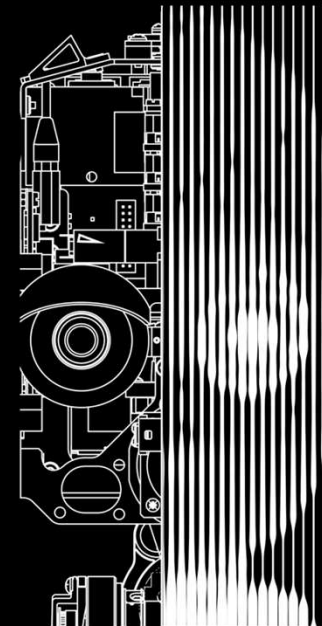




ISTITUTO ITALIANO
DI TECNOLOGIA
ARTIFICIAL AND MECHANICAL
INTELLIGENCE

Bringing the iCub Humanoid Towards Real-World Applications

Daniele Pucci





The population aged 65 years or more in EU will reach 129.8 million by 2050. [Source](#)



In Europe, chronic RMDs affect more than 120 million¹.
3.3% European GDP spent on occupational injuries²
[Source-\[1\]](#), [Source-\[2\]](#)

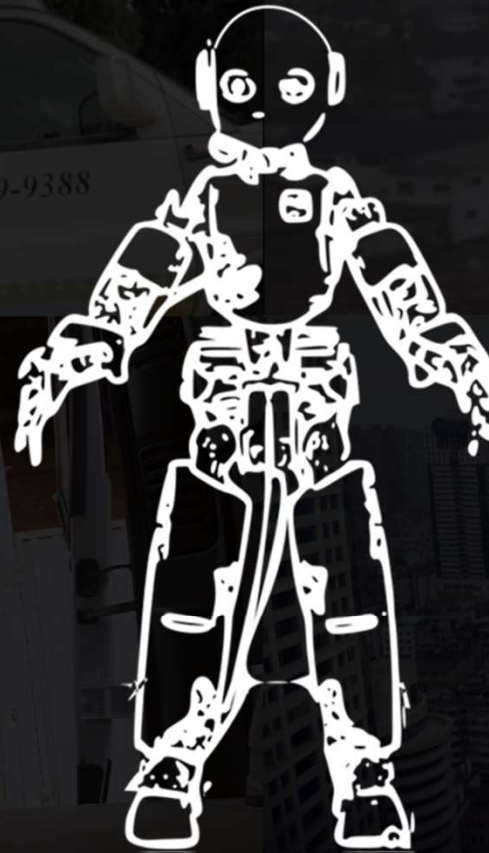
Natural disasters kill on average 45,000 people per year, globally
[Source](#)



On April 3rd 2020, more than 3.9 billion people, or half of the world's population, have been asked/ordered to stay at home.
[Source](#)

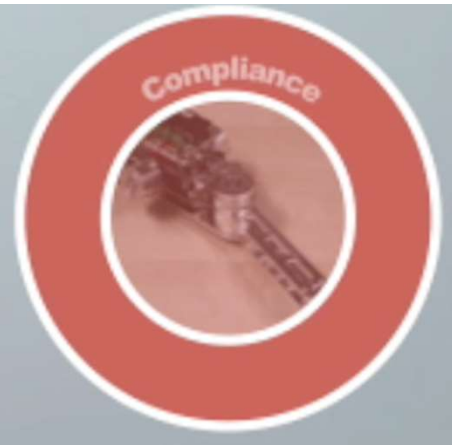
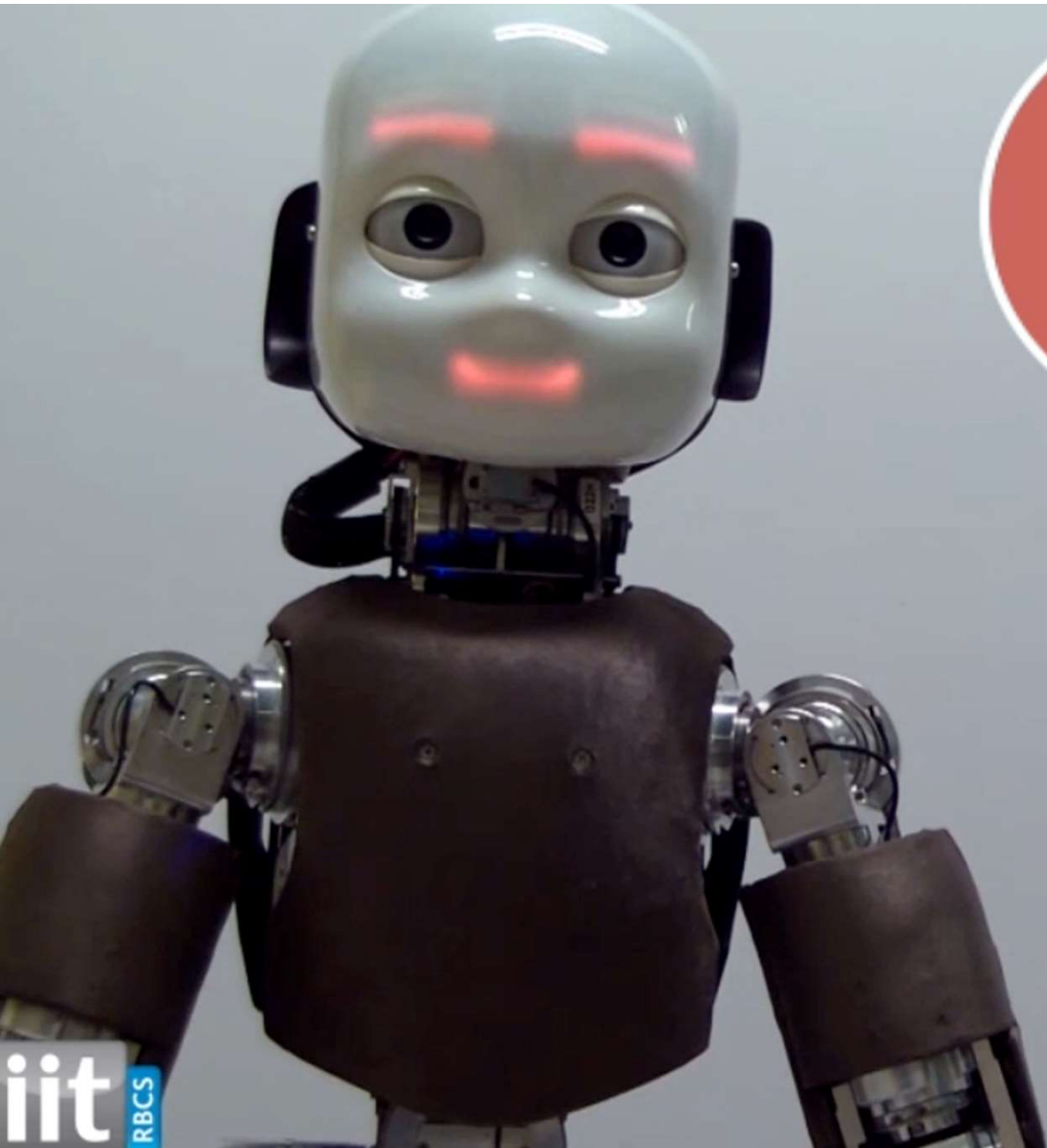


Develop new tools,
in the form of humanoids



WUHAN
CHINA

... starting from iCub



Our Missions



ami.iit.it



github.com/ami-iit

1. Evolve iCub for real applications: research on Embodied AI
2. Technology transfer from research to companies



Our Missions



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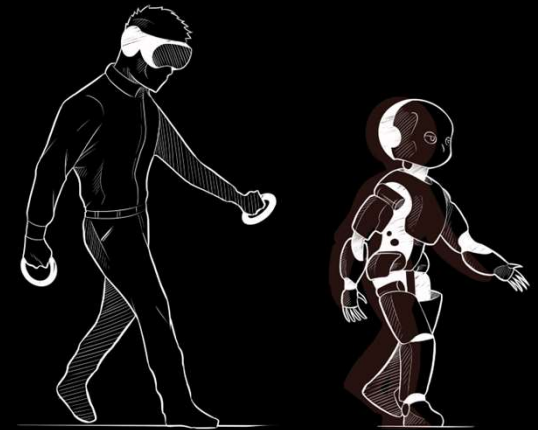
1. Evolve iCub for real applications: research on Embodied AI



Human-Robot Collaboration



Aerial Humanoid Robotics



Avatar Systems

Our Missions



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1. Evolve iCub for real applications: research on Embodied AI



Our Missions



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1. Evolve iCub for real applications: research on Embodied AI

Why and When MathWorks Tools?

