



Robotics 2

Trajectory Tracking Control

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Inverse dynamics control

given the robot **dynamic model**

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + n(q, \dot{q}) = u$$

$c(q, \dot{q}) + g(q) + \text{friction model}$

and a twice-differentiable **desired trajectory** for $t \in [0, T]$

$$q_d(t) \rightarrow \dot{q}_d(t), \ddot{q}_d(t)$$

applying the **feedforward** torque in **nominal conditions**

$$u_d = M(q_d)\ddot{q}_d + n(q_d, \dot{q}_d)$$

yields exact reproduction of the desired motion, provided that $q(0) = q_d(0), \dot{q}(0) = \dot{q}_d(0)$ (initial **matched state**)



In practice ...

a number of differences from the **nominal condition**

- initial state is “**not matched**” to the desired trajectory $q_d(t)$
- **disturbances** on the actuators, truncation errors on data, ...
- **inaccurate knowledge** of robot dynamic parameters (link masses, inertias, center of mass positions)
- **unknown** value of the carried payload
- presence of **unmodeled** dynamics (complex friction phenomena, transmission elasticity, ...)



Introducing feedback

$$\hat{u}_d = \hat{M}(q_d)\ddot{q}_d + \hat{n}(q_d, \dot{q}_d)$$

with \hat{M} , \hat{n} **estimates** of terms (or coefficients) in the dynamic model

note: \hat{u}_d can be computed **off line** [e.g., by $\hat{N}E_\alpha(q_d, \dot{q}_d, \ddot{q}_d)$]

feedback is introduced to make the control scheme more robust

different possible implementations depending on amount of **computational load** share

- **OFF LINE** (\leftrightarrow open loop)
- **ON LINE** (\leftrightarrow closed loop)

two-step control design:

1. compensation (**feedforward**) or cancellation (**feedback**) of **nonlinearities**
2. synthesis of a **linear** control law stabilizing the trajectory error to zero



A series of trajectory controllers

1. inverse dynamics compensation (FFW) + PD

$$u = \hat{u}_d + K_P(q_d - q) + K_D(\dot{q}_d - \dot{q})$$

typically, only local stabilization of trajectory error

$$e(t) = q_d(t) - q(t)$$

2. inverse dynamics compensation (FFW) + variable PD

$$u = \hat{u}_d + \hat{M}(q_d)[K_P(q_d - q) + K_D(\dot{q}_d - \dot{q})]$$

3. feedback linearization (FBL) + [PD+FFW] = "COMPUTED TORQUE"

$$u = \hat{M}(q)[\ddot{q}_d + K_P(q_d - q) + K_D(\dot{q}_d - \dot{q})] + \hat{n}(q, \dot{q})$$

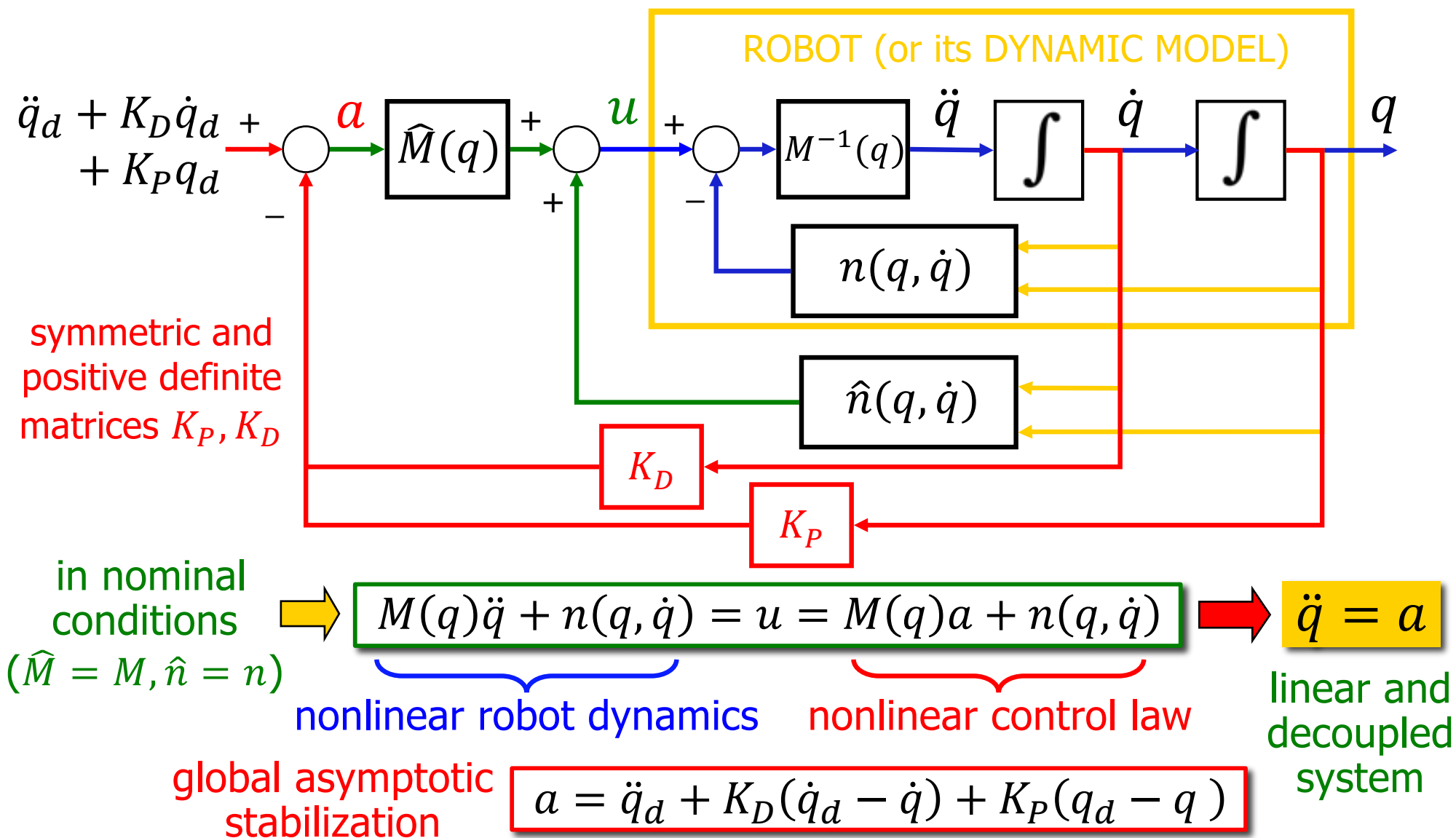
4. feedback linearization (FBL) + [PID+FFW]

