

The logo of The University of Texas at Dallas, featuring a circular seal with the letters 'UTD' in the center, the text 'THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS' around the top, and 'EST. 1969' at the bottom. Two stars are positioned on either side of the 'EST. 1969' text.

Robot Control: Motion Control and Force Control

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

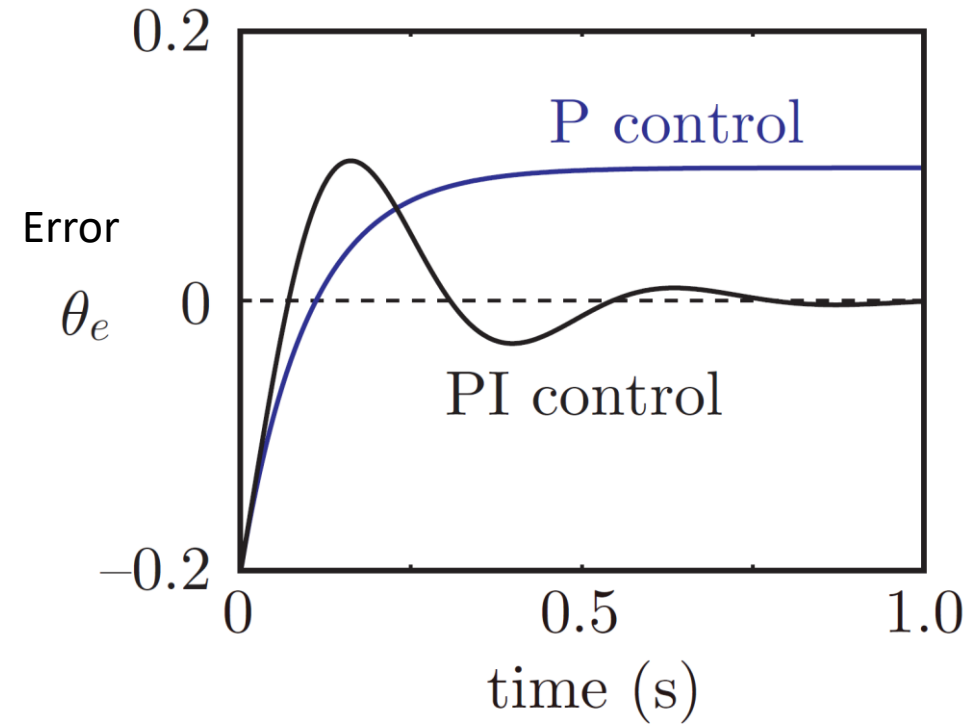
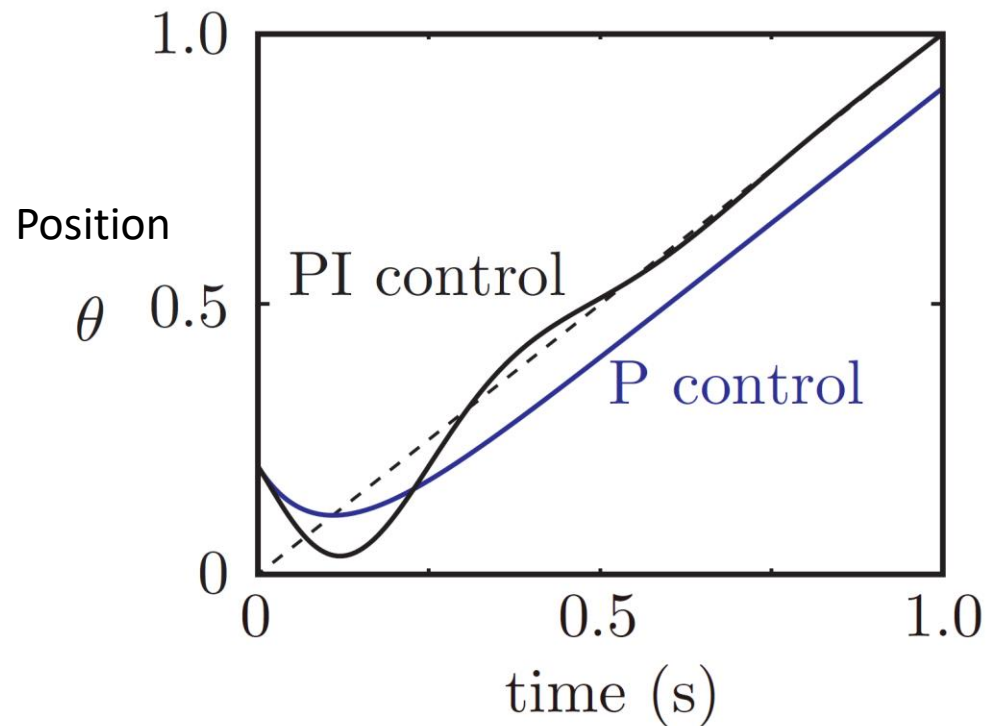
$$K_p > 0$$