1. Lower barriers for non-expert coders
2. Fast analysis, rapid prototyping and deployment



How to evolve iCub towards applications?

$$M(q, \pi)\dot{\nu} + C(q, \nu, \pi)\nu + g(q, \pi) = J^\top F_{\text{muscle}} + J^\top F_{\text{ext}}$$

$q \in SE(3) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ π : Body and muscle parameters $\nu \in se(3) \times \mathbb{R}^n$



Simplified
and
constrained



Robot (/+) Human

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u, \pi)$$
$$0 = g(x, \pi)$$

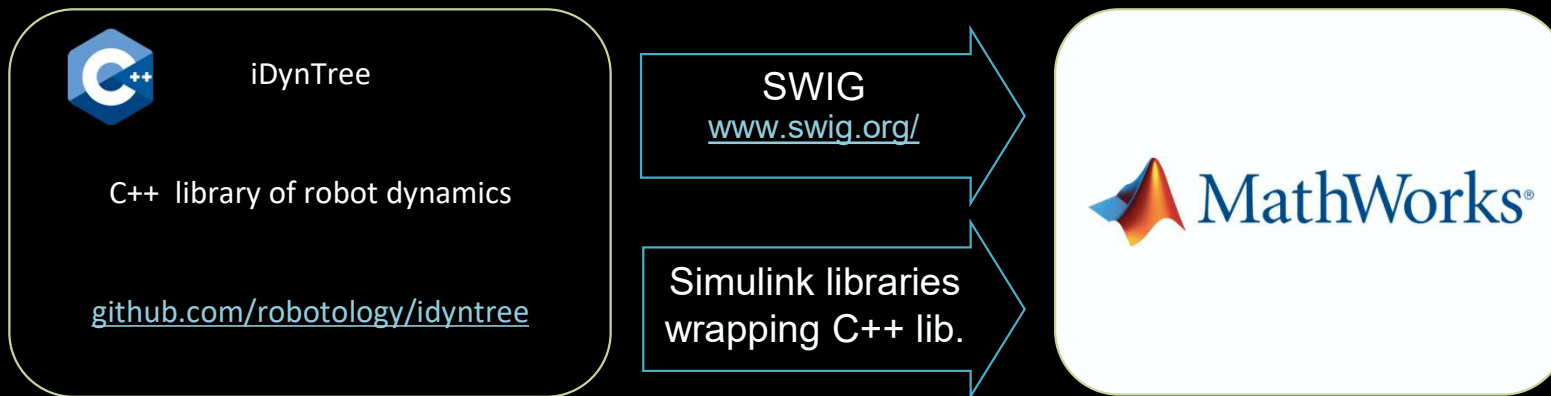
github.com/ami-iit/human-model-generator

github.com/ami-iit/mvnx-to-urdf

github.com/ami-iit/ADAM

github.com/robotology/idyntree

From C++ to Matlab & Simulink

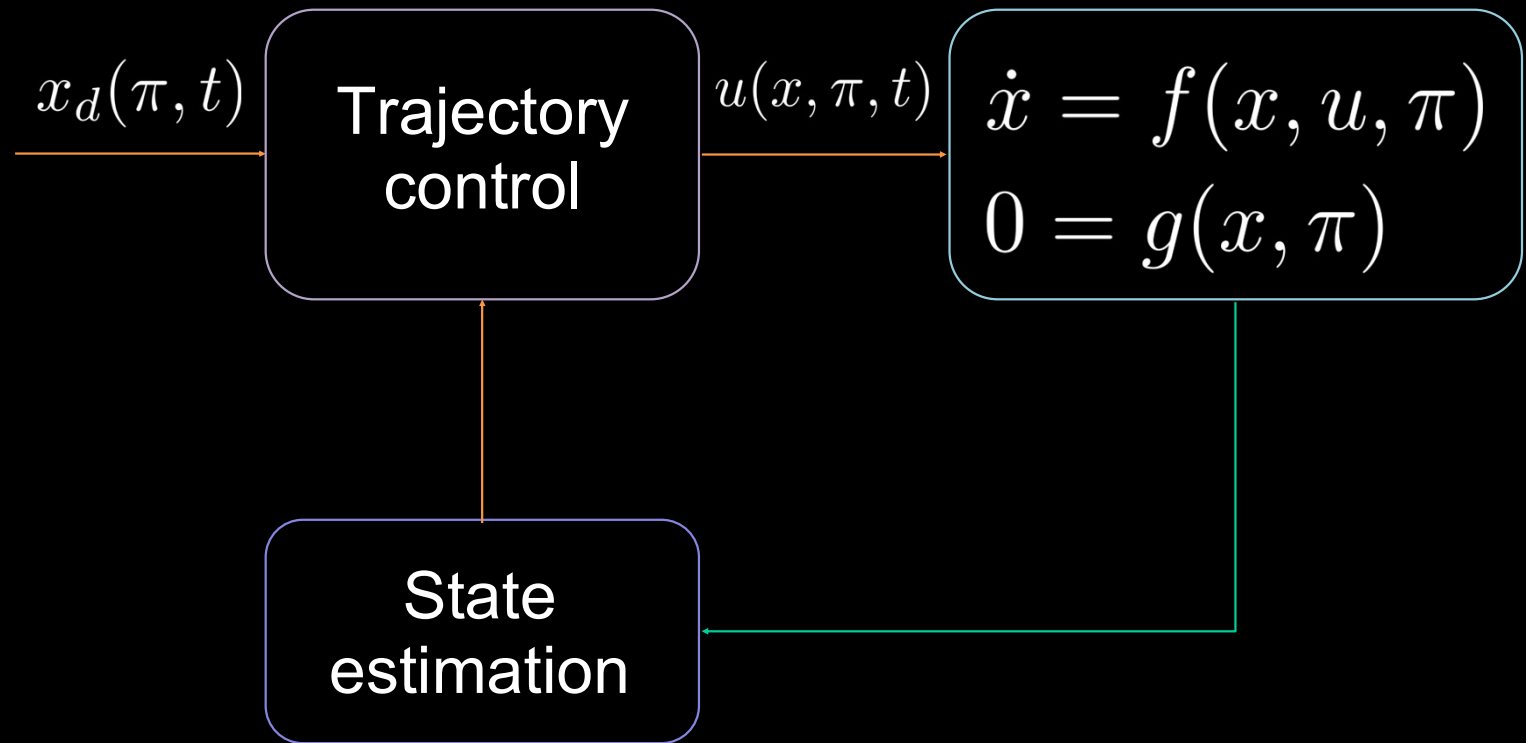


Simulink libraries that wrap C++ libraries

- **BlockFactory**: A tiny framework to wrap algorithms for dataflow programming, including Simulink.
robotology.github.io/blockfactory
- **WB-Toolbox**: Library that uses BlockFactory to wrap iDynTree functionalities and make them available as Simulink blocks.
robotology.github.io/wb-toolbox

Simulation and control?

Robot (/+) Human



From C++ to Matlab & Simulink



Pure MATLAB/Simulink Libraries

- **matlab-whole-body-simulator:** a simulator for the humanoid robots implemented in Simulink.
github.com/ami-iit/matlab-whole-body-simulator
- **whole-body-controllers:** Simulink-based whole-body controllers for humanoid robots
github.com/robotology/whole-body-controllers

A Flexible MATLAB/Simulink Simulator for Robotic Floating-base Systems in Contact with the Ground

Nuno Guedelha*[†], Venus Pasandi*[†], Giuseppe L'Erario*, Silvio Traversaro*, and Daniele Pucci*

* *Artificial and Mechanical Intelligence, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, Genova, Italy, firstname.lastname@iit.it*

[†] These two authors contributed equally to this work.

Open Source Robotics-Research Article

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
ADVANCED ROBOTIC SYSTEMS

A generic synchronous dataflow architecture to rapidly prototype and deploy robot controllers

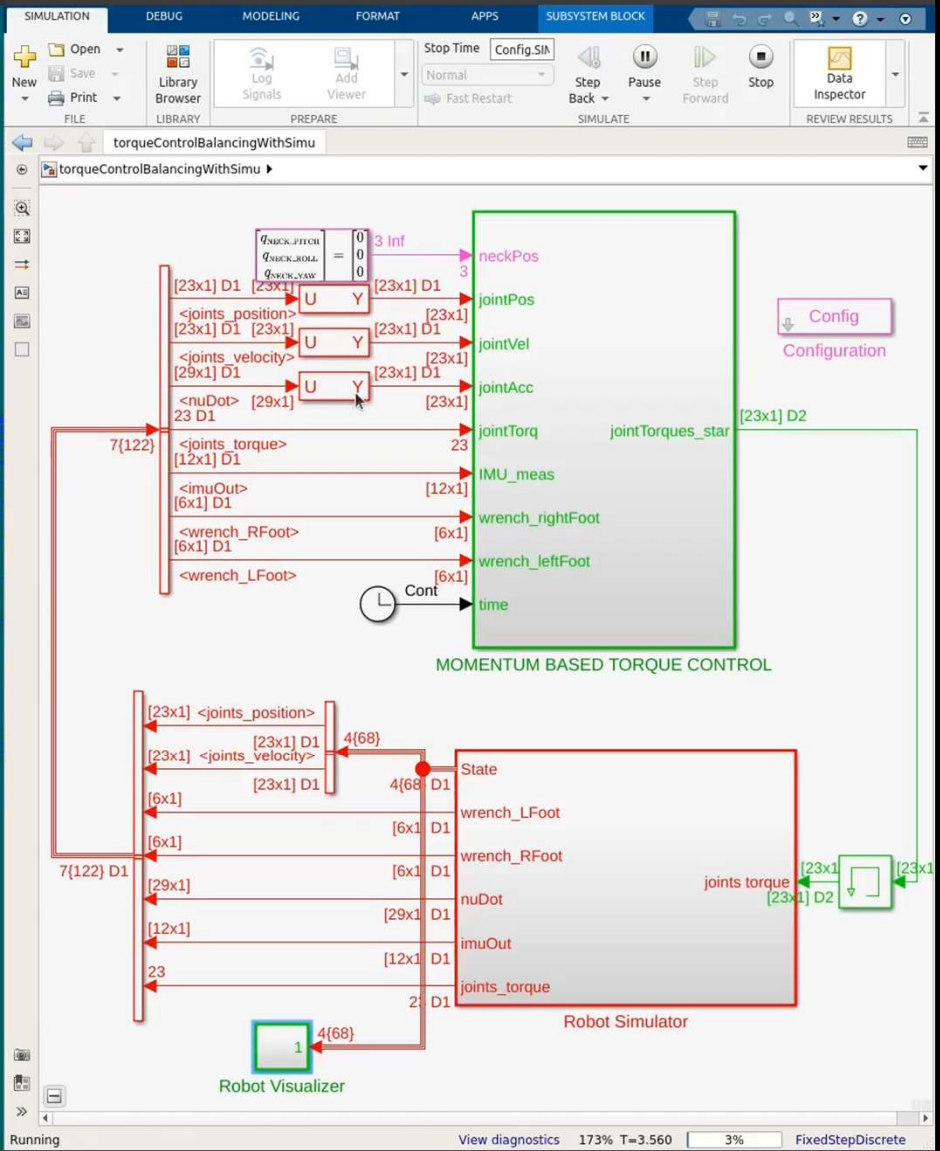
Diego Ferigo^{1,2} , Silvio Traversaro¹, Francesco Romano¹ and Daniele Pucci¹

