

*Soft Robotic Modeling and Control: Bringing
Together Articulated Soft Robots and Soft-
Bodied Robots (IROS).*
Oct. 5th 2018, Madrid, Spain.



Screw Theory as a Unified Approach for Rigid, Soft Articulated and Soft Continuum Robots

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Khalifa University

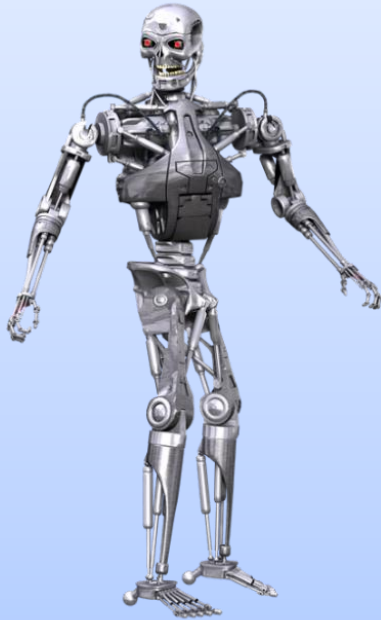
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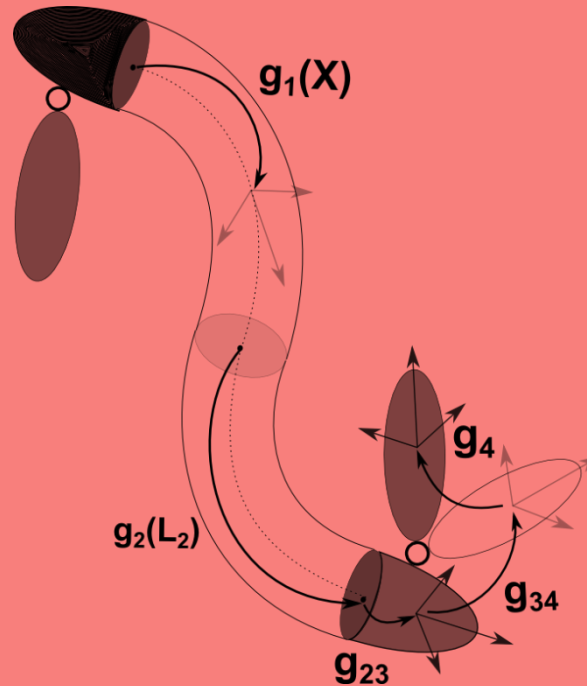
MODELLING OF SOFT-RIGID ROBOTS

DISCRETE COSSERAT APPROACH (Piece-wise constant strains)

RIGID-LINK ROBOTS



- Lumped Degrees of Freedom (usually revolute angles)
- Established modelling techniques



- Geometric approach based on the exponential map
- **Treats rigid, soft or hybrid robots indistinctly**

SOFT ROBOTS



- Distributed Degrees of Freedom
- Many different modeling approaches including constant curvature, continuous Cosserat and FEM approach



LIE GROUP NOTATIONS

position – orientation	standard representation $\mathbf{g} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{u} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in SE(3)$	Adjoint and coAdjoint representation $Ad_{\mathbf{g}} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R} & 0 \\ \tilde{\mathbf{u}}\mathbf{R} & \mathbf{R} \end{pmatrix}, Ad_{\mathbf{g}}^* = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \tilde{\mathbf{u}}\mathbf{R} \\ 0 & \mathbf{R} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 6}$
velocity (body frame)	Lie Algebra element $\mathbf{g}^{-1}\dot{\mathbf{g}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{w}} & \mathbf{v} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{se}(3)$	adjoint and coadjoint map $ad_{\boldsymbol{\eta}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{w}} & 0 \\ \tilde{\mathbf{v}} & \tilde{\mathbf{w}} \end{pmatrix}, ad_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}^* = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{w}} & \tilde{\mathbf{v}} \\ 0 & \tilde{\mathbf{w}} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 6}$
	twist vector $\boldsymbol{\eta} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^6$	
strain (body frame)	Lie Algebra element $\mathbf{g}^{-1}\mathbf{g}' = \hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{k}} & \mathbf{p} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{se}(3)$	adjoint and coadjoint map $ad_{\boldsymbol{\xi}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{k}} & 0 \\ \tilde{\mathbf{p}} & \tilde{\mathbf{k}} \end{pmatrix}, ad_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}^* = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{k}} & \tilde{\mathbf{p}} \\ 0 & \tilde{\mathbf{k}} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 6}$
	twist vector $\boldsymbol{\xi} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{k} \\ \mathbf{p} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^6$	



CONTINUOUS COSSERAT ROD

- Taking the equilibrium of a continuous section of an elastic rod and limiting the length of the section to zero, we obtain the PDE describing the rod dynamics

KINEMATICS

The space derivative of the roto-translation gives the strain

$$\mathbf{g}'(X) = \mathbf{g}(X)\hat{\xi}(X)$$

DIFFERENTIAL KINEMATICS

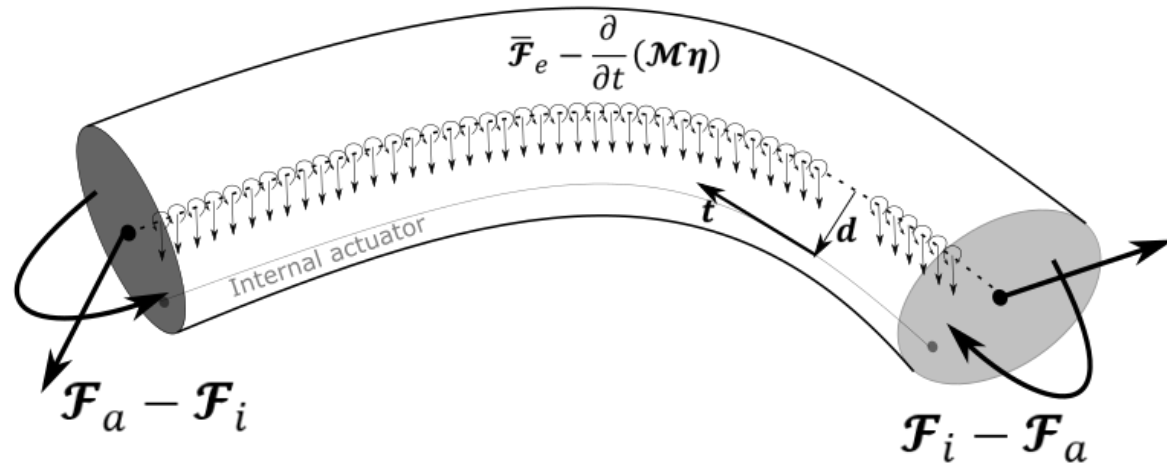
Equality of mixed partial derivative of \mathbf{g}

$$\eta'(X) = \dot{\xi}(X) - \text{ad}_{\xi(X)}\eta(X)$$

COSSERAT ROD DYNAMICS

PDE describing a Cosserat Rod in local frame

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}\dot{\eta} + \text{ad}_{\eta}^*\mathcal{M}\eta &= \mathcal{F}'_{i-a} + \text{ad}_{\xi}^*\mathcal{F}_{i-a} + \bar{\mathcal{F}}_e \\ \mathcal{F}_{i-a}(0) &= -\mathcal{F}_J(0) \quad \mathcal{F}_{i-a}(L) = -\mathcal{F}_J(L) \end{aligned}$$



INTERNAL ACTUATION

The internal actuation is given by the equilibrium of the actuator internal force

$$\mathcal{F}_a = \begin{bmatrix} d \times Tt \\ Tt \end{bmatrix}$$



FROM CONTINUUM TO DISCRETE COSSERAT

the Constant Strain Approach

Kinematics

- The robot arm is divided in N pieces of constant strain
- We move from a continuous strain field $\xi(X)$ to piecewise constant field ξ_1, \dots, ξ_N

KINEMATICS

Continuous strain field

$$g'_j(X) = g_j(X) \hat{\xi}_j(X)$$



EXPONENTIAL MAP

constant strain field

$$g_j(X) = e^{X \hat{\xi}_j}$$

STRAIN TWIST

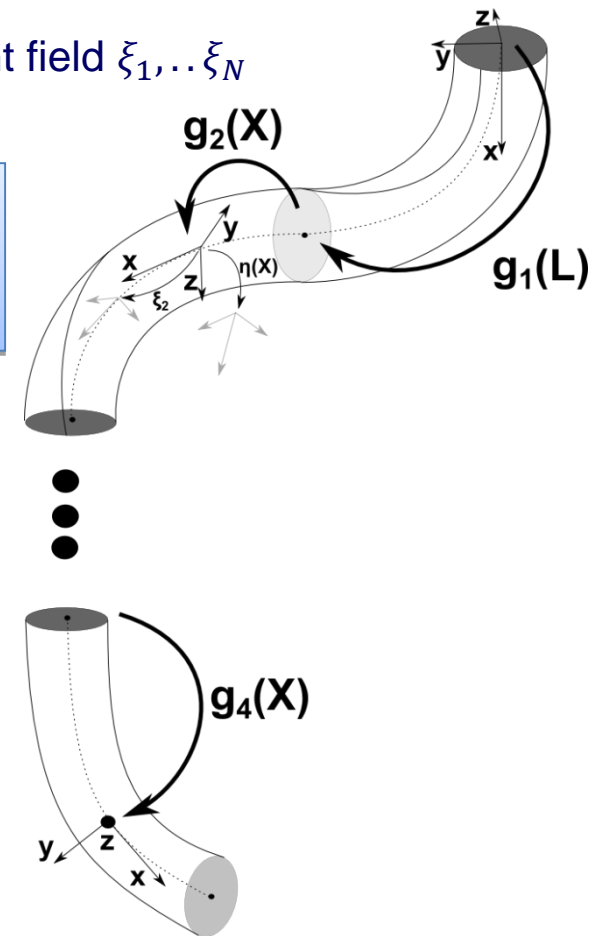
A strain twist belongs to a subspace of $\mathfrak{se}(3)$

$$\xi_j = B_j q_j + \bar{\xi}_j$$

POE FORMULA

Twist are expressed in the body frame

$$g_{sj}(X) = e^{L \hat{\xi}_1} e^{L \hat{\xi}_2} \dots e^{X \hat{\xi}_j}$$



GEOMETRIC INTERPRETATION

Screw-based Geometry

- Each section is an arc of screw, constant curvature circular arc is a special case

