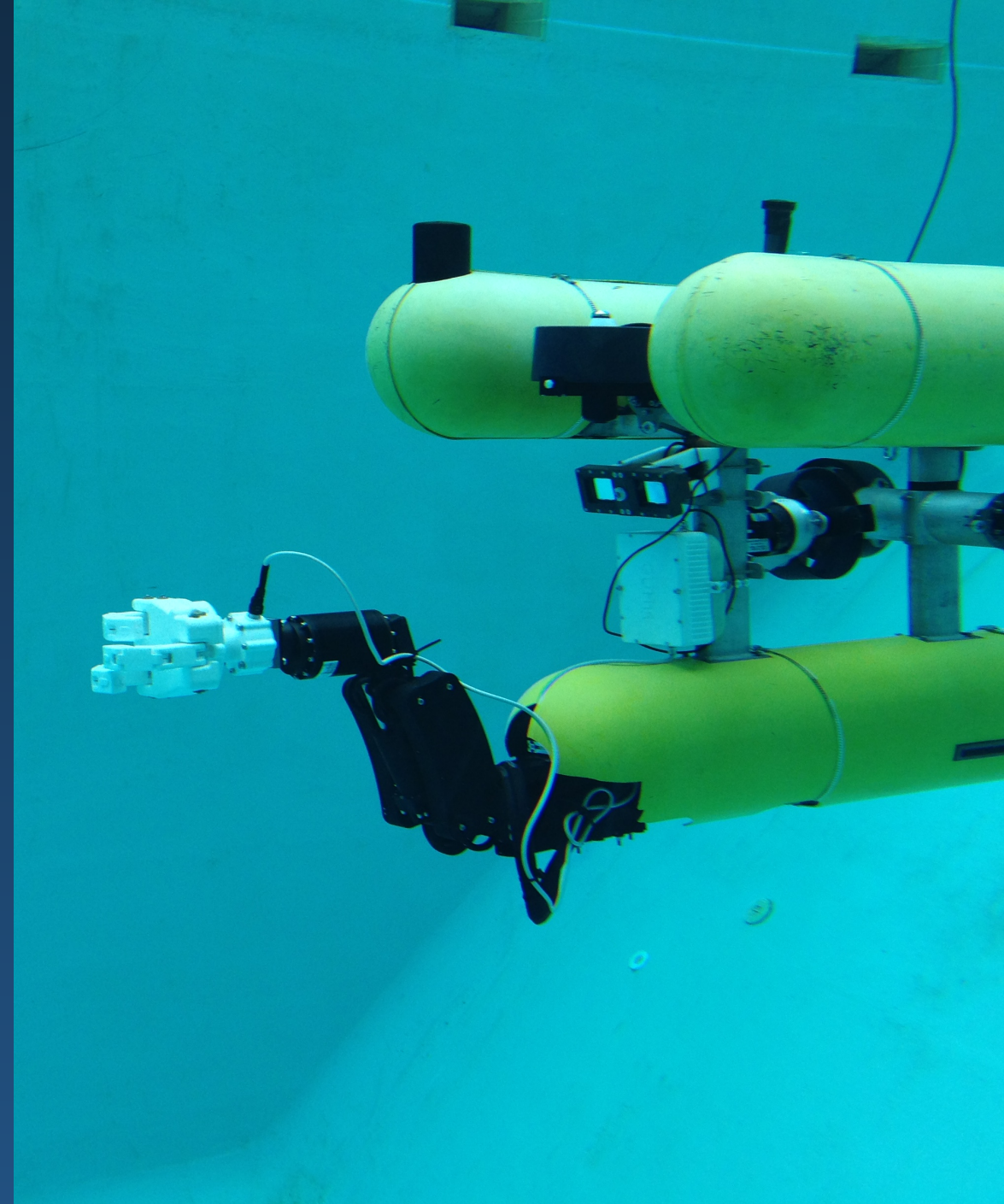


# HANDS-ON INTERVENTION: *Vehicle-Manipulator Systems*

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## Lecture 3: Task-Priority kinematic control (part 1)

## 1. Control problem

- 1.1. Redundancy with respect to task
- 1.2. Null space motions

## 2. Redundancy resolution

- 2.1. Task-Priority algorithm
- 2.2. Recursive TP formulation

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- 3.5. Joint position task

## 4. Practical extensions

- 4.1. Velocity scaling/limiting
- 4.2. Solution weighting

## 1.1. Control problem: Redundancy with respect to task

### Redundancy

Task variable  $\sigma_i = \sigma_i(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m_i}$   Task dimension

Task definition  $\dot{x}_i = \dot{\sigma}_i + K_i \tilde{\sigma}_i$   $\tilde{\sigma}_i = \sigma_{i,d} - \sigma_i$   $J_i = J_i(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

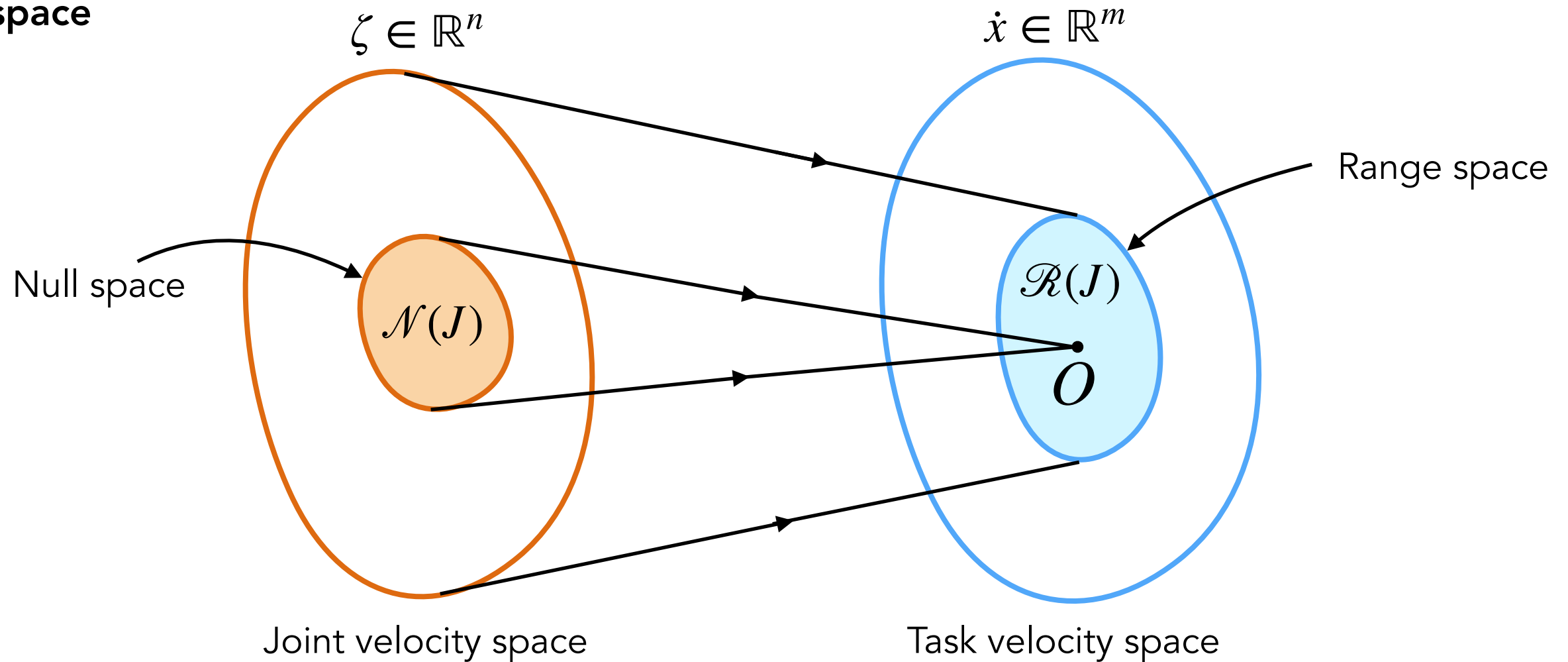
Configuration vector  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^n$   DOF

