

Advanced Robotics

ENGG5402 Spring 2023



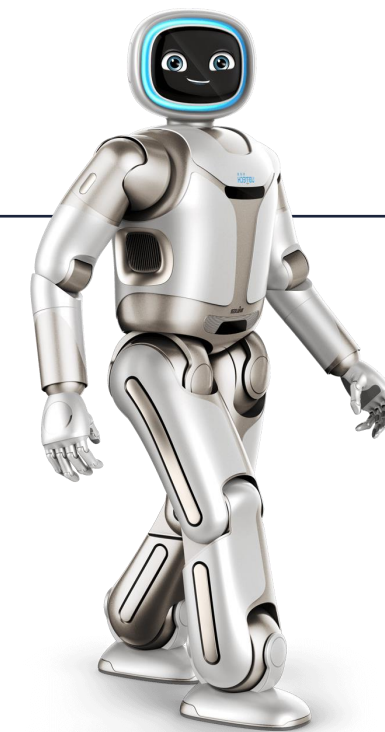
Fei Chen

Topics:

- Inverse differential kinematics Statics and force transformations

Readings:

- Siciliano: Sec. 3.5, 3.7-3.9





Inversion of Differential Kinematics

- find the joint velocity vector that realizes a **desired** task/
end-effector velocity (“generalized” = linear and/or angular)

generalized velocity

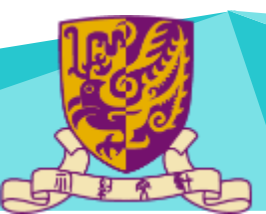
$v = J(q)\dot{q}$

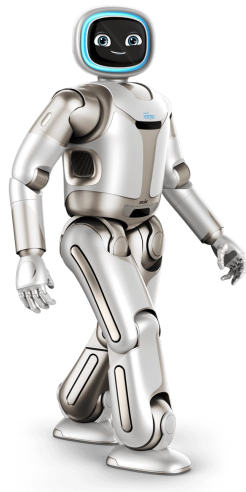
J square and non-singular at q

$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$

- problems
 - near** a singularity of the Jacobian matrix (too high \dot{q})
 - for **redundant** robots (no standard “inverse” of a rectangular matrix)

in these cases, more **robust** inversion methods are needed





Incremental Solution

Incremental solution (to inverse kinematics problems)

- joint velocity inversion can be used also to solve **on-line** and **incrementally** a “sequence” of inverse kinematics problems
- each problem differs by a **small** amount dr from previous one

$$r = f_r(q)$$

direct kinematics

$$dr = \frac{\partial f_r(q)}{\partial q} dq = J_r(q) dq$$

differential kinematics

(here with a square, analytic Jacobian)

$$r + dr = f_r(q) \quad \rightarrow$$

first, increment the
desired task variables

$$q = f_r^{-1}(r + dr)$$

then, solve the inverse kinematics
problem

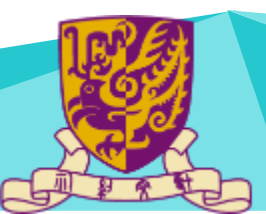
$$r \rightarrow r + dr$$

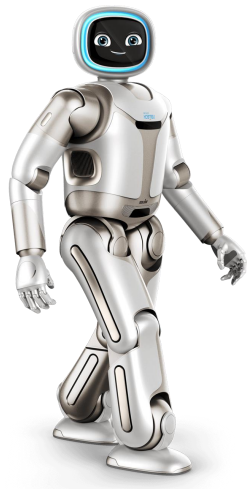
$$dq = J_r^{-1}(q) dr \quad \rightarrow$$

first, solve the inverse differential
kinematics problem

$$q \rightarrow q + dq$$

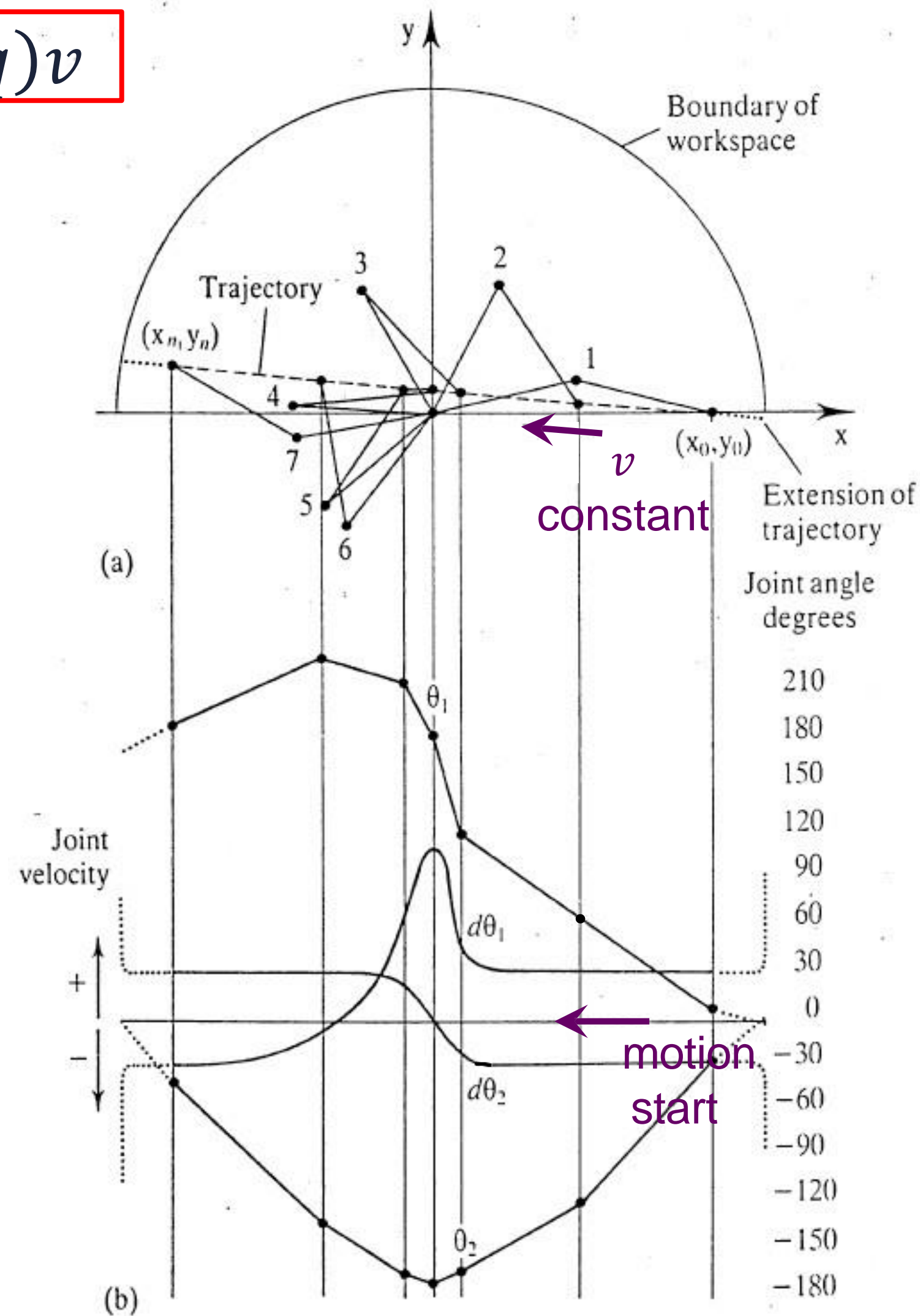
then, increment the
original joint variables



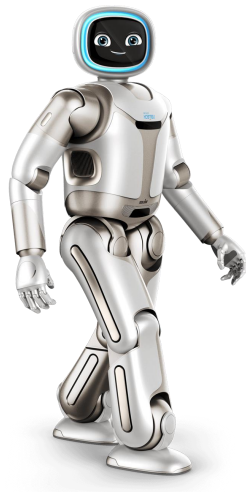


Behavior Near a Singularity

$$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$$



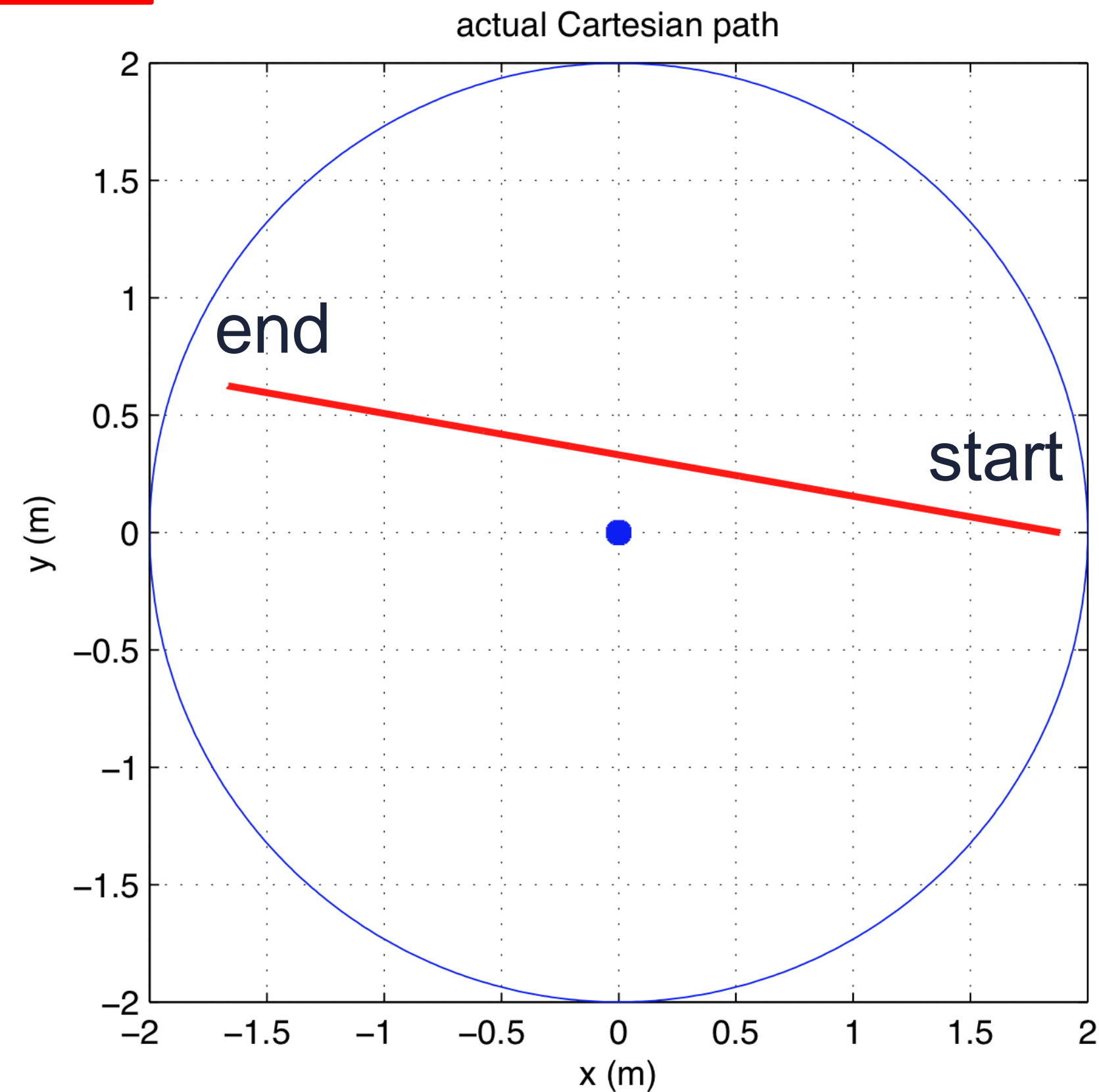
- problems arise only when commanding joint motion by **inversion** of a given Cartesian motion task
- here, a linear Cartesian trajectory for a planar 2R robot
- there is a sudden increase of the displacement/velocity of the **first joint** near $\theta_2 = -\pi$ (end-effector close to the origin), despite the required Cartesian displacement is small



Simulation

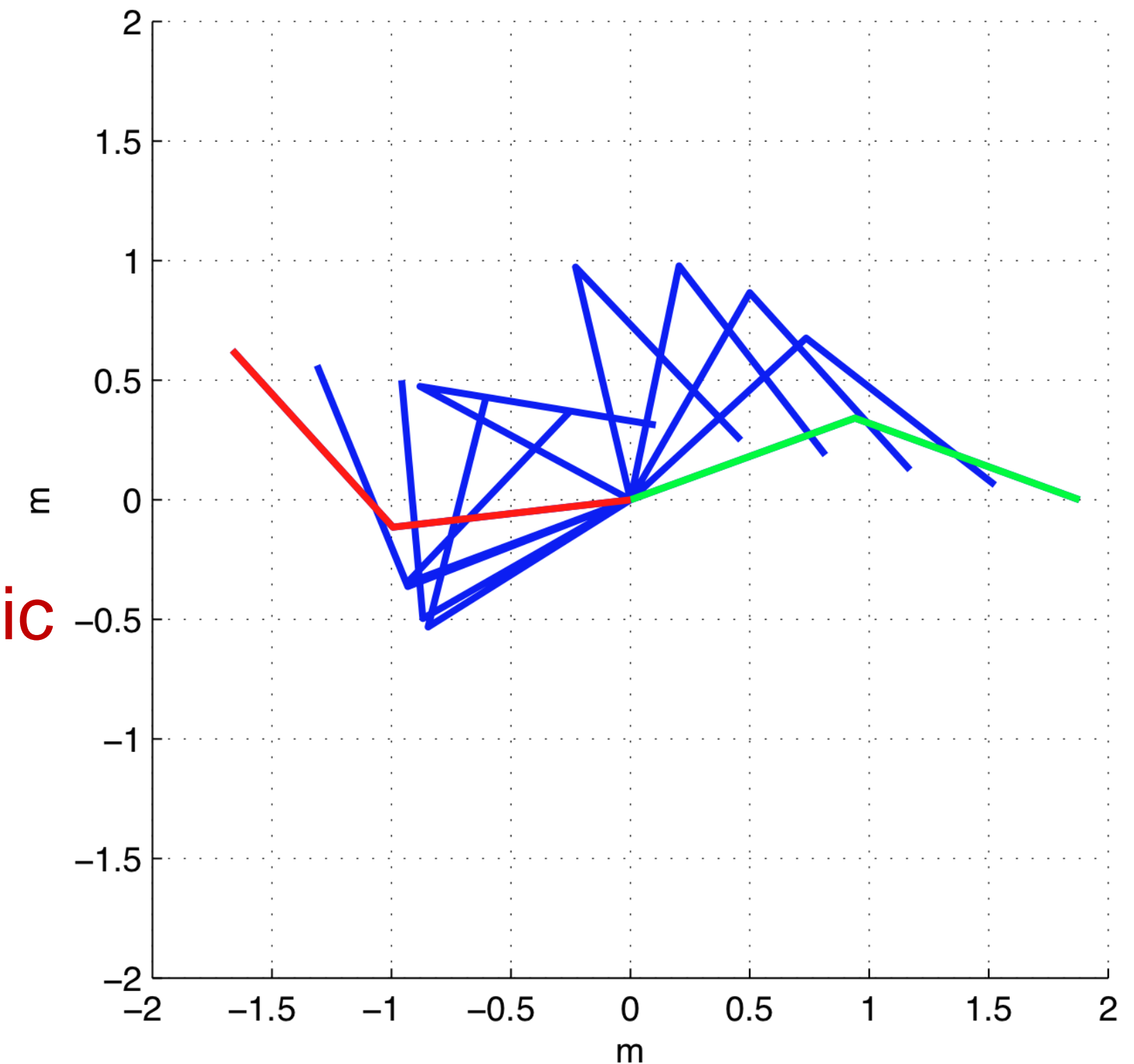
$$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$$

Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

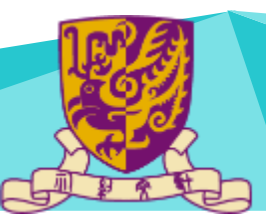


regular case

stroboscopic
view



a line from right to left, at $\alpha = 170^\circ$ angle with x -axis,
executed at constant speed $v = 0.6 \text{ m/s}$ for $T = 6 \text{ s}$





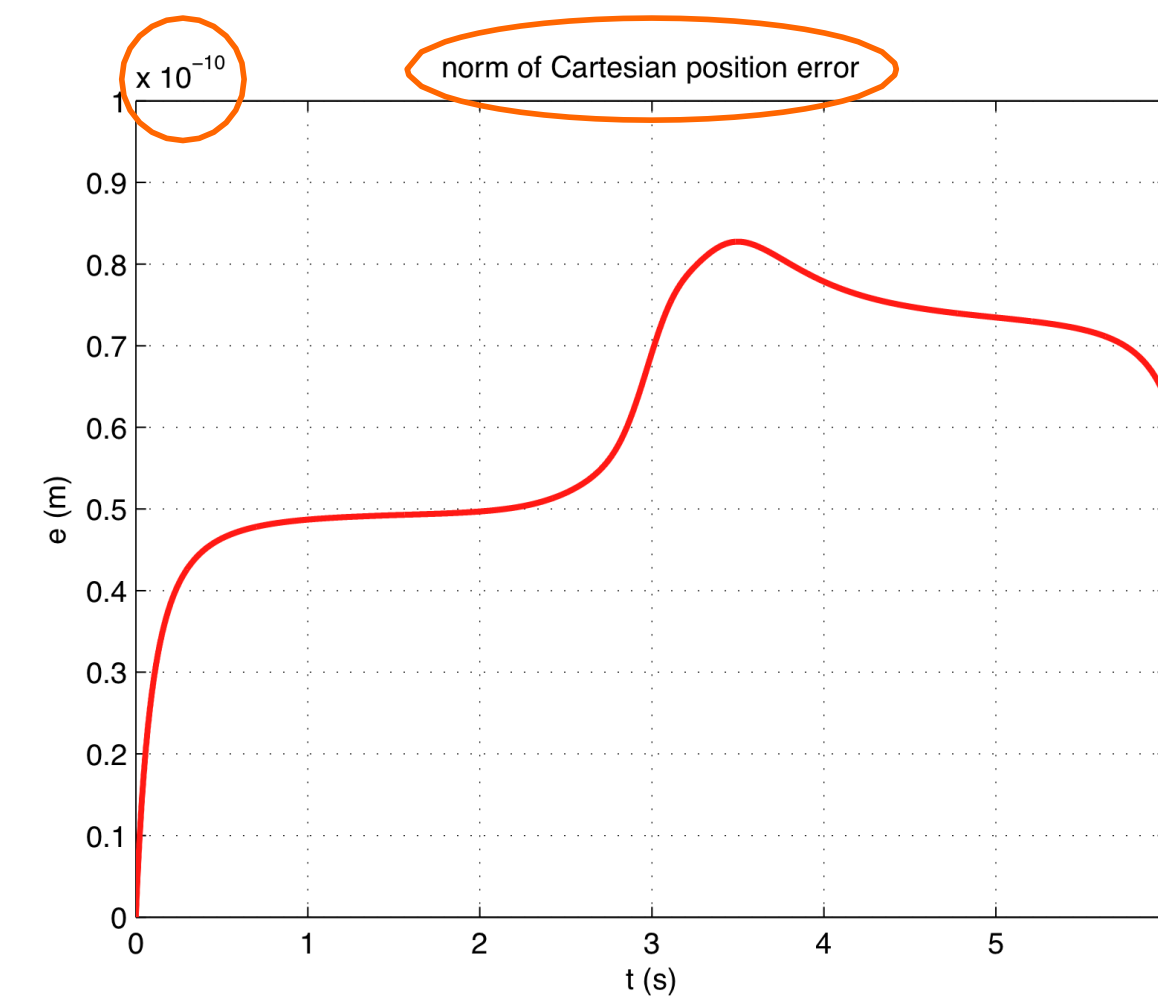
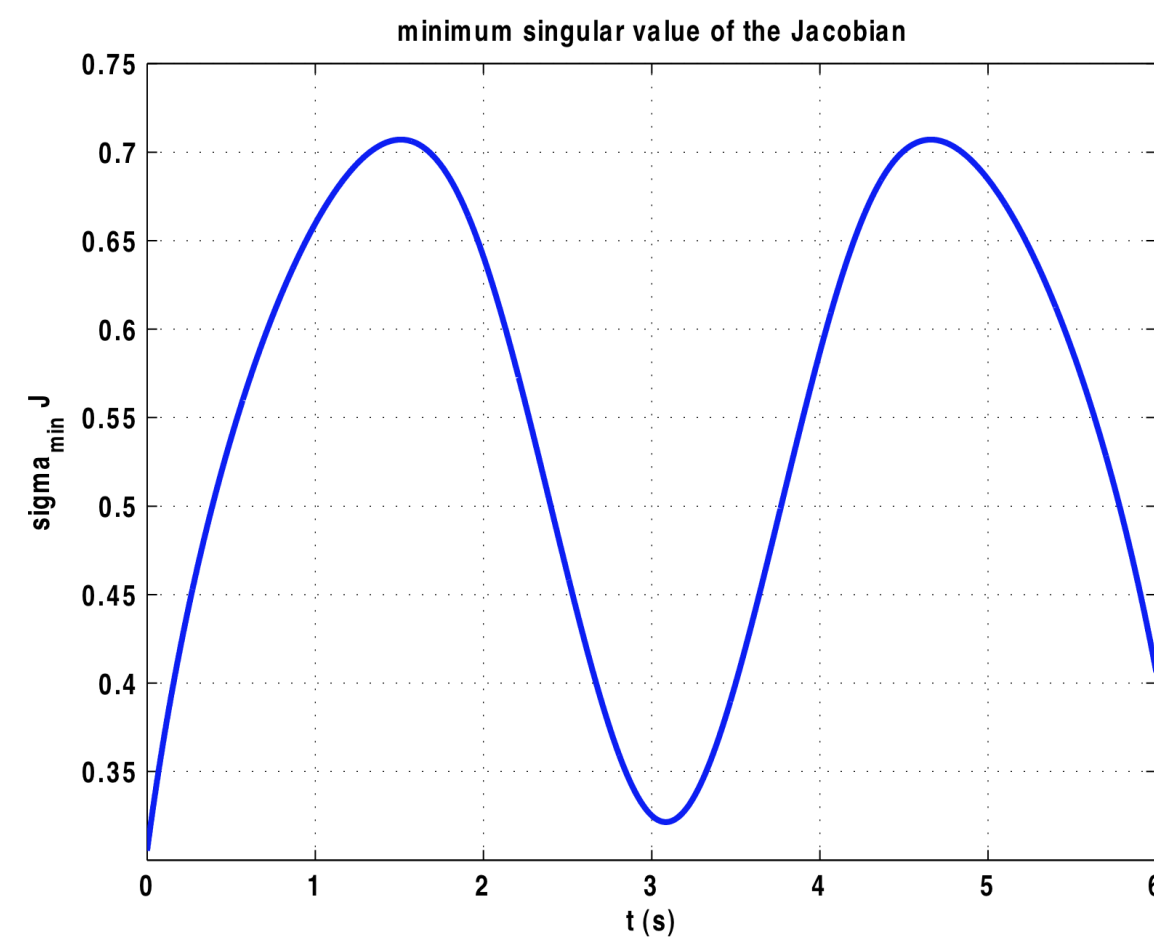
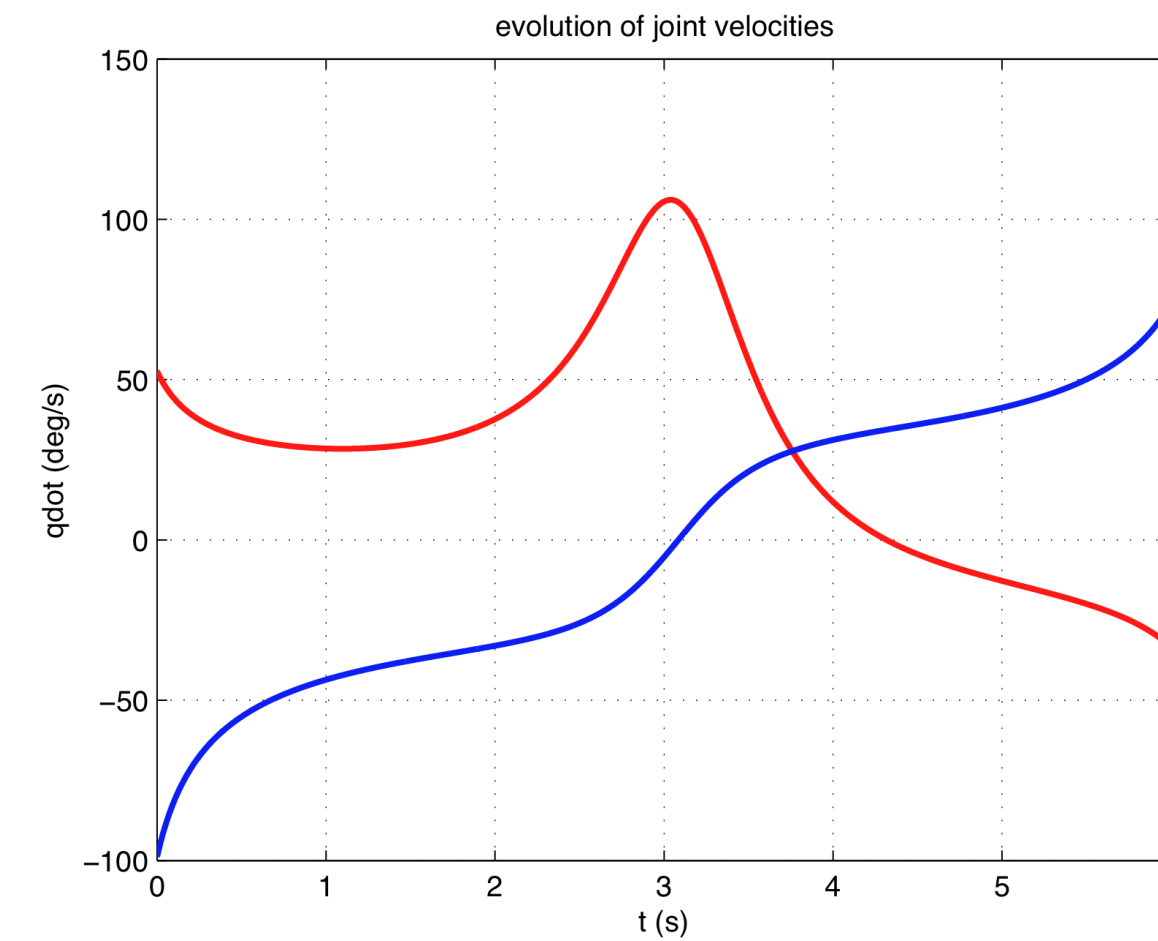
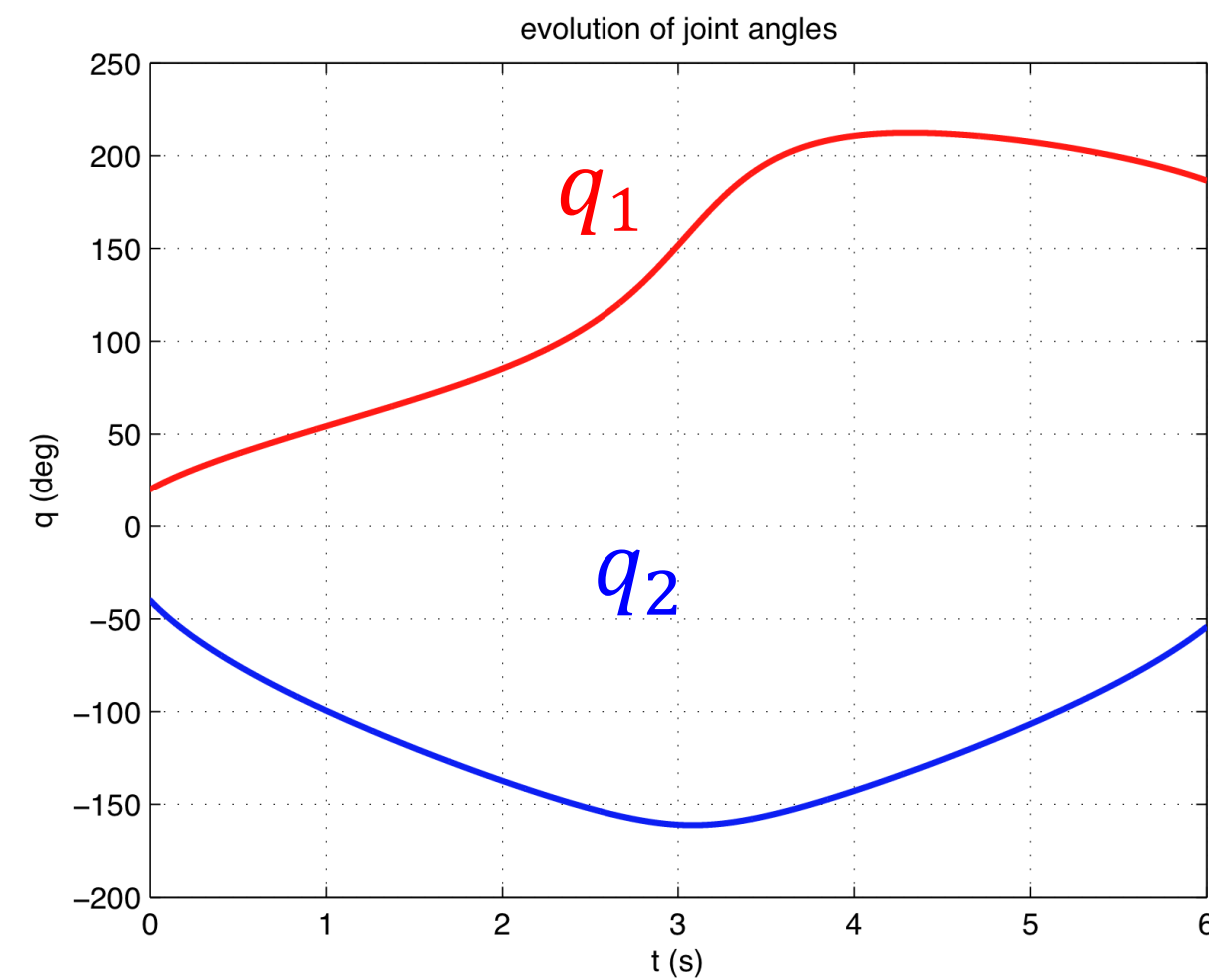
Simulation

Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

path at $\alpha = 170^\circ$

regular case

distance to
singularity by
the minimum
singular value
 $\sigma_{min}(= \sigma_2) > 0$
of Jacobian J



error due only
to numerical
integration
(10^{-10})

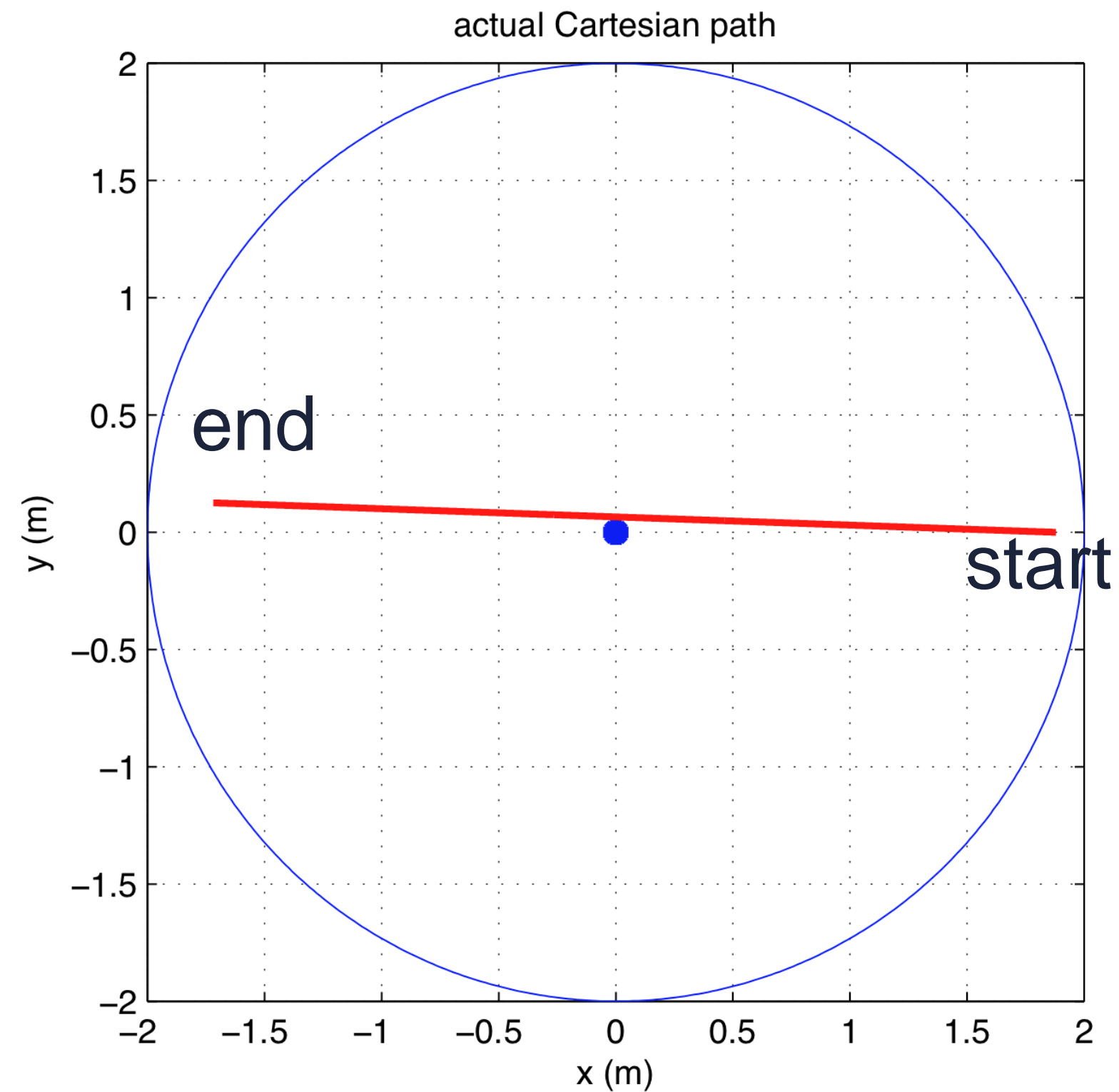




Simulation

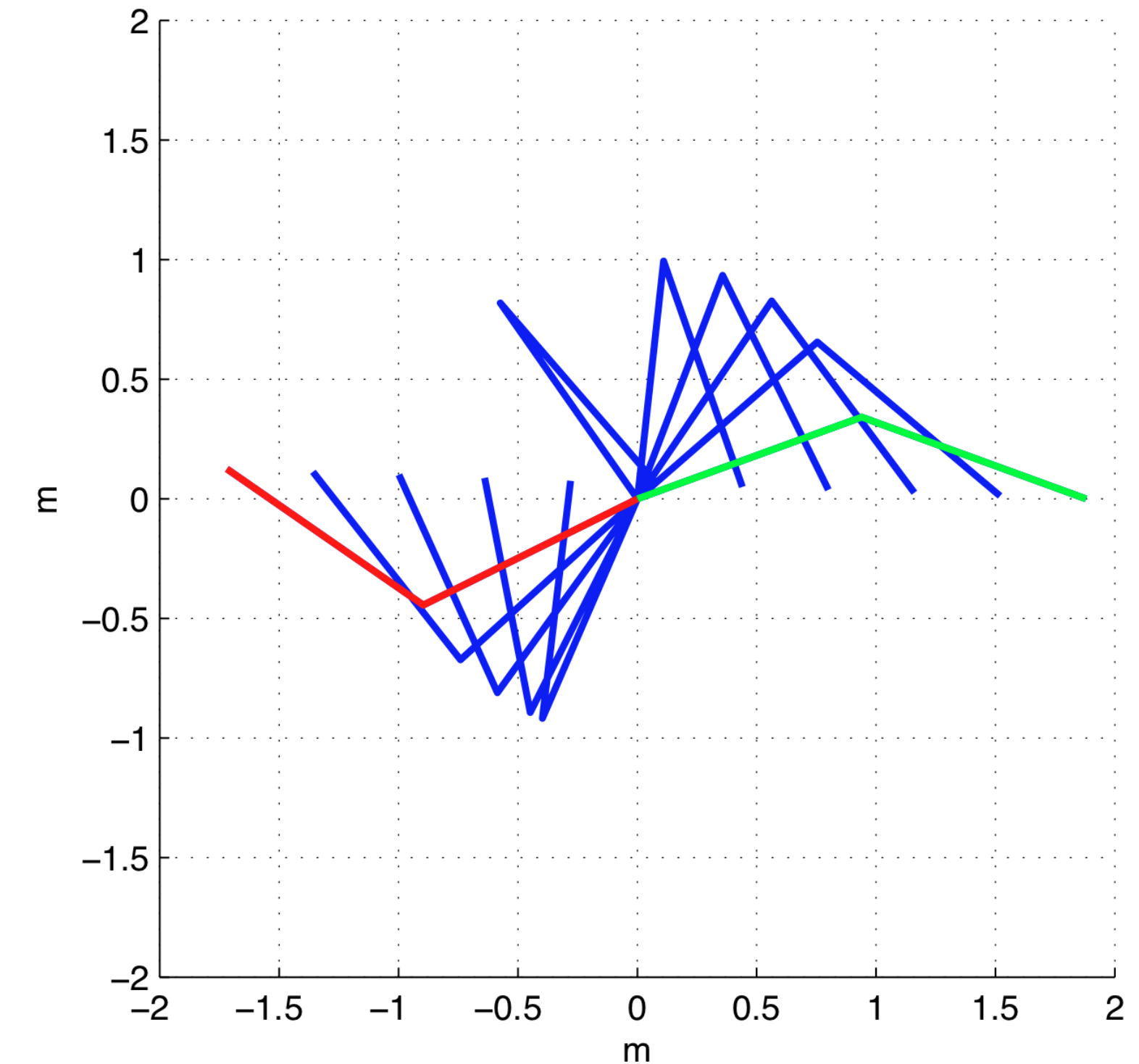
$$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$$

Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

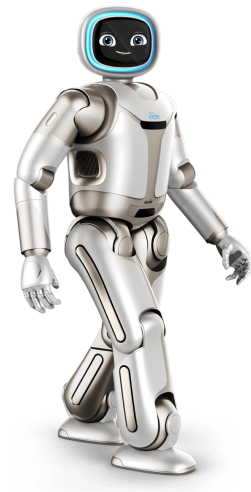


close to
singular case

stroboscopic
view



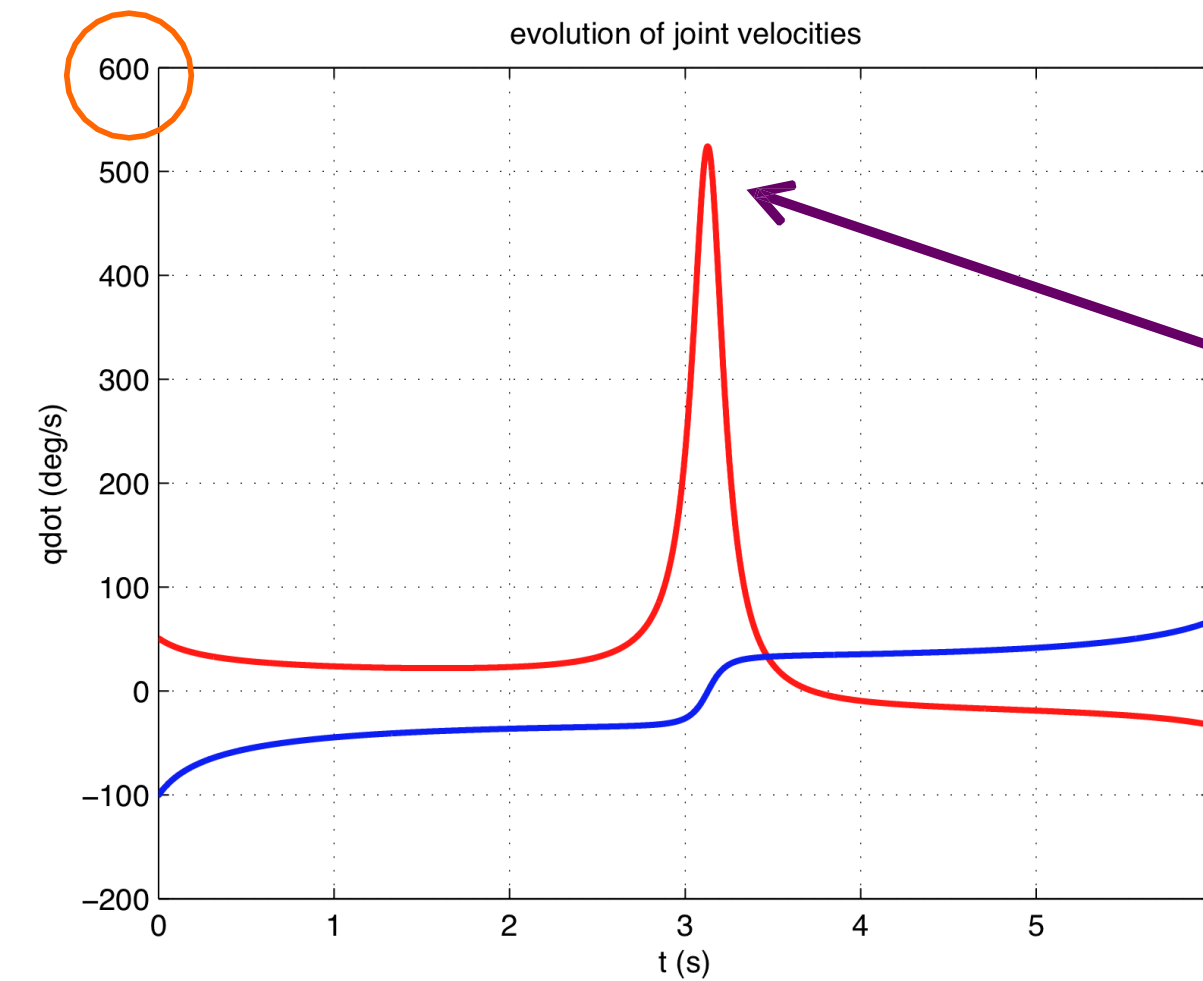
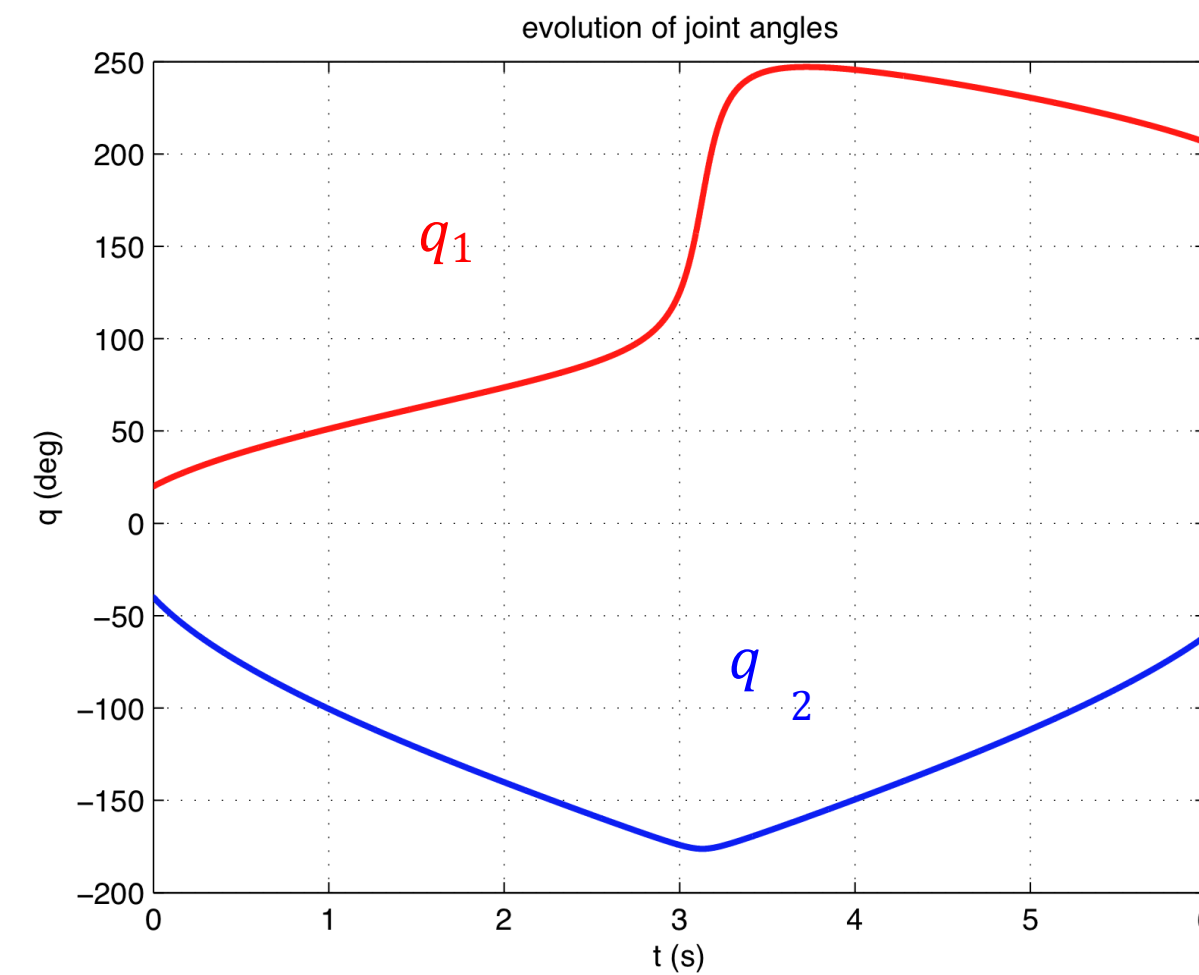
a line from right to left, at $\alpha = 178^\circ$ angle with x -axis,
executed at constant speed $v = 0.6 \text{ m/s}$ for $T = 6 \text{ s}$



