

Redundancy resolution based on optimization

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Quiz (10 pts)

- (6 pts) Explain the optimization/tradeoff underlying the damped least square method

$$\min_{\dot{q}} \frac{\mu^2}{2} \|\dot{q}\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\dot{x} - J\dot{q}\|^2 = H(\dot{q})$$

- (2 pts) List two metrics that measure the distance from singularity
- (2 pts) How to guarantee the secondary task will not interfere the primary task

Singularity avoidance – Damped Least Squares

unconstrained
minimization of a
suitable objective function

$$\min_{\dot{q}} \frac{\mu^2}{2} \|\dot{q}\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\dot{x} - J\dot{q}\|^2 = H(\dot{q})$$

compromise between
large joint velocity
and task accuracy

SOLUTION

$$\dot{q} = J_{\text{DLS}}(q)\dot{x} = J^T (JJ^T + \mu^2 I_M)^{-1} \dot{x}$$

- To render **robust behavior** when crossing the singularity, we can add a small constant along the diagonal of $(J(q)^T J(q))$ to make it invertible when it is singular

Distance to singularity

- Manipulability index – Jacobian matrix determinant

$$\mu = \sqrt{|\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}^T|}$$

- Which is indeed

$$\mu = \prod_{i=1}^M \sigma_i$$

- Is it a good measurement?

Distance to singularity

- Manipulability index – condition number

$$\kappa = \frac{\sigma_{\max}}{\sigma_{\min}}$$

Range?

- Alternatively, can use isotropy

$$Isotropy = \frac{\sigma_{\min}}{\sigma_{\max}}$$

- Is it good enough?

Distance to singularity

- Manipulability index – the smallest singular value

$$\sigma_{\min}$$

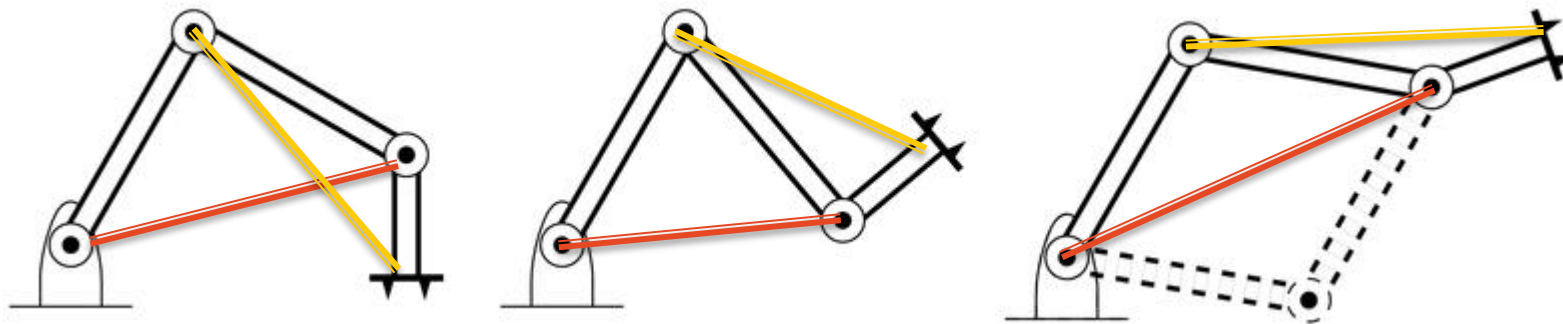
- Direction of velocity disadvantage
- Is it good enough?

Distance to singularity

- Manipulability index

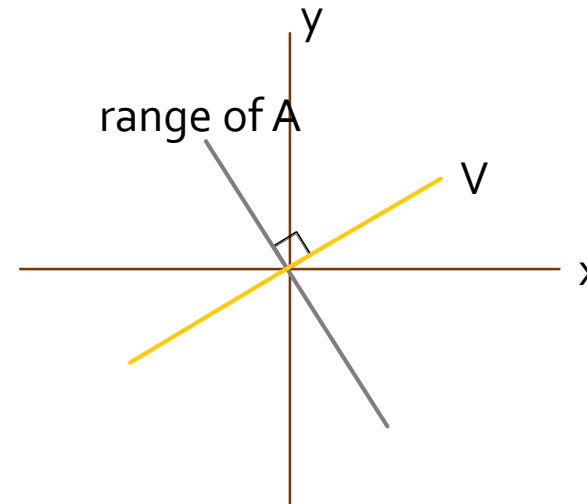
$$\mu' = \sum_{i=1}^M \sqrt{|\mathbf{J}_i \mathbf{J}_i^T|}$$

- What does it imply?
 - Manipulability of every sub-manipulator (non-redundant)

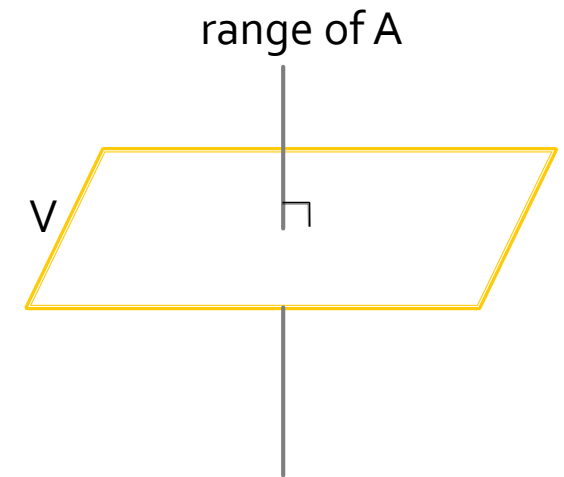


The Null-space of Jacobian

- Secondary tasks is satisfied in the *null-space* of the Jacobian pseudo-inverse
- In linear algebra, the *null-space* of a matrix A is the set of vectors V such that, for any v in \mathbf{V} , $0 = A^T v$.
- \mathbf{V} is orthogonal to the range of A



2D example



3D example

The Null-space of Jacobian

- Given the null space of Jacobian, the secondary task will not disturb the primary task
- The **null-space projection matrix** for the Jacobian pseudo-inverse is:

$$N(q) = I - J(q)^\dagger J(q)$$

-

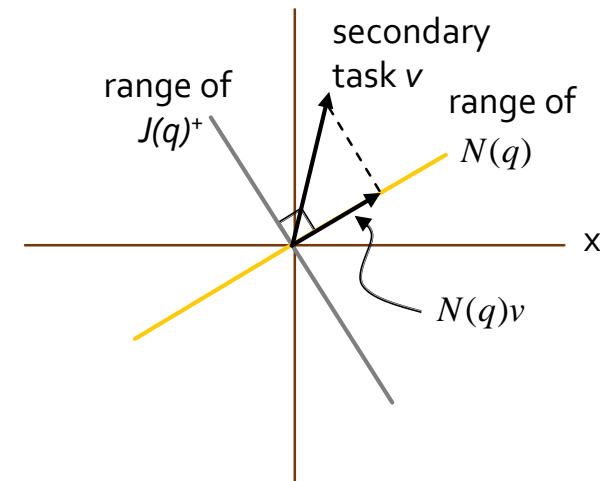
The Null-space of Jacobian

- Project a **task space velocity vector** into the null-space

$$\dot{q} = \underbrace{J(q)^\dagger \dot{x}}_{\text{Primary task}} + \underbrace{(I - J(q)^\dagger J(q)) J_c(q)^\dagger \dot{x}_c}_{\text{Secondary task}}$$

Primary task

Secondary task



Redundancy resolution based on optimization

Still a problem ...

- Methods for redundancy resolution has been studied for decades, yet there are still unsolved problems
- Multi-objective Optimization
 - What are the optimization criteria?
 - How to assign weighting coefficients?

Robot manipulator – Performance to optimize

- Manipulability
- Force/velocity transmission efficiency
- Energy
- Motion smoothness
- Task accuracy

Performance indices	Formula	Comments
Determinant of Jacobian (1984)	$w_n = \sqrt{JJ^T}$	Uniformity of the torque-velocity gain
Condition number (1982)	$\kappa = \frac{\sigma_{max}}{\sigma_{min}}$	Variance in velocity/force transmission
Isotropy (1987)	$ISO = \frac{\sigma_{min}}{\sigma_{max}}$	same as condition number
Min eigen-value of Jacobian (1987)	$ISO = \frac{\sigma_{min}}{\sigma_{max}}$	Efficiency of force/velocity transmission
Dynamic Manipulability (1985)	$G = J^{-T}MJ^{-1}$	Uniformity of this torque-acceleration gain
Distance from singularity (1987)	$H = \prod_i^p \Delta_i ^{1/p}$	Related to manipulability by $w_n = \sqrt{\sum_i^p \Delta_i}$
Acceleration radius (1988)	$\tau = M(\theta) + C(\theta, \theta)\theta$	acceleration capability of the end-effector
Force transmission ratio (1988)	$\alpha = [(u^T(JJ^T)u)^{1/2}]$	Force gain along task-compatibility direction
Velocity transmission ratio (1988)	$\beta = [u^T(JJ^T)^{-1}u]^{1/2}$	Velocity along task-compatibility direction
Min Jerk model (1984)	$\min(\frac{\partial^3 x}{\partial t^3})$	Motion smoothness
Min (commanded) torque-change (1985,1989)	$\min(\frac{\partial \tau}{\partial x})$	Motion smoothness
Min work model (1983)	$\min(W)$	Energy
Min variance model (1989)	$\min[var(x - x_d)]$	Task accuracy