SCREW MOTION

$$g(X) = e^{X\hat{\xi}}$$

CONSTANT STRAIN FIELD

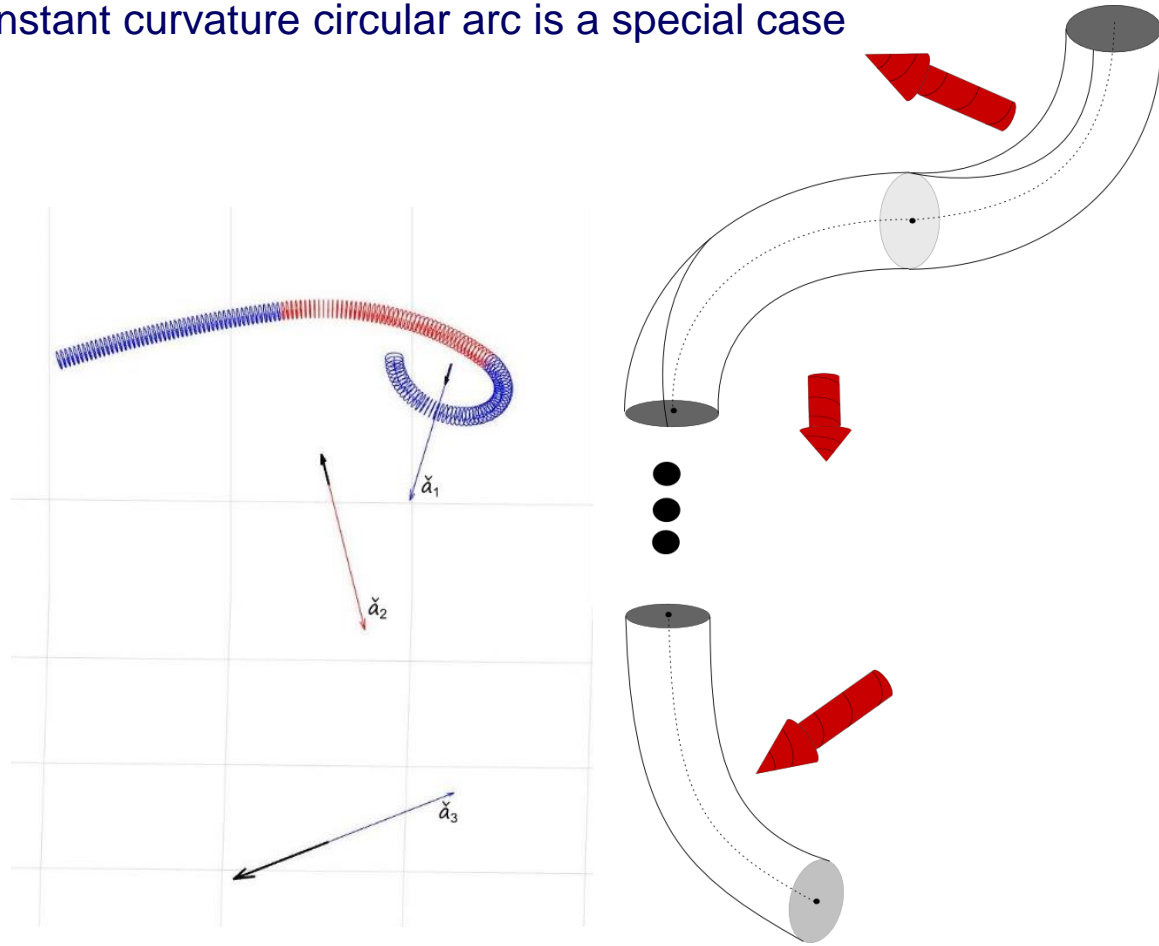
Axis \hat{a} , pitch h and magnitude m is uniquely determined by ξ

$$h = \frac{k^T p}{\theta^2}$$

$$\hat{a} = \frac{\tilde{k}p}{\theta^2} + ks$$

$$m = X\theta$$

Where $\theta^2 = k^T k$ and $s \in \mathbb{R}^+$



FROM CONTINUUM TO DISCRETE COSSERAT

the Constant Strain Approach

Differential Kinematics

- Under the constant strain assumption, we can analytically integrate the velocity-strain relation, which yields to a soft robotics geometric Jacobian

DIFFERENTIAL KINEMATICS

continuous strain field

$$\eta'_j(X) = \dot{\xi}_j(X) - \text{ad}_{\xi_j(X)} \eta_j(X)$$



DIFFERENTIAL MAP

constant strain field

$$\eta_j(X) = \text{Ad}_{g_j(X)}^{-1} T_{g_j(X)} B_j \dot{q}_j$$

TANGENT OPERATOR OF THE EXPONENTIAL MAP

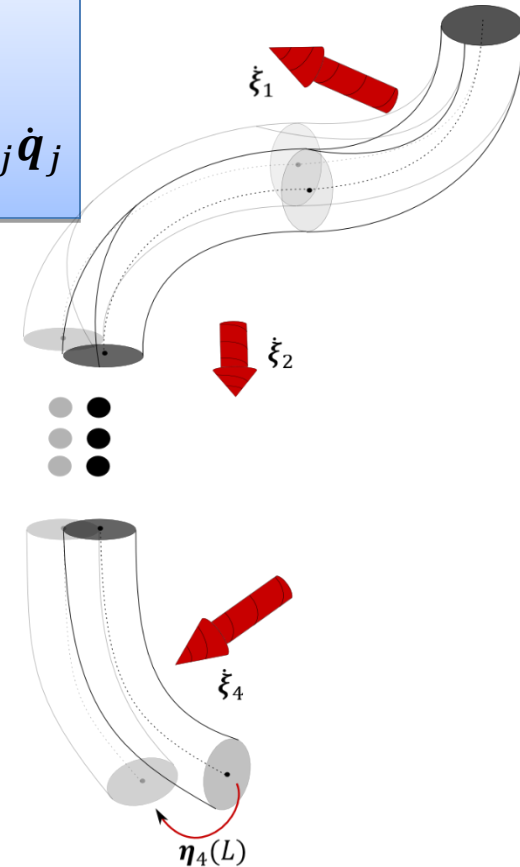
From time derivative of strain twist to velocity twist

$$T_{g_j(X)} = \int_0^X e^{\text{sad}_{\xi_j} ds}$$

GEOMETRIC JACOBIAN

Soft robotics geometric Jacobian

$$\eta_j(X) = \sum_{i=0}^j \text{Ad}_{g_i \dots g_j}^{-1} T_{g_i} B_i \dot{q}_i = \sum_{i=0}^j {}^j S_i(X) \dot{q}_i = J_j(X) \dot{q}$$



FROM CONTINUUM TO DISCRETE COSSERAT

the Constant Strain Approach

Dynamics

- We obtain the generalized dynamics equations for a single soft body i by projecting the Cosserat rod dynamics onto the constrained motion space

COSSERAT ROD DYNAMICS

PDE describing a Cosserat Rod in local frame

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_i \dot{\eta}_i + ad_{\eta_i}^* \mathcal{M}_i \eta_i &= \mathcal{F}'_{i-a_i} + ad_{\xi_i}^* \mathcal{F}_{i-a_i} + \bar{\mathcal{F}}_{e_i} \\ \mathcal{F}_{i-a_i}(0) &= -\mathcal{F}_{J_i} \quad \mathcal{F}_{i-a_i}(L) = -Ad_{g_{ij}}^* \mathcal{F}_{J_j} \end{aligned}$$

