

# Advanced Robotics

ENGG5402 Spring 2023



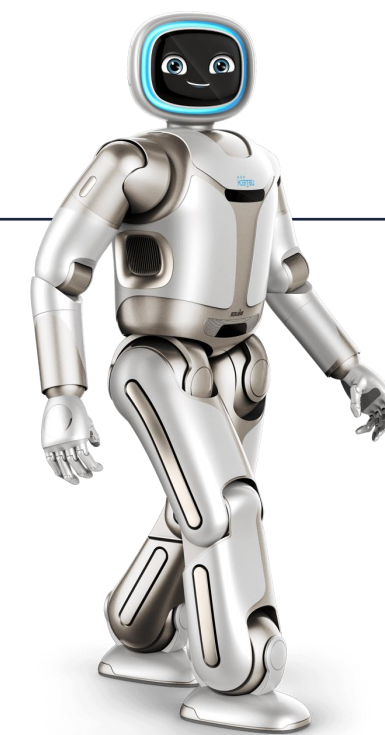
Fei Chen

Topics:

- Trajectory Tracking Control

Readings:

- Siciliano: Sec. 8.5





# Inverse Dynamics Control

given the robot **dynamic model**

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

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

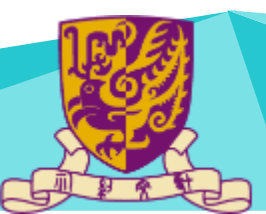
and a twice-differentiable **desired trajectory** for  $t \in [0, T]$

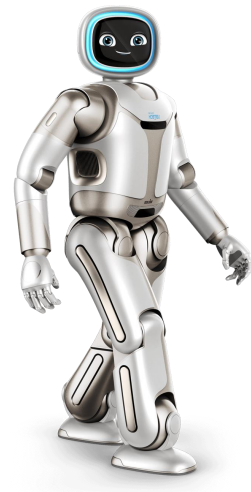
$$q_d(t) \rightarrow \dot{q}_d(t), \ddot{q}_d(t)$$

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 ...

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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  $\hat{N}\hat{E}_\alpha(q_d, \dot{q}_d, \ddot{q}_d)$ ]

**feedback** is introduced to make the control scheme more robust

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

- **OFF LINE** ↔ (open loop)
- **ON LINE** ↔ (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

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

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”

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

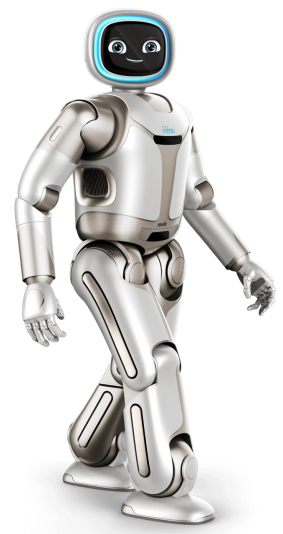
4. feedback linearization (FBL) + [PID+FFW]