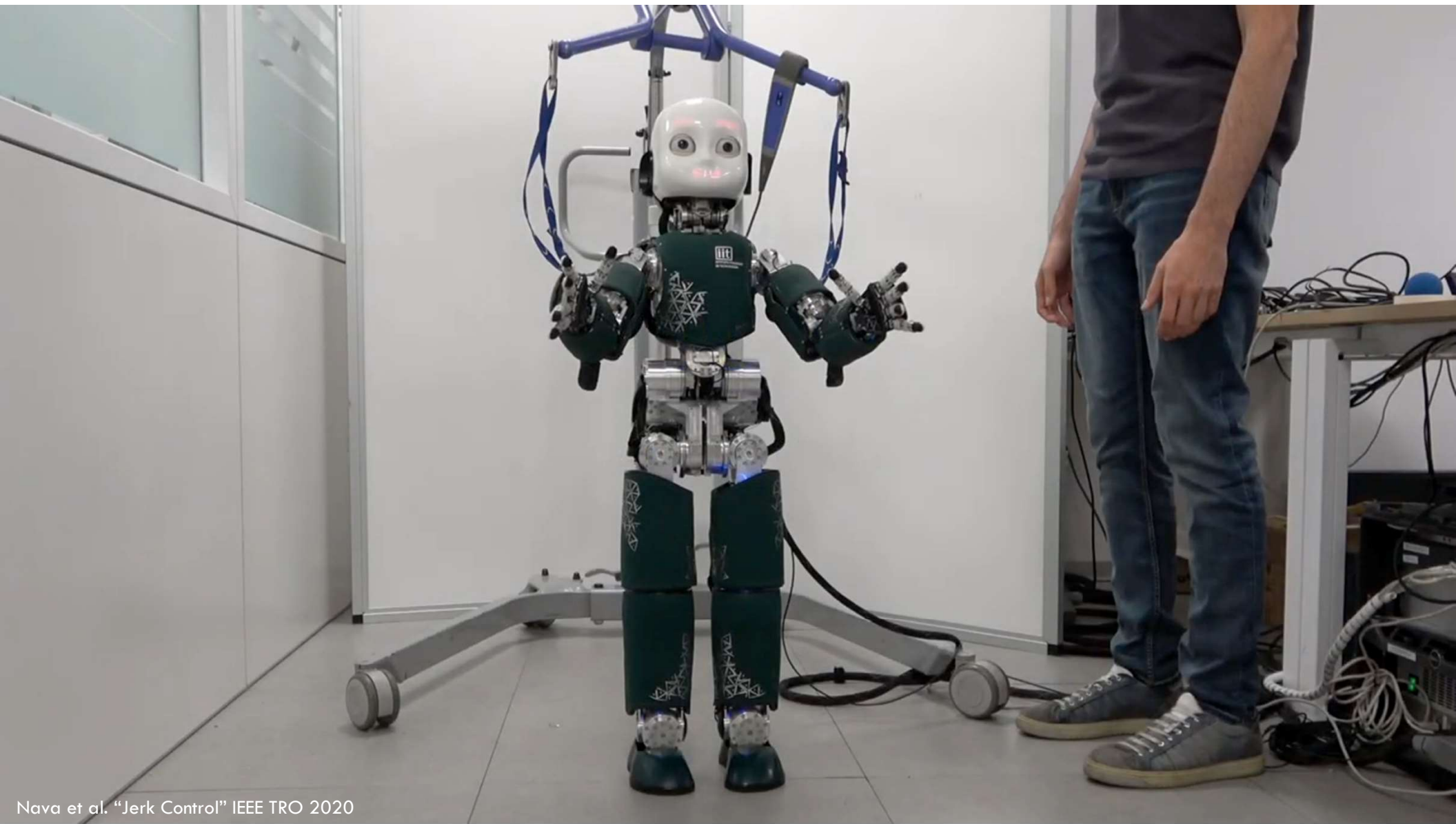
Abstract

The article presents a software architecture to optimize the process of prototyping and deploying robot controllers that are synthesized using model-based design methodologies. The architecture is composed of a framework and a pipeline. Therefore, the contribution of the article is twofold. First, we introduce an open-source actor-oriented framework that abstracts the common robotic uses of middlewares, optimizers, and simulators. Using this framework, we then present a pipeline that implements the model-based design methodology. The components of the proposed framework are generic, and they can be interfaced with any tool supporting model-based design. We demonstrate the effectiveness of the approach describing the application of the resulting synchronous dataflow architecture to the design of a balancing controller for the YARP-based humanoid robot iCub. This example exploits the interfacing with Simulink[®] and Simulink[®] Coder[™].

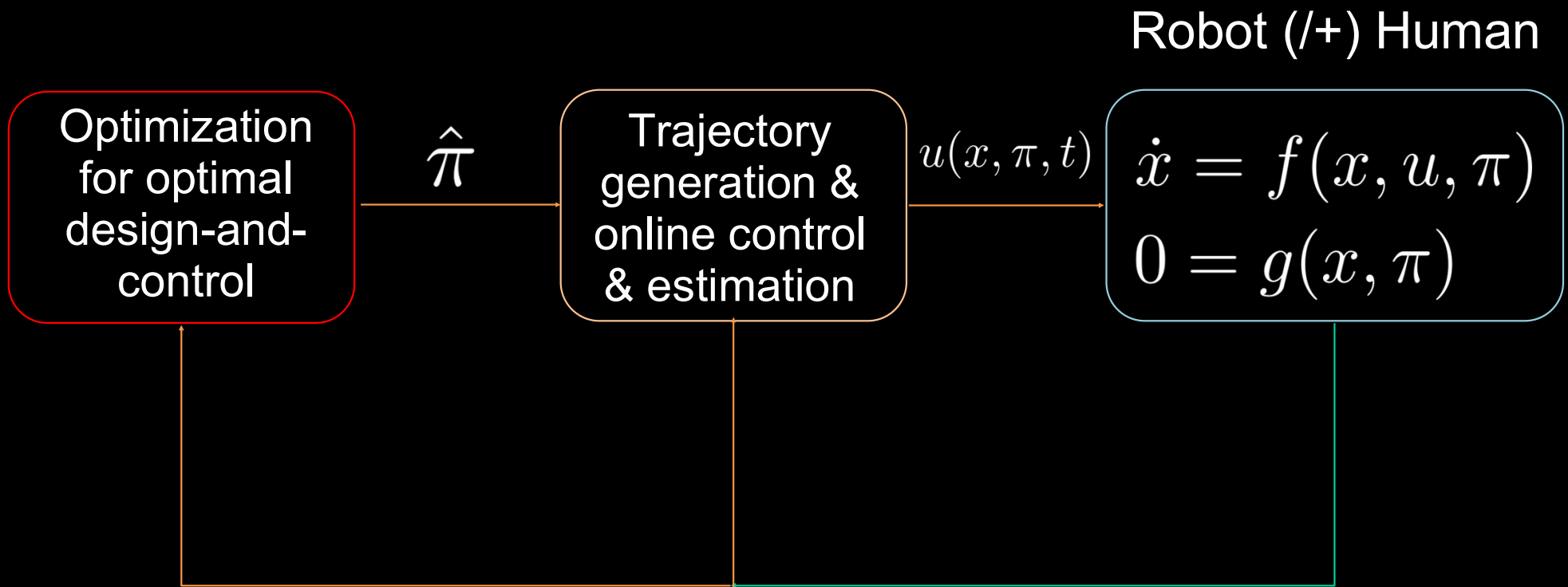
*International Journal of Advanced
Robotic Systems*
March-April 2020: 1–12
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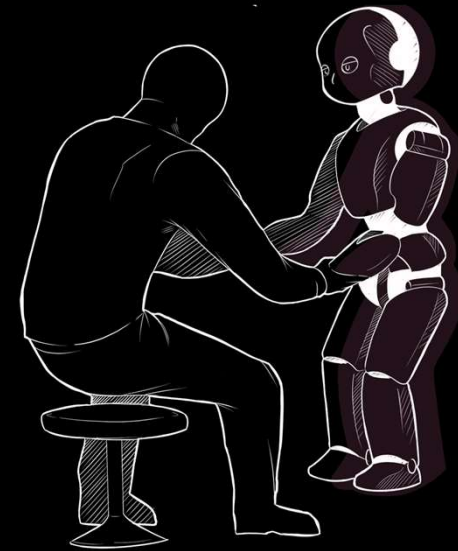
Nava et al. "Jerk Control" IEEE TRO 2020



ergoCub



New iCub arriving, not in
this presentation!



