

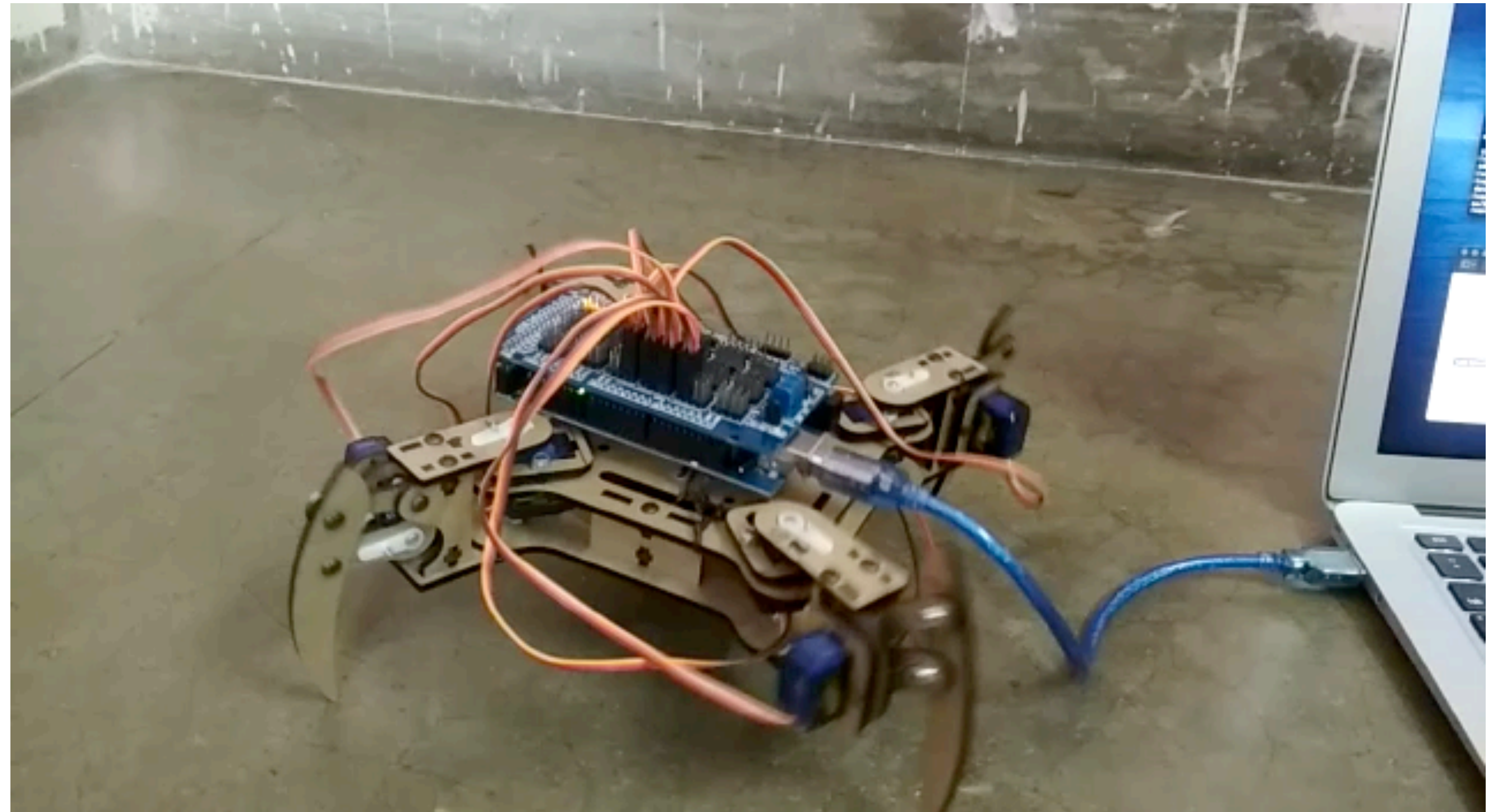
Gait Fitness Function Formulation

**Design of Control System for Quadraped using Central Pattern
Generators**

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Robot walking Video

Observe the tendency of the robot to topple towards the swinging leg



Gait Pattern

Pattern in use and problems with it

- This Gait Pattern obtained from the formulation in the figure is for a creep walk of the quadruped
- The robot walks with this Gait Pattern
- But the stability of the quadruped is not maintained
- The quadruped tends to topple towards the leg in swing phase

Hip Activations:

$$\theta_h(t) = \begin{cases} \theta_h \sin\left(\frac{(t - \frac{tT}{4})\pi}{\beta T} + \pi\right), & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \frac{\beta T}{2} \\ \theta_h \sin\left(\frac{(t - \frac{tT}{4})\pi}{(1 - \beta)T} + \frac{(3 - 4\beta)\pi}{2(1 - \beta)}\right), & \text{if } \frac{\beta T}{2} \leq t \leq \frac{T(2 - \beta)}{2} \\ \theta_h \sin\left(\frac{(t - \frac{tT}{4})\pi}{\beta T} + \frac{(\beta - 1)\pi}{\beta}\right), & \text{if } \frac{T(2 - \beta)}{2} \leq t \leq T \end{cases}$$

For $i \in \{0,1\}$

And

$$\theta_h(t) = \begin{cases} -\theta_h \sin\left(\frac{(t - \frac{tT}{4})\pi}{\beta T} + \pi\right), & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \frac{\beta T}{2} \\ -\theta_h \sin\left(\frac{(t - \frac{tT}{4})\pi}{(1 - \beta)T} + \frac{(3 - 4\beta)\pi}{2(1 - \beta)}\right), & \text{if } \frac{\beta T}{2} \leq t \leq \frac{T(2 - \beta)}{2} \\ -\theta_h \sin\left(\frac{(t - \frac{tT}{4})\pi}{\beta T} + \frac{(\beta - 1)\pi}{\beta}\right), & \text{if } \frac{T(2 - \beta)}{2} \leq t \leq T \end{cases}$$

For $i \in \{2,3\}$

Knee Activations:

$$\theta_k(t) = \begin{cases} \theta_k \sin\left(\frac{t\pi}{T(1 - \beta)} - \frac{\beta\pi}{2(1 - \beta)}\right), & \text{if } \dot{\theta}_h(t) \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

For $i \in \{0,1\}$

And

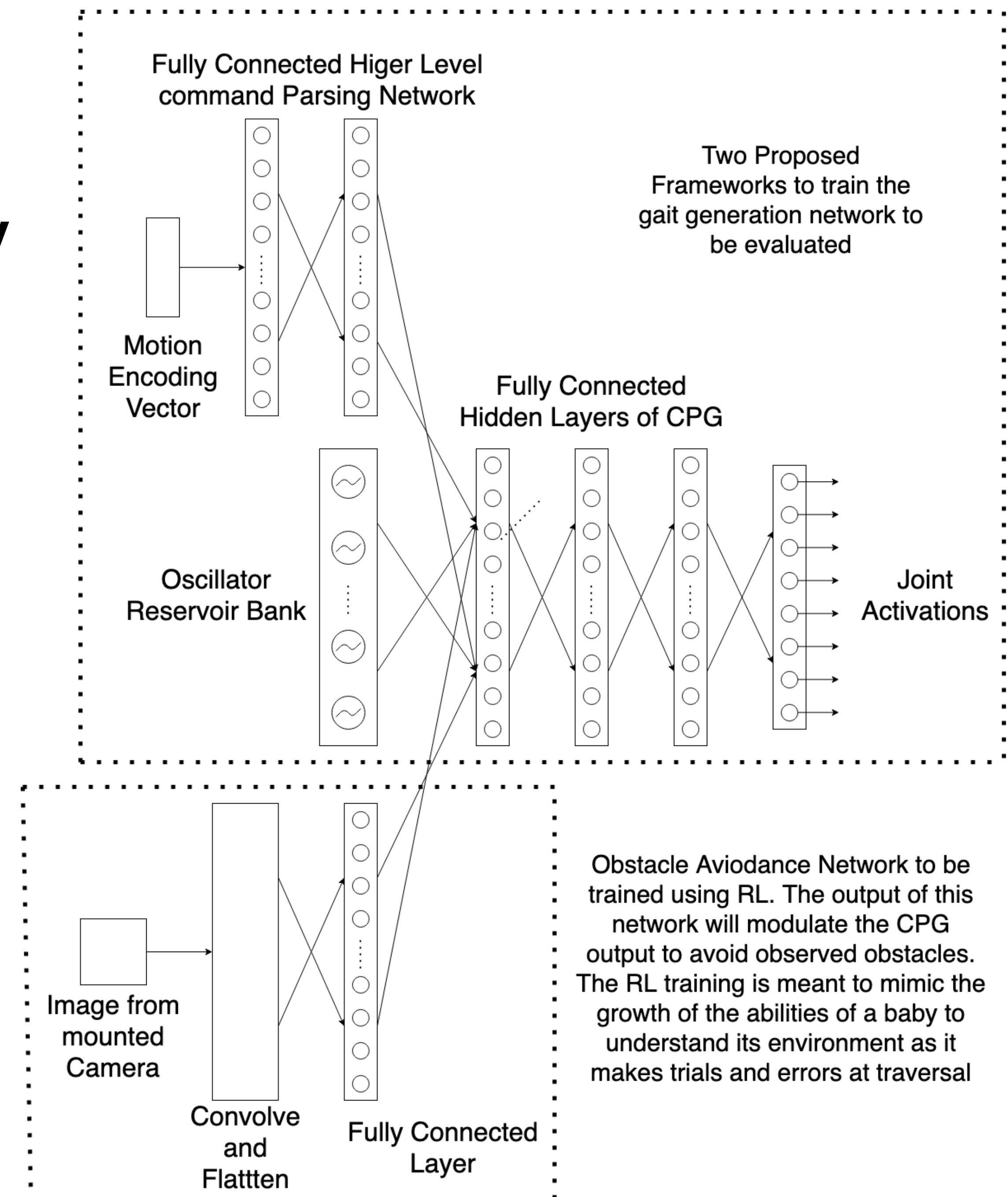
$$\theta_k(t) = \begin{cases} \theta_k \sin\left(\frac{t\pi}{T(1 - \beta)} - \frac{\beta\pi}{2(1 - \beta)}\right), & \text{if } \dot{\theta}_h(t) \leq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

For $i \in \{2,3\}$

Architecture

Proposed solution to ensure gait stability

- Two methods Proposed to train the gait generation network
- Train the gait generation network end to end using back props and then use RL training for improvement of gait
- Optimise Gait Patterns using fitness function, then train the network end to end using back prop



Fitness Function

Evaluation Criteria to measure stability, speed and energy consumption

- Both the aforementioned training frameworks require a Fitness Function [1]
- Fitness Function must measure the following
 - Stability Criteria, S
 - Speed Criteria, V
 - Energy Efficiency Criteria, E
- $F = \sum_{i=t-T}^t k_s S_i + k_v V_i + k_e E_i$ where
 - F is the Fitness Value
 - k_s , k_v and k_e are integer parameters to account for relative importance of each criteria
 - T is the gait period and t is the current time instance