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

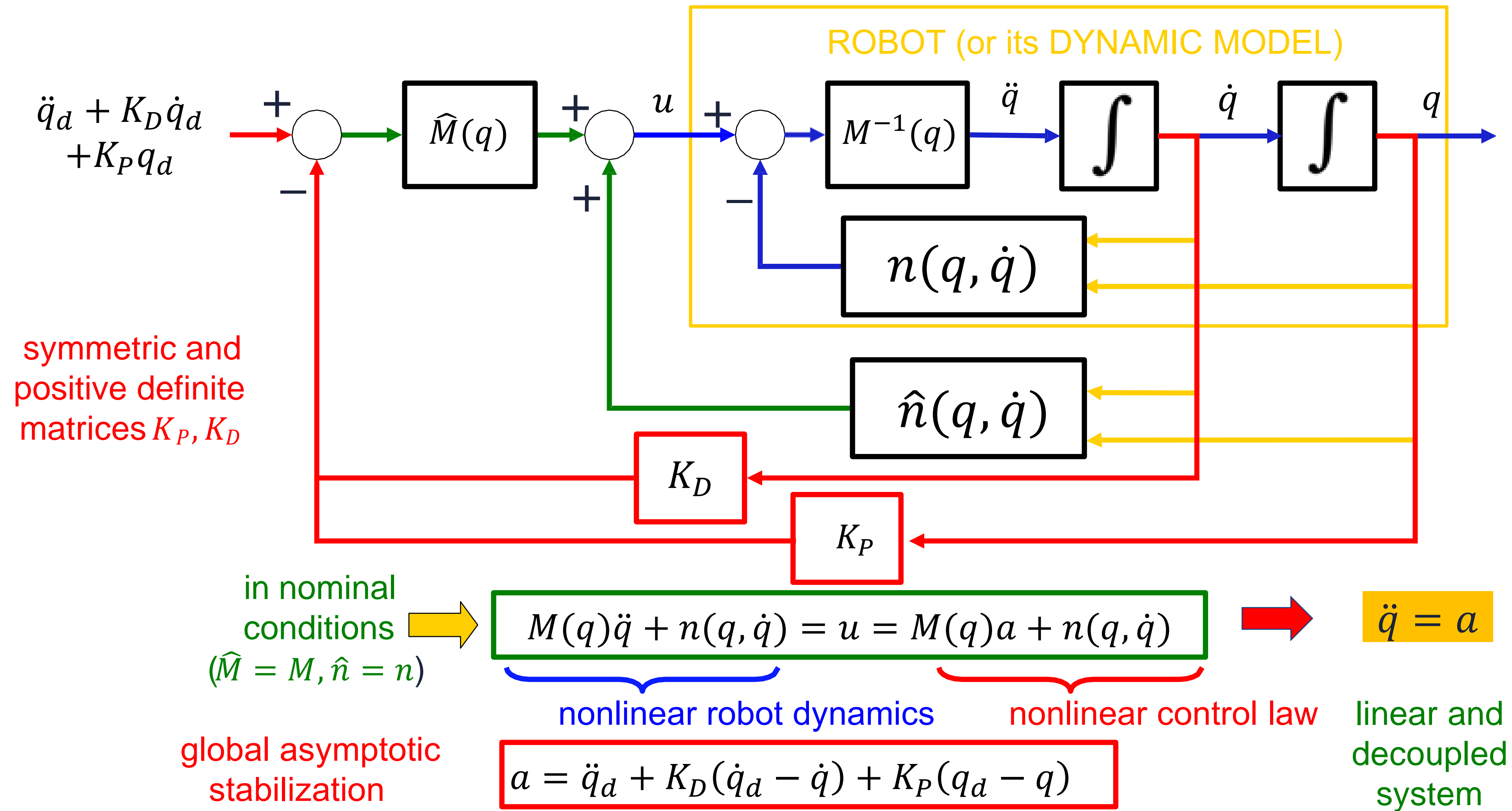
typically, only **local**  
stabilization of  
trajectory error  
 $e(t) = q_d(t) - q(t)$

