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## *Robotics 2*

# Detection and isolation of robot actuation faults (and collisions)

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# Fault diagnosis problems - 1

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- in the diagnosis of faults possibly affecting a (nonlinear) dynamic system various problems can be formulated
- **Fault Detection**
  - recognize that the malfunctioning of the (controlled) system is due to the occurrence of a fault (or not proper behavior) affecting some physical or functional component of the system
- **Fault Isolation**
  - discriminate which particular fault  $f$  has occurred out of a (large) class of potential ones, by distinguishing it from any other fault and from the effects of disturbances possibly acting on the system
- **Fault Identification**
  - determine the time profile (and/or class type) of the isolated fault  $f$
- **Fault Accommodation**
  - modify the control law so as to compensate for the effects of the detected and isolated fault (possibly also identified)



# Fault diagnosis problems - 2

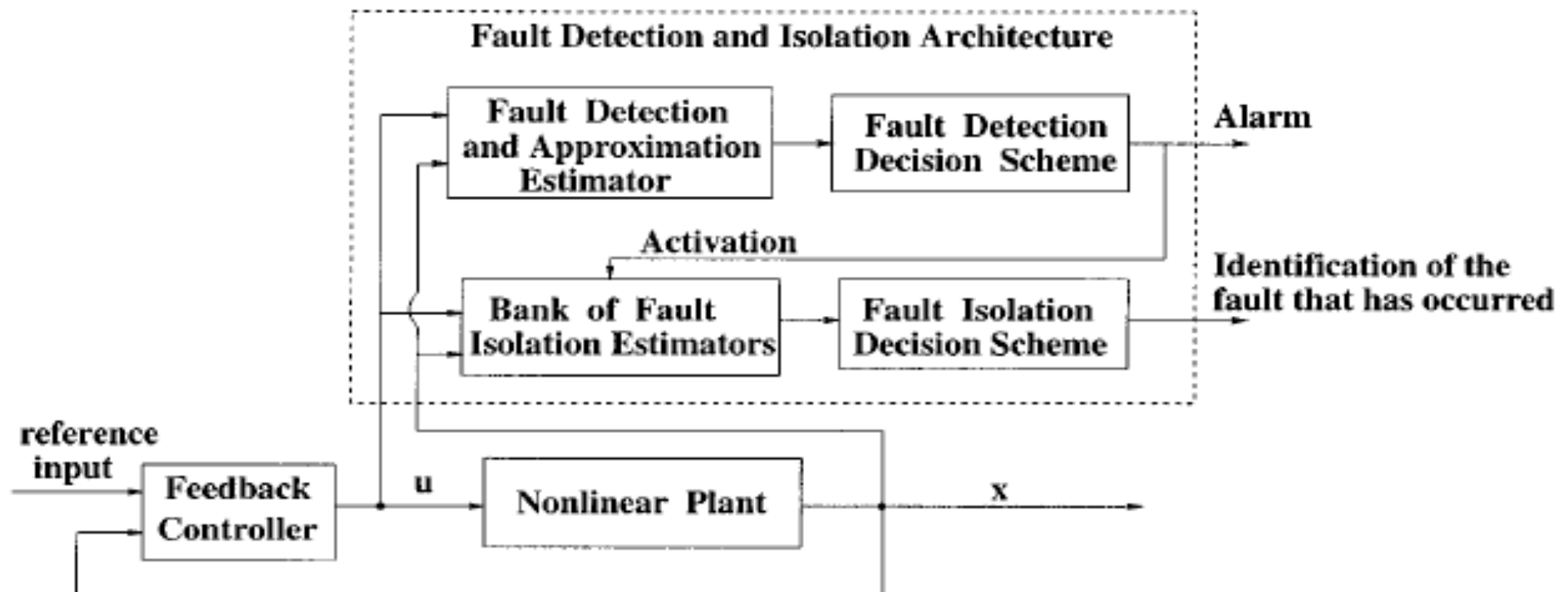
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- **FDI solution** (simultaneous detection and isolation)
  - definition of an auxiliary dynamic system (**Residual Generator**) whose **output** will depend only on the presence of the fault  $f$  to be detected and isolated (and **not** on any other fault or disturbance) and will converge asymptotically to zero when  $f \equiv 0$  (**stability**)
  - in case of many potential faults, each component  $r_i$  of the **vector  $r$  of residuals** will depend on one and only one associated fault  $f_i$  (possibly reproducing approximately its time behavior)
  - many of the FDI schemes are **model-based**: they use a nominal (fault- and disturbance-free) dynamic model of the system
- **Fault Tolerant Control**
  - **passive**: control scheme that is intrinsically robust to uncertainties and/or faults (typically having only moderate/limited effects)
  - **active**: control scheme involving a reconfiguration after FDI (with guaranteed performance for the faulted system)



# Typical FDI architecture

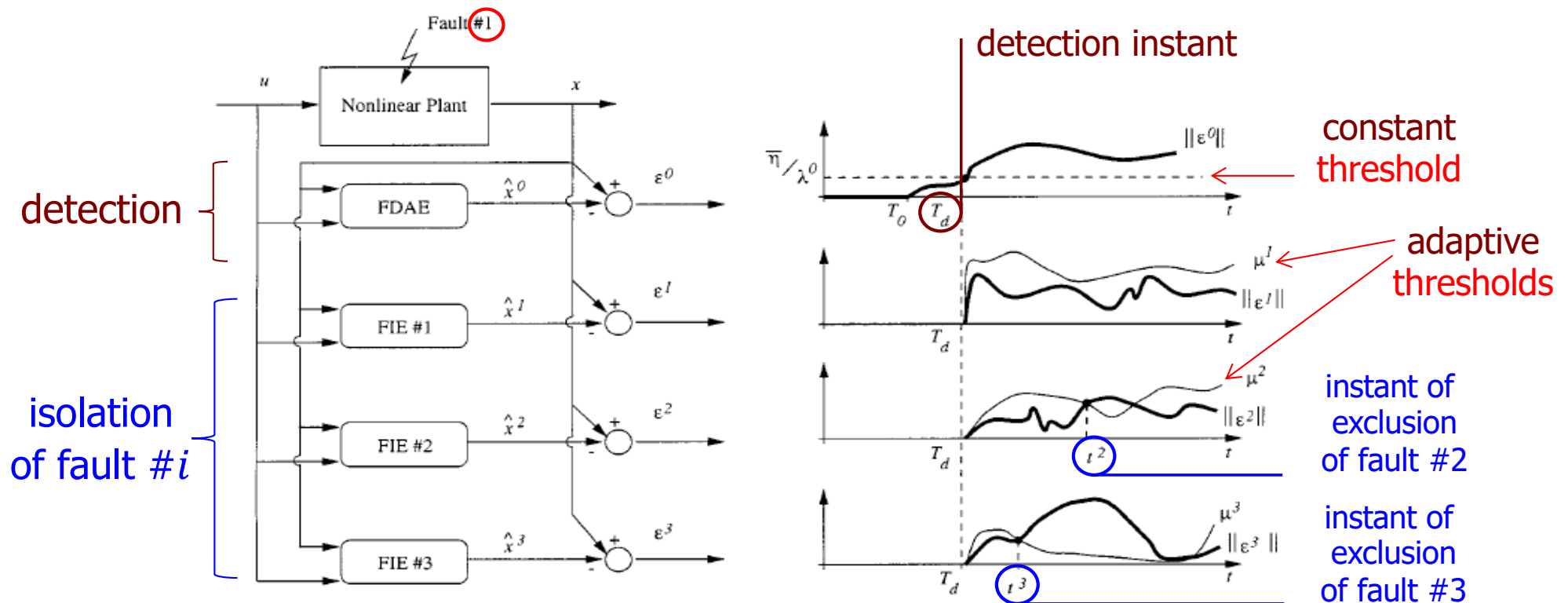
- bank of  $n + 1$  (model-based) estimators
  - 1 for **detection** of a faulty condition
  - $n$  for **isolation** of the specific (in general, **modeled**) fault





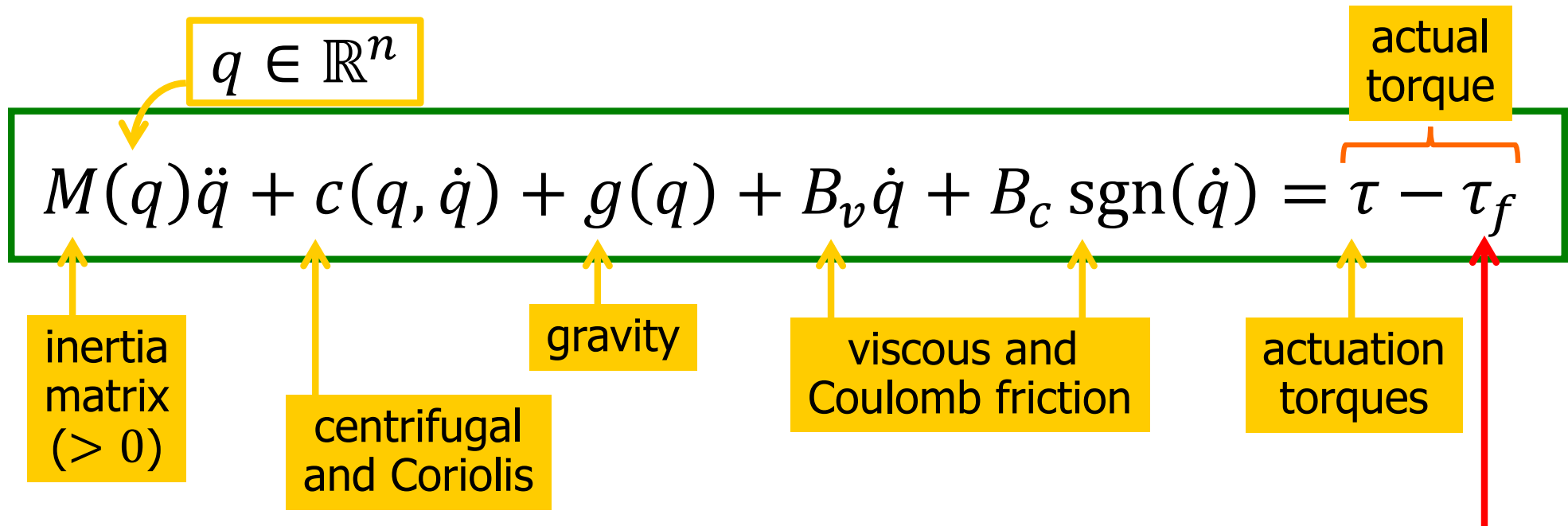
# Some terminology

- fault types
  - instantaneous (abrupt), incipient (slow), intermittent, concurrent
- **thresholds** for detection/isolation (also adaptive)
  - delay times (from the instant  $T_0$  of fault start) affect robot reaction
  - avoid false positives (useless alarms) and false negatives (missed events)





# Actuator faults in robots



**vector of actuation faults** (even concurrent on more axes)

- total fault  $\tau_{f,i} = \tau_i$
- partial fault  $\tau_{f,i} = \varepsilon \tau_i$  ( $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ )
- saturation  $\tau_{f,i} = \tau_i - \operatorname{sgn}(\tau_i) \tau_{i,\max}$
- bias  $\tau_{f,i} = b_i$  ??
- block  $\tau_{f,i} = \dots$
- ... **any (collisions!)**



# Working assumptions

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- signals and measurements available
  - the commanded input torque  $\tau$ , but obviously **not**  $\tau_f$  ...
  - a measure of the **full state**  $(q, \dot{q})$  is available
    - can be relaxed: in practice, with an **estimate** of joint velocities
  - no further sensors are anyway necessary (“**sensorless**”)
- the **robot dynamic model is known**
  - in the absence of faults, and neglecting disturbances
  - **no** pre-specified **model or type of faults** is needed
- **no** dependence on/request of a **specific input**  $\tau(t)$ 
  - can be anything (open loop, linear or nonlinear feedback)
- **no** dependence on/request of a **specific motion**  $q_d(t)$



