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Robot Control: Motion Control with Velocities, Forces or Torques

CS 6301 Special Topics: Introduction to Robot Manipulation and Navigation

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Motion Control with Velocity Inputs

- Motion control with velocity inputs
 - Given a desired trajectory of a robot in joint space or in task space

$$\theta_d(t) \quad X_d(t)$$

- Proportional controller or P controller

$$\dot{\theta}(t) = K_p(\theta_d(t) - \theta(t)) = K_p\theta_e(t)$$

Control gain

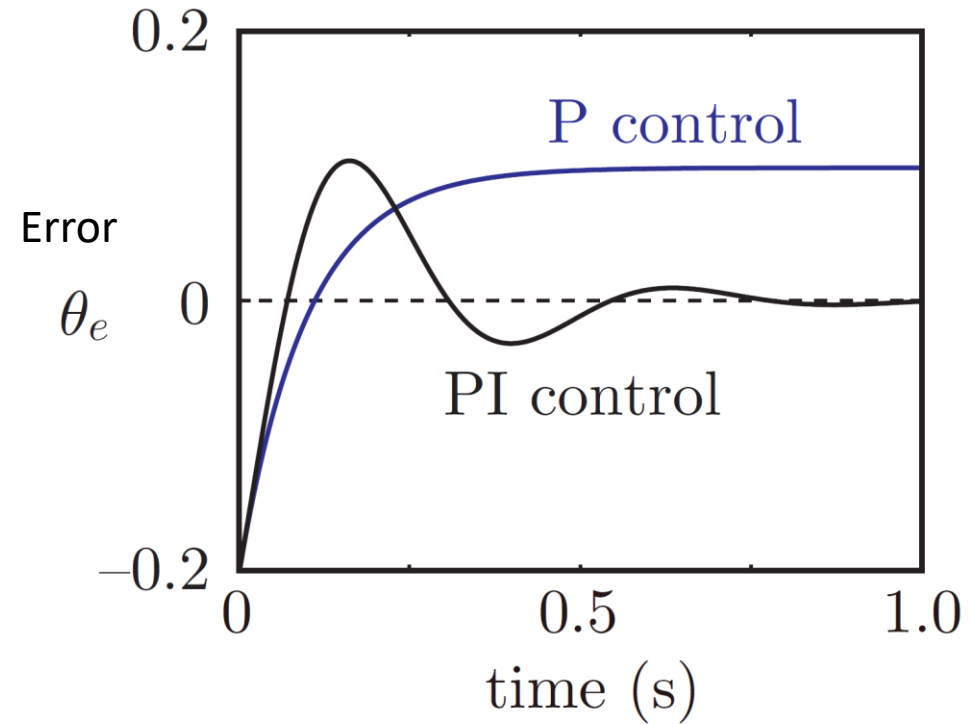
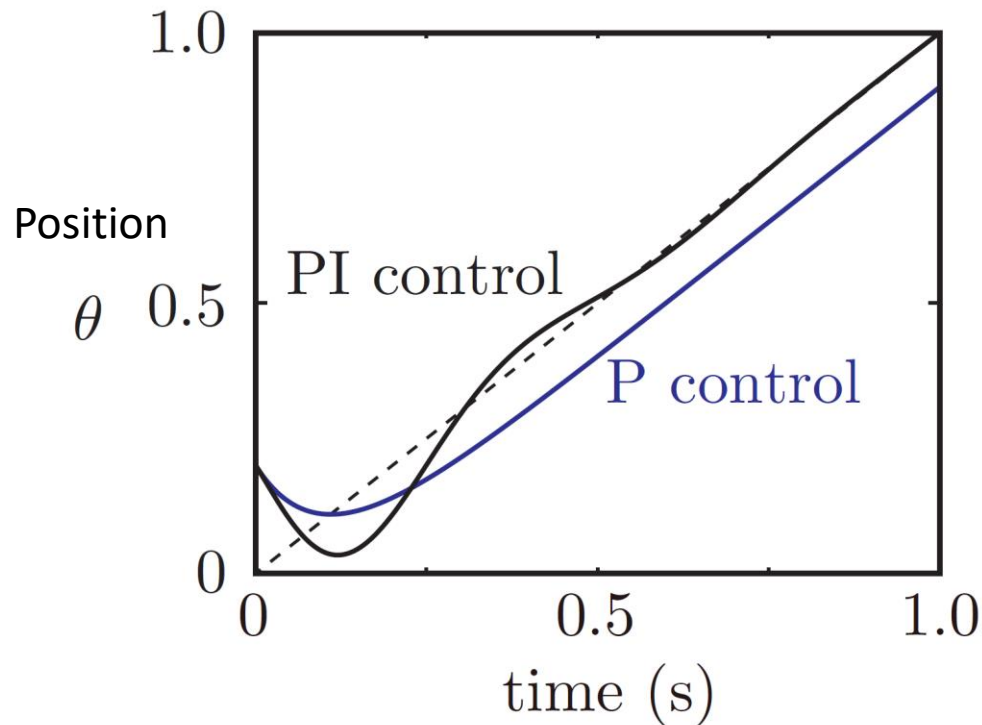
$$K_p > 0$$

