

Optimal control of movement

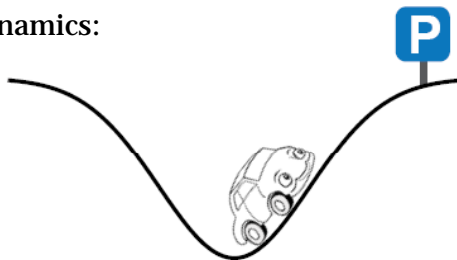
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Applied Mathematics
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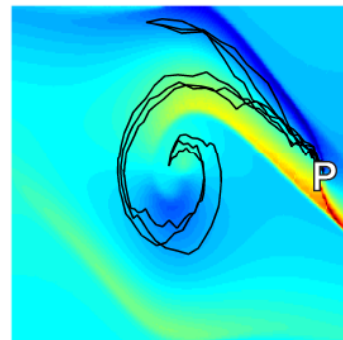
University of Washington

simple assumptions -> interesting predictions

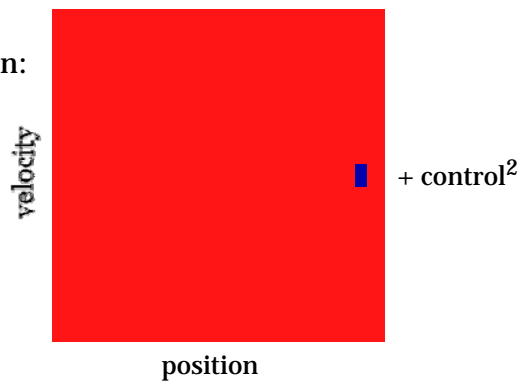
dynamics:



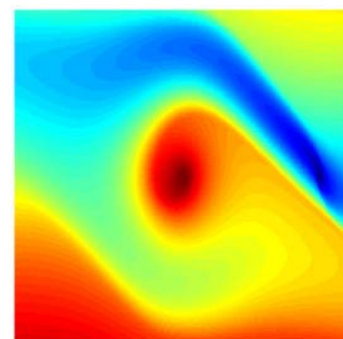
optimal
control
law:



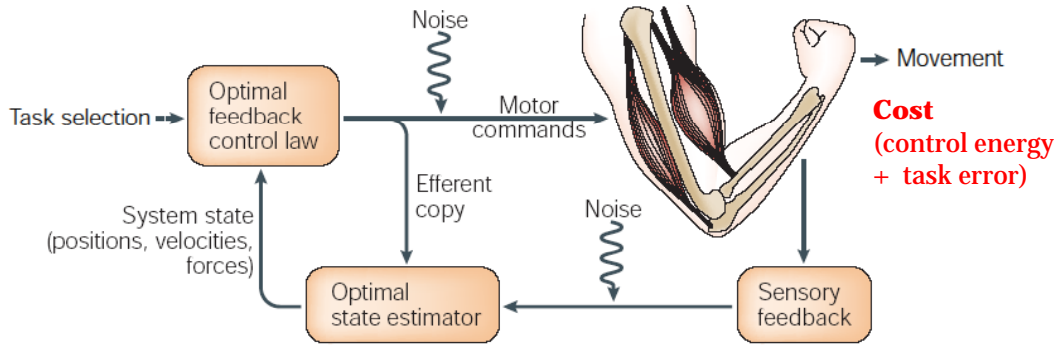
cost
function:



optimal
cost-to-go
function:



Stochastic optimal control and estimation



many models of movement data:

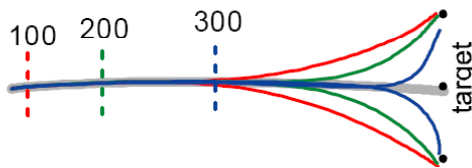
- eye movements
- arm movements
- walking, running, jumping
- sit-to-stand
- cycling

some models of physiological data:

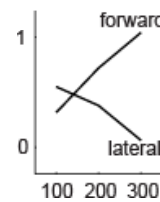
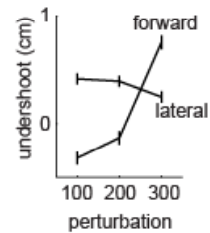
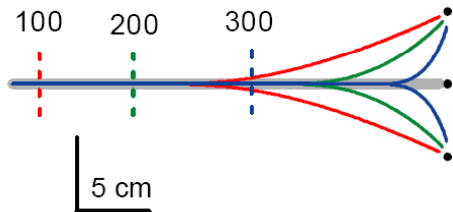
- muscle activity
- neural activity in the spinal cord
- neural activity in primary motor cortex

Incomplete error correction

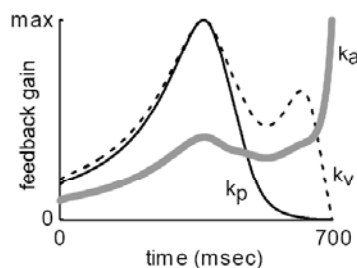
human data:



model (LQG):



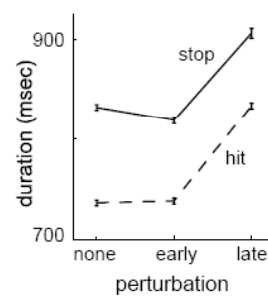
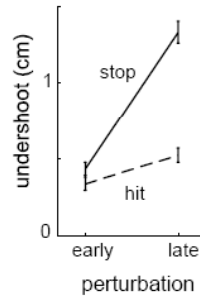
explanation:
stability-accuracy
trade-off