$$u = \hat{M}(q) \left[\ddot{q}_d + K_P(q_d - q) + K_D(\dot{q}_d - \dot{q}) + K_I \int (q_d - q) dt \right] + \hat{n}(q, \dot{q})$$

more robust to uncertainties, but also more complex to implement in real time

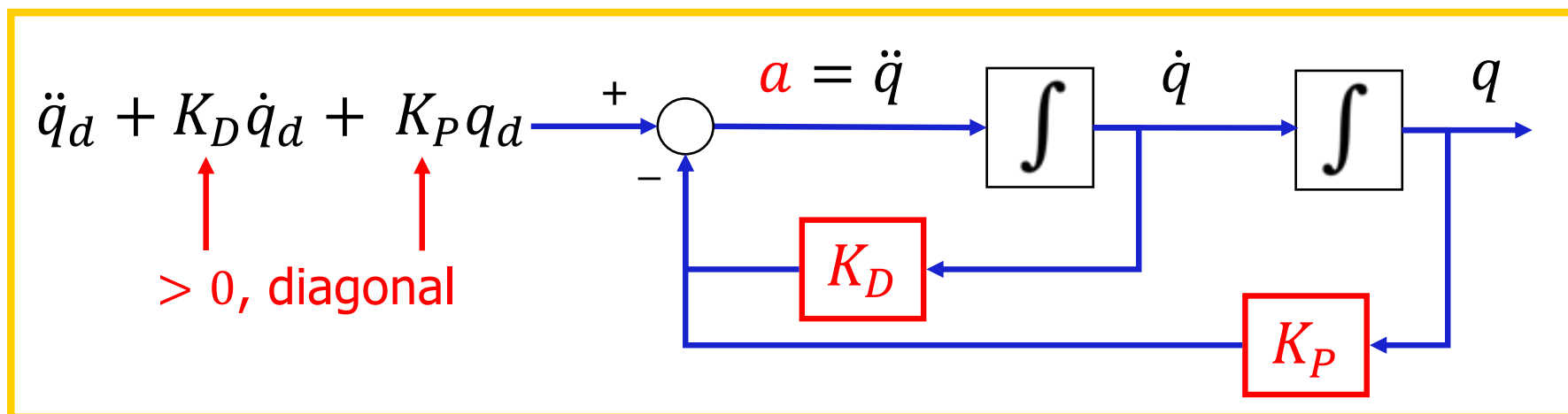


Feedback linearization control





Interpretation in the linear domain



under feedback linearization control, the robot has a dynamic behavior that is **invariant**, **linear** and **decoupled** in its whole workspace ($\forall(q, \dot{q})$)

a unitary mass ($m = 1$) in the joint space !!

linearity

error transients $e_i = q_{di} - q_i \rightarrow 0$ **exponentially**, prescribed by K_{Pi}, K_{Di} choice

decoupling

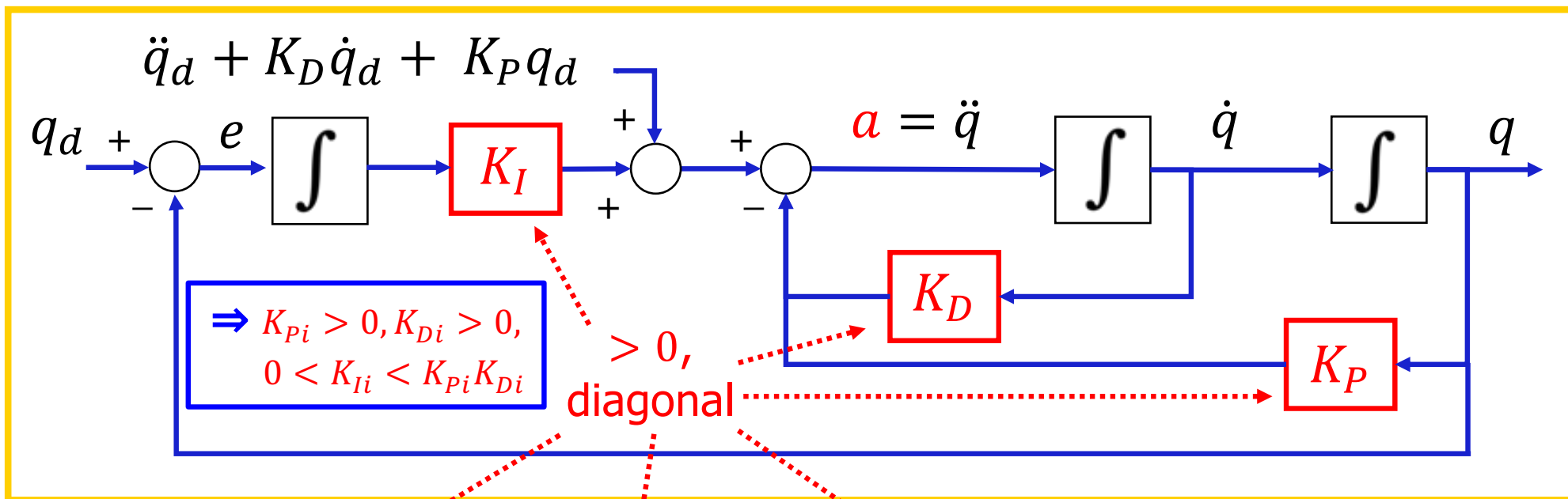
each joint coordinate q_i evolves **independently** from the others, forced by a_i

$$\ddot{e} + K_D \dot{e} + K_P e = 0 \iff \ddot{e}_i + K_{Di} \dot{e}_i + K_{Pi} e_i = 0$$