PROJECTION

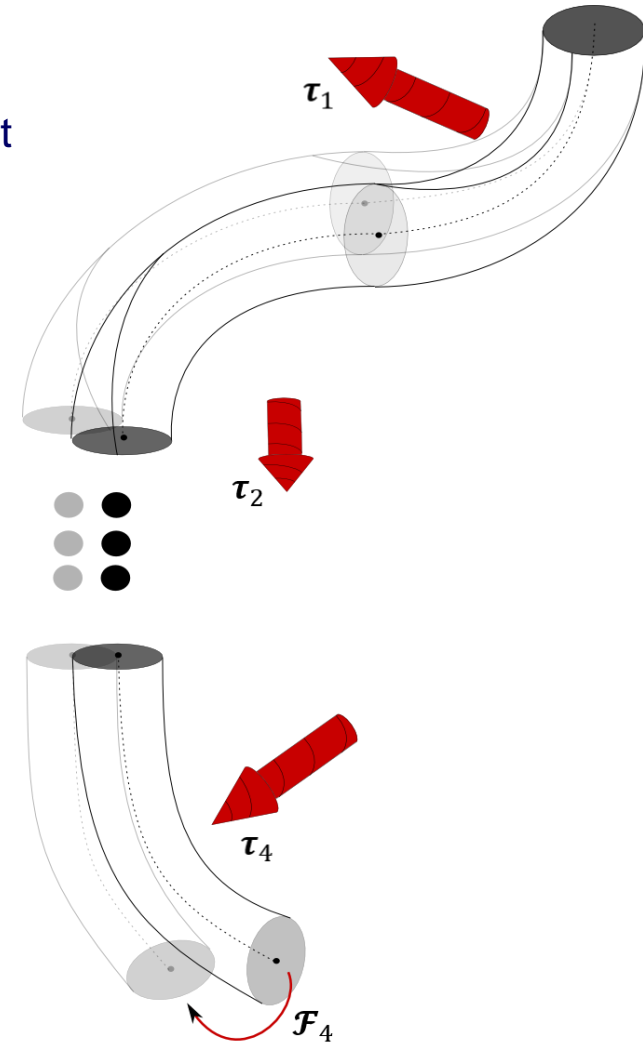
Projection onto the constrained motion subspace

$$\int_0^L J_i^T \bar{\mathcal{F}} dX$$

KINEMATICS

Constrained kinematics

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_i(X) &= J_i(X) \dot{q} \\ \dot{\eta}_i(X) &= J_i(X) \ddot{q} + \dot{J}_i(X) \dot{q} \end{aligned}$$



BROCKETT'S PRODUCT OF EXPONENTIALS FORMULA

KINEMATICS

Screw motion parametrized as a space trajectory with constant strain

$$\mathbf{g}'_j(X) = \mathbf{g}_j(X) \hat{\xi}_j$$

EXPONENTIAL MAP

We follow the trajectory up to $X=1$

$$\mathbf{g}_j = e^{\hat{\xi}_j}$$

JOINT TWIST

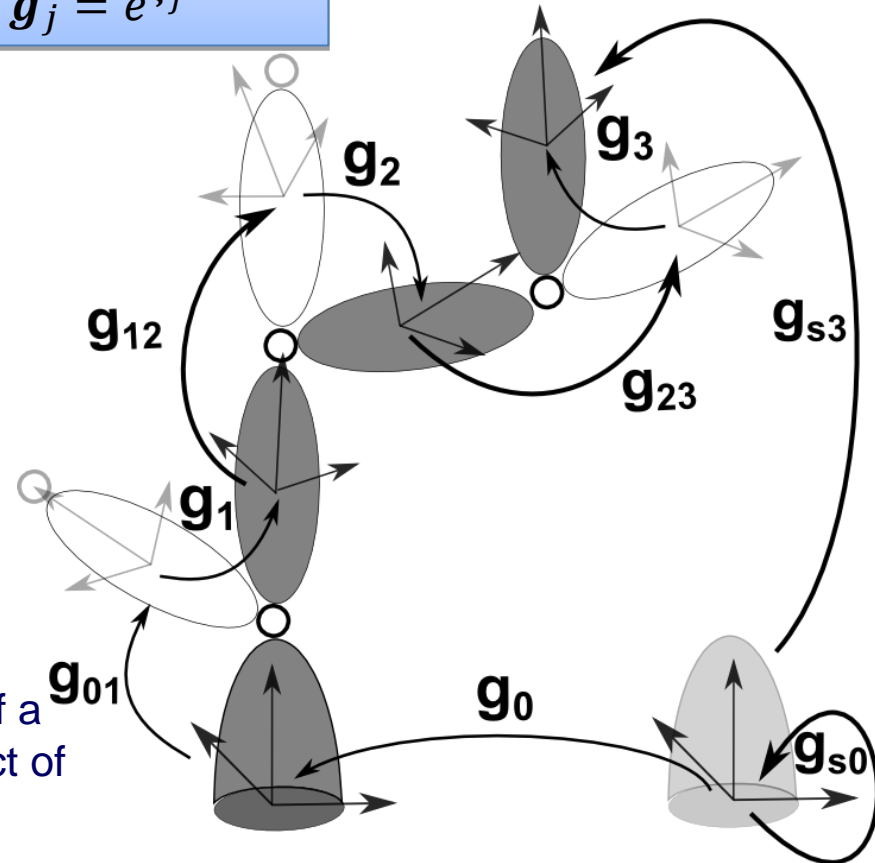
A joint twist belongs to a subspace of $\mathfrak{se}(3)$

$$\xi_j = \mathbf{B}_j \mathbf{q}_j$$

POE FORMULA

Twist are expressed in the body frame

$$\mathbf{g}_{sj} = \mathbf{g}_{s0} e^{\hat{\xi}_0} \mathbf{g}_{01} e^{\hat{\xi}_1} \dots \mathbf{g}_{ij} e^{\hat{\xi}_j}$$



- Thanks to the exponential map the configuration of a multi-body system can be represented by a product of exponentials



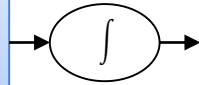
RIGID-LINK ROBOTS GEOMETRIC JACOBIAN

- Thanks to the tangent operator of the exponential map a geometric Jacobian between joint space and Euclidean space is obtained

DIFFERENTIAL KINEMATICS

Equality of mixed partial derivative of g

$$\eta'_j(X) = \dot{\xi}_j - \text{ad}_{\xi_j} \eta_j(X)$$



DIFFERENTIAL MAP

We follow the trajectory up to X=1

$$\eta_j = \text{Ad}_{g_j}^{-1} T_{g_j} B_j \dot{q}_j$$

TANGENT OPERATOR OF THE EXPONENTIAL MAP

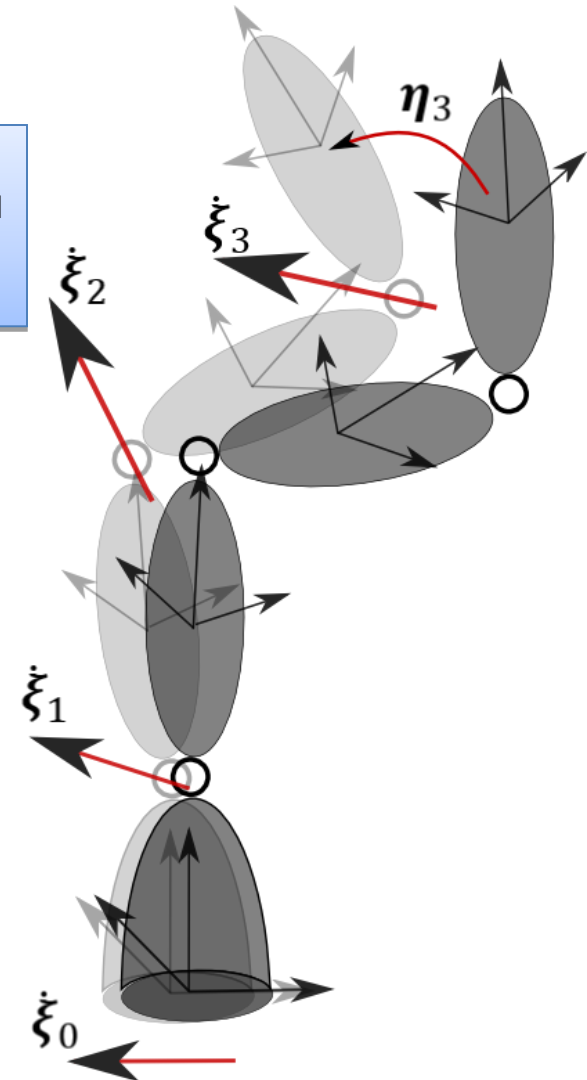
From time derivative of joint twist to velocity twist