Simulation

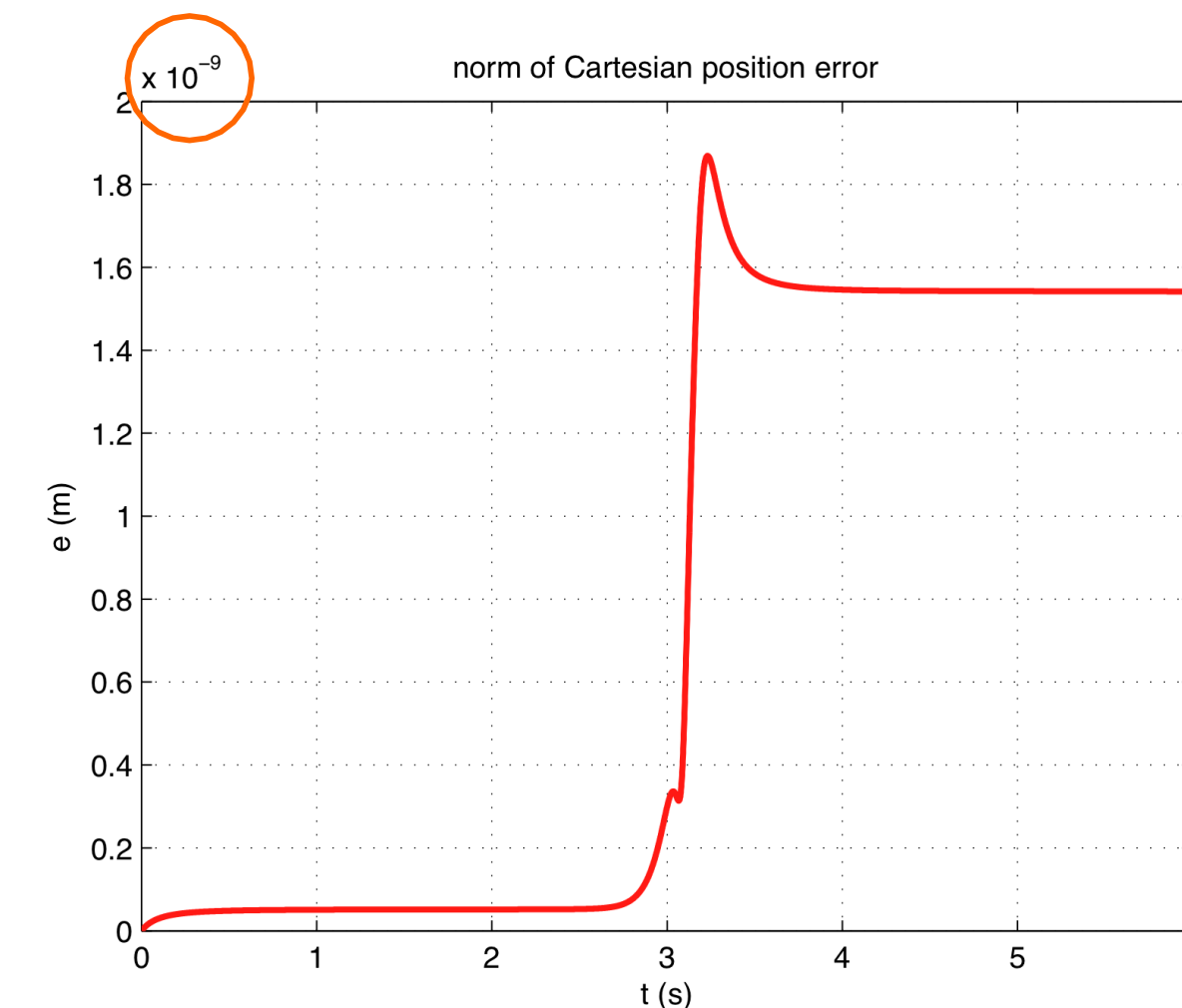
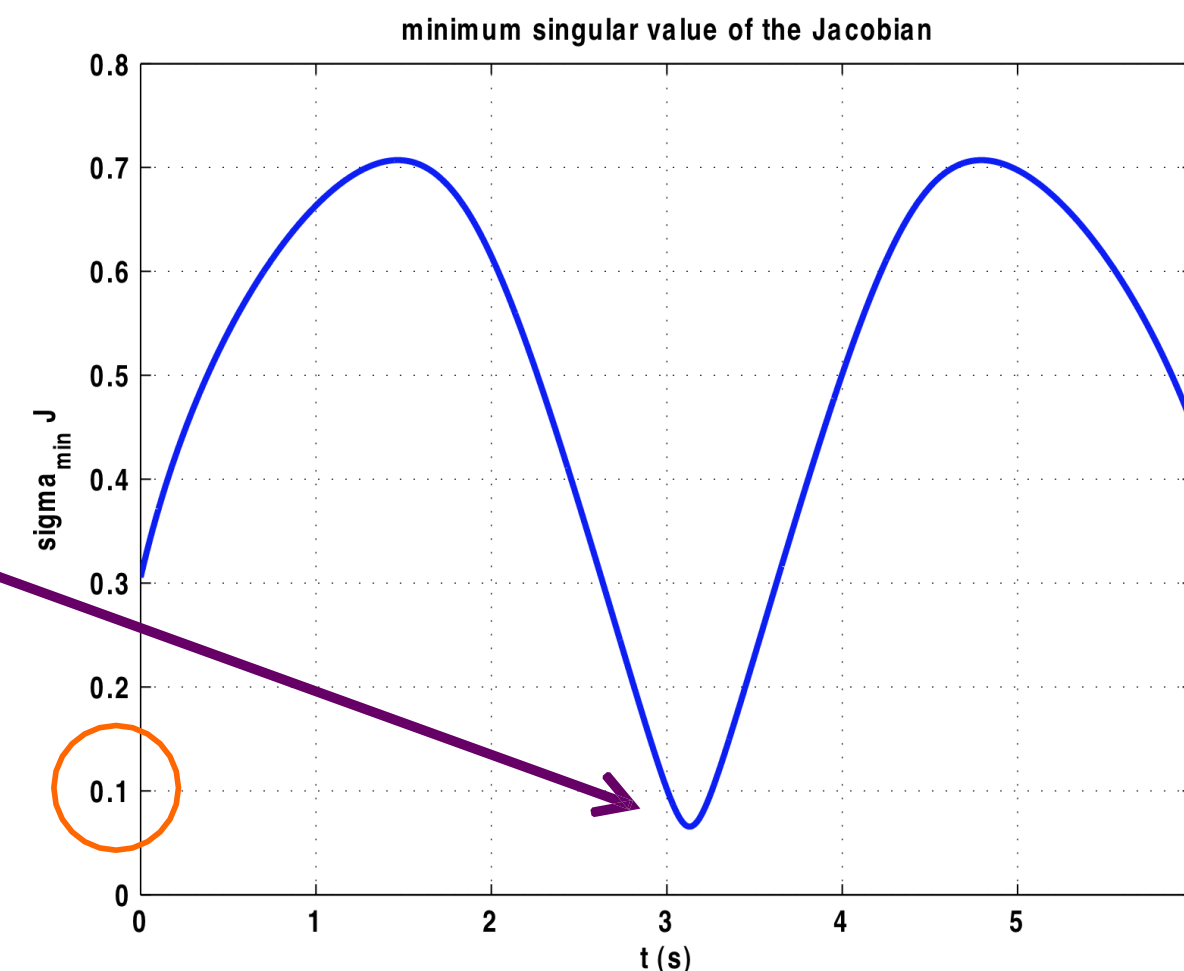
Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

path at
 $\alpha = 178^\circ$

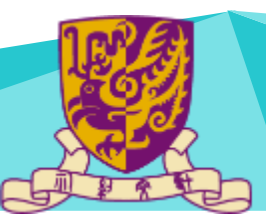


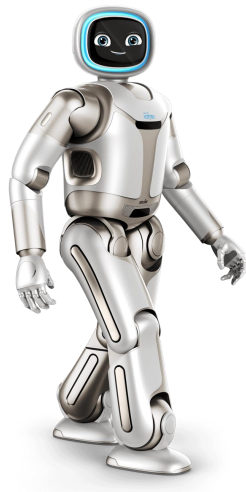
large
peak
of \dot{q}_1

close to
singular
case



still very small,
but increased
numerical
integration
error(2×10^{-9})



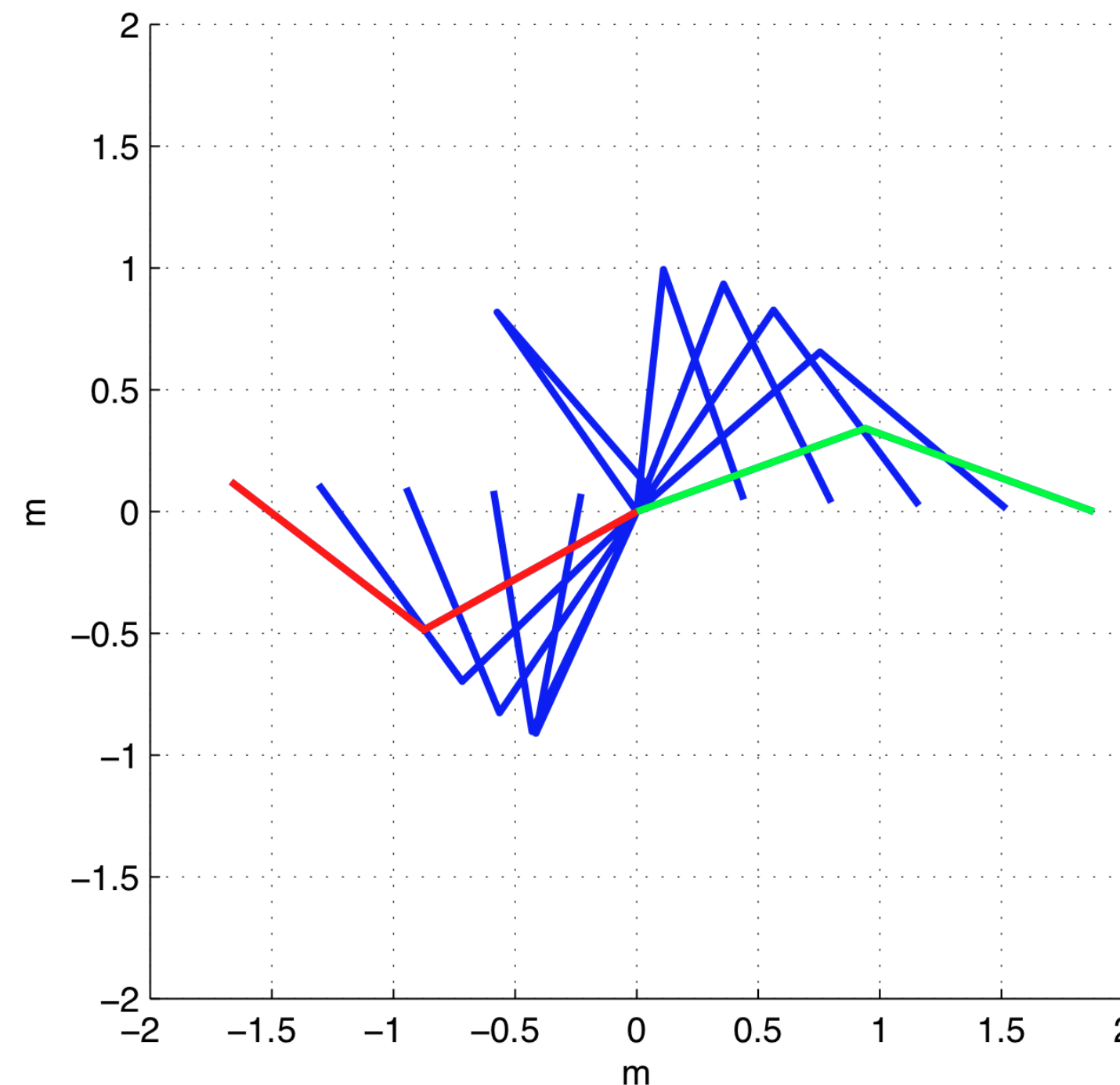
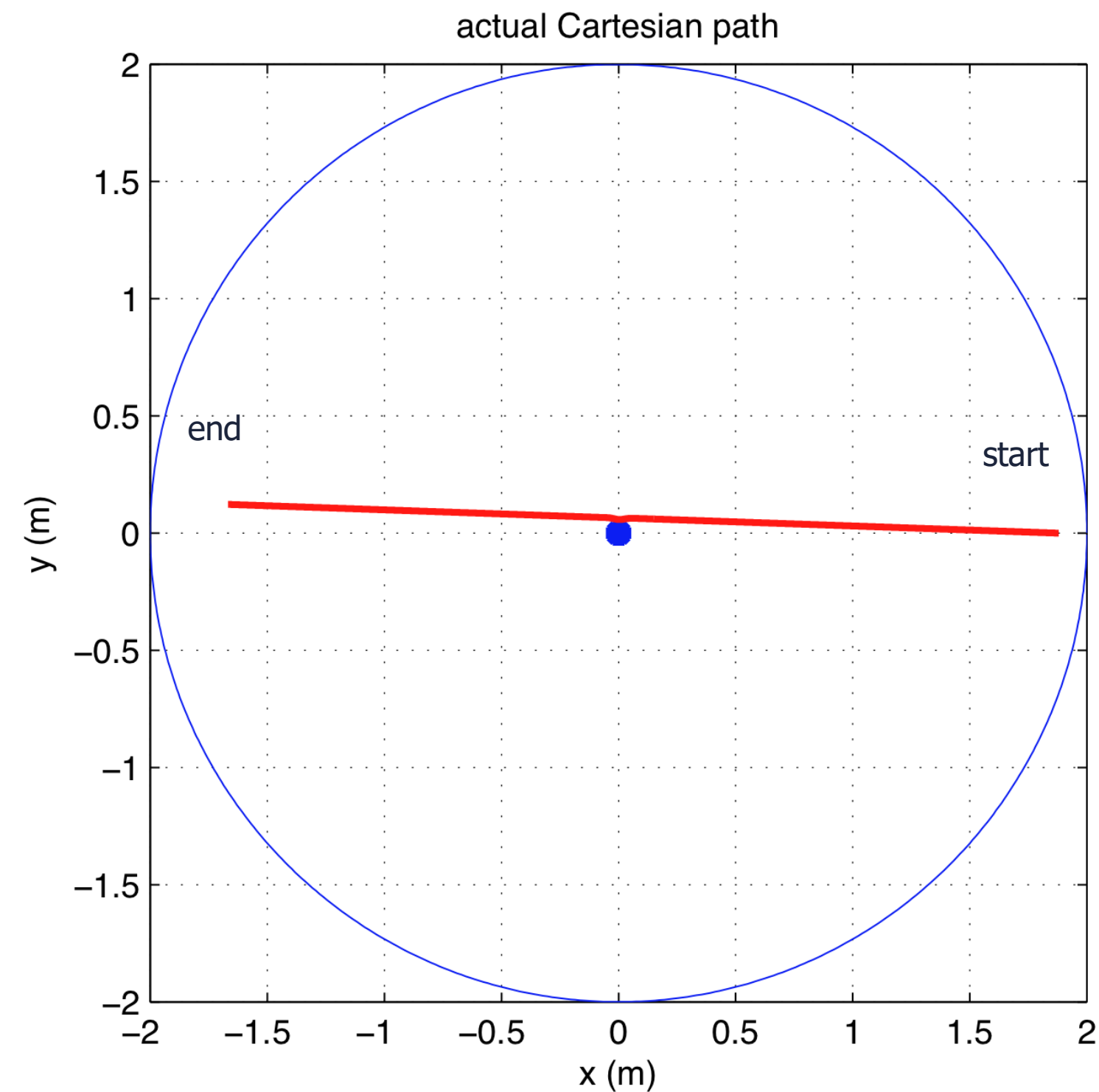


Simulation

Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

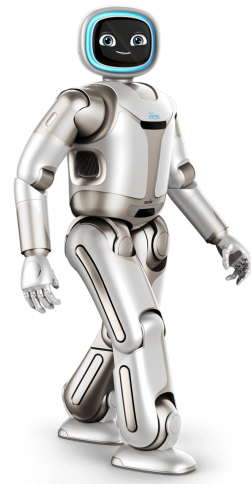
$$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$$

close to **singular** case with joint velocity
saturation at $V_i = 300^\circ/s$



stroboscopic
view

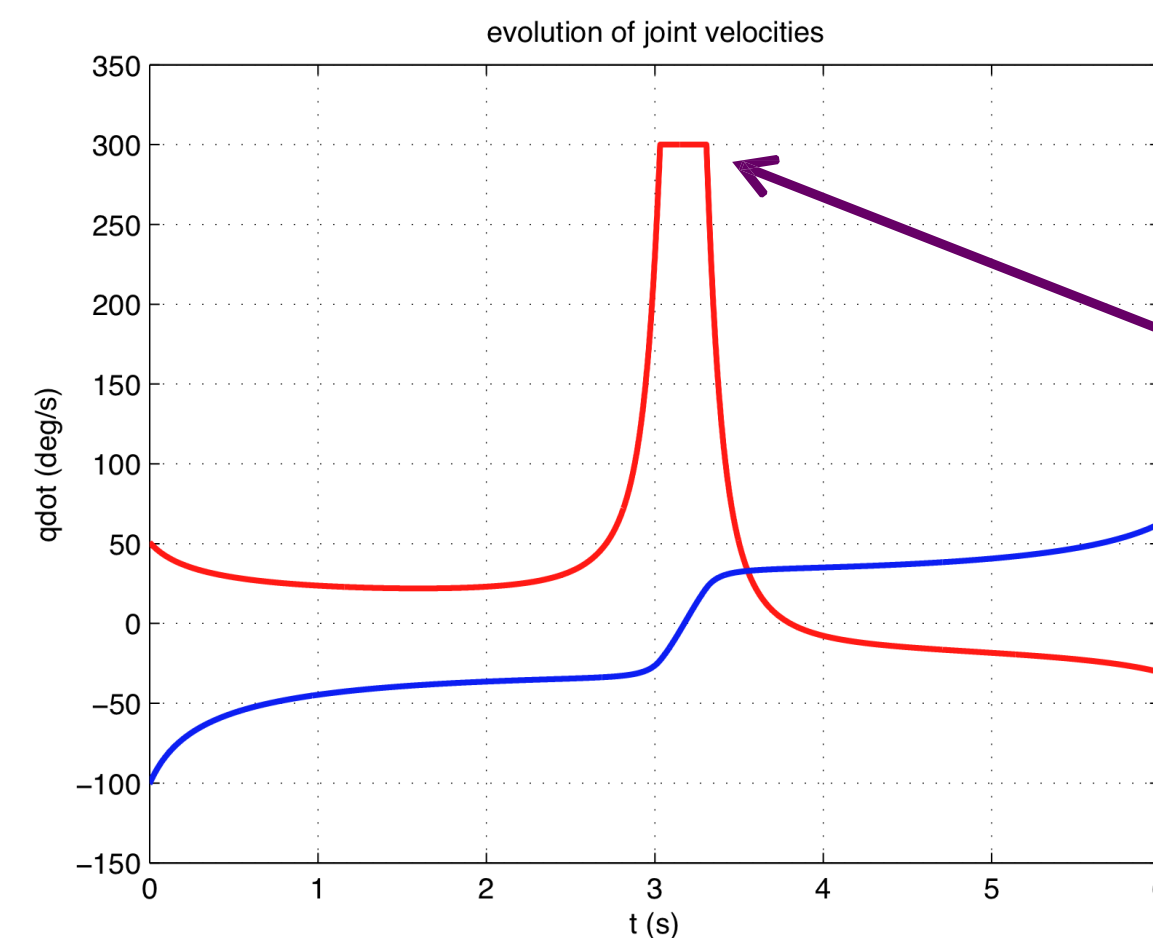
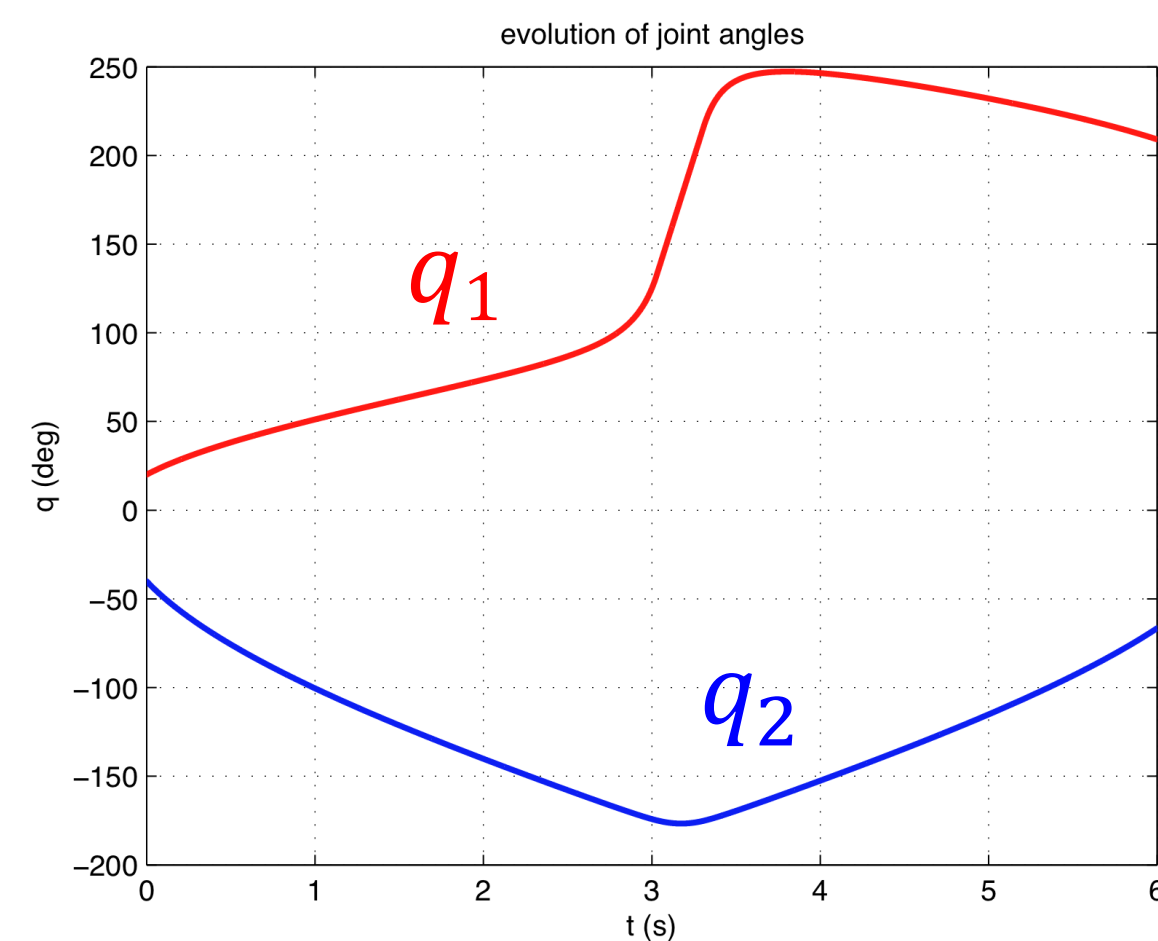
a line from right to left, at $\alpha = 178^\circ$ angle with x -axis,
executed at constant speed $v = 0.6 \text{ m/s}$ for $T = 6 \text{ s}$