Stability Criteria

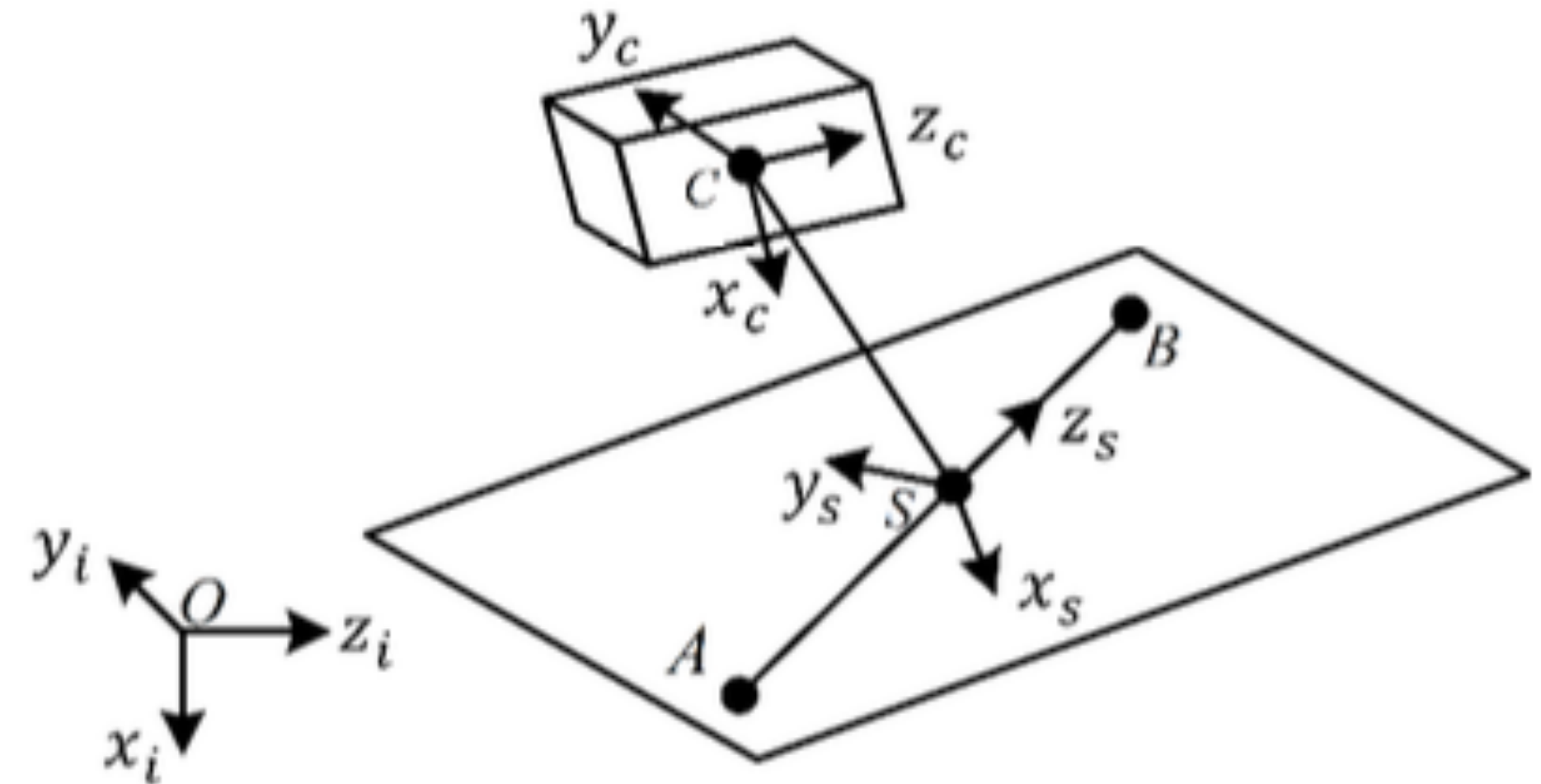
Evaluation of Dynamic and Static Stability of the Quadruped

- A Quantitative Measure of quadruped's dynamic stability
- The Criteria must not only take into account current stability but must also **anticipate the stability at the next time** instance, given the state of motion of the quadruped, like an animal does
- Yan Jia, Xiao Luo and others [2] in their paper propose a modified ZMP based stability evaluation criteria
- The main idea is that at a certain state, the motion of the robot is considered to be stable if the **torque caused by the ground-reaction force can prevent the robot from tumbling** around any support boundary

Stability Criteria

Coordinate Systems used

- There are two coordinate systems of interest-
 - The Inertial Coordinate system
 - The Support Coordinate system
- The Support Coordinate has z-axis along the support line AB and x axis perpendicular to the current support plane



Stability Criteria

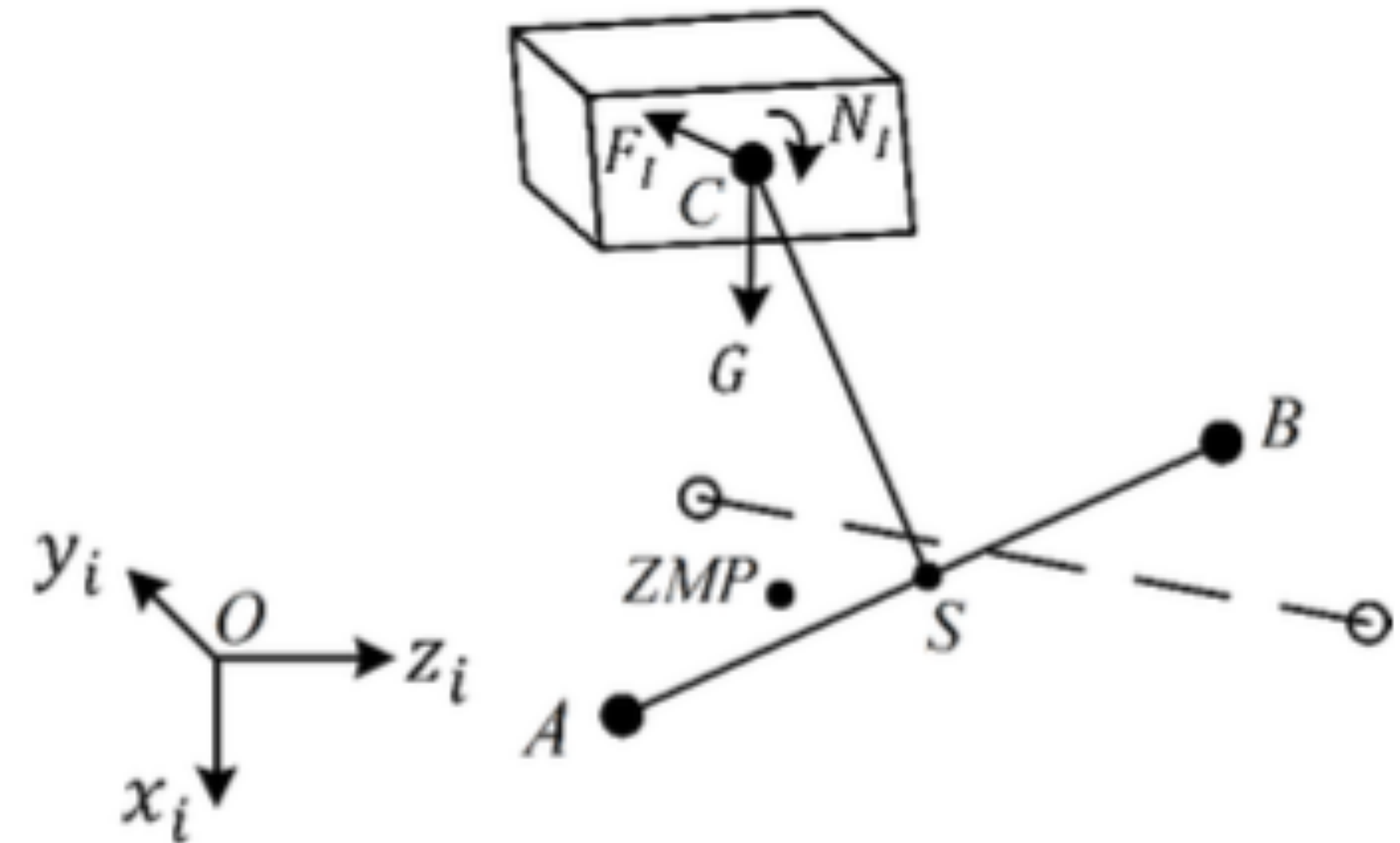
Equations for Zero Moment Point

$$-(z_C^i - z_{ZMP}^i)F_{Iy}^i + (y_C^i - y_{ZMP}^i)F_{Iz}^i + N_{Ix}^i = 0;$$

$$(z_C^i - z_{ZMP}^i)(F_{Ix}^i + G_x^i) - (x_C^i - x_{ZMP}^i)F_{Iz}^i + N_{Iy}^i = 0;$$

$$-(y_C^i - y_{ZMP}^i)(F_{Ix}^i + G_x^i) + (x_C^i - x_{ZMP}^i)F_{Iy}^i + N_{Iz}^i = 0.$$

The characteristic equations of ZMP. The inertial force and inertial moment here need to be computed by a dynamic analysis of the quadruped performed later in the report



The force schematic used to calculate the position of ZMP.

Here G is gravity, F is the inertial force on COM C, N is the inertial moment

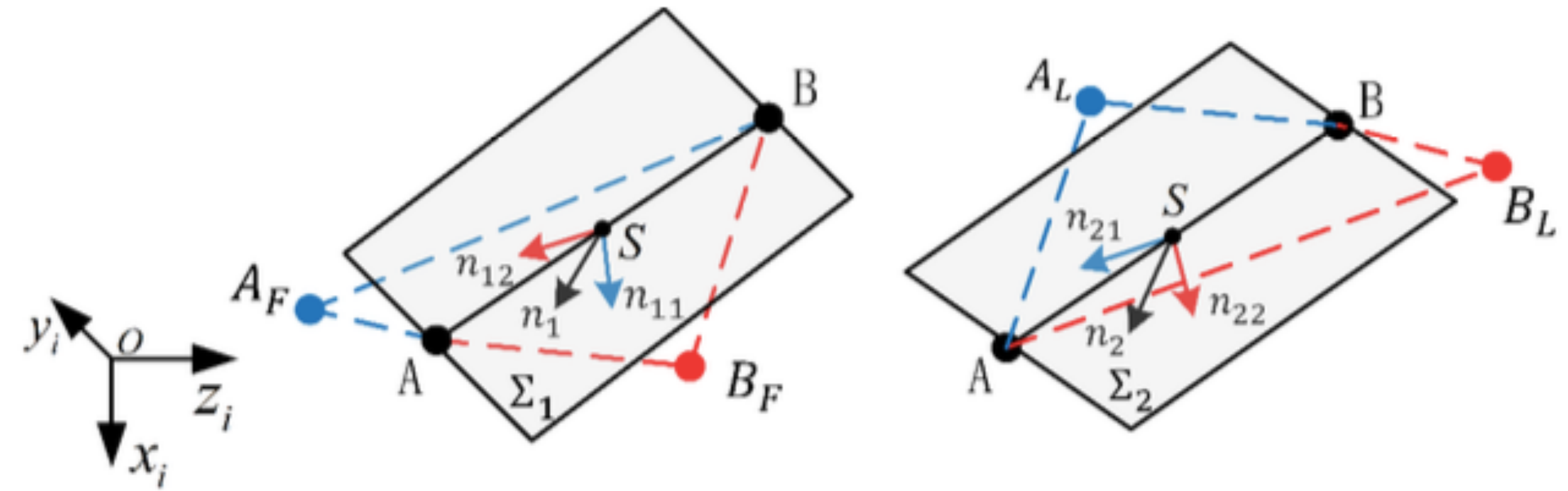
Stability Criteria

Virtual Support Plane and Modified Zero Moment Point

- The paper assumes that a robot is stable if the current or next set of support feet can provide the moment necessary to prevent the robot from tipping in any direction
- A Virtual Support Plane is proposed and it is proposed that if the modified ZMP proposed in the paper lies within this Virtual Support Plane, then the robot motion will be stable
- The Proposed Modified ZMP in the paper also includes a velocity term to account for the motion of the quadruped