If  $n > m_i$  robot is kinematically redundant with respect to task  $i$

- The robot possesses more degrees of freedom that are necessary to perform the task
- The robot can achieve more dexterous motions
- In case of failure of one of the joints it can be possible to still complete the task
- A null space of the Jacobian can be used to realise additional tasks
- The Jacobian matrix for the task is not square (classic inverse cannot be used!)

## 1.1. Control problem: Redundancy with respect to task

### Null space



- The **range space** of  $J$  is the subspace  $\mathcal{R}(J)$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , i.e., a set of task velocities that can be generated by the joint velocity space, in a given robot configuration
- The **null space** of  $J$  is the subspace  $\mathcal{N}(J)$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , i.e., a set of joint velocities that does not produce any velocity in the task space, in a given robot configuration

$$\dim(\mathcal{R}(J)) + \dim(\mathcal{N}(J)) = n$$

## 1.2. Control problem: Null space motions

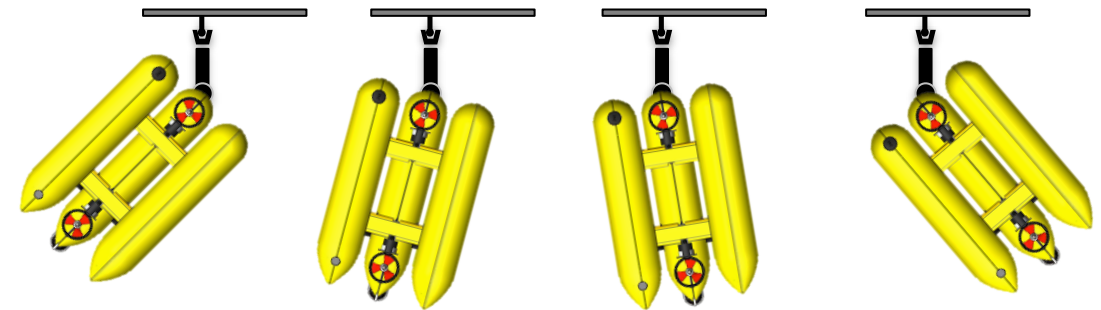
### Solution for redundant systems

$$\zeta = J^\dagger(\mathbf{q})\dot{x}_E + \underbrace{\left(I - J^\dagger(\mathbf{q})J(\mathbf{q})\right)}_{\text{Arbitrary velocity vector}} \mathbf{y}$$

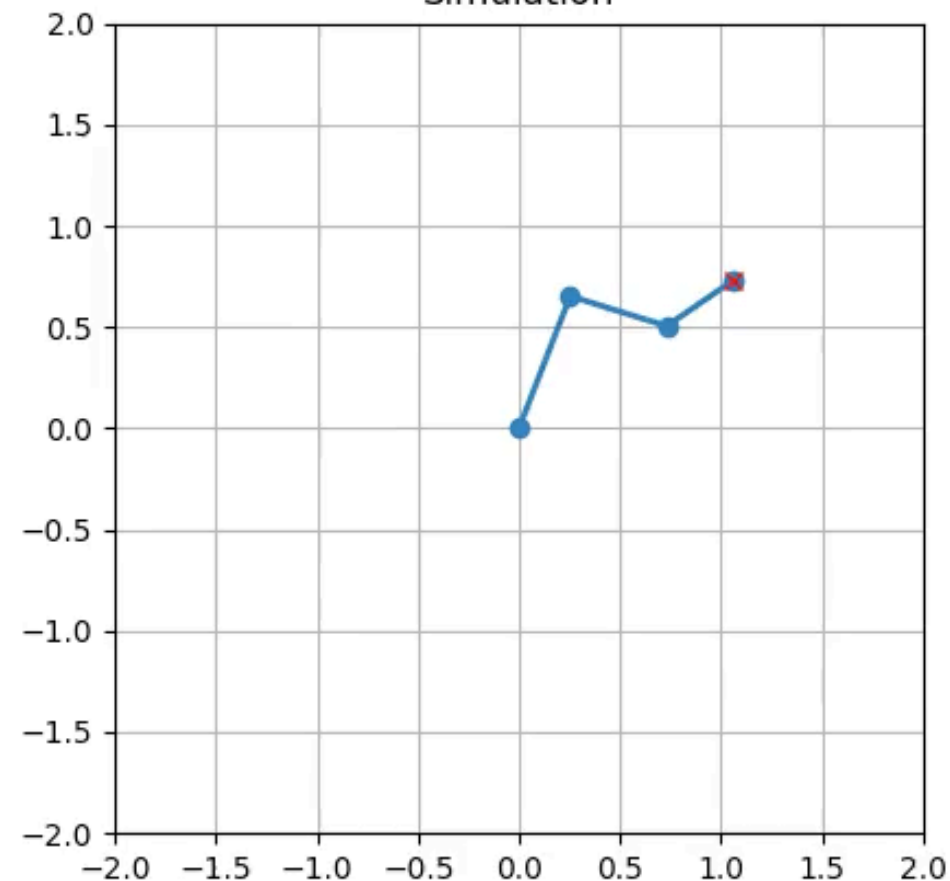
$$P = \left(I - J^\dagger(\mathbf{q})J(\mathbf{q})\right) \quad \text{Null space projector}$$

Non-zero if the system is redundant  
with respect to the task

Null space motions (or internal motions)



Simulation



## 2.1. Redundancy resolution: Task-Priority algorithm

### How to take profit of the system's redundancy?

- Use the null space motions to perform secondary tasks without affecting the primary one
- Define a list of prioritised tasks
- Build an algorithm that can combine any number of prioritised tasks

### Task hierarchy

**Priority 1** (primary task)

$$\dot{x}_1 = J_1(\mathbf{q})\zeta_1$$

**Priority 2** (secondary task)

$$\dot{x}_2 = J_2(\mathbf{q})\zeta_2$$

⋮

**Priority i** (least important task)

$$\dot{x}_i = J_i(\mathbf{q})\zeta_i$$

e.g.