Simulation

Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

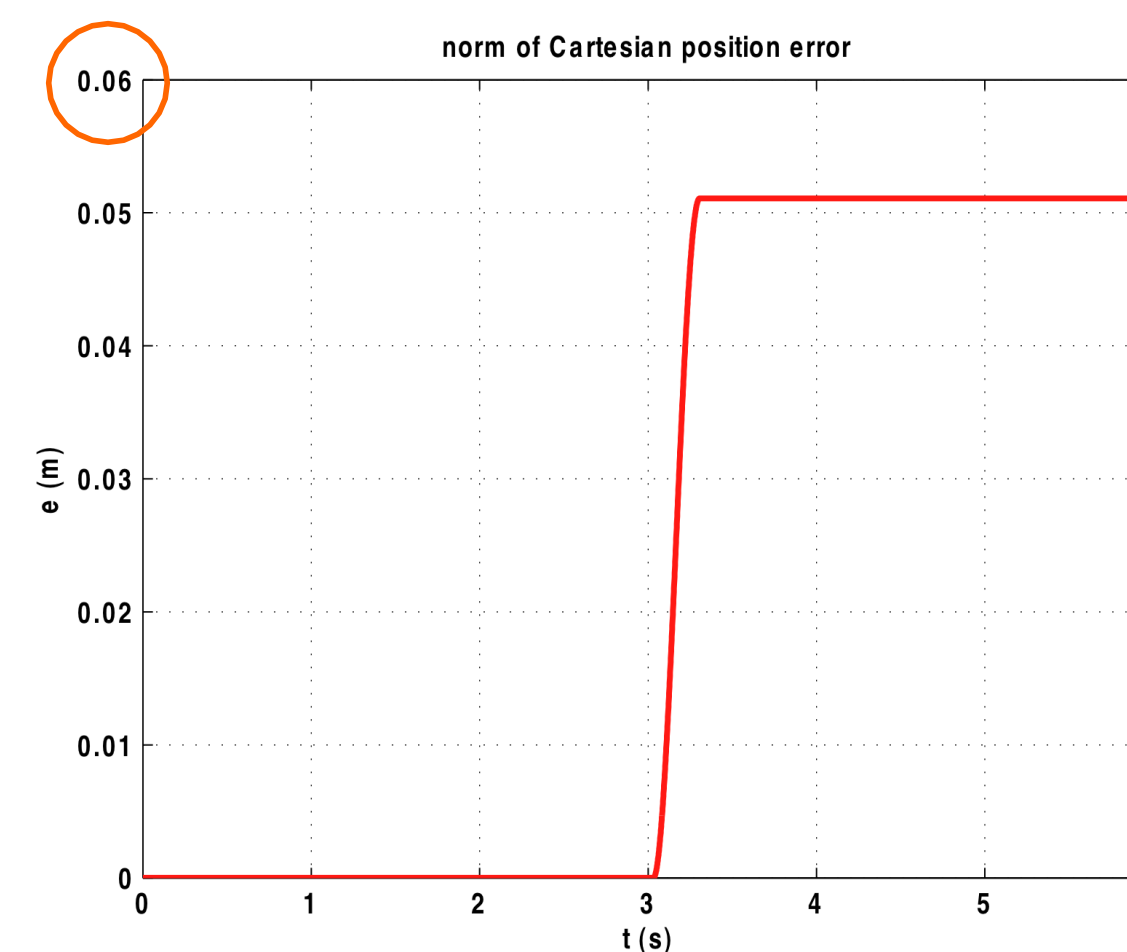
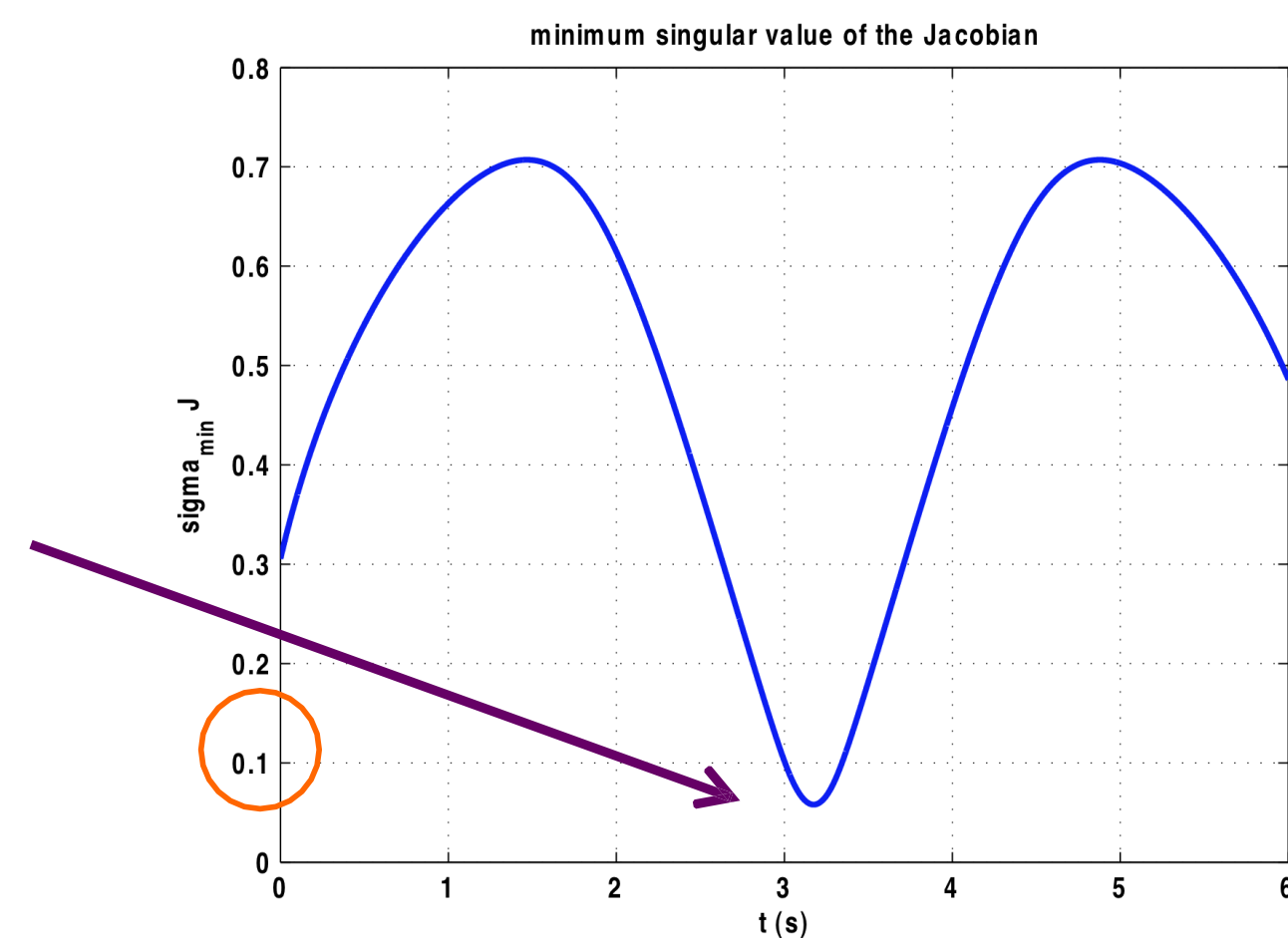
path at
 $\alpha = 178^\circ$



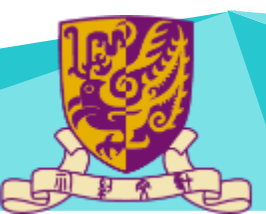
saturated value
of q_1



close to
singular
case



actual position
error!! (6 cm)





Damped Least Squares Method

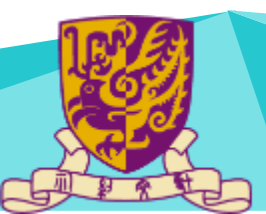
Bruno: 3.5.1

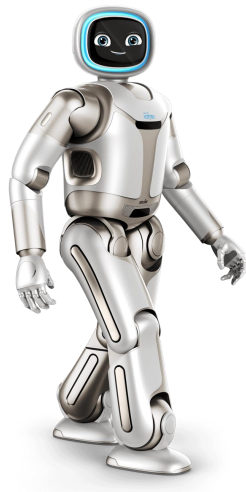
$$\min_{\dot{q}} H = \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\dot{q}\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|J\dot{q} - v\|^2, \quad \lambda \geq 0$$

$$\dot{q} = (\lambda I_n + J^T J)^{-1} J^T v = J^T (\lambda I_m + J J^T)^{-1} v = J_{DLS} v$$

two **equivalent** expressions, but the second is more convenient in redundant robots!

- inversion of differential kinematics as **unconstrained optimization** problem
- function $H =$ **weighted** sum of two objectives (norm of joint velocity and error norm on achieved end-effector velocity) to be minimized
- J_{DLS} can be used for **both** cases: $m = n$ (square) and $m < n$ (redundant)
- $\lambda = 0$ when “far enough” from singularities: $J_{DLS} = J^T (J J^T)^{-1} = J^{-1}$ or $J^\#$
- with $\lambda > 0$, there is a (vector) **error** ϵ ($= v - J\dot{q}$) in executing the desired end-effector velocity v (check that $\epsilon = \lambda(\lambda I_m + J J^T)^{-1} v$), but the joint velocities are always **reduced** (“damped”)

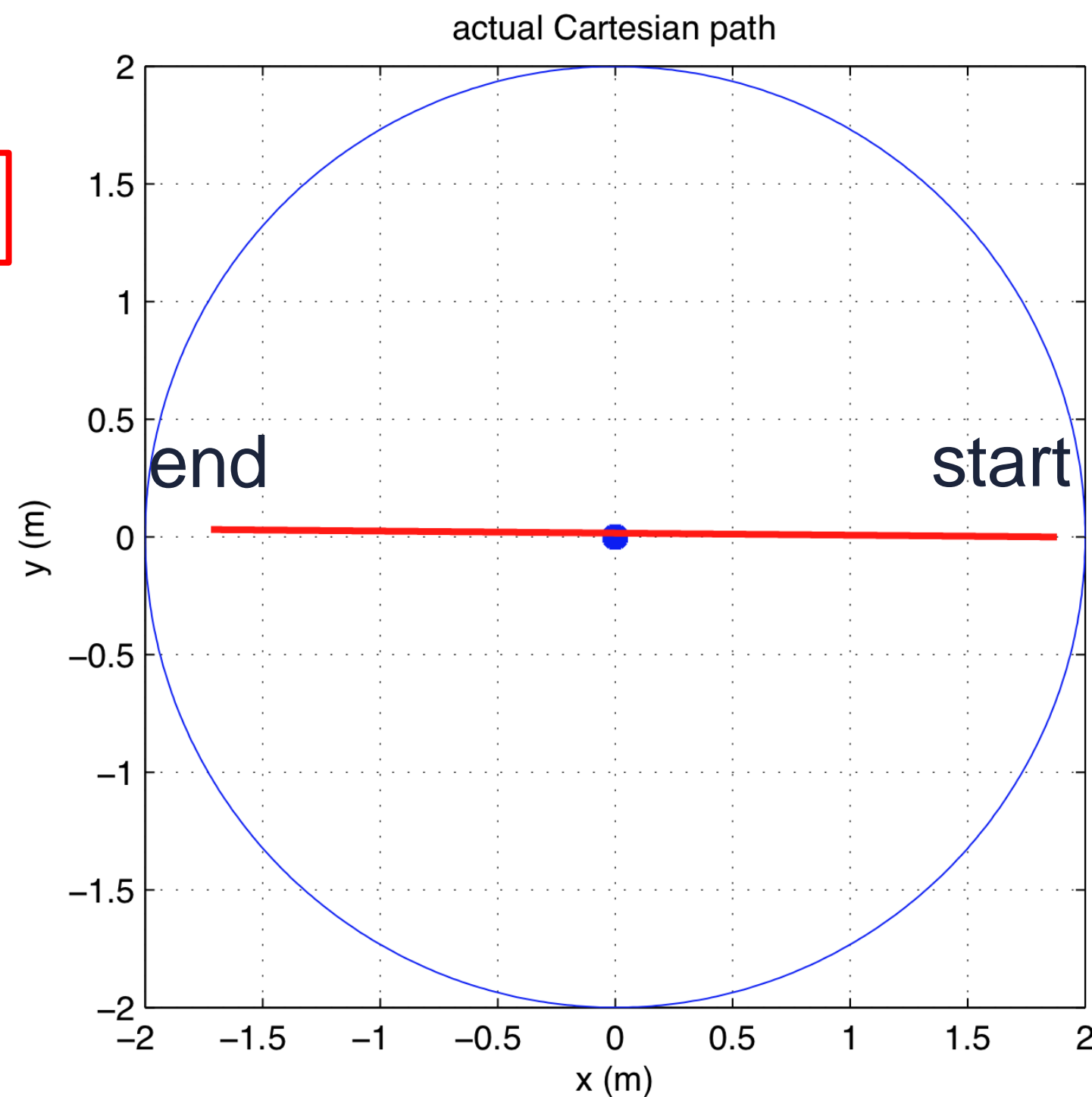




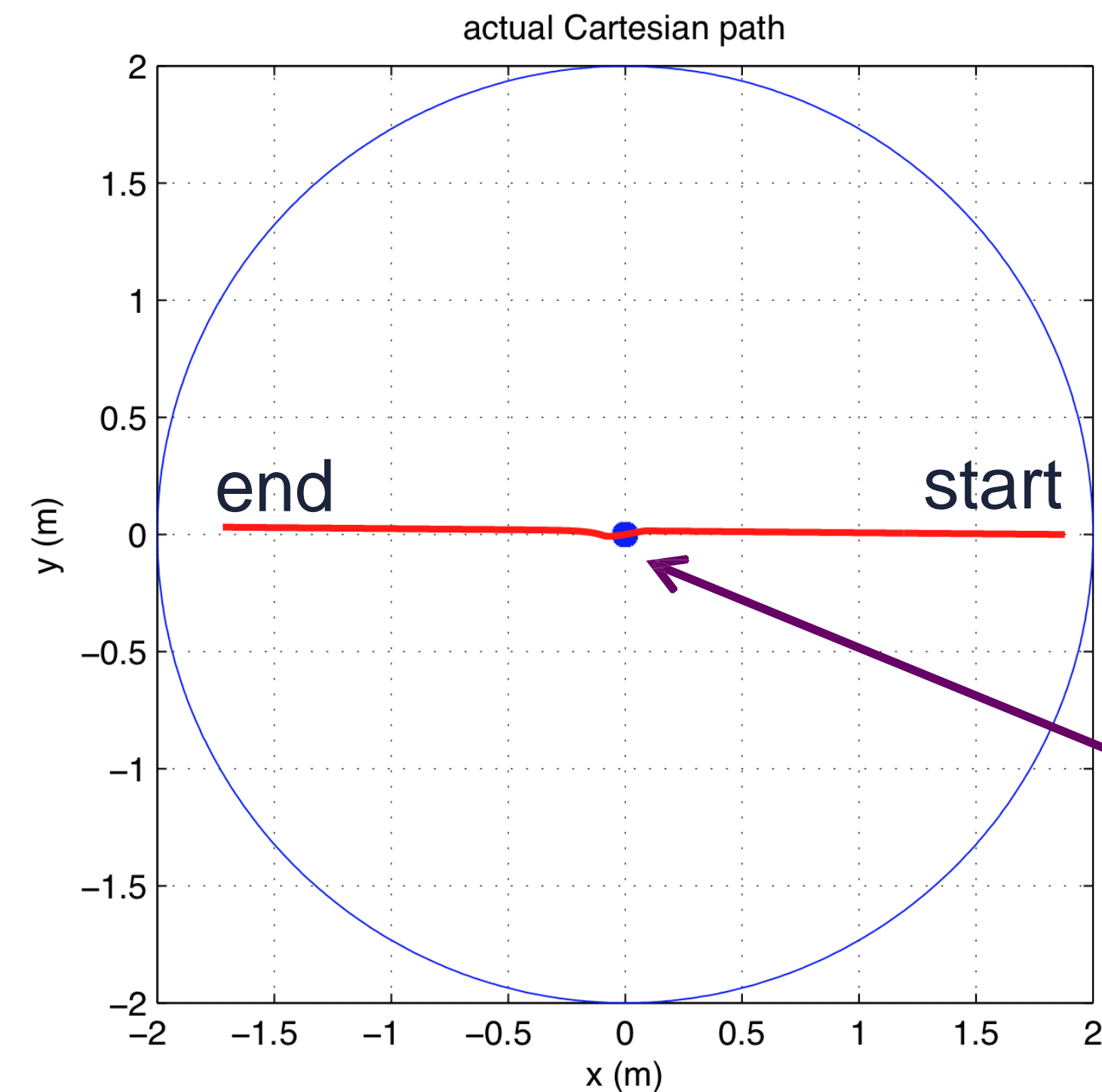
Simulation

Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)
a comparison of inverse and damped inverse Jacobian
methods **even closer to singular case**

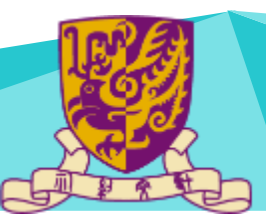
$$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$$

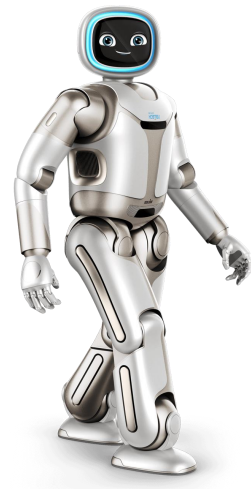


$$\dot{q} = J_{DLS}(q)v$$



a line from right to left, at $\alpha = 179.5^\circ$ angle with x -axis,
executed at constant speed $v = 0.6 \text{ m/s}$ for $T = 6 \text{ s}$





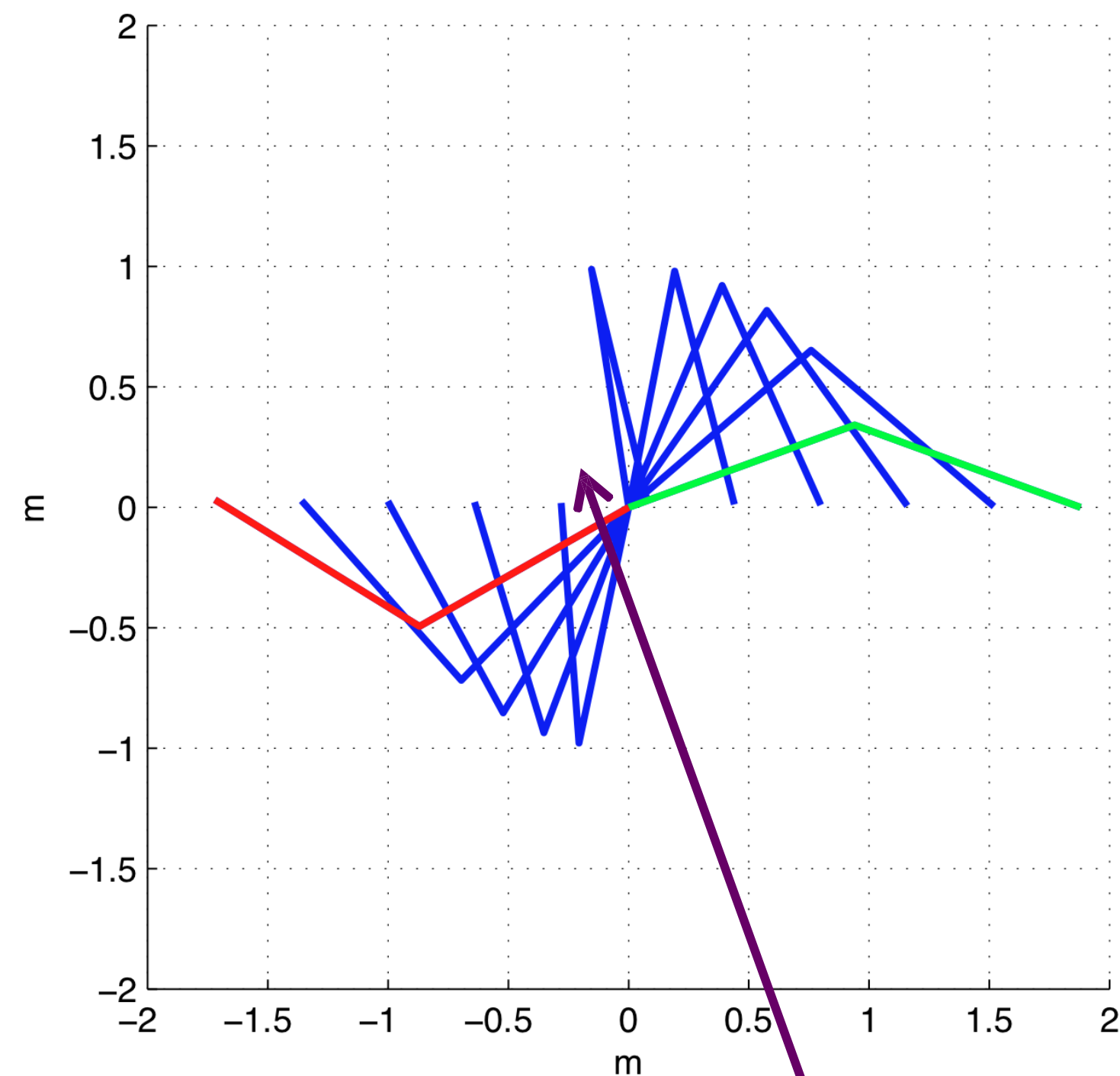
Simulation

Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

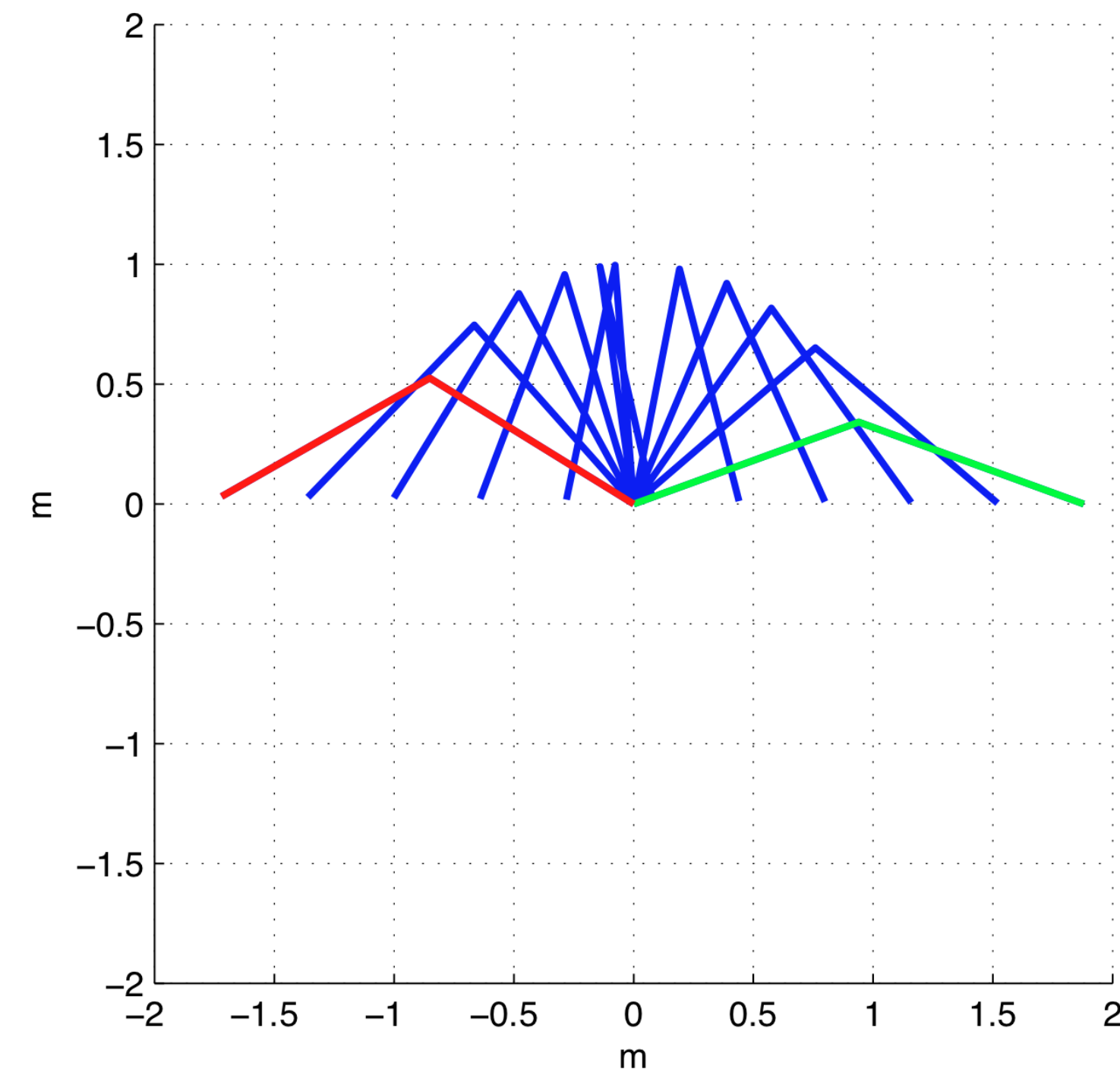
$$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$$

path at
 $\alpha = 179.5^\circ$

$$\dot{q} = J_{DLS}(q)v$$

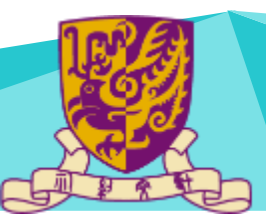


here, a **very fast**
reconfiguration of first
joint ...



stroboscopic
views

a completely **different inverse solution**,
around/after crossing the region
close to the folded singularity



