



Robotics 2

Robot Interaction with the Environment

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AUTOMATICA E GESTIONALE ANTONIO RUBERTI



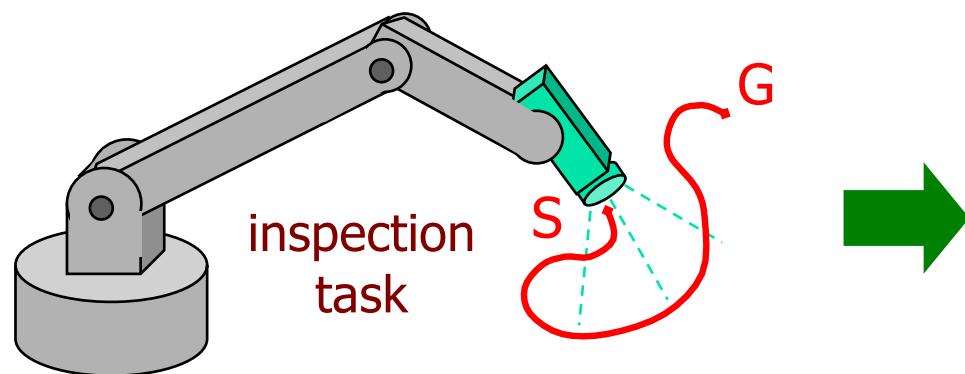


Robot-environment interaction

a robot (end-effector) may interact with the **environment**

- **modifying the state** of the environment (e.g., pick-and-place operations)
- **exchanging forces** (e.g., assembly or surface finishing tasks)

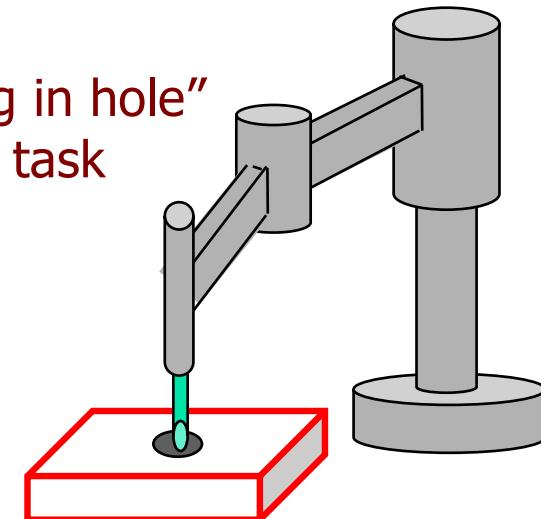
control of free motion



sensors: position (encoders)
at the joints* or
vision at the Cartesian level

*and velocity (by numerical differentiation
or, more rarely, with tachos)

control of compliant motion



sensors: as before +
6D force/torque
(at the robot wrist)



Robot compliance

PASSIVE

robot end-effector equipped with **mechatronic devices** that “comply” with the **generalized forces** applied at the TCP = Tool Center Point

RCC = Remote Center of Compliance device



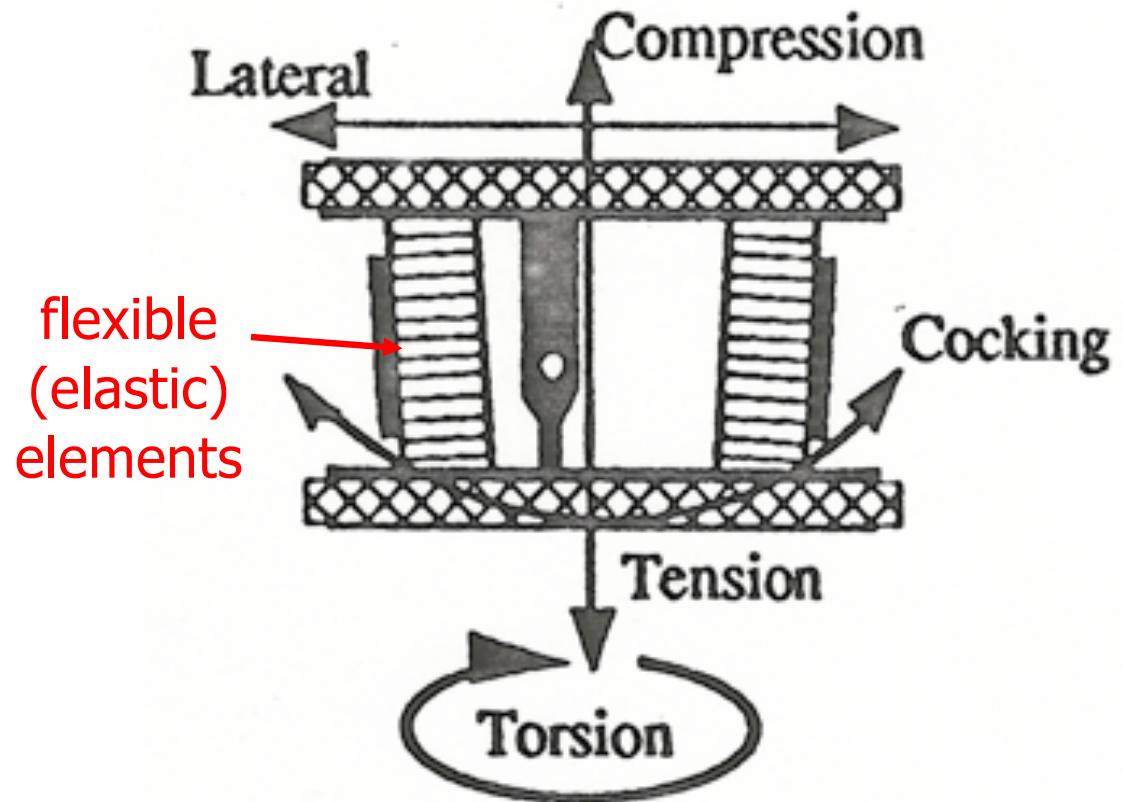
ACTIVE

robot is moved by a **control law** so as to react in a desired way to **generalized forces** applied at the TCP (typically measured by a F/T sensor)

- **admittance** control
contact forces \Rightarrow velocity commands
- **stiffness/compliance** control
contact displacements \Rightarrow force commands
- **impedance** control
contact displacements \Leftrightarrow contact forces



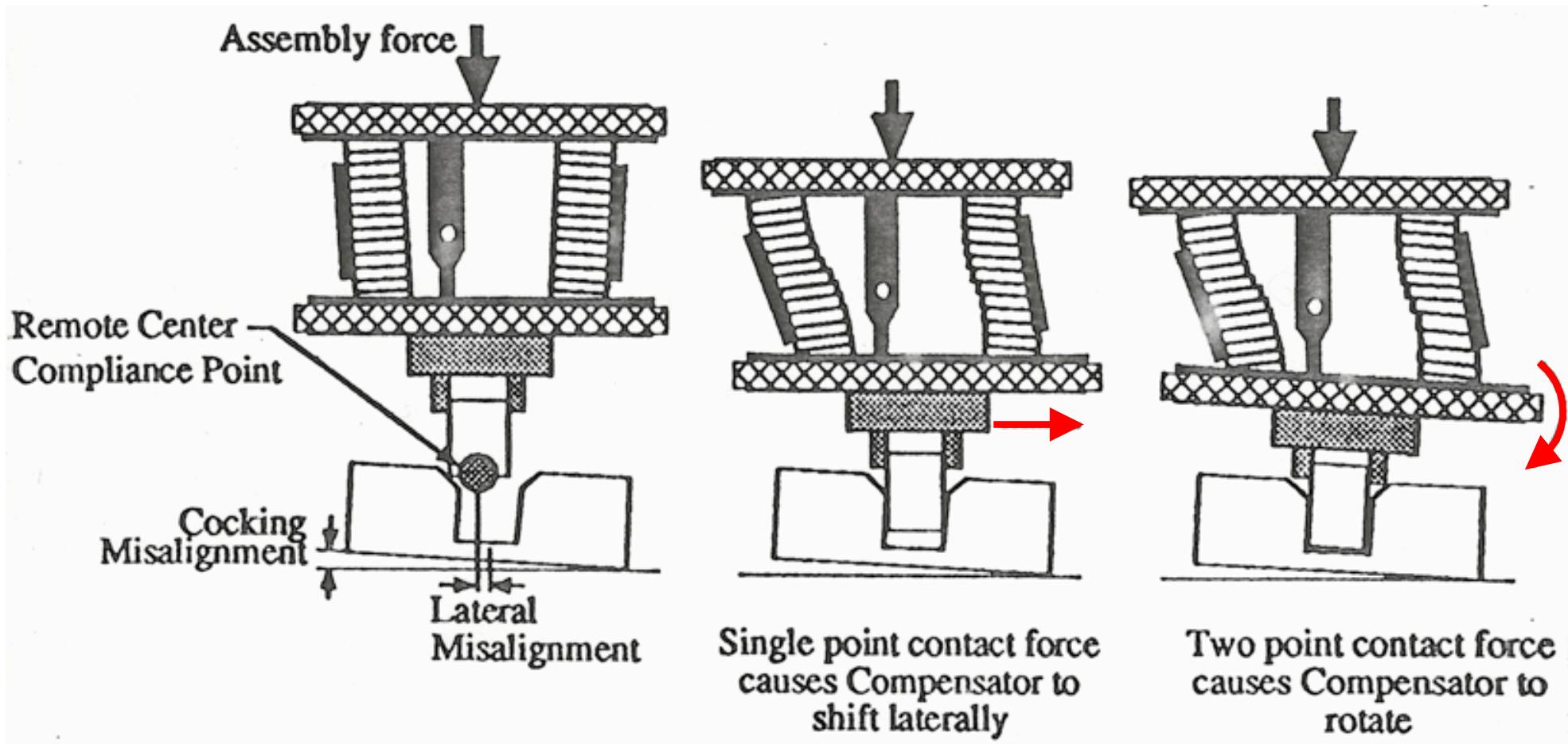
RCC device



RCC models of
different size
by ATI

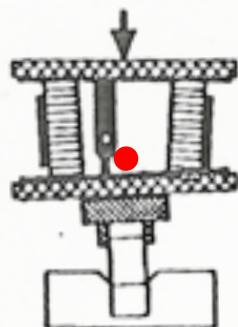
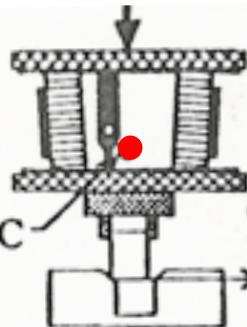


RCC behavior in case of misalignment errors in assembly tasks



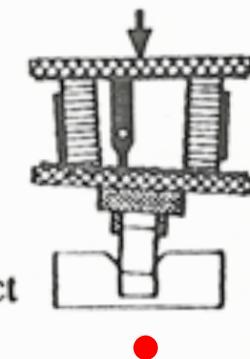
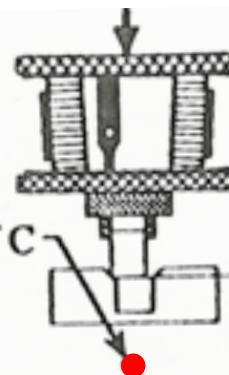


Effects of RCC positioning



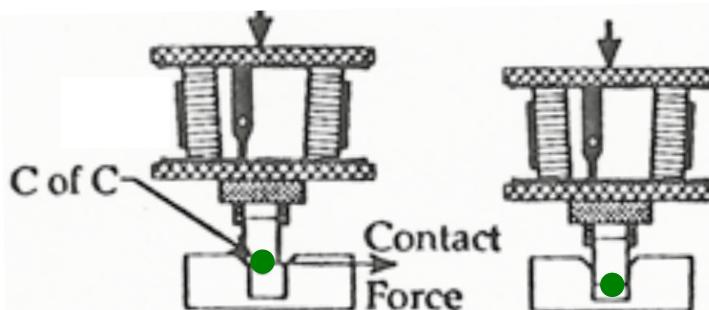
With the C of C far above the point of contact a lateral contact force causes the part to enter at an angle, causing a two point contact.

too high...



With the C of C far below the point of contact the part enters at an angle causing two point contact

too low...