Human-Robot Collaboration



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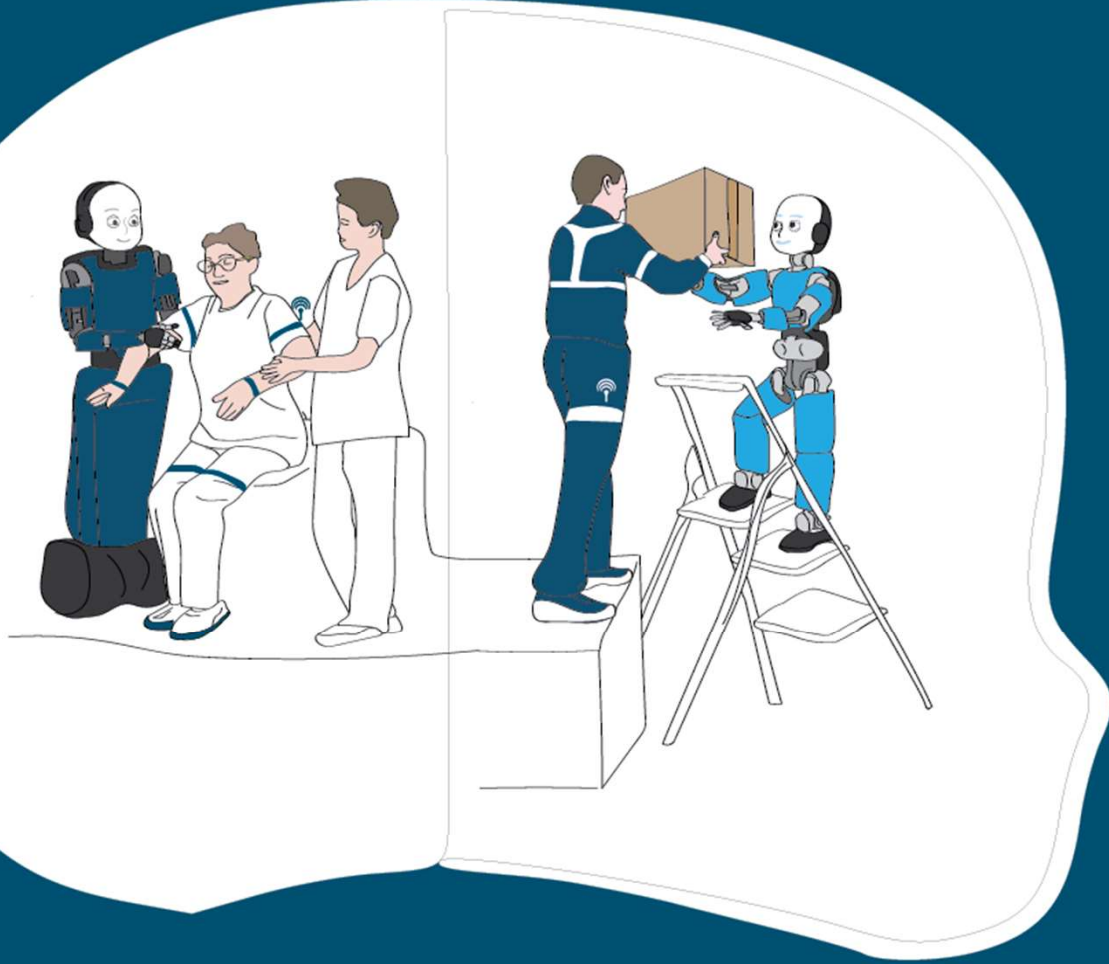
ISTITUTO NAZIONALE PER L'ASSICURAZIONE
CONTRO GLI INFORTUNI SUL LAVORO

Prevention by Design?

How to design and control a humanoid robot that perceives humans and minimises their biomechanical risks?



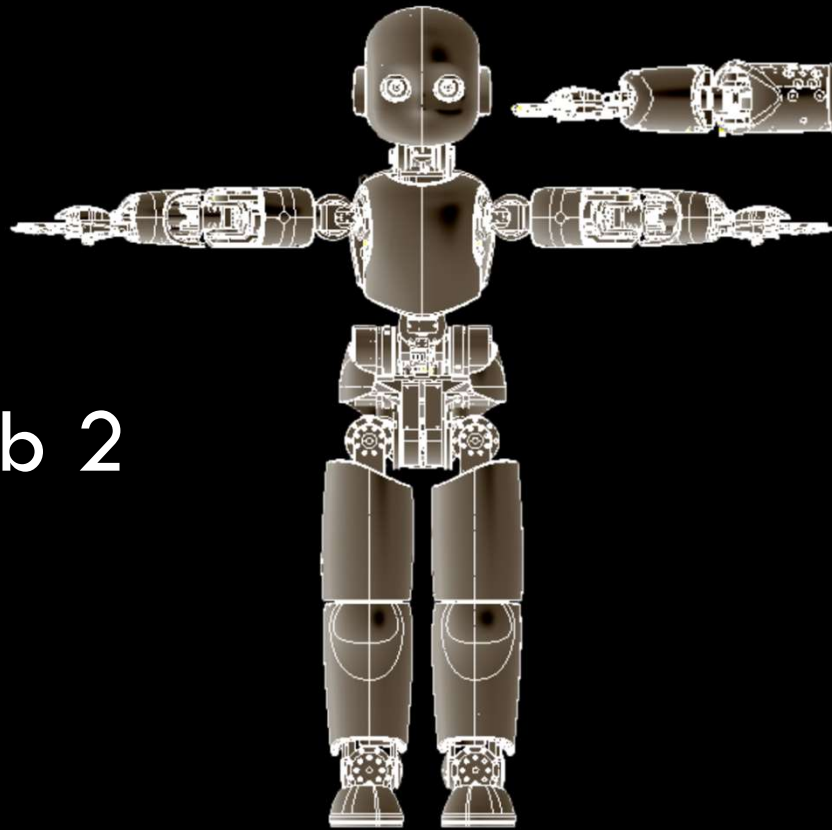
ergo
Cub



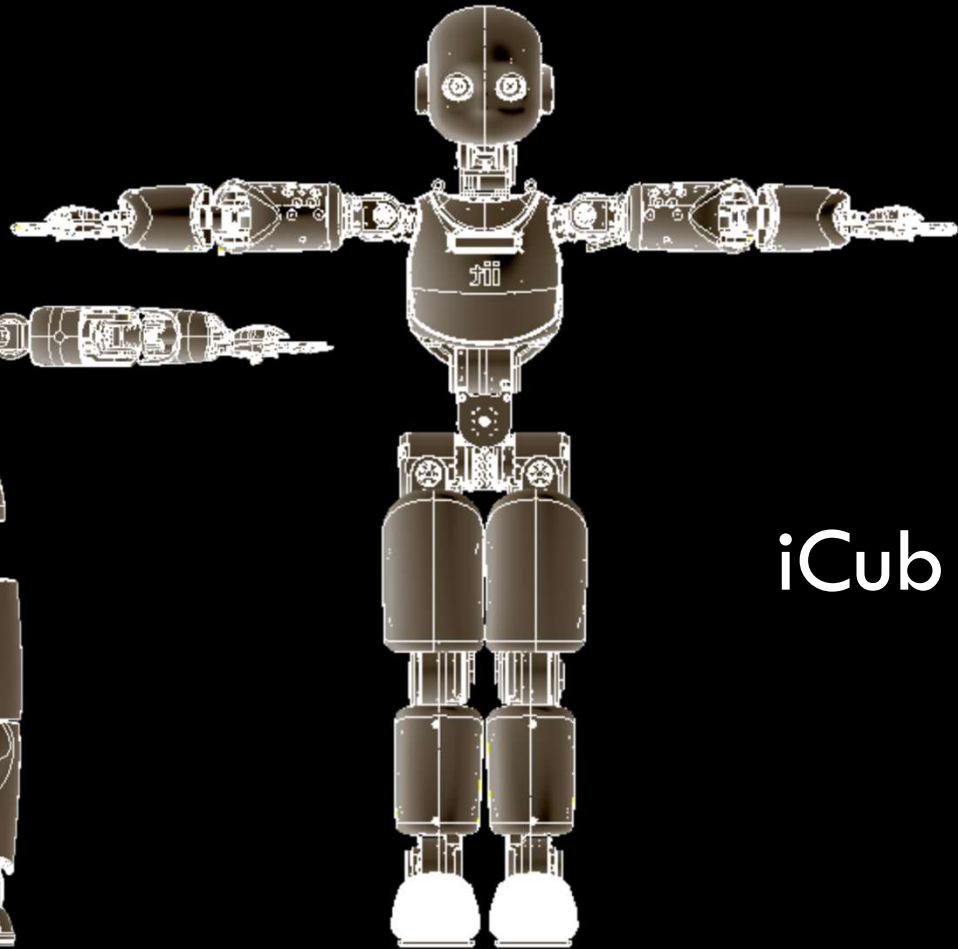
iit ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI TECNOLOGIA