End-effector pose

Camera FOV

Preferred arm configuration

### Combining tasks

Single task

$$\zeta = J_1^\dagger \dot{x}_1 + \underbrace{\left( I - J_1^\dagger J_1 \right)}_{P_1} y$$

Arbitrary velocity (space for secondary task)

Two tasks

$$\zeta = J_1^\dagger \dot{x}_1 + \bar{J}_2^\dagger \left( \dot{x}_2 - J_2(J_1^\dagger \dot{x}_1) \right) + \left( I - \bar{J}_2^\dagger \bar{J}_2 \right) z \quad \bar{J}_2 = J_2(I - J_1^\dagger J_1) = J_2 P_1$$



## 2.2. Redundancy resolution: Recursive TP formulation

### The algorithm

Input: List of tasks  $\{J_i(\mathbf{q}), \dot{x}_i(\mathbf{q})\}, \quad i \in 1 \dots k$

Output: Quasi-velocities  $\zeta_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$

1 Initialise:  $\zeta_0 = \mathbf{0}^n, \quad P_0 = I^{n \times n}$

2 **for**  $i \in 1 \dots k$

3  $\bar{J}_i(\mathbf{q}) = J_i(\mathbf{q})P_{i-1}$

4  $\zeta_i = \zeta_{i-1} + \bar{J}_i^\dagger(\mathbf{q})(\dot{x}_i(\mathbf{q}) - J_i(\mathbf{q})\zeta_{i-1})$

5  $P_i = P_{i-1} - \bar{J}_i^\dagger(\mathbf{q})\bar{J}_i(\mathbf{q})$

6 **end for**

7 **return**  $\zeta_k$

Task **Jacobians** and **desired velocities** have to be updated based on **current system state** before running the algorithm!

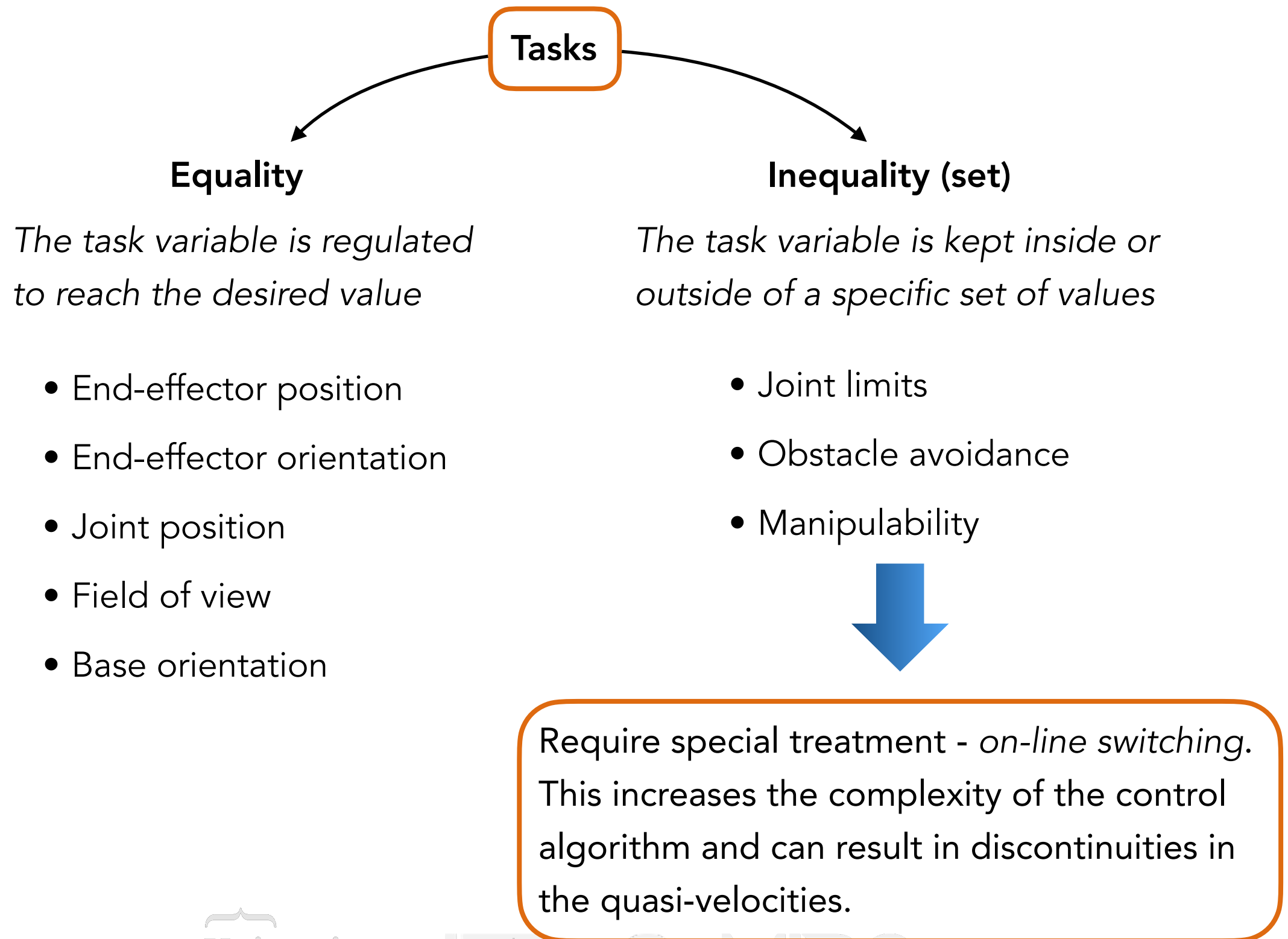
$k$  number of tasks

$n$  number of robot DOF

**DLS can be used** instead of pseudoinverse.

**Pseudoinverse has to be used** in the update of the null space projector! Using DLS will result in violation of task priorities.