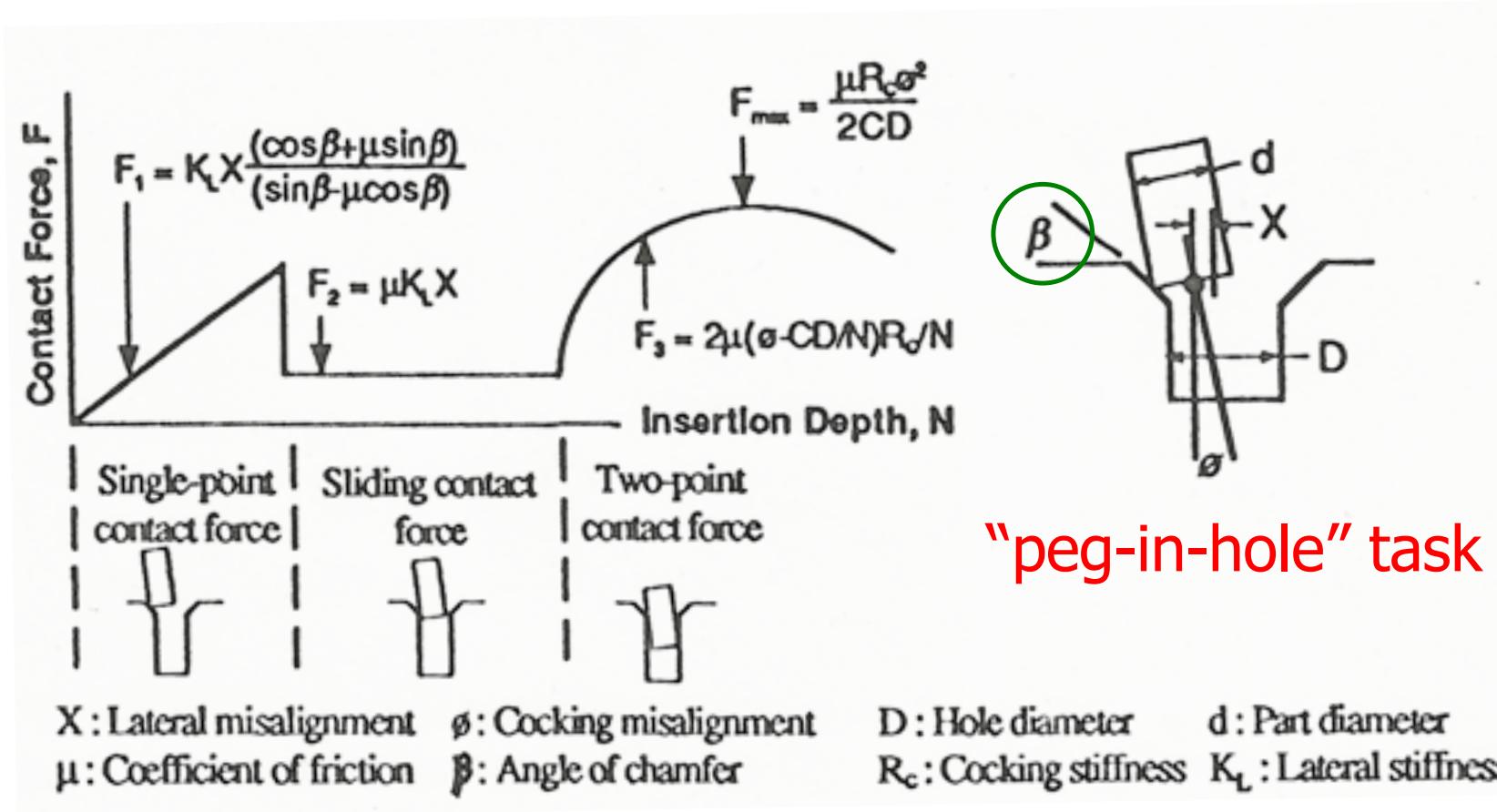


When the C of C is near the contact point the part enters correctly

correct!
(TCP = RCC)



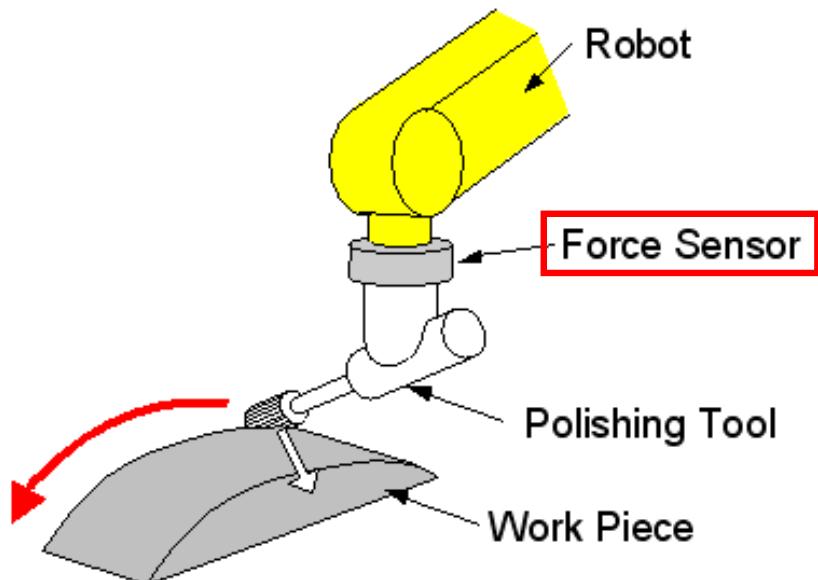
Typical evolution of assembly forces



chamfer angle β = to ease the insertion,
related also to the tolerances of the hole



Active compliance for contour following



Following with constant pushing force



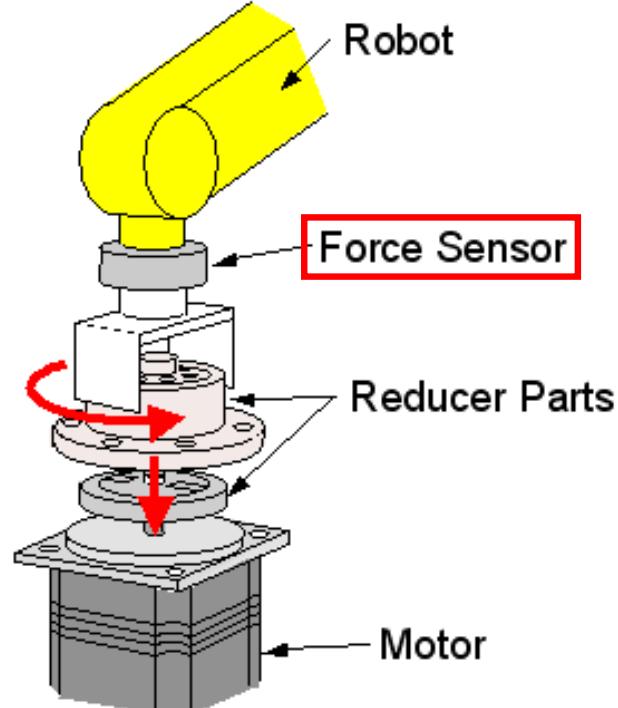
Washstand



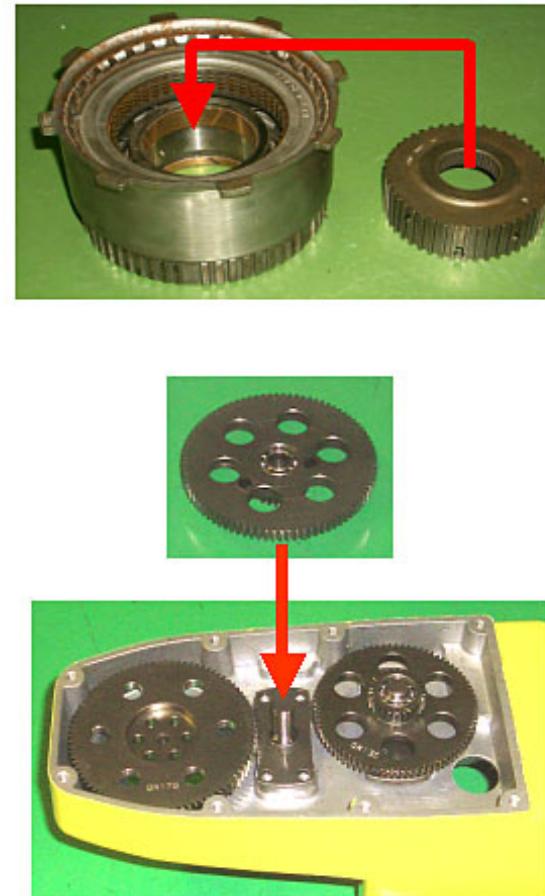
Metal Cabinet



Active compliance “matching” of mechanical parts



Phase matching by force sensing



Gear Parts

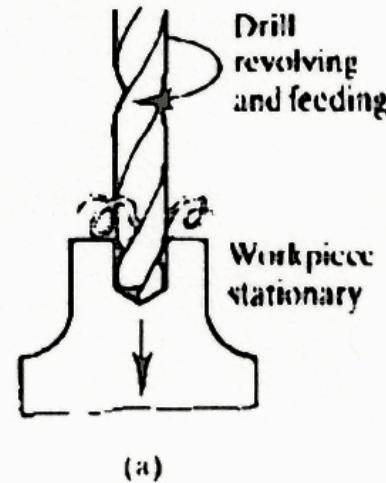


Tasks with environment interaction

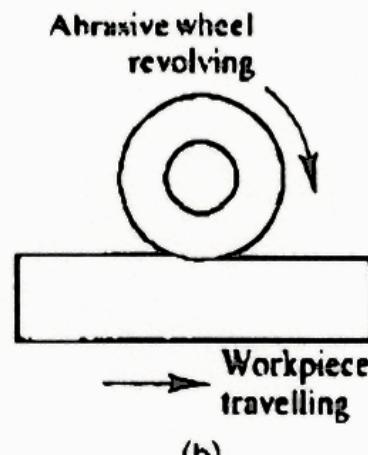
- mechanical machining
 - deburring, surface finishing, polishing, assembly,...
- tele-manipulation
 - force feedback improves performance of human operators in master-slave systems
- contact exploration for shape identification
 - force and velocity/vision sensor fusion allow 2D/3D geometric identification of unknown objects and their contour following
- dexterous robot hands
 - power grasp and fine in-hand manipulation require force/motion cooperation and coordinated control of the multiple fingers
- cooperation of multi-manipulator systems
 - the environment includes one or more other robots with their own dynamic behaviors
- physical human-robot interaction
 - humans as active, dynamic environments that need to be handled under full safety premises ...



Examples of mechanical machining



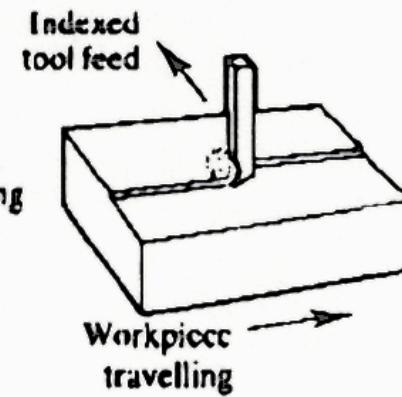
(a)



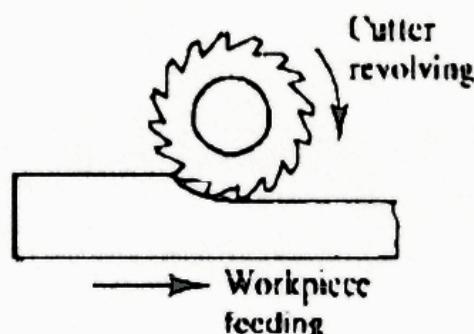
(b)



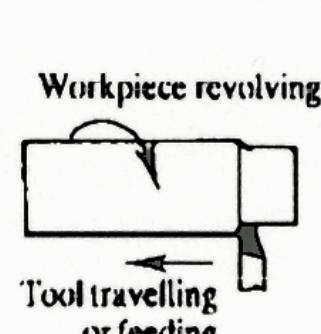
(c)



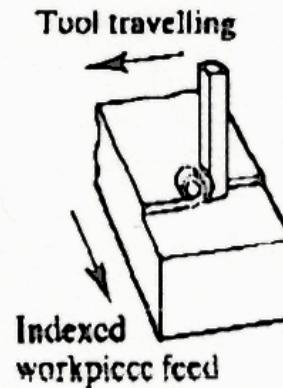
(d)



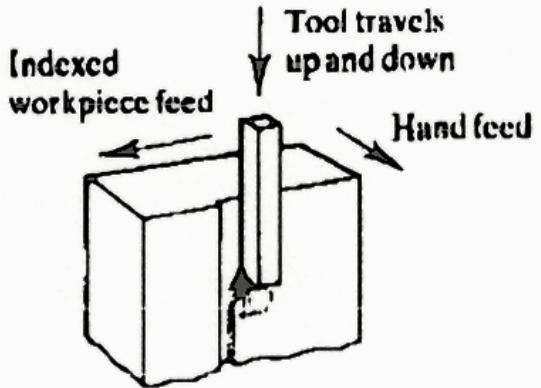
(e)



(f)



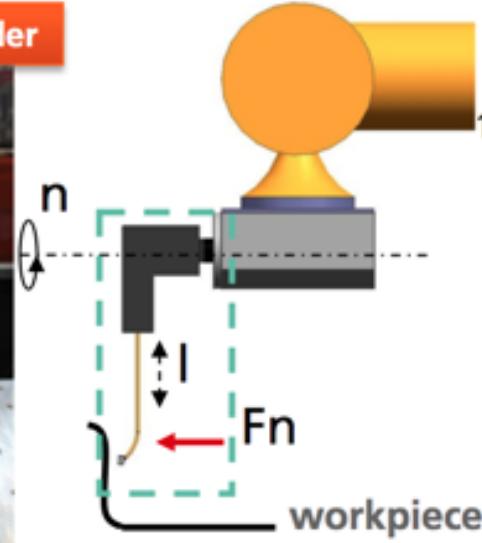
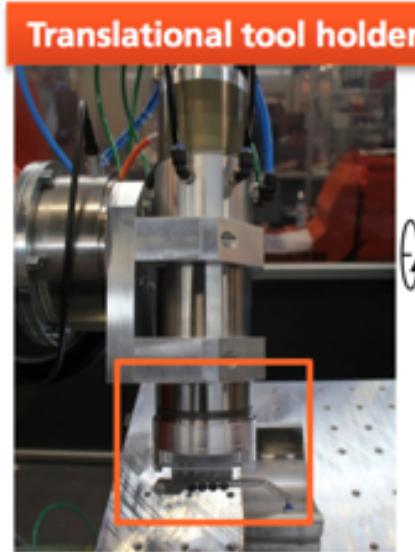
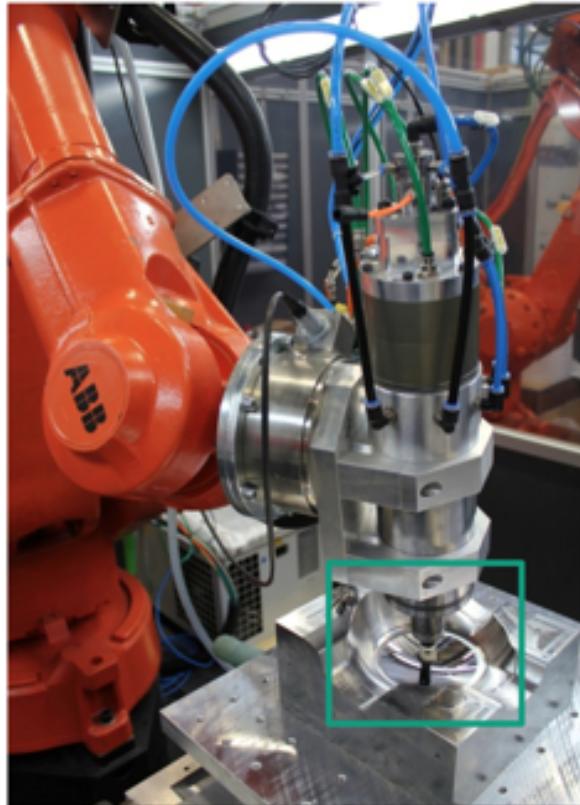
(g)