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



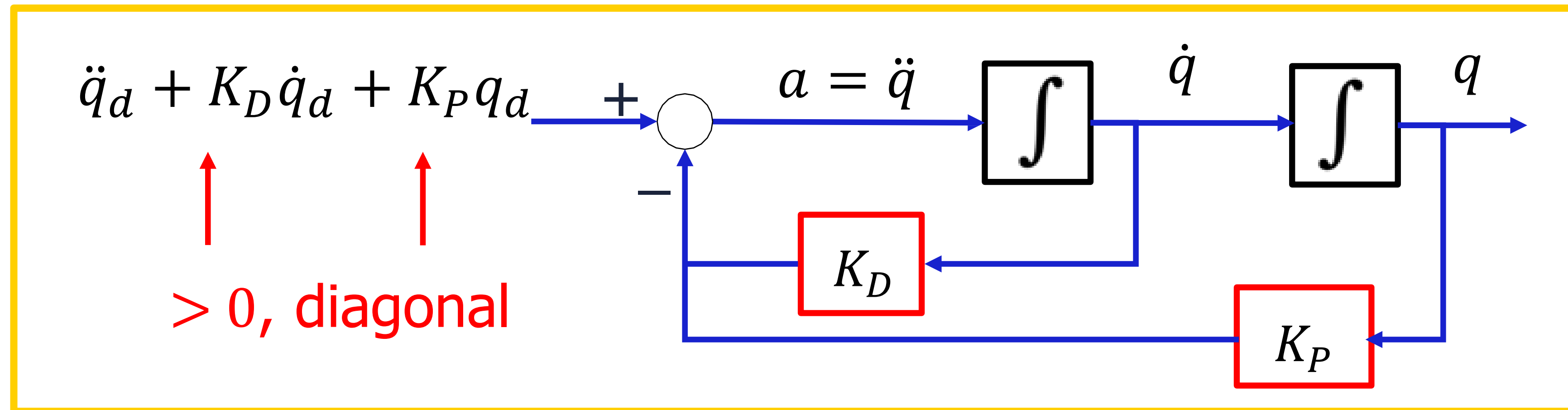


# Feedback Linearization Control





# 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 ( $\forall(q, \dot{q})$ )

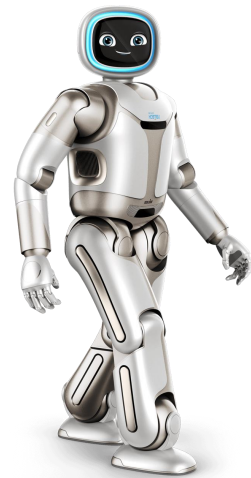
**linearity**

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

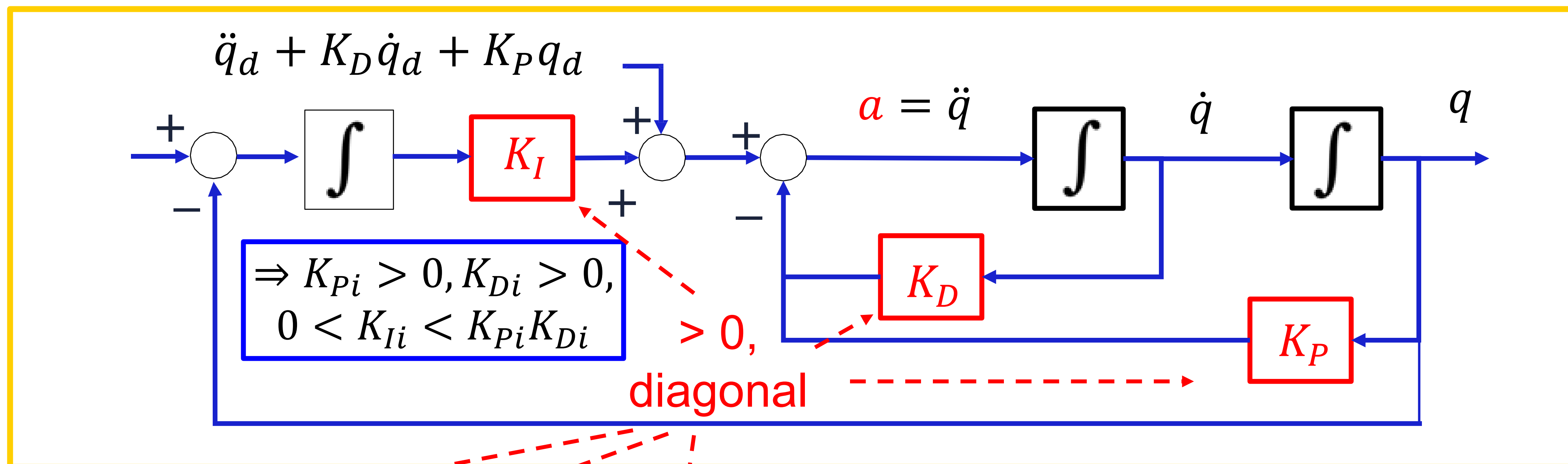
**decoupling**

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

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



# If PID



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

$$\Rightarrow (1) \quad e_i = q_{di} - q_i (i = 1, \dots, N)$$

$$\Rightarrow (2) \quad \ddot{e}_i + K_{Di} \dot{e}_i + K_{Pi} e_i + K_{Pi} \int e_i d\tau = 0$$

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

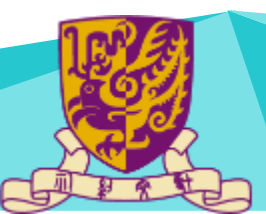
$$s \times \Rightarrow (4) \quad (s^3 + K_{Di} s^2 + K_{Pi} s + K_{Ii}) e_i(s) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow (5)$

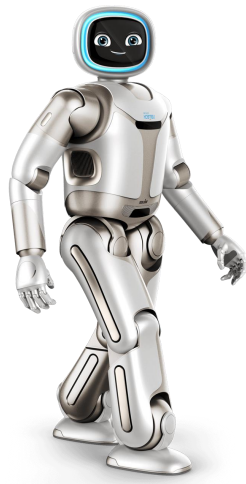
3	1	$K_{Pi}$
2	$K_{Di}$	$K_{Ii}$
1	$(K_{Di} K_{Pi} - K_{Ii}) / K_{Di}$	
0	$K_{Ii}$	