$$T_{g_j} = \int_0^1 e^{s \text{ad}_{\xi_j}} ds$$

GEOMETRIC JACOBIAN

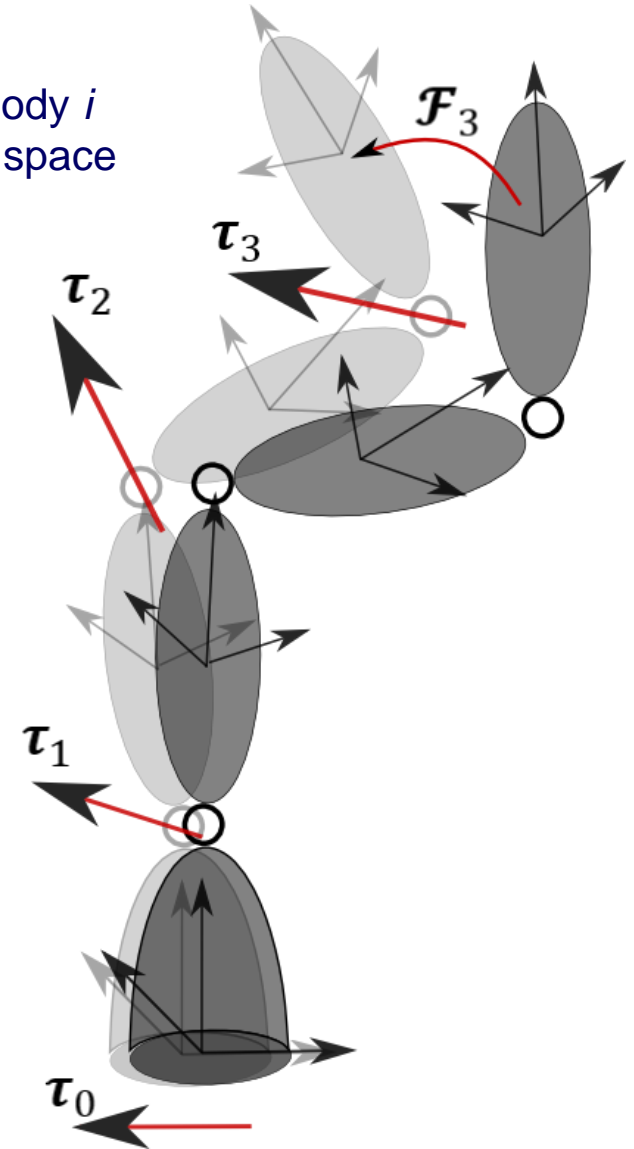
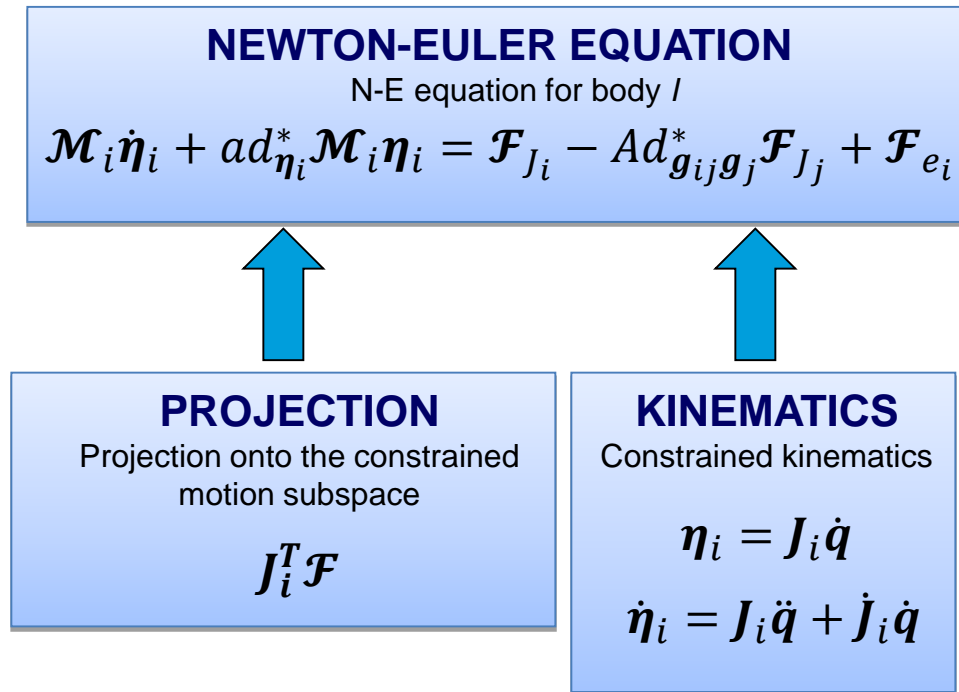
Including multi-dimensional joints

$$\eta_j = \sum_{i=0}^j \text{Ad}_{g_i \dots g_j}^{-1} T_{g_i} B_i \dot{q}_i = \sum_{i=0}^j {}^j S_i \dot{q}_i = J_j \dot{q}$$



RIGID-LINK ROBOT DYNAMICS

- We obtain the generalized dynamics equations for a single body i by projecting the N-E dynamics onto the constrained motion space



MODELLING OF SOFT-RIGID ROBOTS

DISCRETE COSSERAT APPROACH (Piece-wise constant strains)

RIGID-LINK ROBOTS

EXP MAP

$$g_i = e^{\hat{\xi}_i}$$

JOINT TWIST

$$\xi_i = B_i q_i$$

TANGENT OPERATOR OF THE EXPONENTIAL MAP

$$T_{g_i} = \int_0^1 e^{s \text{ad}_{\xi_i}} ds$$

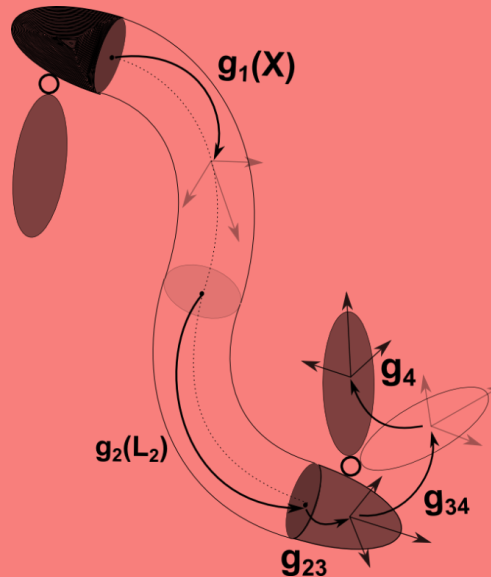
PROJECTION

$$J_i^T \mathcal{F}$$

KINEMATICS

$$\eta_i = J_i \dot{q}$$

NEWTON-EULER EQUATION



SOFT ROBOTS

EXP MAP

$$g_j(X) = e^{X \hat{\xi}_j}$$

STRAIN TWIST

$$\xi_j = B_j q_j + \bar{\xi}_j$$

TANGENT OPERATOR OF THE EXPONENTIAL MAP

$$T_{g_j}(X) = \int_0^X e^{s \text{ad}_{\xi_j}} ds$$

PROJECTION

$$\int_0^L J_i^T \bar{\mathcal{F}} dX$$

KINEMATICS

$$\eta_i(X) = J_i \dot{q}$$

COSSERAT ROD DYNAMICS

$$M \ddot{q} + C \dot{q} = \tau - K(q - q^*) + F$$

$$\tau_i = {}^i S_i^T \mathcal{F}_{J_i} \quad K_{ii} = {}^i S_i^T \Sigma_i B_i \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \tau_i = B_i^T \int_0^L \mathcal{F}_{a_i} dX \quad K_{ii} = L B_i^T \Sigma_i B_i$$



EXTENDED JOINT KINEMATICS TABLE FOR SOFT-RIGID ROBOTS

	LUMPED				DISTRIBUTED				
	Joint	DoF	Base B	Screw Sys. \mathfrak{m}	Beam	DoF	Base B	Fixed Twist $\bar{\xi}$	Screw Sys. \mathfrak{m}
1 SYS.	Revolute,	1	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ p \end{bmatrix}$	$\mathfrak{so}(2)$	Linear Spring	1	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	-	\mathfrak{R}
	Prismatic,			\mathfrak{R}					
	Helical			\mathfrak{h}_p					
2 SYS.	Cilindrical	2	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\mathfrak{so}(2) \times \mathfrak{R}$	Planar Constant Curvature	2	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	-	$\text{span}\{B\}$
3 SYS.	Planar	3	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\mathfrak{se}(2)$	Inextensible Constant Curvature	2	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\text{span}\{B, \bar{\xi}\}$
	Spherical		$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	Constant Curvature	3	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	-	$\text{span}\{B\}$
4 SYS.	-	-	-	-	Inextensible Kirchhoff-Love	3	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\text{span}\{B, \bar{\xi}\}$
					Kirchhoff-Love	4	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	-	$\text{span}\{B\}$
6 SYS.	Free Motion	6	I_6	$\mathfrak{se}(3)$	Simo-Reissner	6	I_6	-	$\mathfrak{se}(3)$



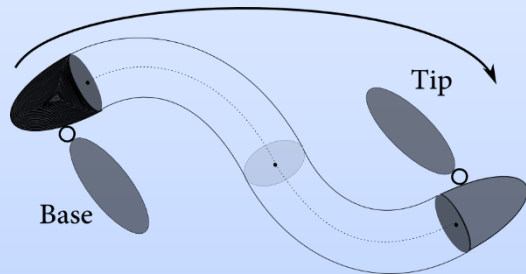
RECURSIVE NEWTON-EULER ALGORITHM

the floating-base inverse dynamics problem

- The recursive N-E algorithms for floating-base multi-body dynamics can be extended to hybrid (soft-rigid) systems