## 3.1. Tasks: Equality & inequality





## 3.2. Tasks: End-effector position task

### Task definition

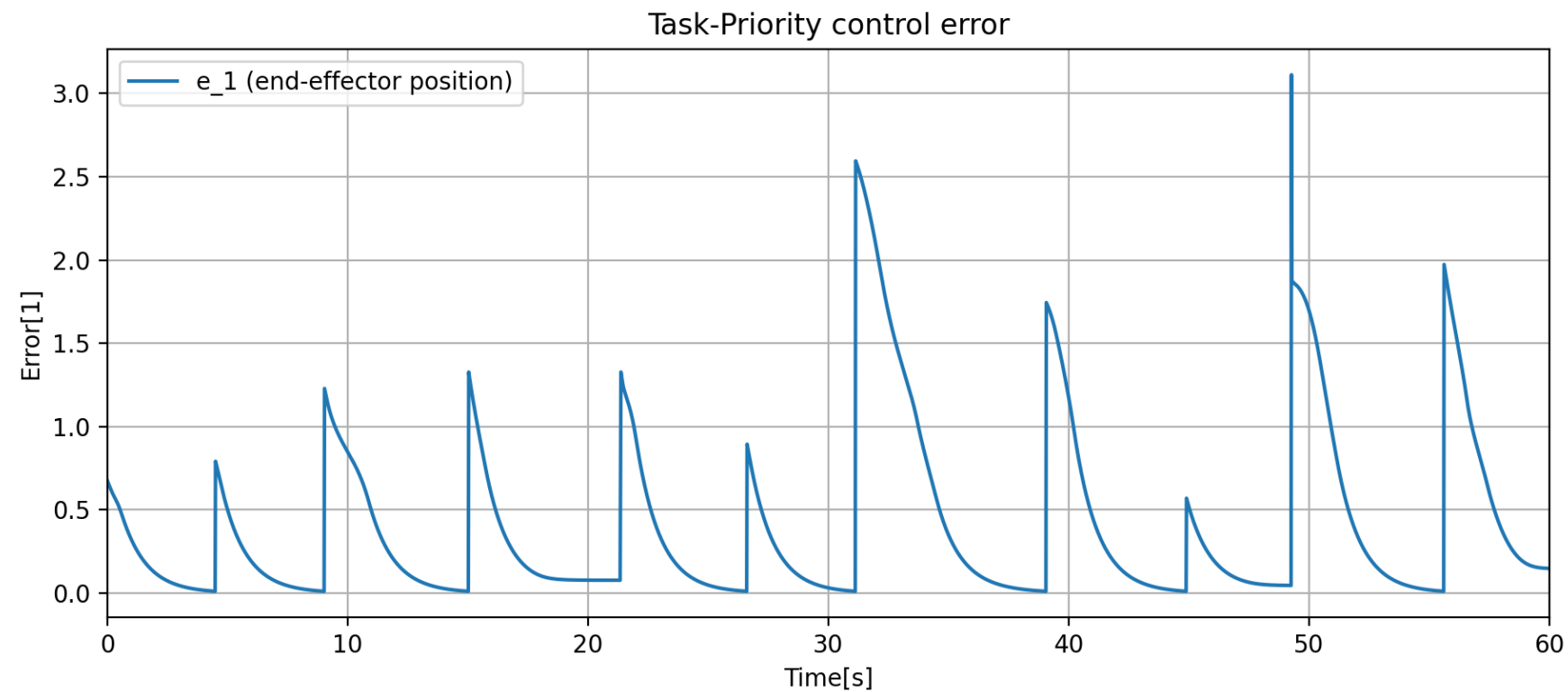
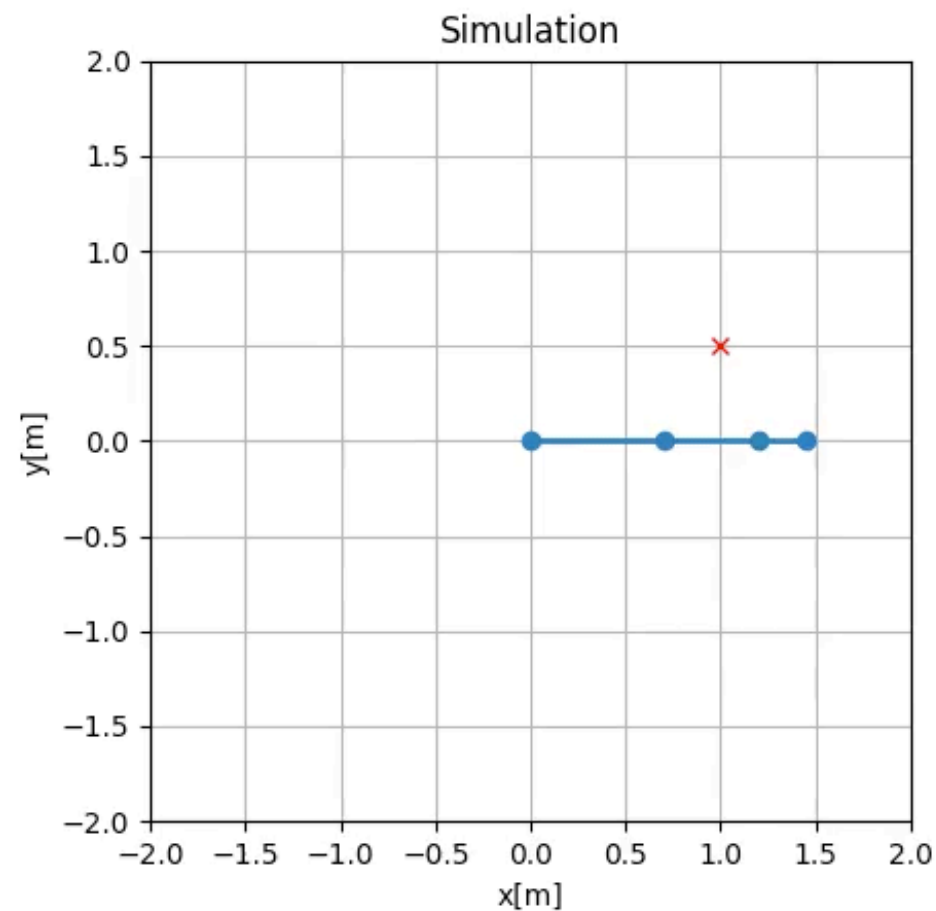
$$\sigma_p = \sigma_p(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 1}$$

Linear velocity part of the end-effector Jacobian (3 top rows)

$$\sigma_p = \eta_1 = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{\sigma}_p = \eta_{1,d} - \eta_1$$

$$J_p = J_p(\mathbf{q}) = J_v(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times n}$$



### 3.3. Tasks: End-effector orientation task

#### Quaternion

Quaternion  $Q = \{w, \epsilon\}$

Vector part of the quaternion  $\epsilon = [x, y, z]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$

$w \in \mathbb{R}$

Does not suffer from gimbal lock like the RPY representation!