- Proportional-integral controller or PI controller

$$\dot{\theta}(t) = K_p\theta_e(t) + K_i \int_0^t \theta_e(t) dt$$

Comparison between P Controller and PI Controller

$$\dot{\theta}_d(t) = c$$

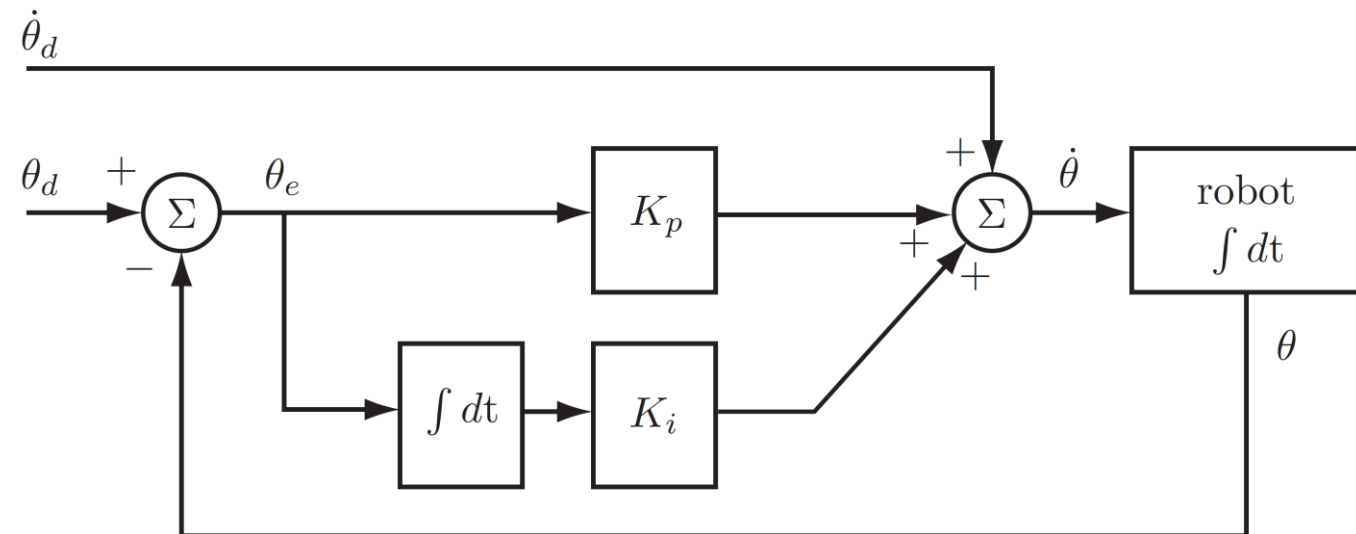


Reference trajectory (dashed)