Addition of an integral term: PID

whiteboard...



$$\ddot{q} = a = \ddot{q}_d + K_D(\dot{q}_d - \dot{q}) + K_P(q_d - q) + K_I \int (q_d - q) d\tau \quad e = q_d - q$$

$$\Rightarrow (1) \quad e_i = q_{di} - q_i \quad (i = 1, \dots, N) \quad \Rightarrow (2) \quad \ddot{e}_i + K_{Di} \dot{e}_i + K_{Pi} e_i + K_{Pi} \int e_i d\tau = 0$$

$$\mathcal{L}[e_i(t)] \Rightarrow (3) \quad \left(s^2 + K_{Di} s + K_{Pi} + K_{Ii} \frac{1}{s} \right) e_i(s) = 0$$

$$s \times \Rightarrow (4) \quad (s^3 + K_{Di} s^2 + K_{Pi} s + K_{Ii}) e_i(s) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow (5)$$

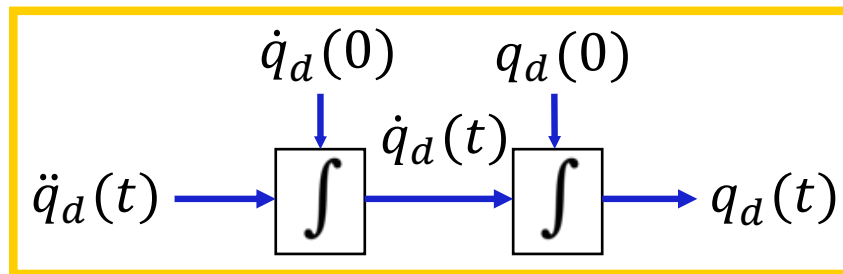
3	1	K_{Pi}
2	K_{Di}	K_{Ii}
1	$(K_{Di} K_{Pi} - K_{Ii}) / K_{Di}$	
0	K_{Ii}	

$\Rightarrow (6)$
exponential
 stability
 conditions by
 Routh criterion



Remarks

- **desired joint trajectory** can be generated from **Cartesian** data



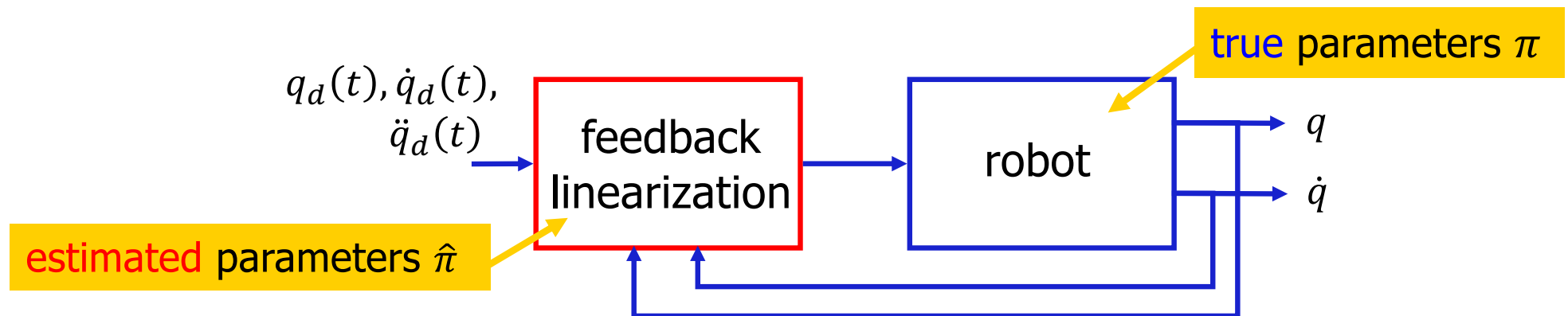
$$\ddot{p}_d(t), \dot{p}_d(0), p_d(0)$$

$$q_d(0) = f^{-1}(p_d(0))$$

$$\dot{q}_d(0) = J^{-1}(q_d(0))\dot{p}_d(0)$$

$$\ddot{q}_d(t) = J^{-1}(q_d)[\ddot{p}_d(t) - \dot{J}(q_d)\dot{q}_d]$$

- real-time computation by **Newton-Euler** algo: $u_{FBL} = \widehat{N}E_\alpha(q, \dot{q}, a)$
- **simulation** of feedback linearization control

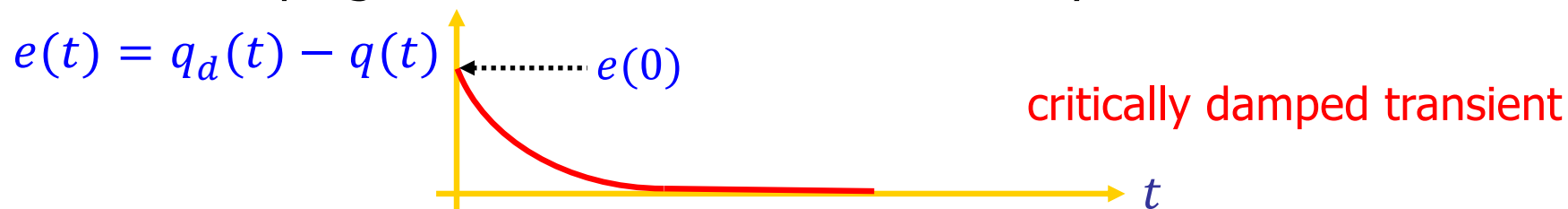


*Hint: there is no use in simulating this control law in ideal case ($\hat{\pi} = \pi$); robot behavior will be **identical** to the linear and decoupled case of **stabilized double integrators**!!*



Further comments

- **choice** of the diagonal elements of K_P, K_D (and K_I)
 - for shaping the **error** transients, with an eye to motor saturations...