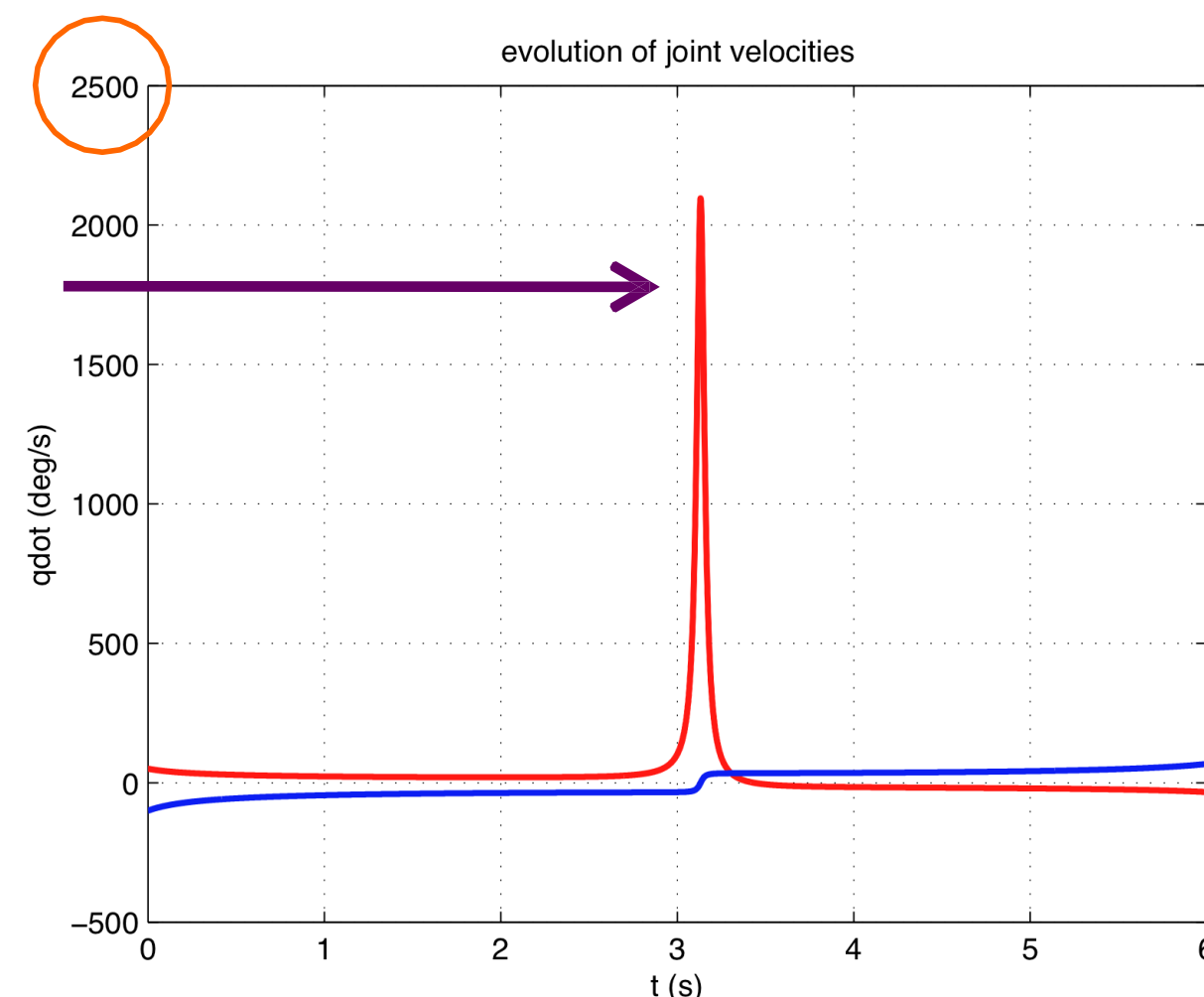
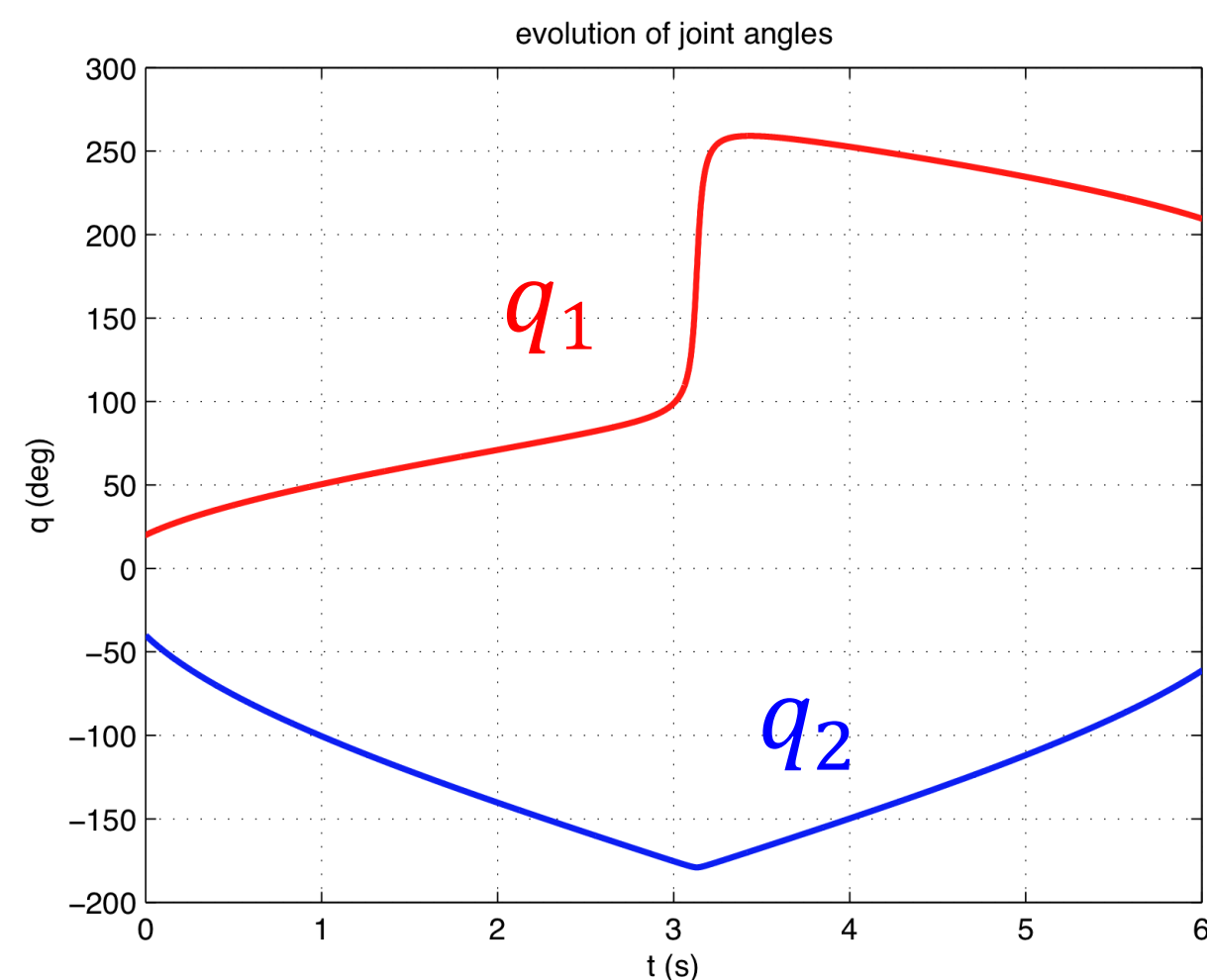


Simulation

Simulation results
(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

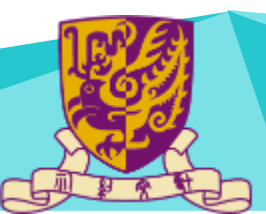
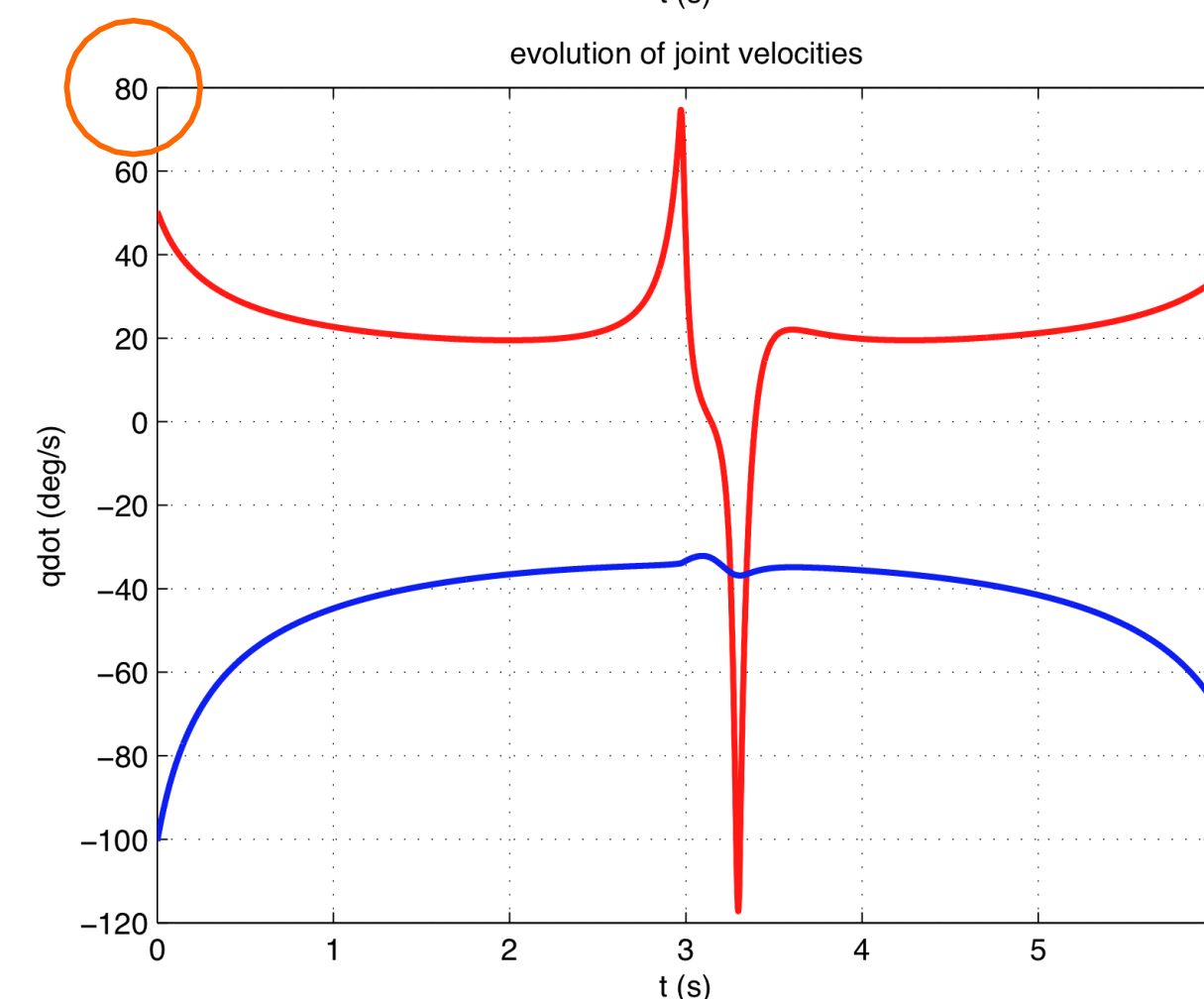
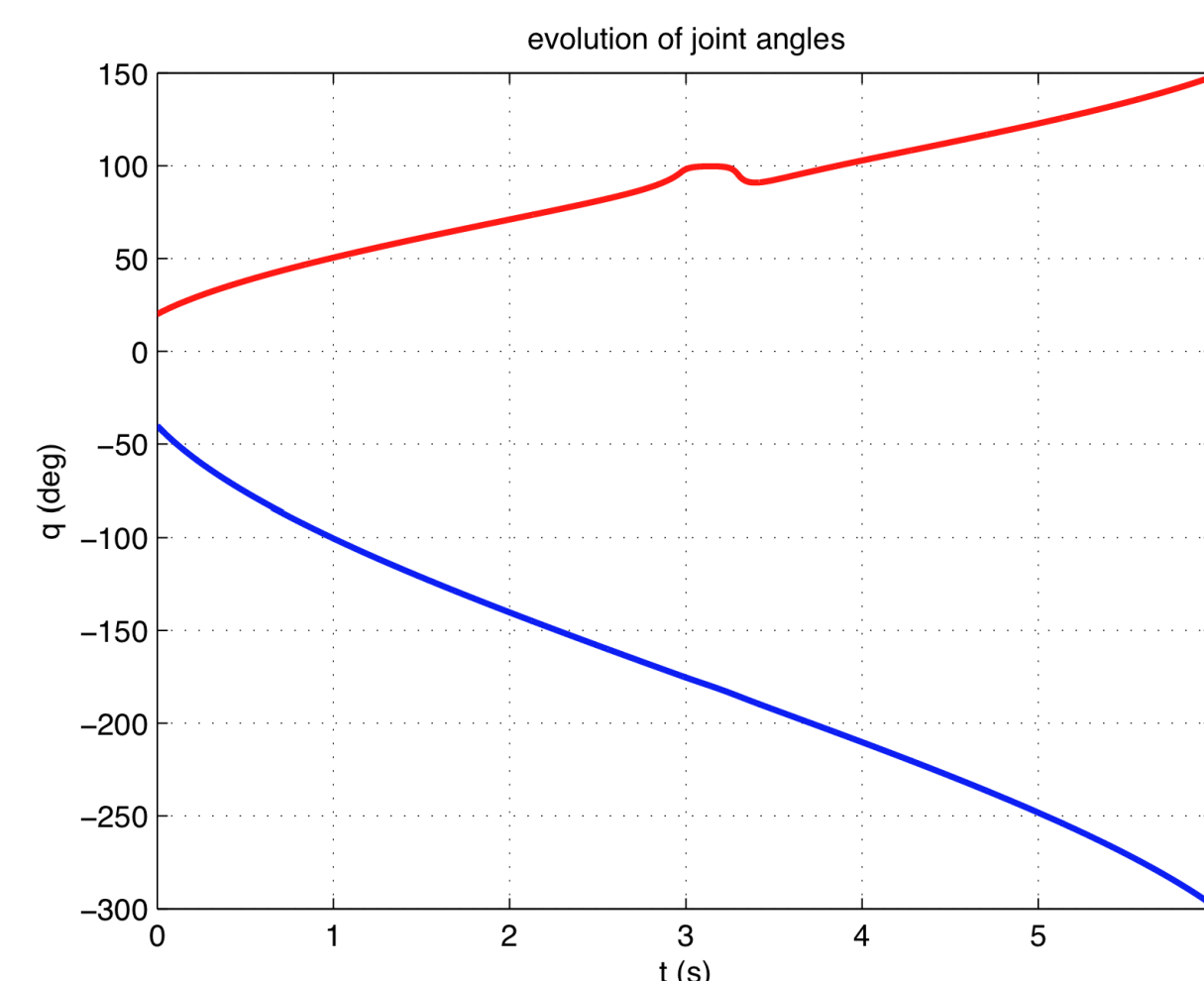
$$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$$

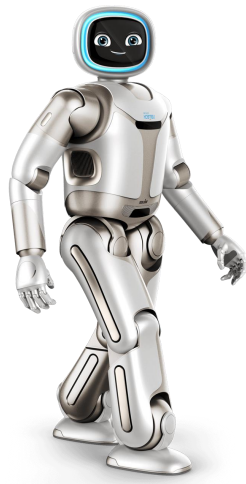
extremely **large**
peak velocity
of first joint!!



$$\dot{q} = J_{DLS}(q)v$$

smoother
joint motion
with **limited**
joint velocities!





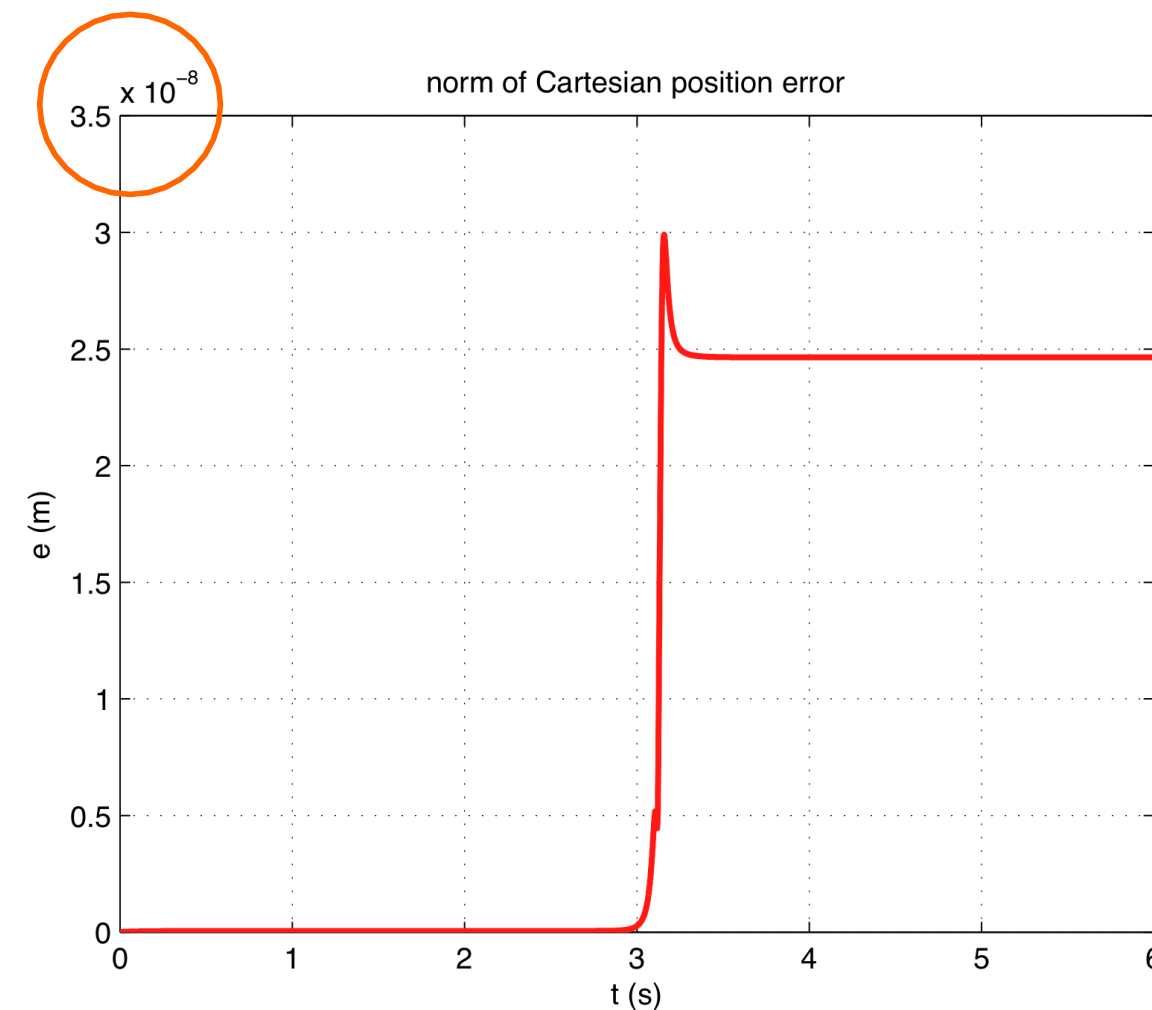
Simulation

Simulation results

(planar 2R robot in straight line Cartesian motion)

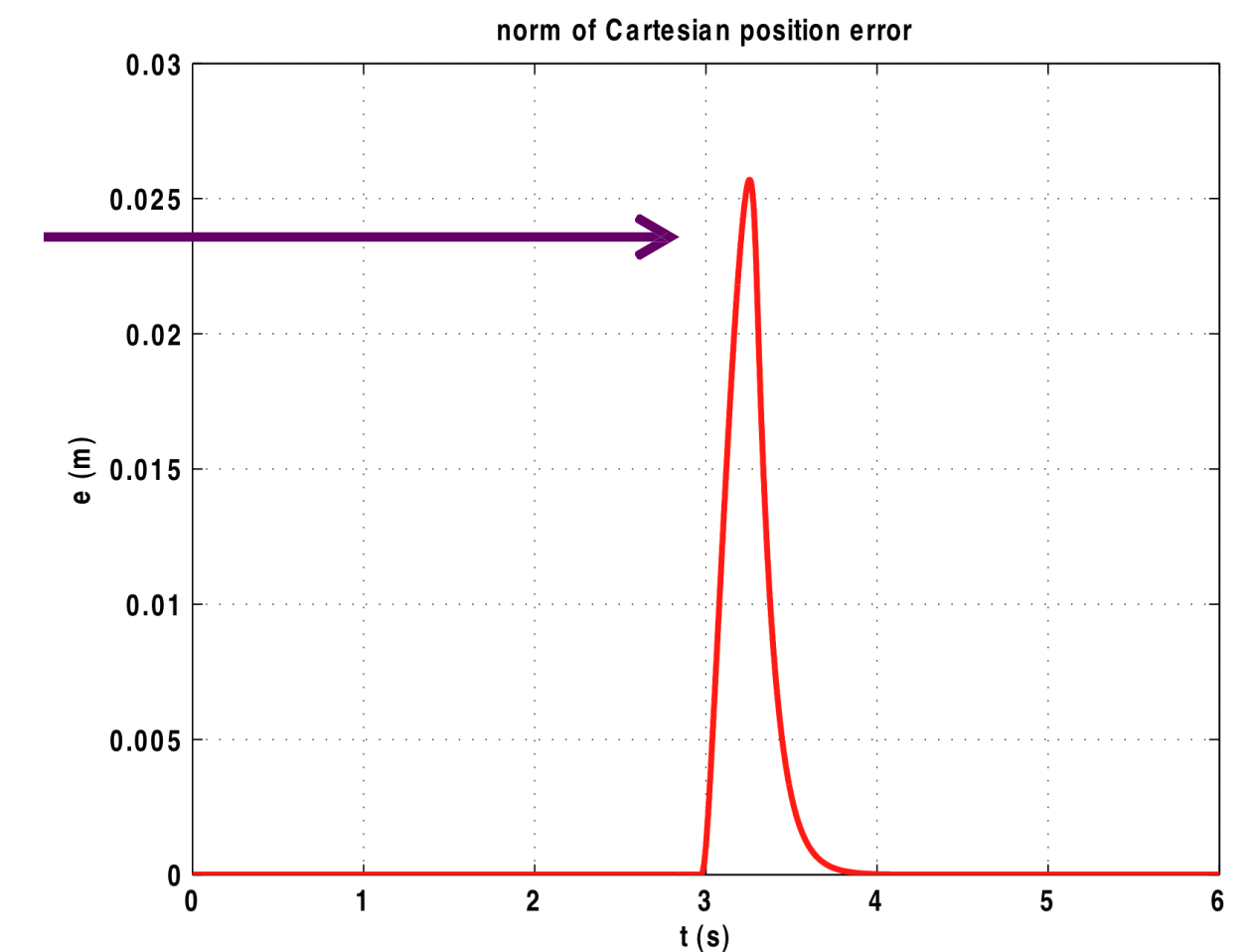
$$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q)v$$