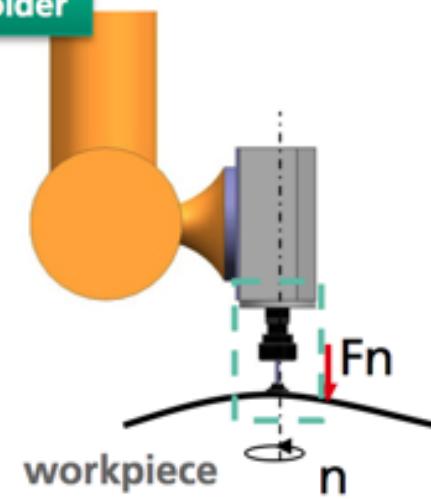
(h)



Abrasive finishing of surfaces



Rotational tool holder



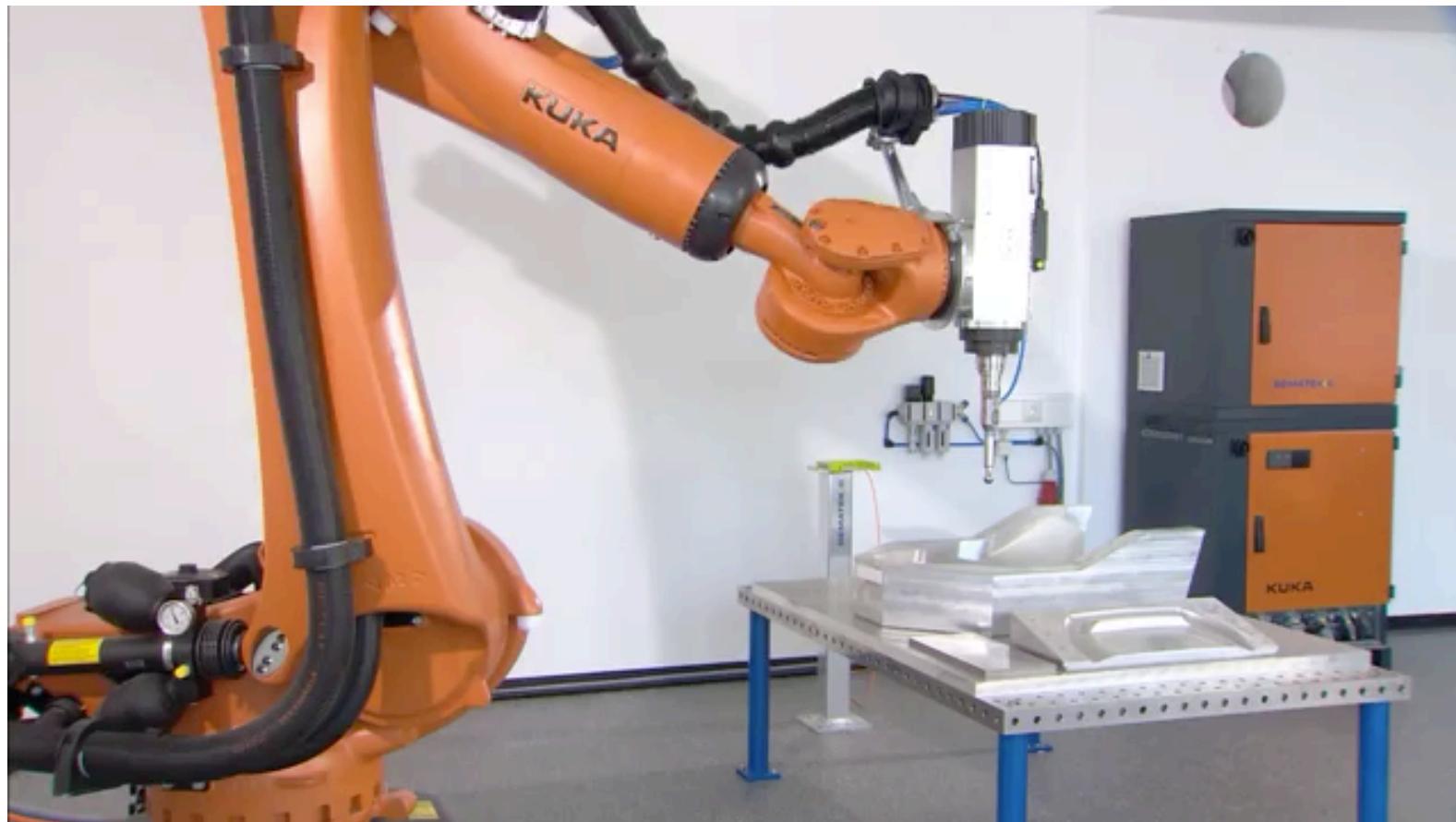
Main properties:

- synchronous motor
- rotation : 100 - 36.000 rpm
- power : 6 kW
- mass : 16 kg
- automated tool exchanger
- pneumatic canals for the force control (x3)



Abrasive finishing of surfaces

video



technological processes: cold forging of surfaces
and hammer peening by pneumatic machine



Non-contact surface finishing

video



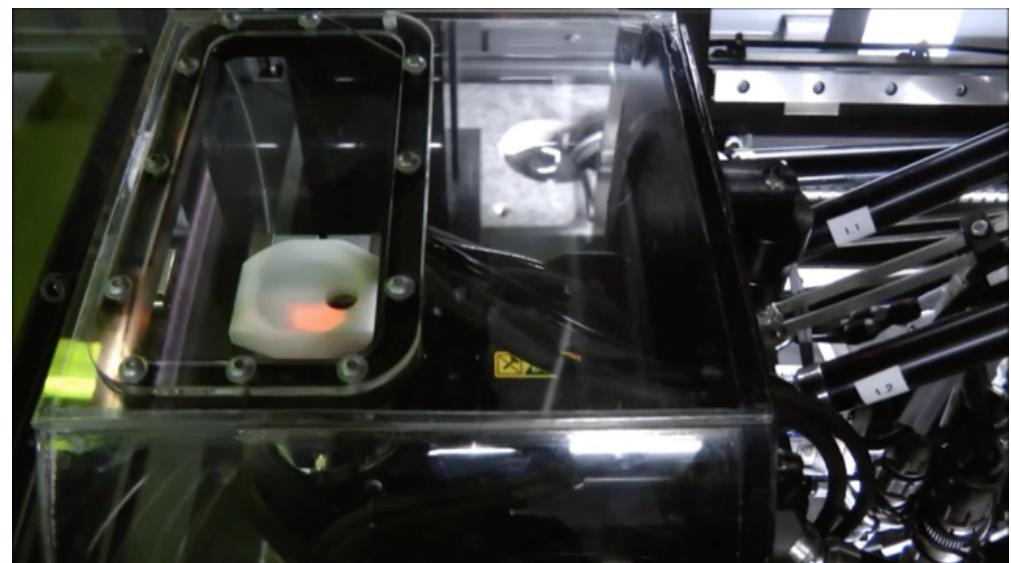
Fluid Jet technology



H2020 EU project for the
Factory of the Future (FoF)

Pulsed Laser technology

video





In all cases ...

- for physical interaction tasks, the **desired motion** specification and execution should be integrated with complementary data for the **desired force**
 → **hybrid** planning and control objectives
- the exchanged forces/torques at the contact(s) with the environment can be explicitly **set under control** or simply **kept limited** in an indirect way



Evolution of control approaches

a bit of history from the late 70's-mid '80s ...

- explicit control of forces/torques only [Whitney]
 - used in quasi-static operations (assembly) in order to avoid deadlocks during part insertion
- active admittance and compliance control [Paul, Shimano, Salisbury]
 - contact forces handled through position (**stiffness**) or velocity (**damping**) control of the robot end-effector
 - robot reacts as a compressed **spring** (with **damper**) in selected/all directions
- impedance control [Hogan]
 - a desired dynamic behavior is imposed to the robot-environment interaction, e.g., a “model” with forces acting on a **mass-spring-damper**
 - mimics the human arm behavior moving in an unknown environment
- hybrid force-motion control [Mason]
 - decomposes the **task space** in complementary sets of directions where **either** force **or** motion is controlled, based on
 - a **purely kinematic** robot model [Raibert, Craig]
 - the actual **dynamic model** of the robot [Khatib]



appropriate for fast and accurate motion in dynamic interaction...

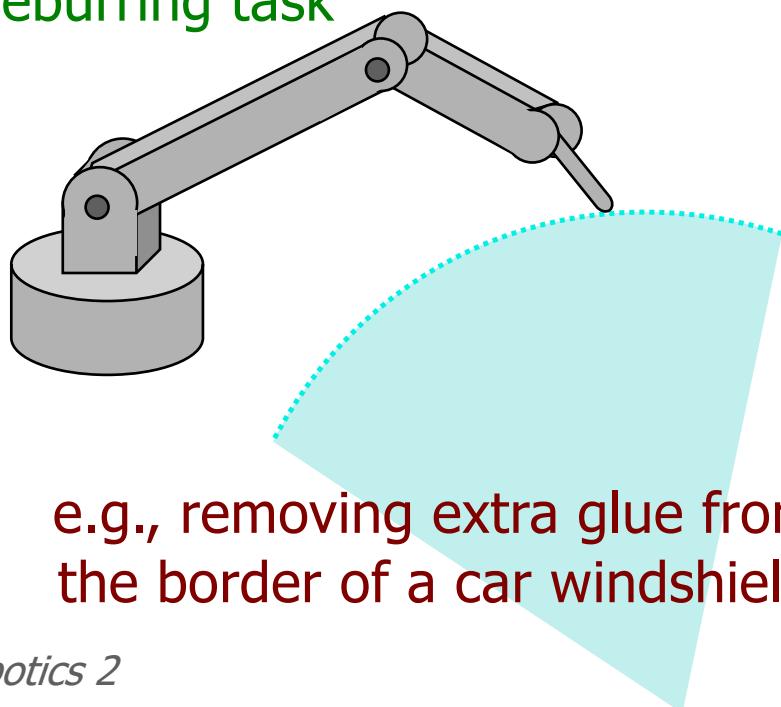


Interaction tasks of interest

interaction tasks with the environment that require

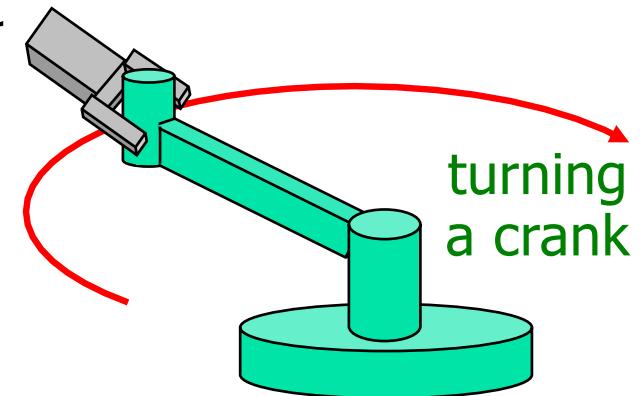
- accurate **following/reproduction** by the robot end-effector of desired trajectories (even at **high speed**) defined on the surface of objects
- **control of forces/torques** applied at the contact with environments having low (**soft**) or high (**rigid**) stiffness