Stability Criteria

Calculating the Virtual Support Plane



- S is the origin of the support coordinate system on which the ZMP will lie
- n_1 is the normal vector to the plane AA_FBB_F
- n_2 is the normal vector to the plane AA_LBB_L
- x_s^i , y_s^i and z_s^i are the normal vectors to the virtual support plane in the inertial frame of reference
- T_b is the duration between two adjacent steps and t is the time gap between the current running time and the time point when the previous support line disappeared

$$x_s^i = \frac{\mu n_1 + (1 - \mu)n_2}{\|\mu n_1 + (1 - \mu)n_2\|}$$

$$\mu = -\frac{1}{T_b}t + 1 \quad z_s^i = \frac{\vec{AB}}{\|\vec{AB}\|} \quad y_s^i = z_s^i \times x_s^i$$

$$n_{11} = \frac{\vec{AB} \times \vec{AA_F}}{\|\vec{AB} \times \vec{AA_F}\|} \quad n_{21} = \frac{\vec{AB} \times \vec{AA_L}}{\|\vec{AB} \times \vec{AA_L}\|}$$

$$n_{12} = \frac{\vec{AB} \times \vec{BB_F}}{\|\vec{AB} \times \vec{BB_F}\|} \quad n_{22} = \frac{\vec{AB} \times \vec{BB_L}}{\|\vec{AB} \times \vec{BB_L}\|}$$

Stability Criteria

Calculation of Modified Zero Moment Point

- Zero Moment Point is the point at which the resultant moment on a body is zero
- Modified Zero Moment Point should-
 - Assess the current stability more efficiently and accurately
 - Provide a reference to eliminate undesired velocity during motion planning
- ZMP_o can be used to compute 3 measures of dynamic stability

$$x_{ZMP_0}^s = 0;$$

$$y_{ZMP_0}^s = y_{ZMP}^s + \eta (v_{yr}^s - v_{yd}^s);$$

$$z_{ZMP_0}^s = z_{ZMP}^s + \eta (v_{zr}^s - v_{zd}^s).$$

Equations to calculate modified ZMP in support coordinate system. v^s and v^d are the actual and expected velocities in support coordinate system

$$\eta = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(L+W)}{\|v_d\|} 0.1 = 0.05 \frac{(L+W)}{\|v_d\|}$$

L and W are the effective length and width respectively of the quadruped

$${}^i_s R = \begin{bmatrix} x_s^i & y_s^i & z_s^i \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotation Matrix for transformation from support to inertial coordinate system

Stability Criteria

Calculation of the metric S

The following three choices for S can be calculated using ZMP_o -

- Distances between ZMP_o and the boundaries of the virtual-support quadrilateral in the support plane
- Angle between the vector pointing from CoM to ZMP_o and the normal vector of the virtual support place
- Distance between ZMP_o and the support line
- The assumption in the paper that the legs have negligible weight compared to the rest of the body does not hold for the quadruped used
- There is a need for evaluation of the repercussions on the concepts introduced

Speed and Energy Criteria

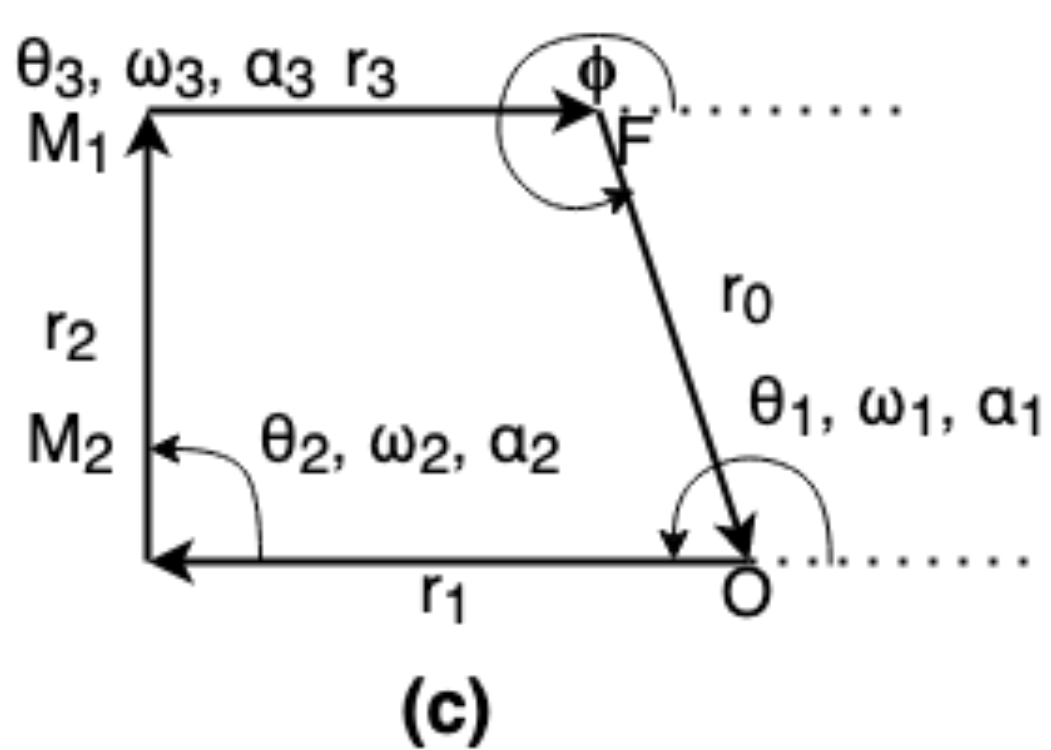
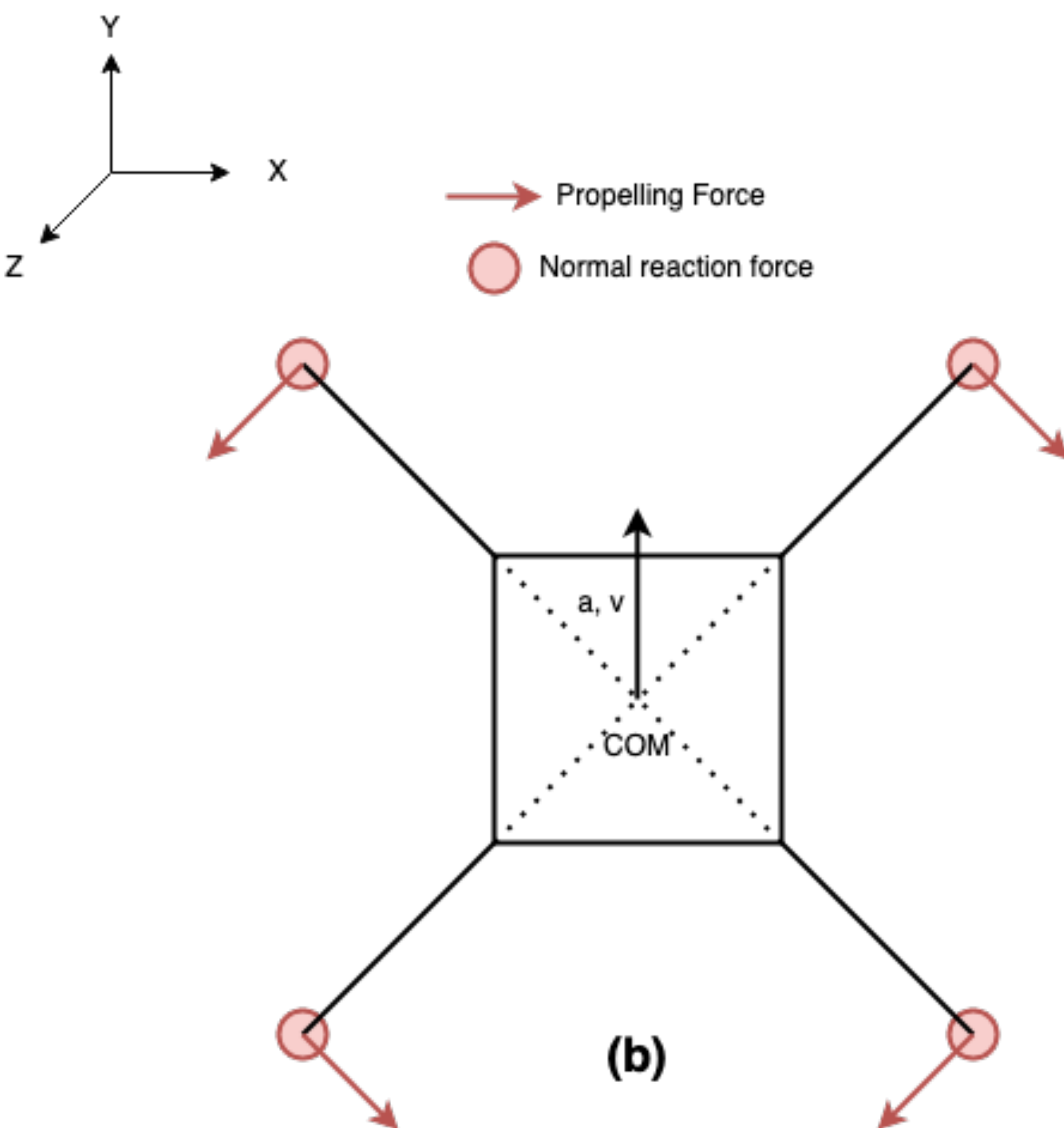
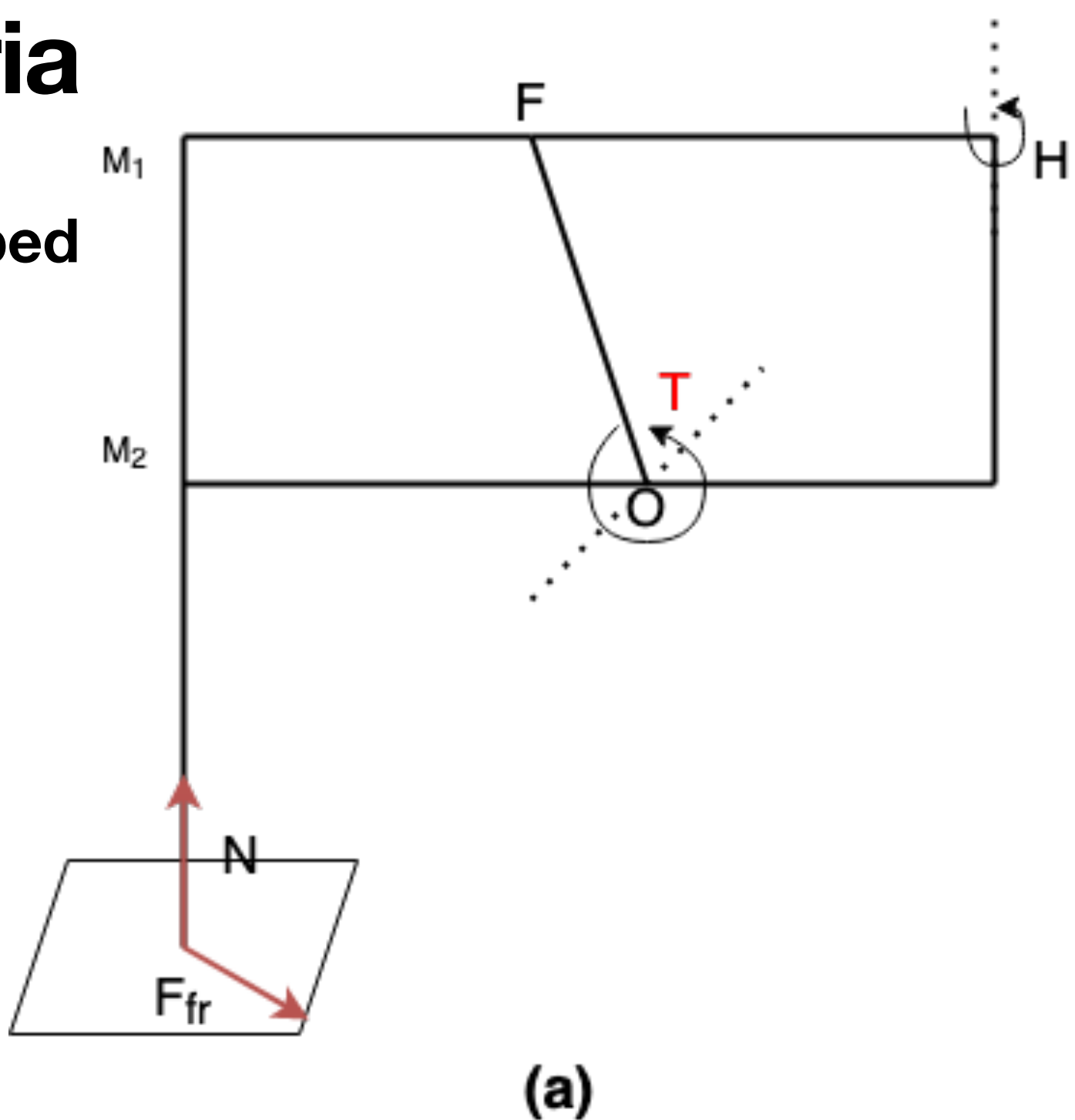
Calculation of metrics V and E

