

The logo of The University of Texas at Dallas, featuring a circular seal with the text "THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS" and "EST. 1969" around the perimeter, and a large "UTD" in the center.

Robot Control: Motion Control, Force Control, Impedance Control

CS 6301 Special Topics: Introduction to Robot Manipulation and Navigation

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Motion Control of a Multi-joint Robot

- Dynamics

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

$n \times n$

- Decentralized control

- Each joint is controlled independently
- When dynamics are decoupled (approximately)

- Centralized control

- Full state information for each of the n joints is available to calculate the controls for each joint

Centralized Multi-joint Control

- Computed torque controller

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

K_p, K_i, K_d positive-definite matrices We choose the gain matrices as $k_p I, k_i I,$ and $k_d I$

- PID control and gravity compensation When the model is not good

$$\tau = K_p \theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t) dt + K_d \dot{\theta}_e + \tilde{g}(\theta)$$

Task-Space Motion Control

- Motion as a trajectory of the end-effector in the task space

$$(X(t), \mathcal{V}_b(t)) \quad X \in SE(3) \quad [\mathcal{V}_b] = X^{-1} \dot{X} \quad \text{Twist}$$

- Option 1: convert the trajectory to joint space

- Forward kinematics $X = T(\theta) \quad \mathcal{V}_b = J_b(\theta)\dot{\theta} \quad \dot{\mathcal{V}} = \dot{J}(\theta)\dot{\theta} + J(\theta)\ddot{\theta}$

- Inverse kinematics

$$\theta(t) = T^{-1}(X(t)),$$

$$\dot{\theta}(t) = J_b^\dagger(\theta(t))\mathcal{V}_b(t),$$

$$\ddot{\theta}(t) = J_b^\dagger(\theta(t)) \left(\dot{\mathcal{V}}_b(t) - \dot{J}_b(\theta(t))\dot{\theta}(t) \right)$$

may require significant computing power

Task-Space Motion Control

- Task-space dynamics

$$\mathcal{V} = J(\theta)\dot{\theta} \quad \dot{\mathcal{V}} = \dot{J}(\theta)\dot{\theta} + J(\theta)\ddot{\theta} \quad \begin{aligned} \dot{\theta} &= J^{-1}\mathcal{V}, \\ \ddot{\theta} &= J^{-1}\dot{\mathcal{V}} - J^{-1}\dot{J}J^{-1}\mathcal{V} \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\tau = M(\theta) \left(J^{-1}\dot{\mathcal{V}} - J^{-1}\dot{J}J^{-1}\mathcal{V} \right) + h(\theta, J^{-1}\mathcal{V})$$

$$\tau = J^T(\theta)\mathcal{F} \quad \text{End-effector wrench}$$

$$J^{-T}\tau = J^{-T}MJ^{-1}\dot{\mathcal{V}} - J^{-T}MJ^{-1}\dot{J}J^{-1}\mathcal{V} + J^{-T}h(\theta, J^{-1}\mathcal{V}).$$

Task-Space Motion Control

- Task-space dynamics

$$\mathcal{F} = \Lambda(\theta)\dot{\mathcal{V}} + \eta(\theta, \mathcal{V})$$

$$\Lambda(\theta) = J^{-\text{T}}M(\theta)J^{-1},$$

$$\eta(\theta, \mathcal{V}) = J^{-\text{T}}h(\theta, J^{-1}\mathcal{V}) - \Lambda(\theta)\dot{J}J^{-1}\mathcal{V}.$$

Task-Space Motion Control

• Option 2: task-space dynamics $\mathcal{F}_b = \Lambda(\theta)\dot{\mathcal{V}}_b + \eta(\theta, \mathcal{V}_b)$

• Joint forces and torques $\tau = J_b^T(\theta)\mathcal{F}_b$

• Computed torque controller

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

Task space $\tau =$

$$J_b^T(\theta) \left(\tilde{\Lambda}(\theta) \left(\frac{d}{dt}([\text{Ad}_{X^{-1}}]_{X_d})\mathcal{V}_d \right) + K_p X_e + K_i \int X_e(t)dt + K_d \mathcal{V}_e \right) + \tilde{\eta}(\theta, \mathcal{V}_b)$$

Force Control

- When the task is to apply forces and torques to the environment
- The manipulator dynamics with applied wrench

$$M(\theta)\ddot{\theta} + c(\theta, \dot{\theta}) + g(\theta) + b(\dot{\theta}) + J^T(\theta)\mathcal{F}_{\text{tip}} = \tau$$

Centripetal & Coriolis Gravity Friction Wrench applied to the environment

- The Robot moves slowly (or not at all) during a force control task
 - Ignore the acceleration and the velocity terms


$$g(\theta) + J^T(\theta)\mathcal{F}_{\text{tip}} = \tau$$

Force Control

- Without direct measurements of the force-torque at the robot end-effector, by using joint-angle feedback