# Generalized momentum

$$p = M(q)\dot{q}$$

with associated dynamic equation

$$\dot{p} = \tau - \tau_f - \alpha(q, \dot{q})$$

decoupled components  
relative to the single fault inputs

exploiting structure  
of centrifugal and  
Coriolis terms

$$\alpha_i = -\frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^T \frac{\partial M(q)}{\partial q_i} \dot{q} + g_i(q) + B_{vi}\dot{q}_i + B_{ci} \operatorname{sgn}(\dot{q}_i)$$

scalar expressions, for  $i = 1, \dots, n$



## FDI solution

- definition of a **vector of residuals**

$$r = K \left[ \int (\tau - \alpha(q, \dot{q}) - r) dt - p \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} K > 0 \\ \text{diagonal} \end{array}$$

- no need to compute joint accelerations nor to invert the robot inertia matrix  $M(q)$
- with perfect model knowledge, the dynamics of  $r$  is

$n$  **decoupled** filters,  
with unitary gains and  
time constants  $t_i = 1/k_i$

$$\dot{r} = -Kr + K\tau_f$$

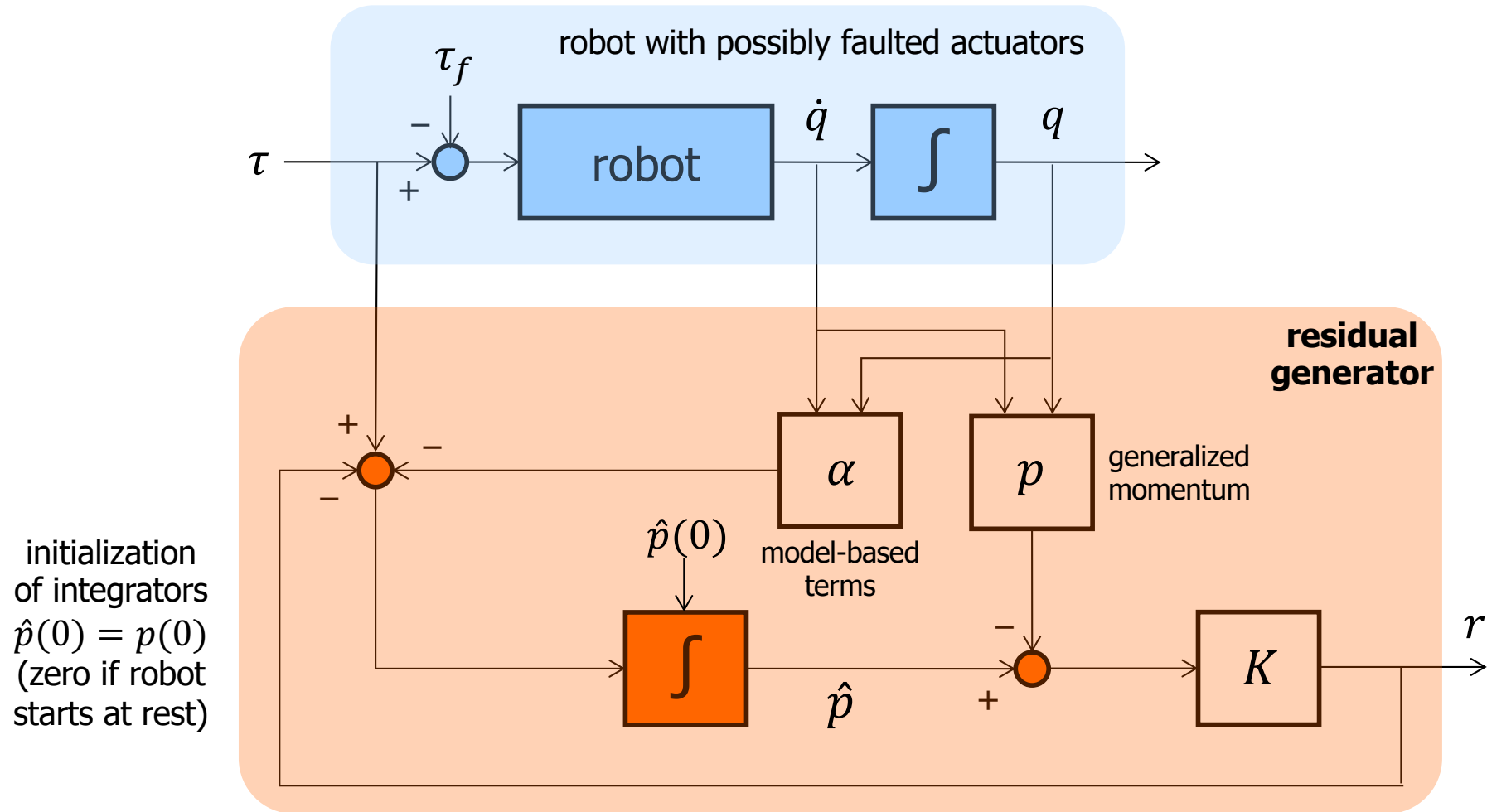
in the Laplace domain

$$\frac{r_i(s)}{\tau_{f,i}(s)} = \frac{k_i}{s + k_i} = \frac{1}{1 + t_i s}$$

for sufficiently large  $K$ ,  $r$  reproduces the time behavior of  $\tau_f$



# Block diagram of the residual generator



$$r = K \left[ \int (\tau - \alpha(q, \dot{q}) - r) dt - p + p(0) \right] \quad r(0) = 0$$



# Residual generator as “disturbance observer”

from the  
block diagram...

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\hat{p}} &= \tau - \alpha(q, \dot{q}) + K(p - \hat{p}) \\ r &= K(\hat{p} - p)\end{aligned}$$

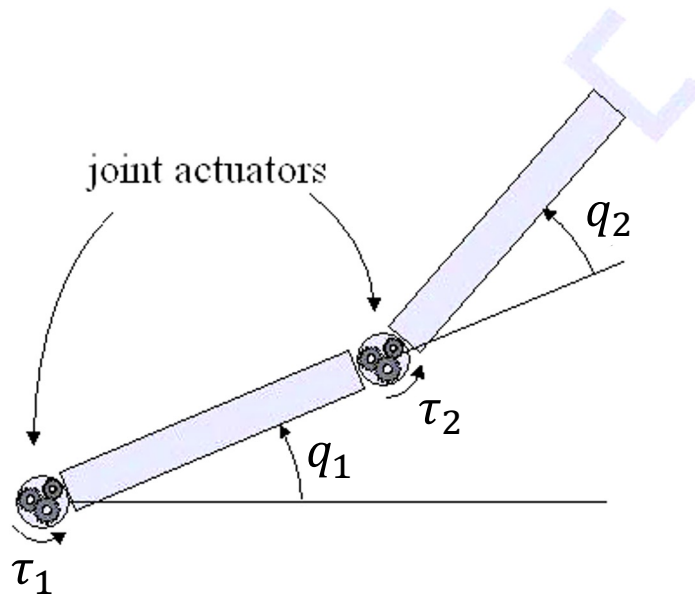


dynamic observer of the unknown actuation faults  
( $r \approx \rightarrow \tau_f =$  external disturbances)  
with **linear** error dynamics (for constant  $\tau_f$ )

$$\begin{aligned}e_{obs} = \tau_f - r &\quad \rightarrow \quad \dot{e}_{obs} = \dot{\tau}_f - \dot{r} = \dot{\tau}_f - K(\dot{\hat{p}} - \dot{p}) \\ &= \dot{\tau}_f - K\left((\tau - \alpha - r) - (\tau - \alpha - \tau_f)\right) \\ &= \dot{\tau}_f - K(\tau_f - r) = \dot{\tau}_f - Ke_{obs} \cong -Ke_{obs}\end{aligned}$$

# A worked-out example

- planar 2R robot under gravity



dynamic model (without friction)

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + \underbrace{c(q, \dot{q})}_{= C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q}} + g(q) = \tau - \tau_f$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 + 2a_2c_2 & a_3 + a_2c_2 \\ a_3 + a_2c_2 & a_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \ddot{q}_1 \\ \ddot{q}_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -a_2(2\dot{q}_1 + \dot{q}_2)\dot{q}_2s_2 \\ a_2\dot{q}_1^2s_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a_4c_1 + a_5c_{12} \\ a_5c_{12} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \tau_1 - \tau_{f,1} \\ \tau_2 - \tau_{f,2} \end{pmatrix}$$

computation of the residual vector

$$r = K \left[ \int (\tau - \alpha(q, \dot{q}) - r) dt - p \right]$$

$$p = M(q)\dot{q}$$

$$\alpha_1 = g_1(q) = a_4c_1 + a_5c_{12}$$

$$\alpha_2 = -\frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^T \frac{\partial M(q)}{\partial q_2} \dot{q} + g_2(q)$$

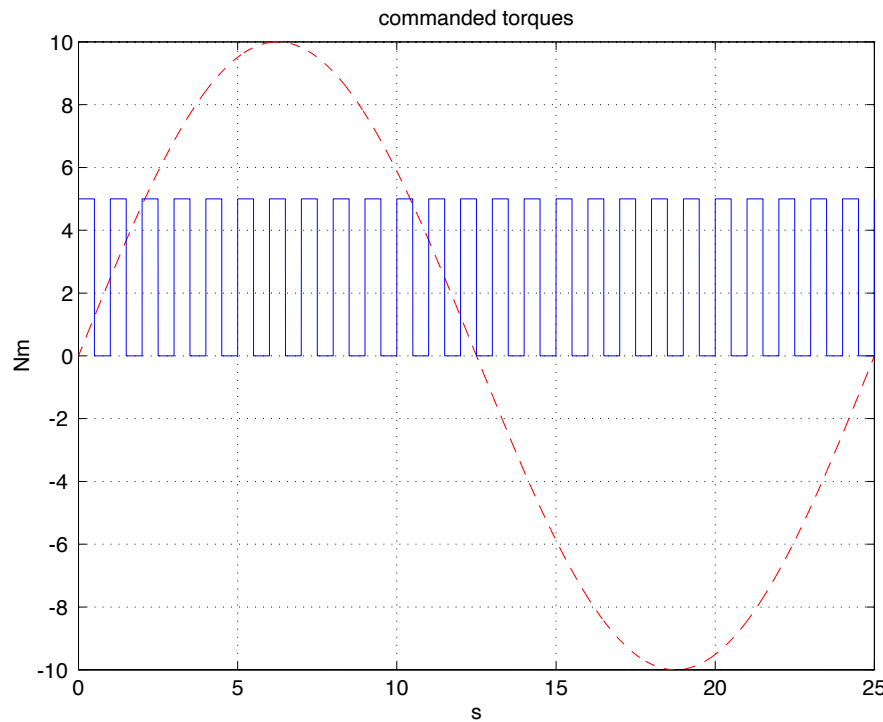
$$= a_2(\dot{q}_1 + \dot{q}_2)\dot{q}_1s_2 + a_5c_{12}$$



