



The Royal Academy
of Engineering



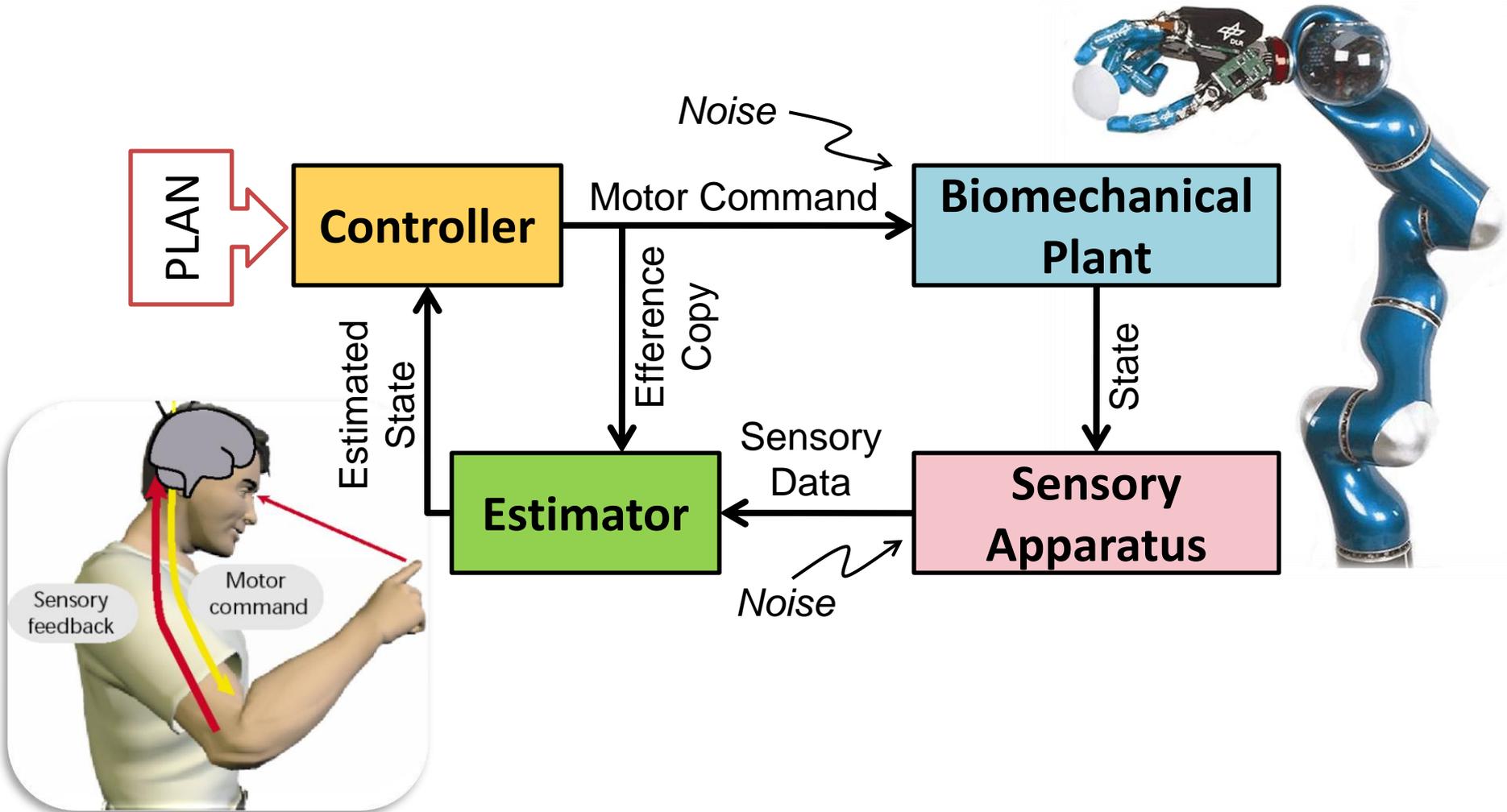
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Machine Learning Challenges for Sensorimotor Control

Sensorimotor Control



Sense, Plan, Move

Interesting **Machine Learning Challenges** in each domain

- **Sensing**

- Incomplete state information
- Unknown causal structure
- Noise

- **Planning**

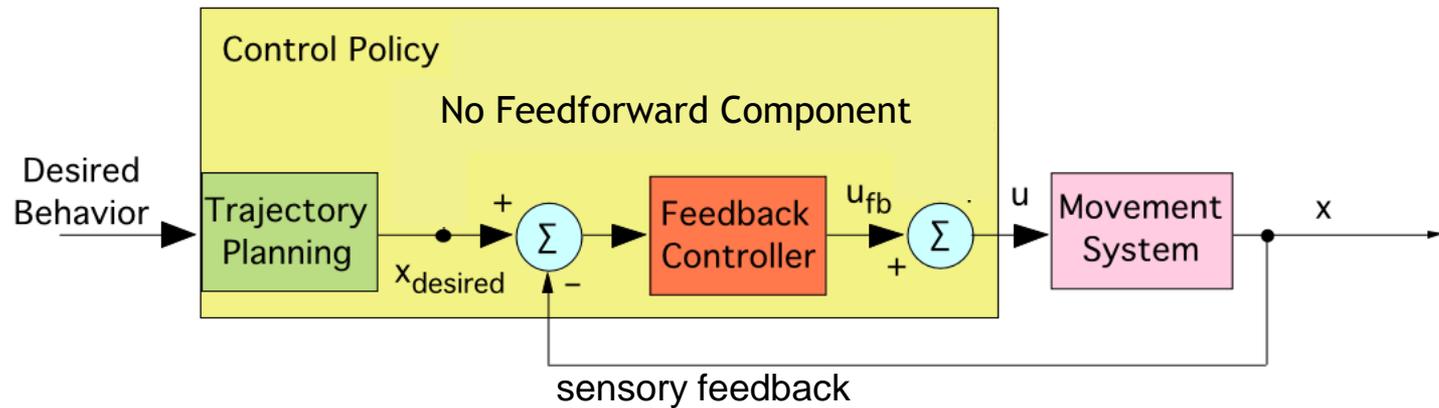
- Redundancy resolution
- Incomplete knowledge of appropriate optimization cost function