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

Self-study

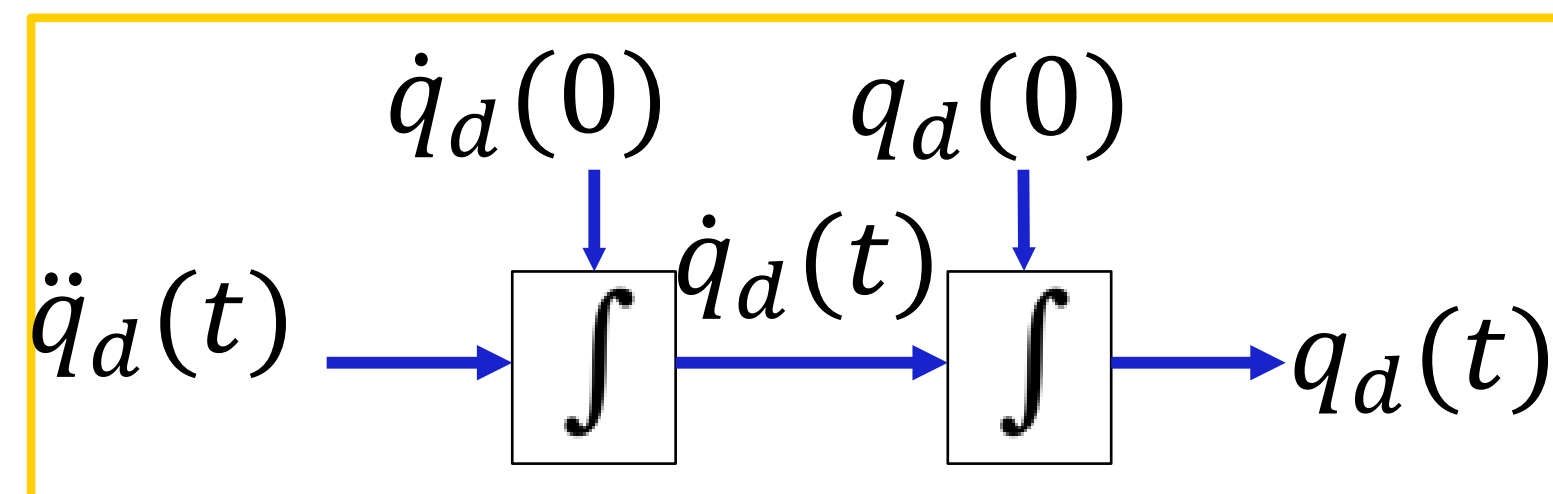






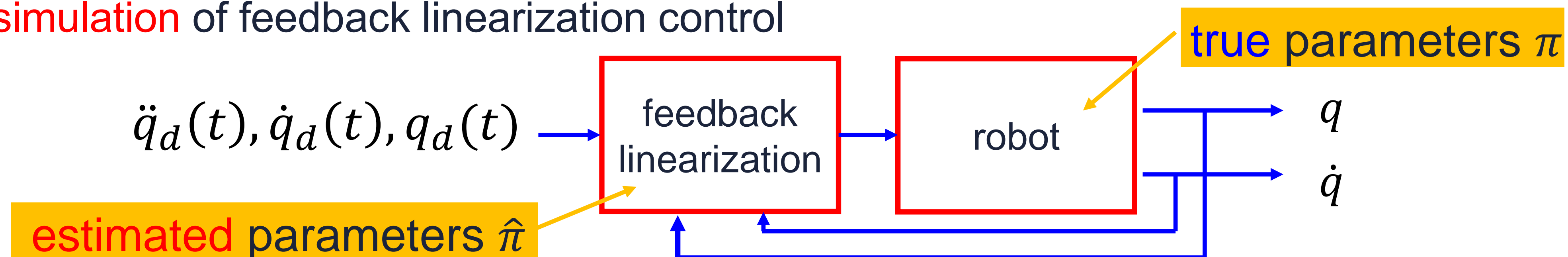
# Remarks

- desired joint trajectory can be generated from Cartesian data  $\ddot{p}_d(t), \dot{p}_d(0), p_d(0)$

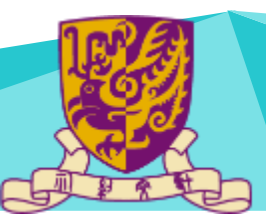


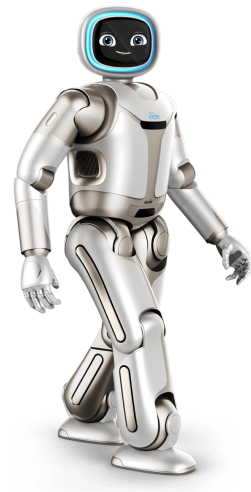