- Speed Criteria measures the discrepancy between expected and actual speed
 - $V = vT_b/d$
 - Where v is the actual speed and d is the distance travelled over period T_b
- Energy Criteria measures the energy efficiency of the quadruped
 - $E = mv^2/2T_bW$
 - where m is the mass of the quadruped, W is the power supplied to the quadruped, v is the actual velocity and T_b is the fixed period used in V

Calculating Stability Criteria

Computing ZMP for the available quadruped

- The following figure depicts the simplified model of the quadruped.
- F_{fr} is the force due to friction acting at the point of contact. This is also the propelling force on the quadruped
- N is the normal reaction force from the ground
- θ , ω and α are the state of the joints in the four bar linkage in (c)



- (a) Simplified model of the leg of the quadruped
- (b) Simplified model of the quadruped as seen from the top
- (c) Simplified four bar linkage to model the knee of the quadruped

Calculating Stability Criteria

Relationship between knee joint activation and four bar linkage model angular positions

Of the four angular positions that in the four bar linkage model of the knee joint, the angular position at O , θ_1 and F , ϕ are known (being the controlled angle). Thus, the other angular positions must also be formulated in terms of θ_1 and ϕ . l , β_1 , β_2 and δ are intermediate variables.

$$l = \sqrt{|\vec{r}_0|^2 + |\vec{r}_1|^2 - 2|\vec{r}_0||\vec{r}_1|\cos(\theta_1 - \phi + \pi)}$$

$$\beta_1 = \arcsin\left(\frac{|\vec{r}_1|}{l}\sin(\theta_1 - \phi + \pi)\right)$$

$$\beta_2 = \arccos \frac{|\vec{r}_2|^2 + l^2 - |\vec{r}_3|^2}{2|\vec{r}_3|l}$$

$$\delta = \arcsin\left(\frac{l}{|\vec{r}_3|}\sin\beta_2\right)$$

$$\theta_2 = \beta_2 - \beta_1 + \phi - \pi$$

$$\theta_3 = -\beta_1 - \delta + \phi - \pi$$

Calculating Stability Criteria

Linkage vector in knee joint four bar linkage model

$$\vec{r}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} L_1 \cos \theta_1 \\ L_1 \sin \theta_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{r}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} L_2 \cos \theta_2 \\ L_2 \sin \theta_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{r}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} L_3 \cos \theta_3 \\ L_3 \sin \theta_3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{r}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} L_0 \cos \phi \\ L_0 \sin \phi \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here \vec{r}_0 is fixed and ϕ , the angle between \vec{r}_0 and x-axis is also fixed

L_0 , L_1 , L_2 and L_3 are the length of the three linkages given by \vec{r}_0 , \vec{r}_1 , \vec{r}_2 and \vec{r}_3 respectively.

L_0 , L_1 , L_2 and L_3 are the length of the three linkages given by \vec{r}_0 , \vec{r}_1 , \vec{r}_2 and \vec{r}_3 respectively.

Calculating Stability Criteria

Kinematics model of the Knee Joint

The following equations characterise the kinematic model of the knee joint.

$$\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2 + \vec{r}_3 + \vec{r}_0 = \vec{0}$$

$$\vec{v}_0 + \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2 + \vec{v}_3 = \vec{0}$$

$$\vec{a}_0 + \vec{a}_1 + \vec{a}_2 + \vec{a}_3 = \vec{0}$$

$$r_{1x} = L_1 \cos \theta_1 \quad r_{1x} = L_1 \cos \theta_1 \quad r_{1x} = L_1 \cos \theta_1$$

$$r_{1y} = L_1 \sin \theta_1 \quad r_{1y} = L_1 \sin \theta_1 \quad r_{1y} = L_1 \sin \theta_1$$

$$r_{1z} = 0 \quad r_{1z} = 0 \quad r_{1z} = 0$$

$$r_{0x} = L_0 \cos \phi$$

$$r_{0y} = L_0 \sin \phi$$

$$r_{0z} = 0$$

These aforementioned relationships arise as the four bar linkage is stationary with respect to F and O .

These relationships are shorthand for the components of the vectors \vec{r}_0 , \vec{r}_1 , \vec{r}_2 and \vec{r}_3

Calculating Stability Criteria

Calculating ω and α

$$\overrightarrow{\omega_0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{\omega_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \omega_{1z} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{\omega_2} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \omega_{2z} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{\omega_3} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \omega_{3z} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{v_0} = 0$$

The linkage $\overrightarrow{r_0}$ is fixed

$$\overrightarrow{v_1} = \overrightarrow{\omega_1} \times \overrightarrow{r_1}$$

Only rotation with ω_1 about origin of linkage

$$\overrightarrow{v_2} = \overrightarrow{\omega_2} \times \overrightarrow{r_2}$$

Only rotation with ω_2 about origin of linkage

$$\overrightarrow{v_3} = \overrightarrow{\omega_3} \times \overrightarrow{r_3}$$

Only rotation with ω_3 about origin of linkage

Calculating Stability Criteria

Calculating ω and α

$$\vec{v}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -\omega_{1z}r_{1y} \\ \omega_{1z}r_{1x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -\omega_{1z}r_{1y} \\ \omega_{1z}r_{1x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -\omega_{1z}r_{1y} \\ \omega_{1z}r_{1x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since $\vec{v}_0 + \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2 + \vec{v}_3 = \vec{0}$, we get the following equations.

$$0 - \omega_{1z}r_{1y} - \omega_{2z}r_{2y} - \omega_{3z}r_{3y} = 0$$

$$0 + \omega_{1z}r_{1x} + \omega_{2z}r_{2x} + \omega_{3z}r_{3x} = 0$$

Solving the above two we get ω_{2z}
and ω_{3z}

$$\omega_{2z} = -\omega_{1z} \frac{r_{1y}r_{3x} - r_{3y}r_{1x}}{r_{2y}r_{3x} - r_{3y}r_{2x}}$$

$$\omega_{3z} = -\omega_{1z} \frac{r_{2y}r_{1x} - r_{1y}r_{2x}}{r_{2y}r_{3x} - r_{3y}r_{2x}}$$

Calculating Stability Criteria

Calculating ω and α

$$\vec{\alpha}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{\alpha}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \alpha_{1z} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{\alpha}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \alpha_{2z} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{\alpha}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \alpha_{3z} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{v}_O = 0$$

$$\vec{a}_1 = \vec{\alpha}_1 \times \vec{r}_1 + \vec{\omega}_1 \times \vec{\omega}_1 \times \vec{r}_1$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = \vec{\alpha}_2 \times \vec{r}_2 + \vec{\omega}_2 \times \vec{\omega}_2 \times \vec{r}_2$$

$$\vec{v}_3 = \vec{\omega}_3 \times \vec{r}_3$$

The linkage \vec{r}_0 is fixed

Only rotation with α_1 about origin of linkage

Only rotation with α_2 about origin of linkage

Only rotation with α_3 about origin of linkage

Calculating Stability Criteria

Calculating ω and α

Since $\vec{a}_0 + \vec{a}_1 + \vec{a}_2 + \vec{a}_3 = \vec{0}$, we get the following equations.

$$0 - \alpha_{1z}r_{1y} - \omega_{1z}^2r_{1x} - \alpha_{2z}r_{2y} - \omega_{2z}^2r_{2x} - \alpha_{3z}r_{3y} - \omega_{3z}^2r_{3x} = 0$$

$$0 + \alpha_{1z}r_{1x} - \omega_{1z}^2r_{1y} + \alpha_{2z}r_{2x} - \omega_{2z}^2r_{2y} + \alpha_{3z}r_{3x} - \omega_{3z}^2r_{3y} = 0$$

Solving the above two we get α_{2z} and α_{3z}

$$\alpha_{2z} = \frac{r_{3x}(-\alpha_{1z}r_{1y} - \omega_{1z}^2r_{1x} - \omega_{2z}^2r_{2x} - \omega_{3z}^2r_{3x}) - r_{3y}(-\alpha_{1z}r_{1x} - \omega_{1z}^2r_{1y} - \omega_{2z}^2r_{2y} - \omega_{3z}^2r_{3y})}{r_{2y}r_{3x} - r_{3y}r_{2x}}$$

$$\alpha_{3z} = \frac{-r_{2x}(-\alpha_{1z}r_{1y} - \omega_{1z}^2r_{1x} - \omega_{2z}^2r_{2x} - \omega_{3z}^2r_{3x}) + r_{2y}(-\alpha_{1z}r_{1x} - \omega_{1z}^2r_{1y} - \omega_{2z}^2r_{2y} - \omega_{3z}^2r_{3y})}{r_{2y}r_{3x} - r_{3y}r_{2x}}$$