- **Moving**

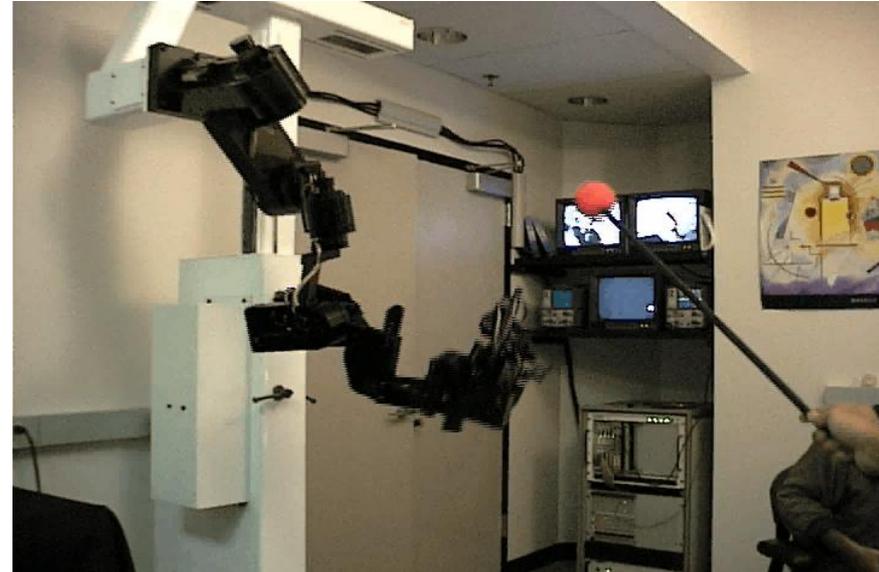
- Incomplete knowledge of (hard to model) nonlinear dynamics
- Dynamically changing motor functions: wear and tear/loads