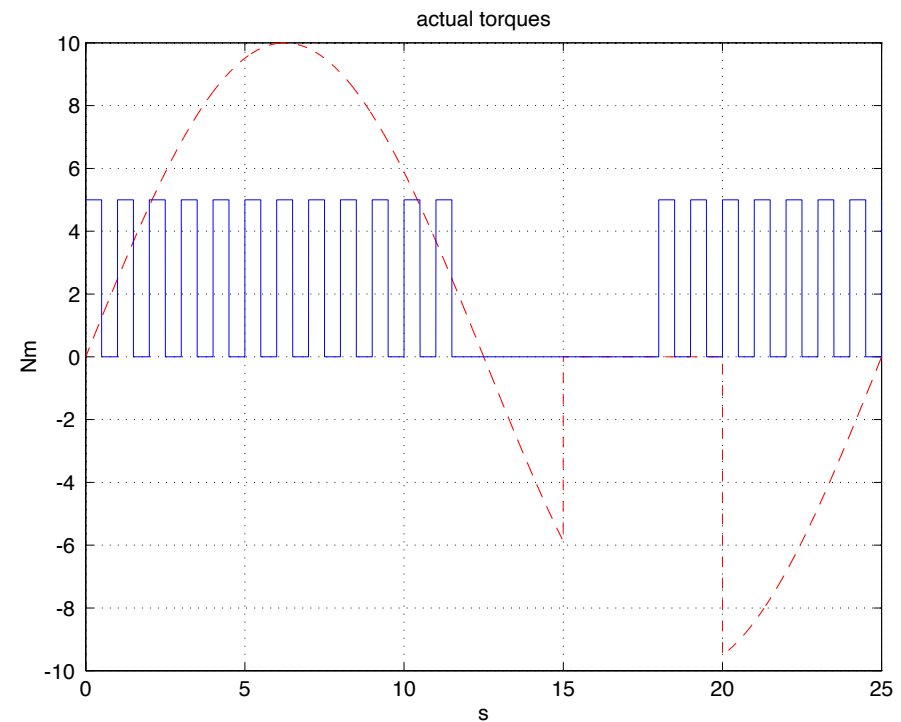
# Faults on both actuators

(total, intermittent, concurrent)

commanded torques (in open loop)



actual (faulted) torques



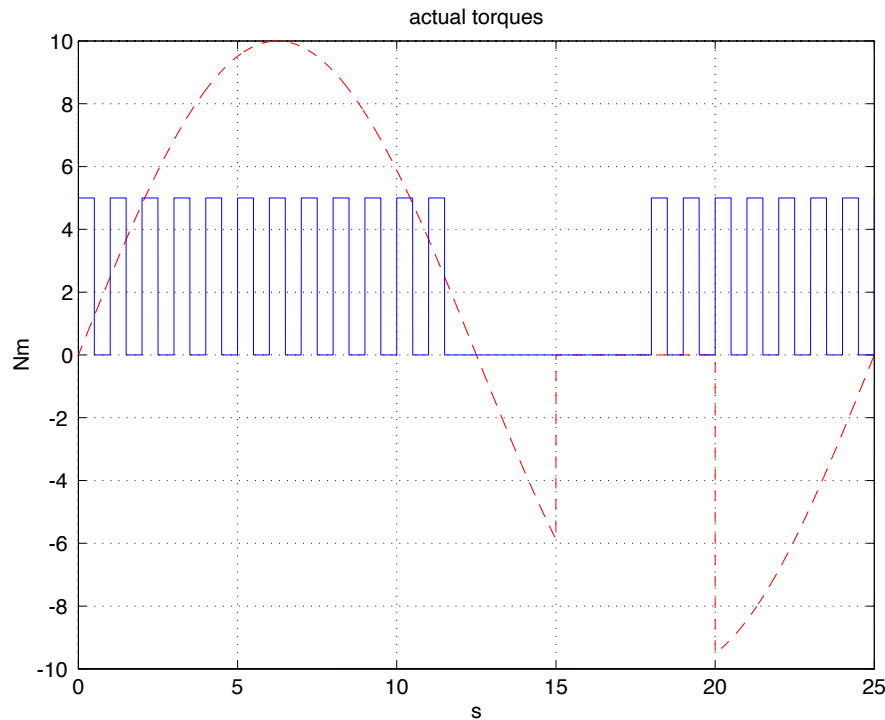
- = first joint (fault for  $t \in [15 \div 20]$  sec)
- = second joint (fault for  $t \in [12 \div 18]$  sec)

↔  
time interval of  
fault **concurrency**  
 $t \in [15 \div 18]$  sec



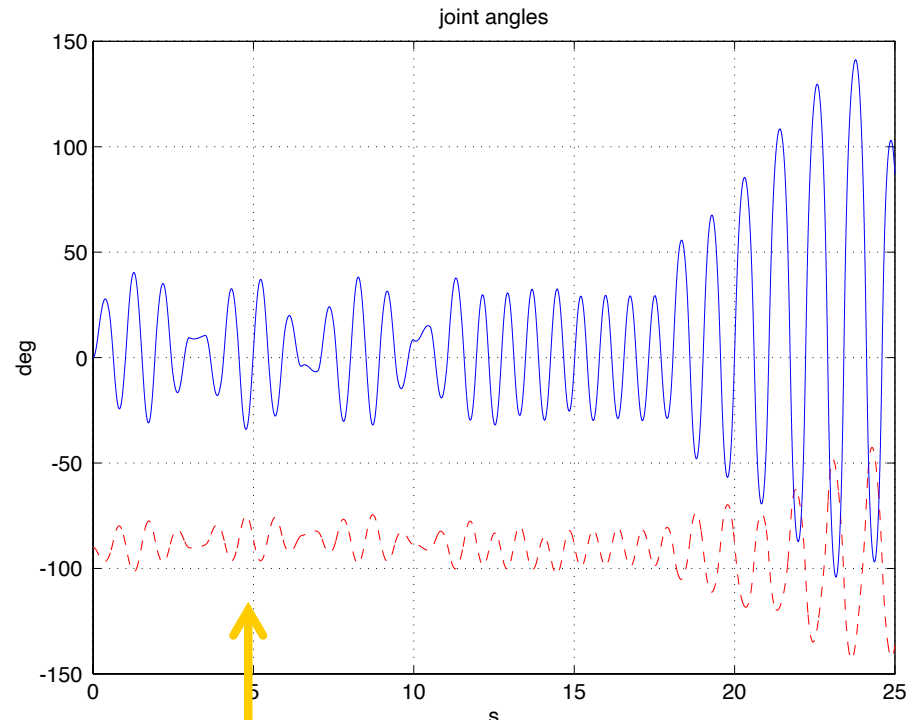
# First simulation

actual torques (to the robot)



- = first joint
- = second joint

(measured) joint positions

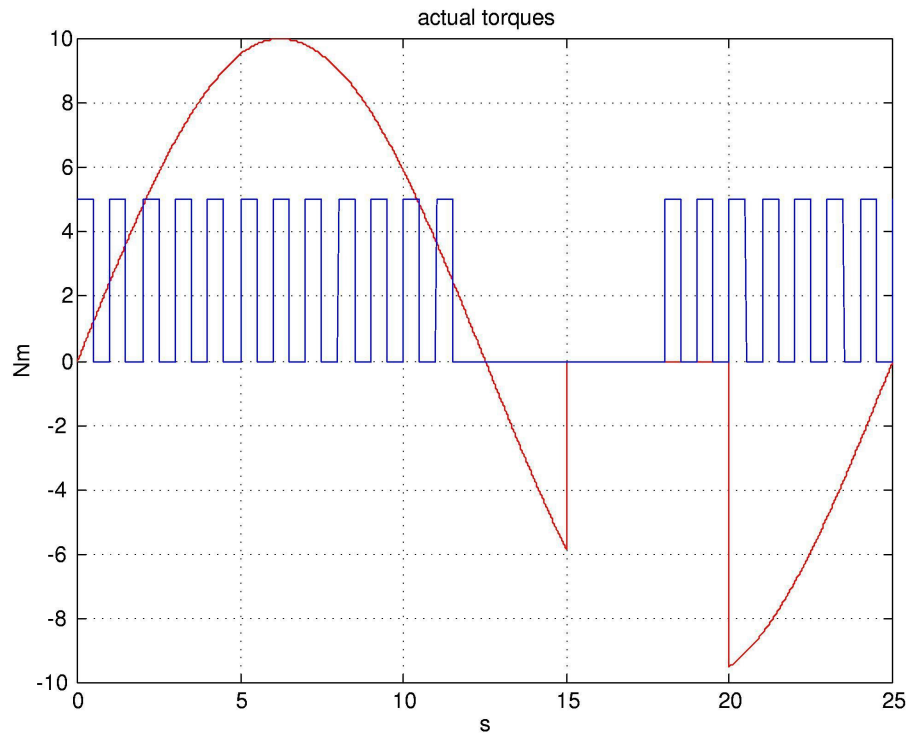


no clear evidence of faults in the dynamic evolution of the system!

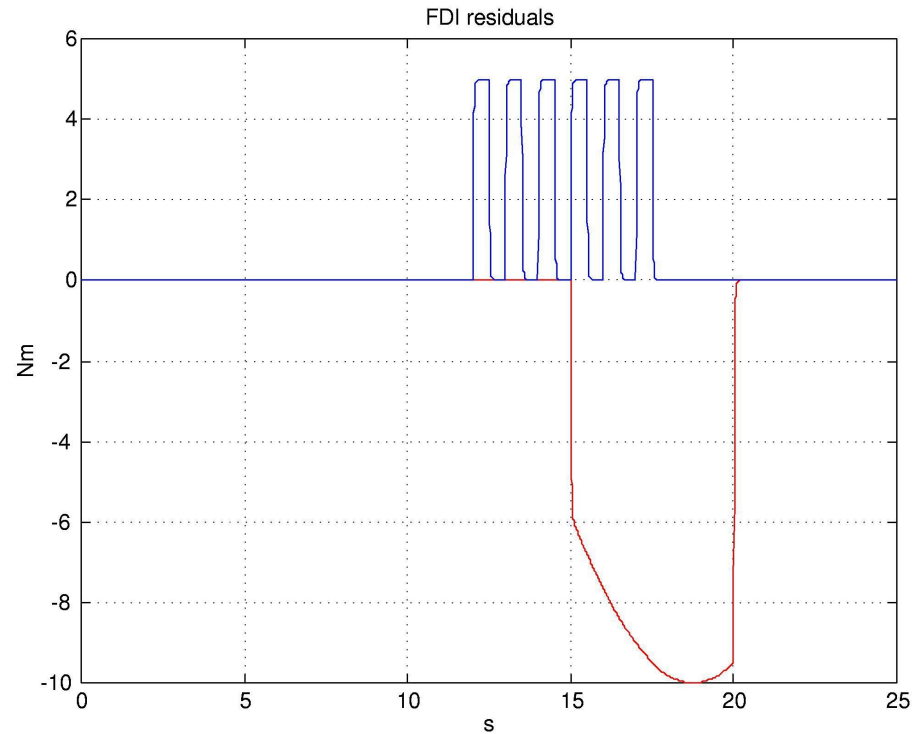


# First simulation – FDI

actual torques (to the robot)



residuals



- = first joint
- = second joint

$$K = \text{diag}\{50, 50\}$$

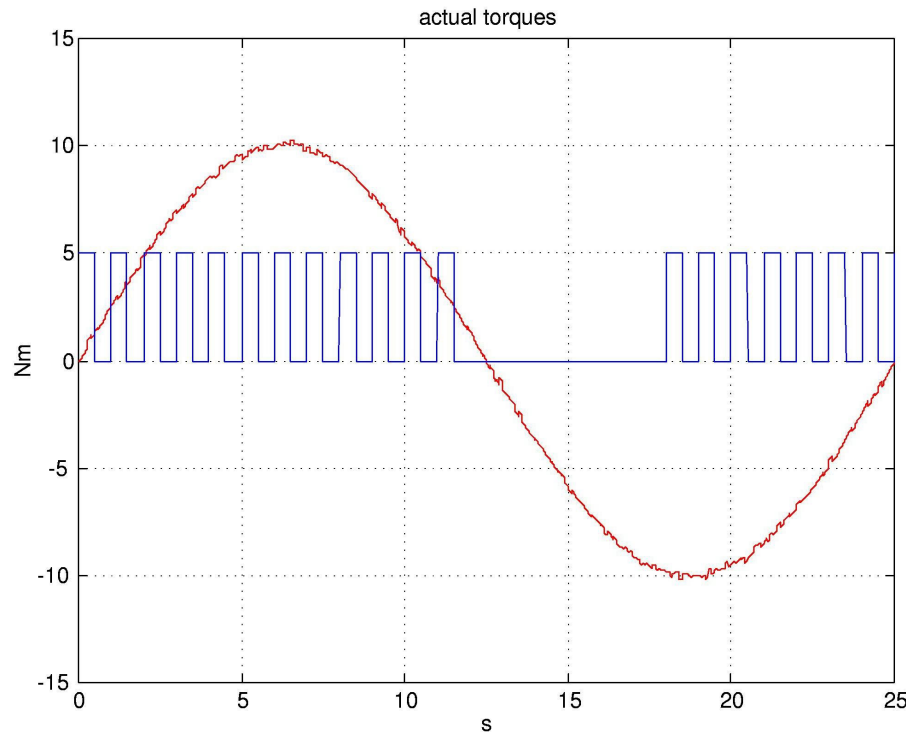
residuals reconstruct the "missing" parts of the torques (identification property!)



