## Summary: main conceptual points

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#### Dynamical system

#### present determines the future

dx/dt=f(x)



#### Dynamical systems

**fixed point** = constant solution

neighboring initial conditions converge = attractor



#### Bifurcations are instabilities

In families of dynamical systems, which depend (smoothly) on parameters, the solutions change qualitatively at bifurcations

at which fixed points change stability



## Basic ideas of attractor dynamics 2 approach

behavioral variables

- time courses from dynamical system: attractors
- tracking attractors
- bifurcations for flexibility

## Behavioral variables: example

2

vehicle moving in
2D: heading
direction

constraints: obstacle avoidance and target acquisition





behavioral constraint: target acquisition





obs

arbitrary, but fixed reference axis

robot

#### **Behavioral dynamics**



specified value

📕 strength

📕 range



#### Behavioral dynamics: bifurcations 2

constraints not in conflict



#### **Behavioral dynamics**

#### Constraints in conflict



#### **Behavioral dynamics**

transition from "constraints not in conflict" to "constraints in conflict" is a bifurcation



## In a stable state at all times

2



#### Obstacle avoidance: sub-symbolic 4

obstacles need not be segmented

do not care if obstacles are one or multiple: avoid them anyway...





[from: Bicho, Jokeit, Schöner]

#### Bifurcations



# 2nd order attractor dynamics to explain human navigation



[Fajen Warren...]

#### model-experiment match: goal

30

20

10

-10

-20

-30└ -30

30

20

10

-10

-20

-30

-25

-20

-15

-10

¢ (deg/s)

-25 -20 -15

-20

2 m

4 m

8 m

∳ (deg/s)



#### model-experiment match: obstacle





#### model







#### Relative vs. absolute timing



#### Neural oscillator

relaxation oscillator

$$\tau \dot{u} = -u + h_u + w_{uu} f(u) - w_{uv} f(v)$$
  
$$\tau \dot{v} = -v + h_v + w_{vu} f(u),$$



[Amari 77]

#### Coordination from coupling

coordination=stable relative timing emerges from coupling of neural oscillators





[Schöner: Timing, Clocks, and Dynamical Systems. Brain and Cognition 48:31-51 (2002)]



Schöner, Kelso (Science, 1988)



#### Dynamics Movement Primitives

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#### Spaces for robotic motion planning 9

kinematic model  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(\theta)$   $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{J}(\theta)\dot{\theta}$ 

inverse kinematic model  $\theta = \mathbf{f}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$   $\dot{\theta} = \mathbf{J}^{-1}(\theta)\dot{\mathbf{x}}$ 

- transform end-effector to configuration space through inverse kinematics
- problems of singularities and multiple "leafs" of inverse...



## Degree of freedom problem in human movement

#### what is a DoF?

variable that can be independently varied

e.g. joint angles

#### muscles/muscle groups

but: assess to which extent they can be activated independently... x=



 $\begin{aligned} \mathsf{x} &= \mathsf{I}_1 \cos(\theta_1) + \mathsf{I}_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + \mathsf{I}_3 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3) \\ \mathsf{y} &= \mathsf{I}_2 \sin(\theta_1) + \mathsf{I}_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + \mathsf{I}_3 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3) \end{aligned}$ 

.. mode picture

#### Concept of the UnControlled Manifold 9

the many DoF are coordinated such that changes that affect the taskrelevant dimensions are resisted against more than changes that do not affect task relevant dimension

leading to compensation





## UCM synergy: data analysis

- align trials in time
- hypothesis about task variable
- compute null-space (tangent to the UCM)
- predict more variance within null space than perpendicular to it





# Example 2: shooting with 7 DoF arm at targets in 3D



[from Scholz, Schöner, Latash: EBR 135:382 (2000]

# Example 2: shooting with 7 DoF arm at targets in 3D



#### UCM synergy: decoupling

motor commands



insert a perturbation here

compensatory change here

#### Example 3: posture

Inverted pendulum hypothesis predicts the opposite than UCM

x10<sup>-3</sup>

CM

but: find signature of UCM synergy



#### UCM synergy: from feedback



Reimann, Schöner, Biological Cybernetics 2017

#### Movement entails change of posture

- muscle-joint systems have an equilibrium point during posture that is stable against transient perturbation
- that equilibrium point is shifted during movement so that after the movement, the postural state exists around a new combination of muscle lengths/joint configurations





#### Architecture



[Zibner, Tekülve, Schöner, ICDL 2015]