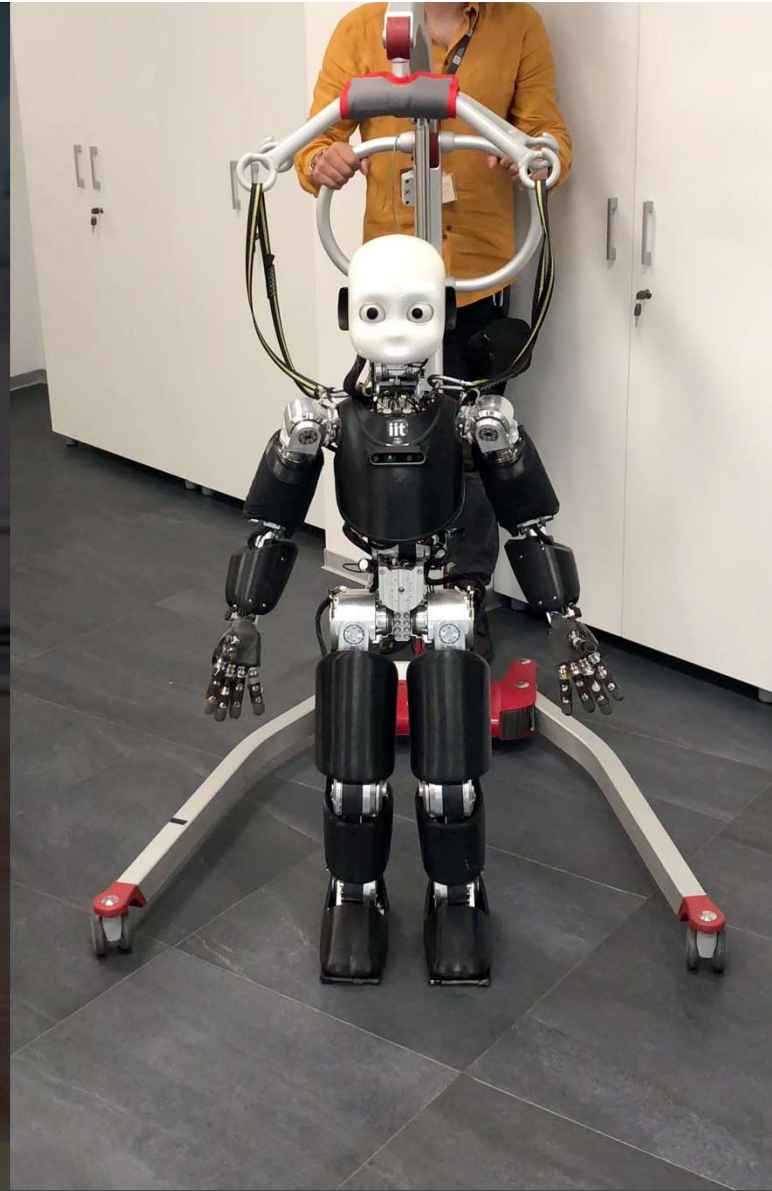
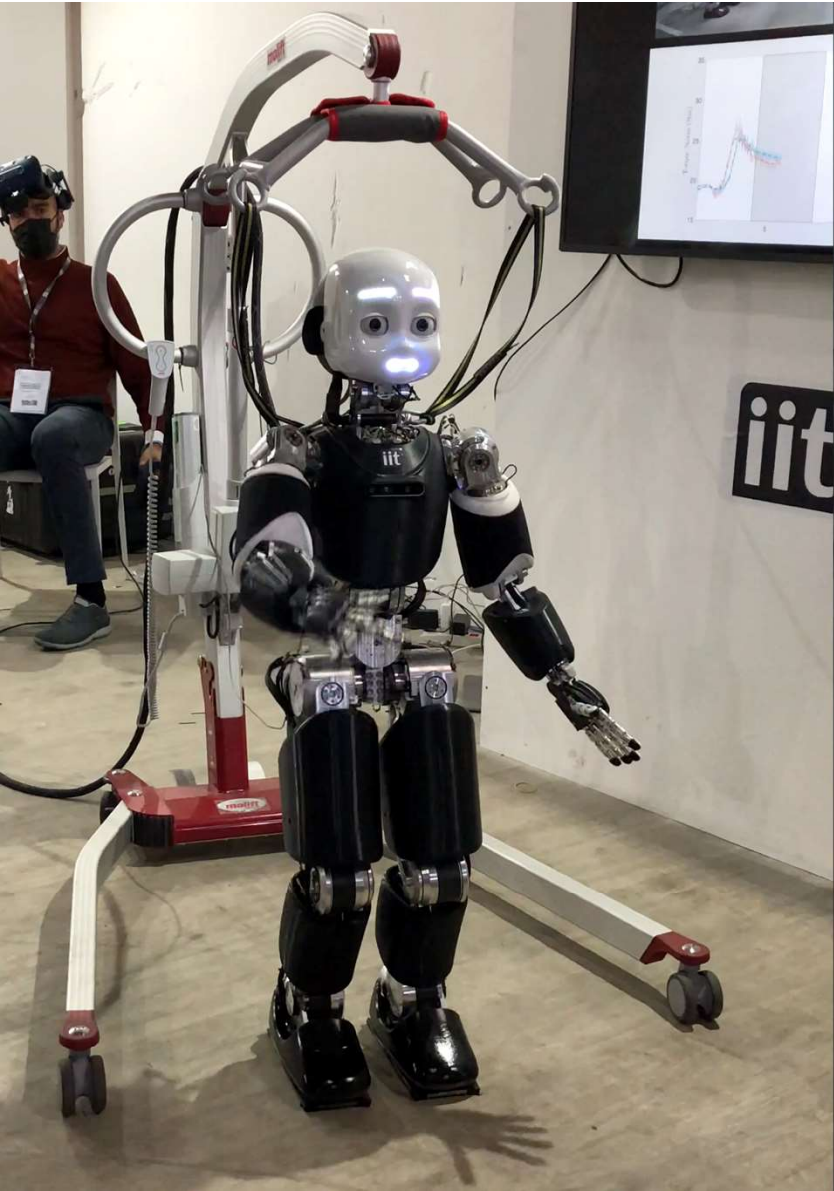
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ISTITUTO NAZIONALE PER L'ASSICURAZIONE CONTRO GLI INfortUNI SULLA LAVORO