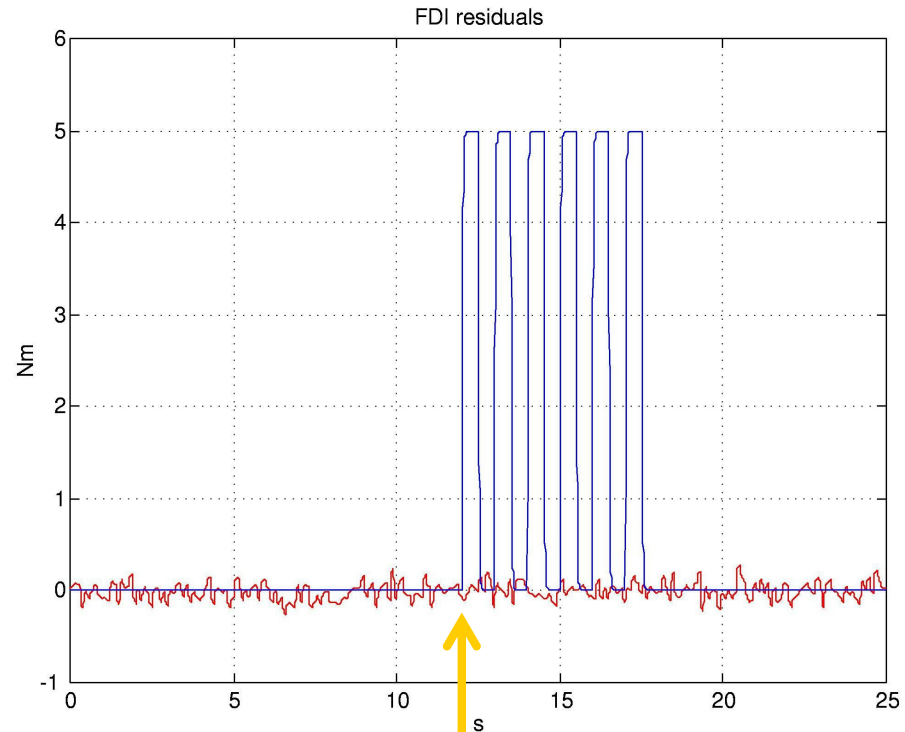
# Second simulation – FDI

(total fault on second actuator, added noise on first channel)

actual torques (to the robot)



residuals



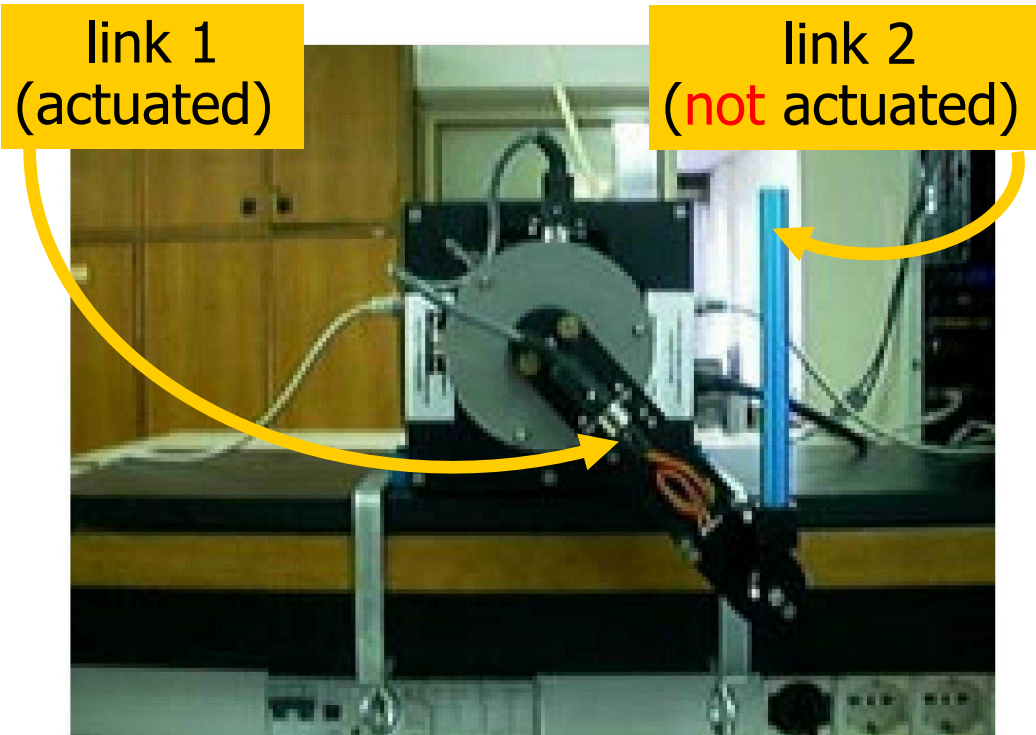
- = first joint
- = second joint (fault for  $t \in [12 \div 18]$  sec)

residual  $r_1$  is not affected by faulty actuation, while residual  $r_2$  is not affected by the disturbance on first channel (decoupling property)

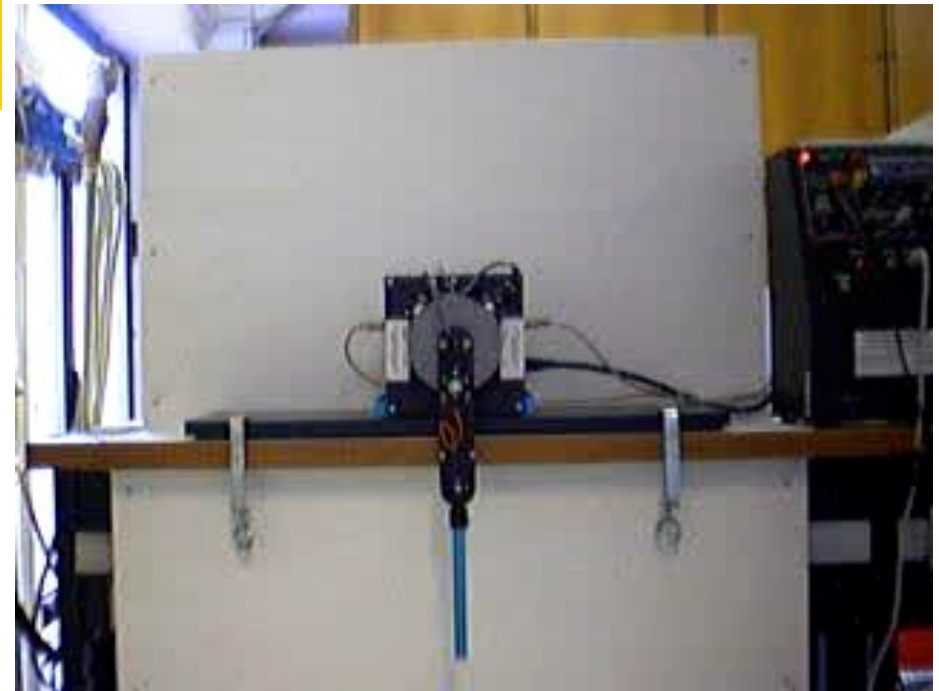
# Experimental setup

## Quanser Pendubot

[video](#)



with encoders on both joints



nonlinear control for swing-up

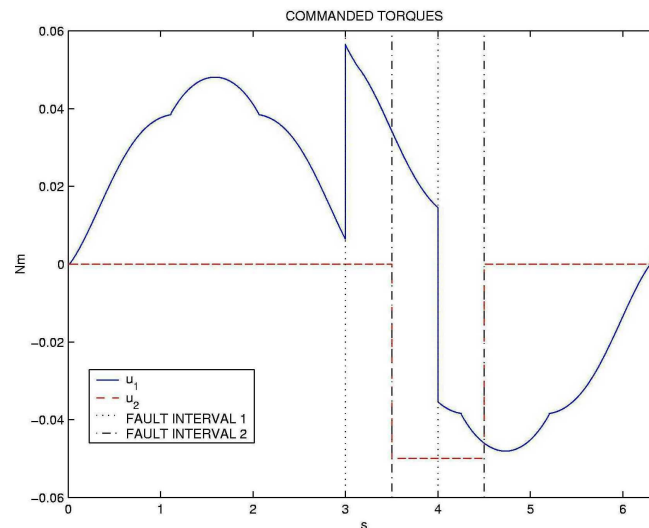
sampling time  $T_c = 1$  ms, residual gains  $K_i = 50$ ,  
**practical thresholds** for fault detection  $\cong 10^{-2} \div 10^{-3}$  Nm



# First experiment

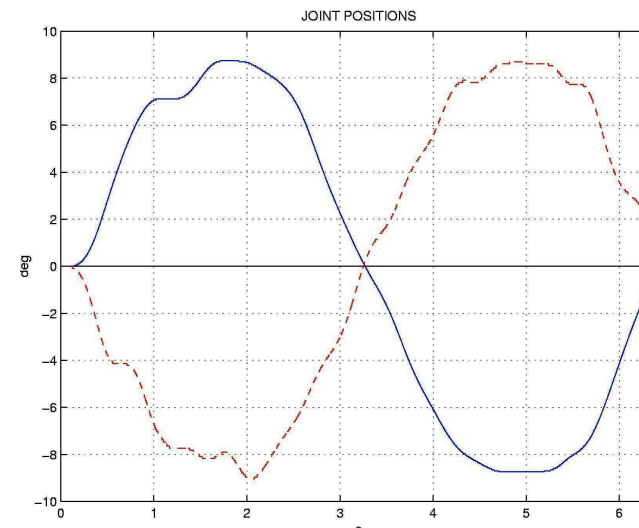
- motor 1 driven by sinusoidal voltage of period  $2\pi$  sec (**open loop**)
- **bias fault** on  $\tau_1$  for  $t \in [3 \div 4]$  sec
- **total fault** on second joint for  $t \in [3.5 \div 4.5]$  sec (a constant torque is requested, but **no motor available at the joint to provide 0.05 Nm ...**)
- **fault concurrency** for  $t \in [3.5 \div 4]$  sec