The force-control law $\tau = \tilde{g}(\theta) + J^T(\theta)\mathcal{F}_d$

A model of the
gravitational torques

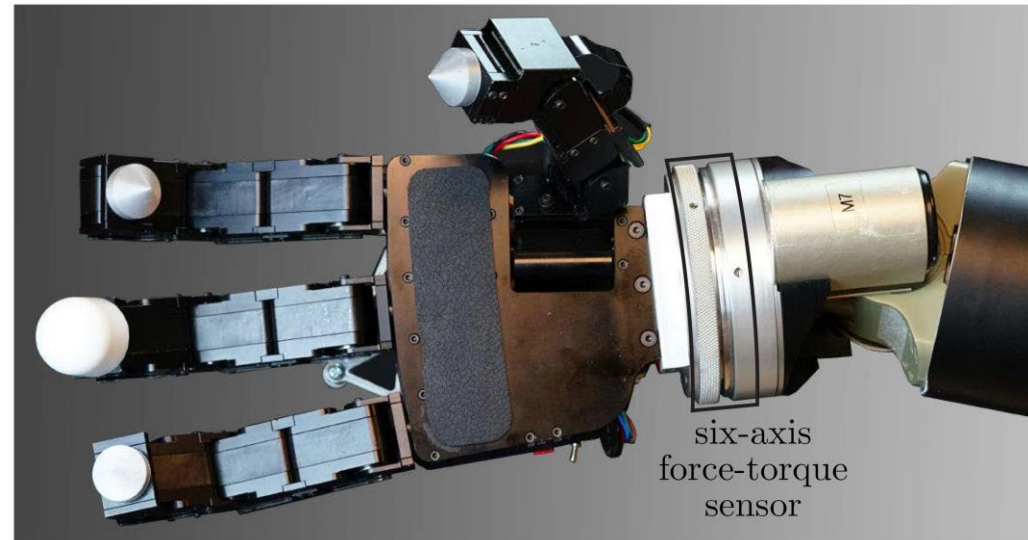


Desired wrench



Force Control

- Use a six-axis force-torque sensor between the arm and the end-effector to measure the end-effector wrench \mathcal{F}_{tip}



Force Control

- A PI force controller with a feedforward term and gravity compensation

$$\tau = \tilde{g}(\theta) + J^T(\theta) \left(\mathcal{F}_d + K_{fp} \mathcal{F}_e + K_{fi} \int \mathcal{F}_e(t) dt \right)$$

$$\mathcal{F}_e = \mathcal{F}_d - \mathcal{F}_{\text{tip}}$$

- Adding velocity damping

$$\tau = \tilde{g}(\theta) + J^T(\theta) \left(\mathcal{F}_d + K_{fp} \mathcal{F}_e + K_{fi} \int \mathcal{F}_e(t) dt - K_{\text{damp}} \mathcal{V} \right)$$

Impedance Control

- Robot impedance characterizes the change in endpoint motion as a function of disturbance forces.

$$\text{Impedance } R = \frac{F}{V}$$

Force

Velocity

- Ideal motion control
 - High impedance, little change in motion due to force disturbances
- Ideal force control
 - Low impedance, little change in force due to motion disturbances

Impedance Control

- Impedance control is an approach to dynamic control relating force and position
- The robot end-effector is asked to render particular mass, spring, and damper properties



<https://youtu.be/XwiX2vv14Qs>

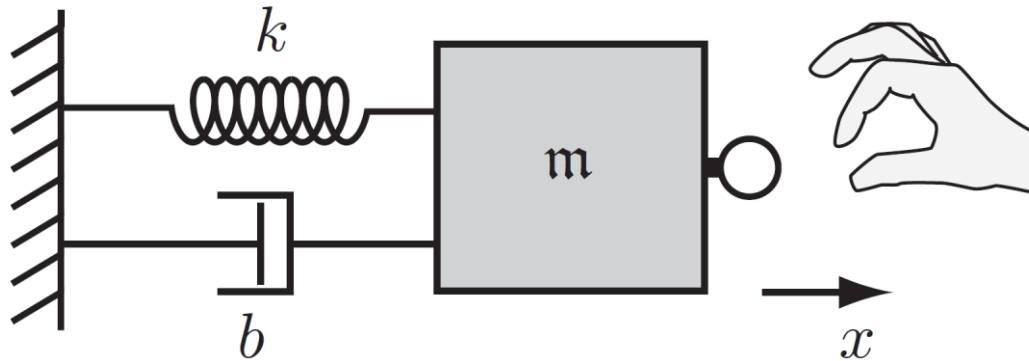
Impedance Control

- The dynamics for a one dof robot rendering an impedance

$$m\ddot{x} + b\dot{x} + kx = f$$

mass damping stiffness force

High impedance: b or k is large



Impedance Control

- Goal: implement the task-space behavior

$$M\ddot{x} + B\dot{x} + Kx = f_{\text{ext}}$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ Task-space configuration in a minimum set of coordinates

$M, B,$ and K Positive-definite virtual mass, damping, and stiffness matrices

f_{ext} Force applied to the robot

Two ways of Impedance Control

$$M\ddot{x} + B\dot{x} + Kx = f_{\text{ext}}$$

- Impedance controlled
 - The robot senses the endpoint motion $x(t)$
 - Commands joint torques and forces to create $-f_{\text{ext}}$
 - Displays the force to the user
- Admittance controlled
 - The robot senses f_{ext}
 - Controls its motion in response

Impedance Control

- Impedance-Control Algorithm

$$M\ddot{x} + B\dot{x} + Kx = f_{\text{ext}}$$

$$\tau = J^T(\theta) \left(\underbrace{\tilde{\Lambda}(\theta)\ddot{x} + \tilde{\eta}(\theta, \dot{x})}_{\text{arm dynamics compensation}} - \underbrace{(M\ddot{x} + B\dot{x} + Kx)}_{f_{\text{ext}}} \right)$$

- Admittance-Control Algorithm

$$\ddot{x}_d = M^{-1}(f_{\text{ext}} - B\dot{x} - Kx) \quad \dot{x} = J(\theta)\dot{\theta}$$

$$\ddot{\theta}_d = J^\dagger(\theta)(\ddot{x}_d - \dot{J}(\theta)\dot{\theta})$$

Use inverse dynamics to calculate the commanded joint forces and torques

Summary

- Task-space motion control
- Force control
- Impedance control

Further Reading

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