Feedforward Plus Feedback Control

- Feedback control: an error is required before the joint begins to move
- Feedforward plus feedback control: Initiate motion before any error accumulates

$$\dot{\theta}(t) = \dot{\theta}_d(t) + K_p\theta_e(t) + K_i \int_0^t \theta_e(t) dt$$



Preferred control law for producing a commanded velocity to the joint

Motion Control of Multi-Joint Robots

- Reference position $\theta_d(t)$ and actual position $\theta(t)$ n dimensional vector
- Gains K_p K_i $n \times n$ matrix

$$k_p I \quad k_i I$$

Control law $\dot{\theta}(t) = \dot{\theta}_d(t) + K_p \theta_e(t) + K_i \int_0^t \theta_e(t) dt$

Task-Space Motion Control

- Consider the configuration of the end-effector $X(t) \in SE(3)$
- Recall body twist $T^{-1}\dot{T} = [\mathcal{V}_b] = \begin{bmatrix} [\omega_b] & v_b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in se(3)$
- End-effector twist $\mathcal{V}_b(t) \quad [\mathcal{V}_b] = X^{-1}\dot{X}$
- Desired motion is given by $X_d(t) \quad [\mathcal{V}_d] = X_d^{-1}\dot{X}_d$

Task-Space Motion Control

$$[\text{Ad}_T] = \begin{bmatrix} R & 0 \\ [p]R & R \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 6}$$

- Joint-space control law

$$\dot{\theta}(t) = \dot{\theta}_d(t) + K_p \theta_e(t) + K_i \int_0^t \theta_e(t) dt$$

- A task-space control law

$$\mathcal{V}_b(t) = [\text{Ad}_{X^{-1}X_d}] \mathcal{V}_d(t) + K_p X_e(t) + K_i \int_0^t X_e(t) dt$$

$$[X_e] = \log(X^{-1}X_d) \quad K_p, K_i \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 6} \quad X_{sb} \quad X_{sd}$$

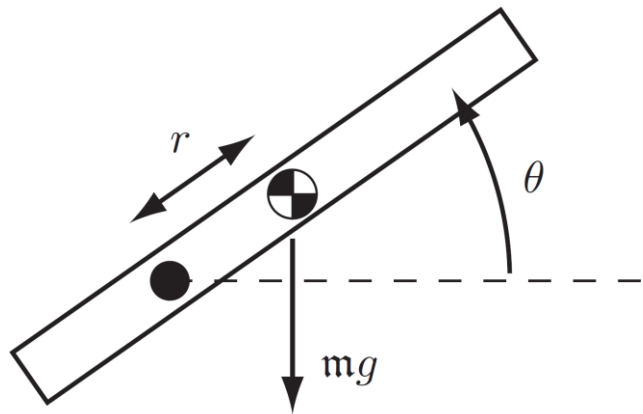
Commanded joint velocities $\dot{\theta} = J_b^\dagger(\theta) \mathcal{V}_b$

Motion Control with Velocity Inputs

- Motion control with velocity inputs
 - Given a desired trajectory of a robot in joint space or in task space
 - Direct control of the joint velocities
- Limited to applications with low or predictable force-torque requirements
- Do not make use of a dynamic model of the robot

Motion Control with Torque or Force Inputs

- Controller generates joint torques and forces to track a desired trajectory
- Motion Control of a single joint