commanded torques



— joint 1

joint positions



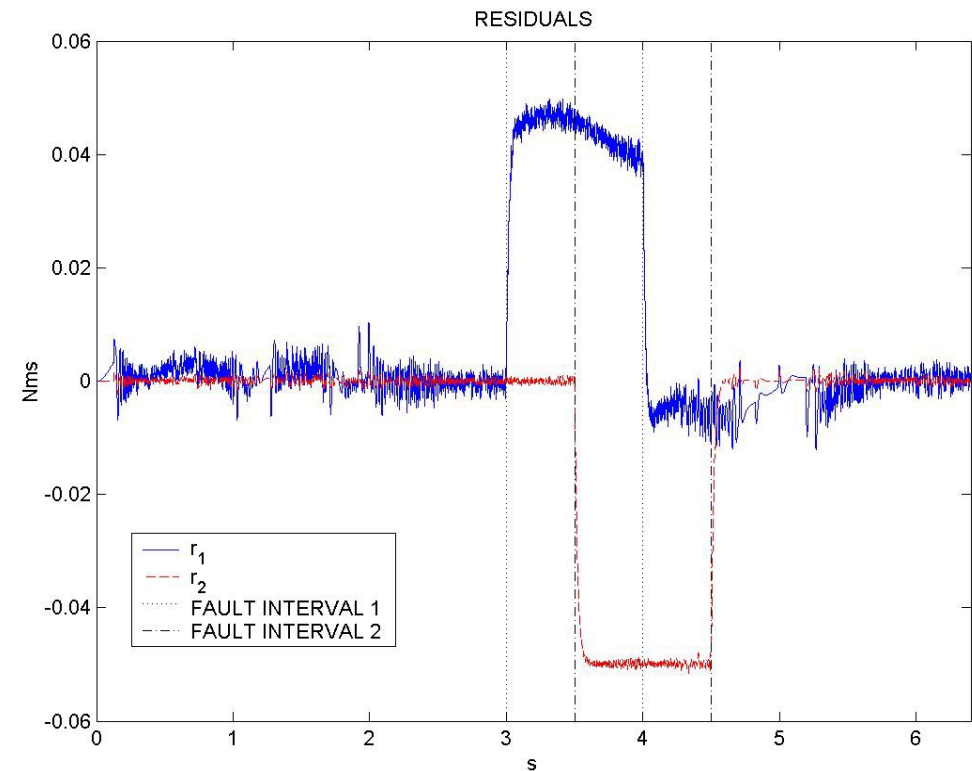
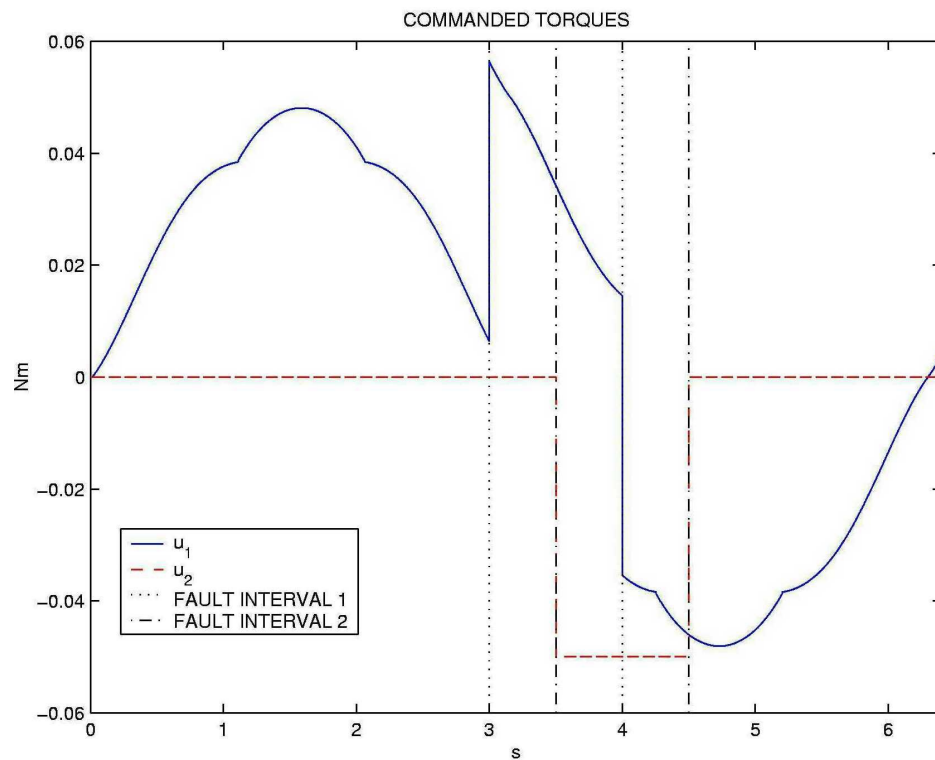
- - - joint 2



# First experiment – FDI

commanded torques

residuals



— joint 1

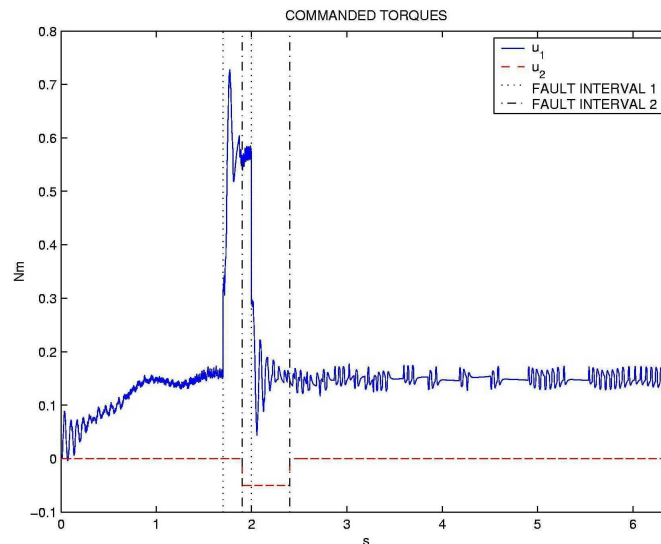
- - joint 2



# Second experiment

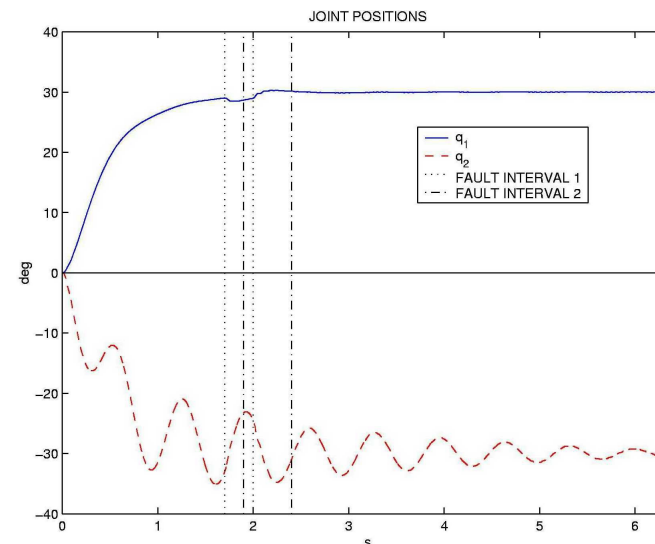
- position regulation of the first joint at  $q_{d1} = 30^\circ$  (under PID control)
- 50% power loss on motor 1 for  $t \in [1.7 \div 2]$  sec
- total fault on joint 2 for  $t \in [1.9 \div 2.4]$  sec (no motor ...)
- fault concurrency for  $t \in [1.9 \div 2]$  sec

commanded torques



— joint 1

joint positions



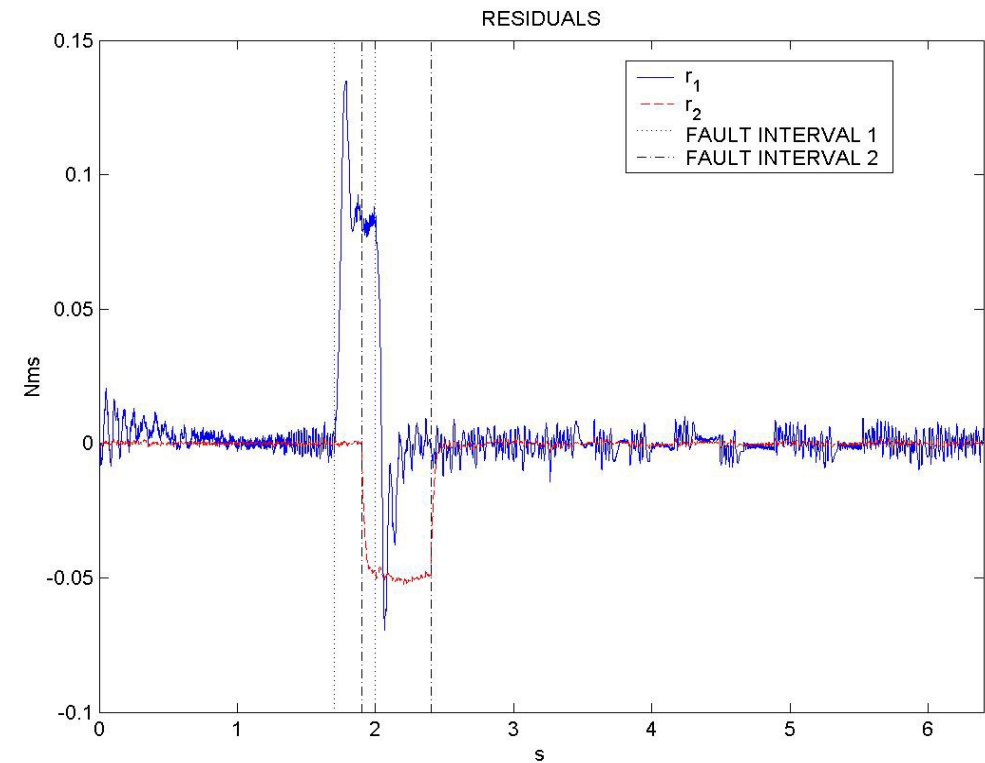
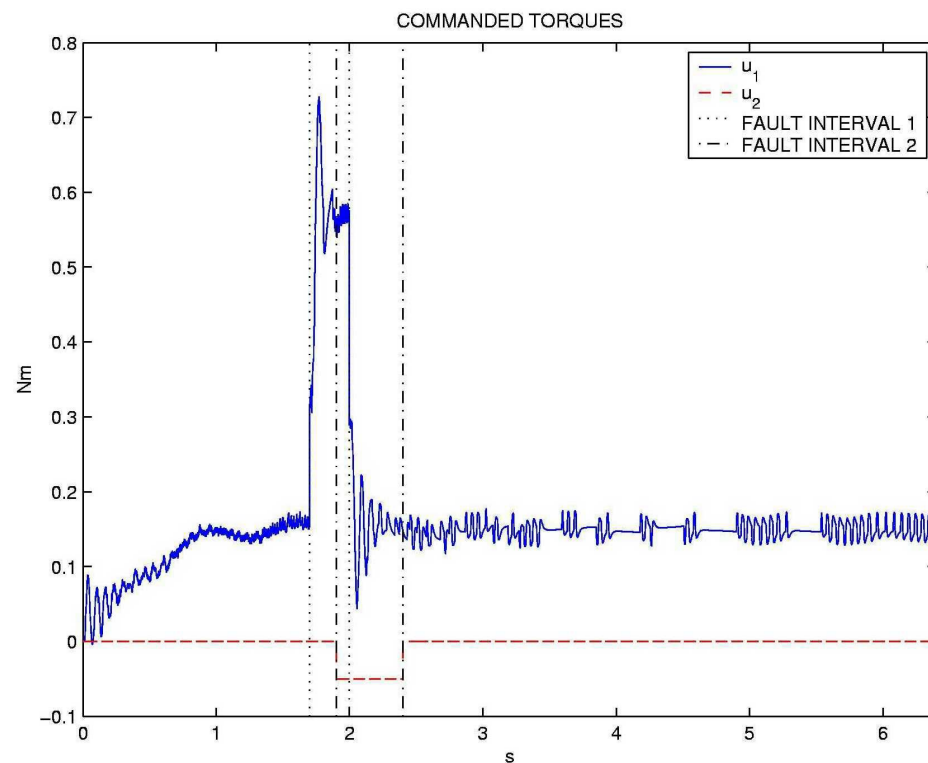
- - - joint 2



# Second experiment – FDI

commanded torques

residuals



— joint 1

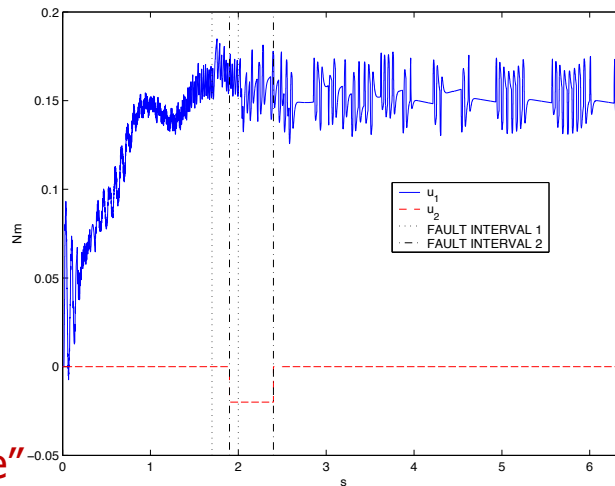
- - - joint 2



# Third experiment – FDI

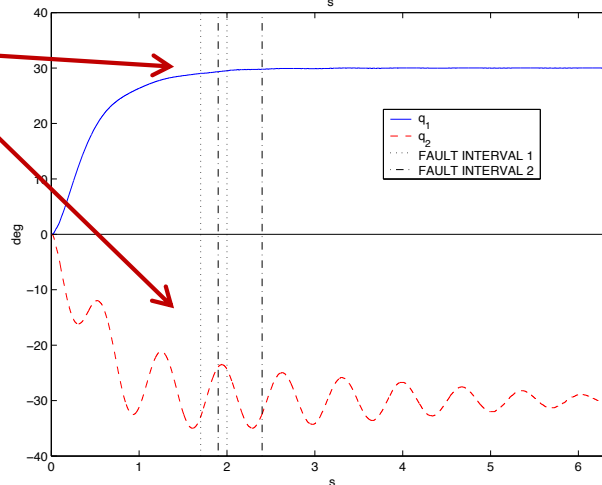
- same as in second experiment, but with only **10% power loss** on motor 1
- due to noisy PWM signals driving the DC motor, a **dynamic filtering** of residuals is used, staying above **[below]** a threshold  $r_{1,thres} = 9 \cdot 10^{-3}$  Nm [ $r_{2,thres} = 2 \cdot 10^{-3}$  Nm] for a time  $T_{set} = 0.02$  s [ $T_{reset} = 0.03$  s] before detecting a fault **[reset to normal operation]**

