionurce/FTS_Calibration: Code for calibrating a 3D Printed Force-Torque Sensor)
- Very easy importing sklearn:

```
from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression, Ridge, Lasso
from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
from sklearn.pipeline import make_pipeline

# Load dataset
directory = 'Datasets/12_final_extra_bounded'
df = pd.read_csv(f'{directory}/train/train_data.csv')
# Features (S: 8x1) and targets (W: 6x1)
S = df[['s0', 's1', 's2', 's3', 's4', 's5', 's6', 's7']].values # Shape: (datapoints, 8)
W = df[['Fx', 'Fy', 'Fz', 'Mx', 'My', 'Mz']].values # Shape: (datapoints, 6)
```

```
# Create pipeline with quadratic terms
poly = PolynomialFeatures(degree=2, include_bias=False) # Linear + quadratic terms
estimator = 'lasso' #estimator = 'ridge' #estimator = 'linearregression'
if estimator == 'linearregression':
    model = make_pipeline(*steps: poly, LinearRegression())
elif estimator == 'ridge':
    model = make_pipeline(*steps: poly, Ridge())
elif estimator == 'lasso':
    model = make_pipeline(*steps: poly, Lasso())
else:
    print('Invalid estimator')
model.fit(S, W)

# Extract coefficients
L = model.named_steps[estimator].coef[:, :8] # Linear terms (6x8)
Q = model.named_steps[estimator].coef[:, 8:] # Quadratic terms (6x36 for 8 sensors)
C = model.named_steps[estimator].intercept_ # Bias (6x1)
```

## 2 Fit the linear regression model: Dataset

- Collected dataset: 93.585 total datapoints
  - Random 80% of the datapoints -> Used for training
  - Rest 20% of the datapoints -> Used for validation later
- Once the linear regression is completed C, L and Q coefficients are stored in a CSV file (or similar), so they can be used for validation and for inference (if validation is good).