deburring task



e.g., removing extra glue from
the border of a car windshield

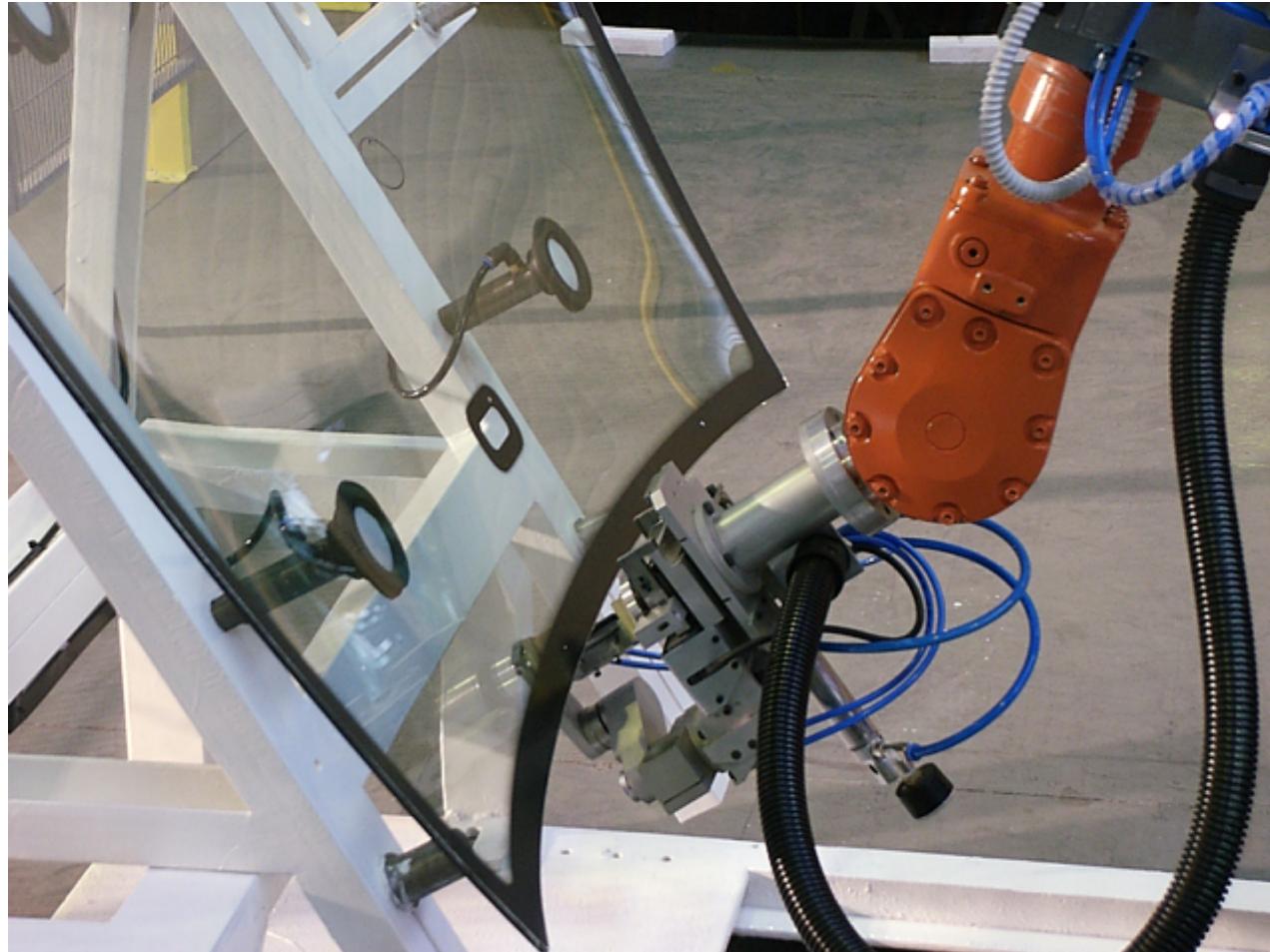
robot



e.g., opening a door



Robotized deburring of windshields



c/o ABB Excellence Center in Cecchina (Roma), 2002



Impedance vs. Hybrid control

environment model (\leftrightarrow domain of control application)

impedance control

- environment = mechanical system undergoing **small but finite deformations**
- contact forces arise as the result of a balance of two **coupled dynamic systems** (robot+environment)
- ➔ desired dynamic characteristics are assigned to the force/motion interaction

hybrid force/motion control

- a **rigid environment** reduces the degrees of freedom of the robot when in (bi-/uni-lateral) contact
- contact forces result from attempts to violate **geometric constraints** imposed by the environment
- ➔ task space is decomposed in sets of directions where **only motion** or **only reaction forces** are feasible

- the required **level of knowledge** about the environment geometry is only **apparently** different between the two control approaches
- however, **measuring contact forces** may not be needed in impedance control, while it always necessary in hybrid force/motion control

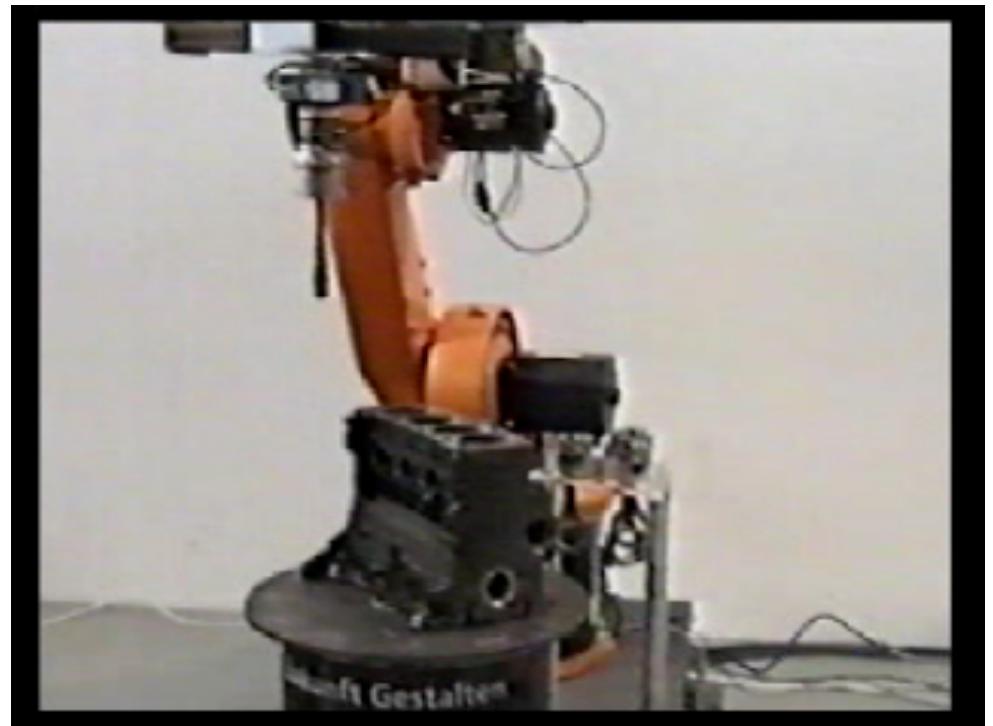


Impedance vs. Hybrid control

- opening a door with a mobile manipulator under **impedance control**
- piston insertion in a motor based on **hybrid control** of force-position (visual)



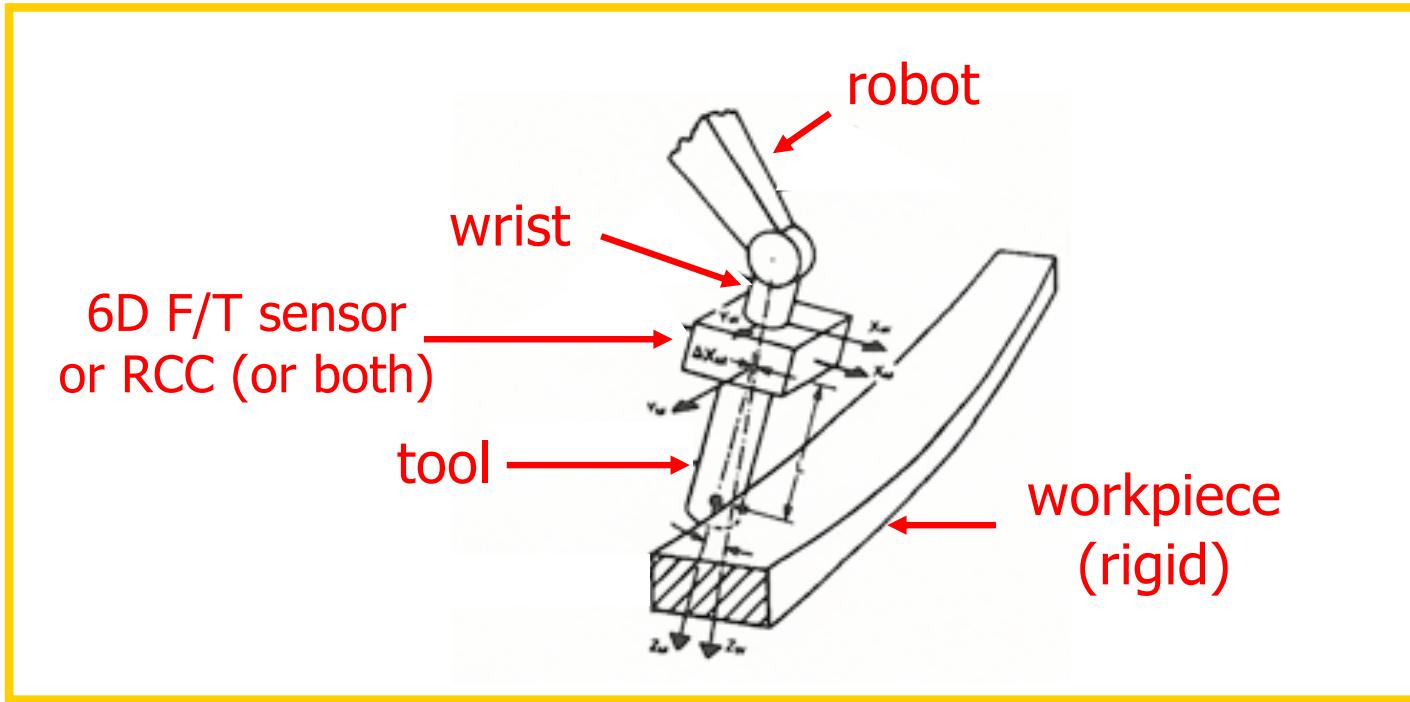
video



video



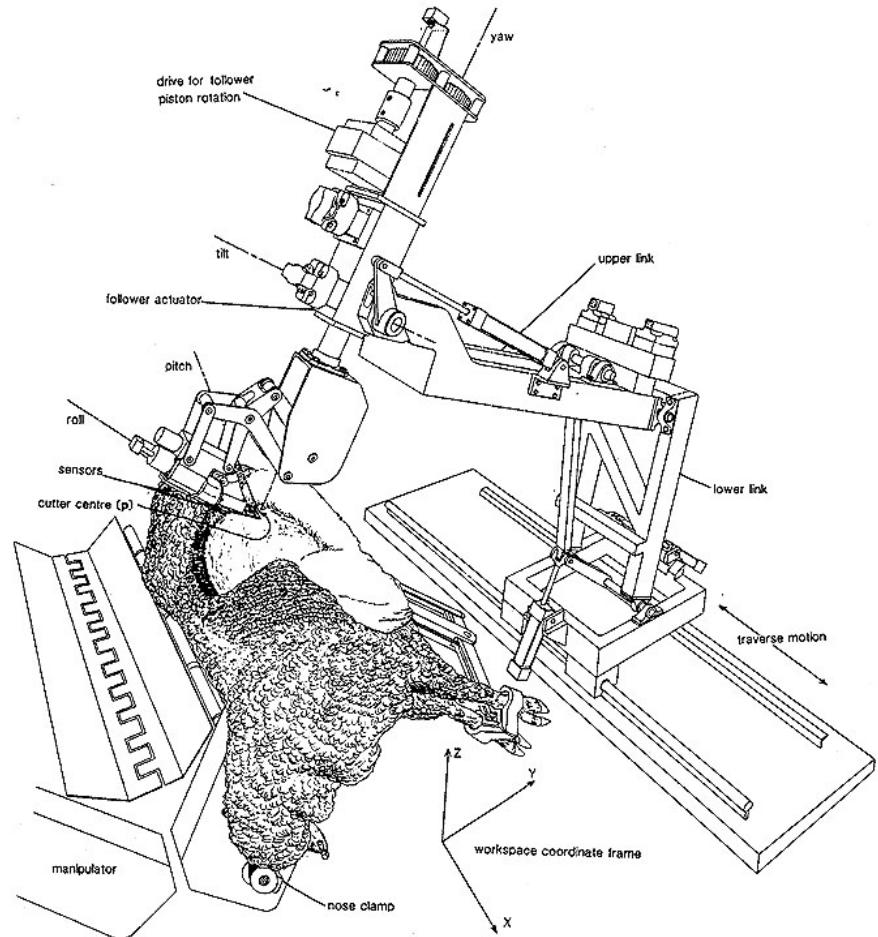
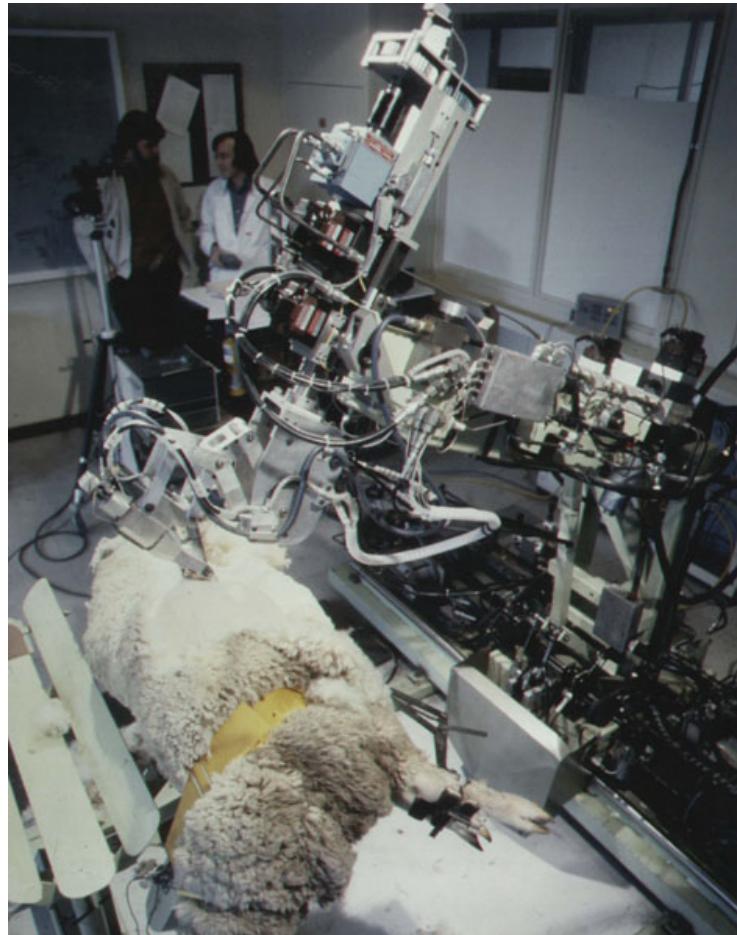
A typical constrained situation ...



the robot end-effector follows in a stable and accurate way the geometric profile of a **very stiff** workpiece, while applying a desired contact force



An unusual compliant situation ...