commanded torques



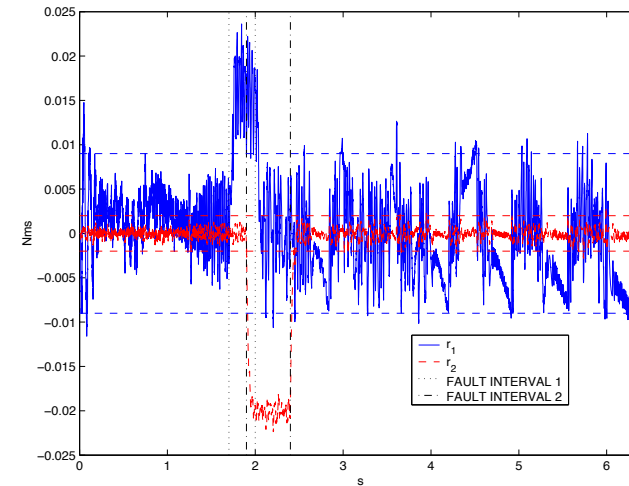
faults seem "unobservable" in these evolutions

joint positions

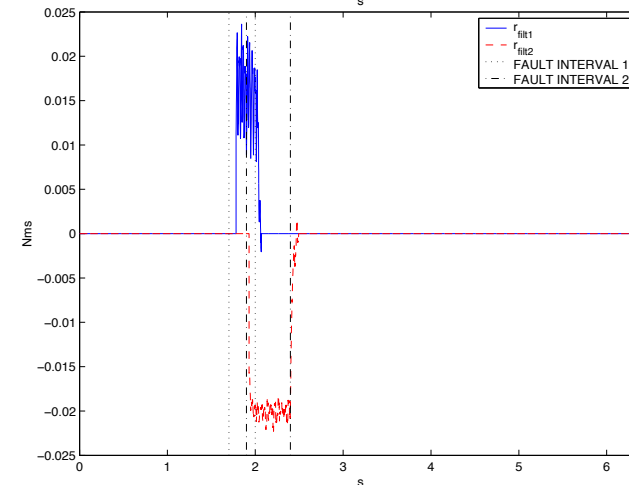


— joint 1

- - - joint 2



residuals



filtered residuals



# Some extensions

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- FDI method based on generalized momentum is easily extended to the presence of **flexible transmissions** (elastic joints), **actuator dynamics**, ...
- the scheme can be made **adaptive** (though possibly needing the use of acceleration) to handle parametric uncertainties in robot dynamic model
- the method can be modified for detection and isolation of significant classes of **sensor faults** (e.g., faults in force/torque sensor at the wrist)
  - applies to all faults that instantaneously affect robot **acceleration** or **torque**
- assuming **non-concurrency** (at most a single fault occurs at the same time) of a given set of faults, **relaxed FDI conditions** have been derived
  - of interest when the necessary conditions for multiple FDI are violated
  - involves processing of **continuous** residuals + **discrete** logic for isolation
- the same FDI-type approach has been applied also for **compensation of unmodeled friction** (treated as a “permanent fault” on the system)
- extended to **robot collision detection and isolation** (for safe HRI!)
- combination of **model-** and **signal-based** approaches to FDI



# Isolation of F/T sensor faults

- planar 2R robot with **fault** on force **measure** of sensor on the end-effector

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) = \tau + J^T(q)F = \tau + J^T(q)(F_m + f_F)$$

robot Jacobian expressed in end-effector frame

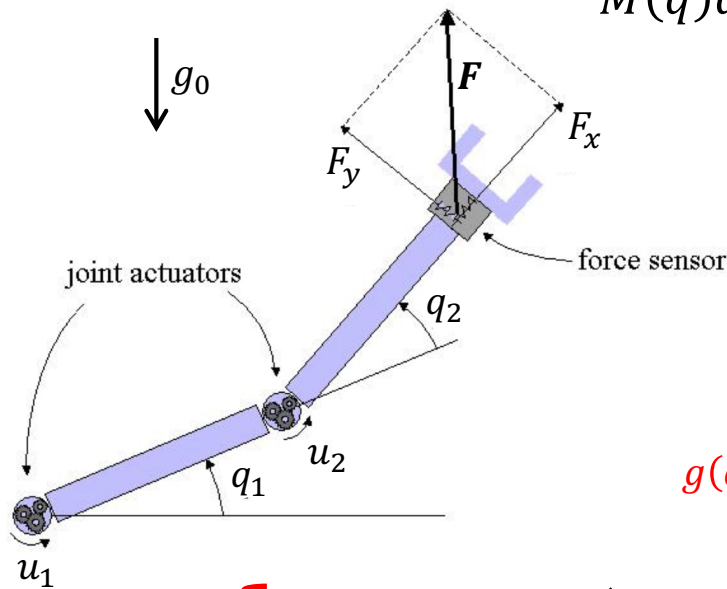
$$J(q) = \begin{pmatrix} \ell_1 s_2 & 0 \\ \ell_2 + \ell_1 c_2 & \ell_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

adjoint of Jacobian

$$J^{ad}(q) = \begin{pmatrix} \ell_2 & 0 \\ -\ell_2 - \ell_1 c_2 & \ell_1 s_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$J^{ad} = \det(J) \cdot J^{-1}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  a singularity

robust scheme!



time derivative of transposed Jacobian adjoint

robot inertia

input torque

$$g(q) - C^T(q, \dot{q})\dot{q}$$

residual generator (function of  $q, \dot{q}, F_m, \zeta$ )

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\zeta} = - (J^T)^{ad}(q) \begin{pmatrix} a_4 c_1 + a_5 c_{12} \\ a_5 c_{12} + a_2 s_2 \dot{q}_1 (\dot{q}_1 + \dot{q}_2) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \ell_1 s_2 \dot{q}_2 \\ 0 & \ell_1 c_2 \dot{q}_2 \end{pmatrix} M(q) \dot{q} + (J^T)^{ad}(q) \tau \\ r = (J^T)^{ad}(q) M(q) \dot{q} - \zeta \end{cases}$$

$$\det J^T(q) \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \text{measured force (nominal)}$$

predicted FDI behavior in presence of force sensor faults  $f_F \in \mathbb{R}^2$



$$\dot{r} = -Kr + \ell_1 \ell_2 \sin q_2 f_F$$

decoupled, though modulated by  $q_2$

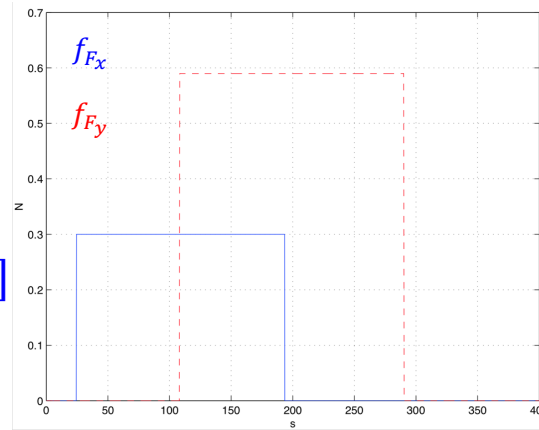




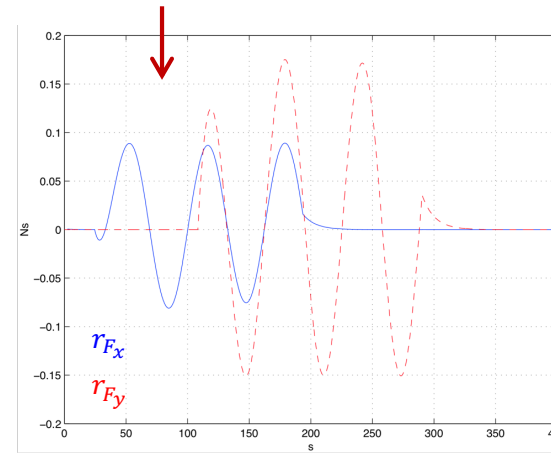
# Isolation of F/T sensor faults

## ■ simulation on the 2R robot

bias faults on both  
 components of force sensor  
 $f_{F_x} = 0.3 \text{ N}$  for  $t \in [25 \div 190]$   
 $f_{F_y} = 0.6 \text{ N}$  for  $t \in [109 \div 285]$



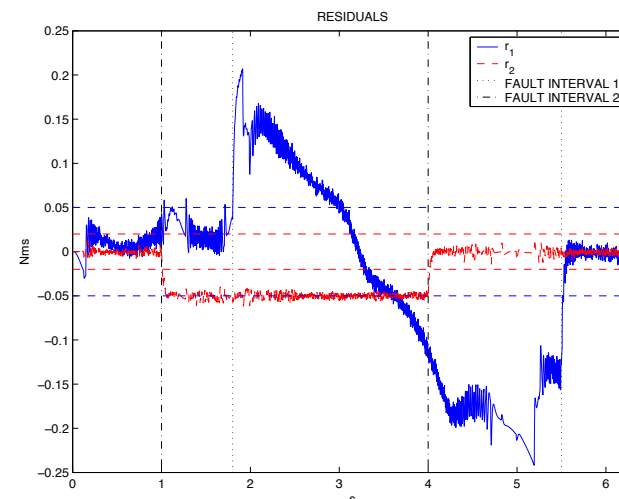
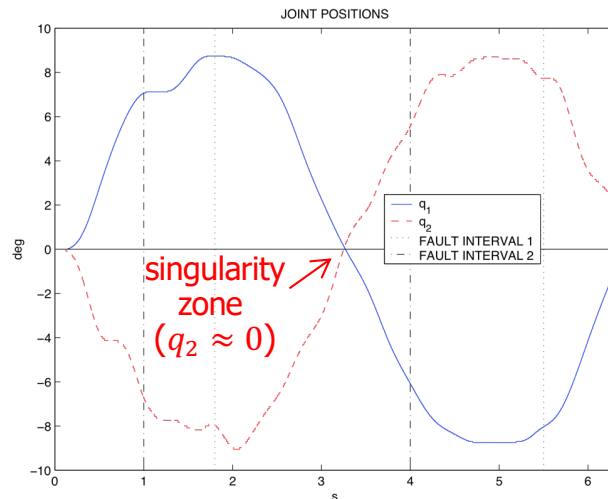
$q_2$  is tracking a sinusoid ( $A = \pi/8 \text{ rad}$ ,  $\omega = 0.1 \text{ rad/s}$ )



FDI residual components (with  $K = 0.1I$ )

## ■ experiment on the Pendubot (no force sensor and no contact!)

evolution of joint variables



residuals response  
 to emulated bias faults  
 on force measures  
 $-1 \text{ N}$  on  $F_x$  in  $t \in [1.8 \div 5.5]$   
 $0.05 \text{ N}$  on  $F_y$  in  $t \in [1 \div 4]$

$(J^T)^{ad} \rightarrow \text{diag}\{s_2, 1\} J^{-T}$   
 in previous scheme



# Isolation of non-concurrent faults

- faults of actuators **AND** faults of force sensor components (possibly occurring **simultaneously**) **CANNOT** be detected **AND** isolated
  - for a mechanical system with  $n$  dofs, the **max # of faults allowing FDI is  $n$ !**
- with **non-concurrency**, e.g., 2 actuator + 2 F/T sensor faults in 2R robot

dependence of residuals on considered faults

residual fault	$r_{1,1}$	$r_{1,2}$	$r_{2,1}$	$r_{2,2}$
$f_{\tau_1}$	1	0	1	1
$f_{\tau_2}$	0	1	1	1
$f_{F_x}$	1	1	1	0
$f_{F_y}$	1	1	0	1