Dynamics $\tau = M\ddot{\theta} + mgr \cos \theta$

Scalar inertia mass

Friction torque $\tau_{\text{fric}} = b\dot{\theta}$

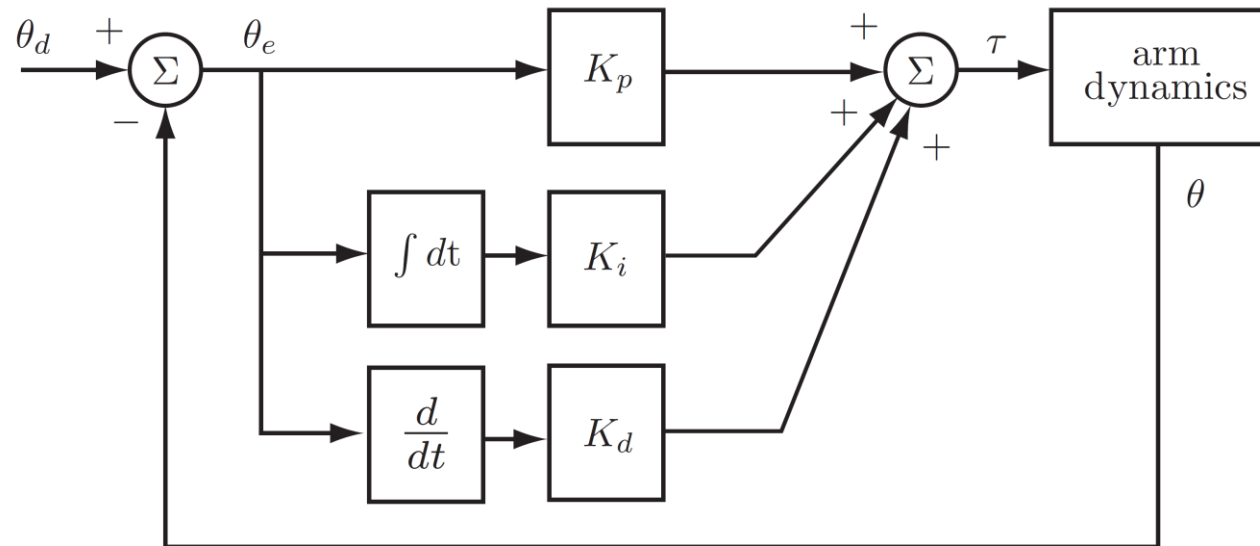
$$\tau = M\ddot{\theta} + mgr \cos \theta + b\dot{\theta}$$

$$\tau = M\ddot{\theta} + h(\theta, \dot{\theta})$$

Motion Control of a Single Joint

- Feedback control: PID control
 - Proportional-Integral-Derivative control

$$\tau = K_p \theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t) dt + K_d \dot{\theta}_e \quad \theta_e = \theta_d - \theta$$



PD Control

- Dynamics $\tau = M\ddot{\theta} + mgr \cos \theta + b\dot{\theta}$
- PD control law $K_p(\theta_d - \theta) + K_d(\dot{\theta}_d - \dot{\theta})$ Assume $g = 0$

$$M\ddot{\theta} + b\dot{\theta} = K_p(\theta_d - \theta) + K_d(\dot{\theta}_d - \dot{\theta})$$

Control objective: constant θ_d $\dot{\theta}_d = \ddot{\theta}_d = 0$

$$\theta_e = \theta_d - \theta \quad \dot{\theta}_e = -\dot{\theta} \quad \ddot{\theta}_e = -\ddot{\theta}$$