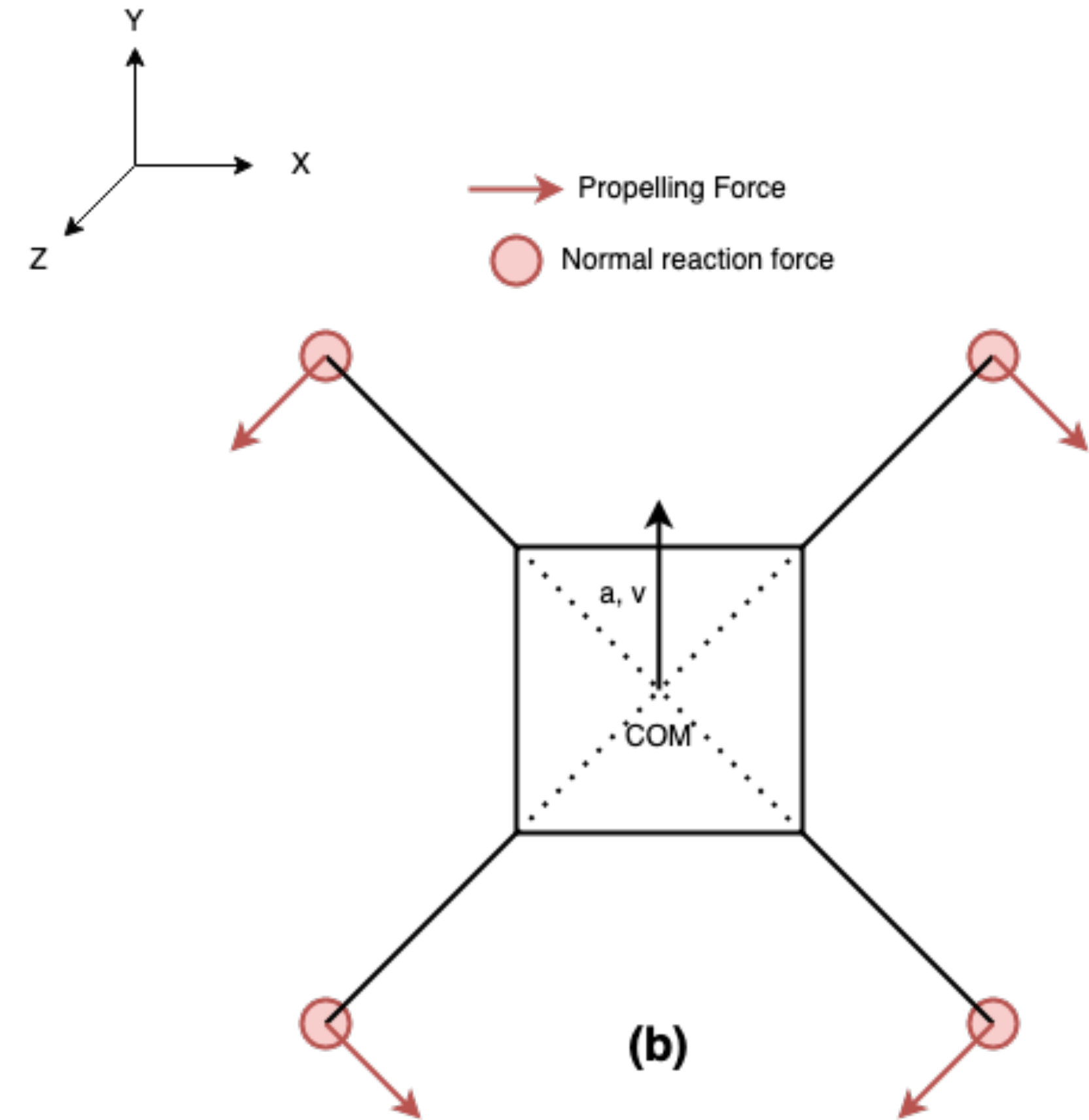
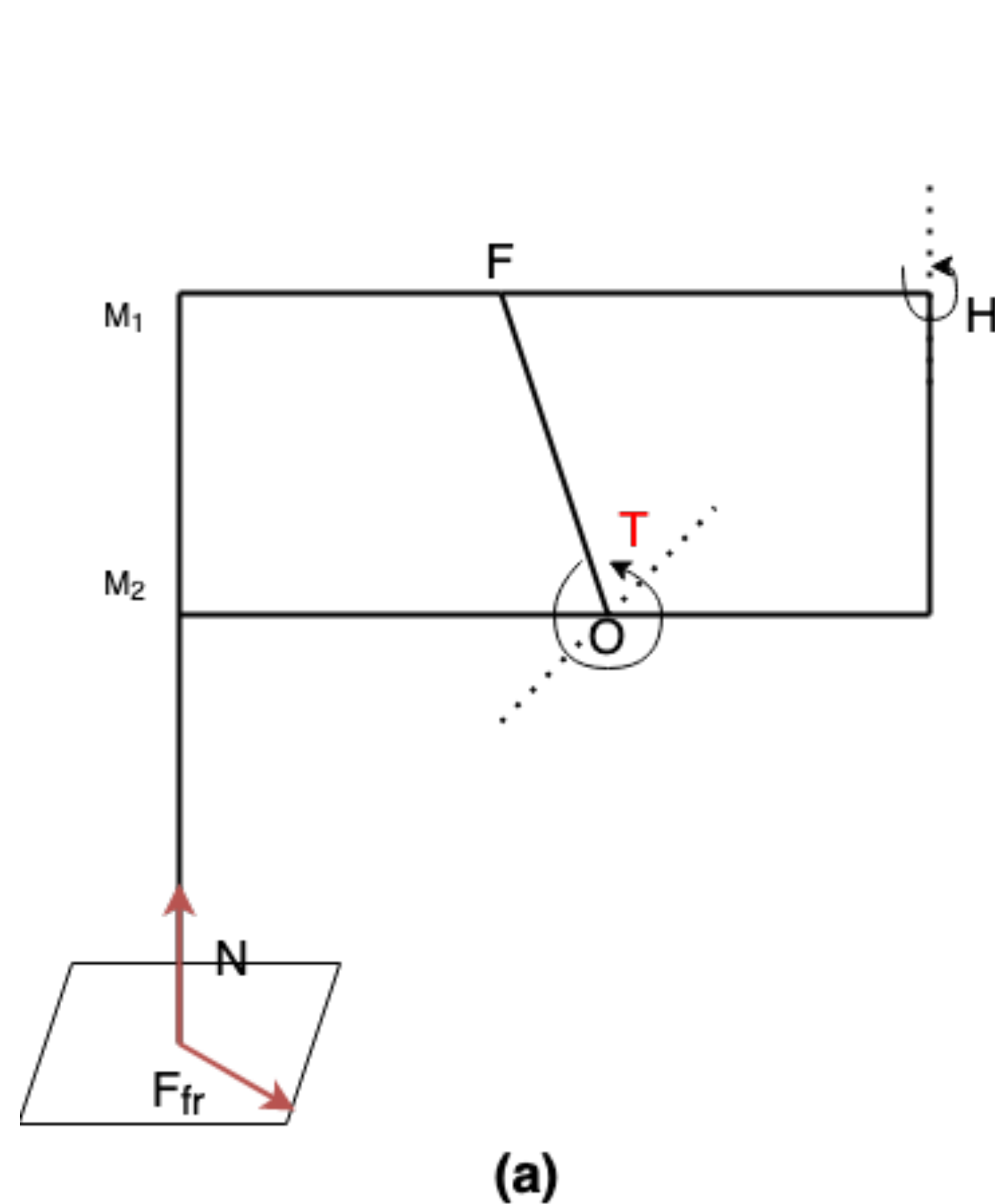
Calculating Stability Criteria

Dynamic Model of the Available Quadrupe

$$\sum \vec{F}_{fr} + \sum \vec{N} - m\vec{g} = m\vec{a}$$

$$\sum_i \vec{F}_{fr} \times \vec{R}_i + \sum_i \vec{N} \times \vec{R}_i = I_R \vec{\alpha}_R$$

The above two equations depict the dynamics of the quadrupe in vector form. Rotation is possible about the y and z axes, while translation is only possible along the y and z axes.

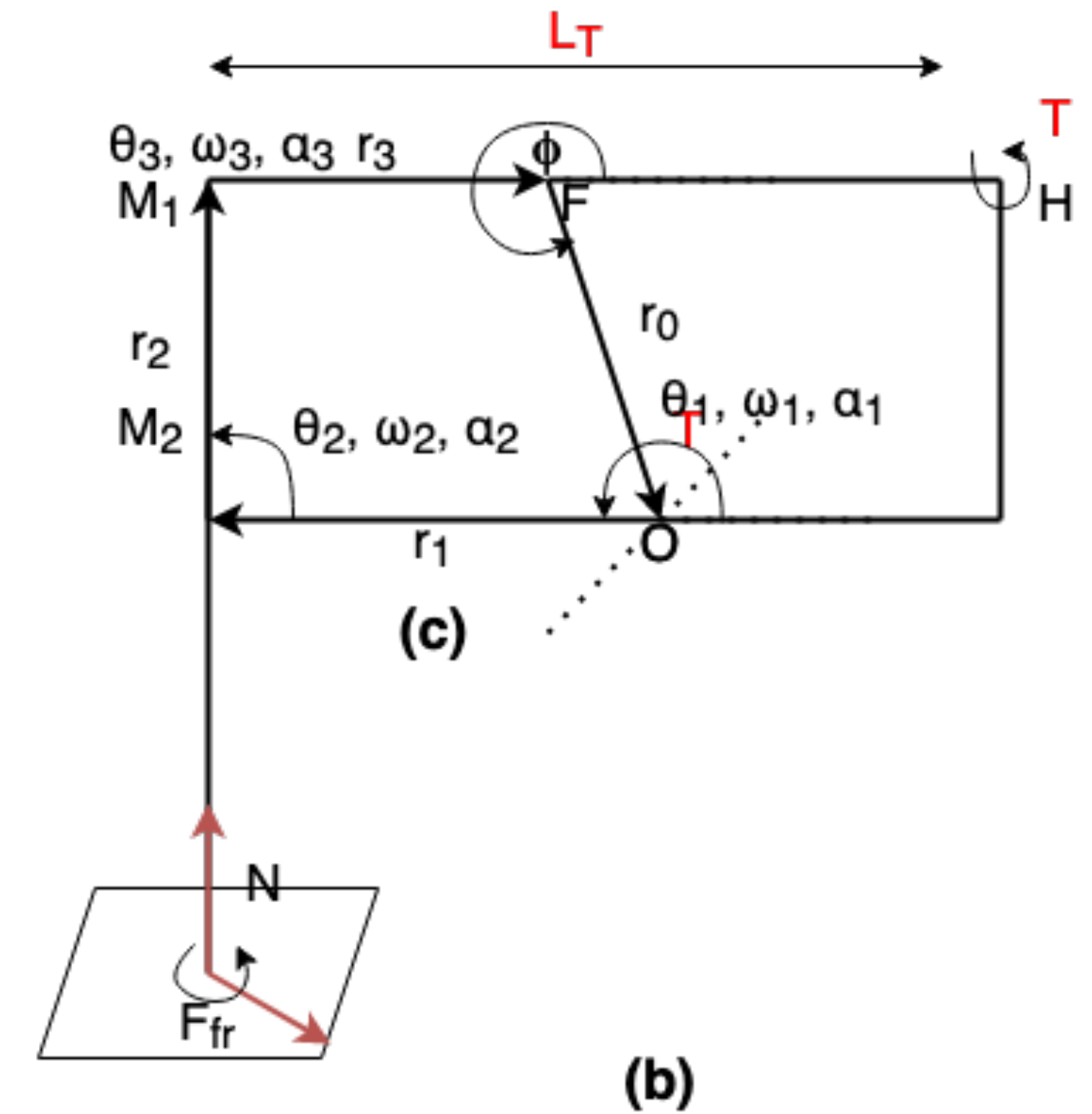
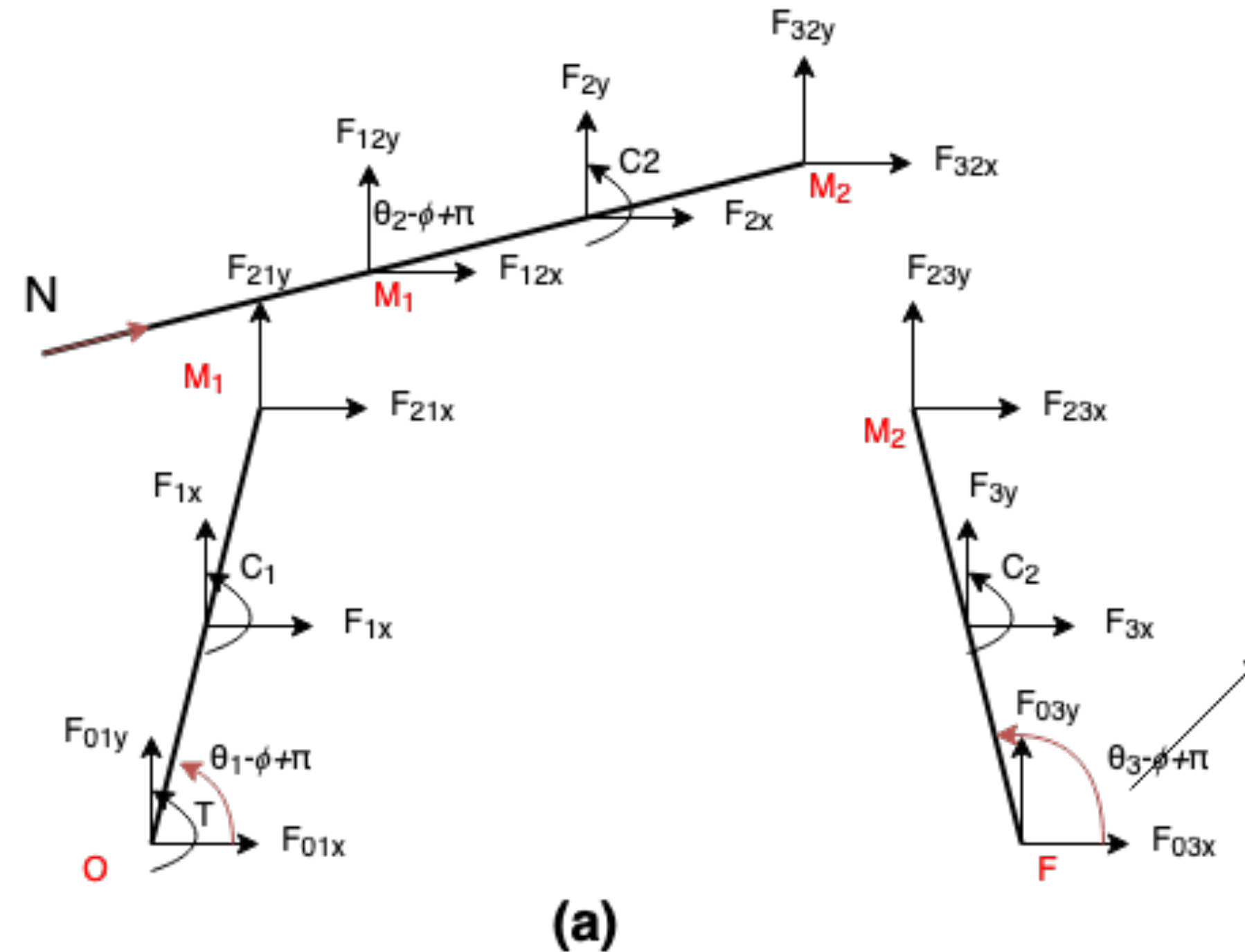