iCub 2

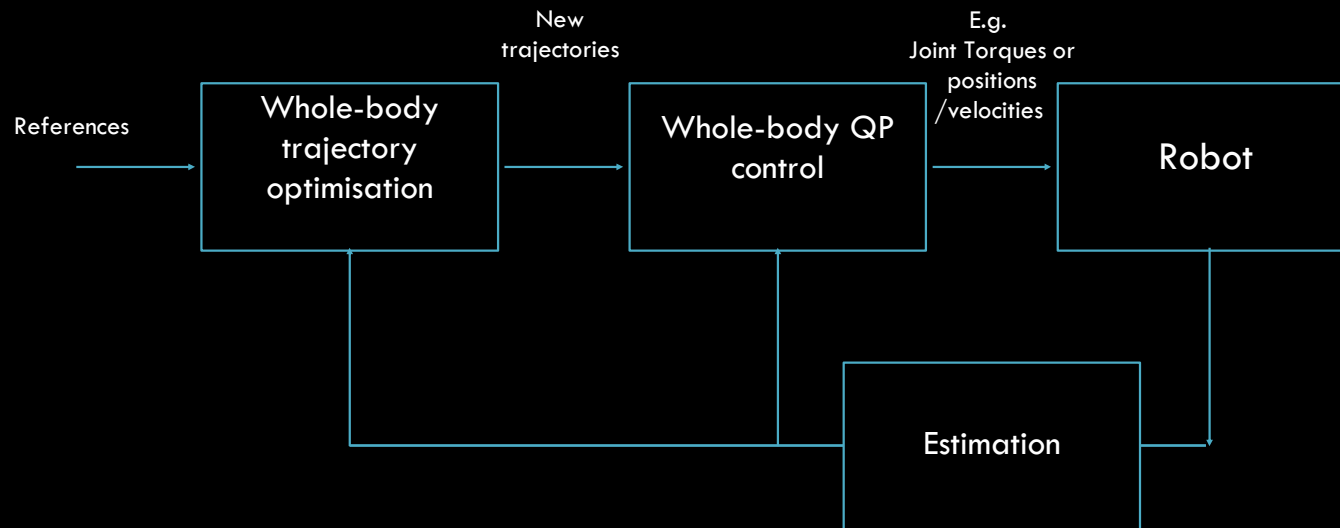


iCub 3

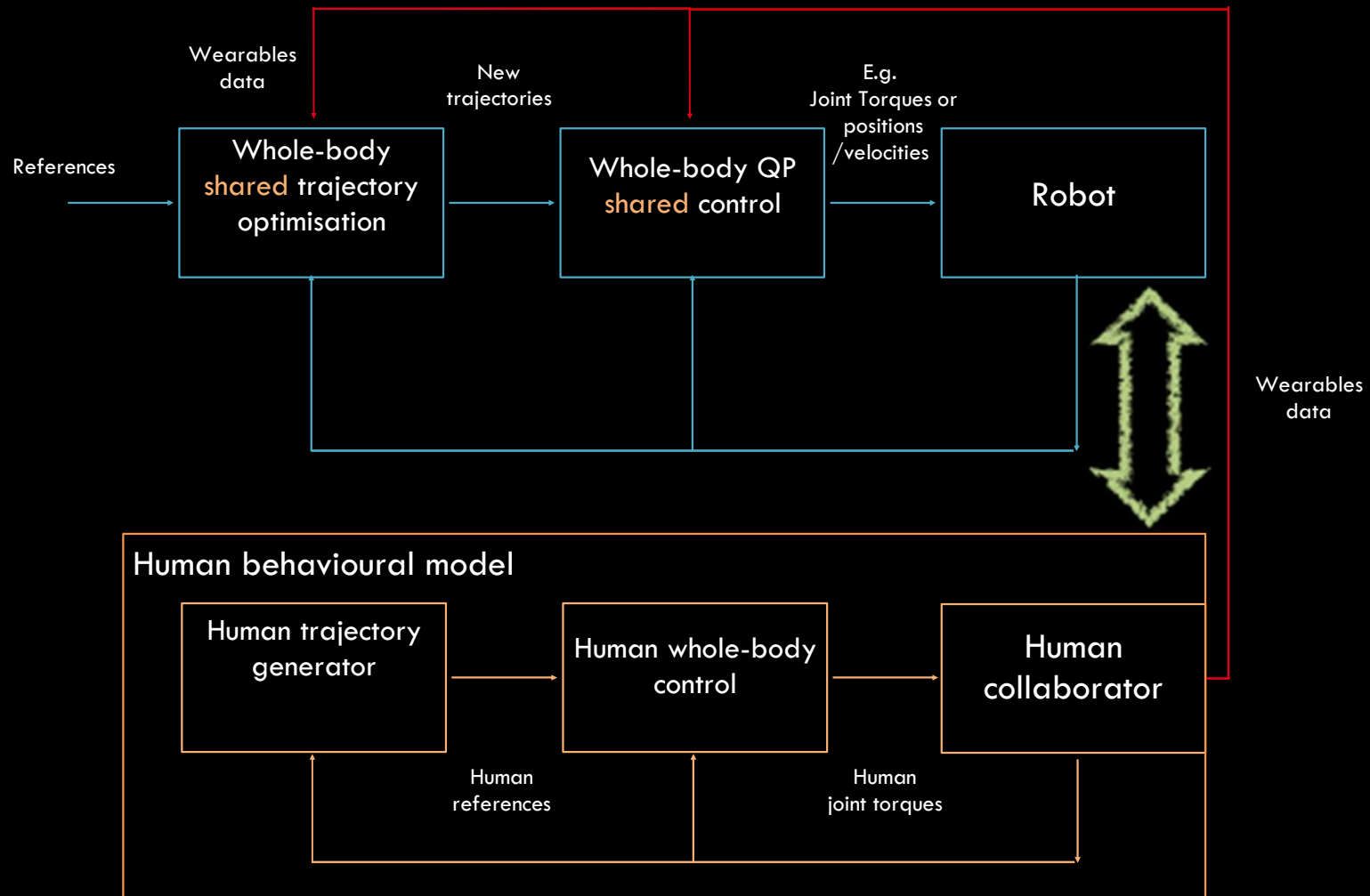


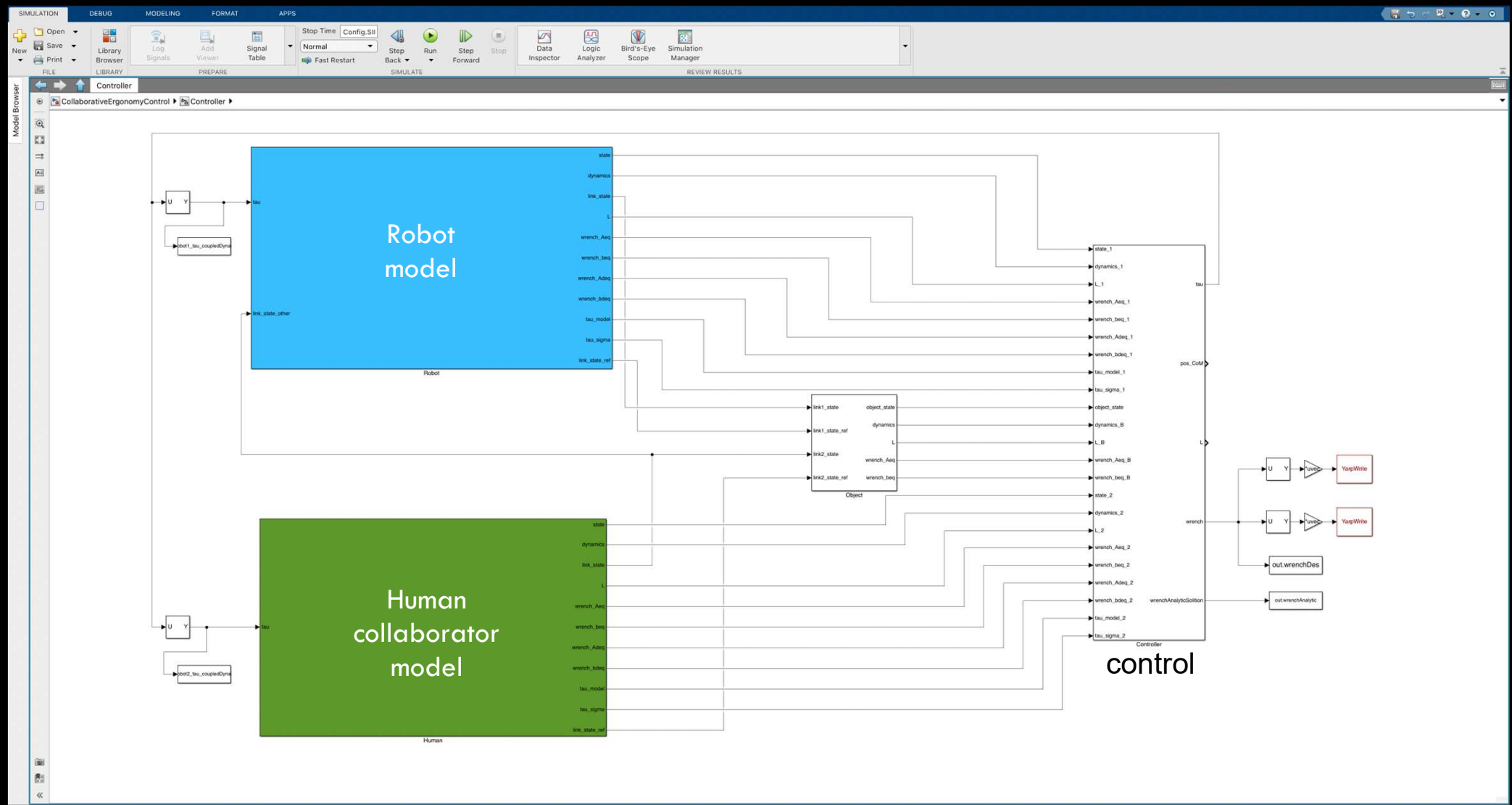


A unified control architecture for iCub during physical collaboration



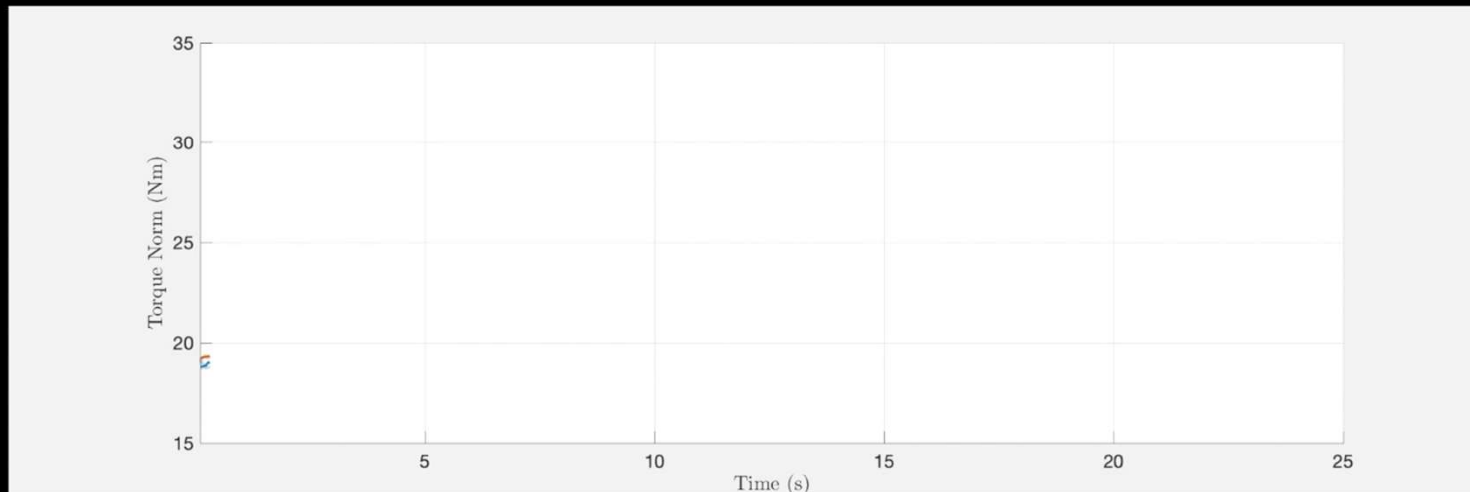
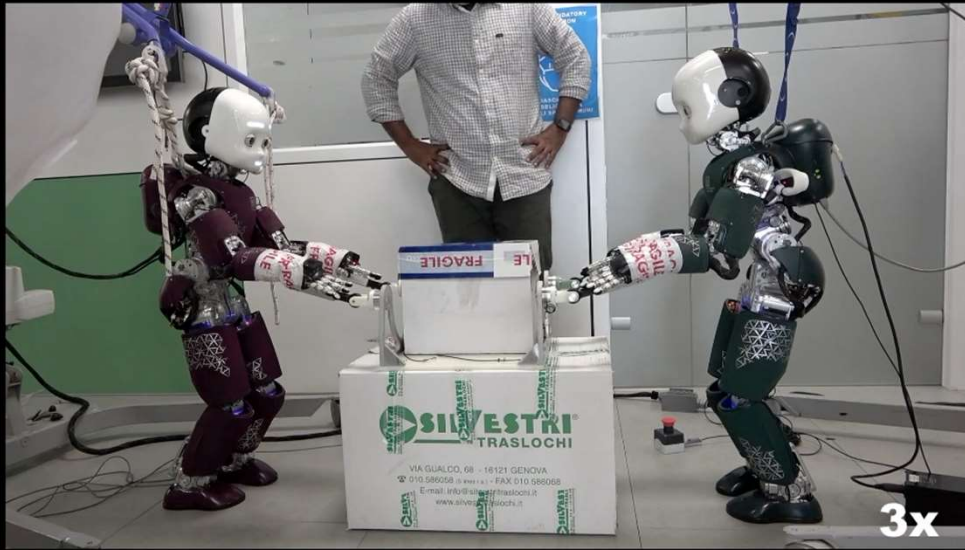
A unified control architecture for iCub during physical collaboration