FIRST PASS: KINEMATICS

Recursive calculation of the relative (to the base) kinematics quantities

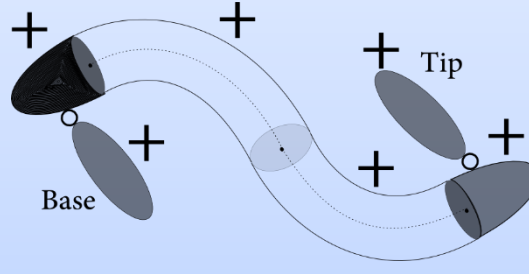


$$\eta_j(X) = Ad_{g_{ij}g_j}^{-1} \eta_i + {}^j S_j \dot{q}_j$$

$$\dot{\eta}_j^r(X) = Ad_{g_{ij}g_j}^{-1} \dot{\eta}_i^r + {}^j S_j \ddot{q}_j + ad_{Ad_{g_{ij}g_j}^{-1} \eta_i} {}^j S_j \dot{q}_j$$

SECOND STEP: DYN. SUM

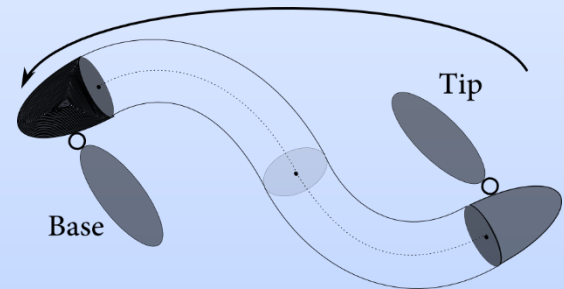
Summation of all the dynamics equations expressed in the base frame



$$0 = \sum_i ({}^0 \mathcal{M}_i^t) \dot{\eta}_0 + \sum_i \left(\int_0^L {}^0 \mathcal{M}_i {}^0 \dot{\eta}_i^r dX + {}^0 \mathcal{P}_i^t \right)$$

THIRD PASS: TORQUES

Recursive calculation of the actuation forces/torques



PROJECTION

$$\int_0^L {}^i S_i^T \bar{\mathcal{F}} dX$$



COSSERAT ROD DYNAMICS

- F. Renda and L. Seneviratne, "A Geometric and Unified Approach for Modeling Soft-Rigid Multi-Body Systems with Lumped and Distributed Degrees of Freedom," *2018 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, Brisbane, Australia, 2018, pp. 1567-1574.
- R. Featherstone. *Rigid Body Dynamics Algorithms*. Springer US, 2008.

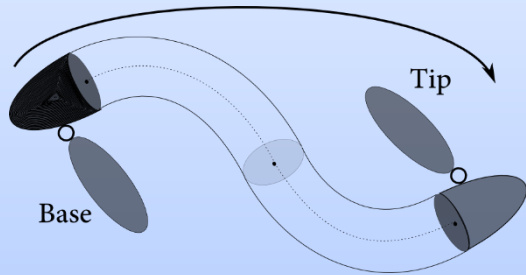


RECURSIVE NEWTON-EULER ALGORITHM

the floating-base forward dynamics problem

FIRST PASS: KINEMATICS

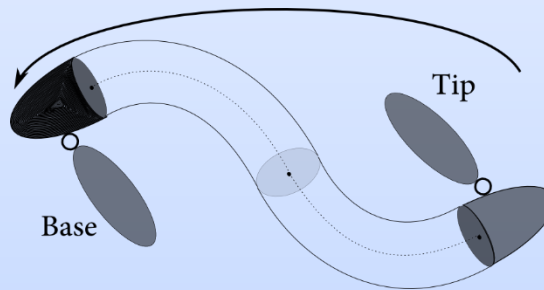
Recursive calculation of the kinematics quantities



$$\eta_j(X) = Ad_{g_{ij}^{-1}}^j \eta_i + {}^j S_j \dot{q}_j$$

SECOND PASS: ART. BODY

Recursive calculation of the articulated body inertia and force



ART. BODY EQ.

$$\mathcal{F}_{J_j} = \mathcal{M}_j^A \dot{\eta}_j + \mathcal{P}_j^A$$

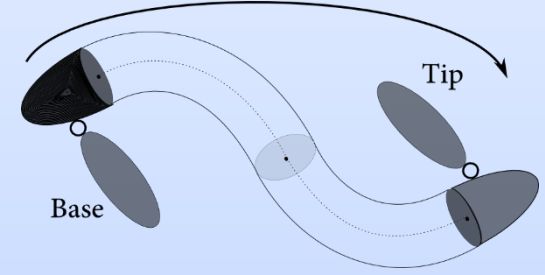
PROJECTION

$$\int_0^L {}^i S_i^T \bar{\mathcal{F}} dX$$

COSSERAT ROD DYNAMICS

THIRD PASS: ACCEL.

Recursive calculation of the bodies' acceleration



PROJECTION

$$\int_0^L {}^i S_i^T \bar{\mathcal{F}} dX$$

COSSERAT ROD DYNAMICS

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\eta}_j(X) = & Ad_{g_{ij}^{-1}}^j \dot{\eta}_i + {}^j S_j \ddot{q}_j \\ & + ad_{Ad_{g_{ij}^{-1}}^j \eta_i} {}^j S_j \dot{q}_j \end{aligned}$$

- F. Renda and L. Seneviratne, "A Geometric and Unified Approach for Modeling Soft-Rigid Multi-Body Systems with Lumped and Distributed Degrees of Freedom," *2018 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, Brisbane, Australia, 2018, pp. 1567-1574.
- R. Featherstone. *Rigid Body Dynamics Algorithms*. Springer US, 2008.



ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE: LOPHOTRICUS

- Let's take a motile bacteria as illustrative example

REVOLUTE JOINT

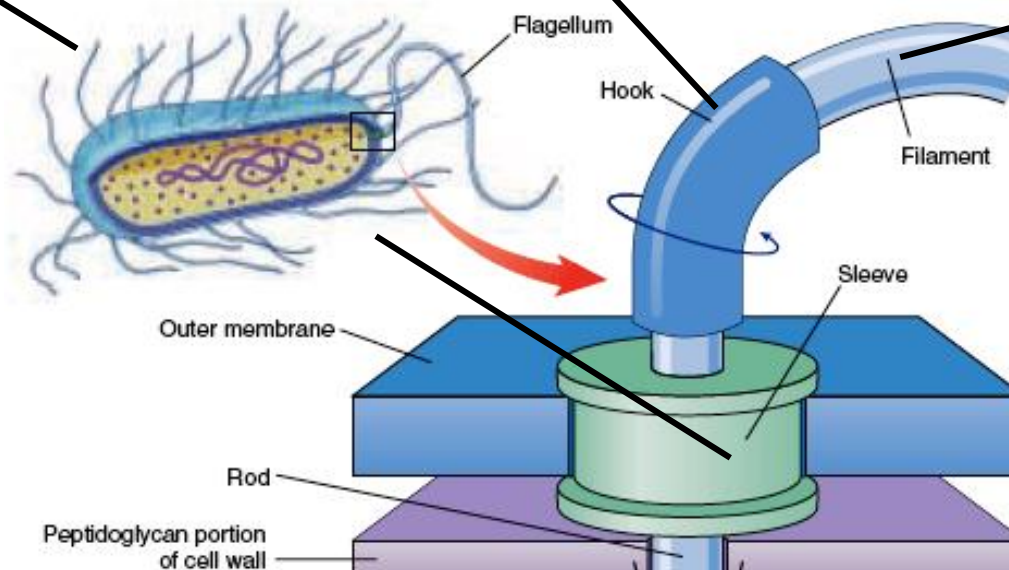
$$\xi_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} q_1$$

INEXTENSIBLE CONSTANT CURVATURE

$$\xi_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} q_2 + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