Error dynamics $M\ddot{\theta}_e + (b + K_d)\dot{\theta}_e + K_p\theta_e = 0$

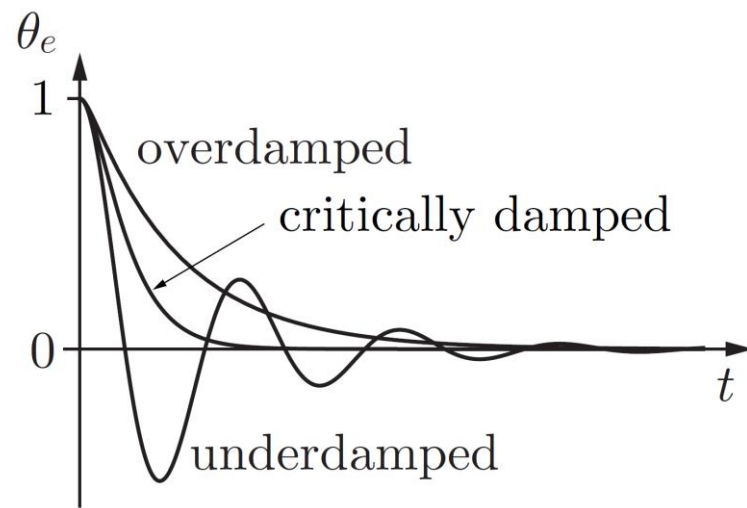
PD Control

- Standard second-order form

$$M\ddot{\theta}_e + (b + K_d)\dot{\theta}_e + K_p\theta_e = 0$$

$$\ddot{\theta}_e + \frac{b + K_d}{M}\dot{\theta}_e + \frac{K_p}{M}\theta_e = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \ddot{\theta}_e + 2\zeta\omega_n\dot{\theta}_e + \omega_n^2\theta_e = 0$$

$$\zeta = \frac{b + K_d}{2\sqrt{K_p M}} \quad \omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{K_p}{M}}$$



Critically damped: $\zeta = 1$

PD Control

- When $g > 0$, the error dynamics

$$M\ddot{\theta}_e + (b + K_d)\dot{\theta}_e + K_p\theta_e = mgr \cos \theta$$

When the joint comes to rest at a configuration θ , $K_p\theta_e = mgr \cos \theta$
the final error θ_e is nonzero when $\theta_d \neq \pm\pi/2$

Non-zero steady-state error

PID Control

- Setpoint error dynamics

$$M\ddot{\theta}_e + (b + K_d)\dot{\theta}_e + K_p\theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t)dt = \tau_{\text{dist}}$$