$$\dot{q} = J_{DLS}(q)v$$



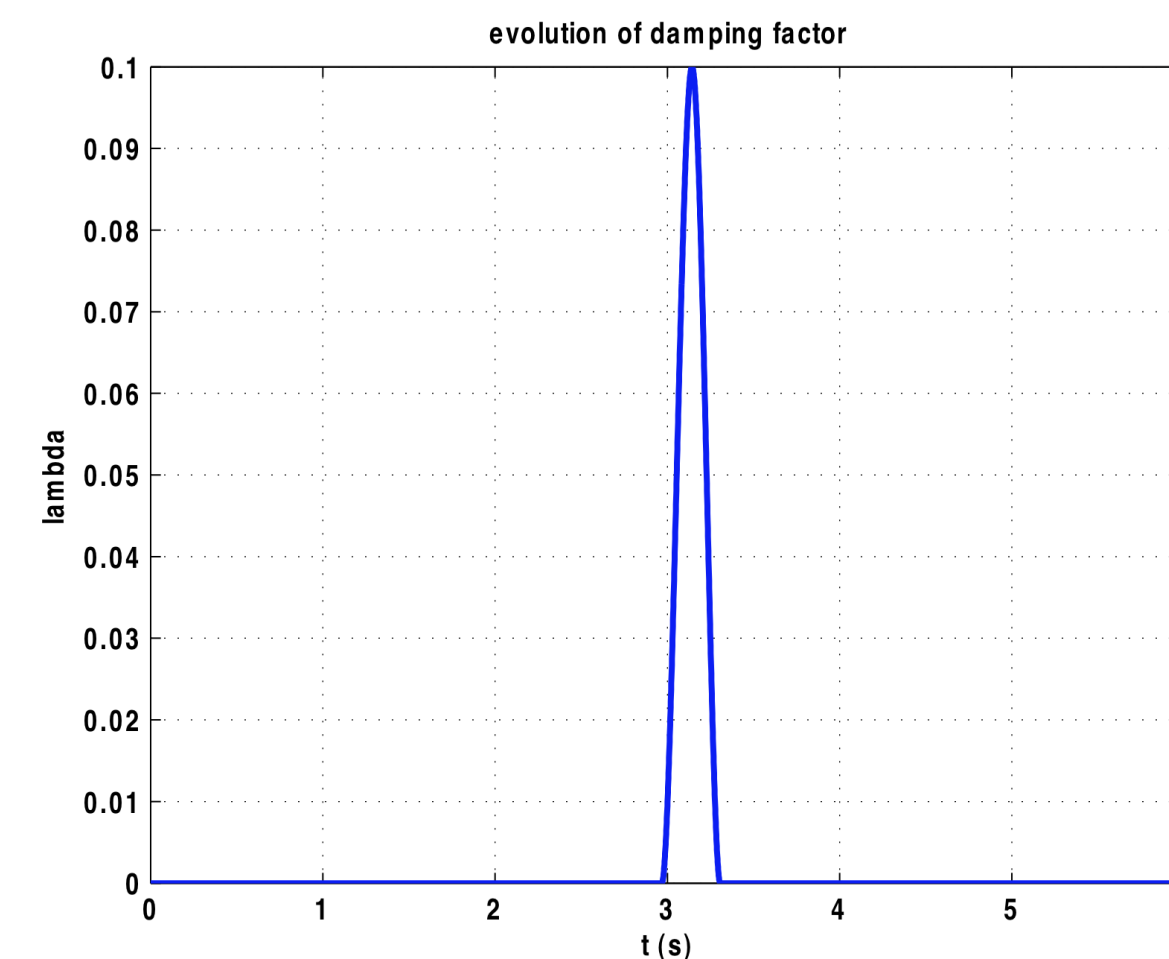
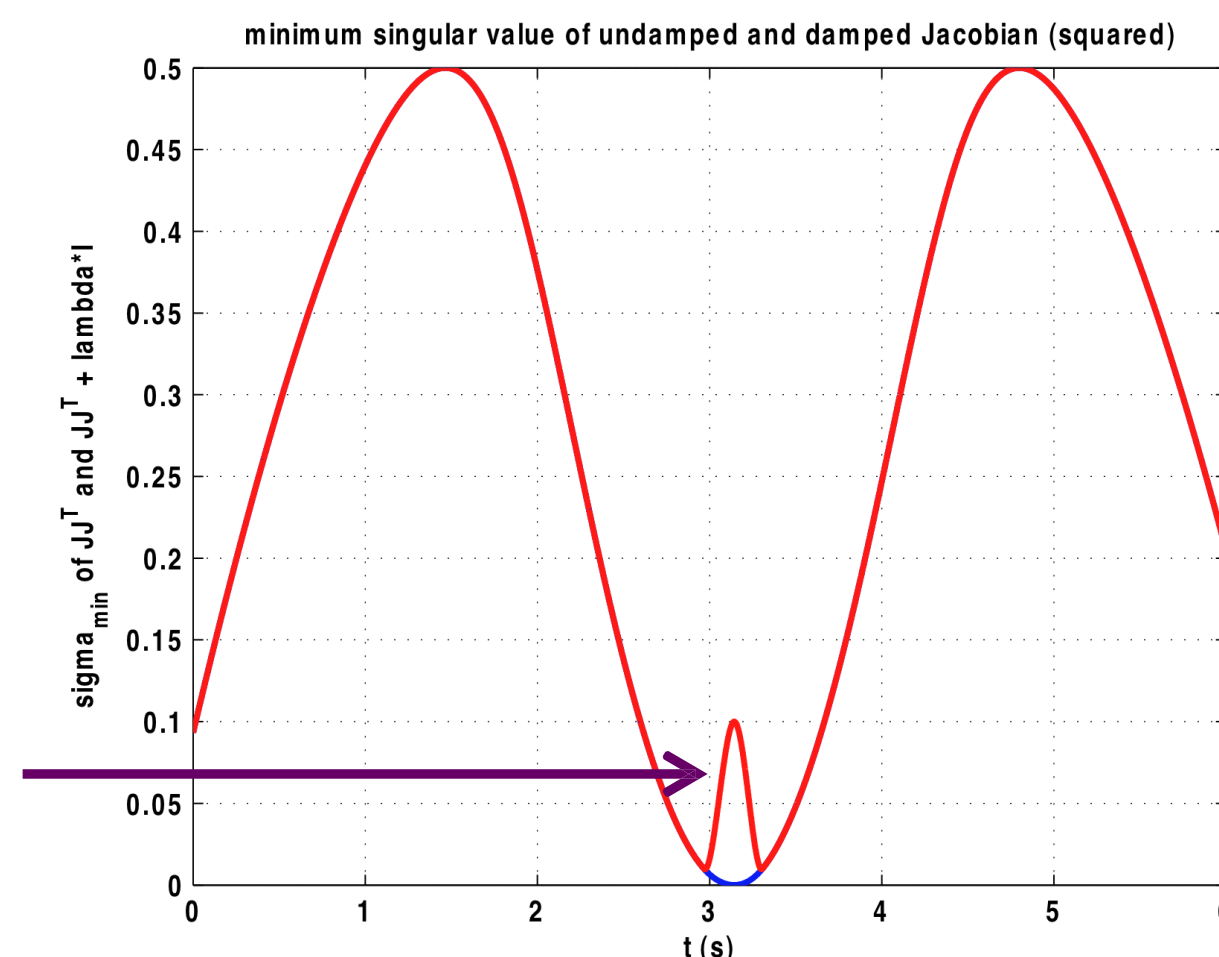
increased
numerical
integration error
(3×10^{-8})

error (25 mm) when
crossing the
singularity, later
recovered by a
feedback action (v
 $\Rightarrow v + K_p e_p$
with $e_p = p_d - p(q)$)

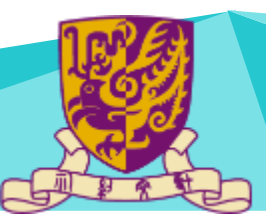


minimum singular
value of JJ^T and
 $\lambda I + JJ^T$

they differ only
when damping
factor is non-zero



damping factor
 λ is chosen non-zero
only **close to singularity!**





Pseudoinverse Method

a constrained optimization (minimum norm) problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\dot{q}} H &= \frac{1}{2} \|\dot{q}\|^2 \\ \text{such that } J\dot{q} &= v \end{aligned}$$

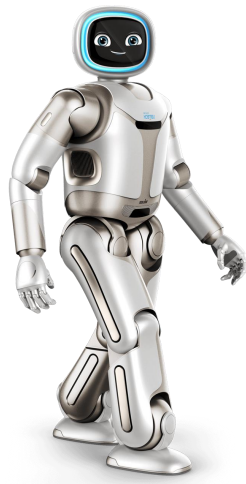
solution

$$\dot{q} = J^{\#} v$$

pseudoinverse of J

- if $v \in \mathcal{R}(J)$, the differential constraint is satisfied (v is feasible)
- else, $J\dot{q} = JJ^{\#}v = v^{\perp}$, where v^{\perp} minimizes the error $\|J\dot{q} - v\|$

orthogonal projection of v on $\mathcal{R}(J)$



Pseudoinverse Method

Definition of the pseudoinverse

given J , is the **unique** matrix $J^\#$ satisfying the **four** relationships

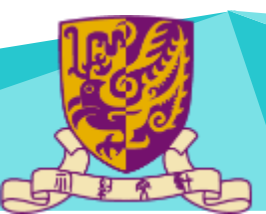
$$JJ^\#J = J$$

$$J^\#JJ^\# = J^\#$$

$$(JJ^\#)^T = JJ^\#$$

$$(J^\#J)^T = J^\#J$$

- explicit expressions for **full rank** cases
 - if $\rho(J) = m = n$: $J^\# = J^{-1}$
 - if $\rho(J) = m < n$: $J^\# = J^T (JJ^T)^{-1}$
 - if $\rho(J) = n < m$: $J^\# = (J^T J)^{-1} J^T$
- $J^\#$ **always** exists and is computed in general numerically using the SVD = Singular Value Decomposition of J
 - e.g., with the **MATLAB** function **pinv** (which uses in turn **svd**)



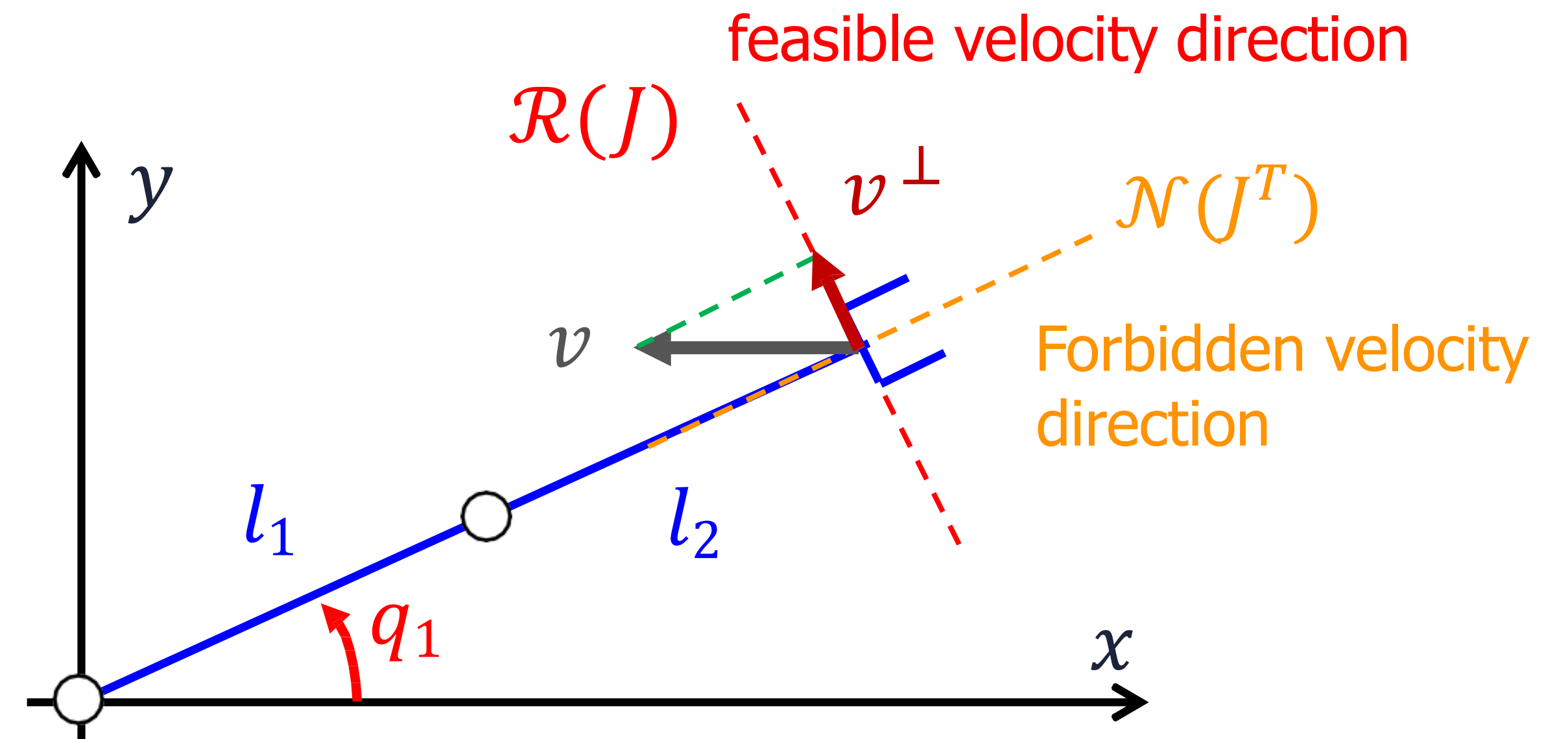


Numerical Example

Jacobian of 2R robot with $l_1 = l_2 = 1$ at $q_2 = 0$ (rank $\rho(J) = 1$)

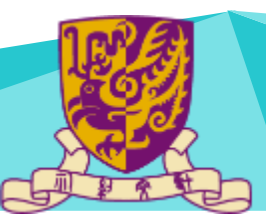
$$J = \begin{pmatrix} -2s_1 & -s_1 \\ 2c_1 & c_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad J^\# = \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} -2s_1 & 2c_1 \\ -s_1 & c_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$JJ^\# = \begin{pmatrix} s_1^2 & -s_1 c_1 \\ -s_1 c_1 & c_1^2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$\dot{q} = J^\# v$ is the **minimum** norm joint velocity vector that **realizes exactly** v^\perp

- at $q_1 = \pi/6$: for $v = (-0.5 \ 0)^T \left[\frac{m}{s} \right]$, $\dot{q} = J^\# v = (0.1 \ 0.05)^T \left[\frac{rad}{s} \right] \Rightarrow v^\perp = JJ^\# v = (-1/8 \ \sqrt{3}/8)^T \left[\frac{m}{s} \right]$
- at $q_1 = \pi/2$: $J = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -0.4 & 0 \\ -0.2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$; now the same $v \in \mathcal{R}(J)$, $\dot{q} = (0.2 \ 0.1)^T \Rightarrow v^\perp = v$ (**no error!**)





General Solution for $m < n$

Slightly **modified** constrained optimization problem (“biased” toward the joint velocity ξ , exploring redundancy, ie, chosen to avoid obstacles, joint limits, etc.)

$$\min_{\dot{q}} H = \frac{1}{2} \|\dot{q} - \xi\|^2 \text{ such that } J\dot{q} = v$$

ALL solutions of the inverse differential kinematics problem can be written as

$$\dot{q} = J^\# v + (I - J^\# J) \xi$$

← any joint velocity...

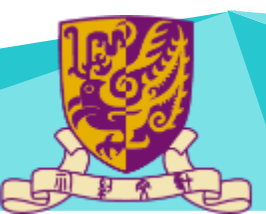
projection matrix of ξ to $\mathcal{N}(J)$ – aka, “null space method”

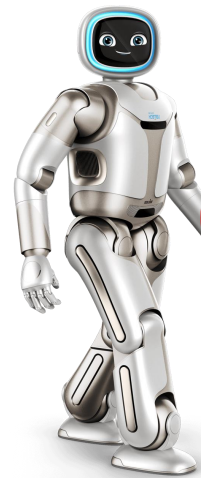
Bruno: Eqt. 3.54

verification of the **actual** task velocity that is being obtained

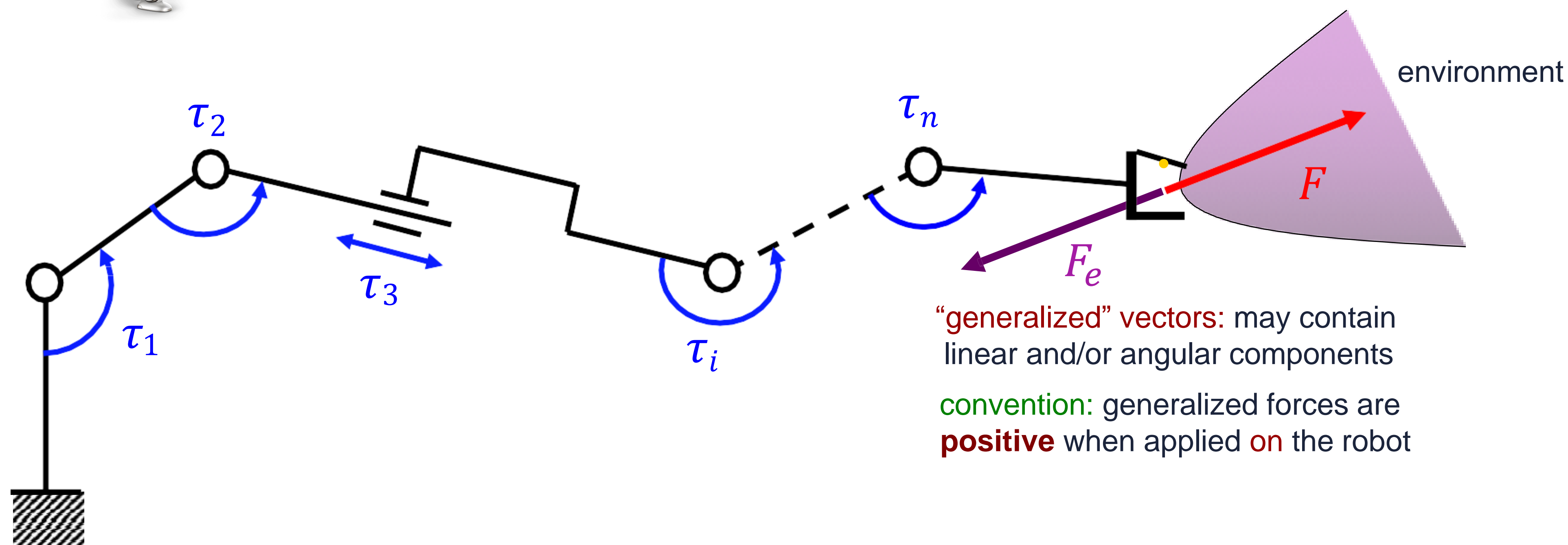
$$v_{\text{actual}} = J\dot{q} = J(J^\# v + (I - J^\# J)\xi) = JJ^\# v + J(I - J^\# J)\xi = JJ^\# (Jw) = Jw = v$$

↑
if $v \in \mathcal{R}(J) \Rightarrow v = Jw$ for some $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$





Generalized Forces and Torques



“generalized” vectors: may contain linear and/or angular components
convention: generalized forces are **positive** when applied **on** the robot

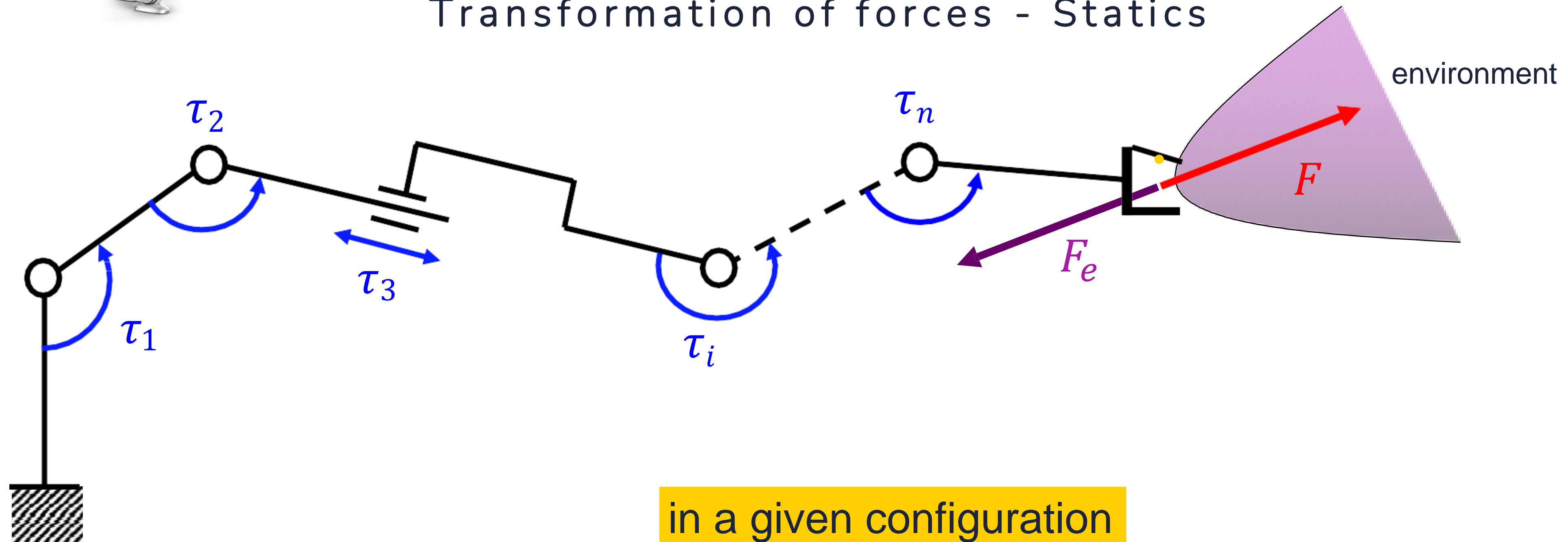
- τ = forces/torques exerted **by the motors** at the robot joints
- F = **equivalent** forces/torques exerted by the robot end-effector
- F_e = forces/torques exerted **by the environment** at the end-effector
- principle of action and reaction: $F_e = -F$

*reaction from environment is **equal and opposite** to the robot action on it*



Transformation of Forces

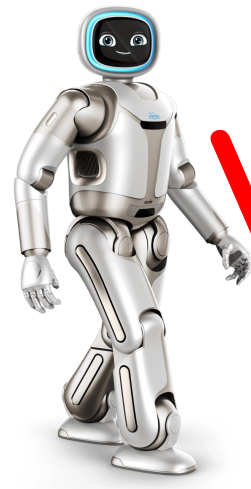
Transformation of forces - Statics



in a given configuration

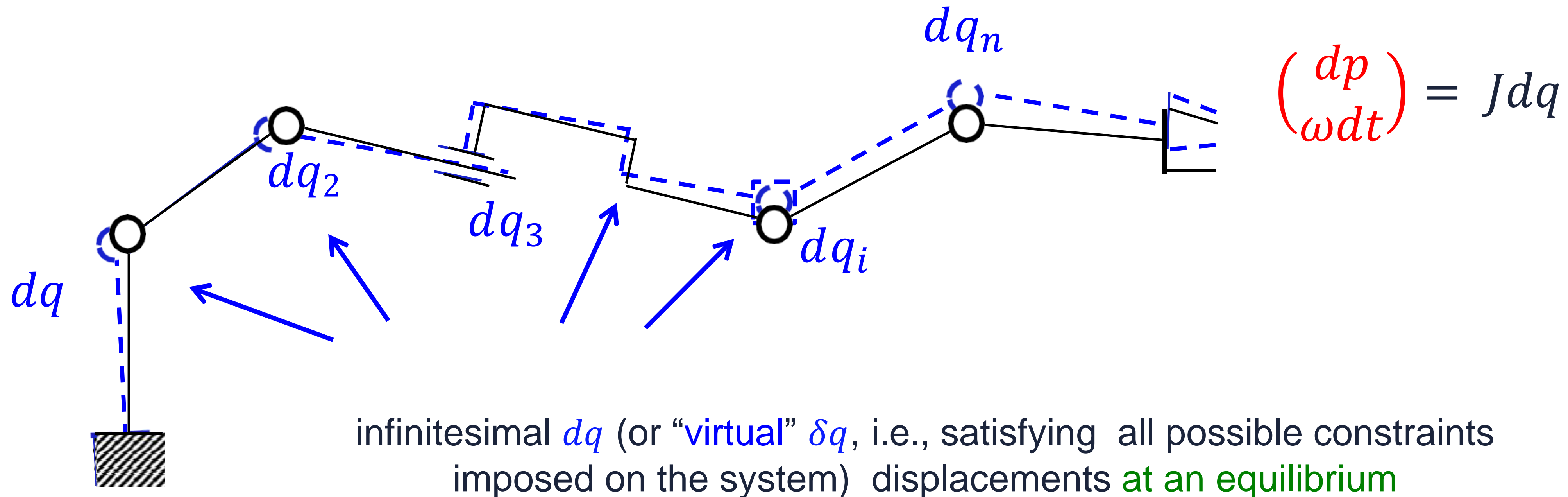
- what is the transformation between F at robot end-effector and τ at joints? in **static equilibrium** conditions (i.e., **no motion**):
- what F will be exerted on environment by a τ applied at the robot joints?
- what τ at the joints will balance a $F_e (= -F)$ exerted by the environment?