$w = \cos \frac{\vartheta}{2}$

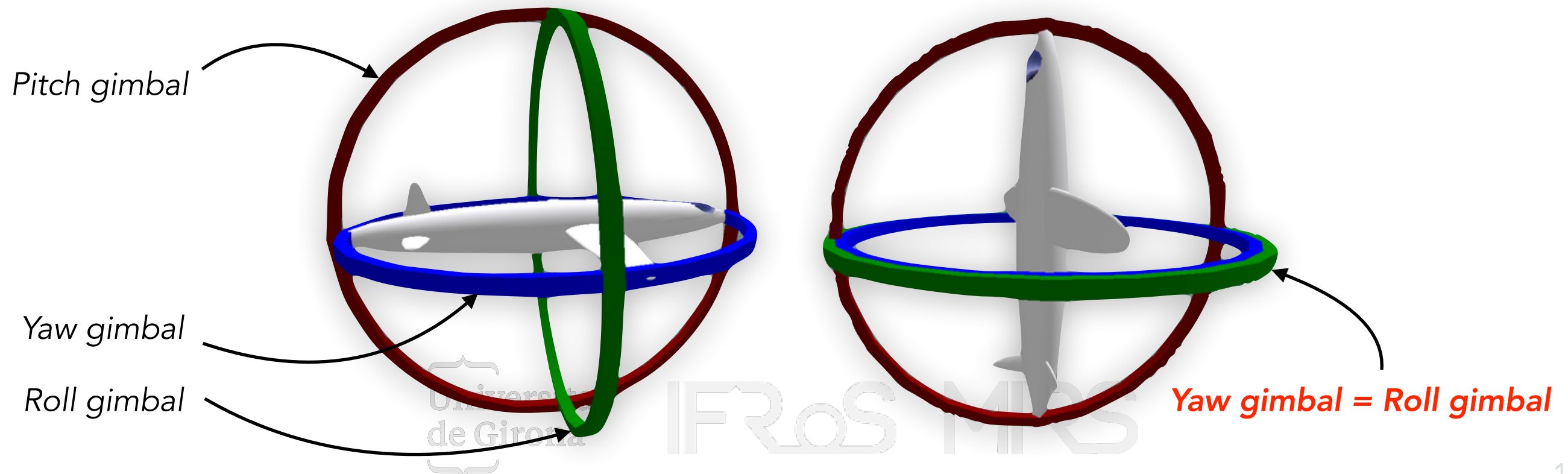
$\epsilon = \sin \frac{\vartheta}{2} \hat{r}$

$w^2 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$

Rotation axis

#### Gimbal lock

The **problem** can occur when using the **roll-pitch-yaw** (RPY) **representation** when describing **orientation in 3D space**. It manifests by the **alignment of rotation axes** (virtual gimbals).



### 3.3. Tasks: End-effector orientation task

#### Quaternion properties

Equivalence  $\{w, \epsilon\} \equiv \{-w, -\epsilon\}$

Inverse  $Q^{-1} = \{w, -\epsilon\}$  quaternion extracted from  $R^{-1} = R^T$

Product  $Q_1 * Q_2 = \{w_1 w_2 - \epsilon_1^T \epsilon_2, w_1 \epsilon_2 + w_2 \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_1 \times \epsilon_2\}$  corresponding to  $R_1 R_2$

#### Quaternion from rotation matrix

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$w = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{r_{11} + r_{22} + r_{33} + 1}$$
$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \text{sgn}(r_{32} - r_{23}) \sqrt{r_{11} - r_{22} - r_{33} + 1} \\ \text{sgn}(r_{13} - r_{31}) \sqrt{r_{22} - r_{33} - r_{11} + 1} \\ \text{sgn}(r_{21} - r_{12}) \sqrt{r_{33} - r_{11} - r_{22} + 1} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\text{sgn}(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \geq 0 \\ -1, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

### 3.3. Tasks: End-effector orientation task

#### Attitude error representation

Rotation matrix from the **current end-effector frame** to the world frame  ${}^0R_B \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3} \rightarrow Q = \{w, \epsilon\}$

Rotation matrix from the frame expressing the **desired end-effector orientation** to the world frame  ${}^0R_d \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3} \rightarrow Q_d = \{w_d, \epsilon_d\}$

Rotation matrix that aligns the frames  $\tilde{R} = {}^0R_B^T {}^0R_d = {}^BR_0 {}^0R_d$

In quaternion sense  $\tilde{Q} = Q^{-1} * Q_d$   
 $\tilde{Q} = \{\tilde{w}, \tilde{\epsilon}\} = \{ww_d + \epsilon^T \epsilon_d, w\epsilon_d - w_d\epsilon - \epsilon \times \epsilon_d\}$

Since for aligned frames  $\tilde{R} = I^{3 \times 3} \rightarrow \tilde{Q} = \{1, 0\}$  it is sufficient to represent the attitude error as  $\tilde{\epsilon}$ .

#### Task definition

$$\sigma_o = \sigma_o(q) \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 1}$$

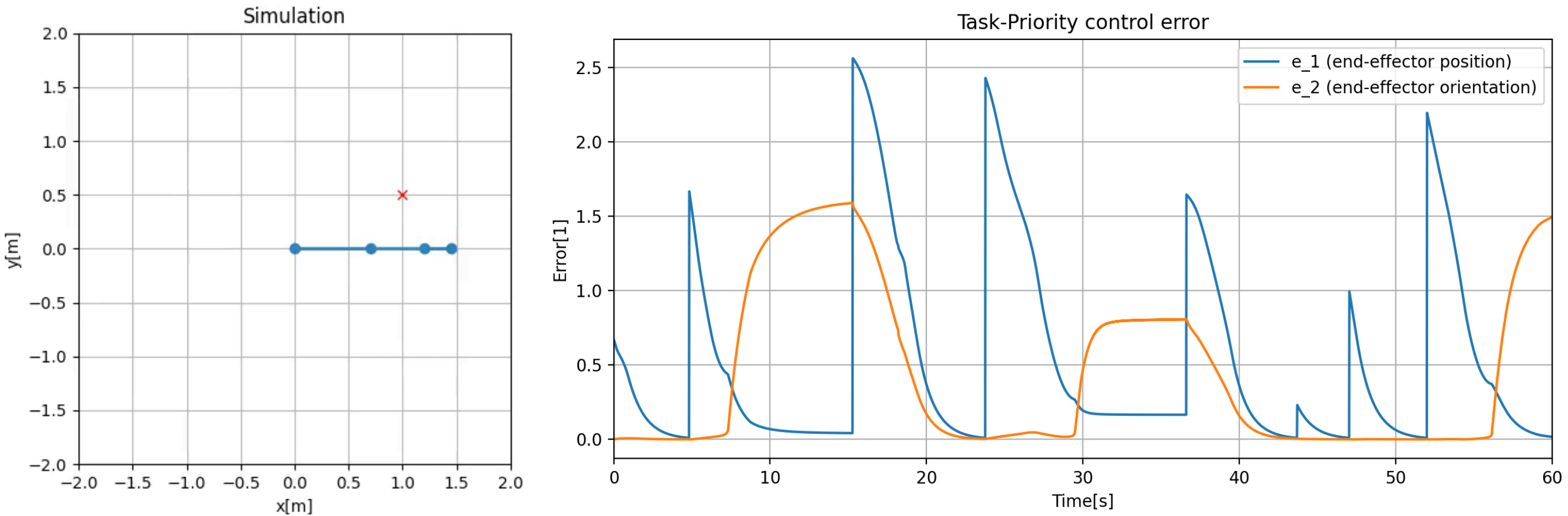
Angular velocity part of the end-effector Jacobian (3 bottom rows)