- **parametric identification**
 - to be done in advance, using the property of **linearity in the dynamic coefficients** of the robot dynamic model
- choice of the **sampling time** of a digital implementation
 - compromise between **computational time** and **tracking accuracy**, typically $T_c = 0.5 \div 10$ ms
- exact linearization by (state) feedback is a general technique of **nonlinear control theory**
 - can be used for **robots with elastic joints, wheeled mobile robots, ...**
 - **non-robotics applications**: satellites, induction motors, helicopters, ...



Another example of feedback linearization design

- dynamic model of robots with elastic joints

- q = link position
 - θ = motor position (after reduction gears)
 - B_m = diagonal matrix (> 0) of inertia of the (balanced) motors
 - K = diagonal matrix (> 0) of (finite) stiffness of the joints
- } $2N$ generalized coordinates (q, θ)

$4N$ state variables

$$x = (q, \theta, \dot{q}, \dot{\theta}) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M(q)\ddot{q} + c(q, \dot{q}) + g(q) + K(q - \theta) = 0 \quad (1) \\ B_m\ddot{\theta} + K(\theta - q) = u \quad (2) \end{array} \right.$$

- is there a control law that achieves exact linearization via feedback?

$$u = \alpha(q, \theta, \dot{q}, \dot{\theta}) + \beta(q, \theta, \dot{q}, \dot{\theta}) a$$

YES and it yields $\frac{d^4 q_i}{dt^4} = a_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N$

linear and decoupled system:
 N chains of 4 integrators
(to be stabilized by linear control design)

Hint: differentiate (1) w.r.t. time until motor acceleration $\ddot{\theta}$ appears; substitute this from (2); choose u so as to cancel all nonlinearities ...



Alternative global trajectory controller

$$u = M(q)\ddot{q}_d + S(q, \dot{q})\dot{q}_d + g(q) + F_V\dot{q}_d + K_P e + K_D \dot{e}$$

↑
SPECIAL factorization such that
 $\dot{M} - 2S$ is skew-symmetric

↑ ↑
symmetric and
positive definite matrices

- global asymptotic stability of $(e, \dot{e}) = (0,0)$ (trajectory tracking)
- proven by Lyapunov+Barbalat+LaSalle
- does not produce a complete cancellation of nonlinearities
 - the \dot{q} and \ddot{q} that appear linearly in the model are evaluated on the desired trajectory
- does not induce a linear and decoupled behavior of the trajectory error $e(t) = q_d(t) - q(t)$ in the closed-loop system
- lends itself more easily to an adaptive version
- cannot be computed directly by the standard NE algorithm...

Analysis of asymptotic stability of the trajectory error - 1



$M(q)\ddot{q} + S(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) + F_V\dot{q} = u$ robot dynamics (including friction)

control law $u = M(q)\ddot{q}_d + S(q, \dot{q})\dot{q}_d + g(q) + F_V\dot{q}_d + K_P e + K_D \dot{e}$

- Lyapunov candidate and its time derivative

$$V = \frac{1}{2} \dot{e}^T M(q) \dot{e} + \frac{1}{2} e^T K_P e \geq 0 \Rightarrow \dot{V} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{e}^T \dot{M}(q) \dot{e} + \underbrace{\dot{e}^T M(q) \ddot{e}} + e^T K_P \dot{e}$$

- the closed-loop system equations yield

$$M(q)\ddot{e} = -S(q, \dot{q})\dot{e} - (K_D + F_V)\dot{e} - K_P e$$

- substituting and using the skew-symmetric property

$$\dot{V} = -\dot{e}^T (K_D + F_V) \dot{e} \leq 0 \quad \dot{V} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \dot{e} = 0$$

- since the system is **time-varying** (due to $q_d(t)$), direct application of LaSalle theorem is **NOT** allowed \Rightarrow use **Barbalat lemma**...

$$q = q_d(t) - e, \dot{q} = \dot{q}_d(t) - \dot{e} \Rightarrow V = V(\underbrace{e, \dot{e}}_{\text{error state } x}, t) = V(x, t)$$

\Rightarrow go to
slide 10 in
block 8

error state x



Analysis of asymptotic stability of the trajectory error - 2

- since i) V is lower bounded and ii) $\dot{V} \leq 0$, we can check condition iii) in order to apply **Barbalat lemma**

$$\ddot{V} = -2\dot{e}^T (K_D + F_V)\ddot{e} \quad \dots \text{ is this bounded?}$$

- from i) + ii), V is bounded $\Rightarrow e$ and \dot{e} are bounded
 - assume that the desired trajectory has **bounded velocity** \dot{q}_d
- } $\Rightarrow \dot{q}$ is bounded
- using the following **two properties** of dynamic model terms

$$0 < m \leq \|M^{-1}(q)\| \leq M < \infty \quad \|S(q, \dot{q})\| \leq \alpha_S \|\dot{q}\|$$

then also \ddot{e} will be **bounded** (in norm) since

$$\ddot{e} = -M^{-1}(q)[S(q, \dot{q})\dot{e} + K_P e + (K_D + F_V)\dot{e}]$$

↑
bounded
in norm by M

↑ ↑ ↑
bounded bounded bounded
↑
bounded
in norm by $\alpha_S \|\dot{q}\|$ ← bounded

↑
bounded

} $\Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{V}(t) = 0$

Analysis of asymptotic stability of the trajectory error – end of proof



- we can now conclude by proceeding as in **LaSalle theorem**

$$\dot{V} = 0 \iff \dot{e} = 0$$

- the closed-loop dynamics in this situation is

$$M(q)\ddot{e} = -K_p e$$

$$\implies \ddot{e} = 0 \iff e = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad (e, \dot{e}) = (0, 0)$$

is the largest
invariant set in $\dot{V} = 0$

\rightarrow (global) asymptotic tracking
will be achieved





Regulation as a special case

- what happens to the control laws designed for trajectory tracking when q_d is **constant**? are there simplifications?