$$\begin{aligned} q_d(0) &= f^{-1}(p_d(0)) \\ \dot{q}_d(0) &= J^{-1}(q_d(0))\dot{p}_d(0) \\ \ddot{q}_d(t) &= J^{-1}(q_d)[\ddot{p}_d(t) - \dot{J}(q_d)\dot{q}_d] \end{aligned}$$

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



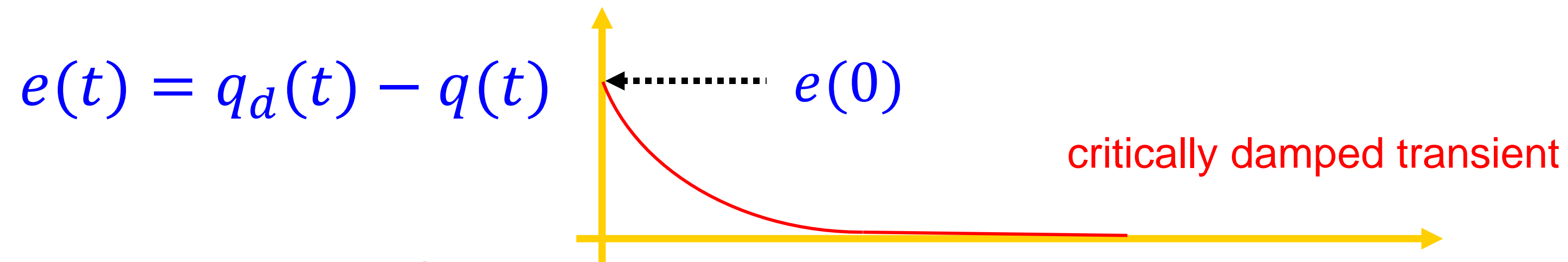
*Hint: there is no use in simulating this control law in ideal case ( $\hat{\pi} = \pi$ ); robot behavior will be identical to the linear and decoupled case of stabilized double integrators!!*