$$\tilde{\sigma}_o = w\epsilon_d - w_d\epsilon - \epsilon \times \epsilon_d$$

$$J_o = J_o(q) = J_\omega(q) \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times n}$$

### 3.3. Tasks: End-effector orientation task

#### End-effector orientation task at the second priority level



## 3.4. Tasks: End-effector configuration task

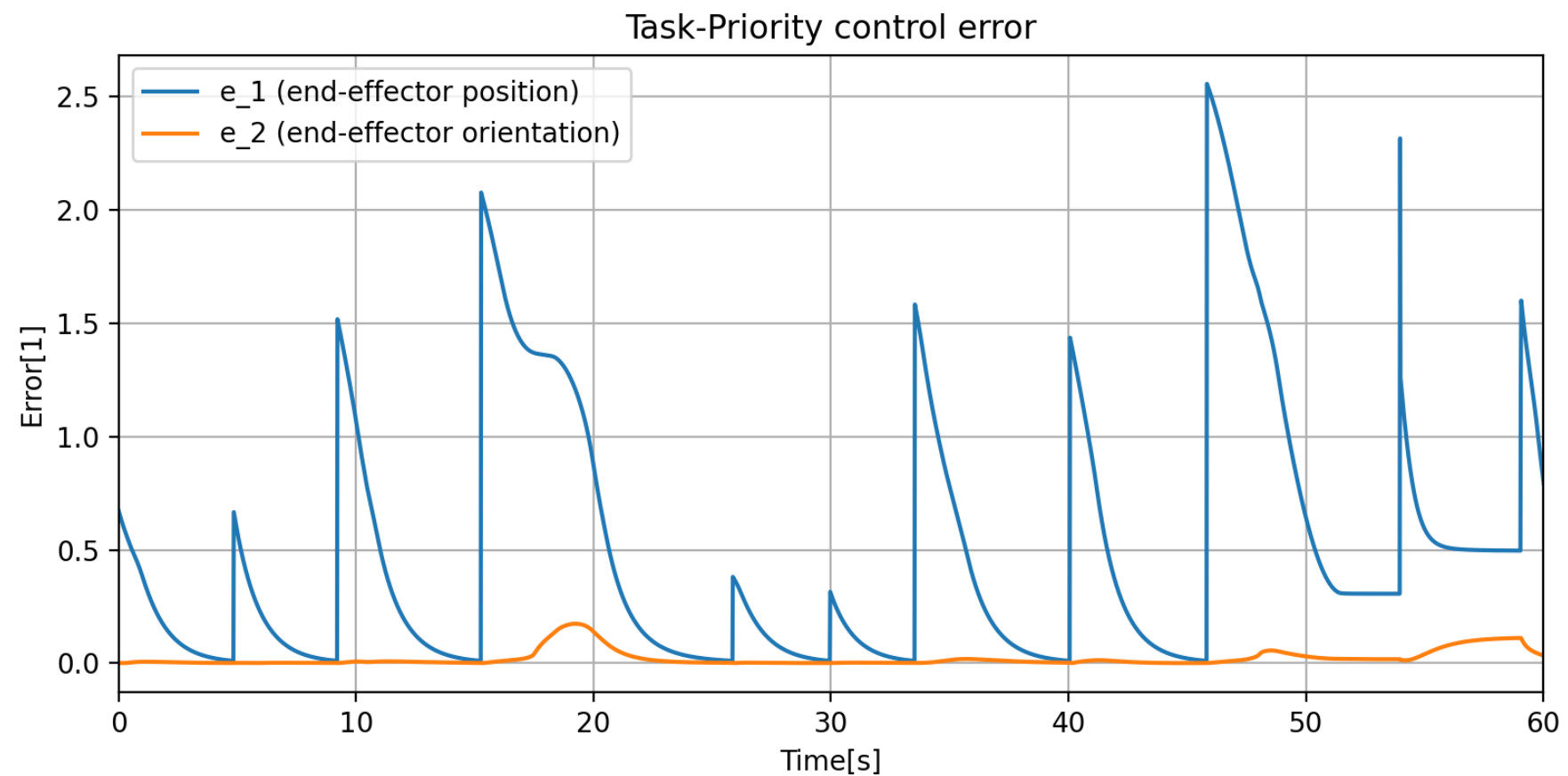
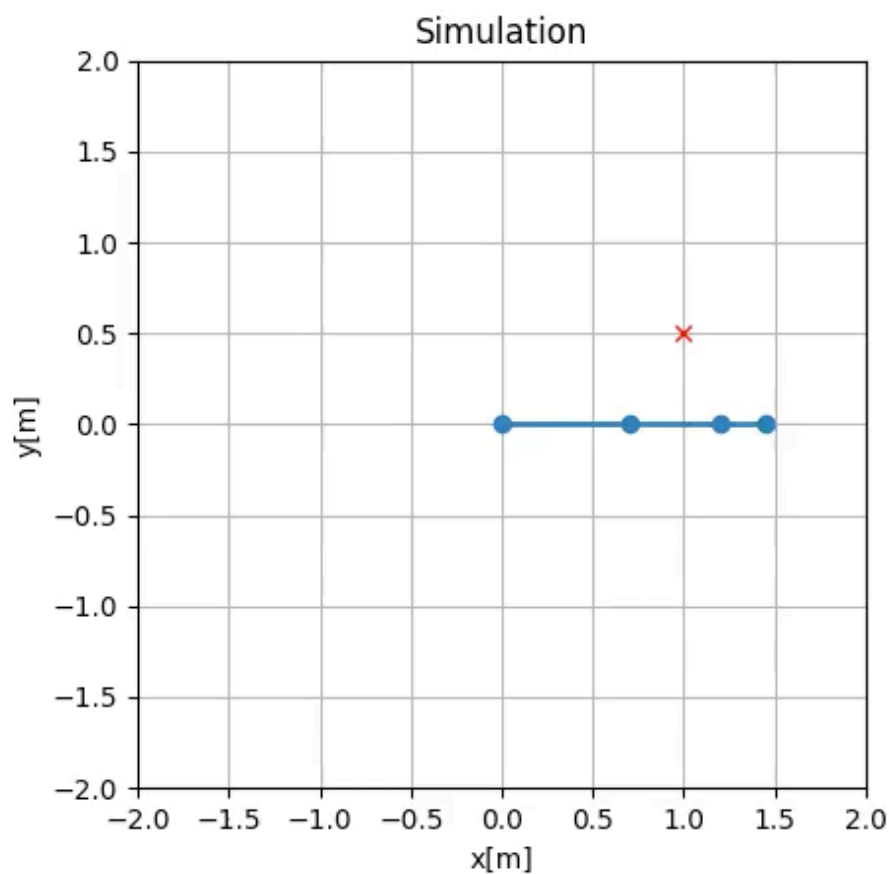
### Task definition