- 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

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

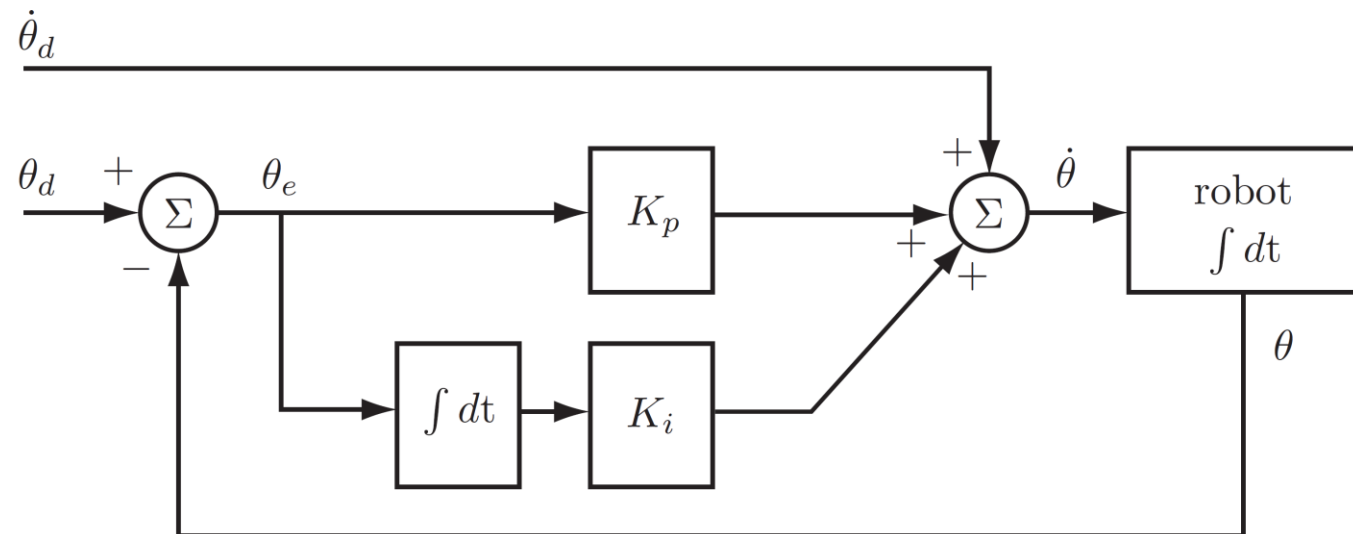


Reference trajectory (dashed)

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

$$k_p I \quad k_i I$$

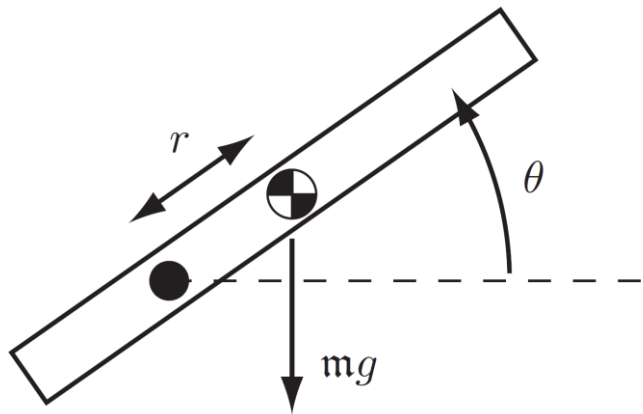
Control law $\dot{\theta}(t) = \dot{\theta}_d(t) + K_p \theta_e(t) + K_i \int_0^t \theta_e(t) dt$