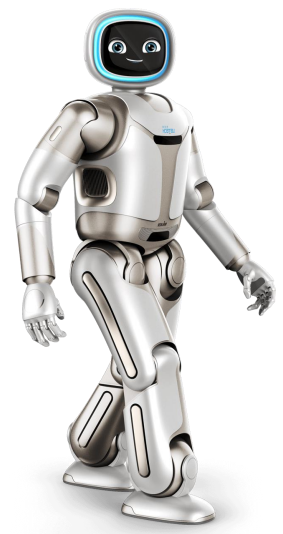


# Further Comments

- **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

Another example of feedback linearization design

- dynamic model of **robots with elastic joints**
  - $q$  = link position
  - $\theta$  = 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  $(q, \theta)$

4N state variables  $x = (q, \theta, \dot{q}, \dot{\theta})$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M(q)\ddot{q} + c(q, \dot{q}) + g(q) + K(q - \theta) = 0 \\ B_m\ddot{\theta} + K(\theta - q) = u \end{array} \right.$

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

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

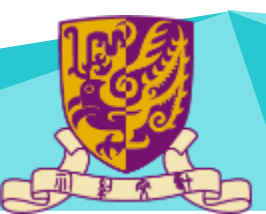
linear and decoupled system:  $N$  chains of 4 integrators (to be stabilized by linear control design)

**YES**

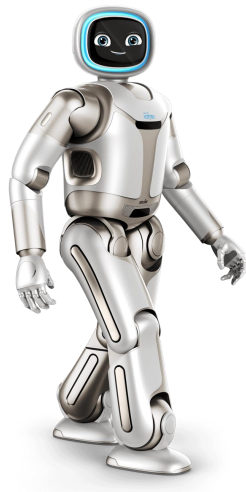
and it yields

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

*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 ...*







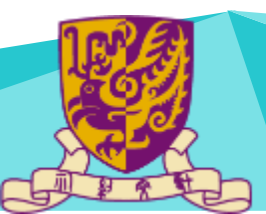
# Alternative Controller

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

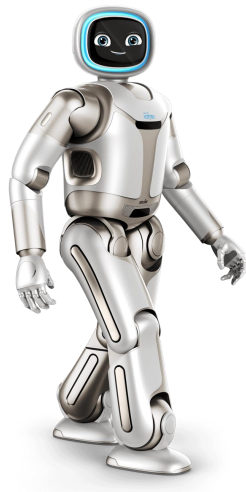
↑  
SPECIAL factorization such that  
 $\dot{M} - 2S$  is skew-symmetric

↑      ↑  
symmetric and positive definite  
matrices

- global asymptotic stability of  $(e \quad \dot{e}) = (0 \quad 0)$  (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

Analysis of asymptotic stability  
(of the trajectory error - 1)

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

**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

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

- 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 applying LaSalle theorem is **NOT** allowed  $\Rightarrow$  use **Barbalat lemma**...