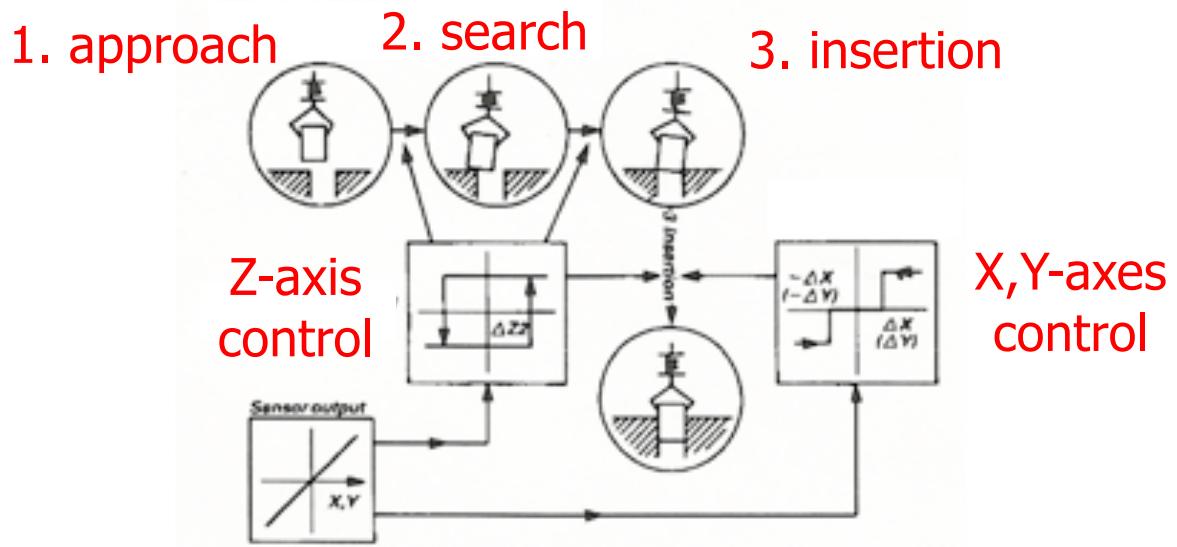


Trevelyan (AUS): Oracle robotic system in a test dated 1981

...is the sheep happy?



A mixed interaction situation

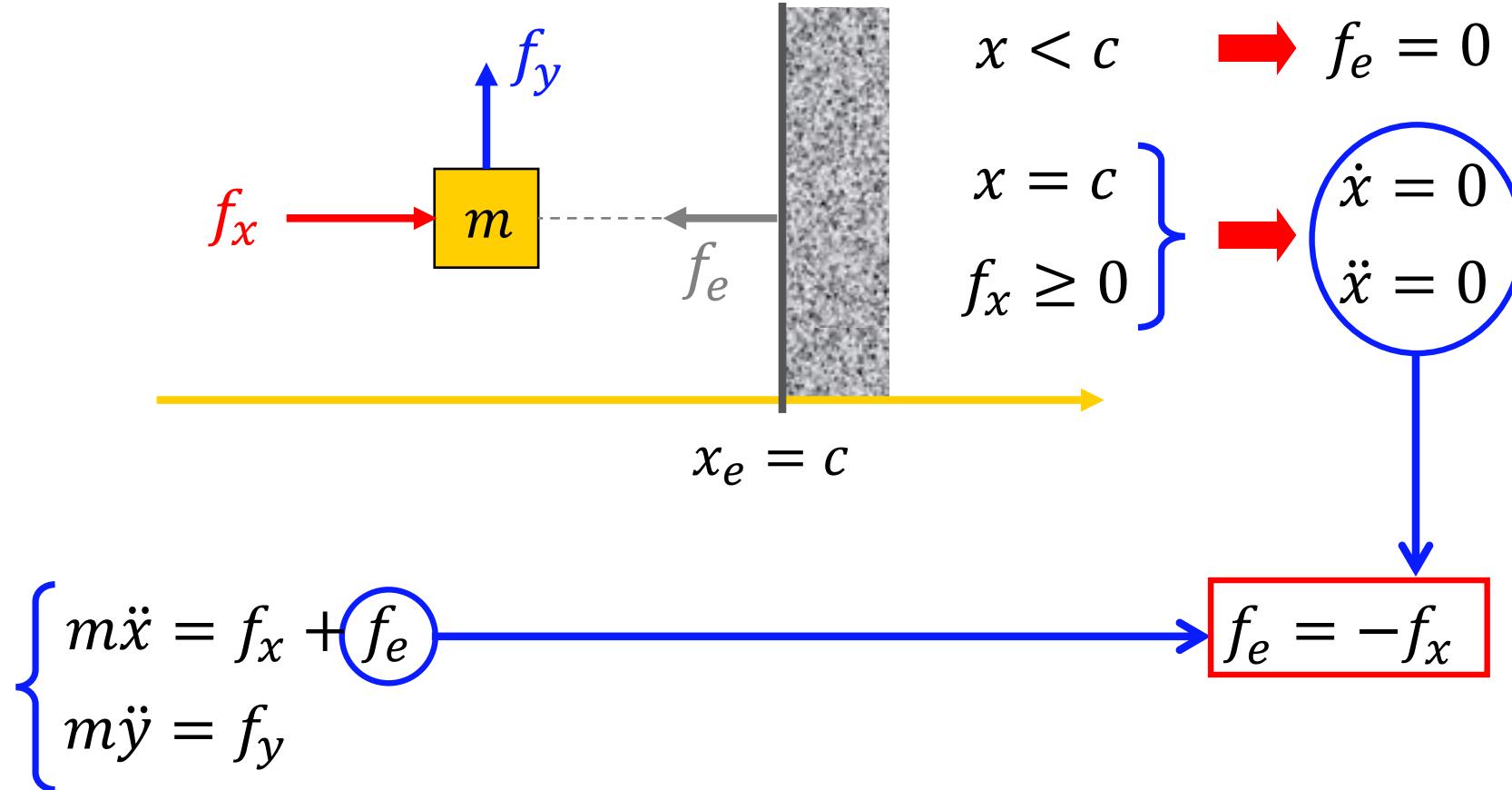


processing/reasoning on force measurements
leads to a sequence of **fine motions**
⇒ correct completion of insertion task with
help of (sufficiently large) passive compliance



Ideally constrained contact situation

a first possible modeling choice for very stiff environments

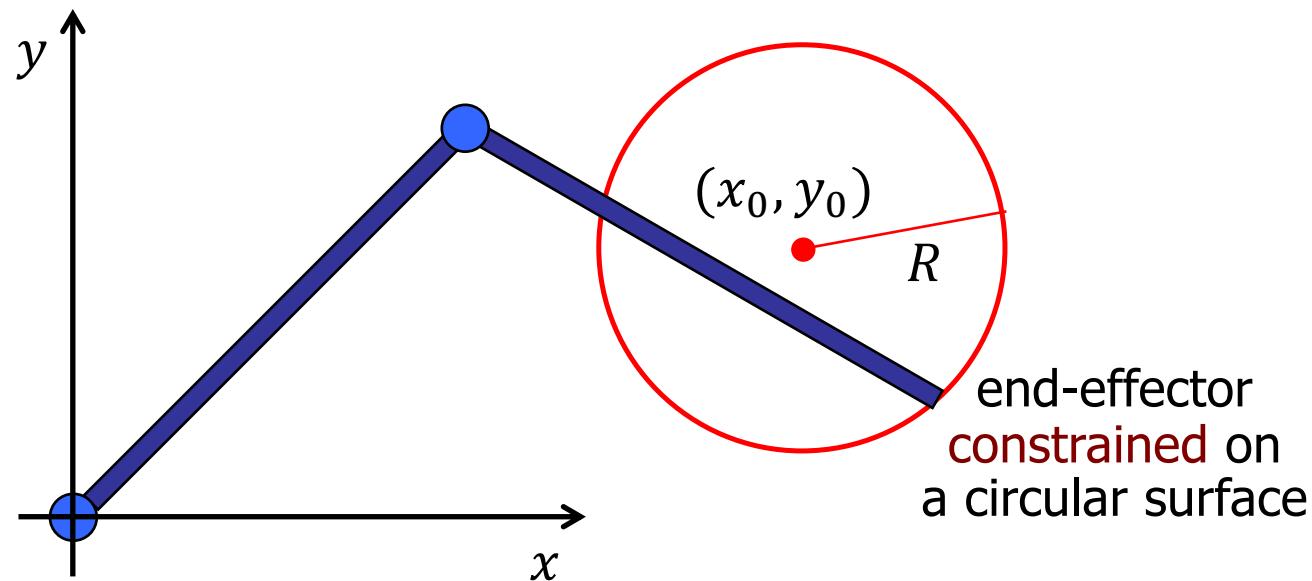


"ideal" = robot (sketched here as a Cartesian mass)
+ environment are both **infinitely STIFF**
(and **without friction at the contact**)



In more complex situations

- how can we describe **more complex contact situations**, where the **end-effector** of an articulated robot (not yet reduced to a Cartesian mass via feedback linearization control) is **constrained** to move **on an environment surface** with nonlinear geometry?
- example: a planar 2R robot with end-effector moving on a circle





Constrained robot dynamics - 1

- consider a robot in free space described by its Lagrange **dynamic model** and a **task output function** (e.g., the end-effector pose)

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + c(q, \dot{q}) + g(q) = u$$

$$r = f(q) \quad q \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

- suppose that the task variables are subject to $M < N$ (bilateral) **geometric constraints** in the general form $k(r) = 0$ and define

$$h(q) = k(f(q)) = 0$$

- the **constrained robot dynamics** can be derived using again the Lagrange formalism, by defining an **augmented Lagrangian** as

$$L_a(q, \dot{q}, \lambda) = L(q, \dot{q}) + \lambda^T h(q) = T(q, \dot{q}) - U(q) + \lambda^T h(q)$$

where the **Lagrange multipliers** λ (a M -dimensional vector) can be interpreted as the **generalized forces** that arise at the contact when attempting to violate the constraints



Constrained robot dynamics - 2

- applying the **Euler-Lagrange equations** in the extended space of generalized coordinates q AND multipliers λ yields

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L_a}{\partial \dot{q}} \right)^T - \left(\frac{\partial L_a}{\partial q} \right)^T = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \right)^T - \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial q} \right)^T - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial q} (\lambda^T h(q)) \right)^T = u$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial L_a}{\partial \lambda} \right)^T = h(q) = 0 \quad \xleftarrow{\text{contact forces do NOT produce work}}$$

→
$$\begin{cases} M(q)\ddot{q} + c(q, \dot{q}) + g(q) = u + A^T(q)\lambda & (\star) \\ \text{subject to} \quad h(q) = 0 \end{cases}$$

where we defined the **Jacobian of the constraints** as the matrix

$$A(q) = \frac{\partial h(q)}{\partial q}$$

that will be assumed of **full row rank** ($= M$)



Constrained robot dynamics - 3

- we can eliminate the appearance of the multipliers as follows
 - differentiate the constraints twice w.r.t. time

$$h(q) = 0 \Rightarrow \dot{h} = \frac{\partial h(q)}{\partial q} \dot{q} = A(q)\dot{q} = 0 \Rightarrow \ddot{h} = A(q)\ddot{q} + \dot{A}(q)\dot{q} = 0$$

- substitute the joint accelerations from the dynamic model (★)
(dropping dependencies)

$$AM^{-1}(u + A^T\lambda - c - g) + \dot{A}\dot{q} = 0$$

- solve for the multipliers

invertible $M \times M$ matrix,
when A is full rank

the inertia-weighted
pseudoinverse of the
constraint Jacobian A

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= (AM^{-1}A^T)^{-1}(AM^{-1}(c + g - u) - \dot{A}\dot{q}) \\ &= (A_M^\#)^T(c + g - u) - (AM^{-1}A^T)^{-1}\dot{A}\dot{q} \end{aligned}$$

to be replaced in the dynamic model...

constraint
forces λ are
uniquely
determined
by the robot
state (q, \dot{q})
and **input** u !!