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

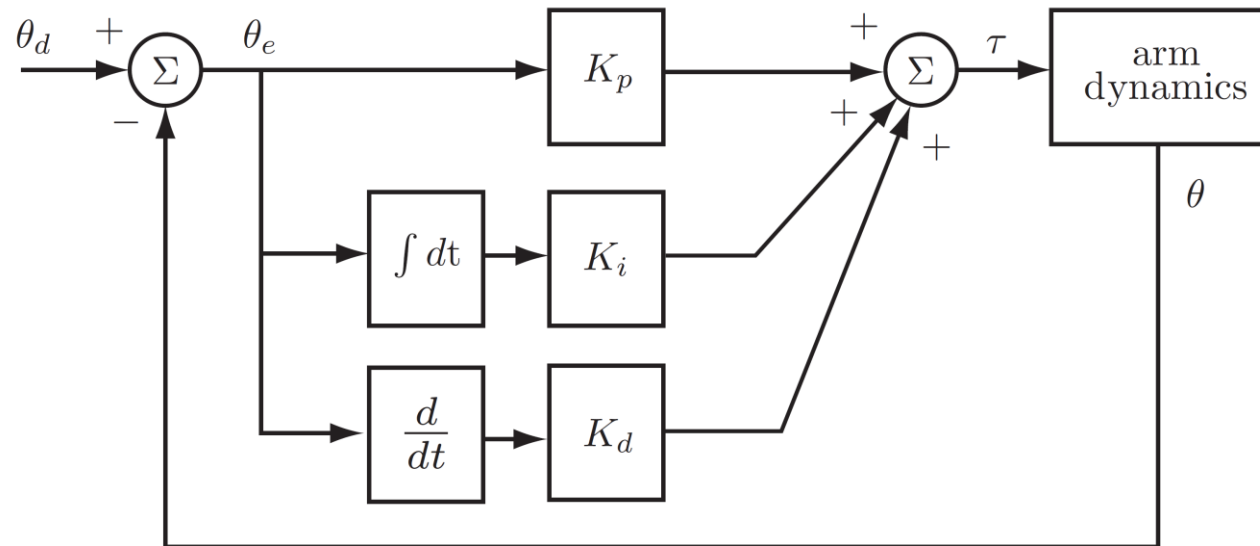
$$\tau = M\ddot{\theta} + mgr \cos \theta + b\dot{\theta}$$