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

error state  $x$



## Stability of Dynamical Systems

- previous results are also valid for **periodic** time-varying systems  
 $\dot{x} = f(x, t) = f(x, t + T_p) \Rightarrow V(x, t) = V(x, t + T_p)$
- for general **time-varying** systems (e.g., in robot **trajectory tracking** control)

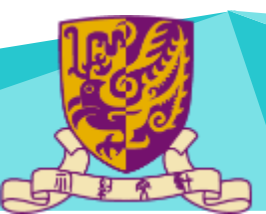
$$\dot{x} = f(x, t)$$

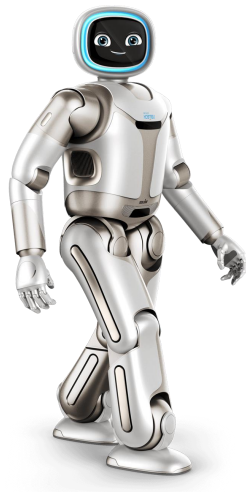
### Barbalat Lemma

- i) a function  $V(x, t)$  is lower bounded
- ii)  $\dot{V}(x, t) \leq 0$   
then  $\Rightarrow \exists \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} V(x, t)$  (but this does **not** imply that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{V}(x, t) = 0$ )
- if in addition iii)  $\dot{V}(x, t)$  is bounded  
then  $\Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{V}(x, t) = 0$

### Corollary

if a Lyapunov candidate  $V(x, t)$  satisfies Barbalat Lemma along the trajectories of  $\dot{x} = f(x, t)$ , then the conclusions of LaSalle Theorem hold





# Analysis

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**  $\dot{q}$ ,  $\Rightarrow \dot{q}$  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

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

$\uparrow$  bounded in norm by  $M$      $\uparrow$  bounded in norm by  $\alpha_s \|\dot{q}\|$      $\nwarrow$  bounded     $\nearrow$  bounded

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



## Stability of Dynamical Systems

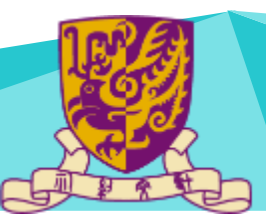
- previous results are also valid for **periodic** time-varying systems  
 $\dot{x} = f(x, t) = f(x, t + T_p) \Rightarrow V(x, t) = V(x, t + T_p)$
- for general **time-varying** systems (e.g., in robot **trajectory tracking** control)  
 $\dot{x} = f(x, t)$

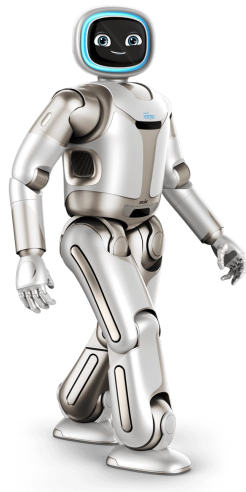
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### Corollary

- if a Lyapunov candidate  $V(x, t)$  satisfies Barbalat Lemma along the trajectories of  $\dot{x} = f(x, t)$ , then the conclusions of LaSalle Theorem hold





# Analysis

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

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

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

- the closed-loop dynamics in this situation is

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

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{e} = 0 \Leftrightarrow e = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad (e, \dot{e}) = (0, 0)$$

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

→ (global) asymptotic tracking will be achieved ◀





# Comments

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## 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**

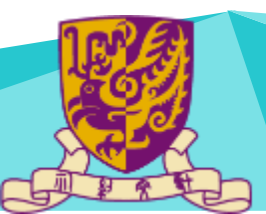
$$u = M(q)[K_P(q_d - q) - K_D\dot{q}] + c(q, \dot{q}) + g(q)$$