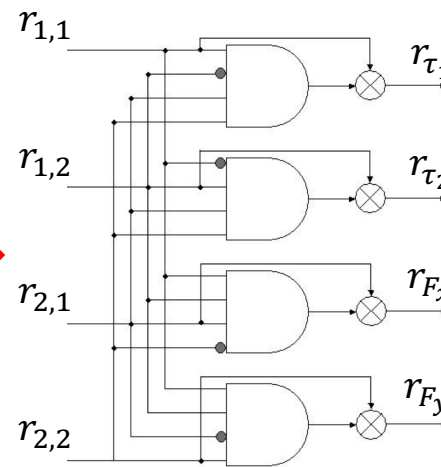
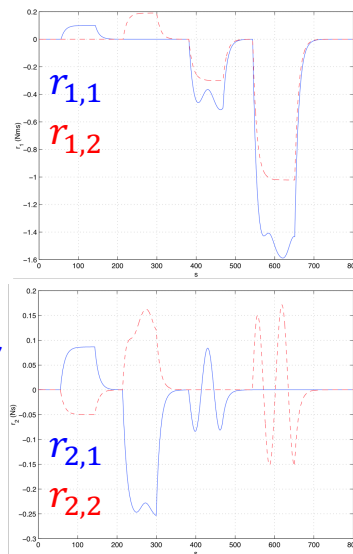
isolation matrix

$r_{2,1}$ $r_{2,2}$	11	10	01	00
$r_{1,1}$ $r_{1,2}$				
10	$f_{\tau_1}$	NA	NA	NA
01	$f_{\tau_2}$	NA	NA	NA
11	NC	$f_{F_x}$	$f_{F_y}$	NA
00	NA	NA	NA	no fault

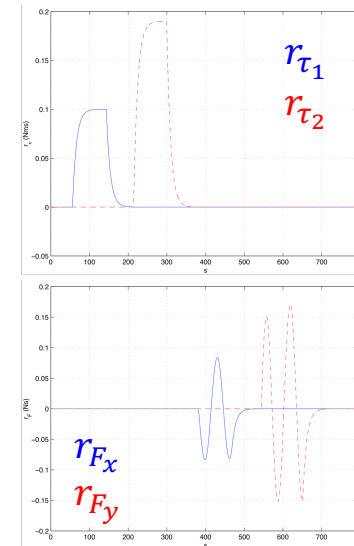
time sequence of non-concurrent

bias faults:

$f_{\tau_1} \rightarrow f_{\tau_2} \rightarrow f_{F_x} \rightarrow f_{F_y}$



isolation logics



hybrid residuals  
(in continuous time + digital logics)  
allow **isolation** of 4 faults in this case

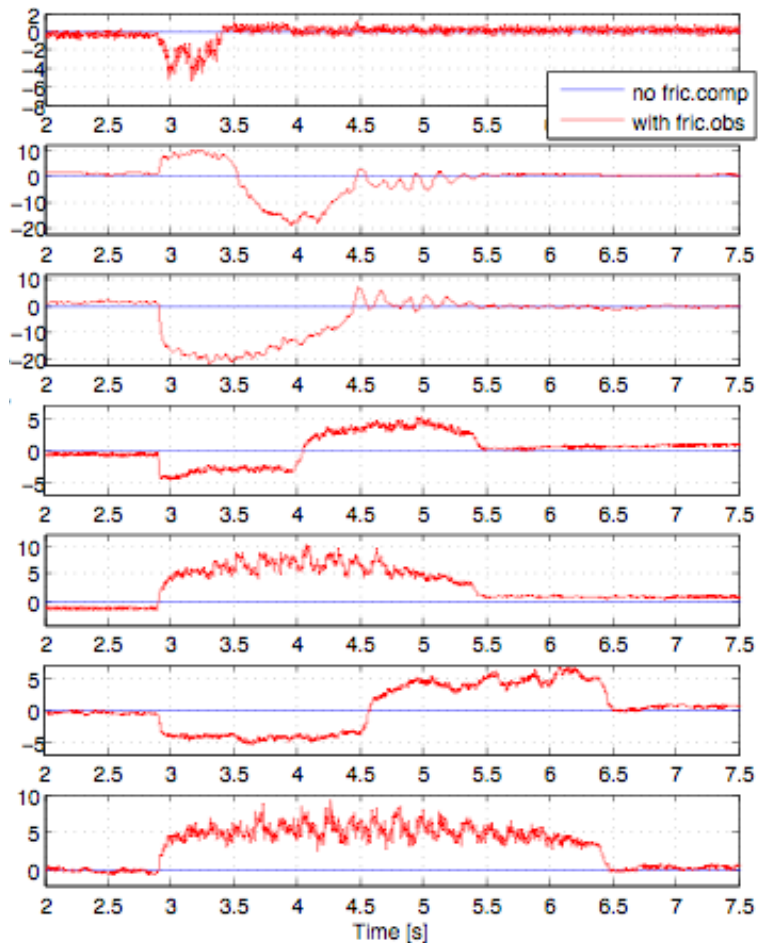
# Experiments on friction compensation



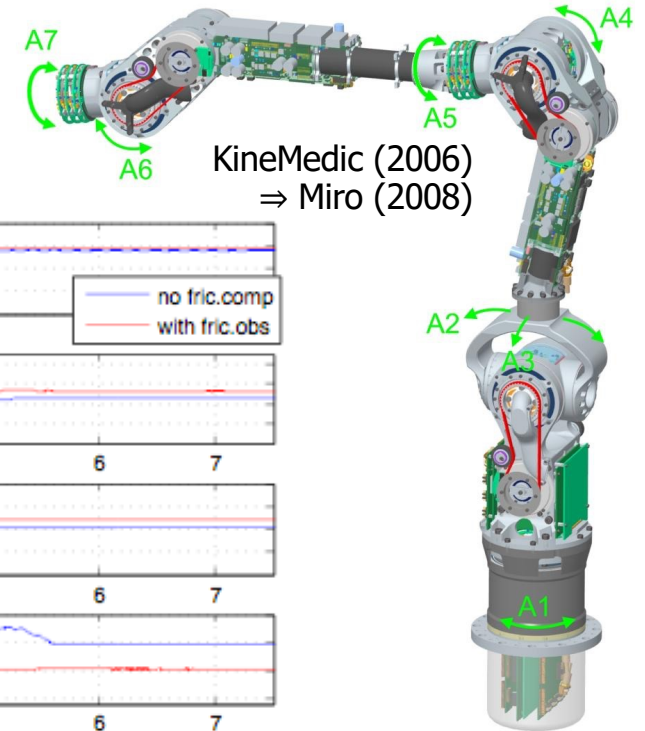
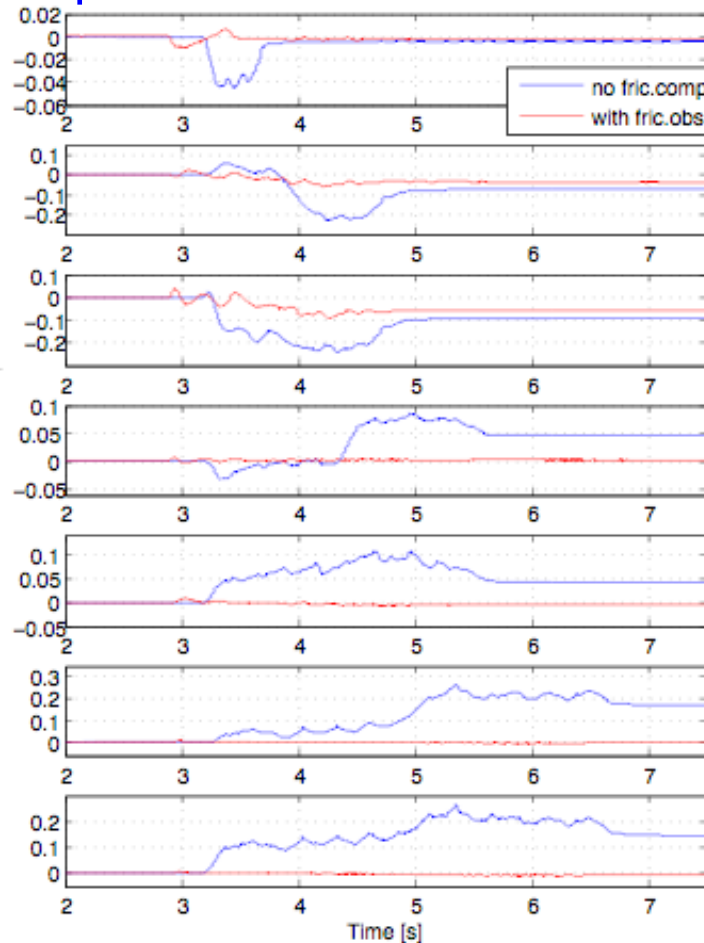
- results on DLR 7R medical robot

used then online  
in control law ...

friction estimate via residuals



position error



HD at the joints  
⇒ elastic joint  
dynamic model

$$M_m \ddot{\theta} + \tau_J = \tau - \tau_B$$

$$\tau_J = K(\theta - q)$$

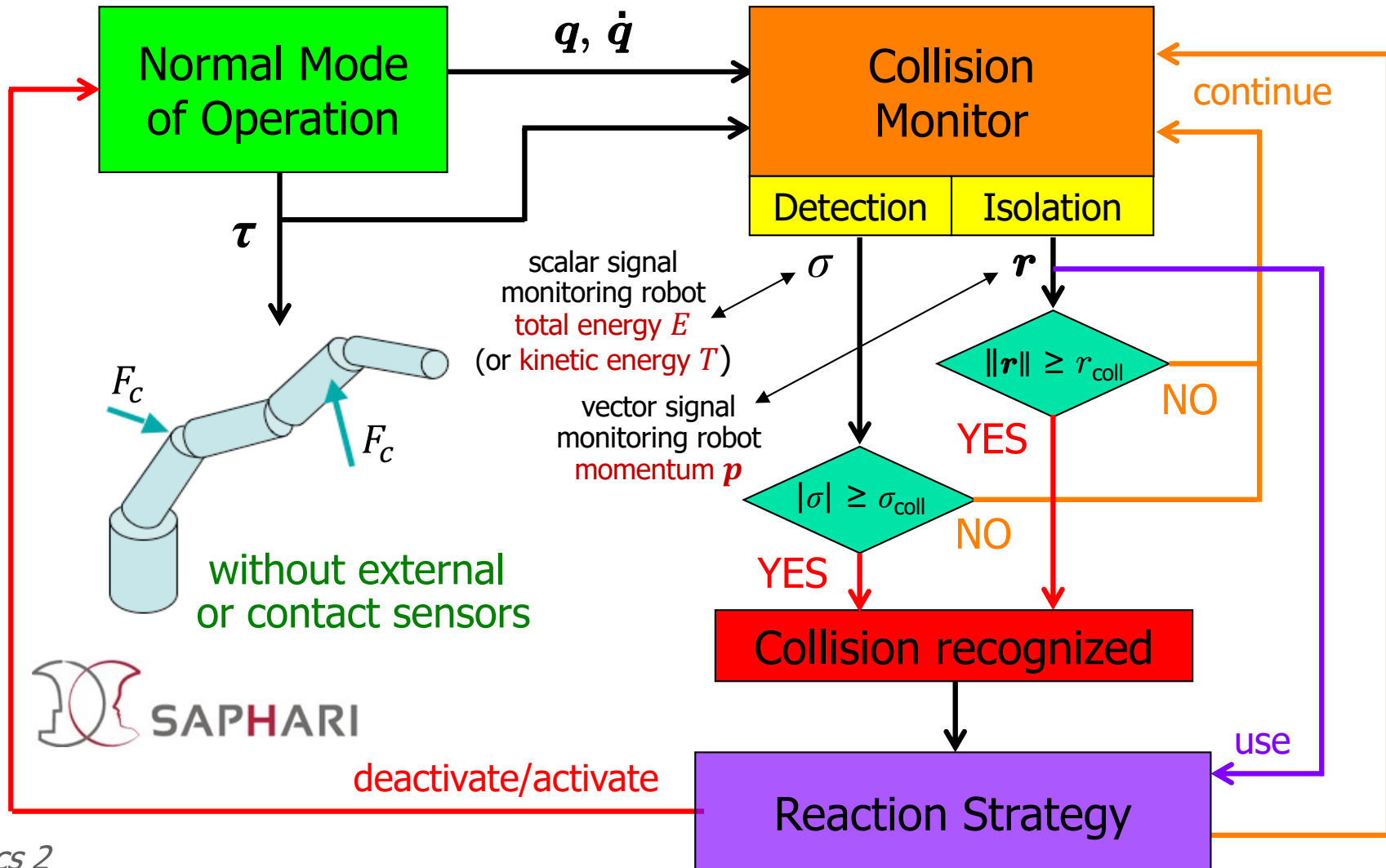
(motor equations  
with JTS)