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

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

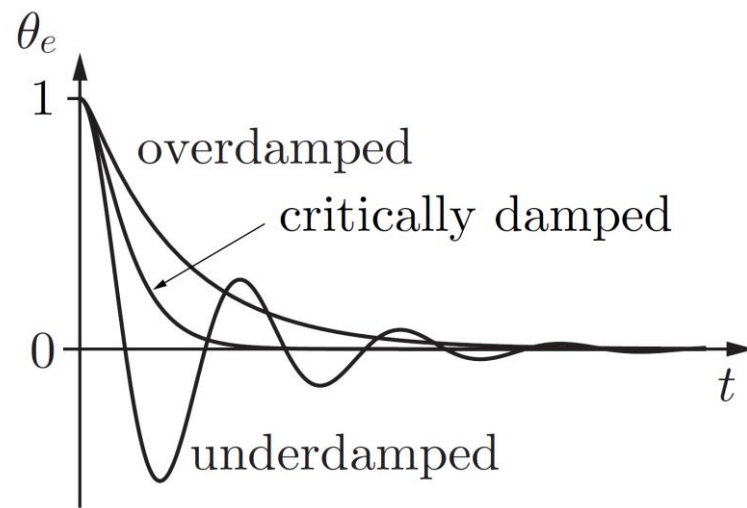
PD Control

- 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

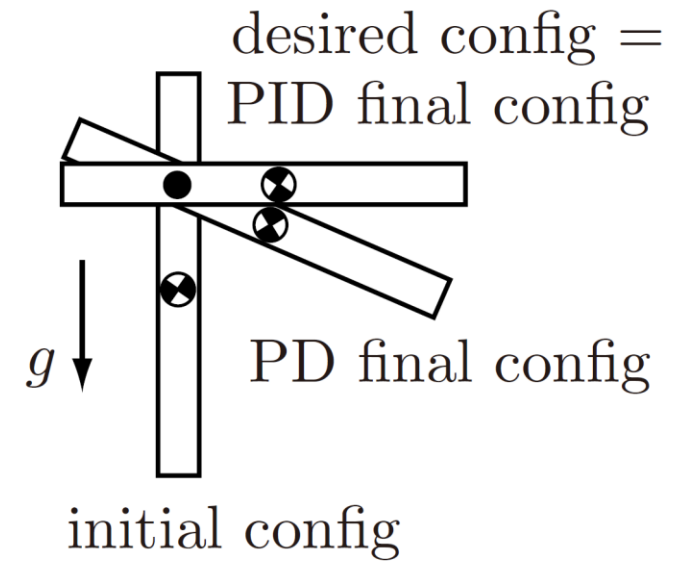
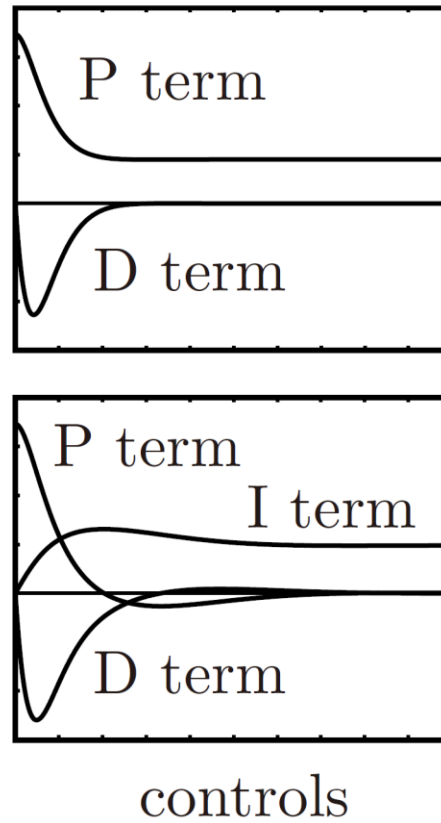
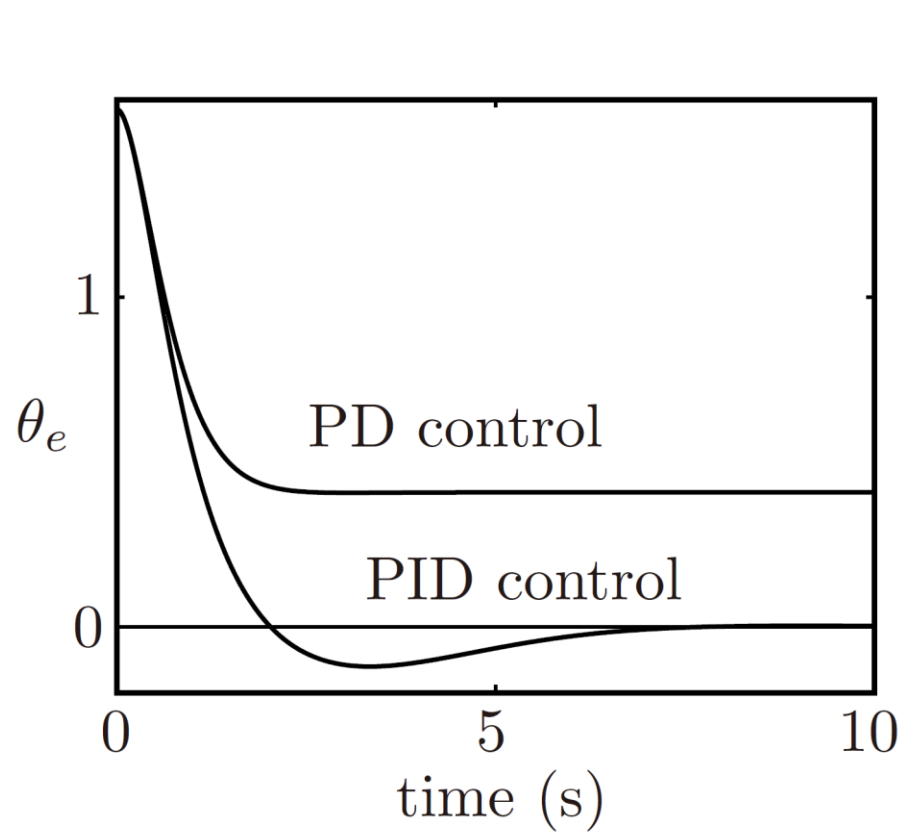
$$M\theta_e^{(3)} + (b + K_d)\ddot{\theta}_e + K_p\dot{\theta}_e + K_i\theta_e = \dot{\tau}_{\text{dist}}$$