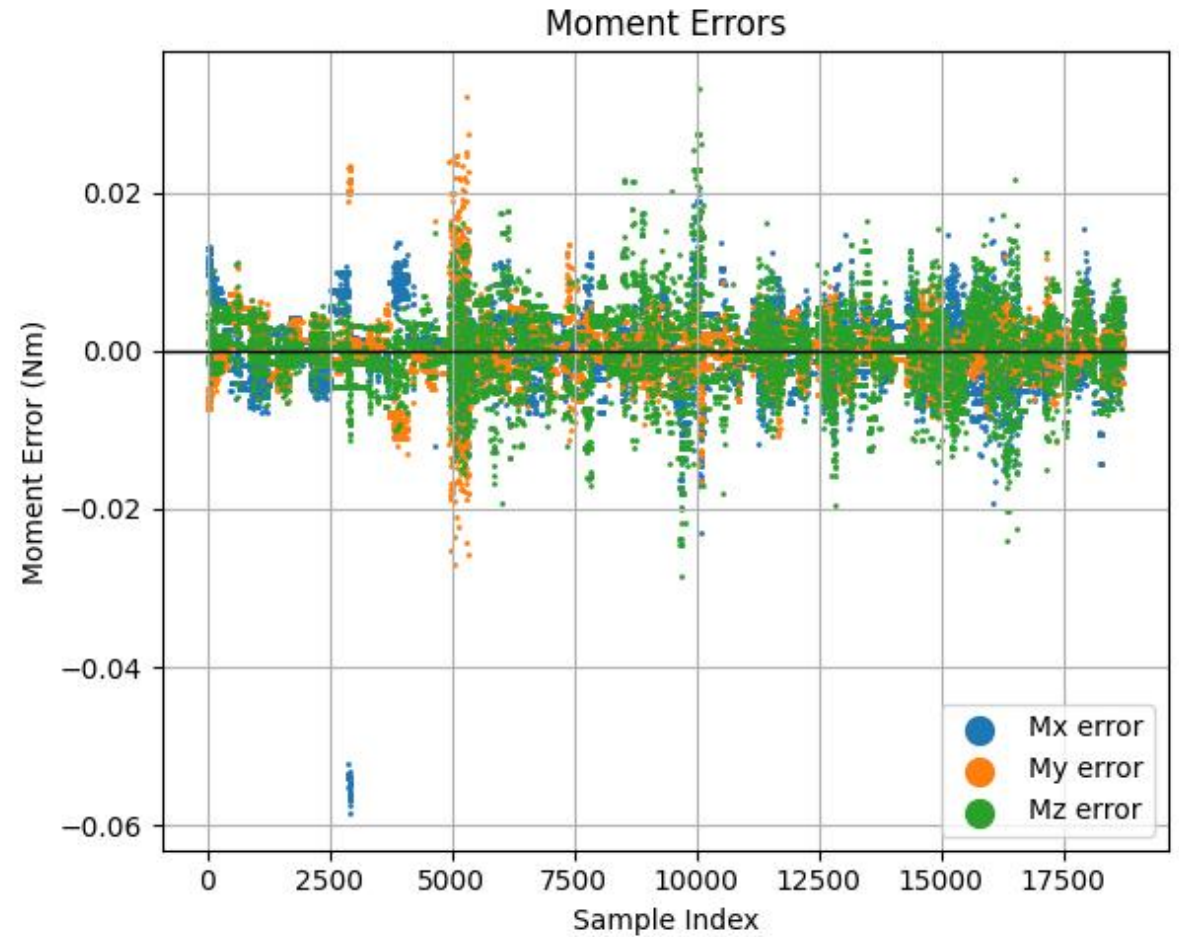
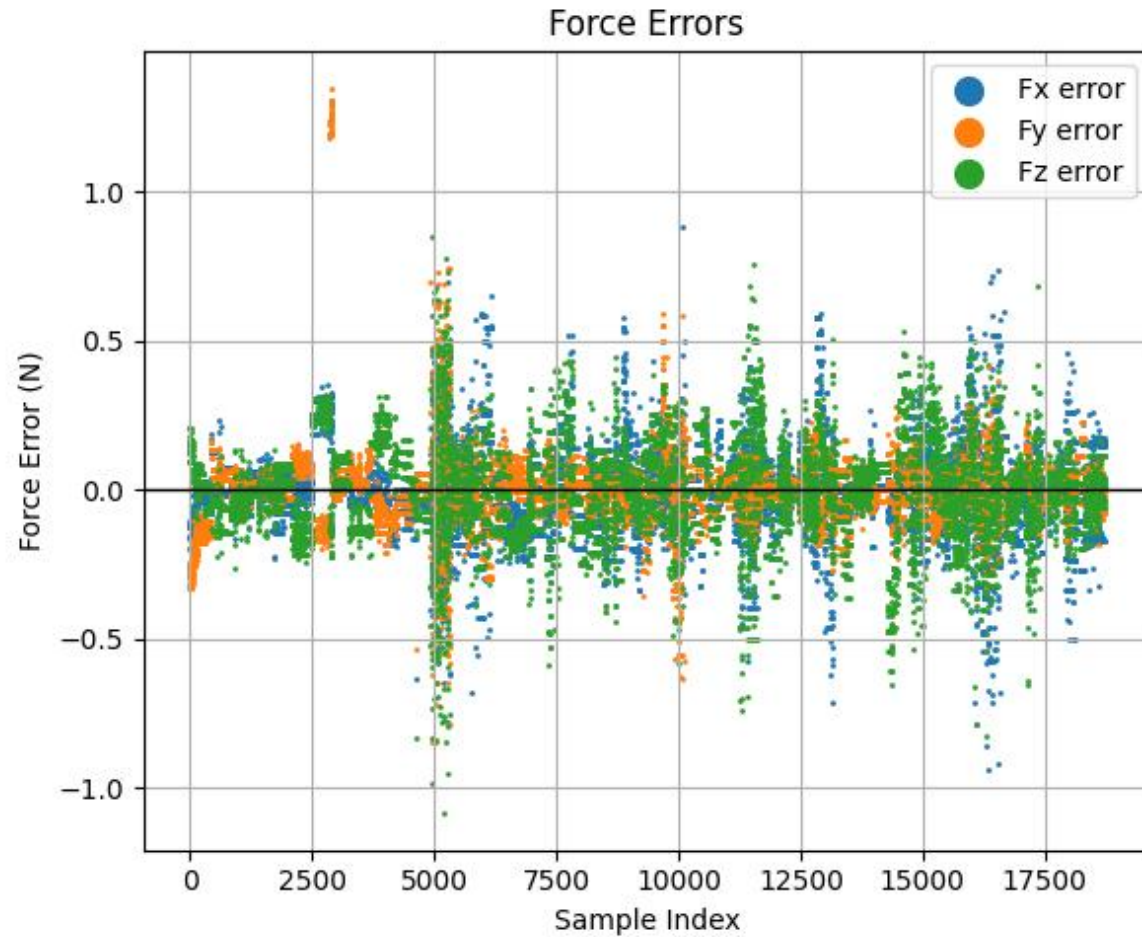
# Validation