Common Objectives for Redundant Resolution

- Tracking end-effector trajectory → primary task
- Obstacle avoidance
 - Pseudoinverse – Incorporate obstacle as secondary constraints
 - Artificial potential field – repulsive obstacle + attractive target
- Motion limits
 - Position, velocity, acceleration
 - Avoid vibration, improve motion smoothness

Consistent and predictable robot behavior

- To be consistent and predictable, robot motion needs to be repetitive in both task and configuration space
 - Close path in task space → close path in configuration space
- Unpredictable robot behavior
 - Joint angle drift
 - Readjusting the manipulators' configuration with self-motion at every cycle → inefficient

Methods

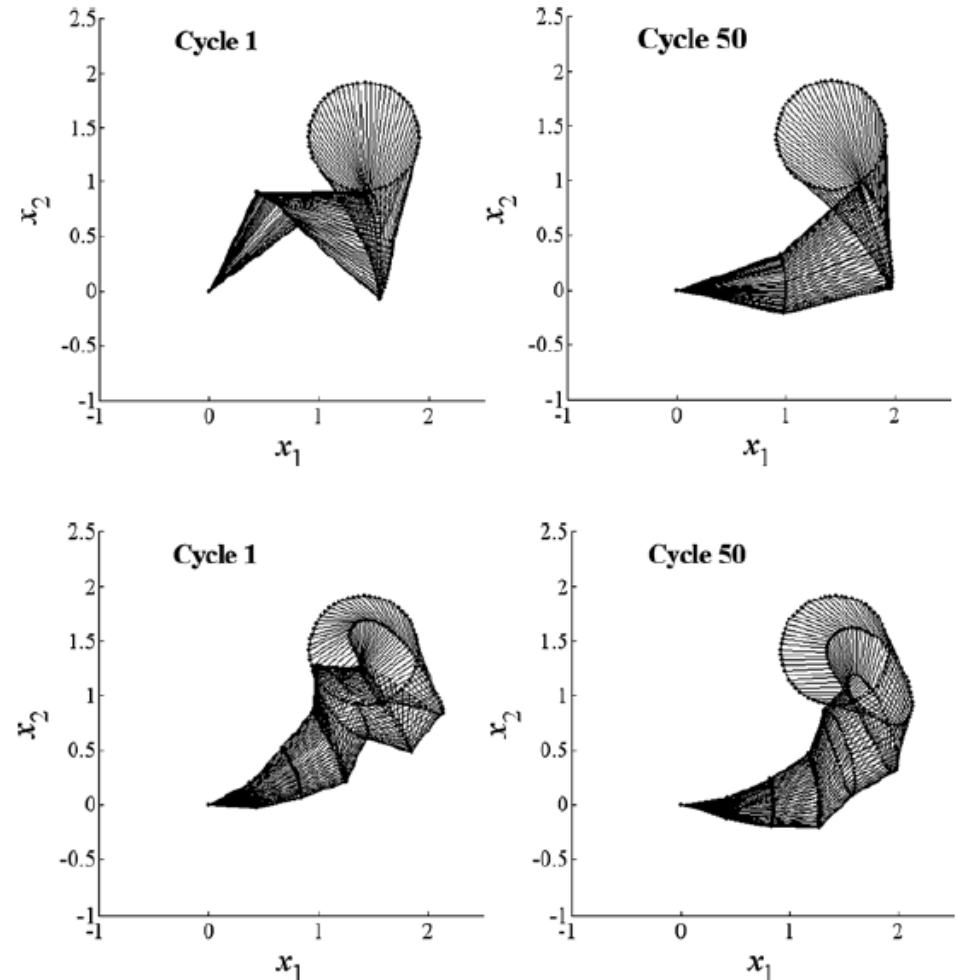
- Baseline = Closed-loop pseudo-inverse
- Define a cost function to optimize for motion repetition, and solve it using
 - Genetic Algorithm [1]
 - Dynamical quadratic programming [2]
- Continuous pseudo-inverse and global redundancy resolution [3]

Closed-loop pseudo-inverse

- Compute the joint position through time integration pseudo-inverse

$$\Delta q = \mathbf{J}^\dagger \Delta x$$

Unpredictable, not repeatable
arm configurations



Cost function for GA

$$f_1 = A \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \dot{\mathbf{q}} + B \left(\frac{\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{q}_0}{\Delta t} \right)^T \left(\frac{\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{q}_0}{\Delta t} \right)$$

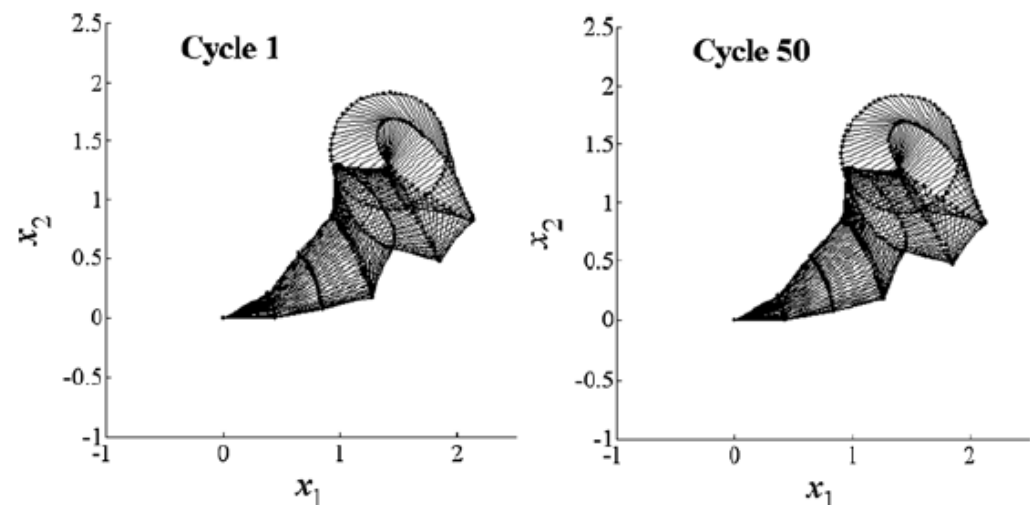
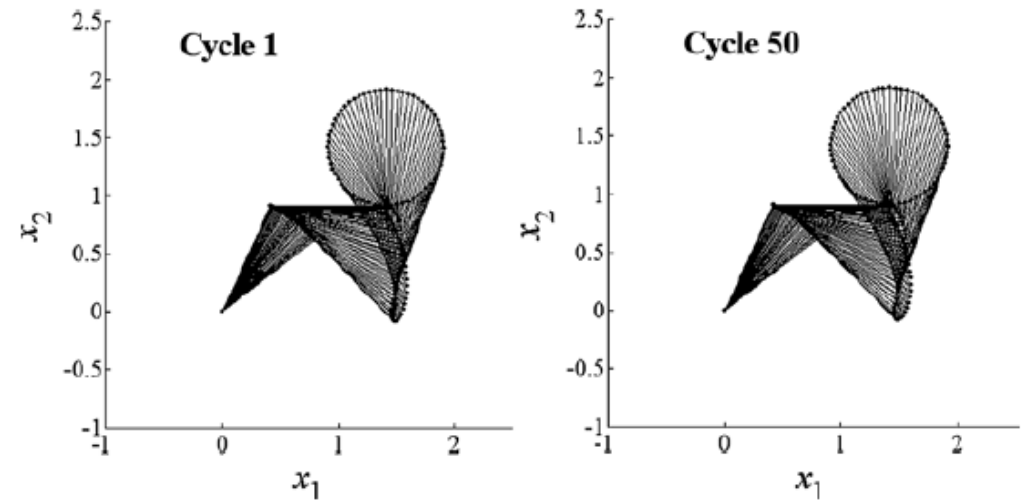
Weighted least squares

Minimize the displacement between initial and current joint configurations over a time step