KIRCHHOFF-LOVE

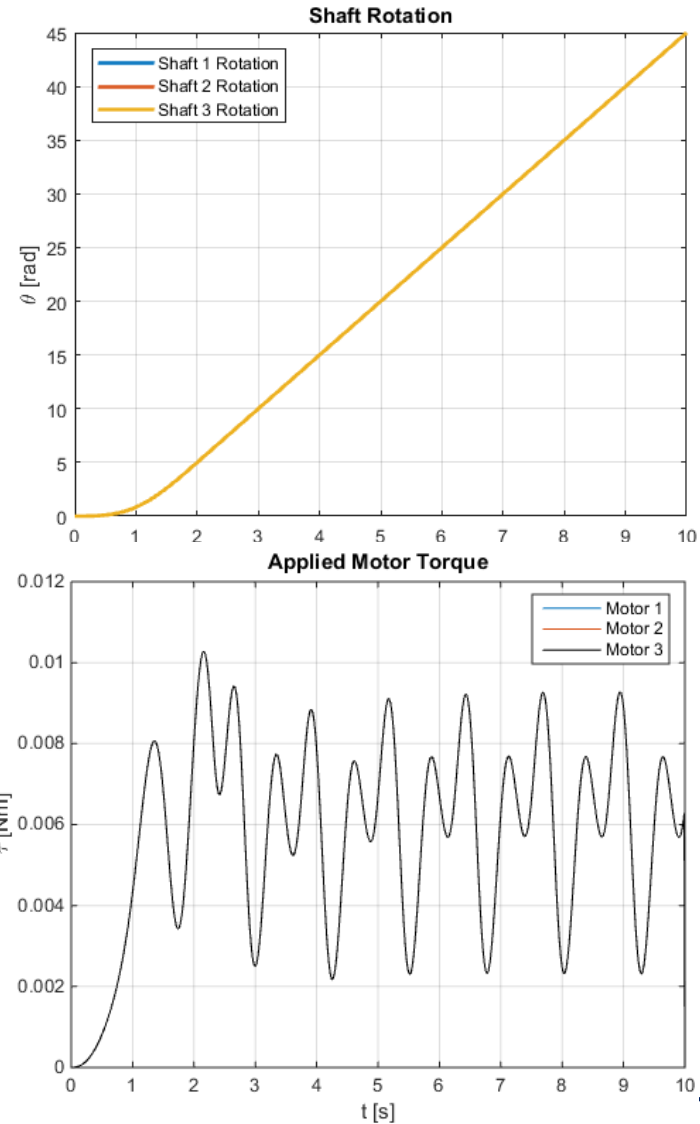
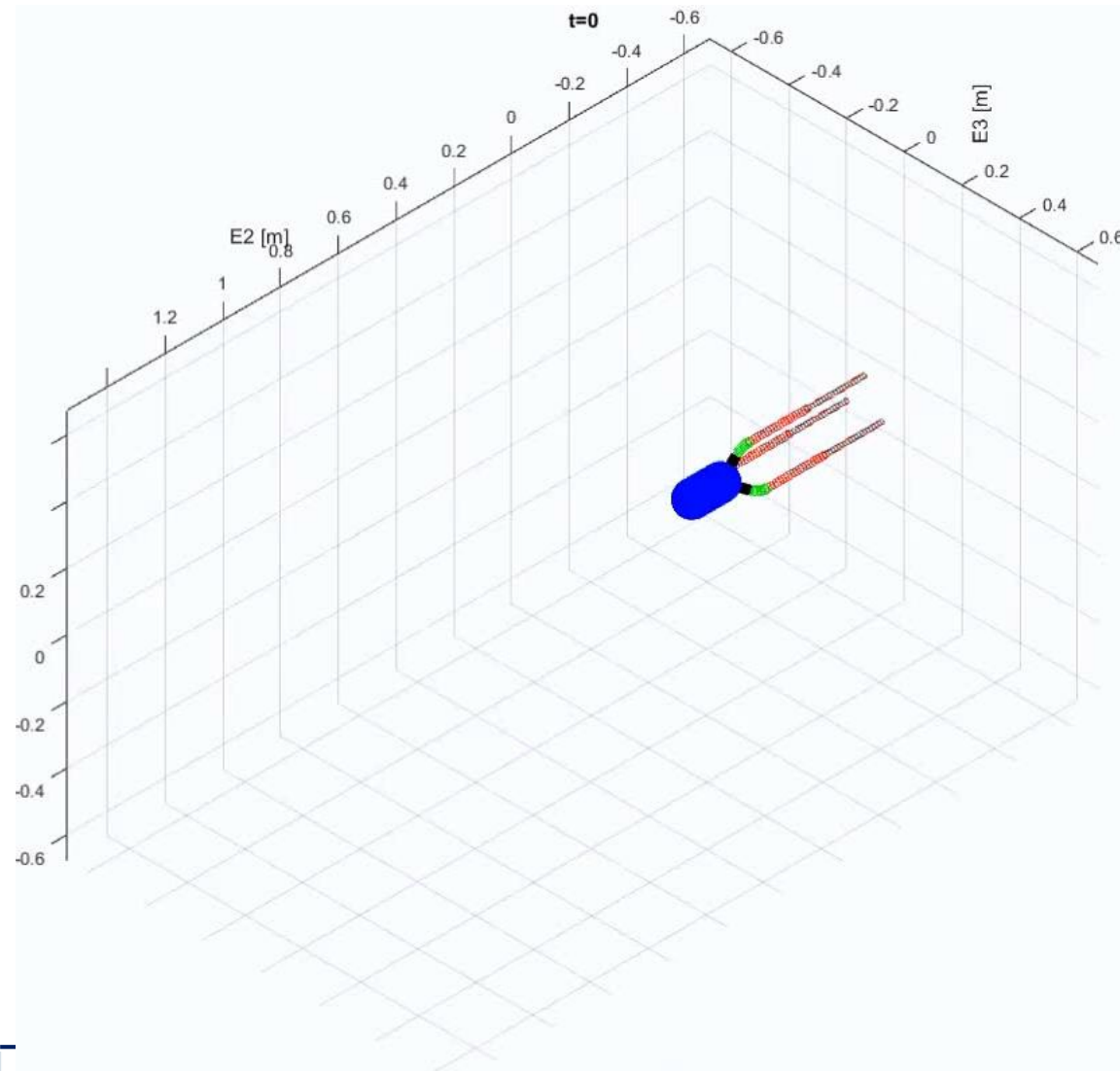
$$\xi_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} q_3$$



- F. A. Samatey, H. Matsunami, K. Imada, S. Nagashima, T. R. Shaikh, D. R. Thomas, J. Z. Chen, D. J. Derosier, A. Kitao and K. Namba. Structure of the bacterial flagellar hook and implication for the molecular universal joint mechanism. *Nature*, 431(7012):1062–1068, 2004.



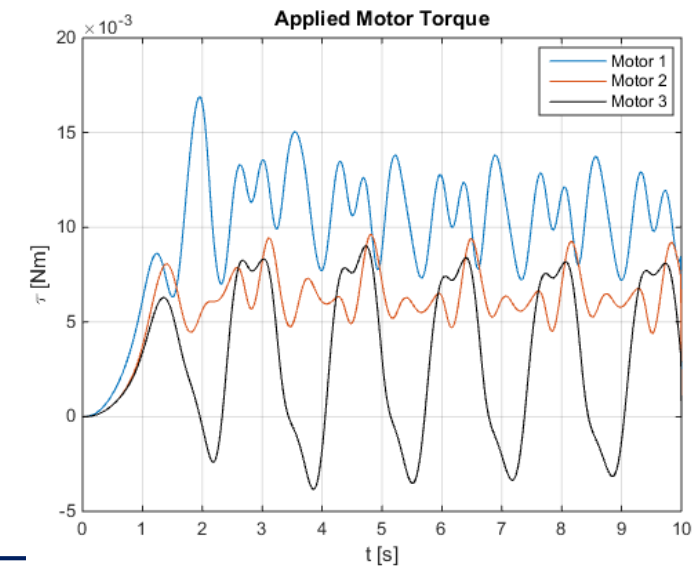
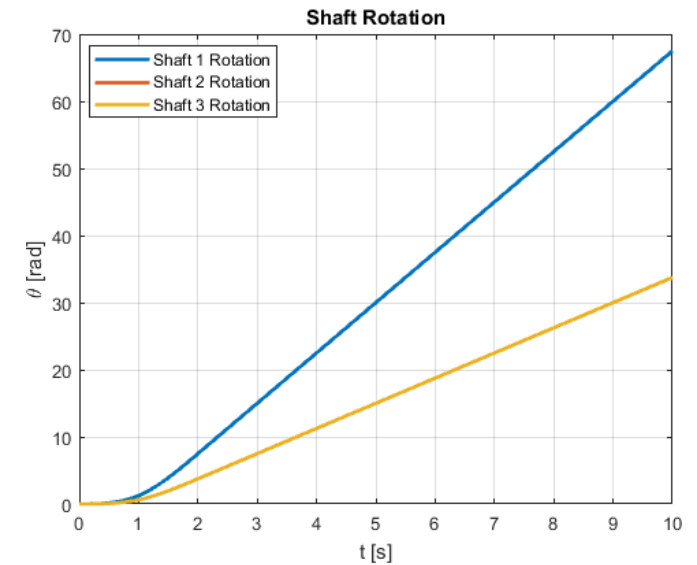
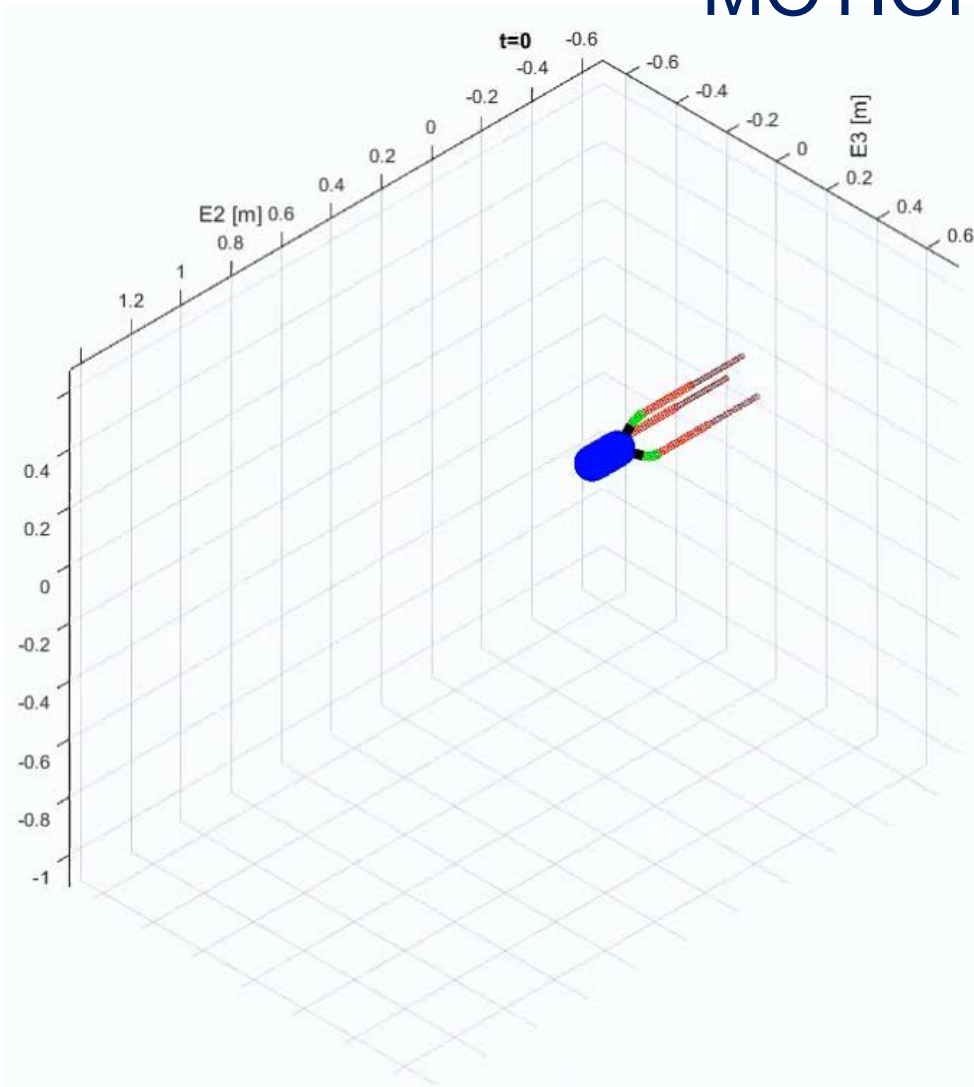
ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE: LOPHOTRICUS STRAIGHT MOTION