Disturbance torque
 $mgr \cos \theta$

Taking derivatives

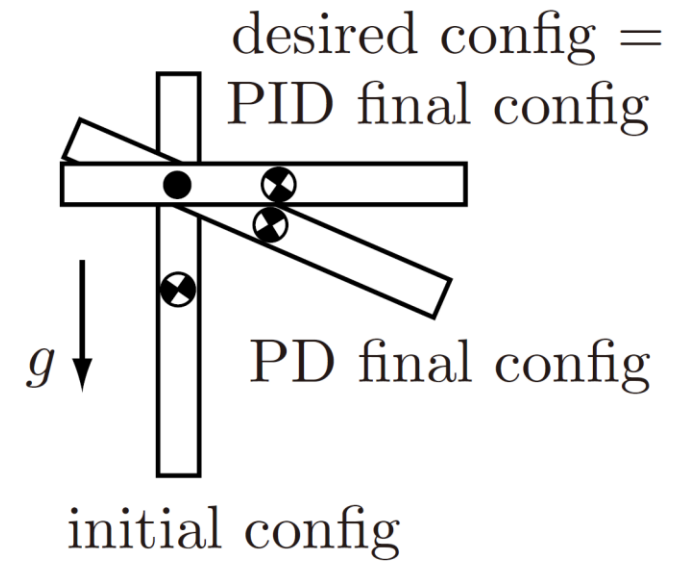
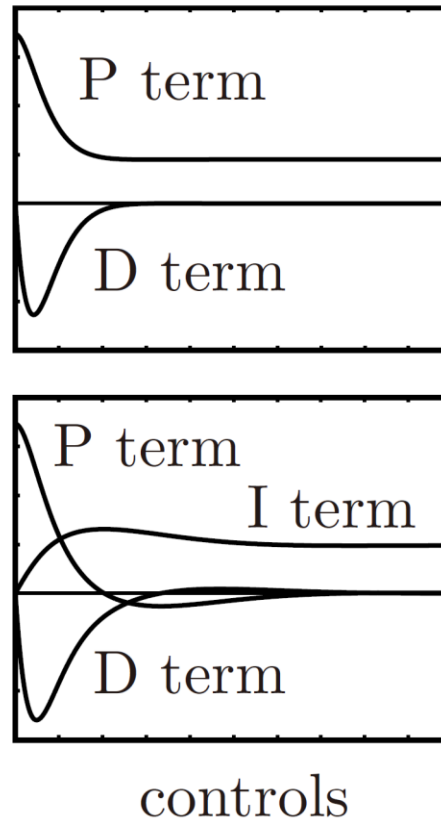
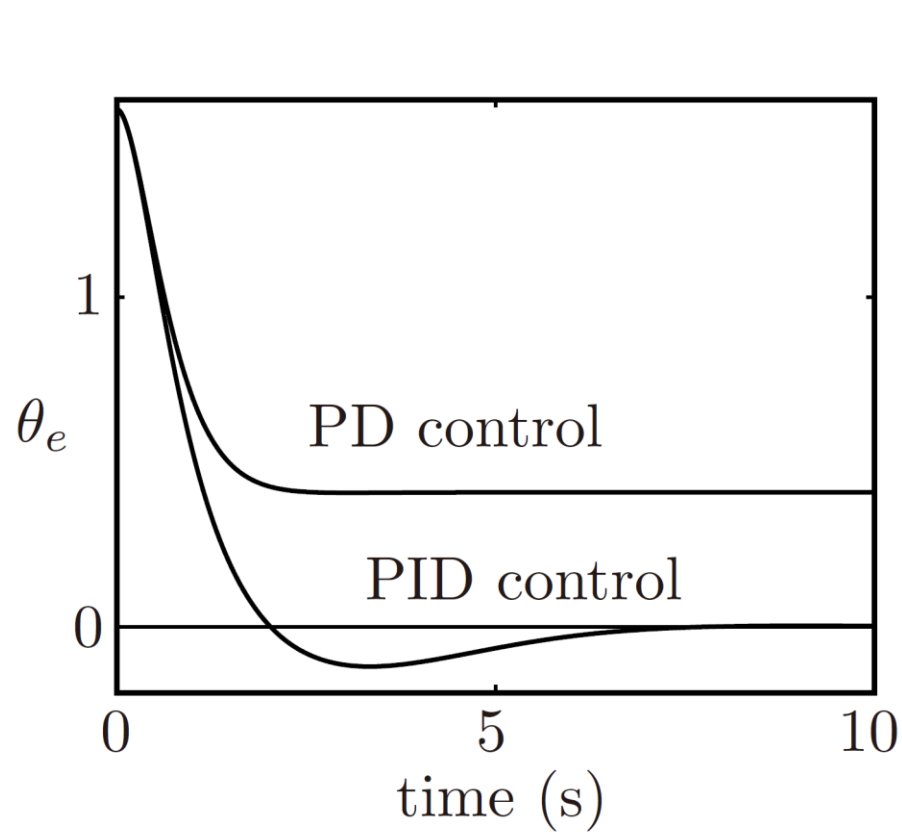
$$M\theta_e^{(3)} + (b + K_d)\ddot{\theta}_e + K_p\dot{\theta}_e + K_i\theta_e = \dot{\tau}_{\text{dist}}$$

Third-Order Error Dynamics

$$s^3 + \frac{b + K_d}{M}s^2 + \frac{K_p}{M}s + \frac{K_i}{M} = 0 \quad \text{If } \tau_{\text{dist}} \text{ Constant}$$

If all roots have a negative real part, then the error dynamics is stable, and θ_e converges to zero

PID Control



PID Control

```
time = 0 // dt = servo cycle time
eint = 0 // error integral
qprev = senseAngle // initial joint angle q
loop
  [qd,qdotd] = trajectory(time) // from trajectory generator

  q = senseAngle // sense actual joint angle
  qdot = (q - qprev)/dt // simple velocity calculation
  qprev = q

  e = qd - q
  edot = qdotd - qdot
  eint = eint + e*dt

  tau = Kp*e + Kd*edot + Ki*eint
  commandTorque(tau)

  time = time + dt
end loop
```


Feedforward Control

- Uses the dynamics of the robot
- The controller's model of the dynamics

$$\tau = \tilde{M}(\theta)\ddot{\theta} + \tilde{h}(\theta, \dot{\theta})$$

$$\tilde{M}(\theta) = M(\theta) \text{ and } \tilde{h}(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = h(\theta, \dot{\theta}) \quad \text{if the model is perfect}$$