Learning to Move

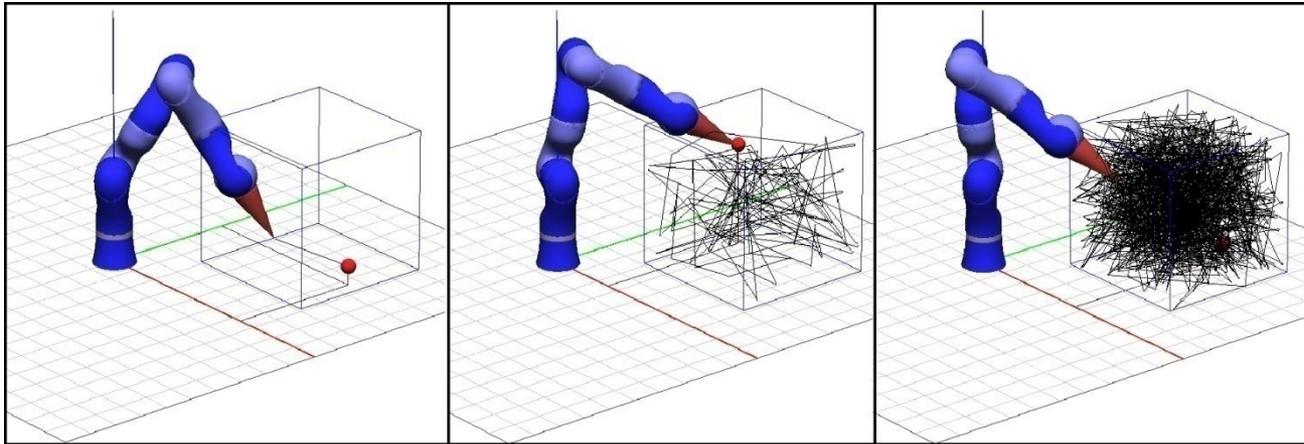
Feedforward Predictive Control



$$u_{fb} = k_p (x_{cur} - x_{des}) + k_d (\dot{x}_{cur} - \dot{x}_{des})$$



Data from Motor Babbling



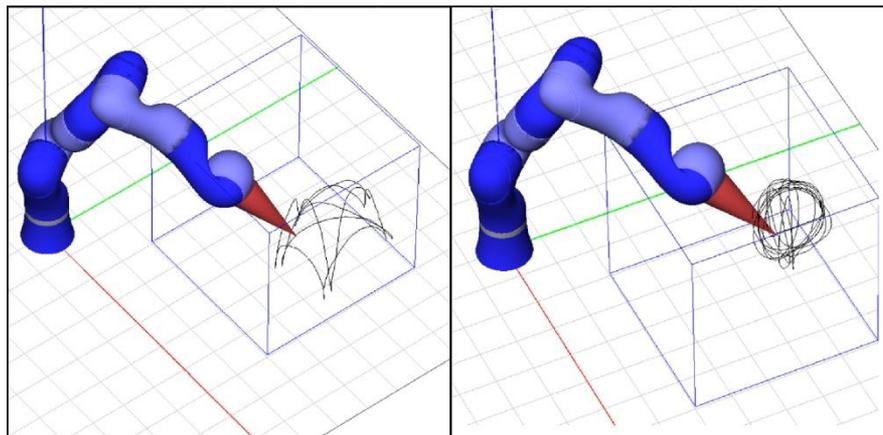
Random motions in a specified work area

$$\tau = f(\theta, \dot{\theta}, \ddot{\theta})$$

High Dimensional

Sampled at 500 Hz

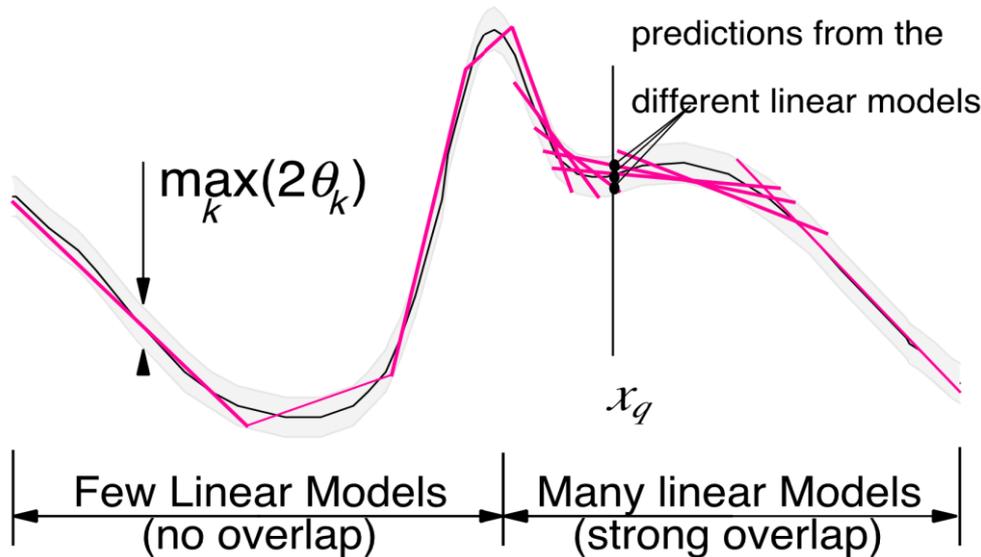
Need for real time results



Kinesthetic demo using a dynamic target

Local Weighted Learning

Approximate non-linear functions with a combination of multiple weighted linear models



$$w_{ii} = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_q)^T \mathbf{D}_k (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_q)\right)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\beta}_k = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{Y}$$

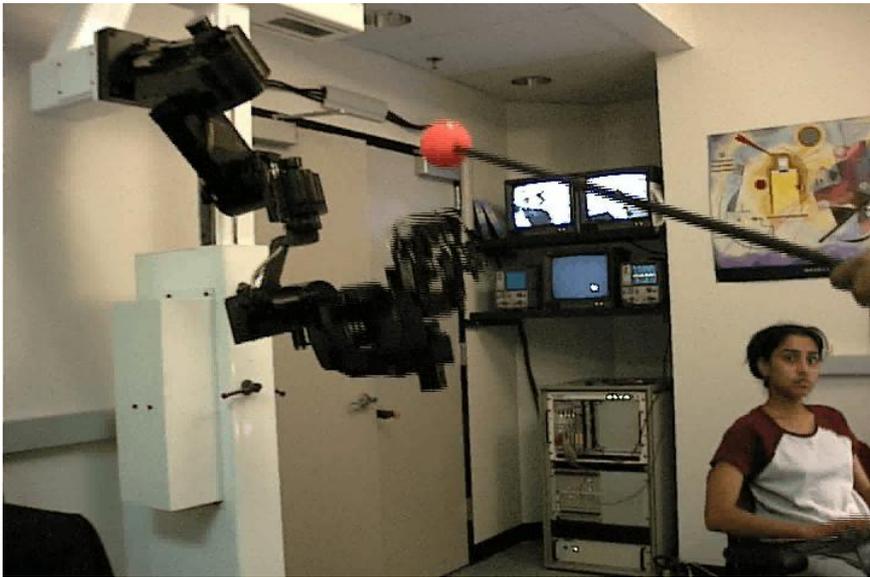
$$\hat{\mathbf{y}}_k = \mathbf{x}_q^T \boldsymbol{\beta}_k$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sum_k w_k \hat{\mathbf{y}}_k / \sum_k w_k$$

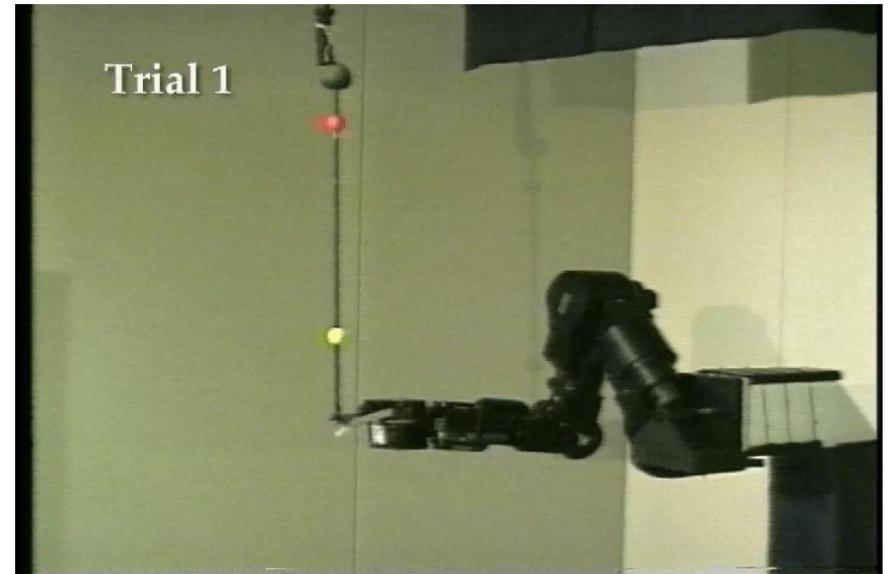
Solve this problem for high dimensional space: LWPR