Calculating Stability Criteria

Stance Dynamics

a. Illustration of all forces acting on the four bar linkage in the knee during stance phase. The segment M1H will be rigid during stance

b. A simplified model of a leg. N and F_{fr} are normal reaction and friction forces respectively



Calculating Stability Criteria

Stance Dynamics

$$F_{01x} + F_{1x} + F_{21x} = 0$$

$$F_{01y} + F_{1y} + F_{21y} = 0$$

$$\overrightarrow{F_{23}} = -\overrightarrow{F_{32}}$$

$$F_{01y} + F_{1y} + F_{21y} = 0$$

$$C_1 = 0$$

$$\overrightarrow{F_{21}} = -\overrightarrow{F_{12}}$$

$$F_{12x} + F_{2x} + F_{32x} + N \cos \theta_2 - \phi + \pi = 0$$

$$C_2 = 0$$

$$F_{12y} + F_{2y} + F_{32y} + N \sin \theta_2 - \phi + \pi = 0$$

$$C_3 = 0$$

$$F_{01x} + F_{1x} + F_{21x} = 0$$

$$T + C_1 - F_{1x} \frac{|\overrightarrow{r_1}|}{2} \cos \theta_1 - \phi + \pi + F_{1y} \frac{|\overrightarrow{r_1}|}{2} \cos \theta_1 - \phi + \pi + F_{21y} |\overrightarrow{r_1}| \cos \theta_1 - \phi + \pi - F_{21x} |\overrightarrow{r_1}| \sin \theta_1 - \phi + \pi = 0$$

$$C_2 - F_{2x} \frac{|\overrightarrow{r_2}|}{2} \cos \theta_2 - \phi + \pi + F_{2y} \frac{|\overrightarrow{r_2}|}{2} \cos \theta_2 - \phi + \pi + F_{32y} |\overrightarrow{r_2}| \cos \theta_2 - \phi + \pi - F_{32x} |\overrightarrow{r_2}| \sin \theta_2 - \phi + \pi = 0$$

$$C_3 - F_{3x} \frac{|\overrightarrow{r_3}|}{2} \cos \theta_3 - \phi + \pi + F_{3y} \frac{|\overrightarrow{r_3}|}{2} \cos \theta_3 - \phi + \pi - F_{23y} |\overrightarrow{r_1}| \cos \theta_1 - \phi + \pi + F_{23x} |\overrightarrow{r_1}| \sin \theta_1 - \phi + \pi = 0$$

Calculating Stability Criteria

Calculating $\overrightarrow{F_{fr}}$ and \overrightarrow{N}

- $\overrightarrow{F_{fr}}$ and \overrightarrow{N} are the friction and normal reaction acting at the points of contact with the ground
- To compute these forces the dynamics at the point of contact need to be considered
- For a successful walking motion, there must be no slipping at the point of contact
- Thus, we need to solve for equilibrium conditions there

$$\sum_i^k N_i - mg = 0$$

where k is the number of legs in contact with the group

$$T - F_{fr}L_T = 0$$

This is the condition of no slipping at the point of contact with the ground

$$\sum \overrightarrow{F_{fr}} = m \overrightarrow{a}$$

The sum of all frictional forces are responsible for the horizontal acceleration a of the quadruped

Calculating Stability Criteria

Calculating Inertial Force and Moment at COM

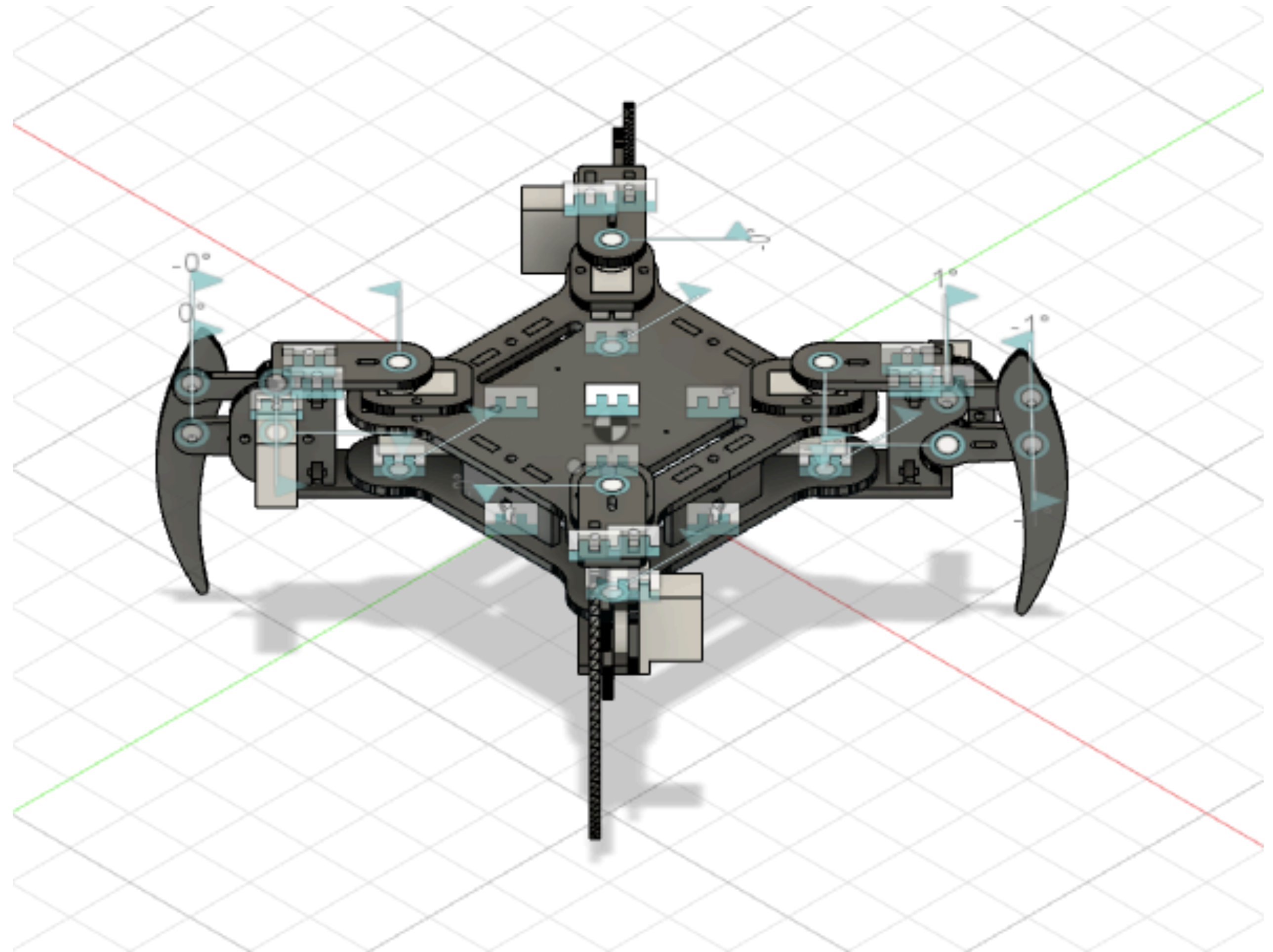
- The Inertial Force and Moment at the COM are given by the following $m \vec{a}$ and $I_R \vec{\alpha}_R$
- Both of these parameters can be calculated by solving of all the equations relating to the dynamics and kinematics of the quadruped
- Once the Inertial Force and Moment at the COM are known, the modified ZMP can be computed using the method proposed in [2], which can then be used to compute the stability criteria