Constrained robot dynamics - 4

- the final **constrained dynamic model** can be rewritten as

$$M(q)\ddot{q} = \left[I - A^T(q)(A_M^\#(q))^T \right] (u - c(q, \dot{q}) - g(q)) - M(q)A_M^\#(q)\dot{A}(q)\dot{q}$$

 **dynamically consistent** projection matrix

where $A_M^\#(q) = M^{-1}(q)A^T(q)(A(q)M^{-1}(q)A^T(q))^{-1}$ and with

$$\lambda = (A_M^\#(q))^T(c(q, \dot{q}) + g(q) - u) - (A(q)M^{-1}(q)A^T(q))^{-1}\dot{A}(q)\dot{q}$$

- if the robot state $(q(0), \dot{q}(0))$ at time $t = 0$ satisfies the constraints, i.e.,

$$h(q(0)) = 0, \quad A(q(0))\dot{q}(0) = 0$$

then the robot evolution described by the above dynamics will be consistent with the constraints **for all $t \geq 0$** and **for any $u(t)$**

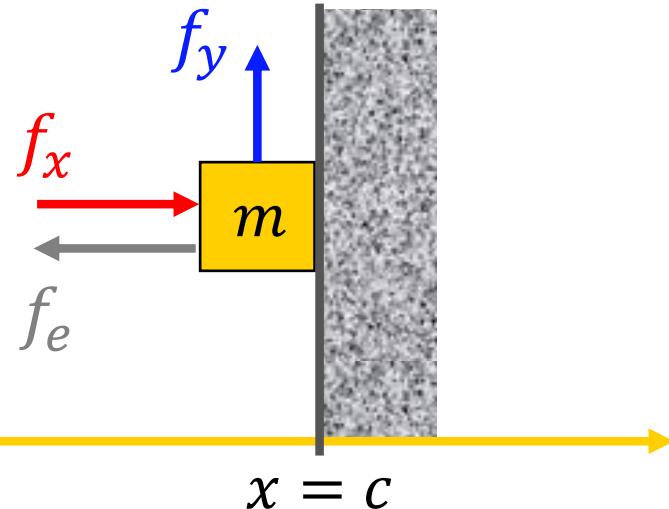
- this is a useful **simulation model** (constrained **direct** dynamics)



Example – ideal mass constrained robot dynamics

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} f_x \\ f_y \end{pmatrix}$$



$$M\ddot{q} = u$$

robot dynamics
in **free motion**

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} m & 0 \\ 0 & m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$h(q) = x - c = 0 \Rightarrow A(q) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow A_M^\#(q) = \dots = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

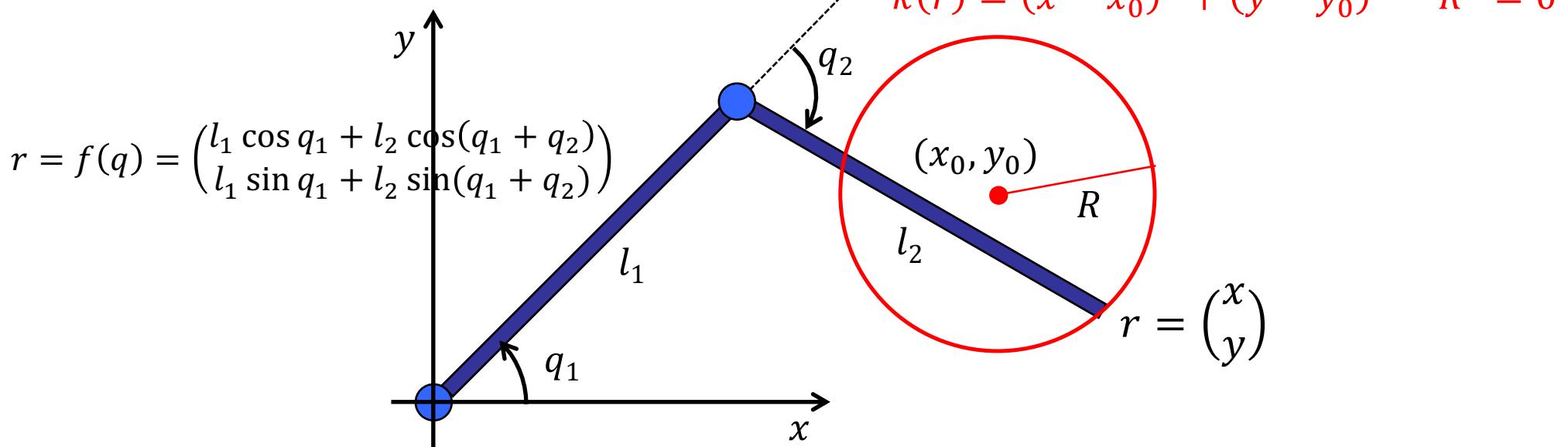
$$\left(I - A^T(q)(A_M^\#(q))^T \right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{dynamically consistent projection matrix}$$

$$\lambda = -(A_M^\#(q))^T u = -(1 \ 0) u = -f_x \quad \text{multiplier (contact force } f_e \text{)}$$

$$M \begin{pmatrix} \ddot{x} \\ \ddot{y} \end{pmatrix} = M\ddot{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} u = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ f_y \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{constrained robot dynamics}$$



Example – planar 2R robot constrained robot dynamics



$$h(q) = k(f(q)) = (l_1 \cos q_1 + l_2 \cos(q_1 + q_2) - x_0)^2 + (l_1 \sin q_1 + l_2 \sin(q_1 + q_2) - y_0)^2 - R^2 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{h} &= \frac{\partial k}{\partial r} \frac{\partial r}{\partial q} \dot{q} = [2(x - x_0) \quad 2(y - y_0)] J_r(q) \dot{q} \\ &= [2(l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{12} - x_0) \quad 2(l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_{12} - y_0)] J_r(q) \dot{q} = A(q) \dot{q} \end{aligned}$$



Reduced robot dynamics - 1

- by imposing M constraints $h(q) = 0$ on the N generalized coordinates q , it is also possible to **reduce** the description of the constrained robot dynamics to a **$N - M$ dimensional** configuration space

- start from constraint matrix $A(q)$ and **select** a matrix $D(q)$ such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} A(q) \\ D(q) \end{pmatrix} \text{ is a } \begin{matrix} \text{nonsingular} \\ N \times N \end{matrix} \text{ matrix} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{pmatrix} A(q) \\ D(q) \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = (E(q) \quad F(q))$$

- define the $(N - M)$ -dimensional vector of **pseudo-velocities** ν as the linear combination (at a given q) of the robot generalized velocities

$$\nu = D(q)\dot{q} \quad \rightarrow \quad \dot{\nu} = D(q)\ddot{q} + \dot{D}(q)\dot{q}$$

- inverse relationships (from “pseudo” to “generalized” velocities and accelerations) are given by

$$\dot{q} = F(q)\nu \quad \ddot{q} = F(q)\dot{\nu} - (E(q)\dot{A}(q) + F(q)\dot{D}(q))F(q)\nu$$

↔ properties of **block products** in inverse matrices have been used for eliminating the appearance of \dot{F} (often F is only known **numerically**)



Reduced robot dynamics – 2

whiteboard ...

$$\begin{pmatrix} A(q) \\ D(q) \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = (E(q) \quad F(q)) \quad \text{a number of properties from this definition...}$$

two matrix inverse products

$$\begin{pmatrix} A(q) \\ D(q) \end{pmatrix} (E(q) \quad F(q)) = \begin{pmatrix} A(q)E(q) & A(q)F(q) \\ D(q)E(q) & D(q)F(q) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I_{M \times M} \\ 0 \\ I_{(N-M) \times (N-M)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(E(q) \quad F(q)) \begin{pmatrix} A(q) \\ D(q) \end{pmatrix} = E(q)A(q) + F(q)D(q) = I_{N \times N}$$

→ differentiating w.r.t. time $\dot{E}A + E\dot{A} + \dot{F}D + F\dot{D} = 0 \quad \triangleleft$

from pseudo-velocity $v = D(q)\dot{q}$

since F is a right inverse of the full row rank matrix D ($DF = I$)

three useful identities!

$$0 \quad I_{(N-M) \times (N-M)}$$

$$\dot{E}A + E\dot{A} + \dot{F}D + F\dot{D} = 0 \quad \triangleleft$$

→ $\dot{q} = F(q)v$
 $= D^T(q)(D(q)D^T(q))^{-1}v$ (in fact
 $D\dot{q} = DFv$
 $= v$)

→ differentiating w.r.t. time $\dot{q} = F(q)v$

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{q} &= F\dot{v} + \dot{F}v = F\dot{v} + (\dot{F}D)\dot{q} \stackrel{(\triangleleft)}{=} F\dot{v} - (\dot{E}A + E\dot{A} + F\dot{D})Fv \\ &= F(q)\dot{v} - (E(q)\dot{A}(q) + F(q)\dot{D}(q))F(q)v \end{aligned}$$



Reduced robot dynamics - 3

- consider again the dynamic model (\star), dropping dependencies

$$M\ddot{q} + c + g = u + A^T \lambda$$

- since $AE = I$, multiplying on the left by E^T isolates the multipliers

$$E^T(M\ddot{q} + c + g - u) = \lambda$$

- since $AF = 0$, multiplying on the left by F^T eliminates the multipliers

$$F^T M \ddot{q} = F^T(u - c - g)$$

- substituting in the latter the generalized accelerations and velocities with the pseudo-accelerations and pseudo-velocities leads finally to

invertible
 $(N - M) \times (N - M)$ \longrightarrow positive definite matrix

$$(F^T M F) \dot{v} = F^T(u - c - g + M(E\dot{A} + F\dot{D})Fv)$$

which is the reduced $(N - M)$ -dimensional dynamic model

- similarly, the expression of the multipliers becomes

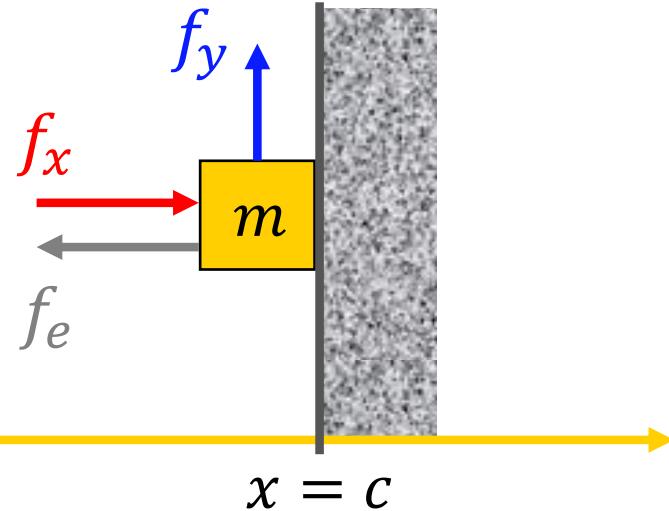
$$\lambda = E^T(MF\dot{v} - M(E\dot{A} + F\dot{D})Fv + c + g - u) \quad (\S)$$



Example – ideal mass reduced robot dynamics

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} f_x \\ f_y \end{pmatrix}$$



$$M\ddot{q} = u$$

robot dynamics
in free motion

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} m & 0 \\ 0 & m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$h(q) = x - c = 0 \Rightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A \\ D \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} E & F \end{pmatrix}$$

➡ $v = D\dot{q} = \dot{y}$ pseudo-velocity

$$\lambda = E^T(MF\dot{v} - u)$$

$$= (1 \ 0) \left(\begin{pmatrix} m & 0 \\ 0 & m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \ddot{y} - \begin{pmatrix} f_x \\ f_y \end{pmatrix} \right) = -(1 \ 0) \begin{pmatrix} f_x \\ f_y \end{pmatrix} = -f_x$$

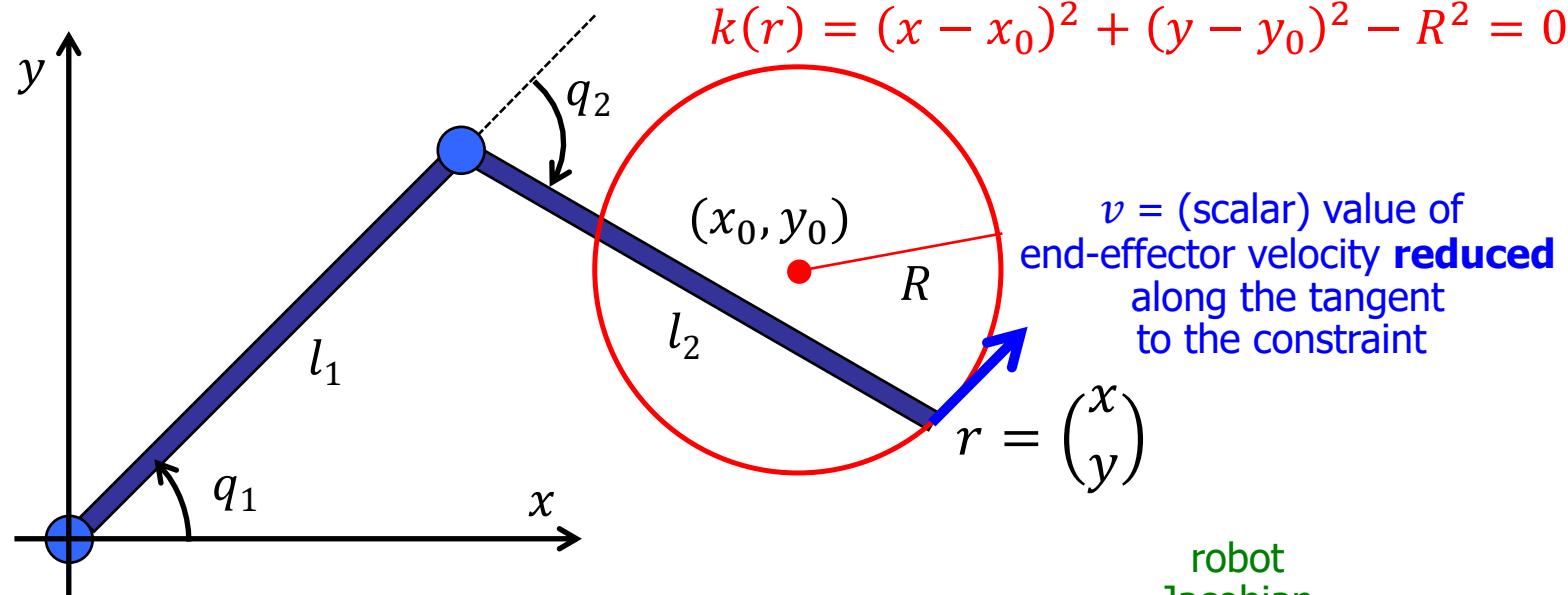
$$(F^T M F) \dot{v} = (0 \ 1) \begin{pmatrix} m & 0 \\ 0 & m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \dot{v} = m\ddot{y} = f_y = F^T u$$

multiplier
(contact
force f_e)

reduced
robot dynamics



Example – planar 2R robot reduced robot dynamics



$$A(q) = \begin{bmatrix} 2(x - x_0) & 2(y - y_0) \end{bmatrix} J_r(q) \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 2(l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{12} - x_0) & 2(l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_{12} - y_0) \end{bmatrix} J_r(q)$$

a feasible selection of matrix $D(q)$

$$D(q) = \left[-\frac{1}{2}(y - y_0) \quad \frac{1}{2}(x - x_0) \right] J_r(q) \rightarrow \det \begin{pmatrix} A(q) \\ D(q) \end{pmatrix} = R^2 \cdot \det J_r(q) \neq 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A(q) \\ D(q) \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = (E(q) \quad F(q)) \rightarrow \boxed{v} = D(q)\dot{q} \rightarrow \dot{q} = F(q)v = J_r^{-1}(q) \begin{pmatrix} -2(y - y_0)/R^2 \\ 2(x - x_0)/R^2 \end{pmatrix} v$$

a scalar



Control based on reduced robot dynamics

- the reduced $N - M$ dynamic expressions are more compact but also more complex and less used for simulation purposes than the N -dimensional constrained dynamics
- however, they are useful for **control design** (reduced **inverse** dynamics)
- in fact, it is straightforward to verify that the **feedback linearizing** control law

$$u = (c + g - M(E\dot{A} + F\dot{D})F\nu) + MFu_1 - A^T u_2$$

applied to the **reduced robot dynamics** and to the **expression (§) of the multipliers** leads to the closed-loop system