- **feedback linearization**

$$u = M(q)[K_P(q_d - q) - K_D\dot{q}] + c(q, \dot{q}) + g(q)$$

- no special simplifications
- however, this is a solution to the regulation problem with **exponential stability** (and decoupled transients at each joint!)

- **alternative global controller**

$$u = K_P(q_d - q) - K_D\dot{q} + g(q)$$

- we recover the PD + gravity cancellation control law!!



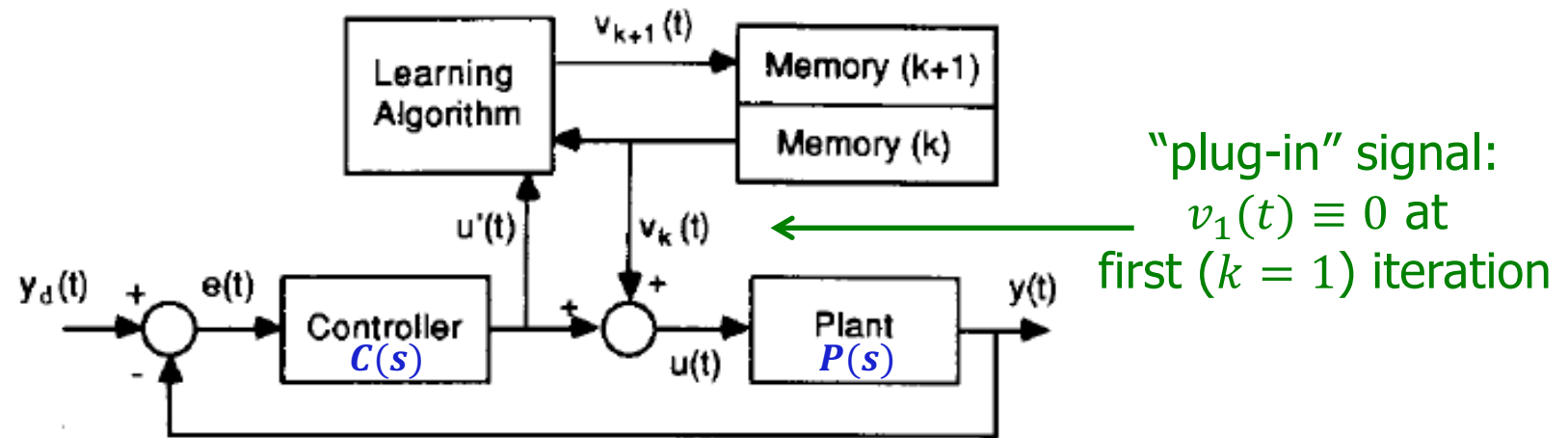
Trajectory execution without a model

- is it possible to accurately reproduce a desired smooth joint-space reference trajectory with **reduced or no information** on the robot dynamic model?
- this is feasible in case of **repetitive motion tasks** over a finite interval of time
 - trials are performed iteratively, storing the **trajectory error** information of the current execution [k -th iteration] and processing it off line before the next trial [$(k + 1)$ -iteration] starts
 - the robot should be **reinitialized** in the same initial position at the beginning of each trial
 - the control law is made of a **non-model based part** (typically, a decentralized PD law) + a **time-varying feedforward** which is updated at every trial
- this scheme is called **iterative trajectory learning**



Scheme of iterative trajectory learning

- control design can be illustrated on a **SISO linear system** in the Laplace domain



$$W(s) = \frac{y(s)}{y_d(s)} = \frac{P(s)C(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)}$$

closed-loop system **without** learning
($C(s)$ is, e.g., a PD control law)

$$u_k(s) = u'_k(s) + v_k(s) = C(s)e_k(s) + v_k(s) \quad \text{control law at iteration } k$$

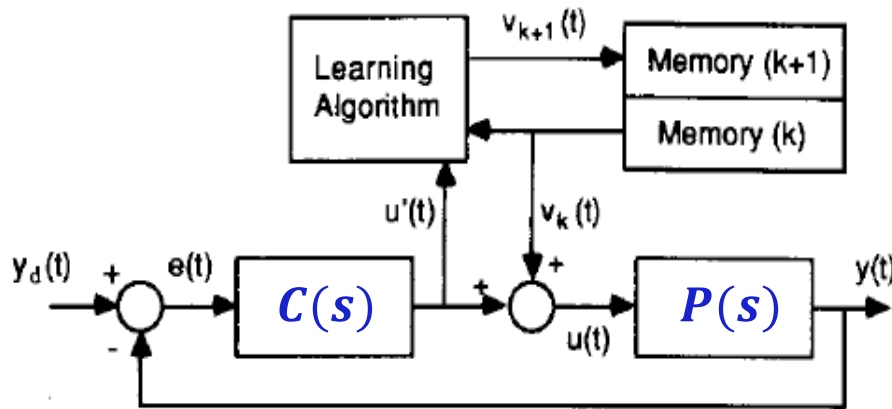
$$y_k(s) = W(s)y_d(s) + \frac{P(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} v_k(s) \quad \text{system output at iteration } k$$

Background math on feedback loops

whiteboard...