$$\sigma_c = \sigma_c(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 1}$$

$$\tilde{\sigma}_c = \begin{bmatrix} \eta_{1,d} - \eta_1 \\ w\epsilon_d - w_d\epsilon - \epsilon \times \epsilon_d \end{bmatrix}$$

Full end-effector Jacobian

$$J_c = J_c(\mathbf{q}) = J(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times n}$$



## 3.5. Tasks: Joint position task

### Task definition

$$\sigma_{ji} = \sigma_{ji}(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}$$

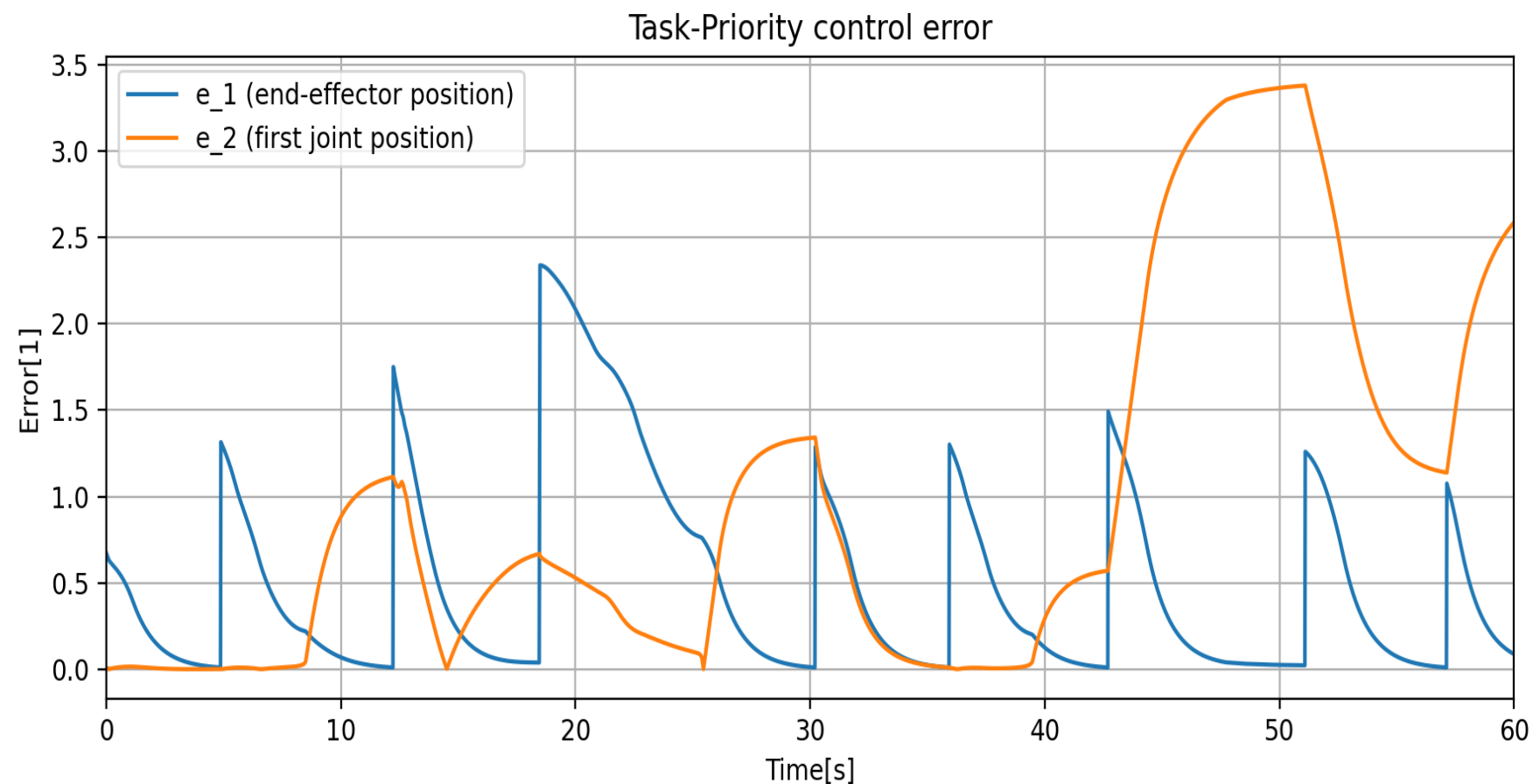
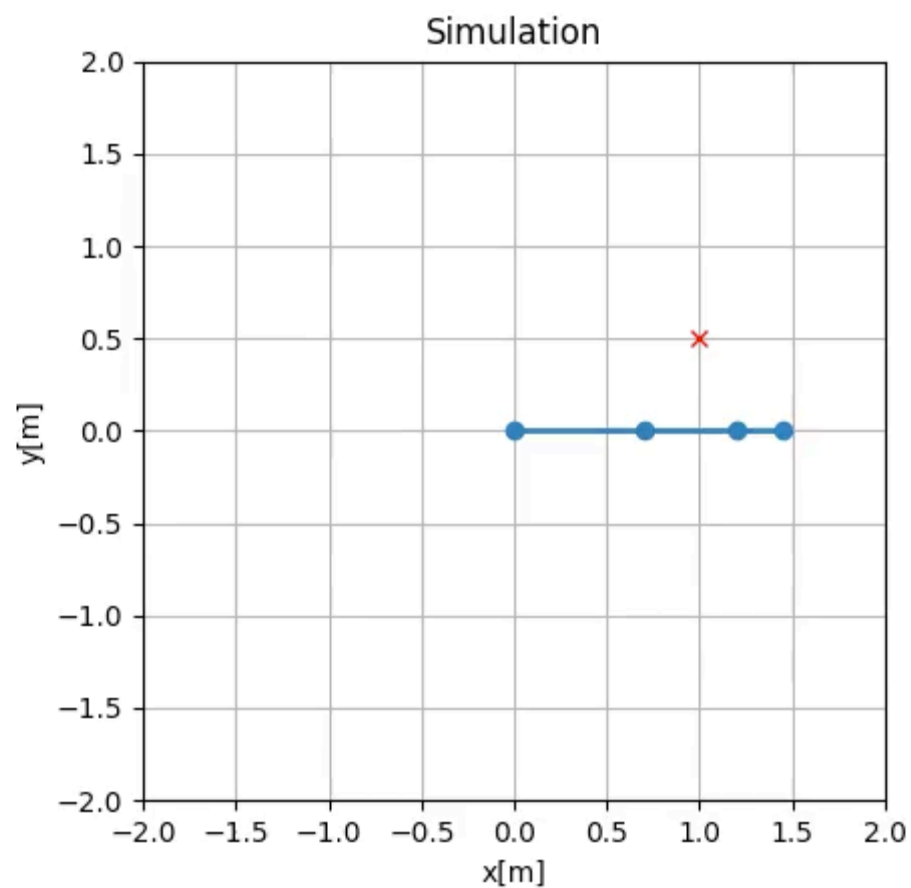
$$\tilde{\sigma}_{ji} = \sigma_{ji,d} - \sigma_{ji}$$