- Given θ_d , $\dot{\theta}_d$, and $\ddot{\theta}_d$

Feedforward torque $\tau(t) = \tilde{M}(\theta_d(t))\ddot{\theta}_d(t) + \tilde{h}(\theta_d(t), \dot{\theta}_d(t))$

The dynamics model of the controller cannot be perfect in practice

Feedforward Plus Feedback Linearization

- Goal: achieve the following error dynamics

$$\ddot{\theta}_e + K_d \dot{\theta}_e + K_p \theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t) dt = c$$

A PID controller can achieve exponential decay of the trajectory error

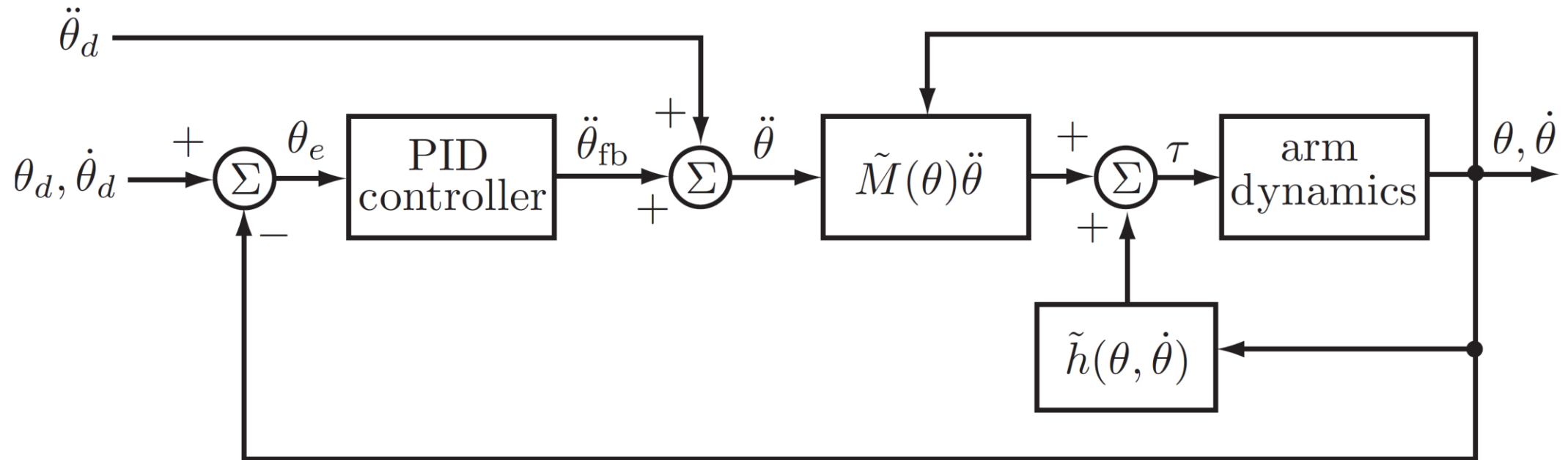
- We first choose $\ddot{\theta} = \ddot{\theta}_d - \ddot{\theta}_e$ $\ddot{\theta} = \ddot{\theta}_d + K_d \dot{\theta}_e + K_p \theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t) dt$

- Feedforward plus feedback linearizing controller (inverse dynamics controller, computed torque controller)