- F. Renda and L. Seneviratne, "A Geometric and Unified Approach for Modeling Soft-Rigid Multi-Body Systems with Lumped and Distributed Degrees of Freedom," *2018 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, Brisbane, Australia, 2018, pp. 1567-1574.

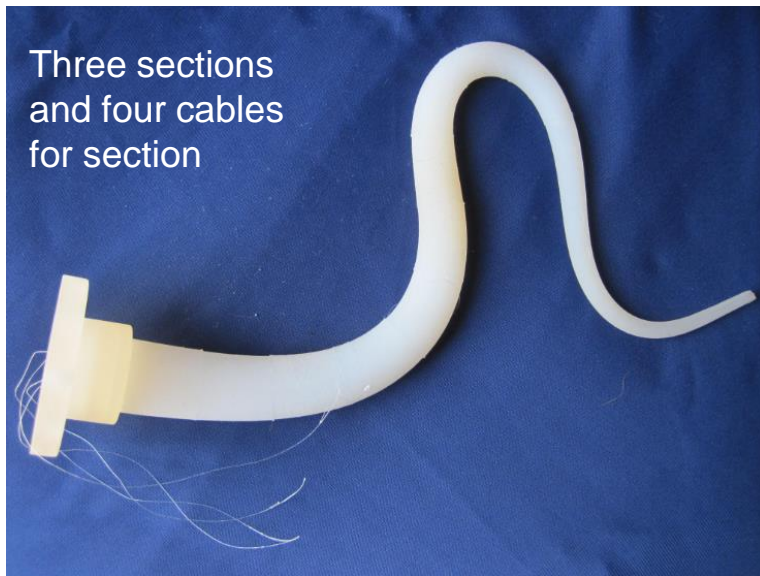


ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE: LOPHOTRICUS SINK MOTION



OCTOPUS ARM MANIPULATOR

- The model has been applied to a cable driven octopus-like manipulator
- The friction between the cables and the silicone body is not considered