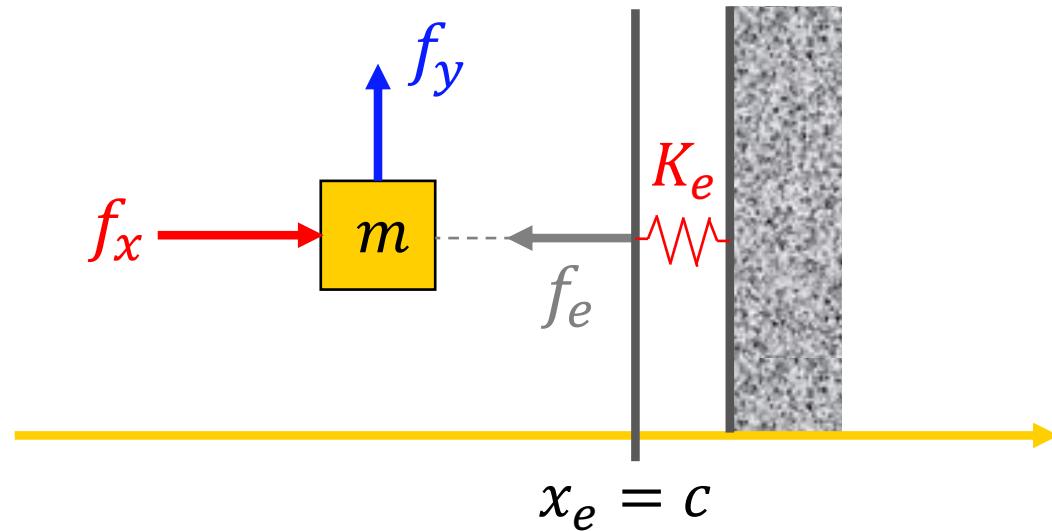
$$\dot{\nu} = u_1 \quad \lambda = u_2$$

Note: these are **exactly** in the form of the ideal mass example of slide #24, with $\nu = \dot{y}$, $u_1 = f_y/m$, $\lambda = f_e$, $u_2 = -f_x$ (being $N = 2$, $M = 1$, $N - M = 1$)



Compliant contact situation

a second possible modeling choice for softer environments



compliance/impedance control (in all directions) is here a good choice that allows to handle

- uncertain position
- uncertain orientation of the wall

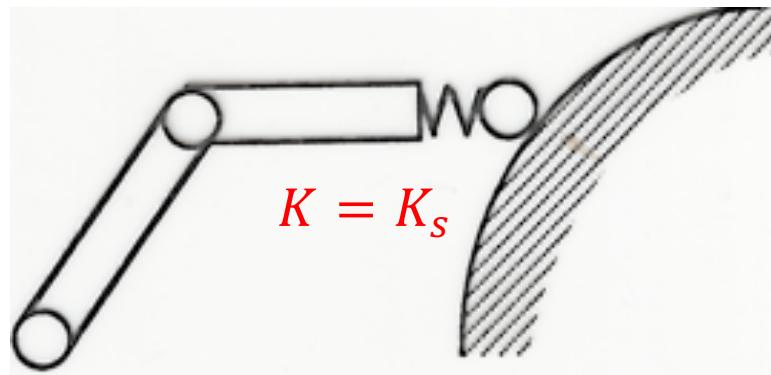
$$\begin{cases} m\ddot{x} = f_x + f_e \\ m\ddot{y} = f_y \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x < c & \rightarrow f_e = 0 \\ x \geq c & \rightarrow f_e = K_e(x - c) \end{cases}$$

with $K_e > 0$ being the **stiffness** of the environment



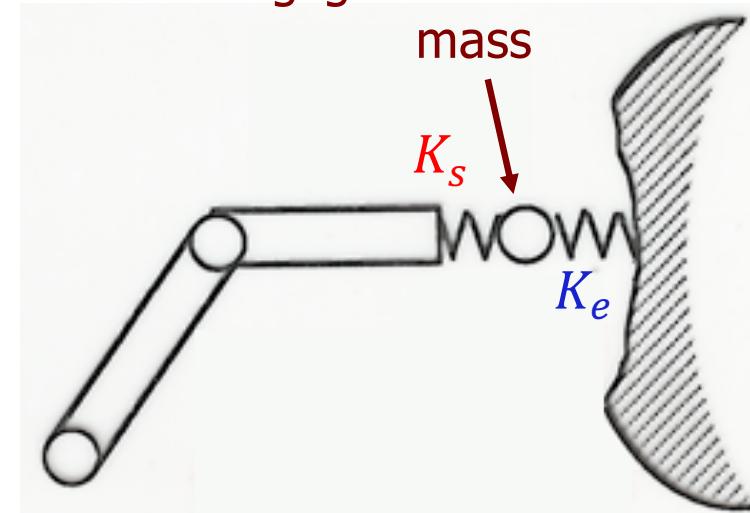
Robot-environment contact types modeled by a single elastic constant

compliant
force sensor



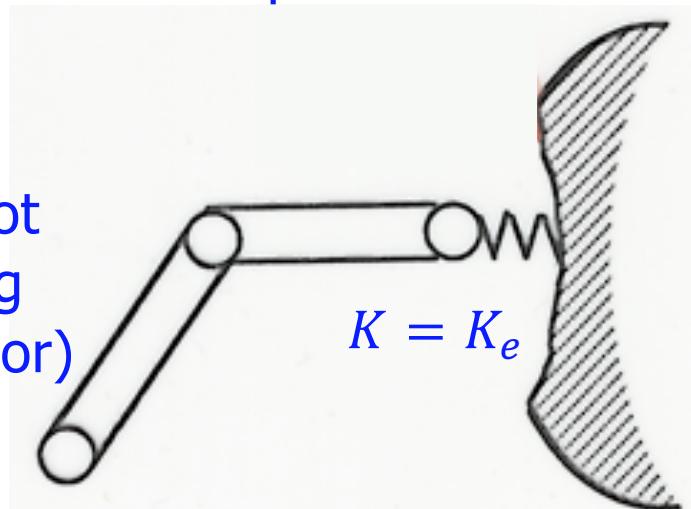
rigid environment

negligible intermediate
mass



compliant environment

rigid robot
(including
force sensor)



$$\frac{1}{K} = \frac{1}{K_s} + \frac{1}{K_e} \rightarrow K = \frac{K_s K_e}{K_s + K_e}$$

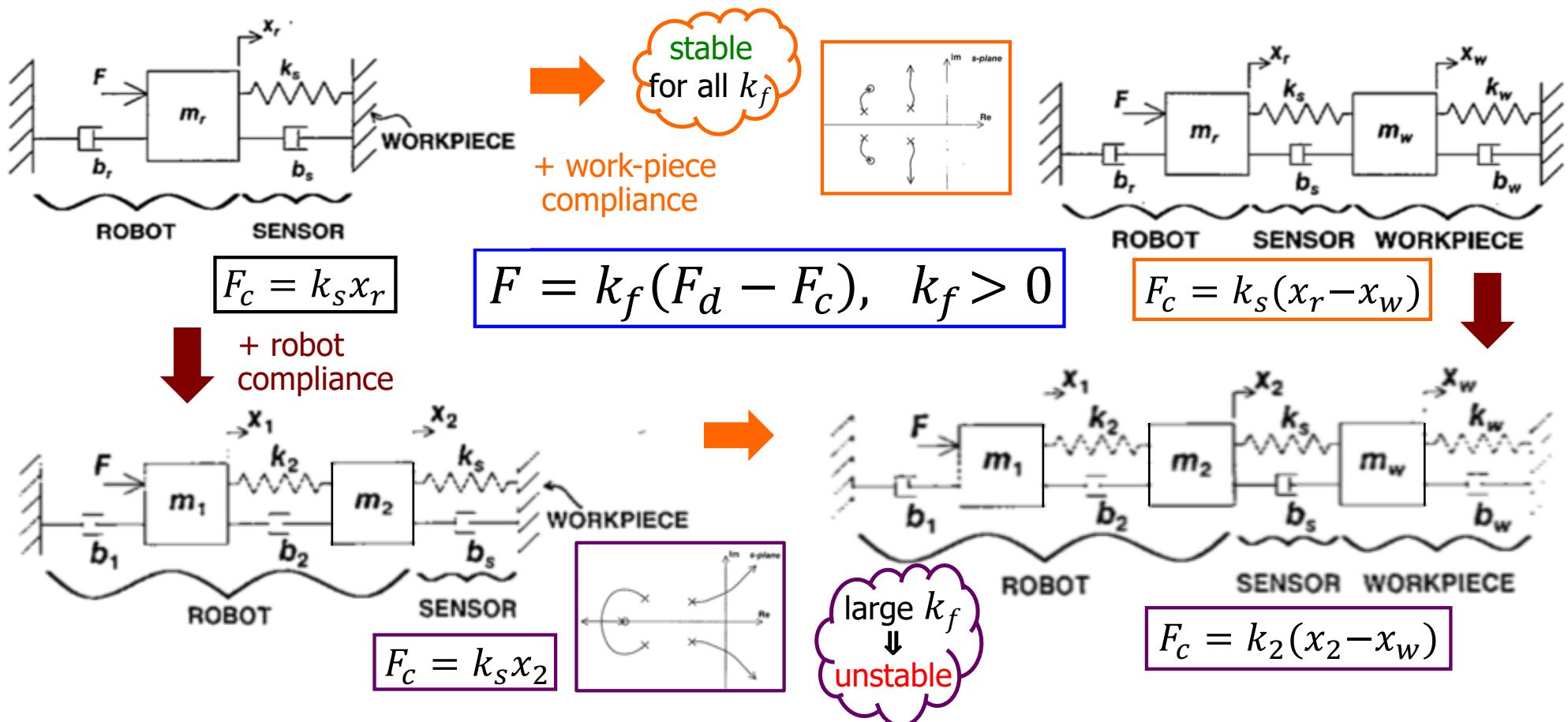
series of springs =
sum of compliances
(inverse of stiffnesses)



Force control

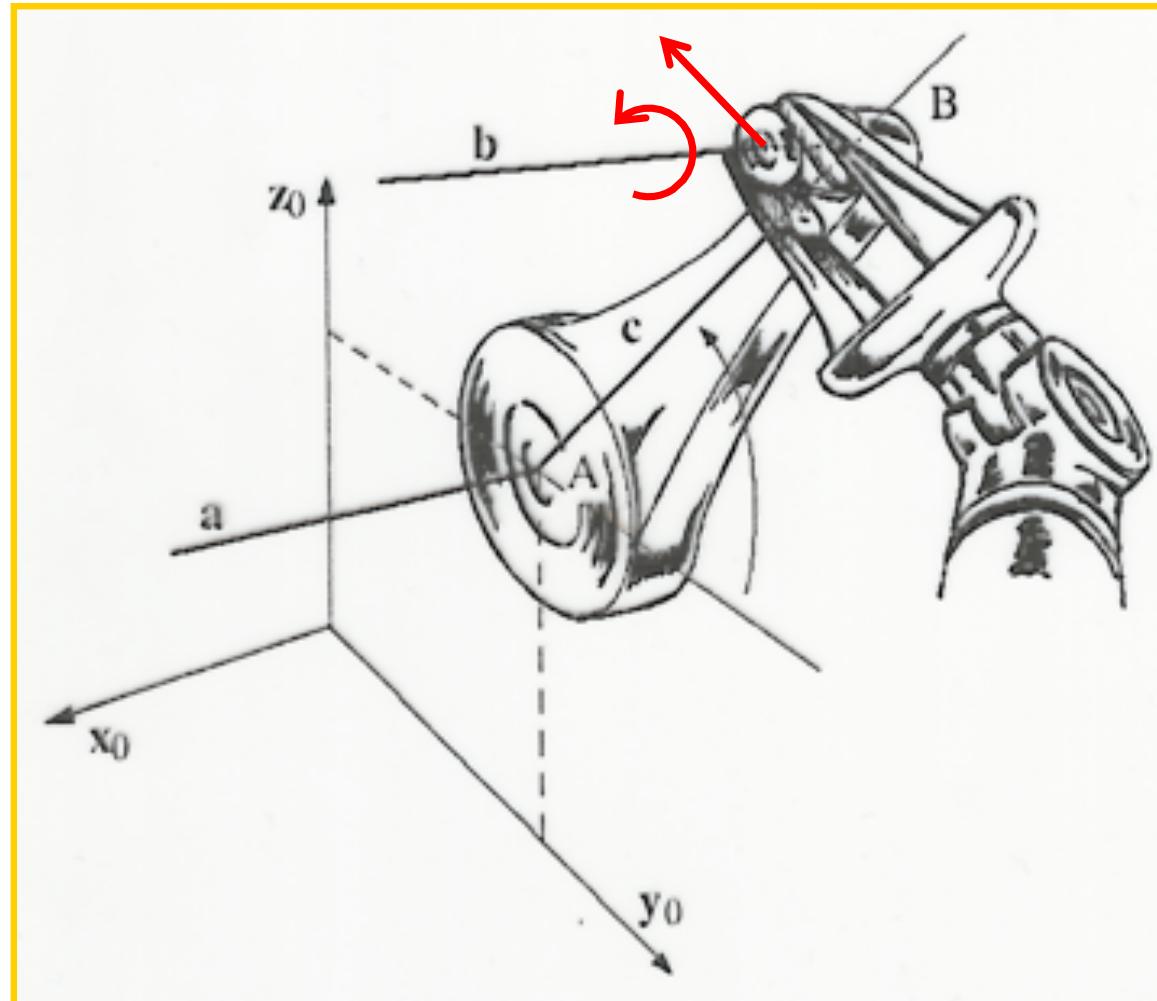
1-dof robot-environment linear dynamic models