Simulation Result

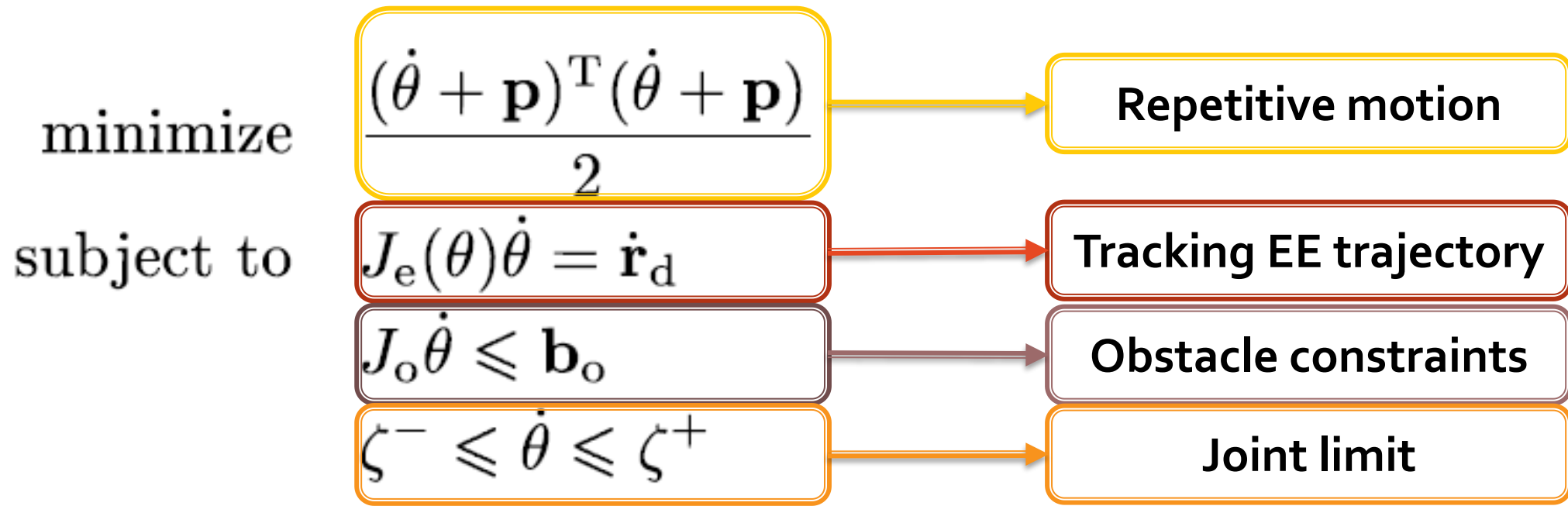
CLGA	$r = 0.7$	$r = 1.0$	$r = 2.0$
3R	9.96E-04	8.84E-04	1.08E-03
4R	7.12E-04	7.38E-04	5.70E-04
5R	6.73E-04	5.42E-04	6.15E-04
6R	5.98E-04	4.81E-04	8.57E-04
7R	1.26E-03	5.44E-04	5.39E-04

CLP	$r = 0.7$	$r = 1.0$	$r = 2.0$
3R	1.35E+01	6.41E+00	5.80E-01
4R	8.2E+00	4.4E+00	5.8E-01
5R	7.2E+00	2.2E+00	4.4E-01
6R	5.4E+00	4.9E+00	3.0E-01
7R	4.2E+00	2.4E+00	2.0E-01



Multi-objective optimization

- Formulation of Optimization Problem



Formulation of Optimization Problem

minimize $\frac{(\dot{\theta} + \mathbf{p})^T (\dot{\theta} + \mathbf{p})}{2}$

subject to $J_e(\theta)\dot{\theta} = \dot{\mathbf{r}}_d$

$J_o\dot{\theta} \leq \mathbf{b}_o$

$\zeta^- \leq \dot{\theta} \leq \zeta^+$

Repetitive motion

$$\mathbf{p} = \eta(\theta(t) - \theta(0))$$

$$\frac{\|\dot{\theta}(t) + \eta(\theta(t) - \theta(0))\|_2^2}{2}$$

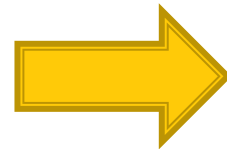
$$\mathbf{z}(t) = \theta(t) - \theta(0) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \dot{\mathbf{z}}(t) = -\eta\mathbf{z}(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \|\mathbf{z}(t)\|_2 = \exp(-\eta t)\|\mathbf{z}(0)\|_2 \rightarrow 0$$

$\eta > 0 \in R$

$$\theta(t) = \theta(0), \quad t \rightarrow \infty$$

Dynamical quadratic programming

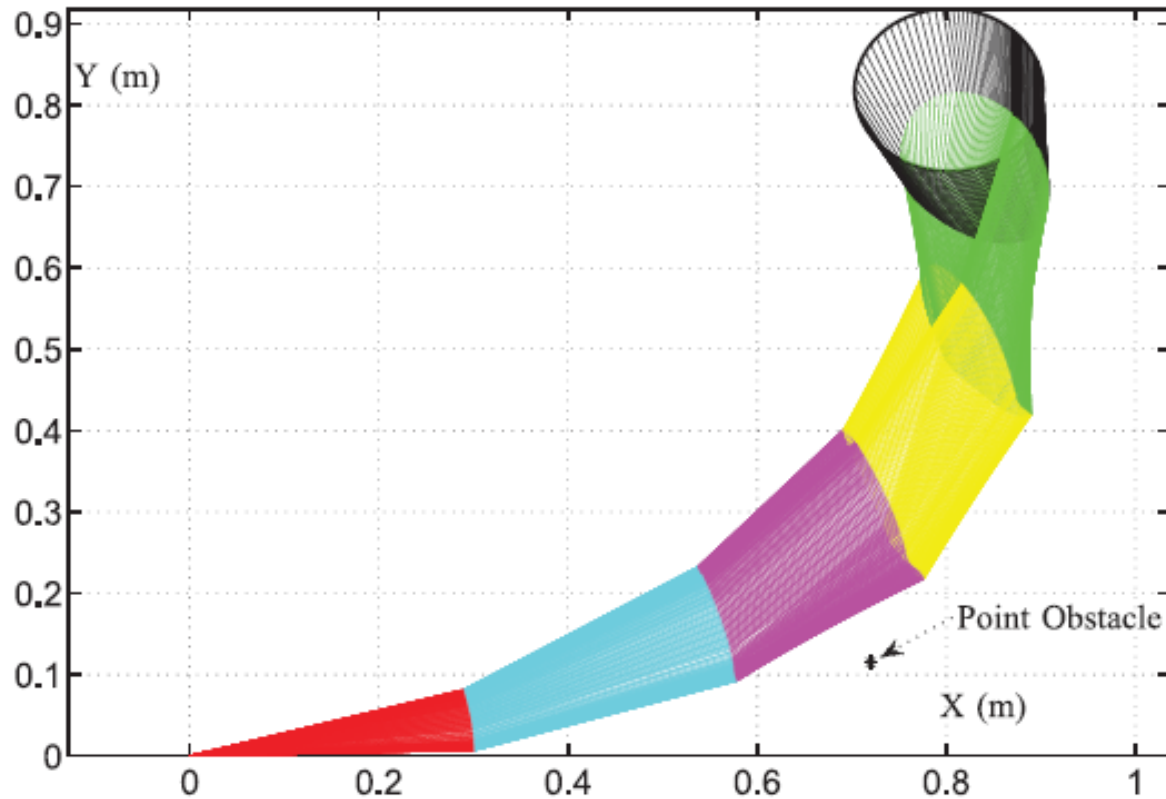
$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \frac{(\dot{\theta} + \mathbf{p})^T (\dot{\theta} + \mathbf{p})}{2} \\ &\text{subject to} && J_e(\theta)\dot{\theta} = \dot{\mathbf{r}}_d \\ &&& J_o\dot{\theta} \leq \mathbf{b}_o \\ &&& \zeta^- \leq \dot{\theta} \leq \zeta^+ \end{aligned}$$



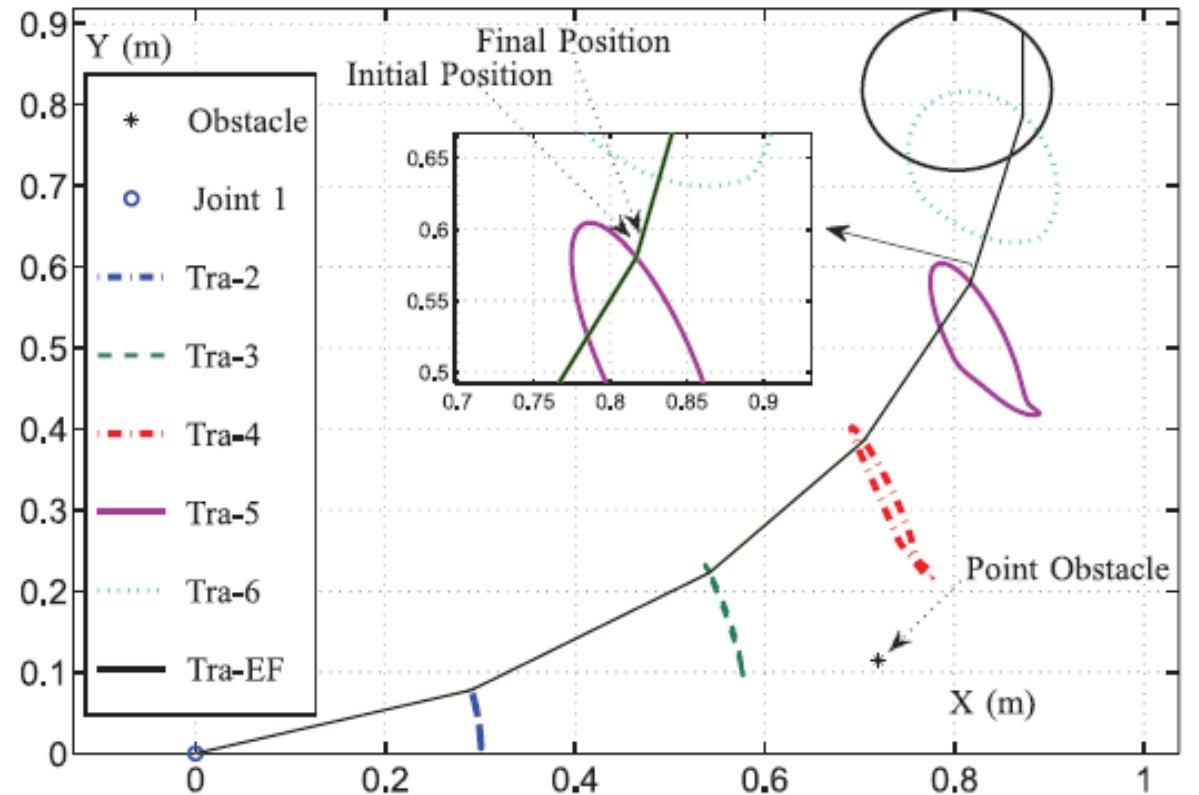
$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \frac{\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x}}{2} + \mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{x} \\ &\text{subject to} && A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{d} \\ &&& C\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b} \\ &&& \zeta^- \leq \mathbf{x} \leq \zeta^+ \end{aligned}$$