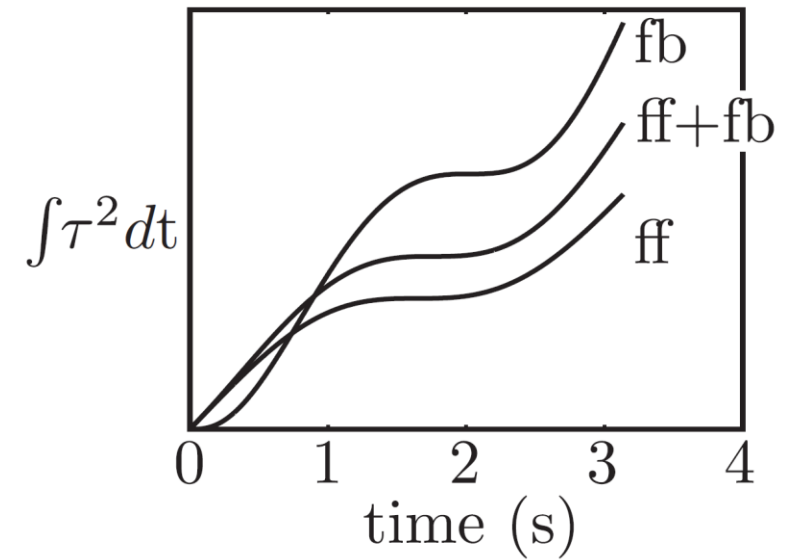
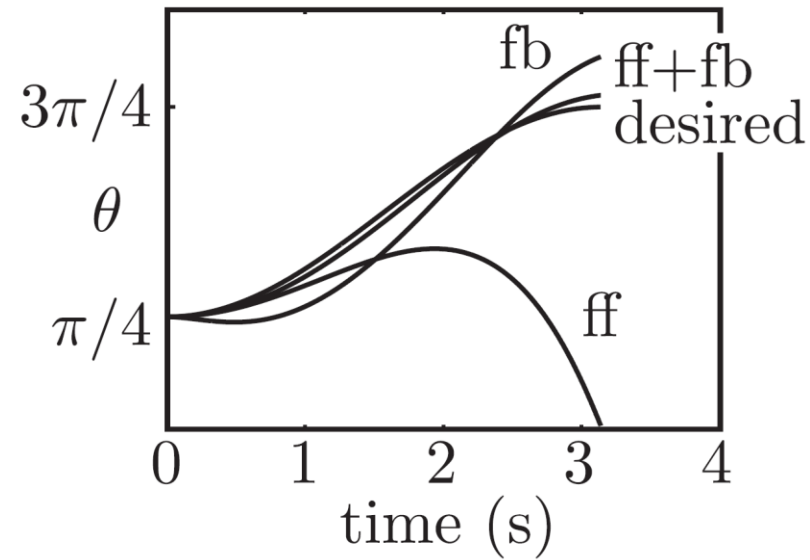
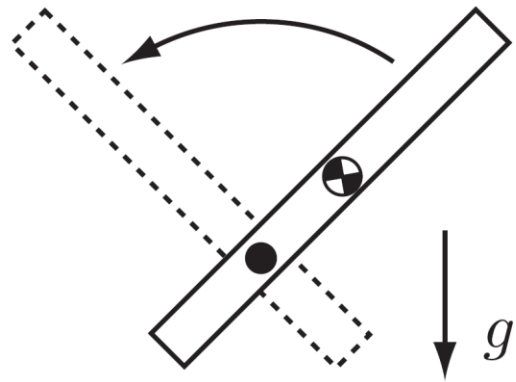
$$\tau = \tilde{M}(\theta) \left(\ddot{\theta}_d + K_p \theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t) dt + K_d \dot{\theta}_e \right) + \tilde{h}(\theta, \dot{\theta})$$

Feedforward Plus Feedback Linearization

$$\tau = \tilde{M}(\theta) \left(\ddot{\theta}_d + K_p \theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t) dt + K_d \dot{\theta}_e \right) + \tilde{h}(\theta, \dot{\theta})$$



Feedforward Plus Feedback Linearization



Summary

- Motion control with velocities
 - P controller
 - PI controller
 - Feedforward plus feedback controller
- Motion control with torque or force Inputs
 - PID control
 - Computed torque control

Further Reading

- Chapter 11 in Kevin M. Lynch and Frank C. Park. Modern Robotics: Mechanics, Planning, and Control. 1st Edition, 2017.