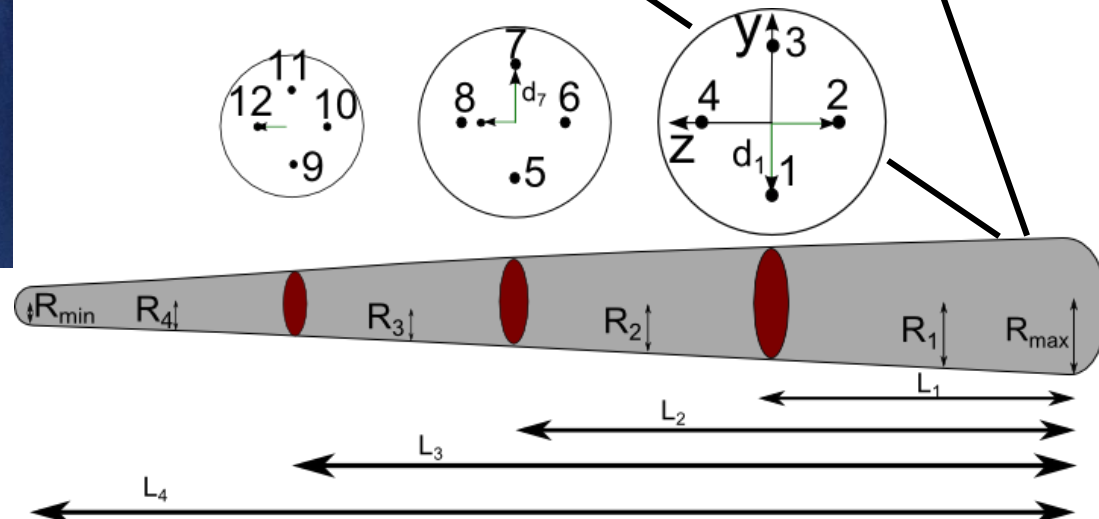


PARALLEL CABLES ACTUATION

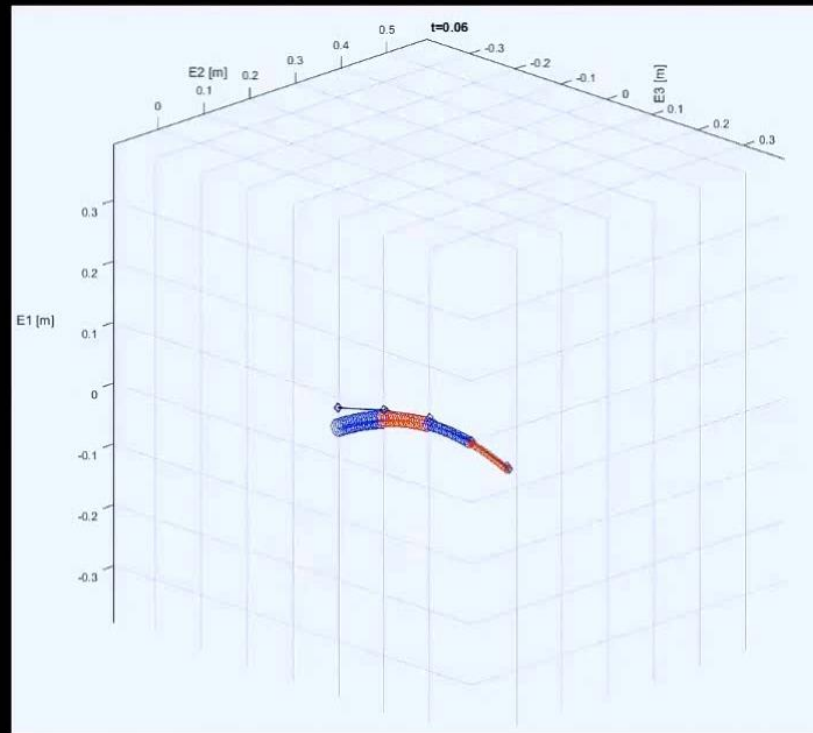
$$\tau_1 = L\mathcal{F}_{a_1}$$

SIMO-REISSNER

$$\xi_1 = q_1$$



OCTOPUS ARM EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS



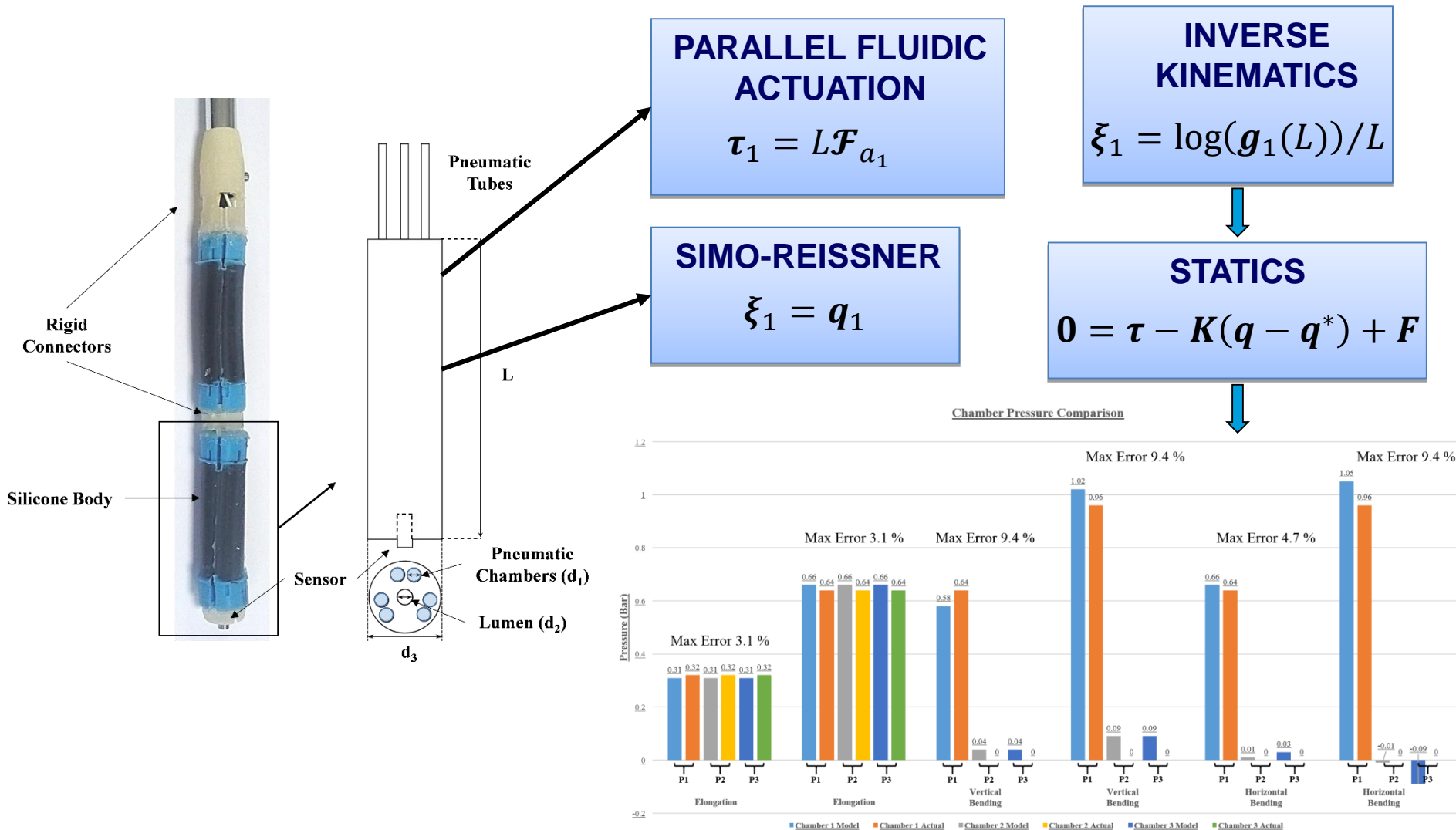
PLANE BENDING

comparison between real (piece-wise linear curve) and simulated (cross-sections) prototype.



STIFF-FLOP MANIPULATOR

- The model has been used to solve the inverse statics of the Stiff-Flop medical manipulator

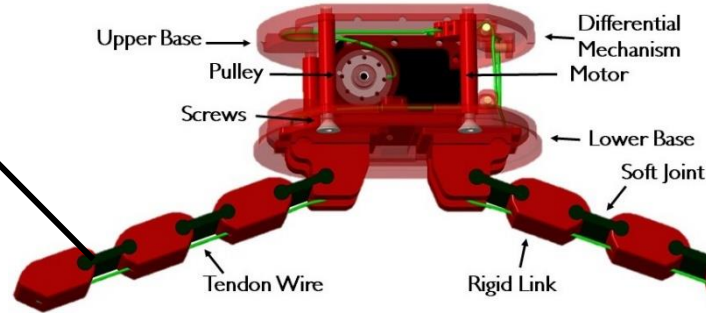


COMPLIANT GRIPPER

- Manipulator's ellipsoids can be calculated to optimize the gripping performance

EXTERNAL CABLE ACTUATION

$$\tau_3 = {}^3S_3^T \mathcal{F}_{T_3}$$



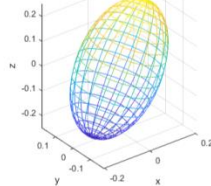
INEX. CONST. TORSION AND BENDING

$$\xi_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} q_3 + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

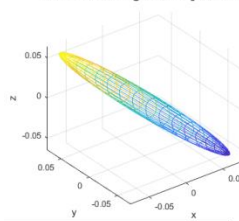
MANIPULABILITY ELLIPSOID

$$(J_w J_w^T)^{-1}$$

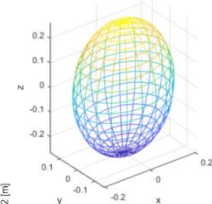
Angular Manipulability Ellipsoid
Twisted Configuration [m²]



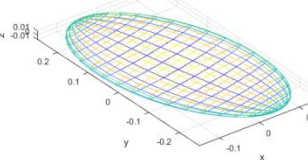
Angular Stiffness Ellipsoid
Twisted Configuration [1/N²m²]



Angular Manipulability Ellipsoid
Bent Configuration [m²]



Angular Stiffness Ellipsoid
Bent Configuration [1/N²m²]



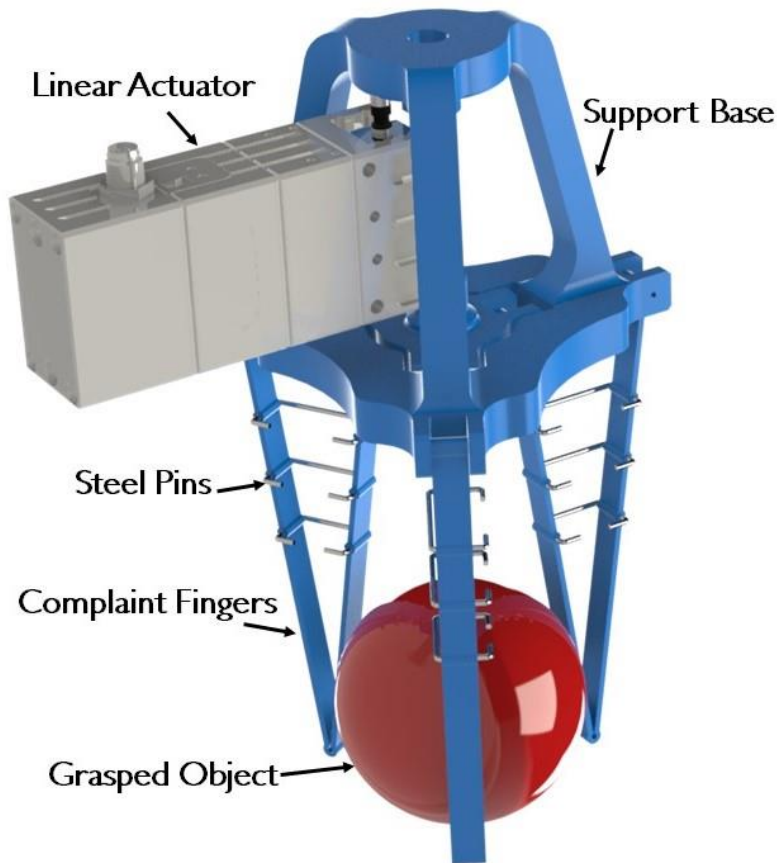
STIFFNESS ELLIPSOID

$$(J_w K^{-1} J_w^T)^{-1}$$



CLOSED-CHAIN COMPLIANT GRIPPER

- Adopting the technique developed for closed-chain multi-body systems, the model can be used for closed-chain soft-rigid manipulators like the FinRay finger



PFAFFIAN CONSTRAINT

The closed-chain joints restrict the motion space of the corresponding open-chain system

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_h^{\perp T} (\mathbf{J}_{p_h} - \mathbf{J}_{s_h}) \\ \mathbf{B}_k^{\perp T} (\mathbf{J}_{p_k} - \mathbf{J}_{s_k}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{B}_l^{\perp T} (\mathbf{J}_{p_l} - \mathbf{J}_{s_l}) \end{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{0}$$

CLOSED-CHAIN DYNAMIC EQUATION

The open-chain dynamics is augmented with the constrain forces of the (passive) closed-chain joints

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{C}\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \boldsymbol{\tau} - \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{q}^*) + \mathbf{F} + \mathbf{A}^T \boldsymbol{\lambda} \\ \mathbf{A}\ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \dot{\mathbf{A}}\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$$



CONCLUSION

- A discrete Cosserat approach (piece-wise constant strain) is used to build a **geometric and unified modeling framework for rigid, soft or hybrid (soft-rigid) robots**
- The model is in fact a **generalization to soft and hybrid systems of the geometric theory of rigid robotics**, characterized by the exponential map
- A **generalization of the recursive Newton-Euler algorithm for soft and hybrid systems** is also presented.



Benefits

- No restrictions on the form of the internal strain energy
- Good generality inherited by the Cosserat rod theory
- Suitable for control purpose
- Unique framework to transduce traditional robotics results to the soft robotics practice

Limitations

- Cross-section deformations are kinematically not allowed
- Only one dimensional media are considered
- Required the constant strain assumption to work well without an excessive number of sections
- No off-the-shelf software available



THANK YOU!



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