Online Learning with LWPR

Learning the Internal Dynamics



Learning the Task Dynamics

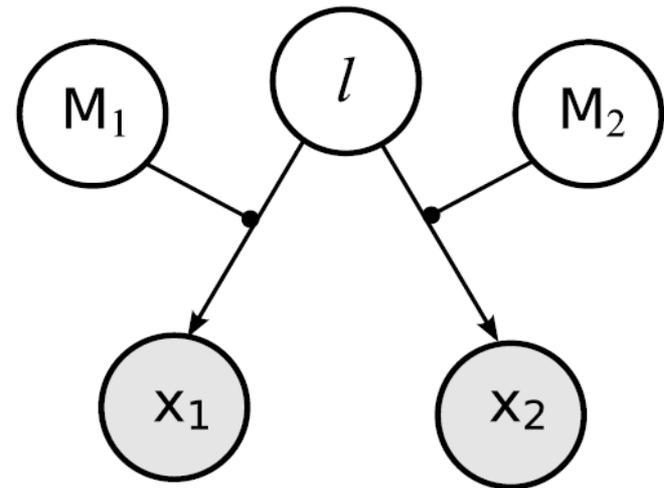


Learning to Sense

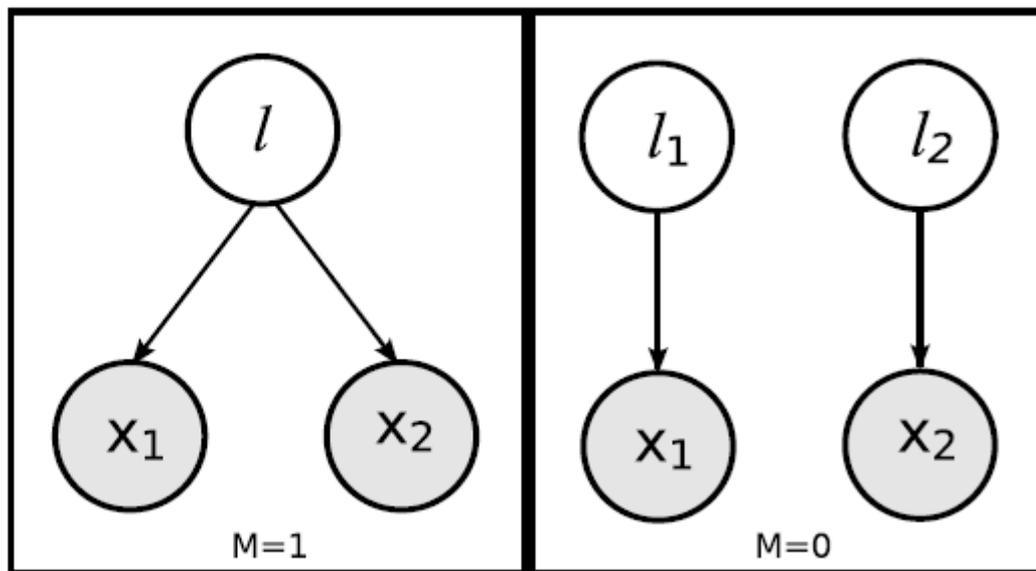
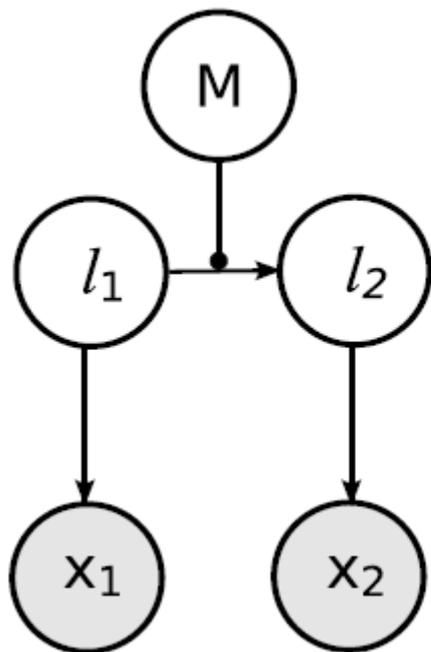
Bayesian Structure Inference