- Using the validation dataset:
  - Use raw sensor values (S) from data + calibrated coefficient (C, L, Q) to compute:
  - Collect  $W_{ref}$  from data

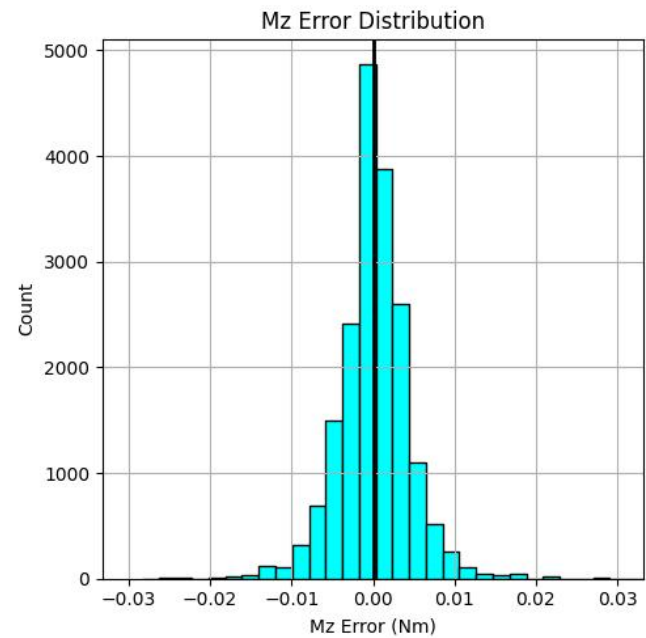
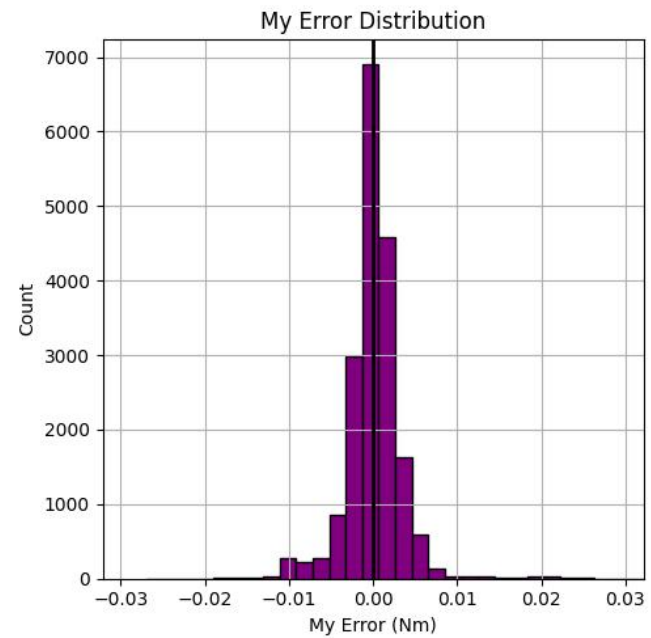
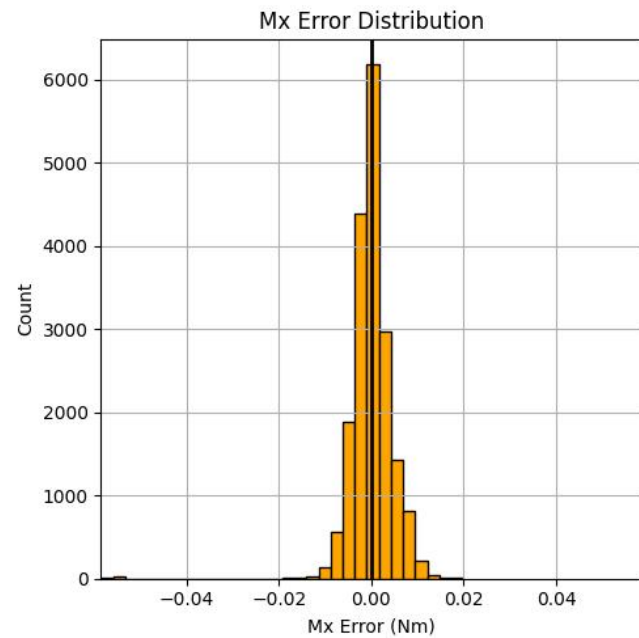
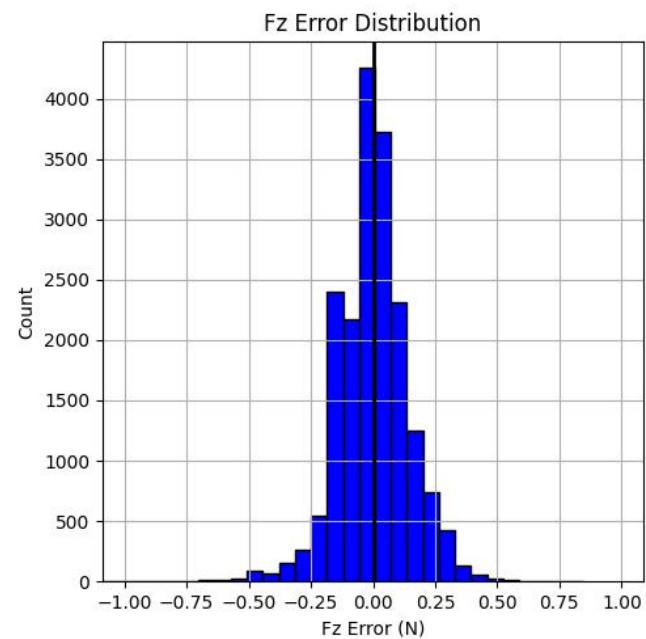
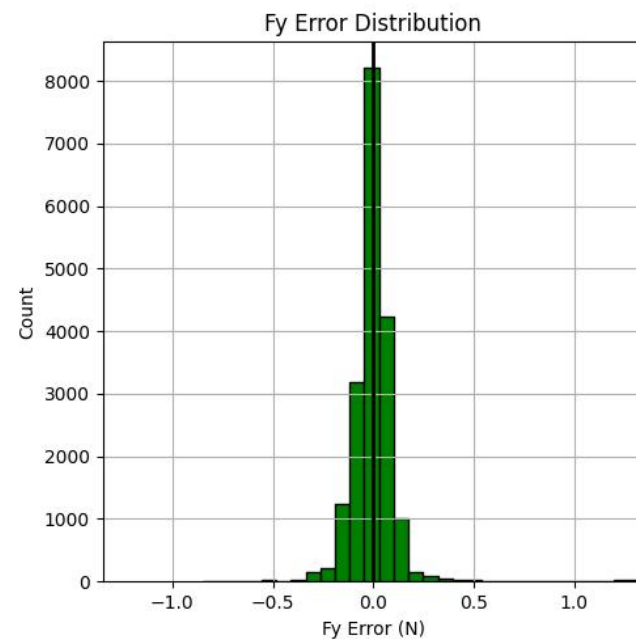
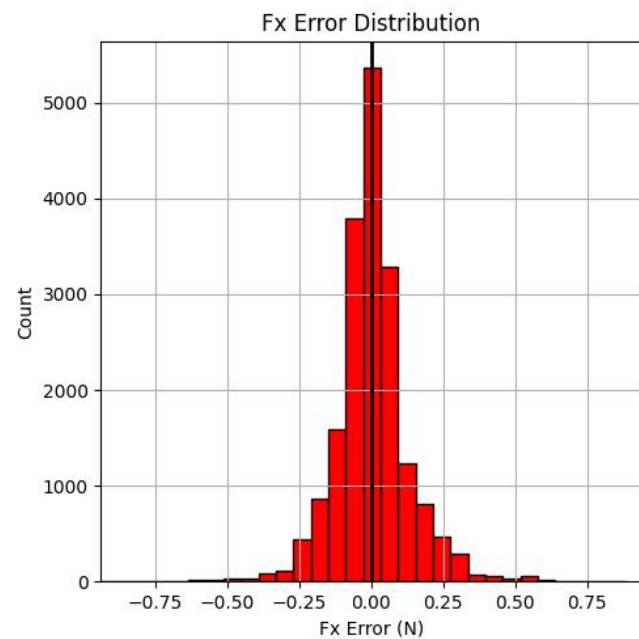
$$W_{est} = C + LS + QS^2$$

- Compute the Error =  $W_{ref} - W_{est}$

# Validation results:







# Real time use / inference

- Once C, L and Q have been computed and validation has been successful, they can be used for inference.
- Raw sensor values (S) collected at each timestand and introduced in the formula to obtain the wrench W in real time:

$$W_{est} = C + LS + QS^2$$

Full code in GitHub: [yonurce/FTS\\_Calibration: Code for  
calibrating a 3D Printed Force-Torque Sensor](https://github.com/yonurce/FTS_Calibration)