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

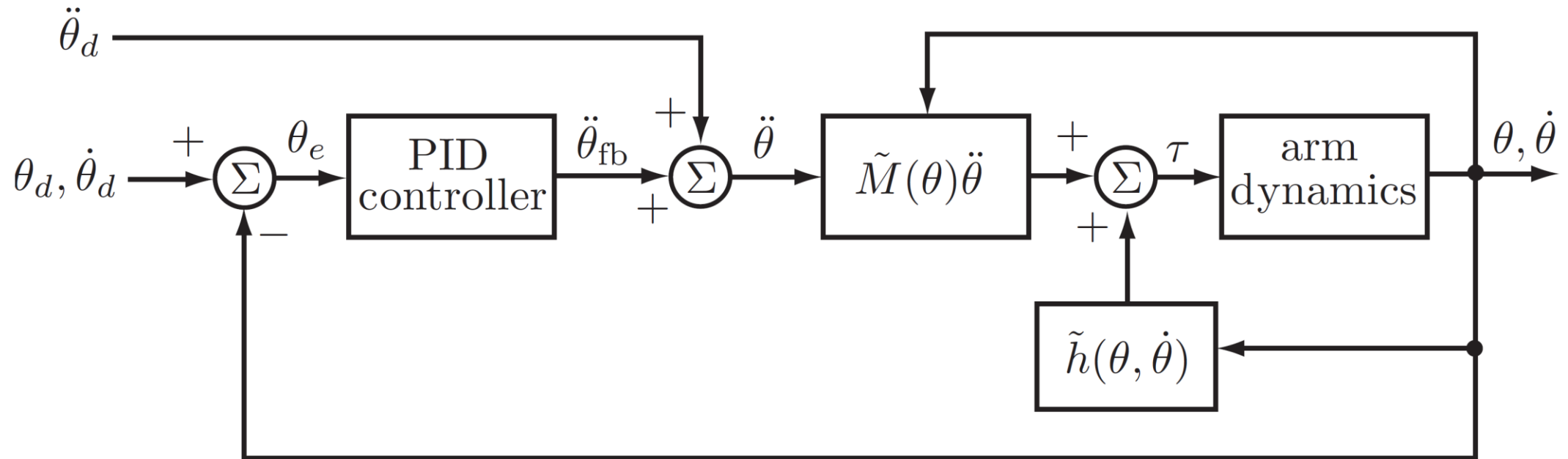
- We first choose $\ddot{\theta} = \ddot{\theta}_d - \ddot{\theta}_e$ $\ddot{\theta} = \ddot{\theta}_d + K_d \dot{\theta}_e + K_p \theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t) dt$