# Collision detection and isolation

## "sensorless" residuals

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) = \tau + \tau_c \quad \tau_c = J_c^T(q)F_c \quad (\text{both terms unknown})$$



# Block diagram of the residual generator

## momentum-based collision detection and isolation



$$r(t) = K_I \left( p(t) - \int_0^t (\tau + C^T(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} - g(q) + r) ds - p(0) \right) \Rightarrow \dot{r} = K_I(\tau_c - r)$$

$K_I > 0$ , diagonal  
 $r(0) = 0$

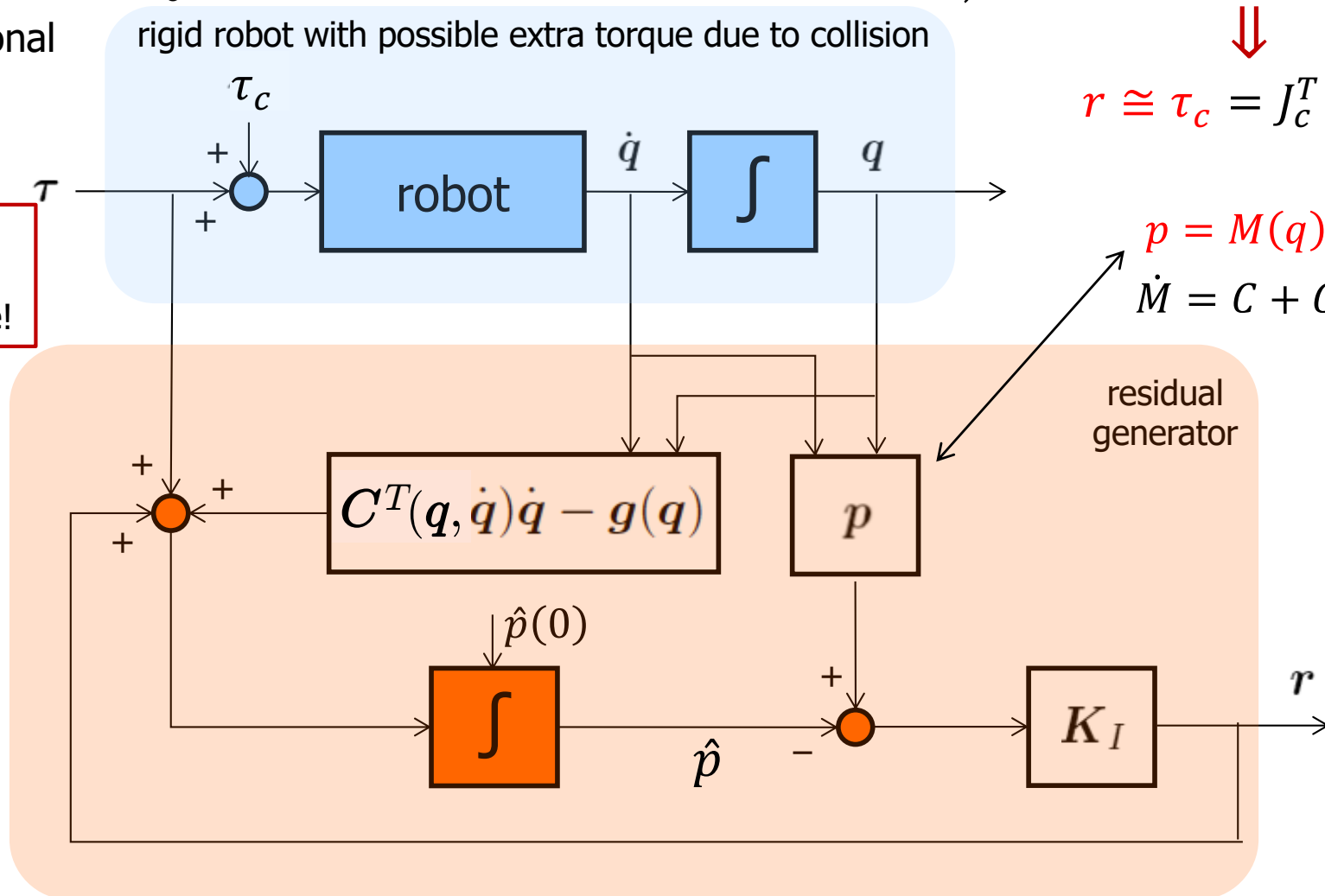
rigid robot with possible extra torque due to collision

$$r \cong \tau_c = J_c^T(q)F_c$$

$$p = M(q)\dot{q}$$

$$\dot{M} = C + C^T$$

more details in **pHRI module** on my web page!



initialization of integrators  
 $\hat{p}(0) = p(0)$   
 (zero if robot starts at rest)

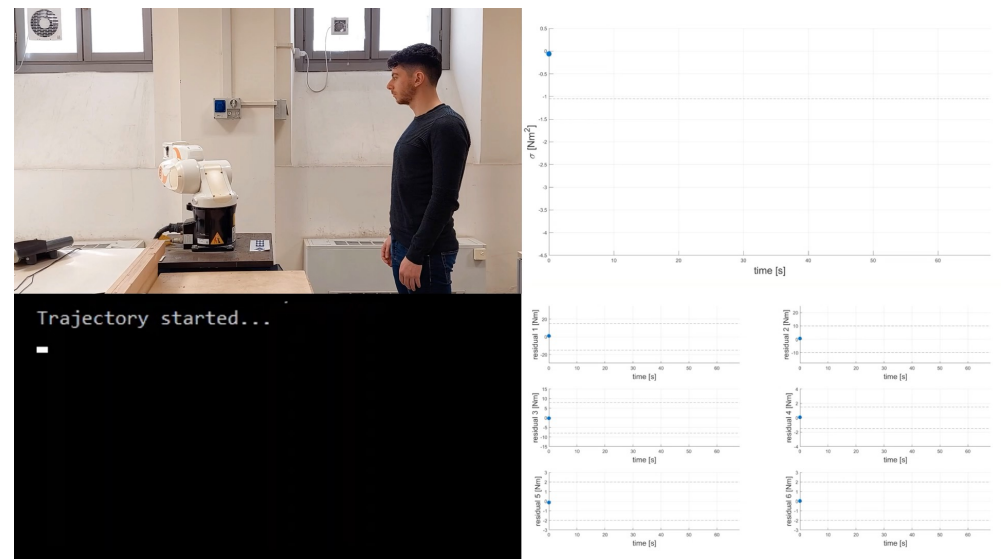
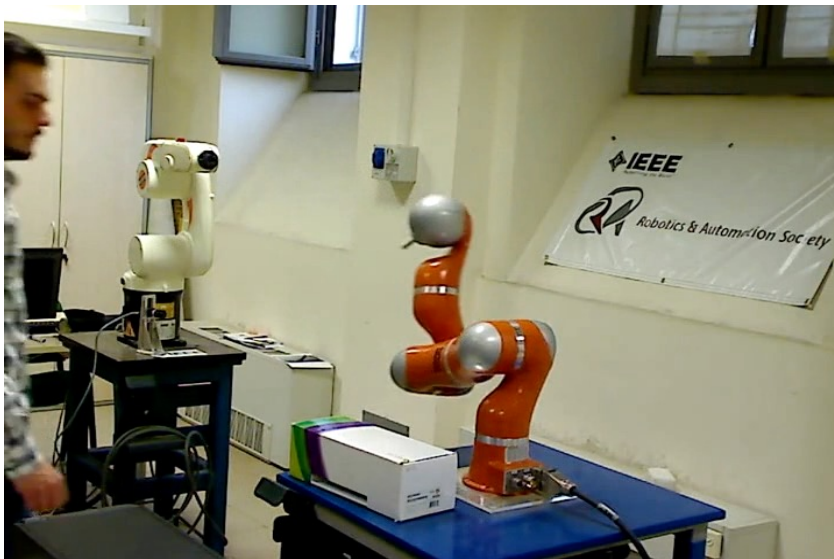
# Collision detection and isolation experiments with different robots over the years ...



DLR III - 2006



Neura - 2023



Robotics 2

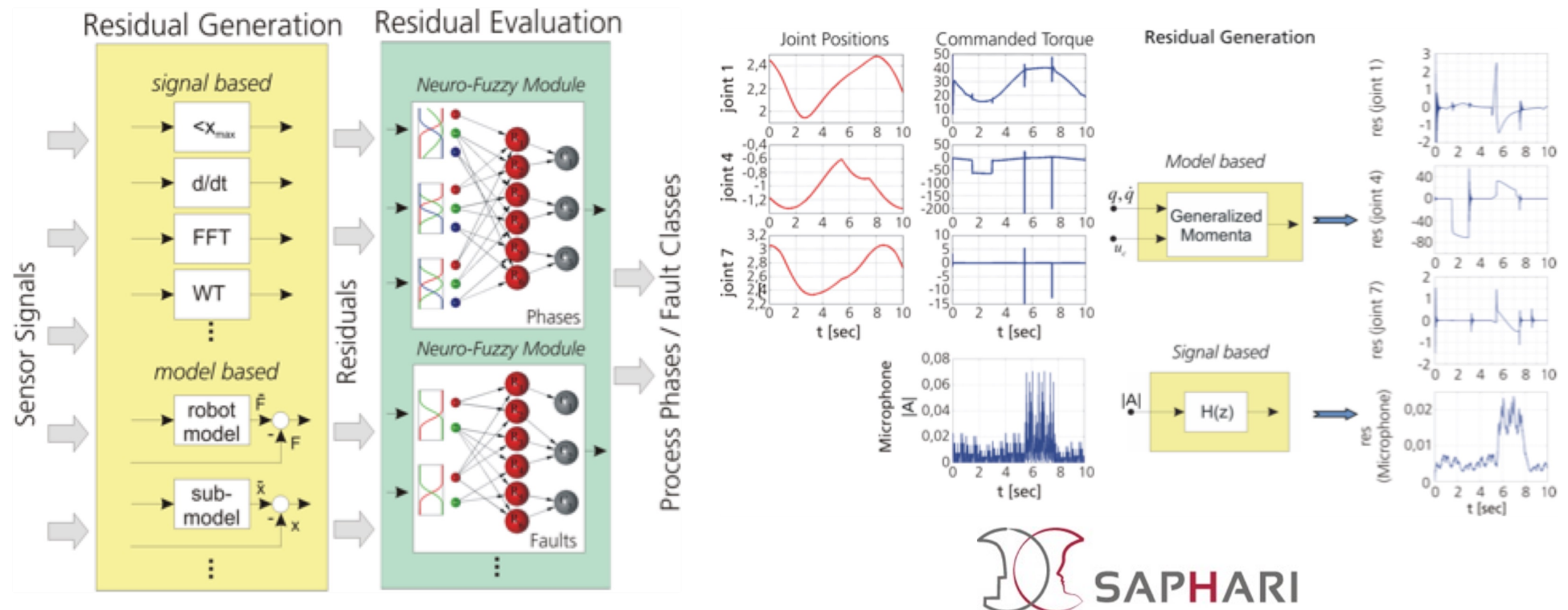
LWR IV - 2015

4 videos

KUKA KR5 - 2022

# Model- and signal-based FDI

- detection and isolation features can be enhanced by combining multiple sensor inputs and different approaches
    - **model**-based (exact, but require accurate models)
    - **signal**-based (approximate, but without special requirements)
- obtaining thus the “best of both worlds”





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