Cue integration under uncertain causal structure

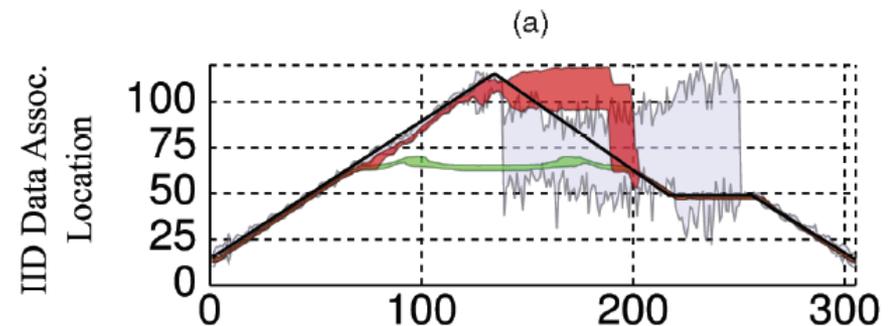
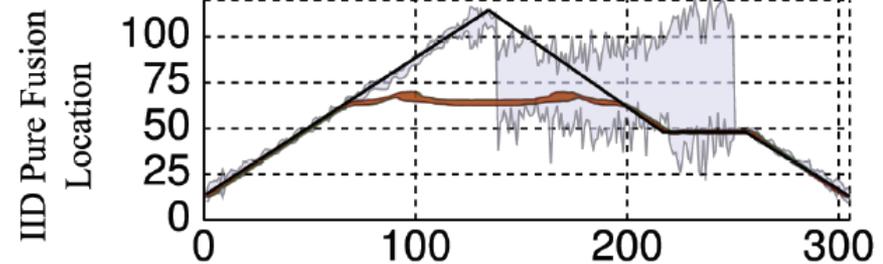
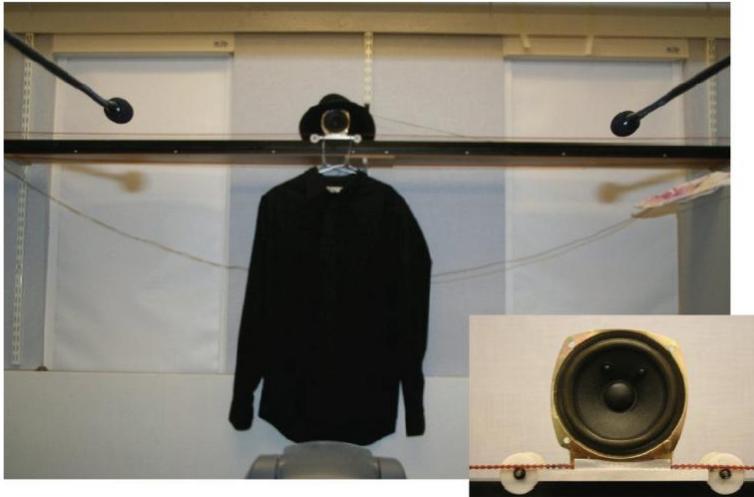
- Infer variables **and structure**
- e.g., AV localisation
 - Visible?
 - Audible?
 - Current state (Location)



Multi-object Inference

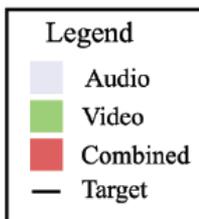


Systematic Testing



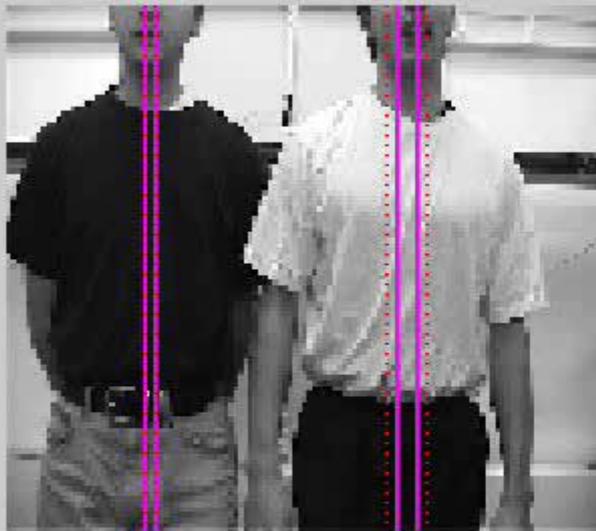
AUDIO SILENCE
VIDEO OCCLUSION

Frame



	Track %	Accuracy	ADR %	VDR %
Aud Only	72.3 ± 2.5	2.57 ± 0.08	-	-
Vid Only	65.6 ± 1.1	2.52 ± 0.01	-	-
PF IID	65.6 ± 1.1	2.52 ± 0.01	-	-
PF Filt	65.6 ± 1.1	2.52 ± 0.01	-	-
DA IID	81.5 ± 2.4	2.67 ± 0.01	96.7 ± 10.2	100±0
DA Filt	86.3 ± 2.6	2.70 ± 0.01	96.7 ± 10.2	100±0

Who said what?



User 1 visible.