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

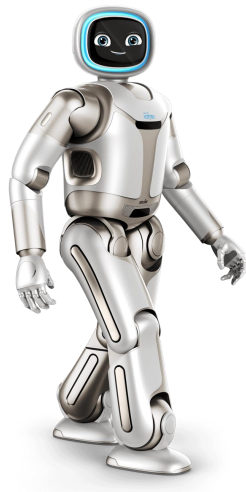
- **alternative global controller**

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

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





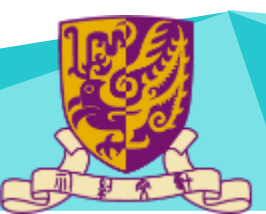


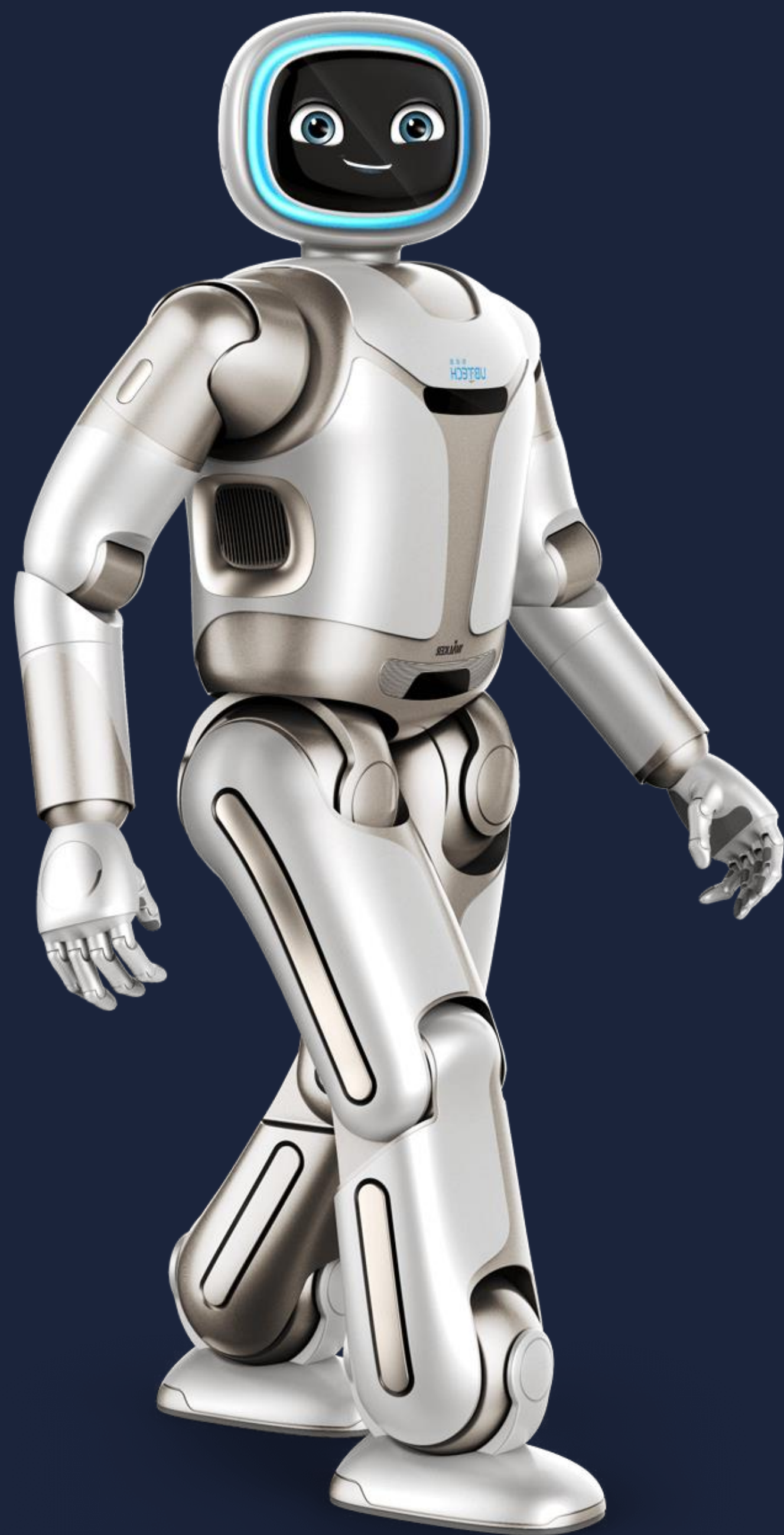
# Without a model

## 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**

<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/240467/authors#authors>





Q&A