- **algebraic** manipulations on block diagram signals in the **Laplace** domain:
 $x(s) = \mathcal{L}[x(t)]$, $x = \{y_d, y, u', v, e\} \Rightarrow \{y_d, y_k, u'_k, v_k, e_k\}$, with transfer functions



$$\begin{aligned} y(s) &= P(s)u(s) = P(s)(v(s) + u'(s)) \\ &= P(s)v(s) + P(s)C(s)e(s) \\ &= P(s)v(s) + P(s)C(s)(y_d(s) - y(s)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (1 + P(s)C(s)) y(s) &= \\ &= P(s)v(s) + P(s)C(s)y_d(s) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow y(s) = \frac{P(s)C(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} y_d(s) + \frac{P(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} v(s) = W(s)y_d(s) + W_v(s)v(s)$$

- **feedback control** law at iteration k

$$u'_k(s) = C(s)(y_d(s) - y_k(s)) = C(s)y_d(s) - P(s)C(s)(v_k(s) + u'_k(s))$$

$$\Rightarrow u'_k(s) = \frac{C(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} y_d(s) - \frac{P(s)C(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} v_k(s) = W_c(s)y_d(s) - W(s)v_k(s)$$

- **error** at iteration k

$$e_k(s) = y_d(s) - y_k(s) = y_d(s) - (W(s)y_d(s) + W_v(s)v_k(s)) = (1 - W(s))y_d(s) - W_v(s)v_k(s)$$

$$W_e(s) = 1/(1 + P(s)C(s))$$



Learning update law

- the **update** of the feedforward term is designed as

$$v_{k+1}(s) = \alpha(s)u'_k(s) + \beta(s)v_k(s) \quad \text{with } \alpha \text{ and } \beta \text{ suitable filters}$$

(also non-causal, of the FIR type)

recursive expression of feedforward term

$$v_{k+1}(s) = \frac{\alpha(s)C(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)}y_d(s) + (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s))v_k(s)$$

recursive expression of error $e = y_d - y$

$$e_{k+1}(s) = \frac{1 - \beta(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)}y_d(s) + (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s))e_k(s)$$

- if a **contraction condition** can be enforced

$$|\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s)| < 1 \quad \text{(for all } s = j\omega \text{ frequencies such that ...)}$$

then **convergence** is obtained for $k \rightarrow \infty$

$$v_\infty(s) = \frac{y_d(s)}{P(s)} \frac{\alpha(s)W(s)}{1 - \beta(s) + \alpha(s)W(s)} \quad e_\infty(s) = \frac{y_d(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} \frac{1 - \beta(s)}{1 - \beta(s) + \alpha(s)W(s)}$$



Proof of recursive updates

whiteboard...

- recursive expression for the **feedforward** v_k

$$\begin{aligned}v_{k+1}(s) &= \alpha(s)u'_k(s) + \beta(s)v_k(s) = \alpha(s)C(s)e_k(s) + \beta(s)v_k(s) \\ &= \alpha(s)C(s)[W_e(s)y_d(s) - W_v(s)v_k(s)] + \beta(s)v_k(s) \\ &= \frac{\alpha(s)C(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)}y_d(s) + (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s))v_k(s)\end{aligned}$$

- recursive expression for the **error** e_k

$$e_k(s) = y_d(s) - y_k(s) = y_d(s) - P(s)(v_k(s) + u'_k(s))$$

$$\Rightarrow v_k(s) = \frac{1}{P(s)}(y_d(s) - e_k(s)) - u'_k(s)$$

$$\begin{aligned}y_{k+1}(s) &= P(s)(v_{k+1}(s) + u'_{k+1}(s)) = P(s)(\alpha(s)u'_k(s) + \beta(s)v_k(s) + u'_{k+1}(s)) \\ &= P(s)\left(\alpha(s)C(s)e_k(s) + \beta(s)\frac{1}{P(s)}(y_d(s) - e_k(s)) - \beta(s)C(s)e_k(s) + C(s)e_{k+1}(s)\right)\end{aligned}$$

$$e_{k+1}(s) = y_d(s) - y_{k+1}(s)$$

$$= (1 - \beta(s))y_d(s) - [(\alpha(s) - \beta(s))P(s)C(s) - \beta(s)]e_k(s) - P(s)C(s)e_{k+1}(s)$$

$$\Rightarrow e_{k+1}(s) = \frac{1 - \beta(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)}y_d(s) + (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s))e_k(s)$$



Proof of convergence

whiteboard...

from recursive expressions

$$v_{k+1}(s) = \frac{\alpha(s)C(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} y_d(s) + (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s)) v_k(s)$$

$$e_{k+1}(s) = \frac{1 - \beta(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} y_d(s) + (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s)) e_k(s)$$

compute **variations** from k to $k + 1$ (repetitive term in trajectory y_d vanishes!)

$$\Delta v_{k+1}(s) = v_{k+1}(s) - v_k(s) = (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s)) \Delta v_k(s)$$

$$\Delta e_{k+1}(s) = e_{k+1}(s) - e_k(s) = (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s)) \Delta e_k(s)$$

by **contraction mapping** condition $|\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s)| < 1 \Rightarrow \{v_k\} \rightarrow v_\infty, \{e_k\} \rightarrow e_\infty$

$$v_\infty(s) = \frac{\alpha(s)C(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} y_d(s) + (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s)) v_\infty(s)$$

$$e_\infty(s) = \frac{1 - \beta(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} y_d(s) + (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)W(s)) e_\infty(s)$$

$$\Rightarrow v_\infty(s) = \frac{y_d(s)}{P(s)} \frac{\alpha(s)W(s)}{1 - \beta(s) + \alpha(s)W(s)} \quad e_\infty(s) = \frac{y_d(s)}{1 + P(s)C(s)} \frac{1 - \beta(s)}{1 - \beta(s) + \alpha(s)W(s)}$$



Comments on convergence

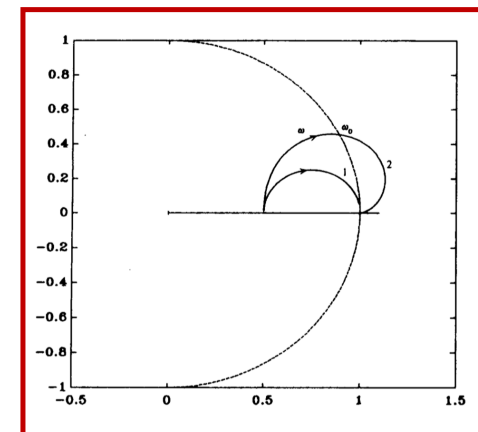
- if the choice $\beta = 1$ allows to satisfy the contraction condition, then convergence to **zero tracking error** is obtained

$$e_{\infty}(s) = 0$$

and the **inverse dynamics** command has been **learned**

$$v_{\infty}(s) = \frac{y_d(s)}{p(s)}$$

- in particular, for $\alpha(s) = 1/w(s)$ convergence would be in **1 iteration** only!
- the use of filter $\beta(s) \neq 1$ allows to obtain convergence (but with residual tracking error) even in presence of unmodeled high-frequency dynamics
- the **two filters** can be designed from very poor information on system dynamics, using classic tools (e.g., **Nyquist plots**)