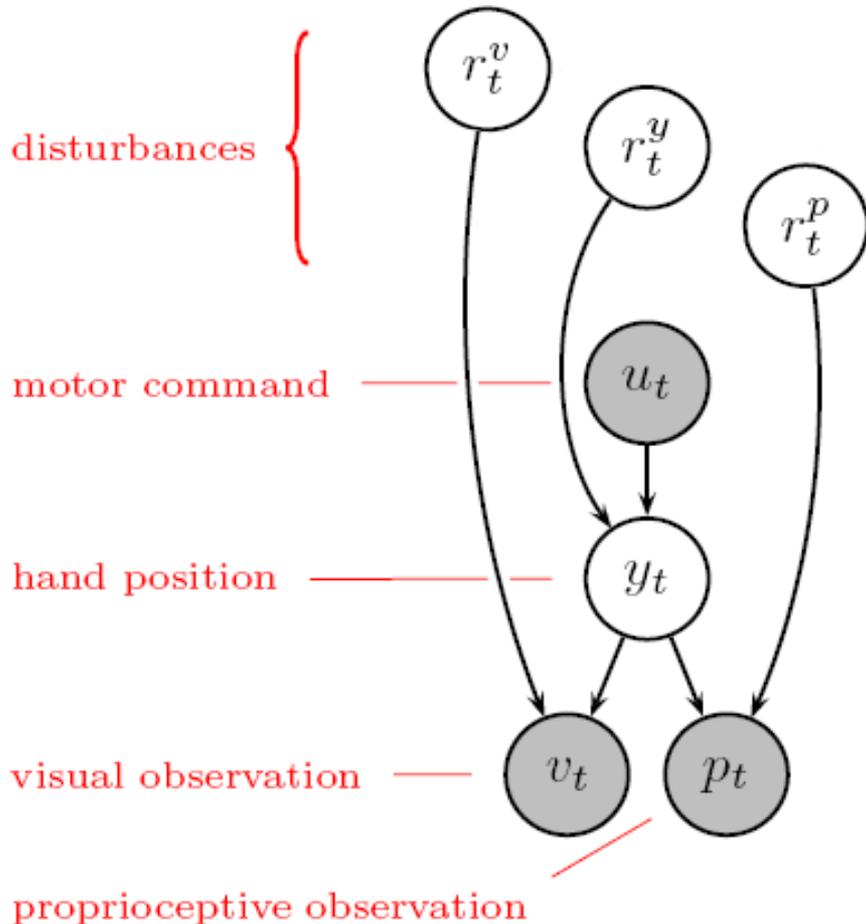
User 2 visible.



User 1 silent.

User 2 silent.

Unifying the Sensory & Motor Components of Adaptation



- Motor disturbance affects hand position

$$y_t = u_t + r_t + \epsilon_t$$

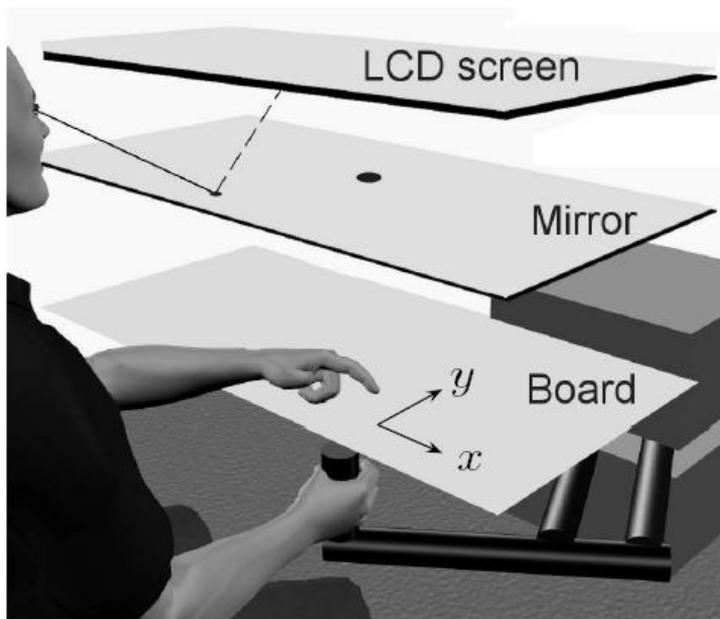
- Sensory disturbances affect observations

$$v_t = y_t + r_t^v + \epsilon_t^v$$

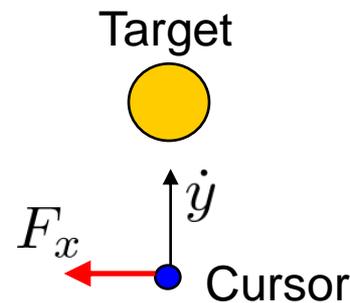
$$p_t = y_t + r_t^p + \epsilon_t^p$$

Theory driven experiments

- Test whether force field exposure leads to sensory adaptation
 - Experimental setup and design:



- Reaches in a single direction
- Lateral force applied to hand
 - Forward velocity-dependent



$$F_x = -a\dot{y}$$

Some interesting results

- Sensory and motor adaptation are **NOT** independent
 - Motor adaptation leads to sensory recalibration (after-effects) even without introducing any sensory discrepancy

Learning to Plan

Optimal Feedback Control (OFC) for planning

Known: Start & end states, fixed-time horizon T and **system dynamics**

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})dt + \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})d\boldsymbol{\omega}.$$

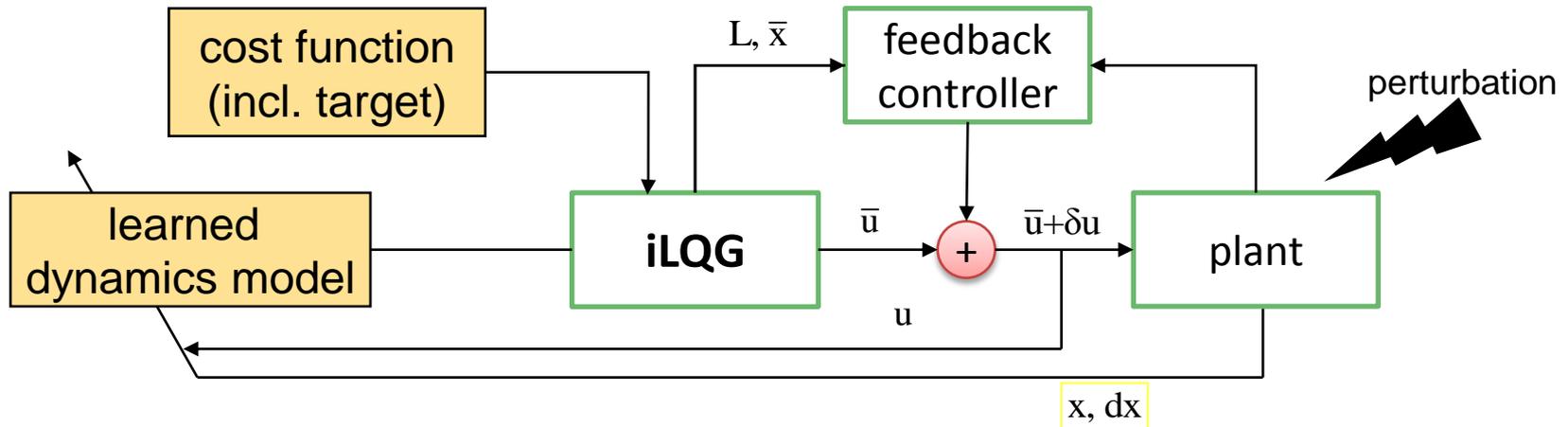
Control as a result of an optimisation process of some cost function.