all equivalent formulations



Virtual Displacements and Works

Virtual displacements and works



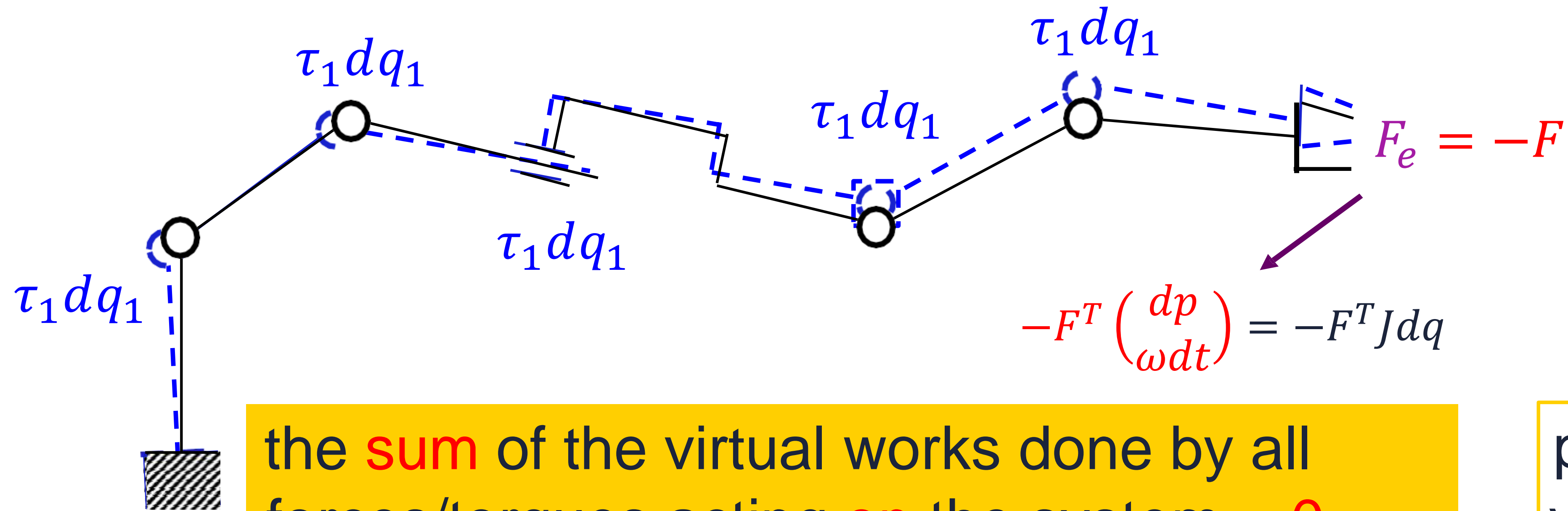
- without kinetic energy variation (zero acceleration)
- without dissipative effects (zero velocity)

the **virtual work** is the work done by all forces/torques acting **on** the system for a given virtual displacement



Principle of Virtual Work

Principle of virtual work

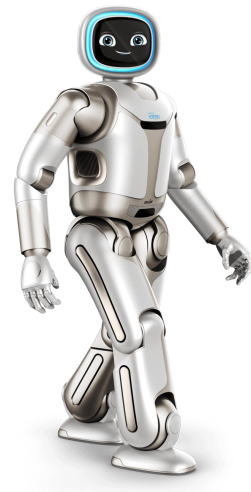


the **sum** of the virtual works done by all forces/torques acting **on** the system = 0

principle of virtual work

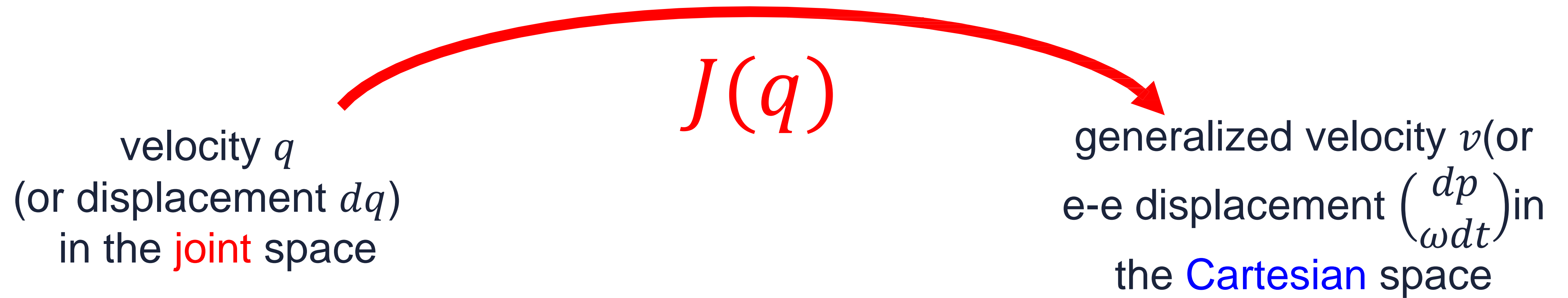
$$\tau^T dq - F^T \left(\frac{dp}{\omega dt} \right) = \tau^T dq - F^T J dq = 0 \quad \boxed{\forall dq}$$

➡ $\boxed{\tau = J^T(q)F}$



Duality

Duality between velocity and force



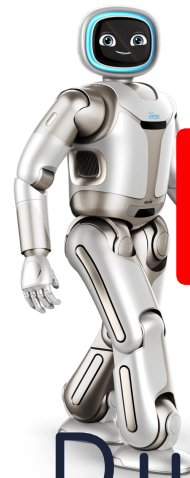
forces/torques τ
at the **joints**

generalized forces F
at the **Cartesian** e-e

$$J^T(q)$$

the singular configurations for the **velocity map** are
the **same** as those for the **force map**

$$\rho J = \rho(J)$$



Dual Subspaces of Velocity and Force

Dual subspaces of velocity and force (summary of definitions)

$$\mathcal{R}(J) = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^m : \exists \dot{q} \in \mathbb{R}^n, J\dot{q} = v\}$$

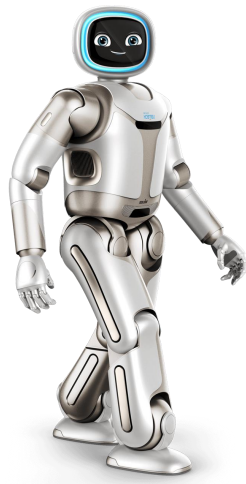
$$\mathcal{N}(J^T) = \{F \in \mathbb{R}^m : J^T F = 0\}$$

$$\mathcal{R}(J) + \mathcal{N}(J^T) = \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\mathcal{R}(J^T) = \{\tau \in \mathbb{R}^n : \exists F \in \mathbb{R}^m, J^T F = \tau\}$$

$$\mathcal{N}(J) = \{\dot{q} \in \mathbb{R}^n : J\dot{q} = 0\}$$

$$\mathcal{R}(J^T) + \mathcal{N}(J) = \mathbb{R}^n$$



Mobility Analysis

Mobility analysis for a planar 3R robot

case 1)

$$q = (0, \pi/2, \pi/2)$$

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rho(J) = 2 = m$$

$$J^T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rho(J^T) = \rho(J) = 2 \quad \text{full rank, non-singular case}$$

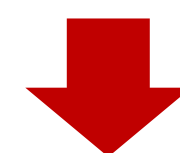
$$\mathcal{R}(J) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \mathbb{R}^2 \quad \mathcal{N}(J) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\dim \mathcal{N}(J) = 1 = n - \rho(J) = n - m$$

$$\mathcal{R}(J^T) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

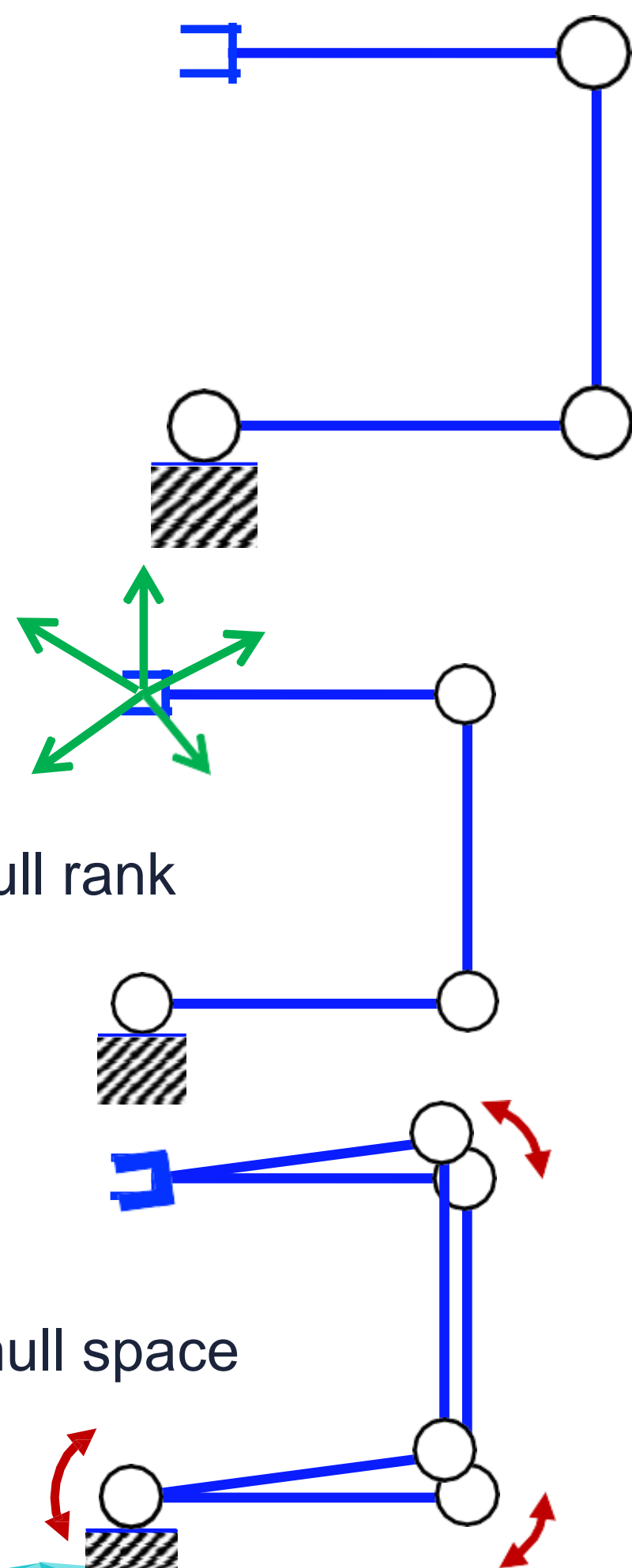
$$\mathcal{N}(J^T) = 0$$

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(J^T) = 2 = m$$



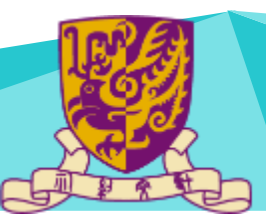
$$\mathcal{R}(J) + \mathcal{N}(J^T) = \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\mathcal{R}(J^T) + \mathcal{N}(J) = \mathbb{R}^3$$



If full rank

If null space



Mobility Analysis



Mobility analysis for a planar 3R robot

case 2)

$$q = (\pi/2, 0, \pi)$$

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rho(J) = 1 < m$$

$$J^T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rho(J^T) = \rho(J) = 1$$

$$\mathcal{R}(J) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{N}(J) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(J) = 1 = \rho(J)$$

$$\dim \mathcal{N}(J) = 2 = n - \rho(J)$$

$$\mathcal{R}(J^T) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{N}(J^T) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(J^T) = 1 = m - \rho(J)$$

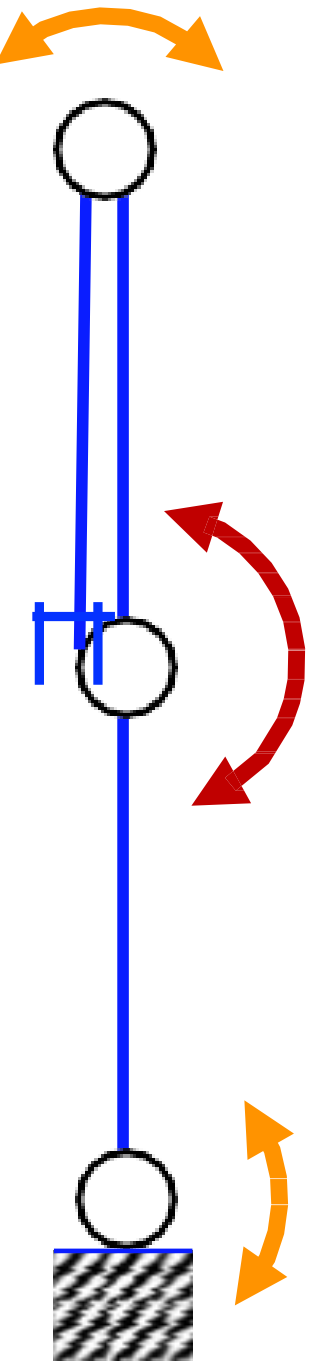
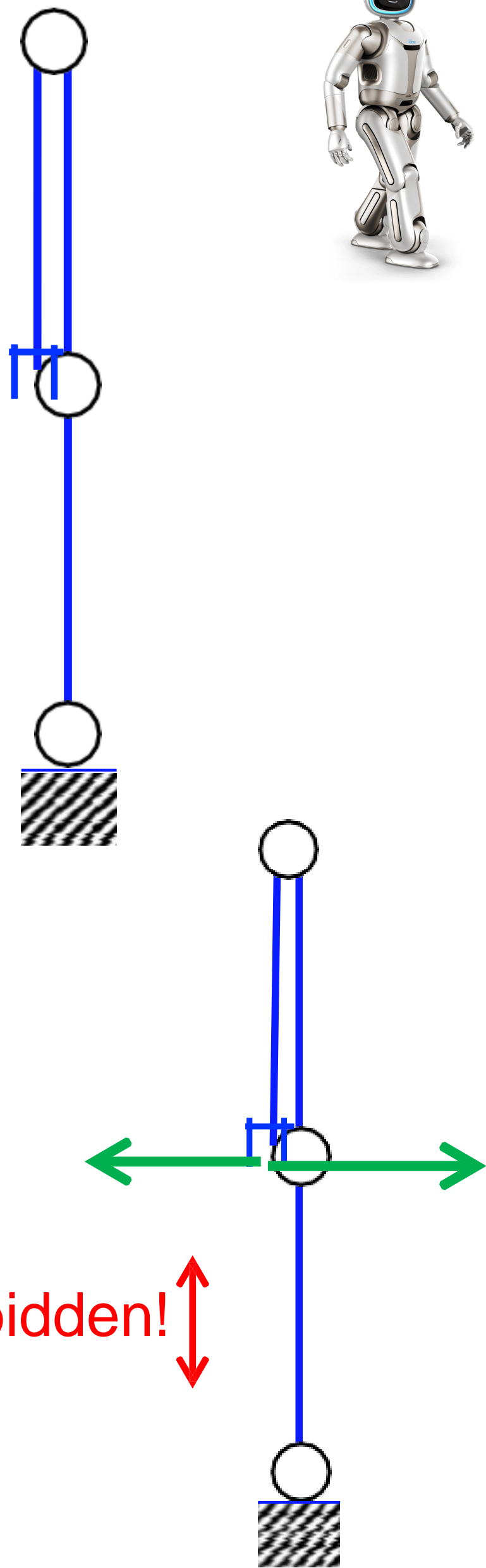
$$\dim \mathcal{N}(J^T) = 1 = n - \rho(J)$$

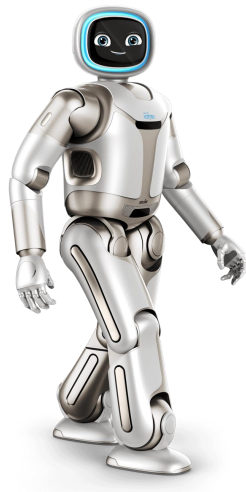


$$\mathcal{R}(J) + \mathcal{N}(J^T) = \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\mathcal{R}(J^T) + \mathcal{N}(J) = \mathbb{R}^3$$

forbidden!





Velocity Manipulability

Velocity manipulability

- in a given configuration, evaluate how effective is the **transformation** between joint and end-effector velocities
- “how easily” can the end-effector be moved in various directions of the task space
- equivalently, “how far” is the robot **from a singular condition**
- we consider all end-effector velocities that can be obtained by choosing joint velocity vectors of **unit norm**

$$\dot{q}^T \dot{q} = 1 \quad \rightarrow$$

task **velocity**
manipulability **ellipsoid**

$$v^T J^{\#T} J^{\#} v = 1$$

if $\rho(J) = m$, full rank

$$J^{\#} = J^T (JJ^T)^{-1}$$

$$(JJ^T)^{-1}$$

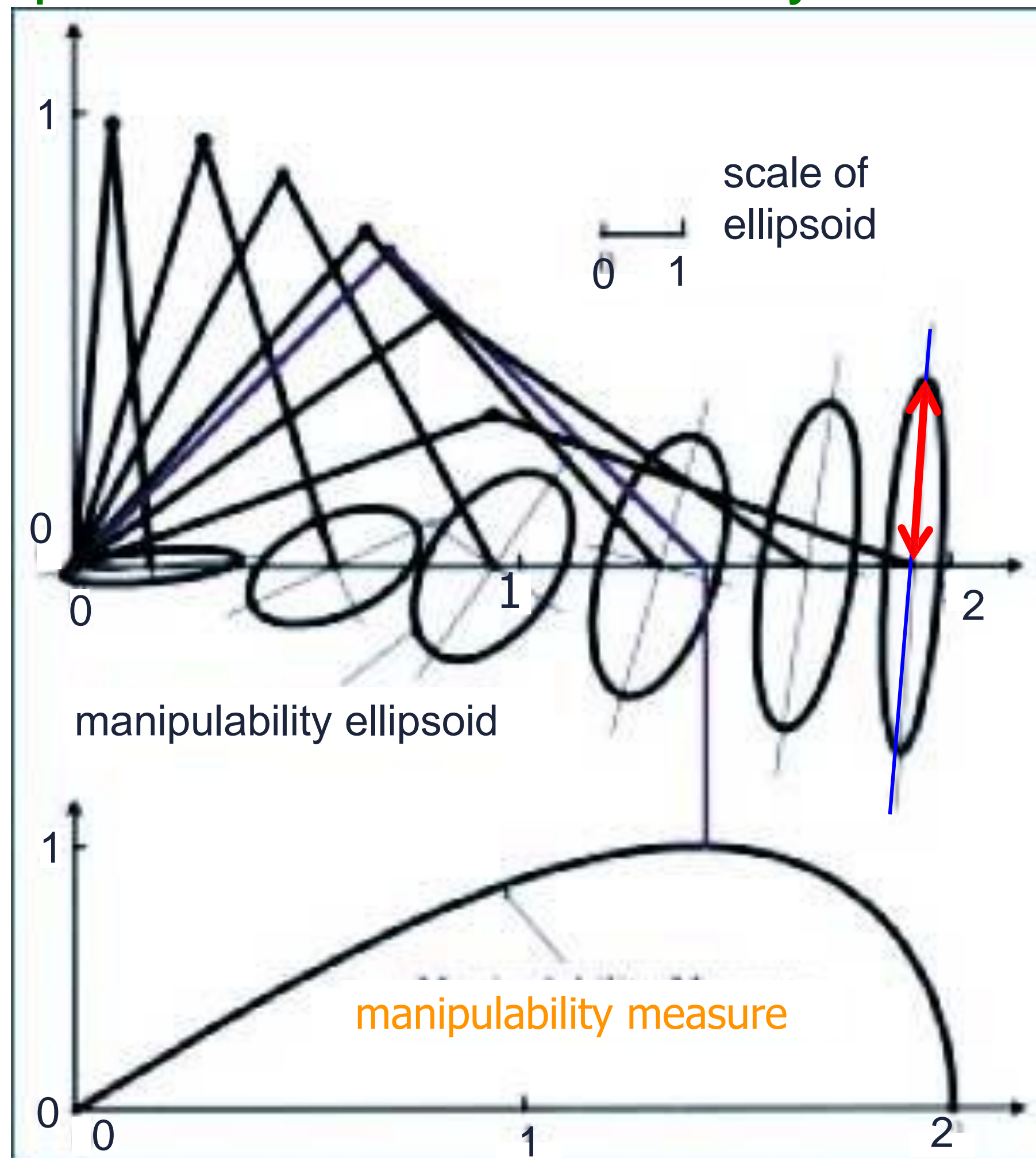
note: the “core” matrix of the ellipsoid equation $v^T A^{-1} v = I$ is the matrix A !



Velocity Manipulability

Manipulability ellipsoid (in velocity)

planar 2R arm with unitary links



length of principal (semi-) axes
singular values σ_i of J (in its SVD)

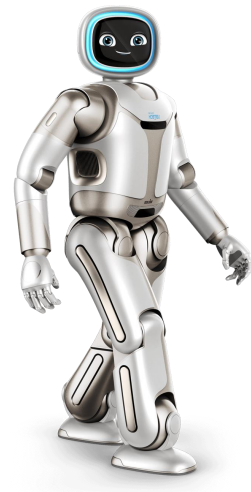
$$\sigma_i(J) = \sqrt{\lambda_i(JJ^T)}$$

in a singularity, the ellipsoid loses a dimension
(for $m = 2$, it becomes a segment)

direction of principal axes
eigenvectors associated to λ_i

$$w = \sqrt{\det(JJ^T)} = \prod_{i=1}^m \sigma_i \geq 0$$

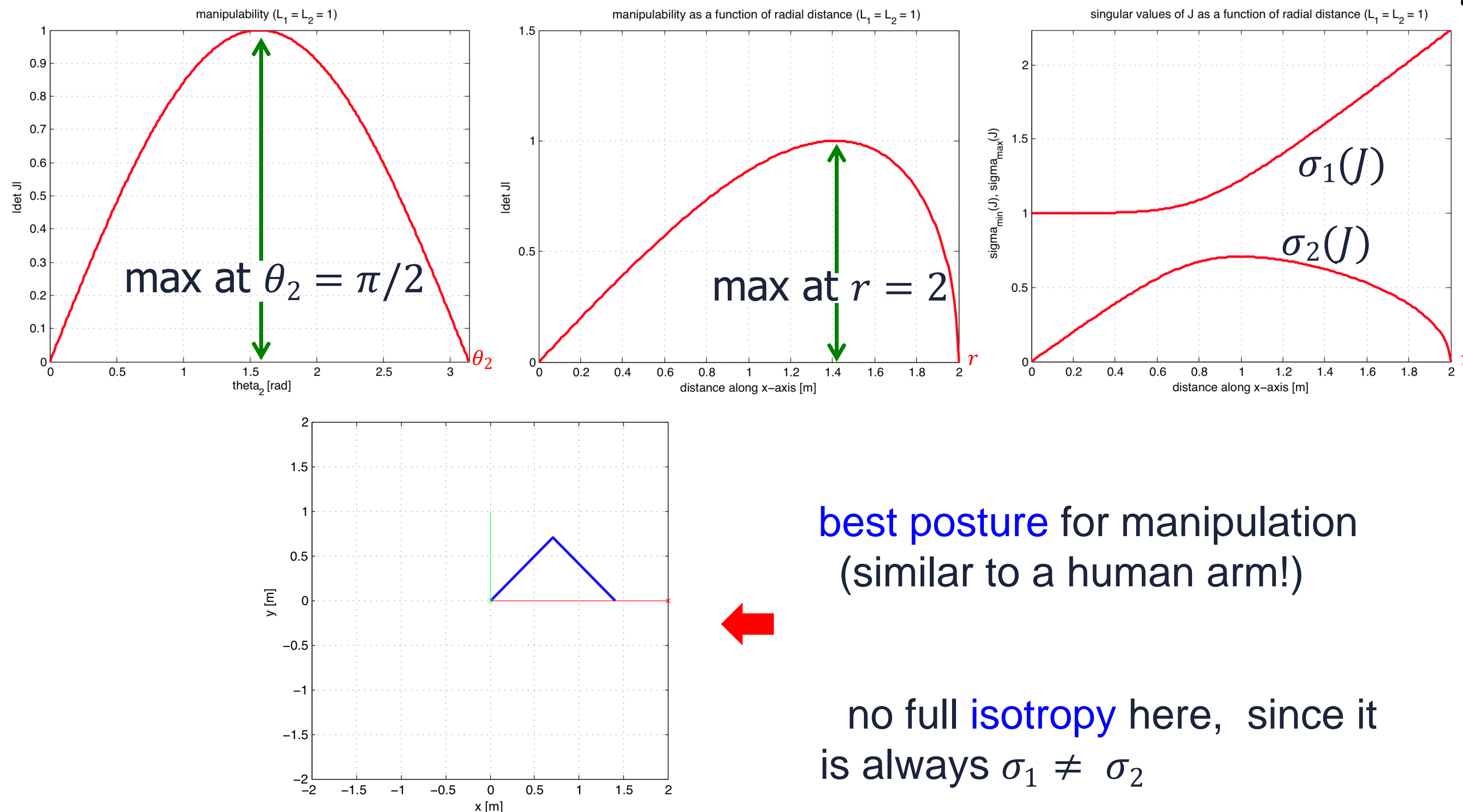
proportional to the **volume** of the ellipsoid (for $m = 2$, to its area)



Manipulability Measure

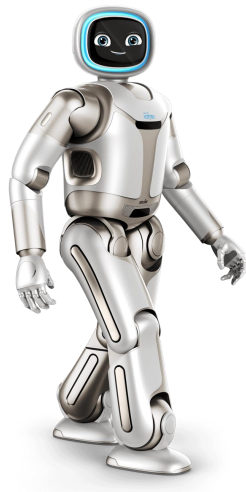
Manipulability measure

planar 2R arm (with $l_1 = l_2 = 1$): $\sqrt{\det(JJ^T)} = \sqrt{\det(J) \cdot \det(J^T)} = |\det J| = \prod_{i=1}^2 \sigma_i$



best posture for manipulation
(similar to a human arm!)

