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 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





Potential field approach



spurious attractors in potential field approach



Spaces for robotic motion planning 8/9

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...



Redundant kinematics

- redundant arms/tasks: more joints than tasklevel degrees of freedom
- => (continuously) many inverse solutions...



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







Relative vs. absolute timing activation threshold V _**≻**|[|]∢ absolute timing time relative phase=DT/T

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)]

Dynamics Movement Primitives

(not relevant for exam)

Open-chain manipulator

L

$$M(\theta)\ddot{\theta} + C(\theta,\dot{\theta})\dot{\theta} + N(\theta,\dot{\theta}) = \tau$$

inertial centrifugal/ gravitational active torques

Control



enerate joint torques that produce a desired motion... θ_d

PD control $\tau = -K_v \dot{e} - K_p e$,

where $e = \theta - \theta_d$.

$$M(\theta)\ddot{\theta} + C(\theta,\dot{\theta})\dot{\theta} + N(\theta,\dot{\theta}) = \tau$$



- Control law:
- disturbances modeled stochastically

[Dorf, Bischop, 2011]

Human motor control

posture resists when pushed => is actively controlled = stabilized by feedback

invariant characteristic

🗖 one lambda per muscle

co-contraction controls stiffness





=>experiment

based on spinal reflexes

stretch reflex



[Kandel, Schartz, Jessell, Fig. 37-11]

Exam

concepts:

multiple choice questions

free text discussion questions

dynamical systems concepts

graphically illustrating/interpreting dynamical systems

"mental simulation"

using dynamical systems concepts to conceive of human/robotic behaviors