$$v^{\pi}(t, \mathbf{x}) \triangleq \mathbb{E} \left[h(\mathbf{x}(T)) + \int_t^T \ell(\tau, \mathbf{x}(\tau), \boldsymbol{\pi}(\tau, \mathbf{x}(\tau))) d\tau \right]$$

Aim: find control law π^* that minimizes $v^{\pi}(0, \mathbf{x}_0)$.

iLQG-L(earned) D(ynamics)

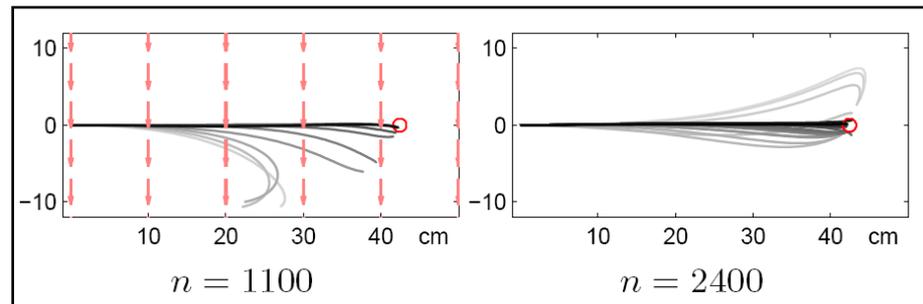
iLQG-LD uses a LWPR-learned forward dynamic model of the plant.



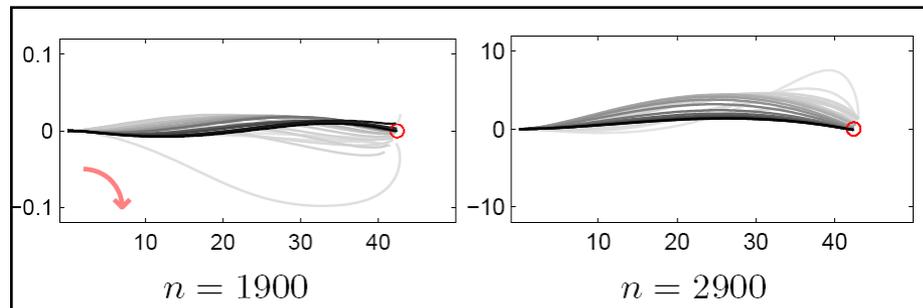
iLQG-LD: Advantages

Can **predict** the “ideal observer” **adaptation behaviour** under complex force fields due to the ability to work with adaptive dynamics

Constant Unidirectional Force Field



Velocity-dependent Divergent Force Field



Cost Function:

$$v = w_p |\mathbf{q}_K - \mathbf{q}_{tar}|^2 + w_v |\dot{\mathbf{q}}_K|^2 + w_e \sum_{k=0}^K |\mathbf{u}_k|^2 \Delta t.$$

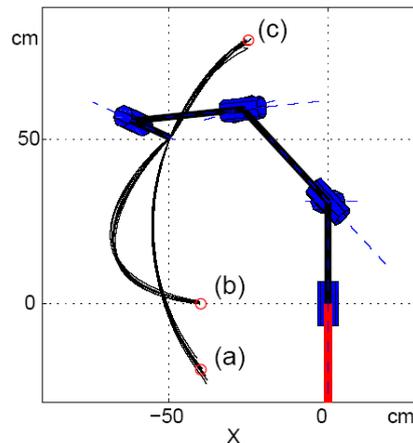
iLQG-LD: Advantages

Reproduces the “trial-to-trial” variability in the uncontrolled manifold, i.e., exhibits the **minimum intervention principle** that is characteristic of human motor control.