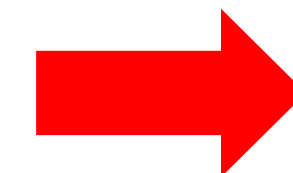
no full **isotropy** here, since it
is always $\sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2$



Force Manipulability

- in a given configuration, evaluate how effective is the **transformation** between joint torques and end-effector forces
 - “how easily” can the end-effector apply generalized forces (or balance applied ones) in the various directions of the task space
 - in singular configurations, there are directions in the task space where external forces are **balanced without the need of any joint torque**
- we consider all end-effector forces that can be applied (or balanced) by choosing joint torque vectors of **unit norm**

$$\tau^T \tau = 1$$



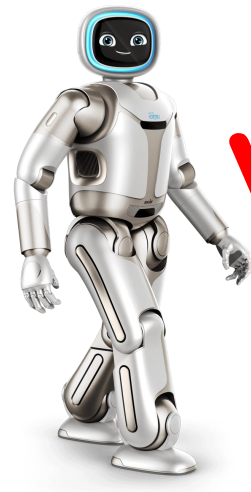
$$F^T J J^T F = 1$$

same **directions** of the principal axes of the velocity ellipsoid, but with semi-axes of **inverse lengths**



task **force**
manipulability **ellipsoid**

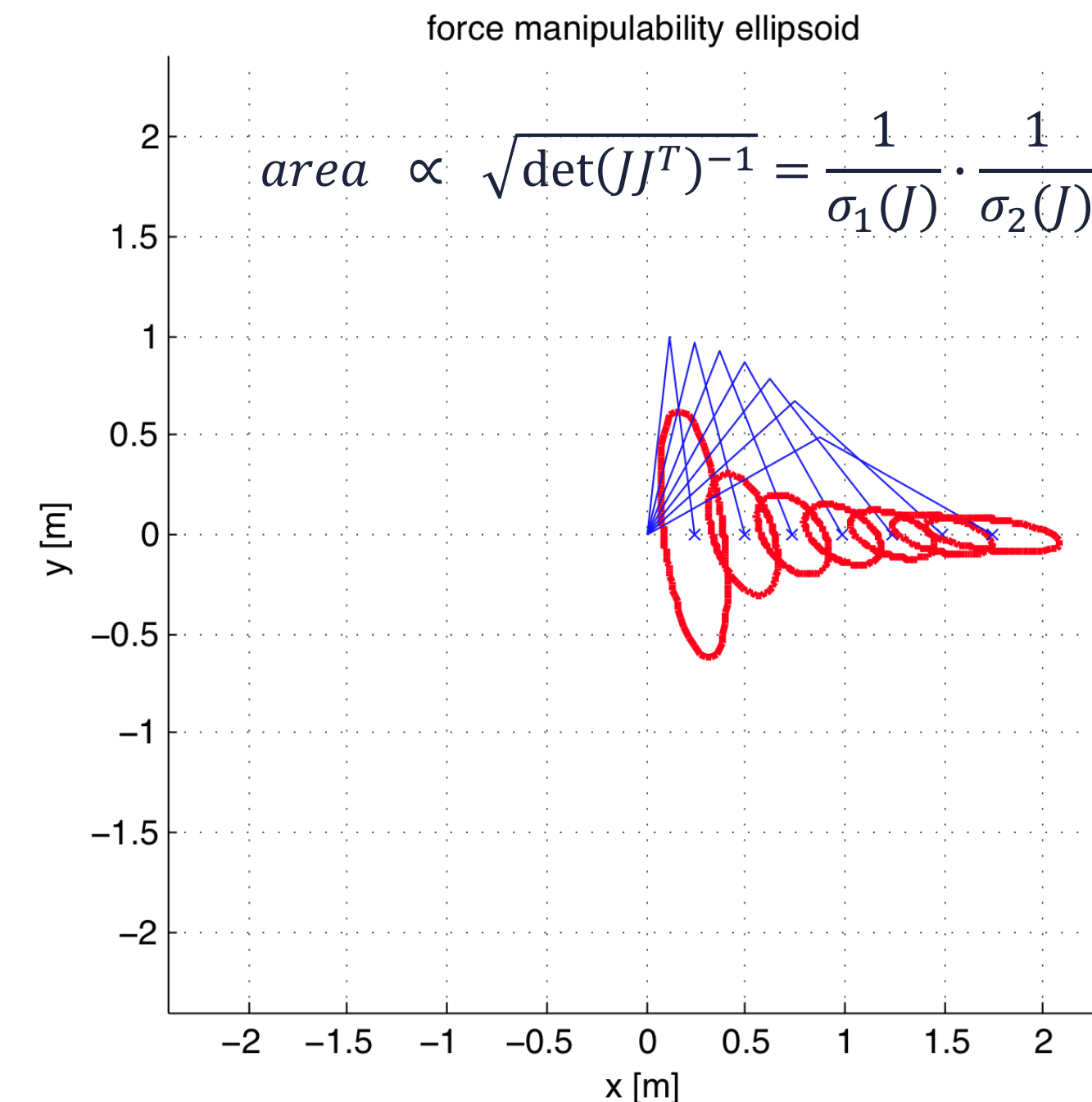
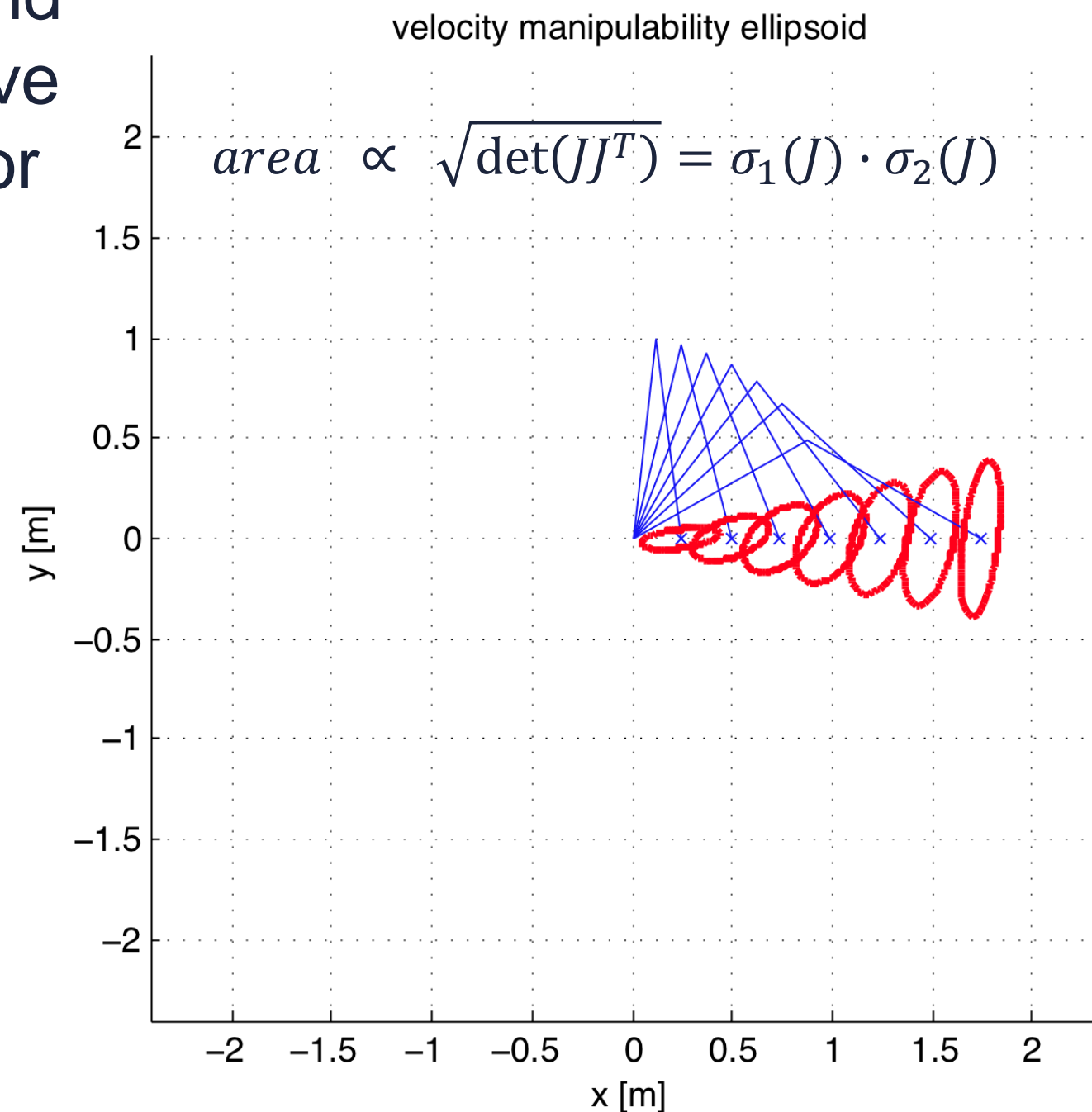




Velocity and Force Manipulability

Velocity and force manipulability
(dual comparison of actuation vs. control)
planar 2R arm with unitary links

note: velocity and force ellipsoids have a different scale for a better view



Cartesian **actuation** task (joint-to-task **high transformation** ratio): preferred velocity (or force) directions are those where the ellipsoid **stretches**



Cartesian **control** task (**low transformation** ratio = **high resolution**): preferred velocity (or force) directions are those where the ellipsoid **shrinks**



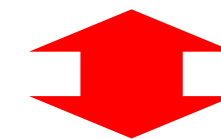
Velocity and Force Transformations

Velocity and force transformations

- same reasoning made for relating **end-effector to joint** forces/torques (virtual work principle + static equilibrium) used also transforming forces and torques applied **at different places of a rigid body** **and/or** expressed **in different reference frames**

transformation among generalized velocities

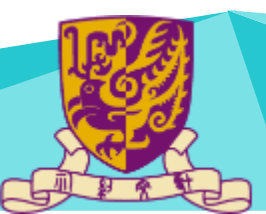
$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^A v_A \\ {}^A \omega \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B & - {}^A R_B S({}^B r_{BA}) \\ 0 & {}^A R_B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^B v_B \\ {}^B \omega \end{bmatrix} = J_{BA} \begin{bmatrix} {}^B v_B \\ {}^B \omega \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^B f_B \\ {}^B m \end{bmatrix} = J_{BA}^T \begin{bmatrix} {}^A f_A \\ {}^A m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^B R_A & 0 \\ -S^T({}^B r_{BA}) {}^B R_A & {}^B R_A \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^A f_A \\ {}^A m \end{bmatrix}$$

transformation among generalized forces

for skew-symmetric matrices, it is: $-S^T r = S(r)$

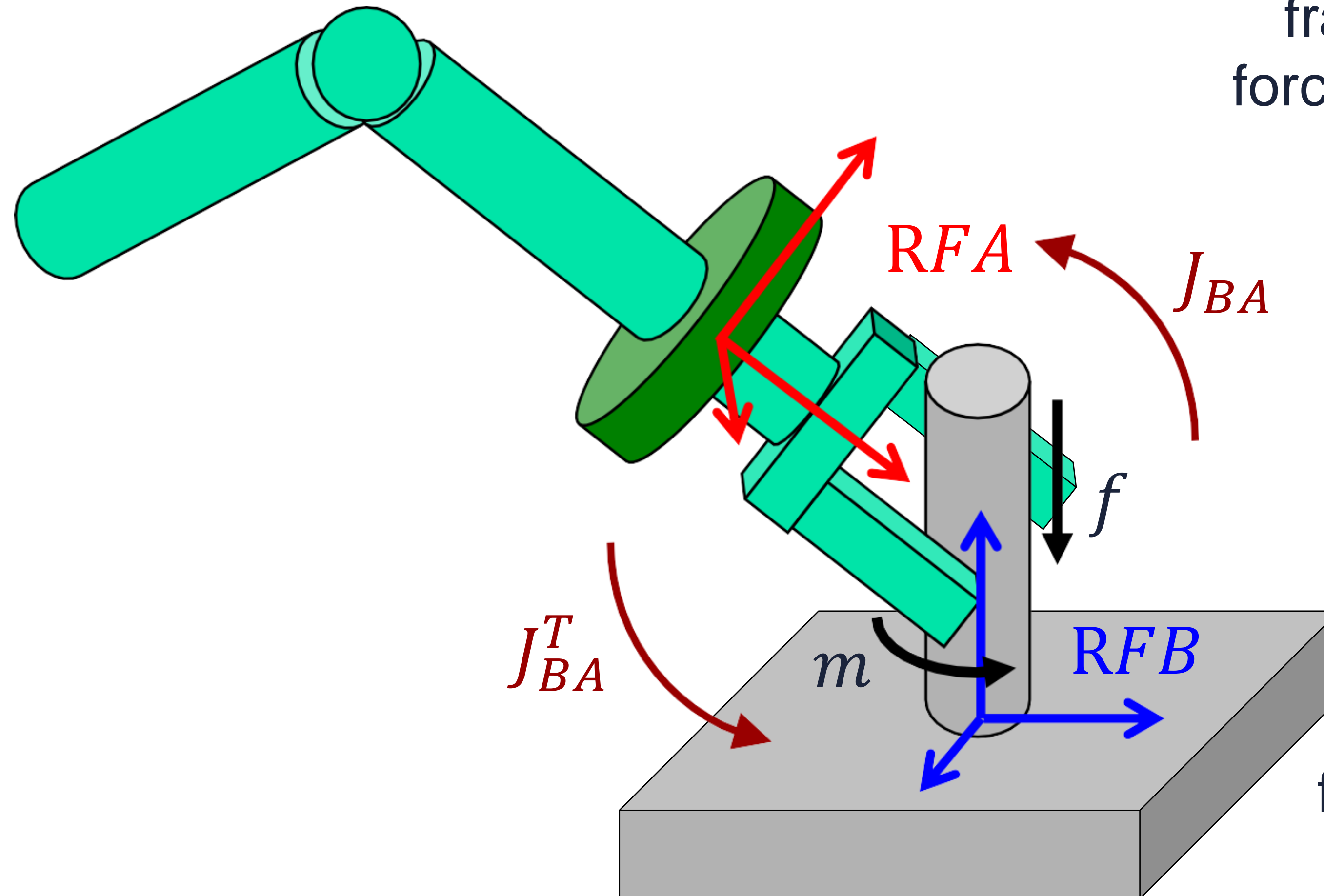




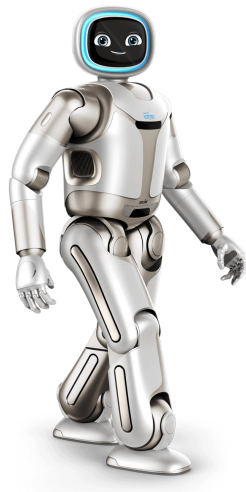
Example 1

Example: 6D force/torque sensor

frame of **measure** for the
forces/torques (attached to the
wrist sensor)



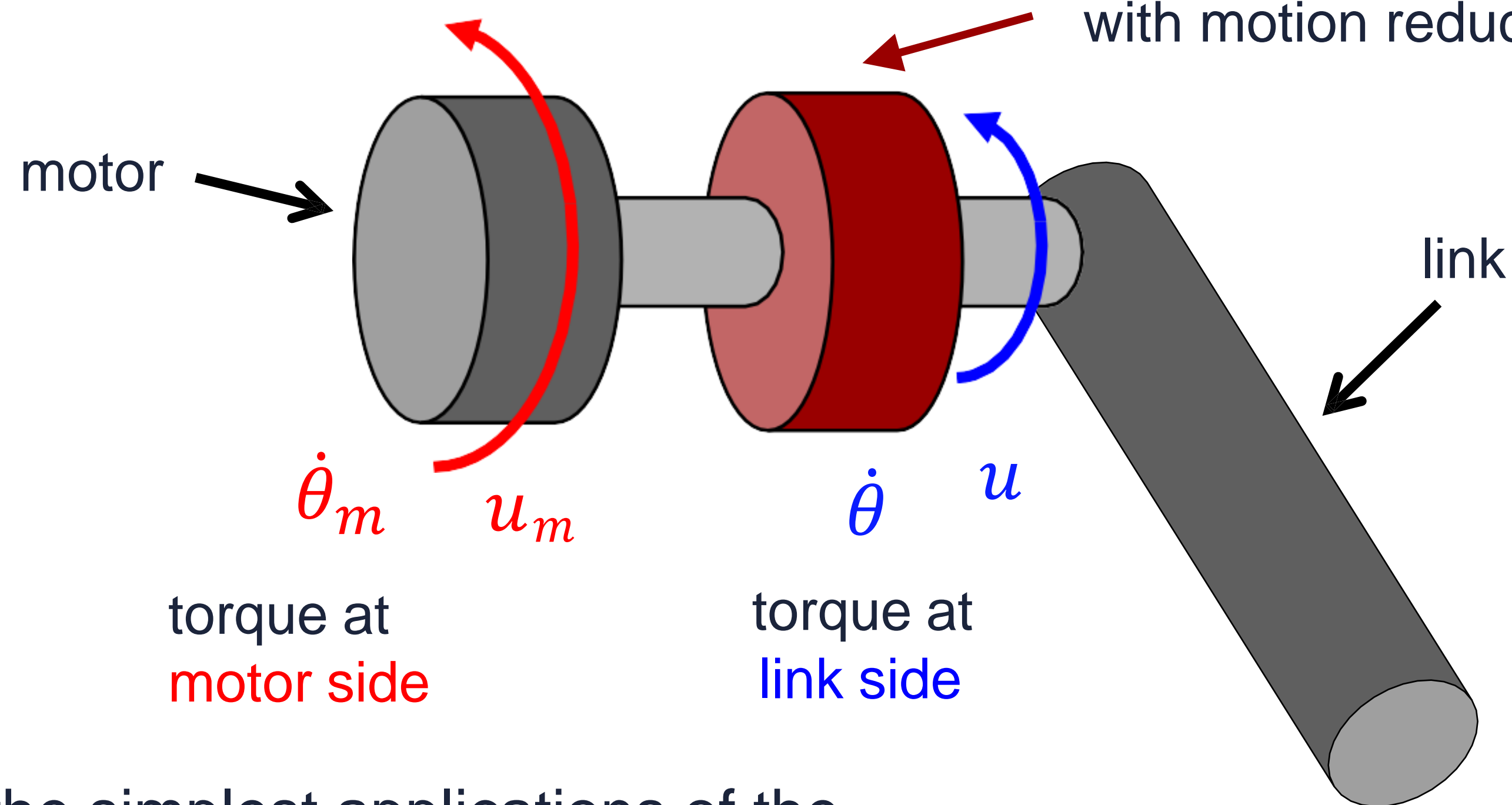
frame of **interest** for evaluating
forces/torques in a task with
environment contact



Example 2

Example: Gear reduction at joints

transmission element
with motion reduction ratio $N_r: 1$

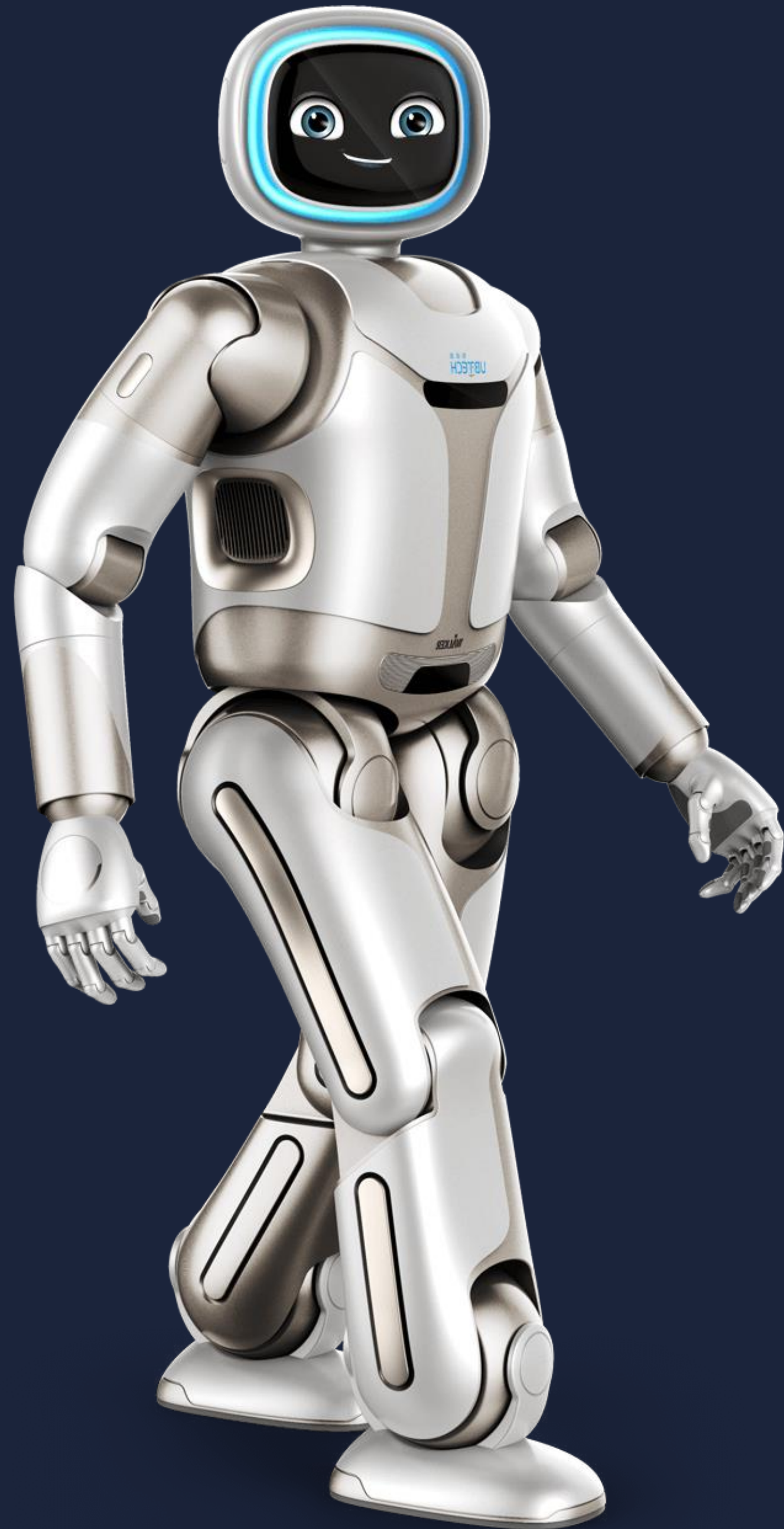


one of the simplest applications of the
principle of virtual work:

$$P_m = u_m \dot{\theta}_m = u \dot{\theta} = P$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\theta}_m &= N_r \dot{\theta} \\ u &= N_r u_m \end{aligned}$$

here, $J = J^T = N_r$ (a scalar!)



Q&A