Application to robots

- for N -dof robots modeled as

$$[B_m + M(q)]\ddot{q} + [F_V + S(q, \dot{q})]\dot{q} + g(q) = u$$

we choose as (initial = pre-learning) **control law**

$$u = u' = K_P(q_d - q) + K_D(\dot{q}_d - \dot{q}) + \hat{g}(q)$$

and design the **learning filters** (at each joint) using the **linear approximation**

$$W_i(s) = \frac{q_i(s)}{q_{di}(s)} = \frac{K_{Di}s + K_{Pi}}{\hat{B}_m s^2 + (\hat{F}_{Vi} + K_{Di})s + K_{Pi}} \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

- **initialization** of feedforward uses the best estimates

$$v_1 = [\hat{B}_m + \hat{M}(q_d)]\ddot{q}_d + [\hat{F}_V + \hat{S}(q_d, \dot{q}_d)]\dot{q}_d + \hat{g}(q_d)$$

or **simply** $v_1 = 0$ (in the worst case) at first trial $k = 1$

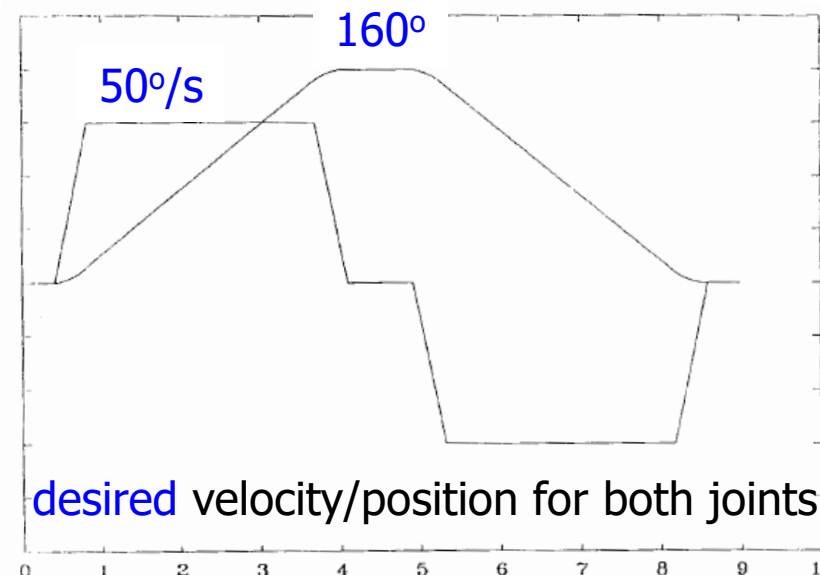
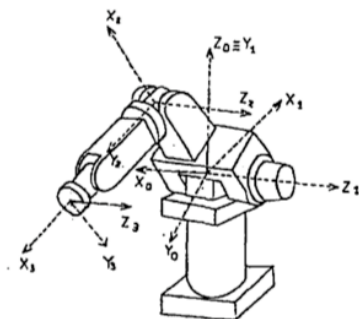
Experimental set-up

- joints 2 and 3 of 6R MIMO CRF robot prototype @DIS

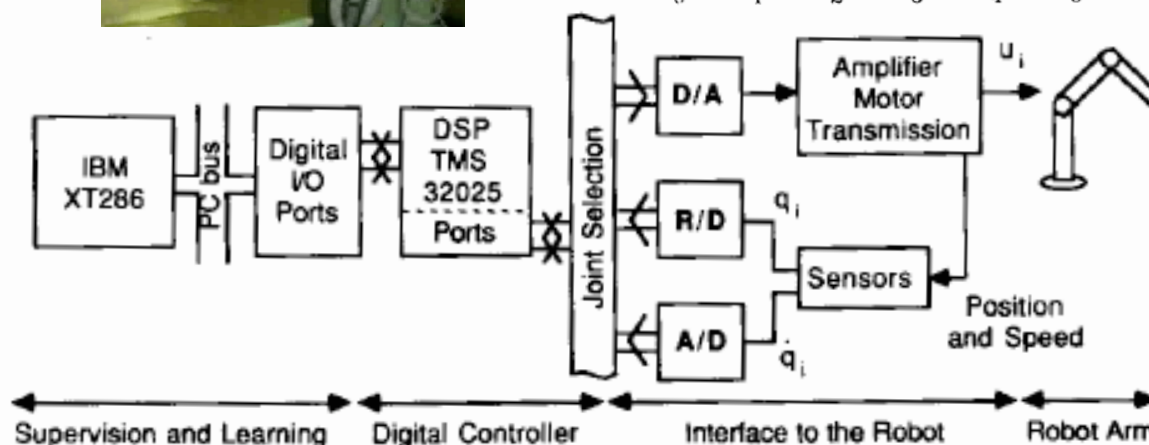
≈ 90% gravity balanced through springs

high level of dry friction

Harmonic Drives transmissions with ratio 160:1



DSP $T_c = 400\mu s$
 D/A = 12 bit
 R/D = 16 bit/ 2π
 A/D = 11 bit/(rad/s)