- Dynamical quadratic program (DQP) with equality, inequality, and bound constraints
 - Can be solved by piecewise-linear projection equation (PLPE) neural network

Simulation Result [1]

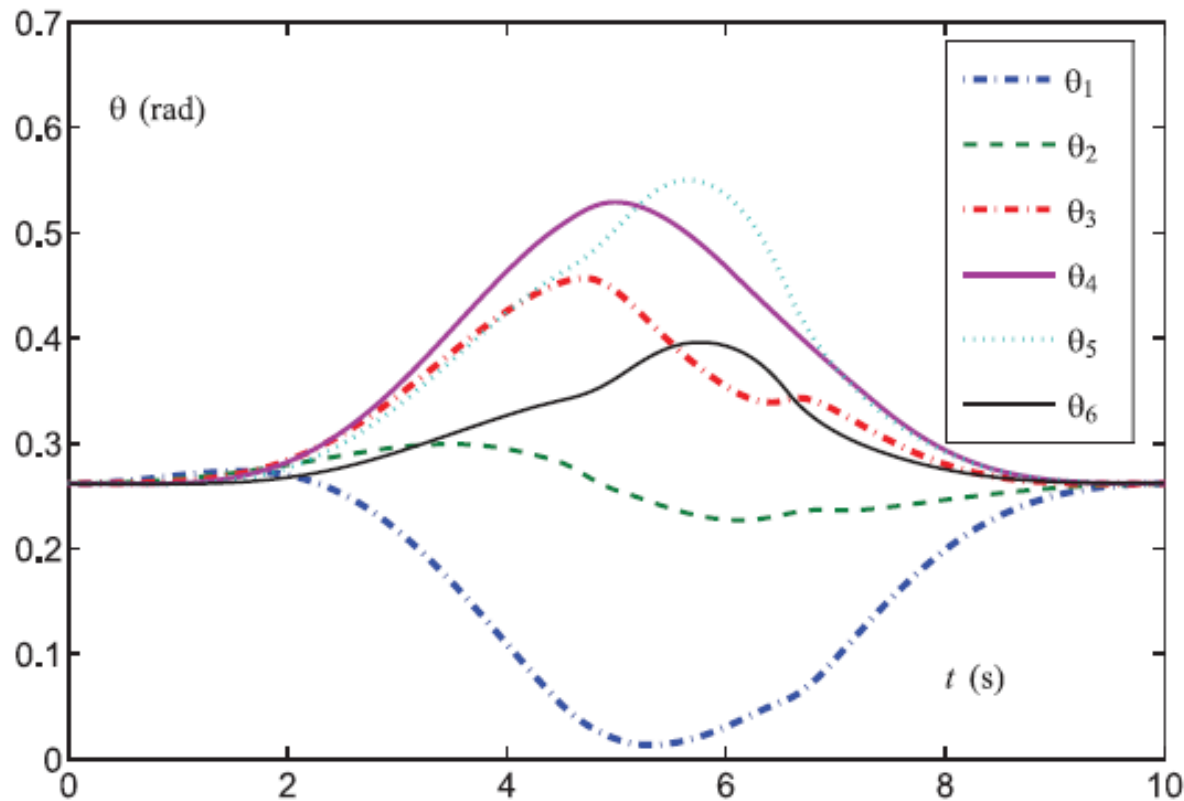


Simulation motion

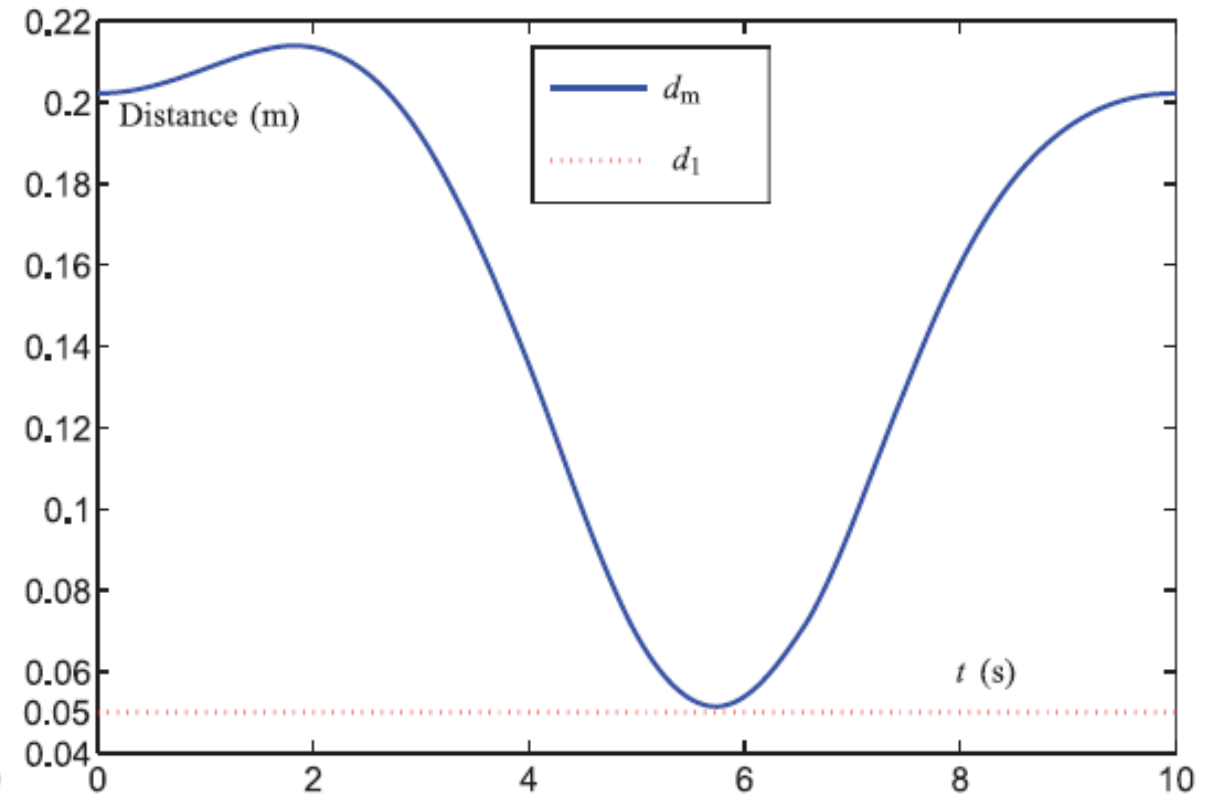


Motion of each joint in task space

Simulation Result

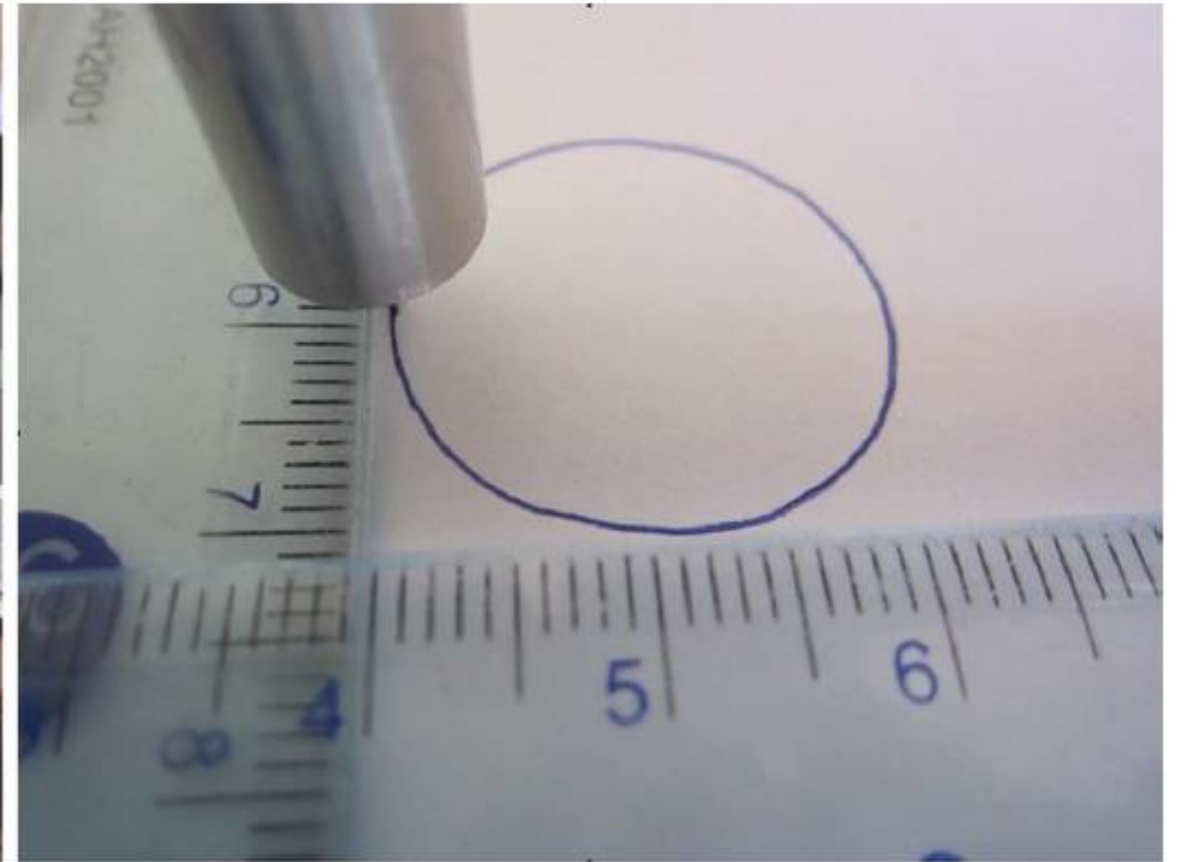
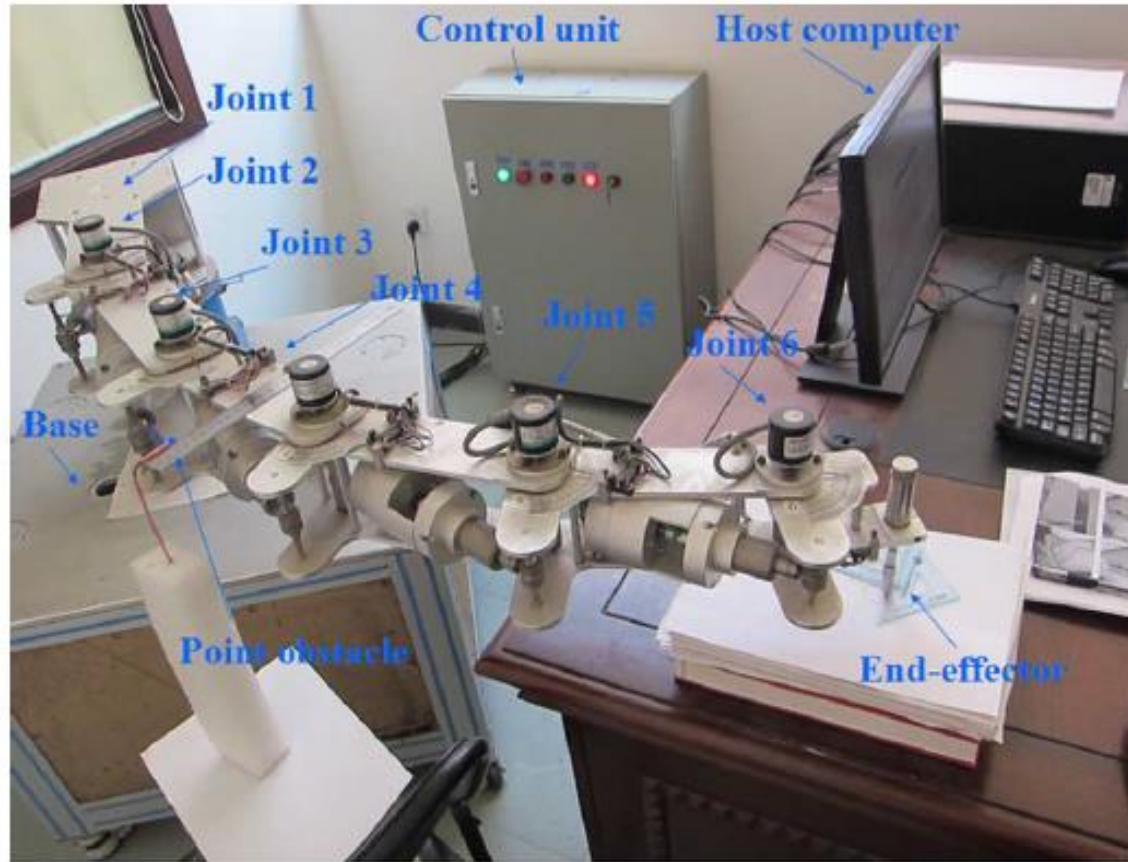