- with a **force sensor** (having stiffness k_s and damping b_s) measuring the contact force F_c
- stability** analysis of a **proportional** control loop for regulation of the contact force (to a desired constant value F_d) can be made using the **root-locus method** (for a varying k_f)
- by including/excluding **work-piece compliance** and/or robot (transmission) compliance





Tasks requiring hybrid control



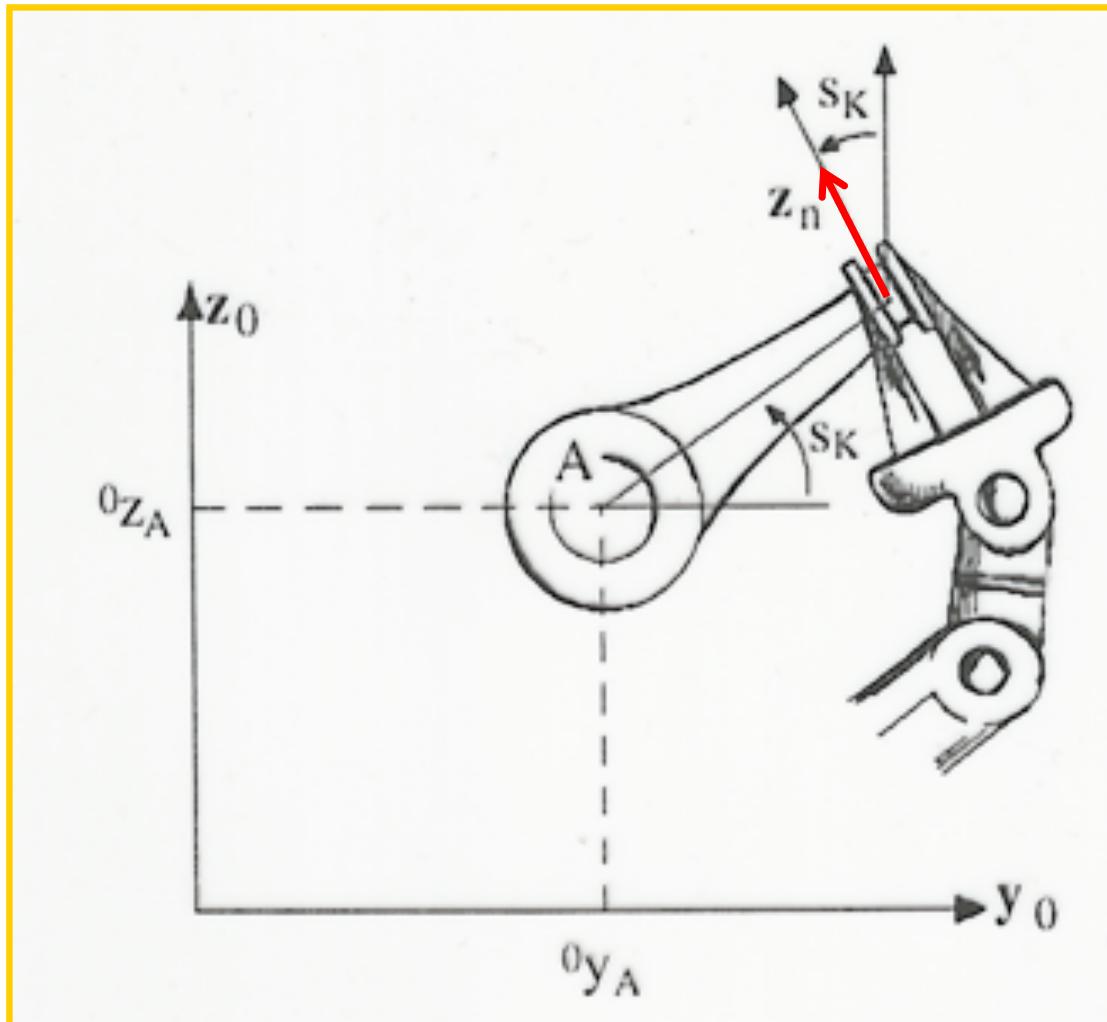
two generalized directions of instantaneous free motion at the contact:
tangential velocity & angular velocity around handle axis

↔
four directions of generalized reaction forces at the contact

the robot should turn a crank having a **free-spinning** handle



Tasks requiring hybrid control



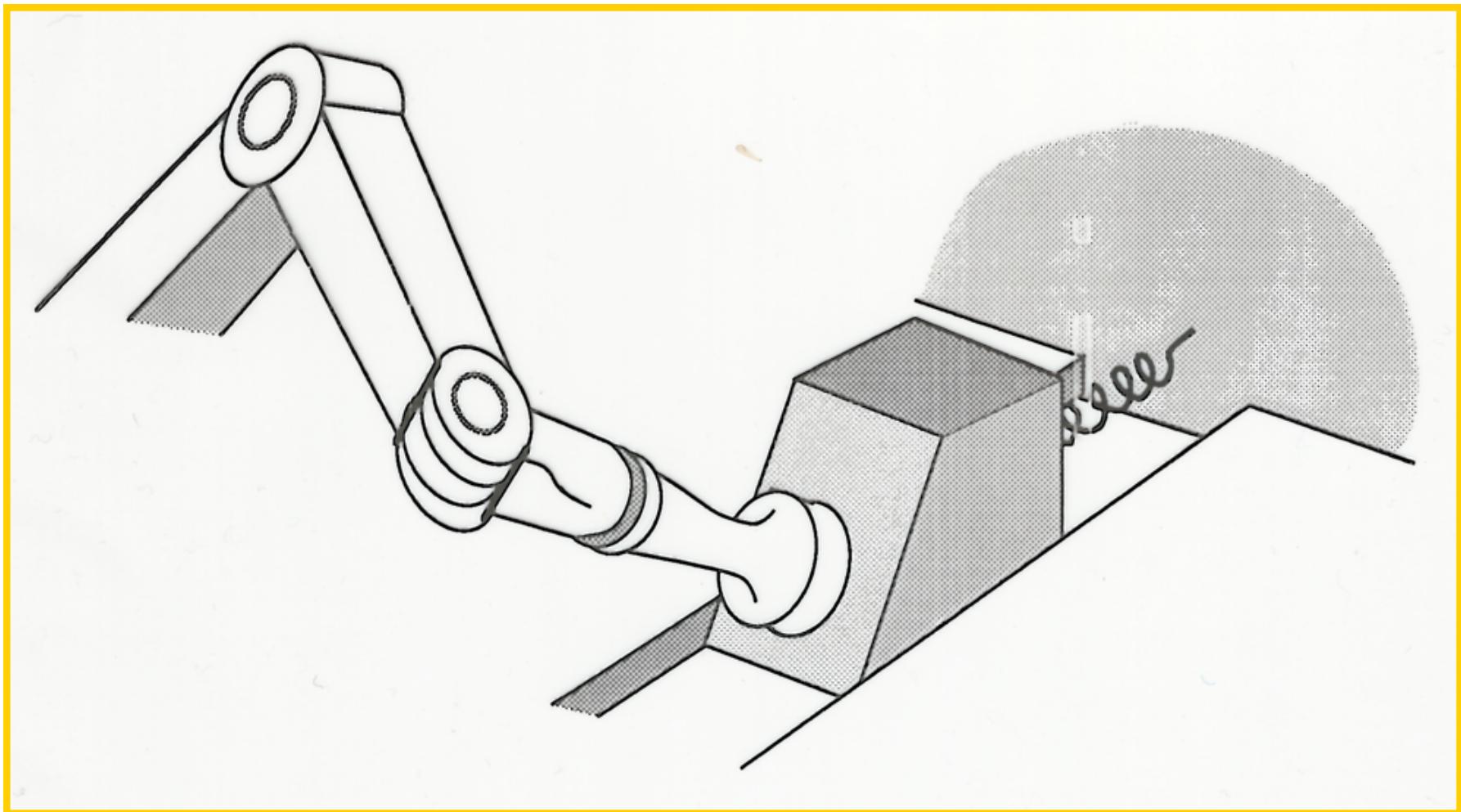
one direction only
of instantaneous
free motion
at the contact:
tangential velocity

↔
five directions
of generalized
reaction forces
at the contact

the robot should turn a crank
having a **fixed handle**



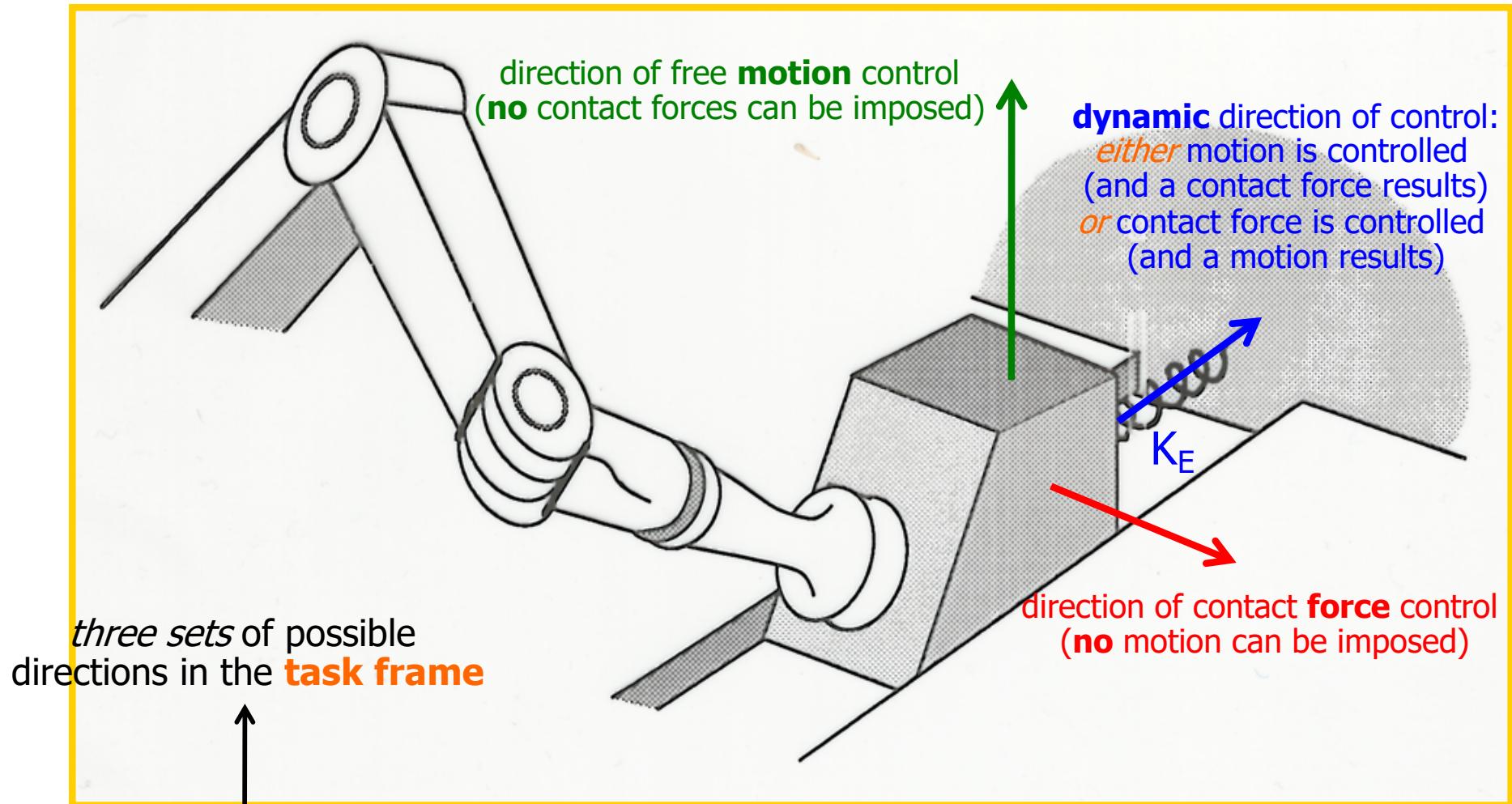
Tasks requiring hybrid control



the robot should push a mass
elastically coupled to a wall and constrained in a guide



Tasks requiring hybrid control



generalized **hybrid** modeling and control for **dynamic** environments

A. De Luca, C. Manes: IEEE Trans. Robotics and Automation, vol. 10, no. 4, 1994