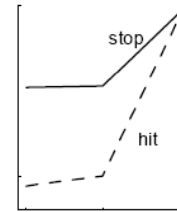
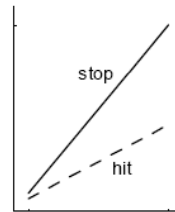
prediction:
undershoot will decrease
if stopping is not required

Testing the prediction

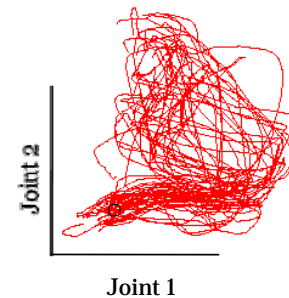
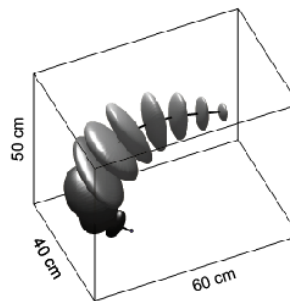
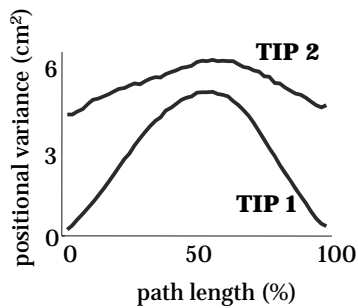
human data:



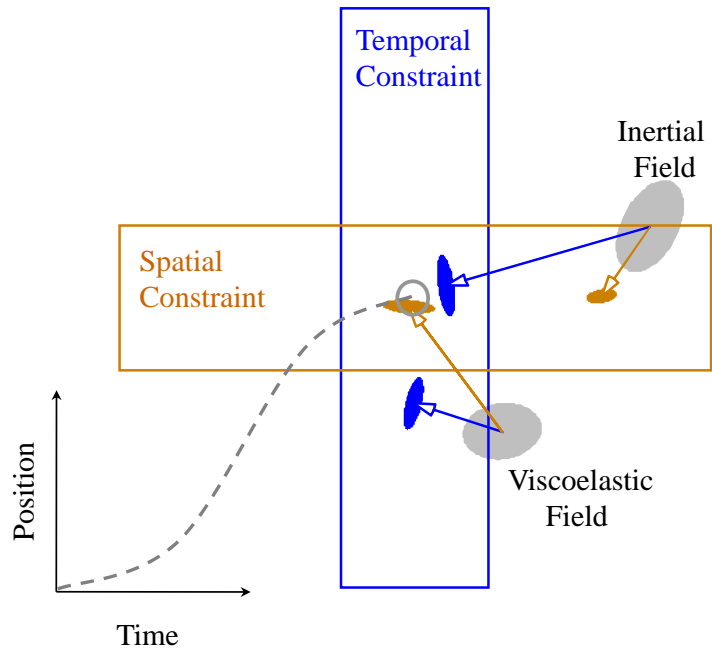
extended model (MDP):



Increased variability in redundant dimensions



Reduced adaptation in redundant dimensions

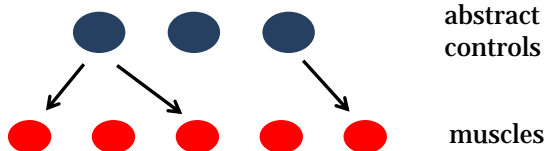


Features of optimal control laws in redundant tasks

optimal control laws in redundant tasks suppress task-relevant fluctuations, and **allow variability in redundant dimensions**

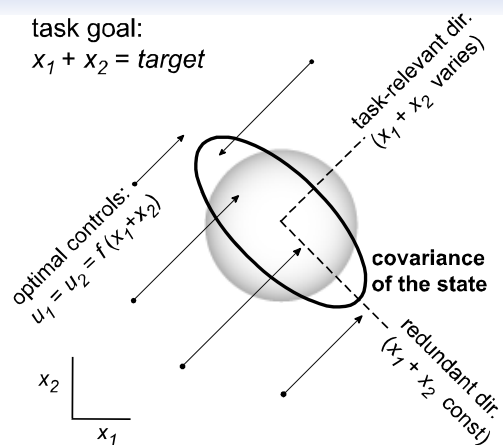
this strategy minimizes both control energy and signal-dependent noise

the optimal control signals are coupled, creating the appearance of **motor synergies**



synergies in control are like **features** in perception

task goal:
 $x_1 + x_2 = target$

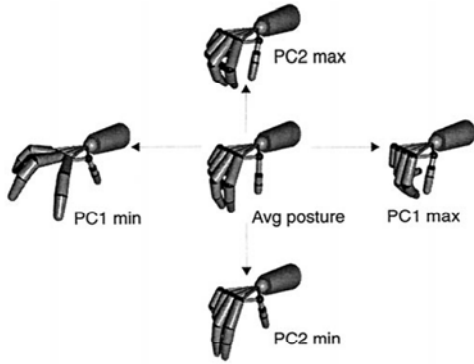


Motor synergies

Grasping virtual objects

2 PCs explain 85% variance

EMG synergies ...



Hierarchical control of complex systems