Joint angles

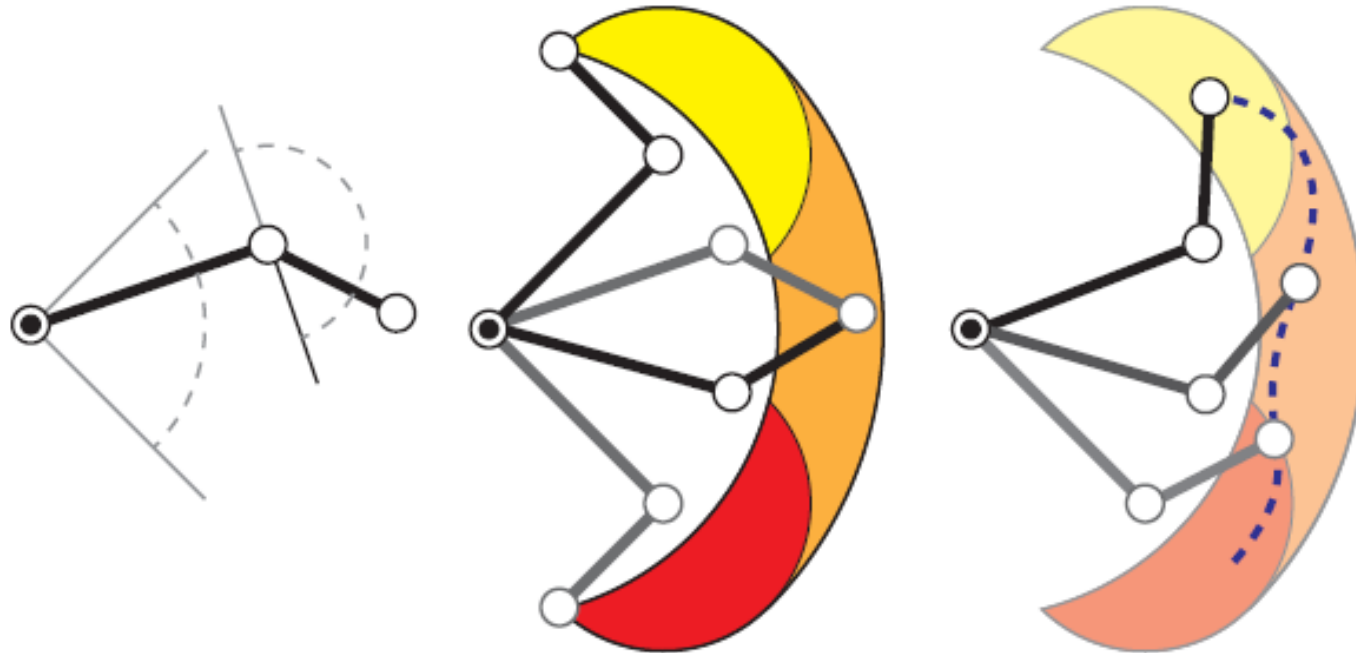


Minimal link-obstacle distance

Experiment

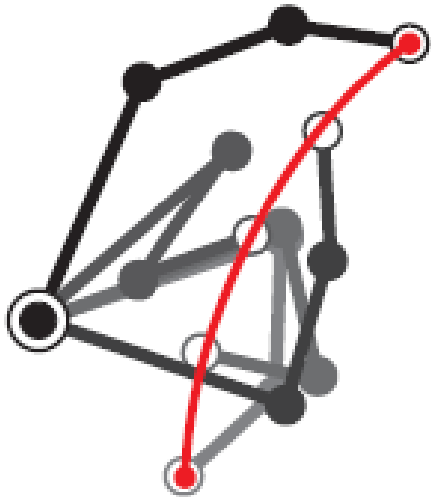


Practical needs in robot control

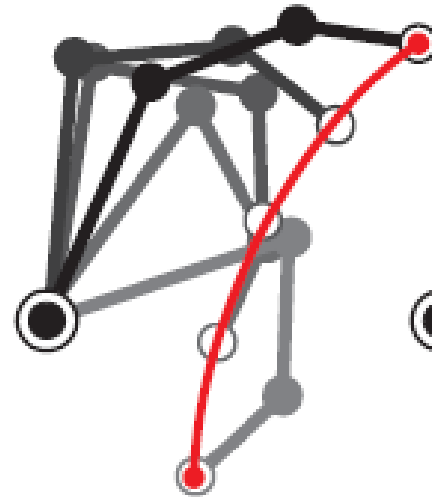


Continuous, globally consistent redundancy resolution

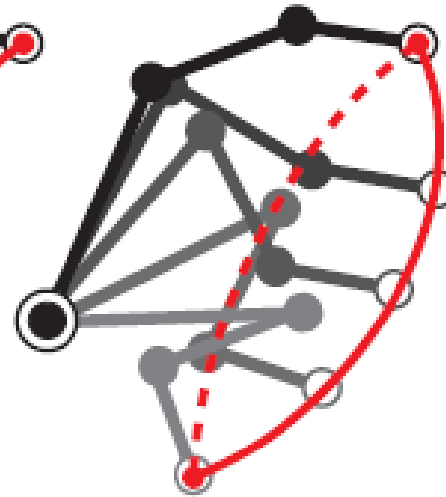
Pointwise



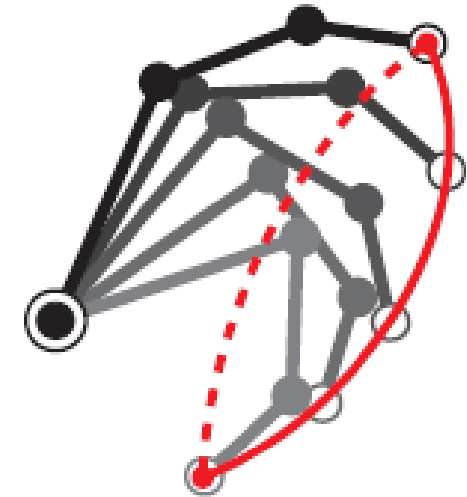
Pathwise



Non-global



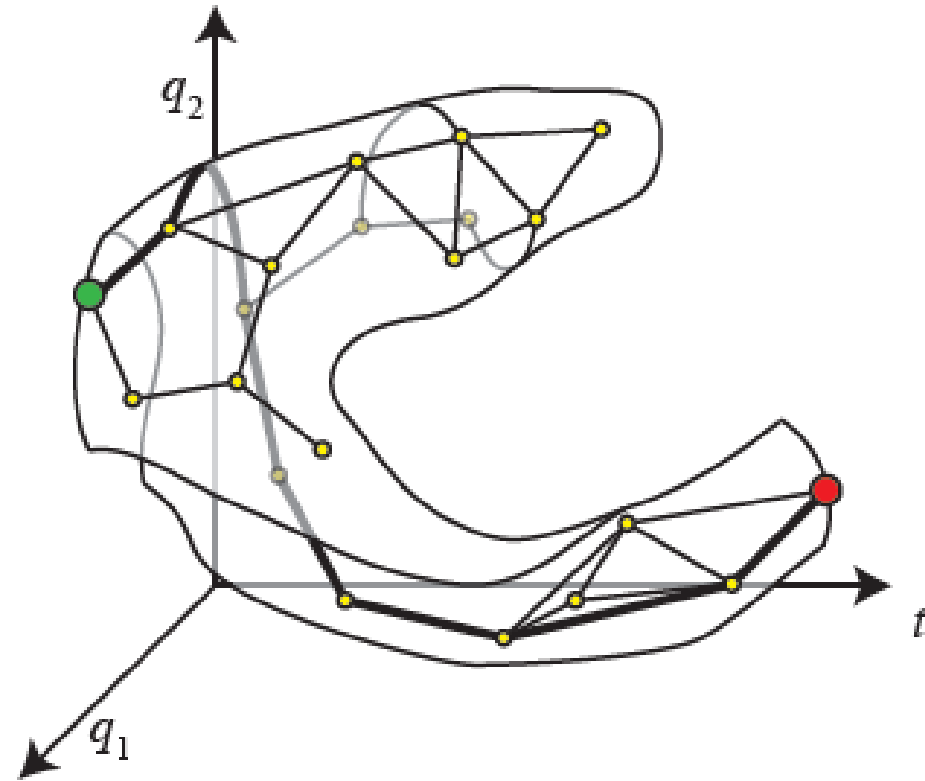
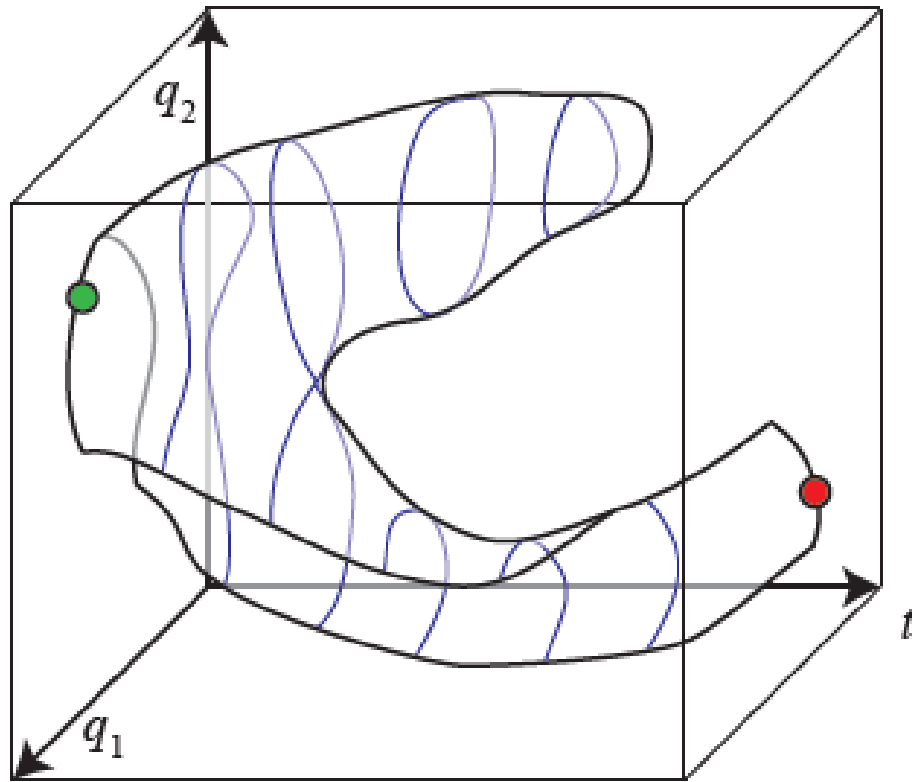
Global



Continuity and global consistency

- Continuity of redundancy resolution
 - Starting joint configuration was chosen "badly", then the robot tracking a simple path could get stuck when it hits joint limits.
- Globally consistent redundancy resolution
 - When tracking a cyclic path (forward and backward), the robot should return to the same joint configuration that it started from

Pathwise Redundancy Resolution



PRM-Path Resolution

Algorithm 2 PRM-Path-Resolution(y, N)

```
1: Initialize empty roadmap  $\mathcal{R} = (V, E)$ 
2: if  $q(0)$  and  $q(1)$  are given then
3:   Add  $(0, q(0))$  and  $(1, q(1))$  to  $V$ 
4: else
5:   Sample  $O(N)$  start configurations using  $\text{SampleF}(y(0))$ 
6:   Sample  $O(N)$  goal configurations using  $\text{SampleF}(y(1))$ 
7: for  $i = 1, \dots, N$  do
8:   Sample  $t_{\text{sample}} \sim U([0, 1])$ 
9:   Sample  $q_{\text{sample}} \leftarrow \text{SampleF}(y(t_{\text{sample}}))$ 