3D model

Quadruped Assembly on Fusion 360

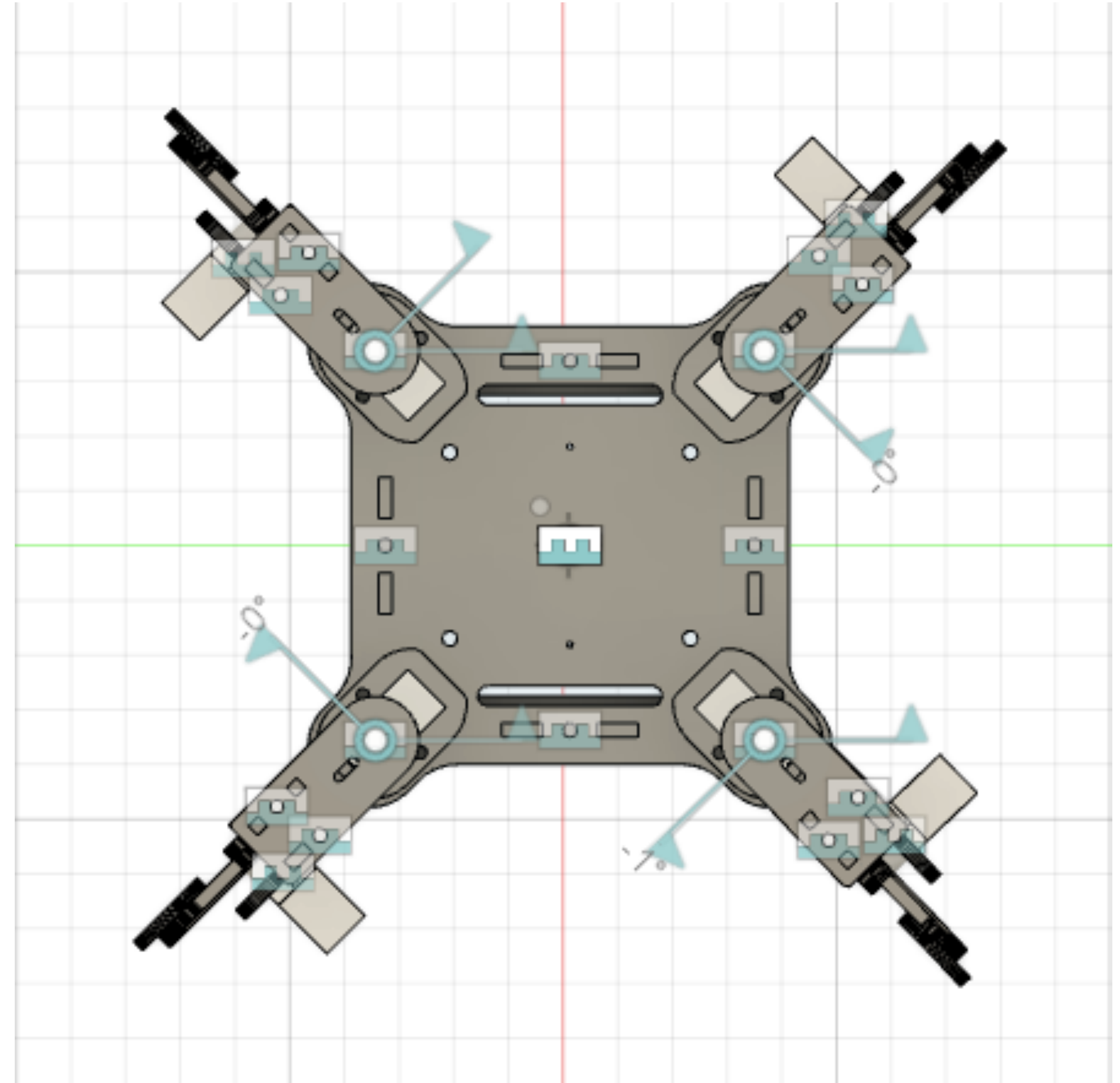
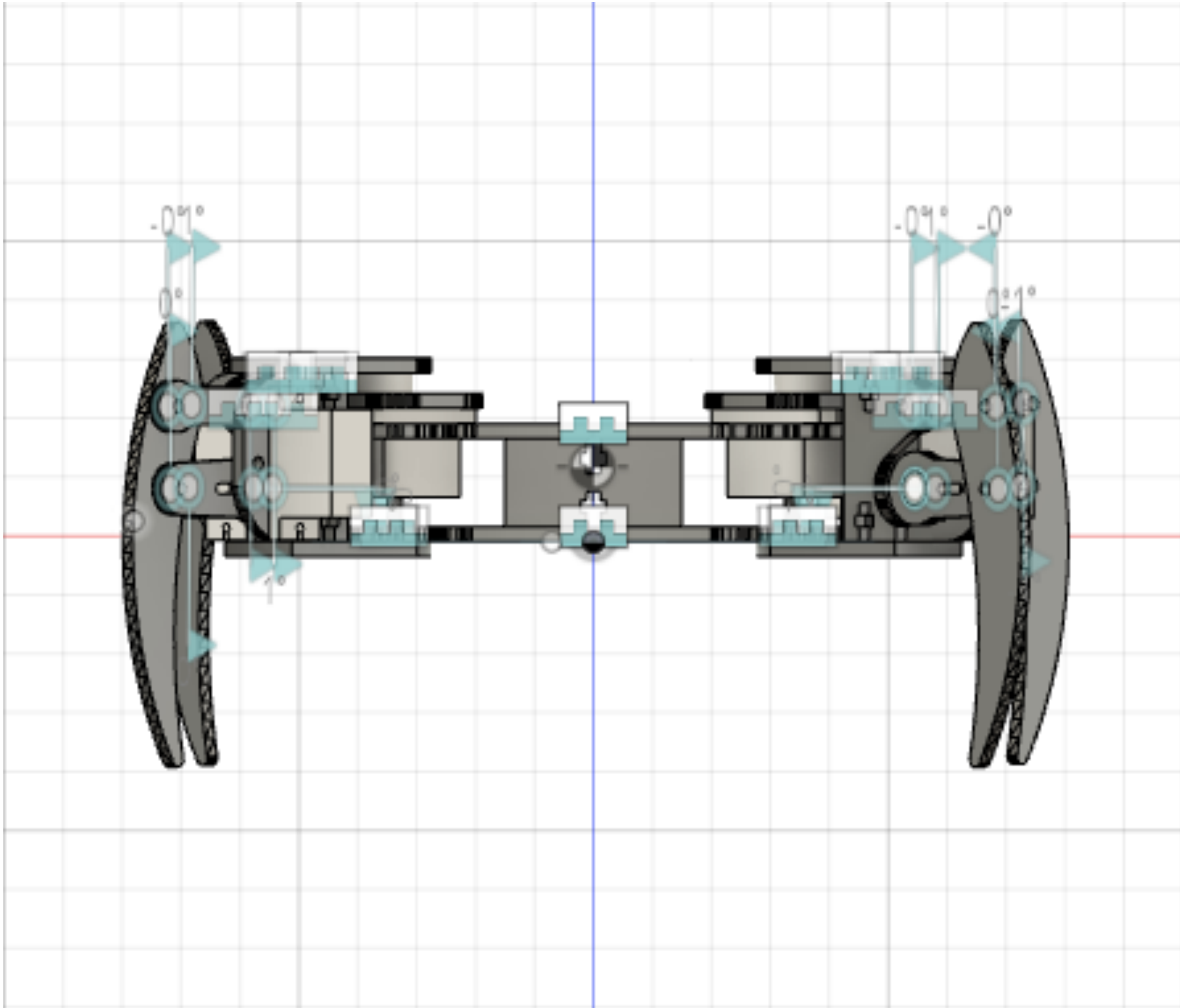
Need for 3D model-

- Precise mass of quadruped components
- Precise Position of leg COM
- Moment of Inertia in Knee four bar linkage
- Easier method for URDF model generation
- Calculating Joint motion ranges
- Fusion 360 can also be used for ML



3D model

Quadruped Assembly on Fusion 360



Solving Quadrupe Dynamics

Solving a system of linear equations

- The dynamics equations of the quadrupe together form a system of 69 equations and 69 variables
- $AX = B$ is a system of linear equations with X being the vector of the unknowns, A the matrix of coefficients and B the constants
- $X = A^{-1}B$ gives the solution to the aforementioned system of linear equations

Solving Quadraped Dynamics

Solving a system of linear equations

- Some simplifying assumptions were made to formulate the system of linear equations
 - A binary factor γ_i was introduced for each leg. If $\gamma_i = 0$ there is no contact with the ground at the leg, else there is contact
 - If $\gamma_i = \gamma_j = 0$, then $N_i = N_j = 0$.
 - If $\gamma_i = \gamma_j = 1$, then $N_i = N_j \neq 0$
 - The resistive force at the hip joint is given by ϵ_i when leg i is not in contact with the ground
 - Movement is on a flat surface with coefficient of friction μ
 - At least two legs are in contact with the ground at all points of time

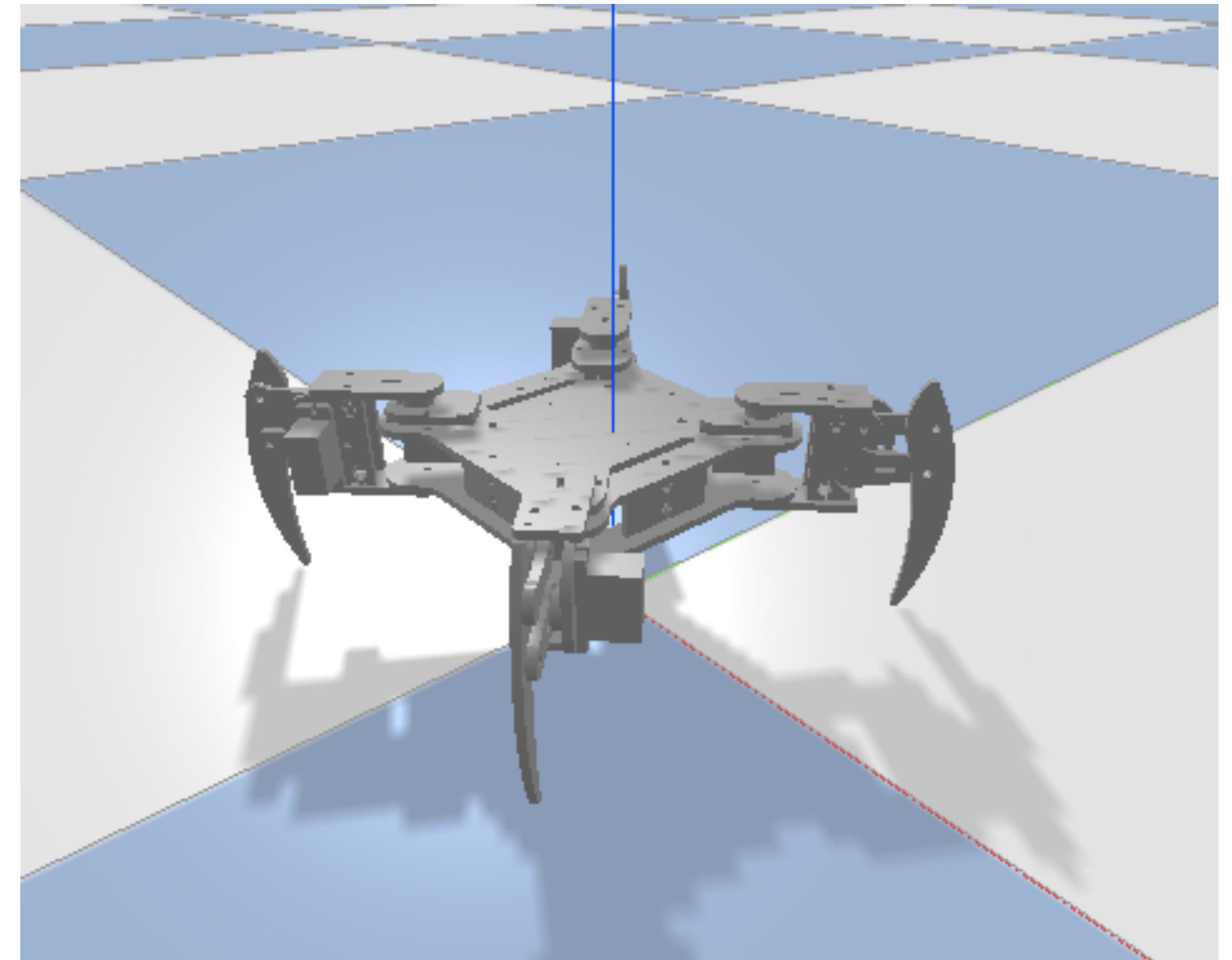
Next Steps

- The Quadruped simulation model is complete and the module for solving dynamics and estimating modified ZMP are implemented
- Next step is to implement the control architecture and the fitness functions in TensorFlow and integrate the architecture with PyBullet
- OpenAI Gym/TensorFlow Agents** to be used in conjunction with **pybullet** for implementing the RL Training Framework
- Before the RL pipeline can be implemented up skilling in OpenAI Gym/TensorFlow Agents, RL and Gazebo has to be done