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

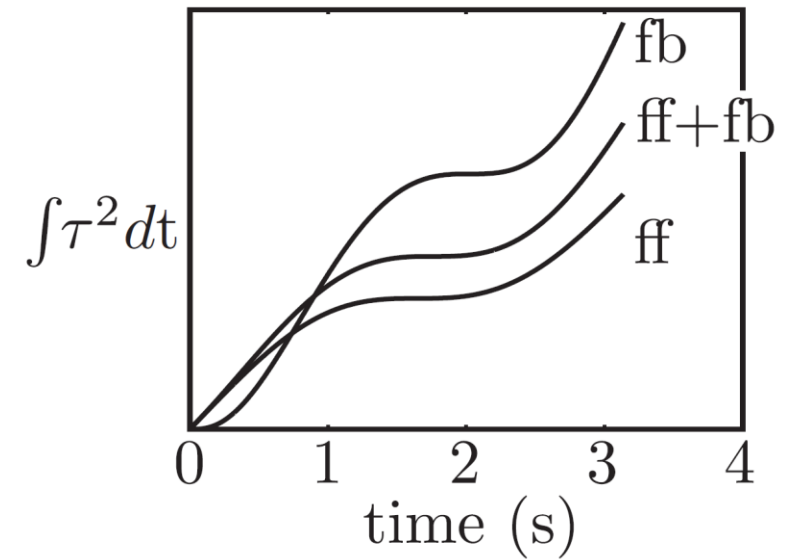
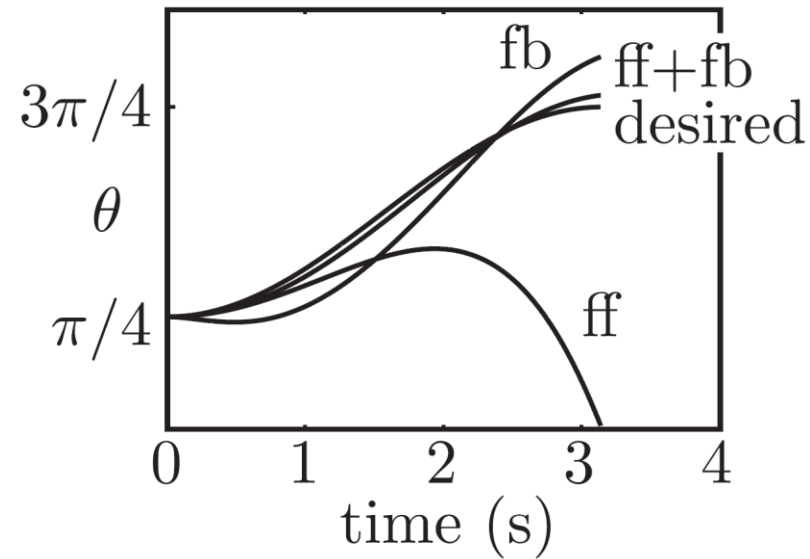
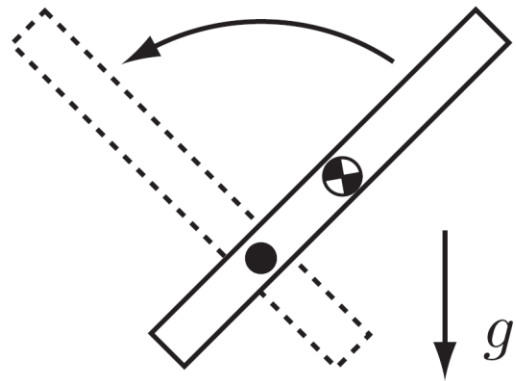
$$\tau = \tilde{M}(\theta) \left(\ddot{\theta}_d + K_p \theta_e + K_i \int \theta_e(t) dt + K_d \dot{\theta}_e \right) + \tilde{h}(\theta, \dot{\theta})$$

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



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

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

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

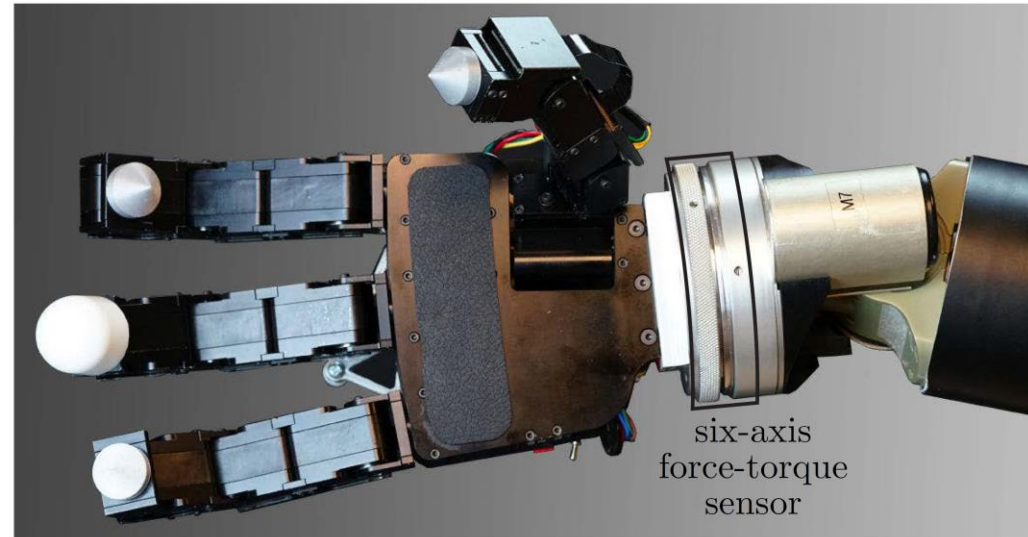


Desired wrench



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

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

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
- Force Control

Further Reading

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