10:  if  $q_{\text{sample}} \neq \text{nil}$  then add  $(t_{\text{sample}}, q)$  to  $V$ 
11: for all nearby pairs of vertices  $(t_u, q_u), (t_v, q_v)$  with  $t_u < t_v$  do
12:  if  $\text{Visible}(y, t_u, t_v, q_u, q_v)$  then
13:    Add the (directed) edge to  $E$ 
14: Search  $\mathcal{R}$  for a path from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 1$ 
```

Add start and end points in configuration space

PRM-Path Resolution

Algorithm 2 PRM-Path-Resolution(y, N)

- 1: Initialize empty roadmap $\mathcal{R} = (V, E)$
- 2: if $q(0)$ and $q(1)$ are given then
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- 4: else
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- 6: Sample $O(N)$ goal configurations using $\text{SampleF}(y(1))$
- 7: for $i = 1, \dots, N$ do
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- 9: Sample $q_{\text{sample}} \leftarrow \text{SampleF}(y(t_{\text{sample}}))$
- 10: if $q_{\text{sample}} \neq \text{nil}$ then add $(t_{\text{sample}}, q_{\text{sample}})$ to V
- 11: for all nearby pairs of vertices $(t_u, q_u), (t_v, q_v)$ do
- 12: if $\text{Visible}(y, t_u, t_v, q_u, q_v)$ then
- 13: Add the (directed) edge to E
- 14: Search \mathcal{R} for a path from $t = 0$ to $t = 1$

– $\text{SampleF}(y)$ first samples a random configuration $q_{\text{rand}} \in \mathcal{C}$ and then uses $\text{Solve}(y, q_{\text{rand}})$. If the result is *nil* or infeasible, then *nil* is returned.