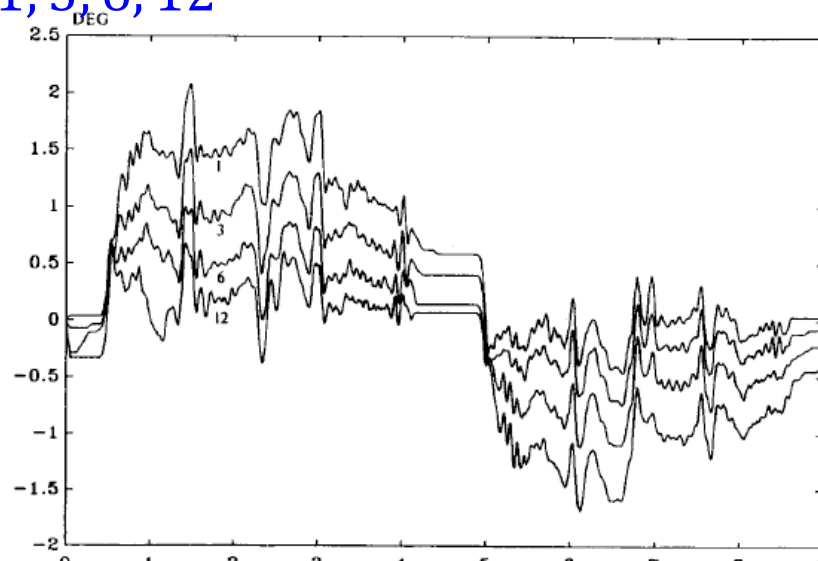
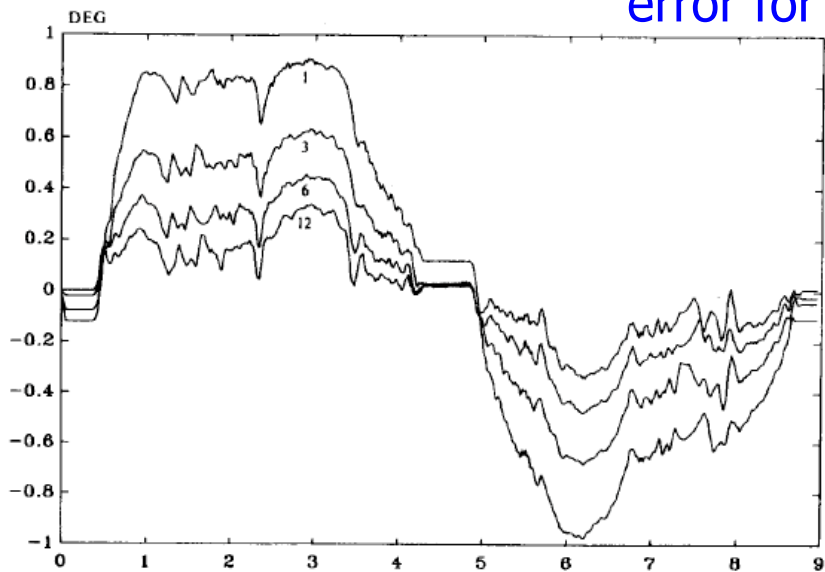
DC motors with current amplifiers
 resolvers and tachometers

Experimental results

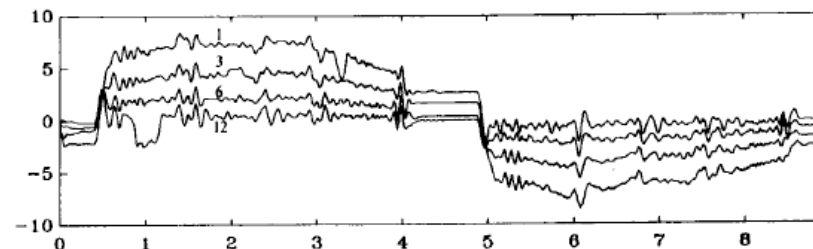
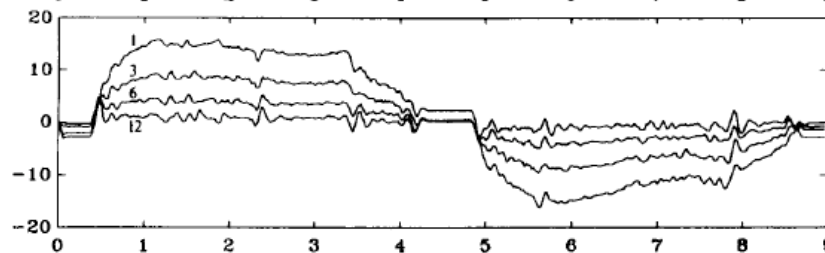
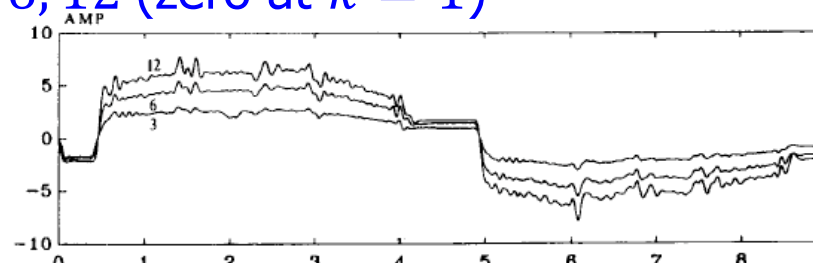
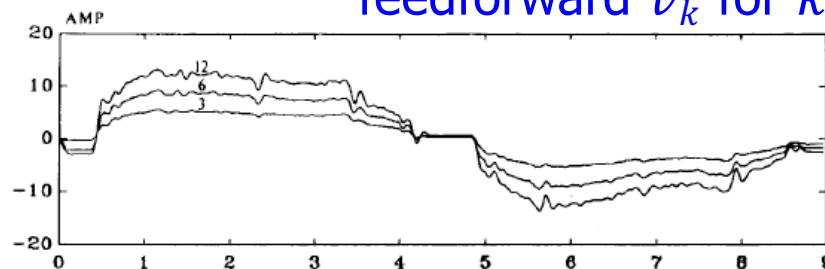
joint 2

joint 3

error for $k = 1, 3, 6, 12$



feedforward v_k for $k = 3, 6, 12$ (zero at $k = 1$)



feedback u'_k for $k = 1, 3, 6, 12$