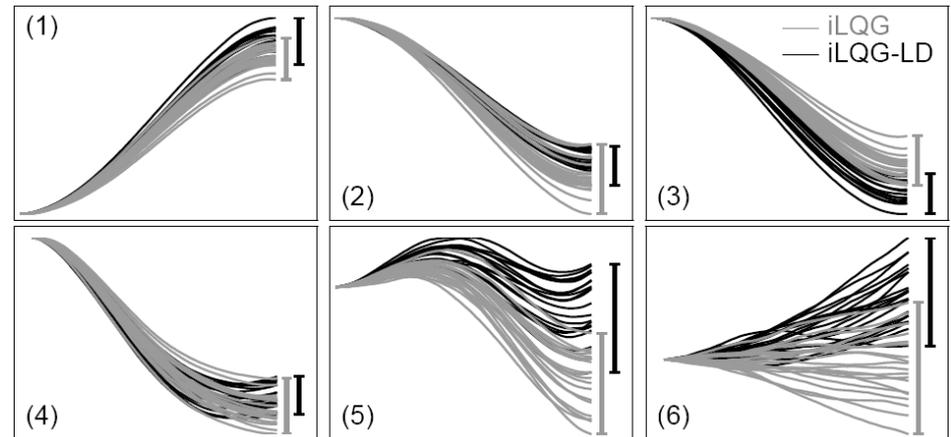
DLR LWR III



Simulink Model

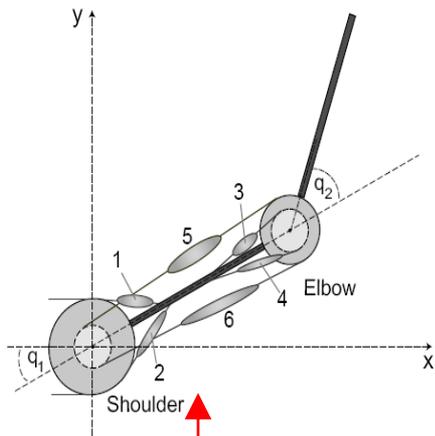


Minimum intervention principle



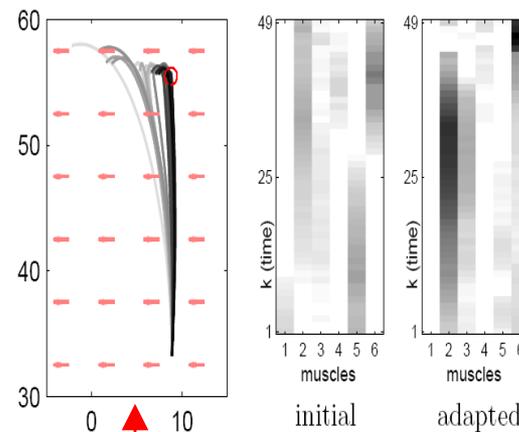
iLQG-LD in Variable Impedance Actuators

Preliminary results suggest iLQG-LD can be used as an effective control strategy in **redundant, co-actuated, variable stiffness** actuators.

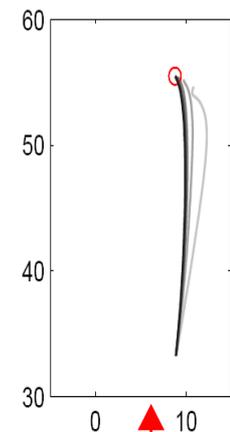


2 joint and
6 antagonistic muscles

Muscle plots:
Minimal co-contraction remains



Constant force field
→ Online adaptation!



Overshoot
→ Online re-anneal

Learning from demonstration

Learning to Wash a Car

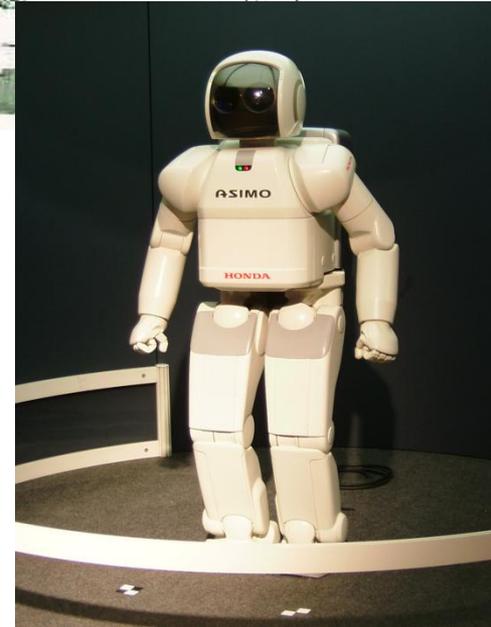
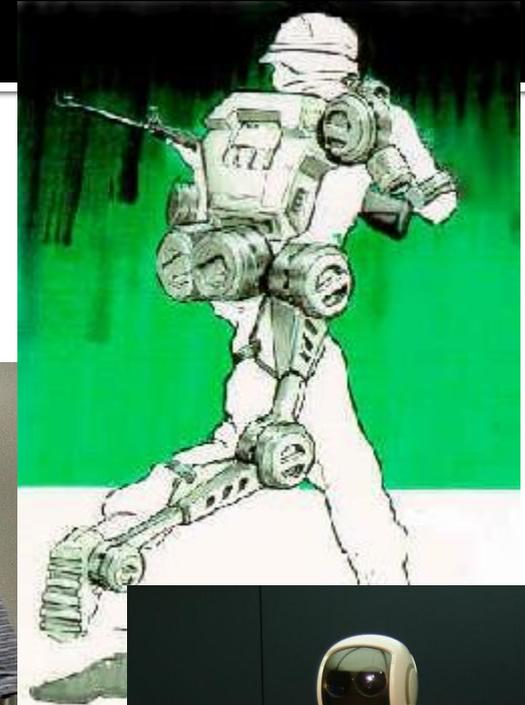
Variable Constraint Direct Policy Learning

Matthew Howard, Stefan Klanke, Michael Gienger
Christian Goerick, Sethu Vijayakumar



Why do we care?

- Rehabilitation Robotics
- Entertainment Robotics
- Exoskeletons



... involve much closer human-robot interactions !!

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The SLMC research group (Statistical Learning & Motor Control)

- Dr. Stefan Klanke
- Narayanan Edakunni
- Matthew Howard
- Adrian Haith
- Sebastian Bitzer
- Djordje Mitrovic
- Chris Towell
- Konrad Rawlik

- Alumni: Dr. Graham McNeill, Dr. Timothy Hospedales,
Dr. Giorgos Petkos