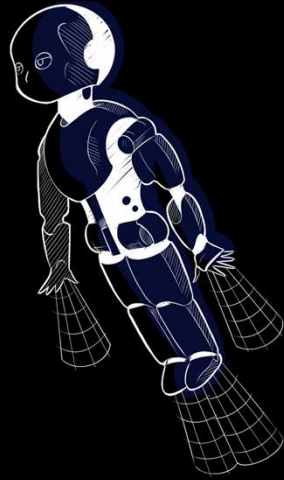


Rapetti et al. "A Control Approach for Human-Robot Ergonomic Payload Lifting", IEEE ICRA, 2023



Rapetti et al. "Shared Control of Robot-Robot Collaborative Lifting with Agent Postural and Force Ergonomic Optimization", IEEE ICRA, 2021

Evolving iCub for:

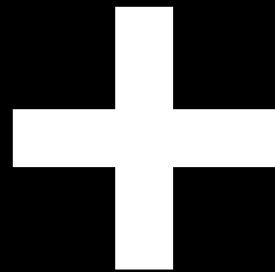


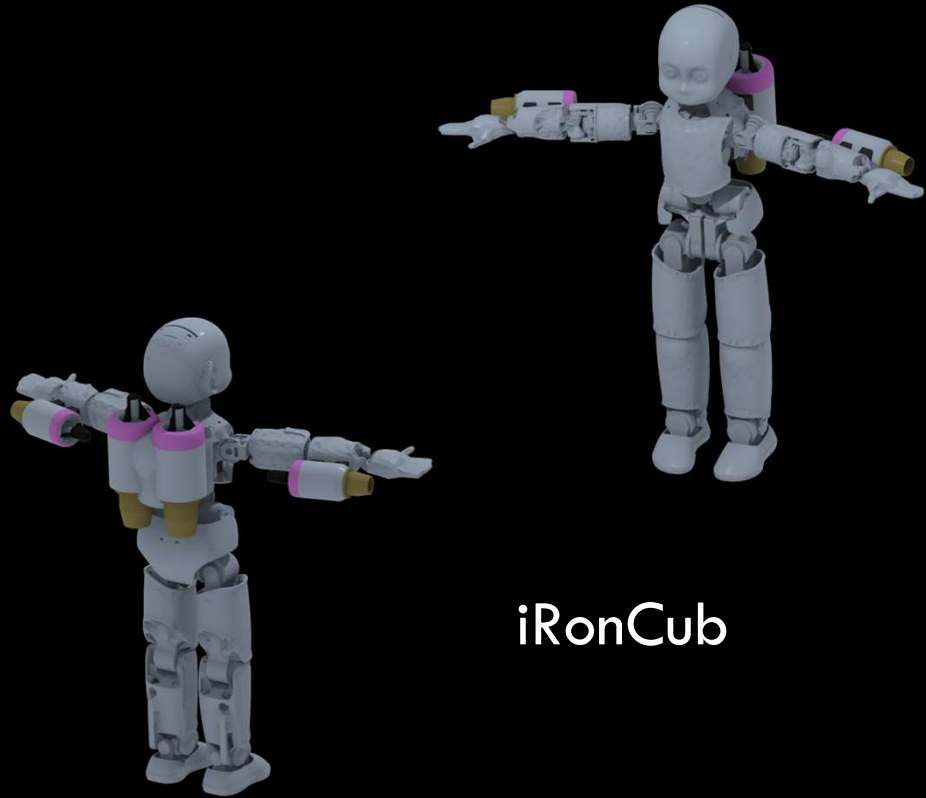
Aerial Humanoid Robotics



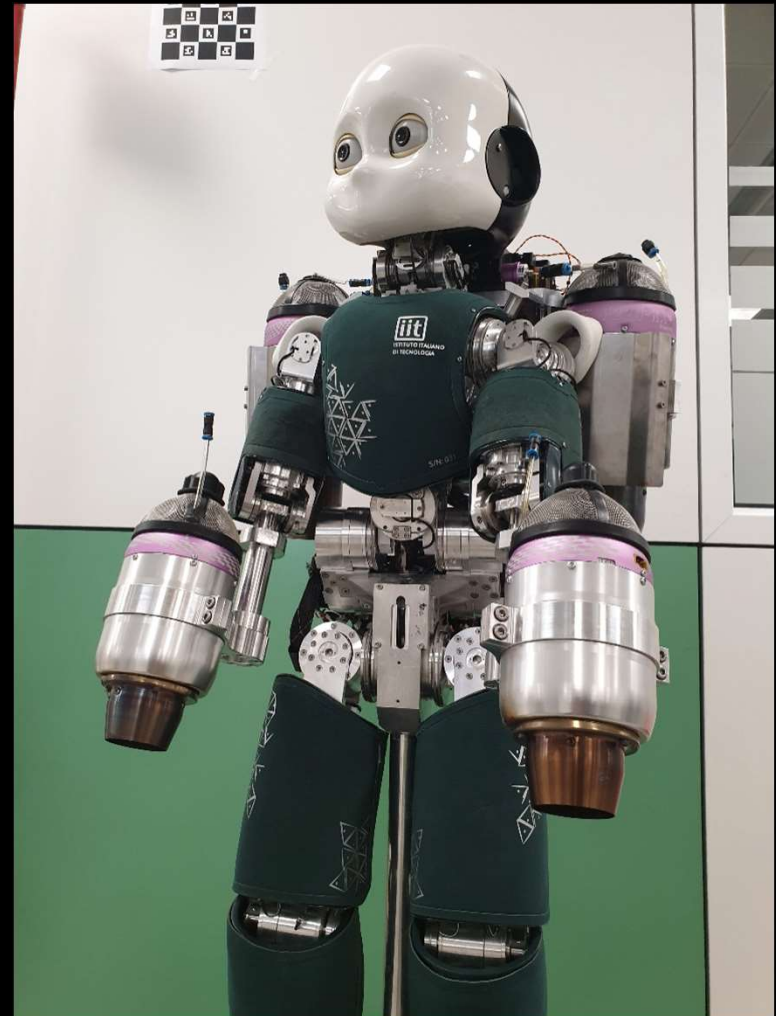
iRonCub



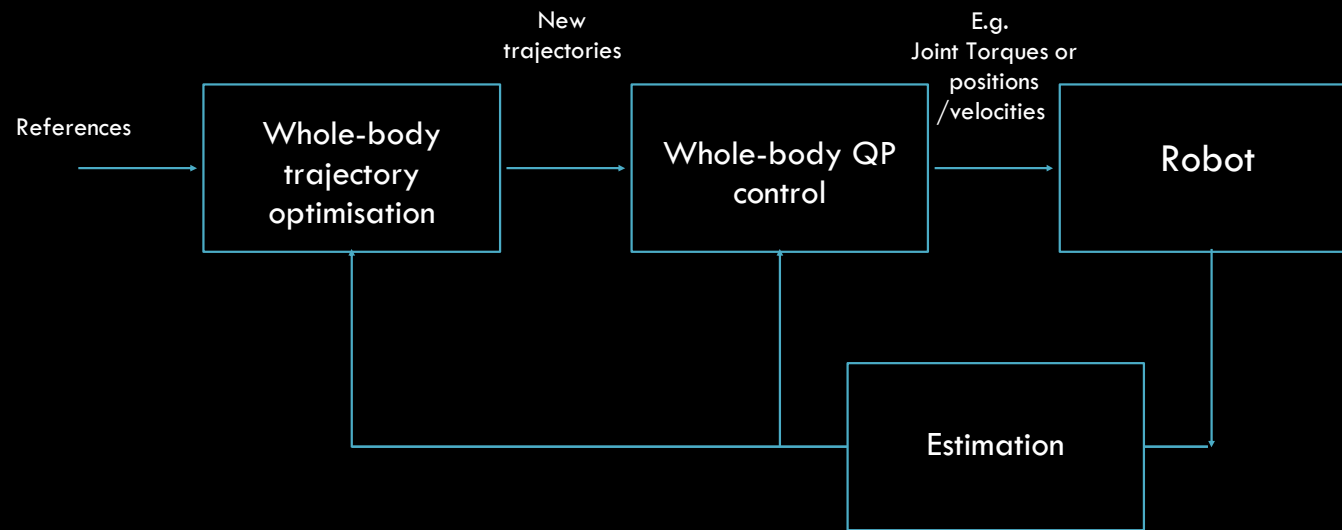




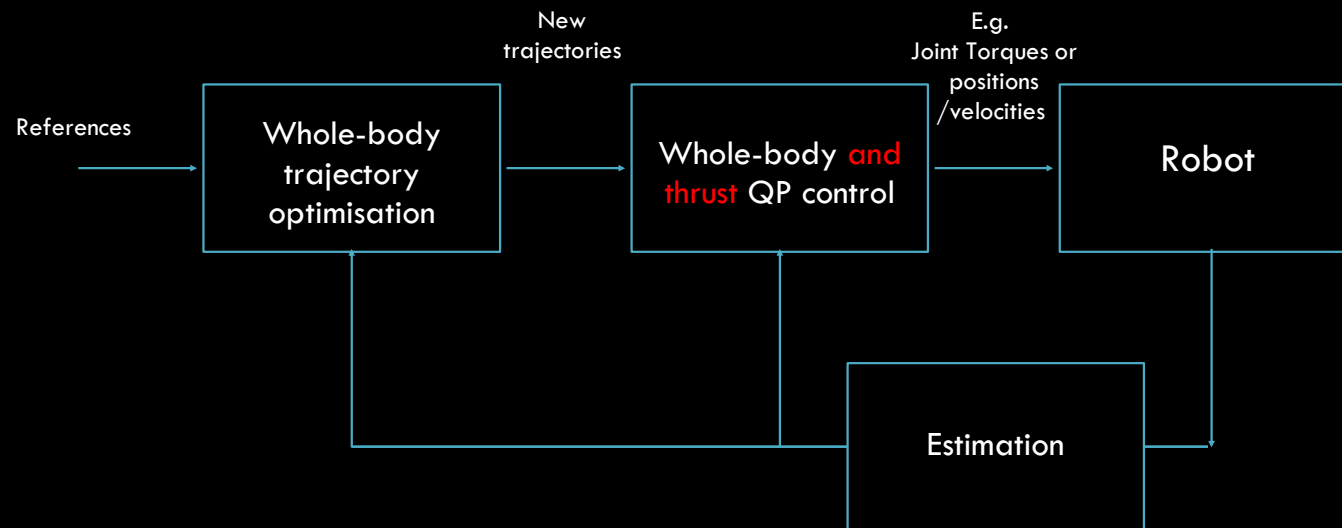
iRonCub



The control architecture for the iRonCub



The control architecture for the iRonCub