– $\text{Solve}(y, q_{\text{init}})$ solves a root-finding problem $f(q) = y$ numerically using q_{init} as the initial point. If it fails, it returns *nil*. It is assumed that the result q lies close to q_{init} .

PRM-Path Resolution

Algorithm 2 PRM-Path-Resolution(y, N)

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- 2: if $q(0)$ and $q(1)$ are given then
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- 12: if $\text{Visible}(y, t_u, t_v, q_u, q_v)$ then
- 13: Add the (directed) edge to E
- 14: Search \mathcal{R} for a path from $t = 0$ to $t = 1$

Sampling in the time domain – every node added subject to the manifold constraints

PRM-Path Resolution

Algorithm 2 PRM-Path-Resolution(y, N)

- 1: Initialize empty roadmap $\mathcal{R} = (V, E)$
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- 12: if $\text{Visible}(y, t_u, t_v, q_u, q_v)$ then
- 13: Add the (directed) edge to E
- 14: Search \mathcal{R} for a path from $t = 0$ to $t = 1$

Local planner – directed edges restrict forward progress along the time domain

PRM-Path Resolution

- Local planner

Algorithm 1 $\text{Visible}(y, t_s, t_g, q_s, q_g)$

- 1: if $d(q_s, q_g) \leq \epsilon$ then return “true”
- 2: Let $y_m \leftarrow y((t_s + t_g)/2)$ and $q_m \leftarrow (q_s + q_g)/2$
- 3: Let $q \leftarrow \text{Solve}(y_m, q_m)$
- 4: if $q = \text{nil}$ or $q \notin \mathcal{F}$ then return “false”
- 5: if $\max(d(q, q_s), d(q, q_g)) > c \cdot d(q_s, q_g)$ then return “false”
- 6: if $\text{Visible}(y, t_s, t_m, q_s, q_m)$ and $\text{Visible}(y, t_m, t_g, q_m, q_g)$ then return “true”
- 7: return “false”

– $\text{Solve}(y, q_{init})$ solves a root-finding problem $f(q) = y$ numerically using q_{init} as the initial point. If it fails, it returns nil . It is assumed that the result q lies close to q_{init} .

Approximate global redundancy resolution

- Assign a single robot configuration to each target point
- Pointwise global resolution
- Constraint-satisfaction-based resolution

Pointwise global resolution

Algorithm 3 Pointwise-Global-Resolution(G_W, N_q)

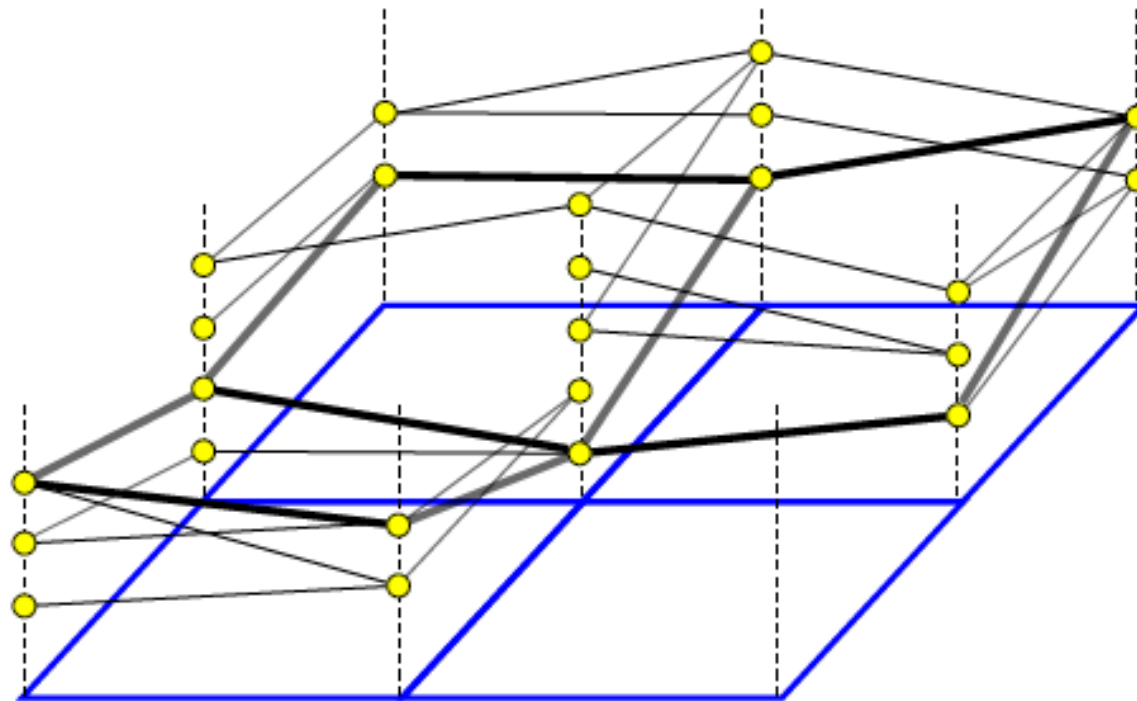
- 1: Initialize empty roadmap $\mathcal{R}_C = (V_C, E_C)$
 - 2: for each $y \in V_W$ do $N(y)$ is the neighborhood of a vertex y in the workspace graph
 - 3: Let $Q_{seed} \leftarrow \bigcup_{w \in N(y)} Q[w]$
 - 4: for each $q_s \in Q_{seed}$ do
 - 5: Run $q \leftarrow \text{Solve}(y, q_s)$
 - 6: if $q \neq nil$ then add q to V_C and go to Step 2, proceeding to the next y .
 - 7: Run $\text{SampleF}(y)$ up to N_q times. If any sample q succeeds, add it to V_C .
 - 8: for all edges $(y, y') \in E_W$ such that $|Q(y)| > 0$ and $|Q(y')| > 0$ do
 - 9: Let q be the only member of $Q(y)$ and q' the only member of $Q(y')$
 - 10: if $R(y, y', q, q')=1$ then
 - 11: Add (q, q') to E_C
- return \mathcal{R}_C

Pointwise global resolution

Algorithm 3 Pointwise-Global-Resolution(G_W, N_q)

- 1: Initialize empty roadmap $\mathcal{R}_C = (V_C, E_C)$
 - 2: for each $y \in V_W$ do
 - 3: Let $Q_{seed} \leftarrow \cup_{w \in N(y)} Q[w]$
 - 4: for each $q_s \in Q_{seed}$ do
 - 5: Run $q \leftarrow \text{Solve}(y, q_s)$
 - 6: if $q \neq nil$ then add q to V_C and go to Step 2, proceeding to the next y .
 - 7: Run $\text{SampleF}(y)$ up to N_q times. If any sample q succeeds, add it to V_C .
 - 8: for all edges $(y, y') \in E_W$ such that $|Q(y)| > 0$ and $|Q(y')| > 0$ do
 - 9: Let q be the **only member** of $Q(y)$ and q' the **only member** of $Q(y')$
 - 10: if $R(y, y', q, q') = 1$ then
 - 11: Add (q, q') to E_C
- return \mathcal{R}_C
-
- ```
graph TD; A[Keep only one configuration] --> B[only member of Q(y)]; A --> C[only member of Q(y')];
```

# Pointwise global resolution



# Limitation of pointwise method

- Pointwise method can yield poor results
  - Several edges unnecessarily unresolved
- Constraint-satisfaction problem
  - Sample many configurations in the preimage of each workspace point
  - Connect them with feasible edges
  - Seek a “sheet” in the C-space roadmap that satisfies the constraints



# Constraint-satisfaction-based resolution

- Primary error metric
  - Measures the number of unresolved edges
- Secondary error metric
  - Maximize smoothness in the redundant dimensions

# Minimize the number of unsolvable edges

- Let  $G_W = (V_W, E_W)$  be the workspace roadmap

$$U(g) = |E_W| - \sum_{(y, y') \in E_W} \underbrace{R(y, y', g[y], g[y'])}$$

Local reachability indicator  
function – check for locally  
pairwise resolvable

- Seek the mapping  $g$  from task space vertices to C-space vertices

# Maximize pseudo-inverse smoothness

- Distance is a good proxy for smoothness.
  - Use total C-space path length to measure smoothness