Single-entry row matrix



$$J_{ji} = [0, 0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0] \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n}$$

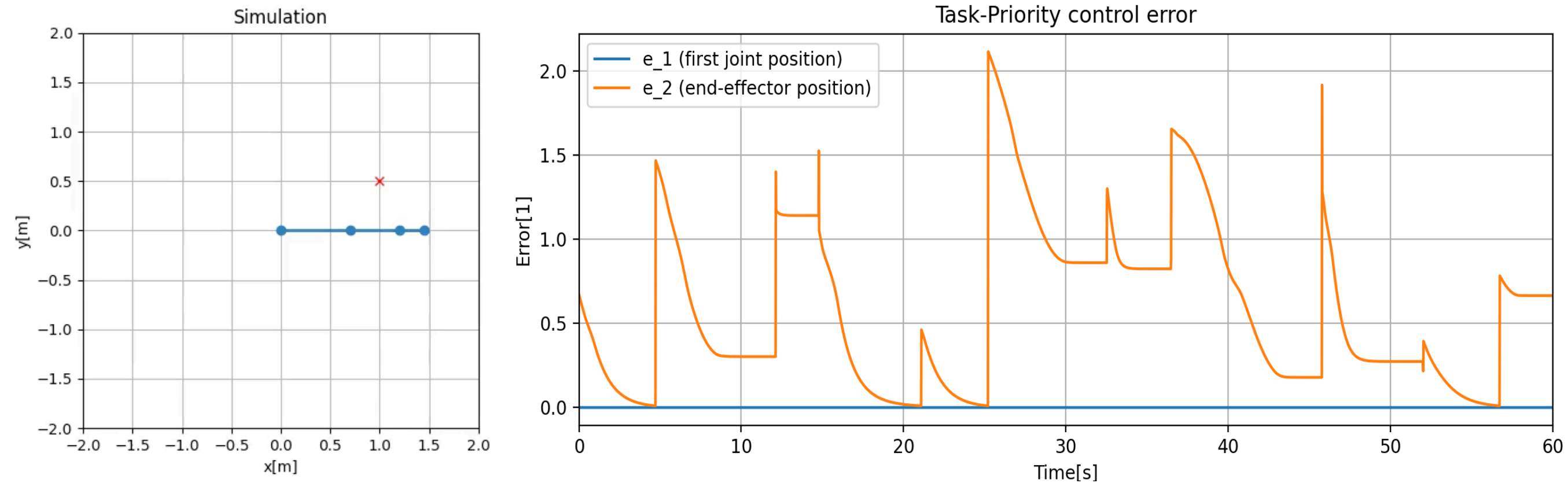
### Joint position task at the second priority level





## 3.5. Tasks: Joint position task

### Joint position task at the first priority level



## 4. Practical extensions: Velocity scaling/limiting

### Problem

The quasi-velocities being the **output of the Task-Priority algorithm** may **not** be **possible or safe to achieve** by the actual robotic platform. **Velocity limits** are commonly defined for each of the DOF, closely related to the performance of the utilised drives.

$$|\zeta_i| \leq \zeta_{i,\max} \quad i = 1 \dots n$$

### Solution

The **output quasi-velocities** have to be **scaled** to not exceed any of the velocity limits. The **ratios between the velocities** have to remain **identical** to not affect the solution of the algorithm (linearisation).

```
1   $s = \max_{i \in 1 \dots n} \left( \frac{|\zeta_i|}{\zeta_{i,\max}} \right)$ 
2  if  $s > 1$ 
3      return  $\frac{\zeta}{s}$ 
4  else
5      return  $\zeta$ 
6  end if
```

## 4. Practical extensions: Solution weighting

### Idea

Introduce a **modification to the Task-Priority algorithm** which allows for specifying which **DOF of the system** are the **preferred ones to be utilised**. This preference can result from optimising different parameters, e.g., set-point regulation time, energy consumption, accuracy, tracking performance etc.

### Solution

A **weighting matrix** can be introduced in the definition of the **Jacobian inverse function**, which will affect the resulting velocities by changing the **cost incurred** by using **specific DOF** of the robot.

*Weighting matrix*

$$W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \quad W = \text{diag}(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)$$

*The higher the weight the less preferred the use of the related DOF.*

*Pseudoinverse*

$$\zeta = J^\dagger(\mathbf{q})\dot{x}_E \quad \rightarrow \quad \zeta = W^{-1}J^T(\mathbf{q})\left(J(\mathbf{q})W^{-1}J^T(\mathbf{q})\right)^{-1}\dot{x}_E$$

*DLS*

$$\zeta = J^T(\mathbf{q})\left(J(\mathbf{q})J^T(\mathbf{q}) + \lambda^2 I\right)^{-1}\dot{x}_E$$

$$\rightarrow \zeta = W^{-1}J^T(\mathbf{q})\left(J(\mathbf{q})W^{-1}J^T(\mathbf{q}) + \lambda^2 I\right)^{-1}\dot{x}_E$$

## 4. Practical extensions: Solution weighting

### Example (mobile vehicle-manipulator system)