PyBullet

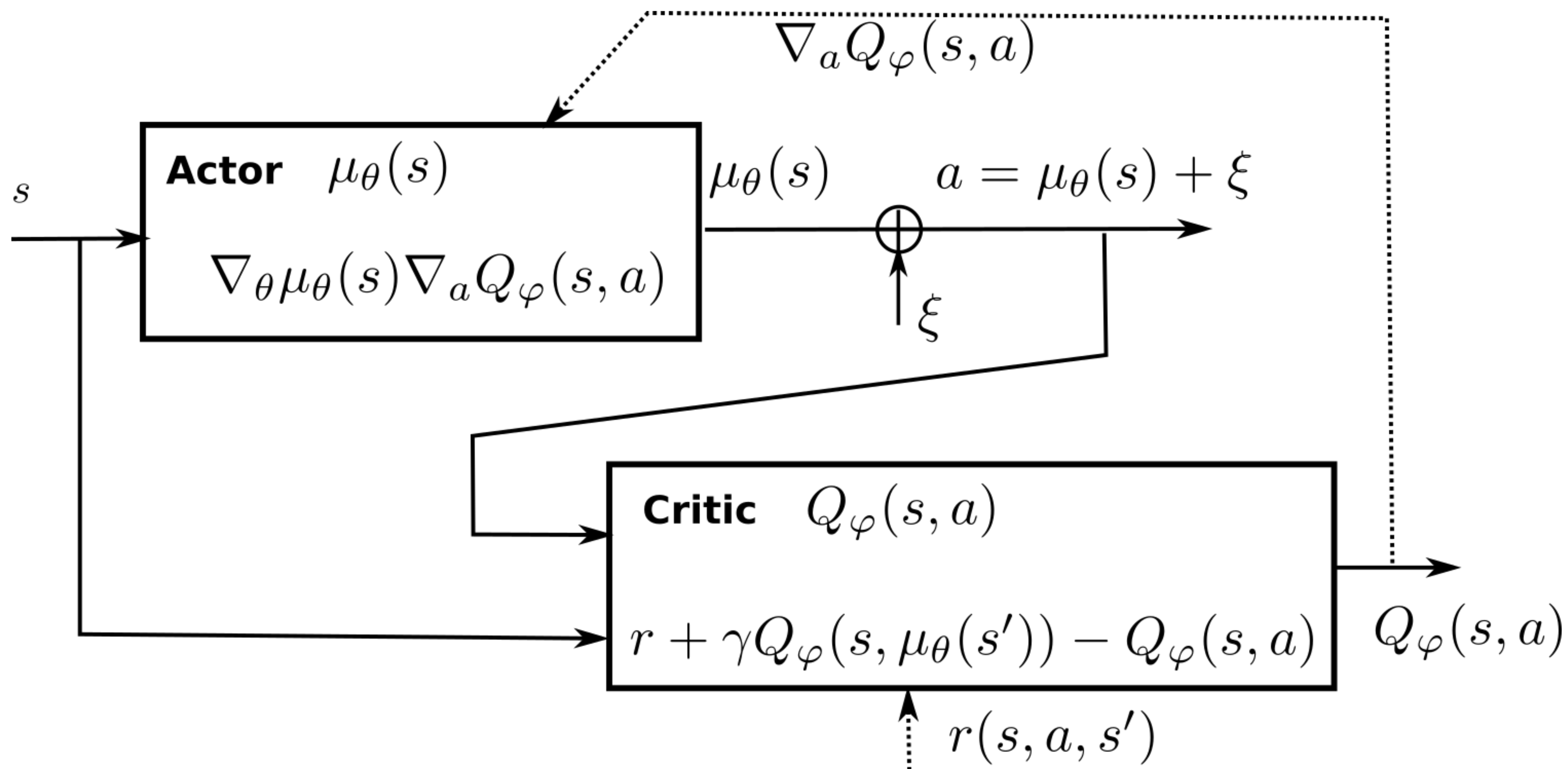
Collision and Inertia Model of the quadruped

- Collisions in the quadruped to be modelled using simple shapes like cylinder, boxed and spheres
- There is a need for a simpler collision model as the collision model using meshes requires compute power not currently available
- Currently working on the code to control the simulation from a python script



Reinforcement Learning

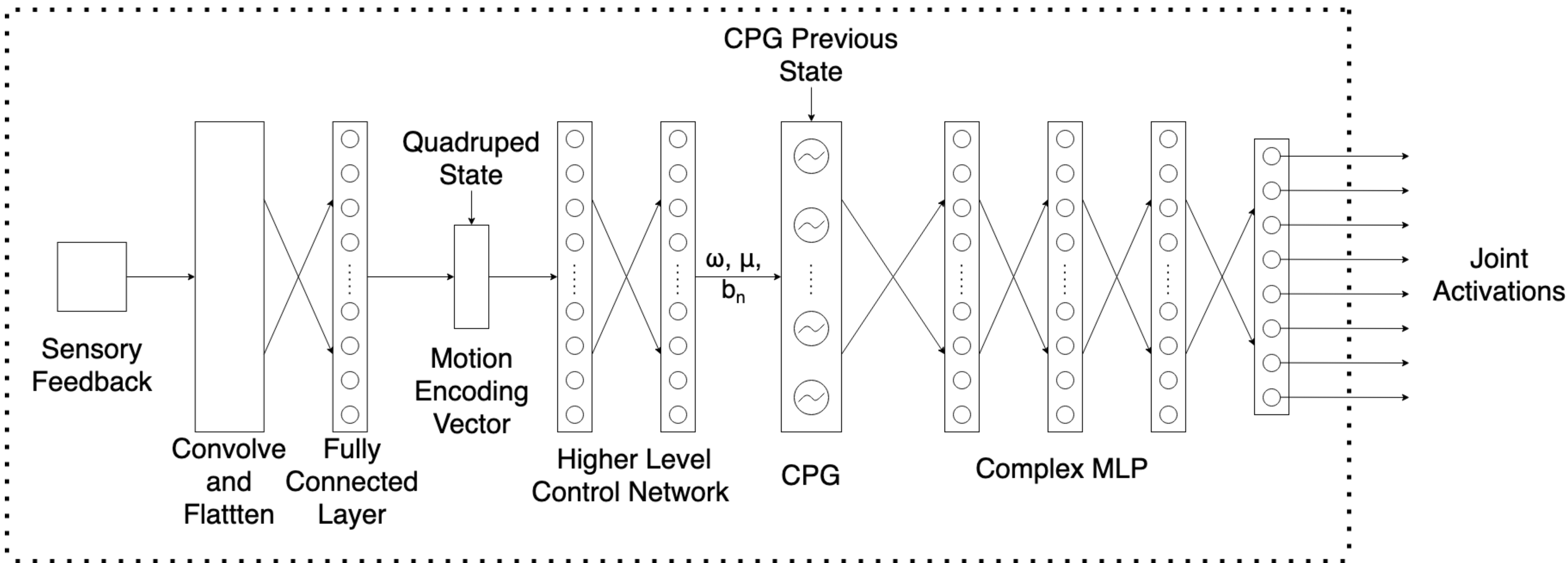
Deep Deterministic Policy Gradient



Reinforcement Learning

Actor Network

Actor Network



Reinforcement Learning

Actor Network

- The action generated by the Actor network will be the joint activations produced by the MLP
- The State for DDPG training will consist of the following
 - Current joint angle positions
 - Current x, y and z position of the centre of mass of the quadruped with respect to the starting point of motion in the current episode
 - Desired heading
 - Desired Velocity
 - Sensory Feedback
- The sensory feedback from the cameras may be encoded using:
 - A pre-trained network
 - Convolutional layers as a part of the actor network

Reinforcement Learning

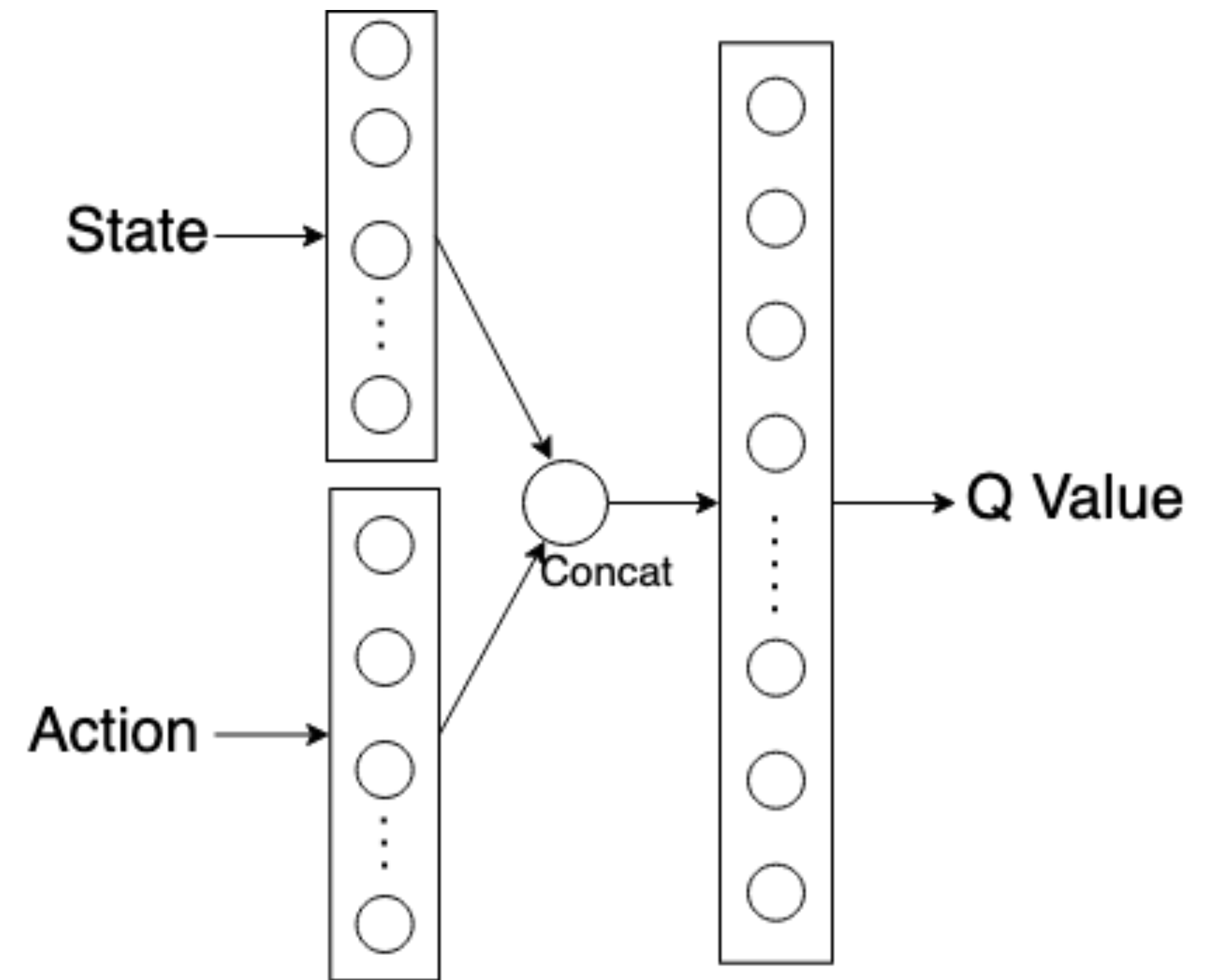
Actor Network

- There are two possibilities of how the Actor Network can be modelled:
 - One time step at a time (action & state are vectors)
 - The state comprises the CPG previous time step output as well
 - Less compute required for training
 - One step at a time (action and/or state are time series)
 - More compute and memory required to model a recurrent network
 - Formulation of training will be difficult
 - Seems to be the more realistic model for control
- Experiments to be conducted to include ω , μ and b_n sequentially to observe how the addition of an additional higher level control parameter impacts CPG output

Reinforcement Learning

Critic Network

- Critic network takes an input the state as well as the action produced by the actor network
- The output of the critic network will be the Q value for the current time step
- Gradients wrt to the action are computed from the critic network. These gradients are then back propagated through the Actor network to update its parameters



References

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