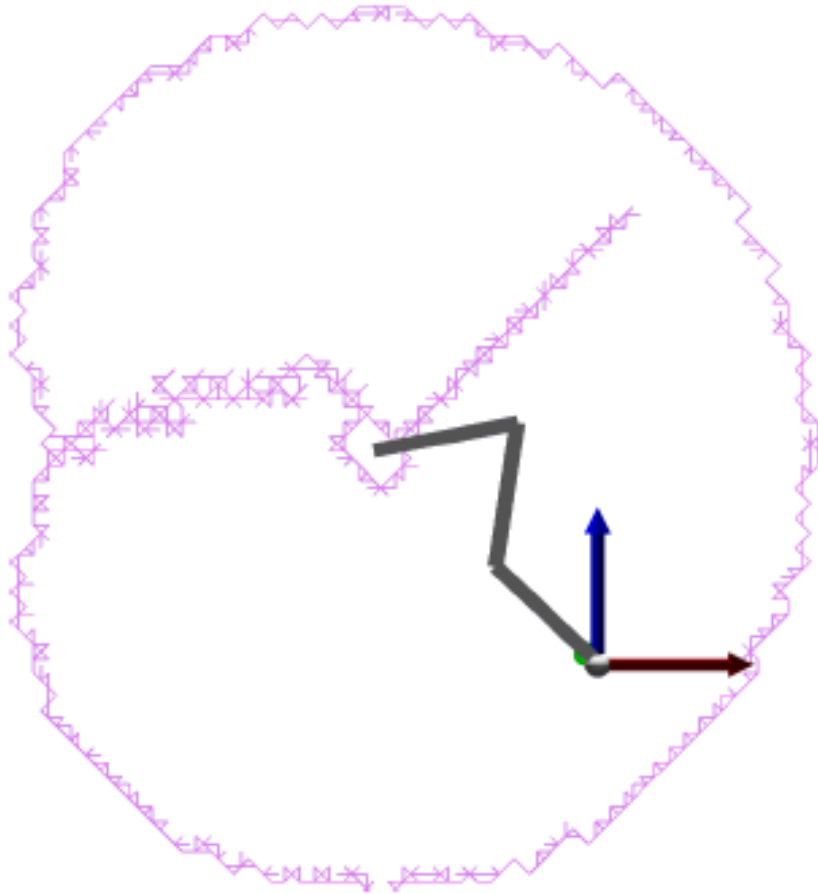
$$L(g) = \sum_{(y,y') \in E_W} d(g[y], g[y']) R(y, y', g[y], g[y']).$$

# Ensure connection in C-space and task space

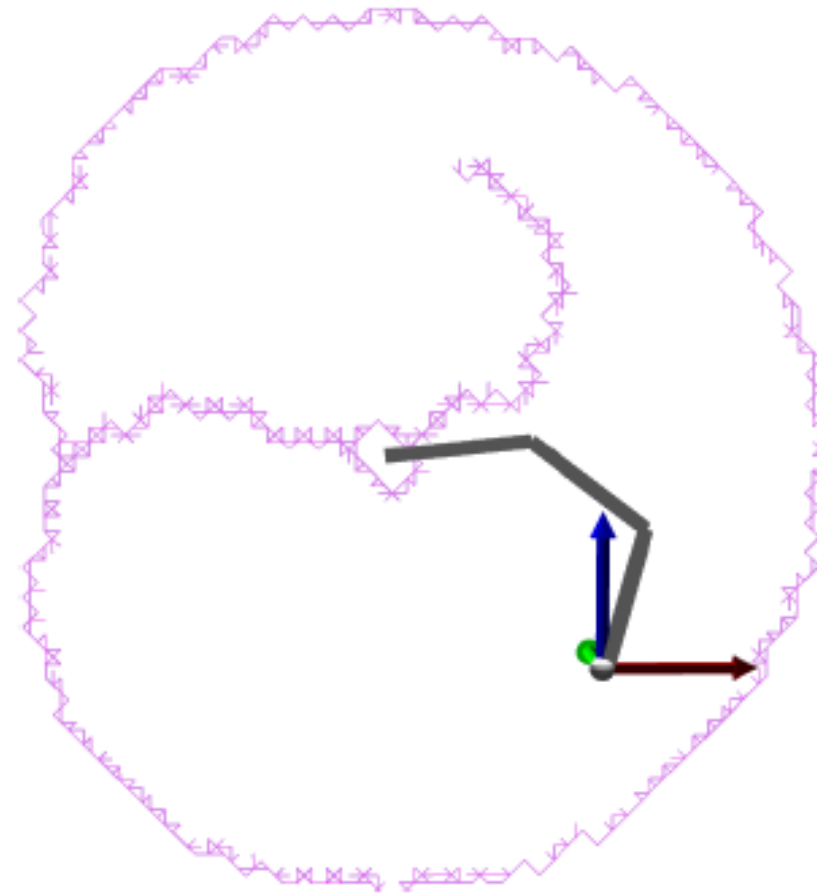
- Given the C-space roadmap  $R = (V_c, E_c)$ , make sure

$$E_C = \{(q, q') \mid (Y[q], Y[q']) \in E_W \text{ and } R(Y[q], Y[q'], q, q') = 1\}$$

# Discontinuity boundary for 3-DOF arm

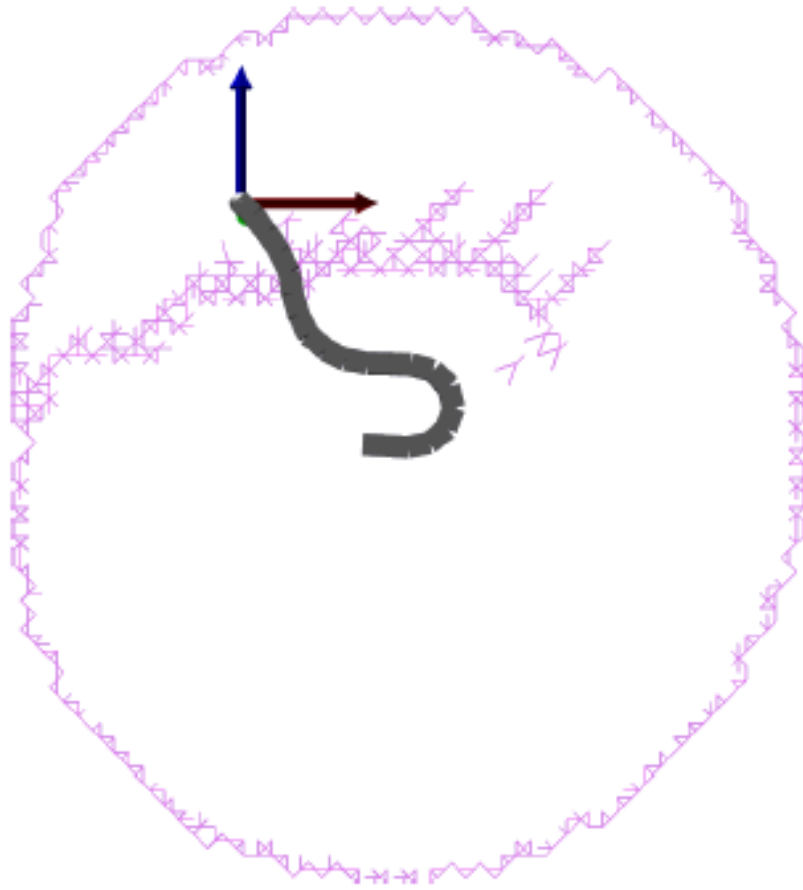


Pointwise solution

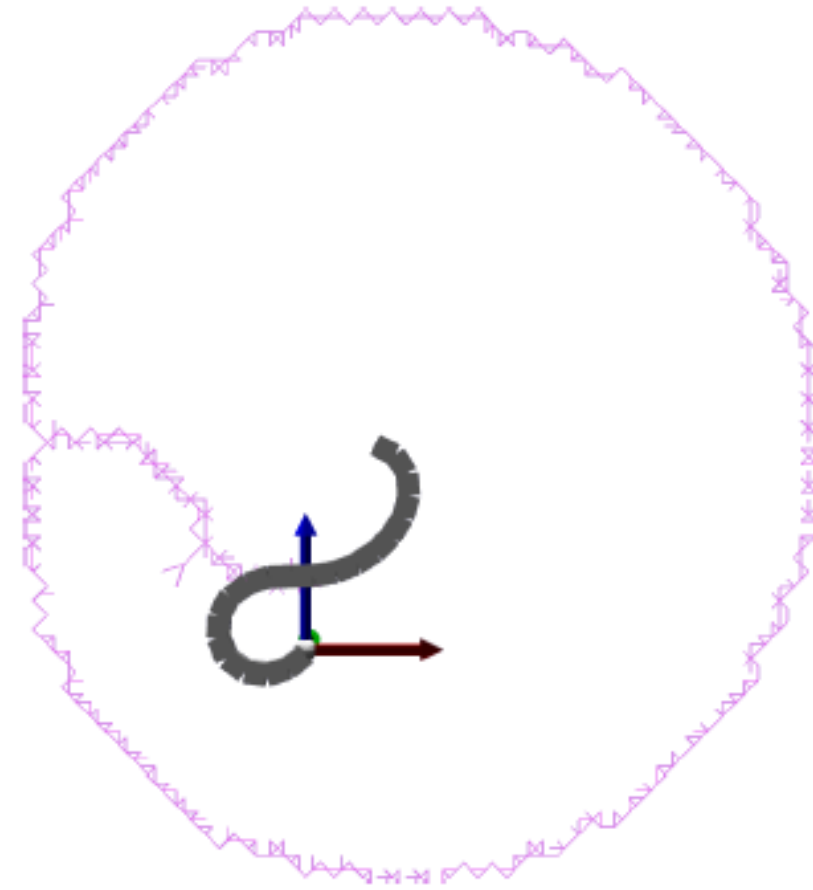


Optimization-based solution

# Discontinuity boundary for 3-DOF arm



Pointwise solution



Optimization-based solution

# Reference

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