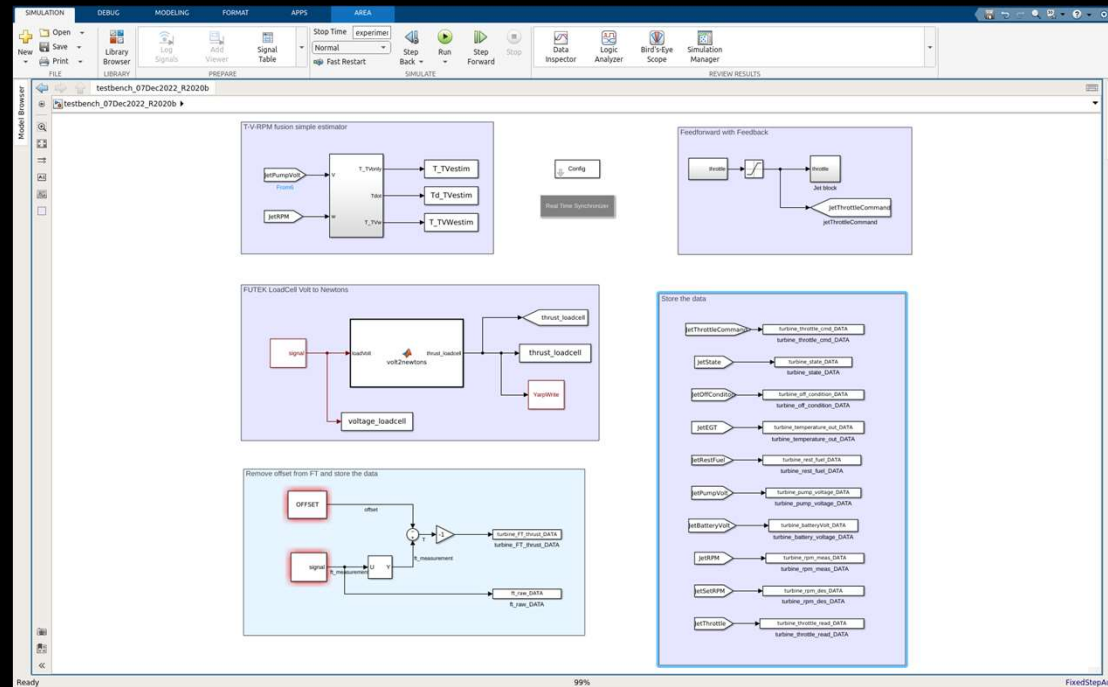
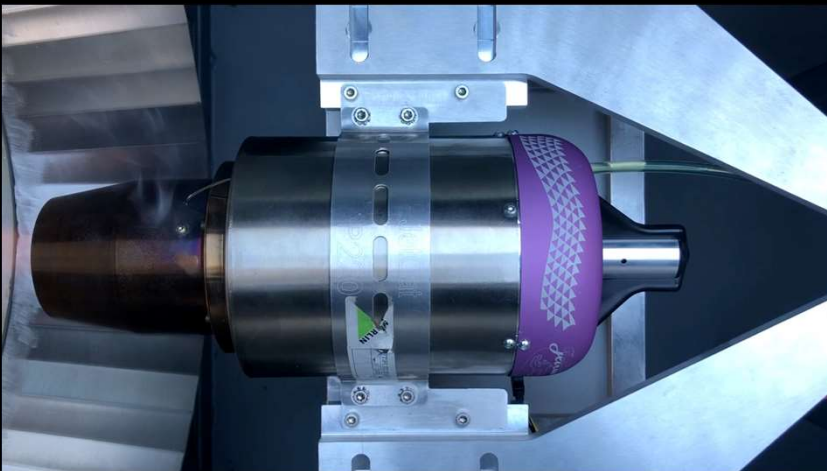


Turbine models?

Test-bench for jet engines system identification

Simulink model for:

- Thrust estimation
- Jet control
- Data collection for model identification



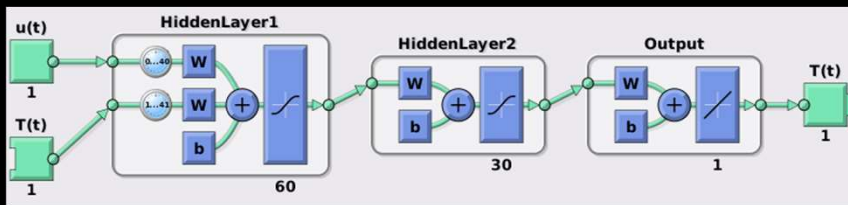
L'Erario et al. "Modeling, Identification and Control of Model Jet Engines for Jet Powered Robotics" IEEE RA-L, 2020

Momim et al. "Nonlinear Model Identification and Observer Design for Thrust Estimation of Small-scale Turbojet Engines" IEEE ICRA, 2022

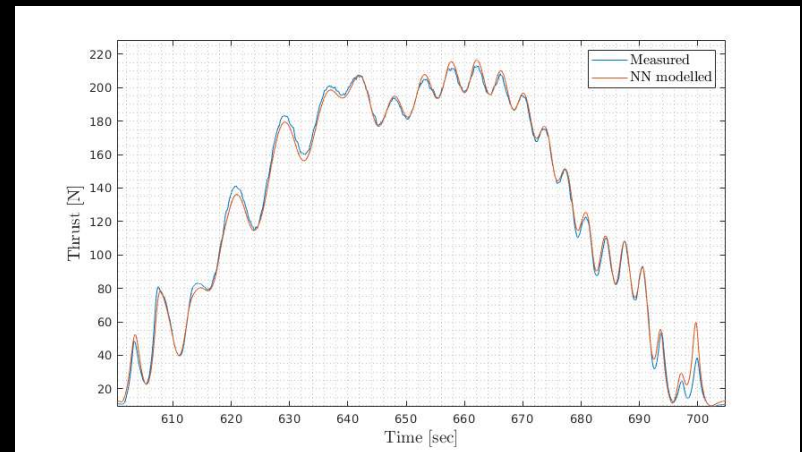
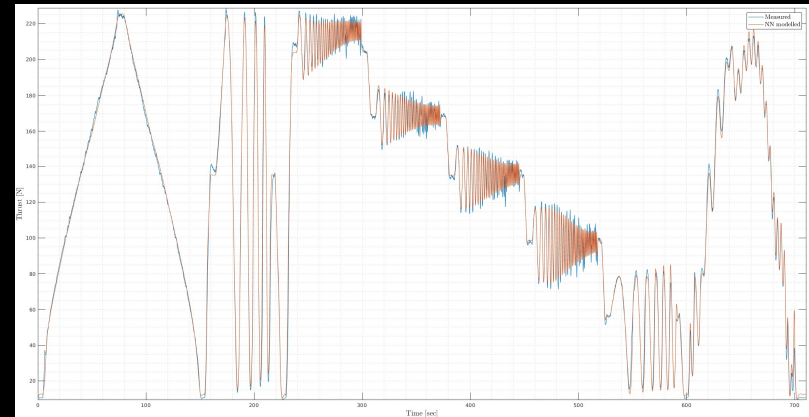
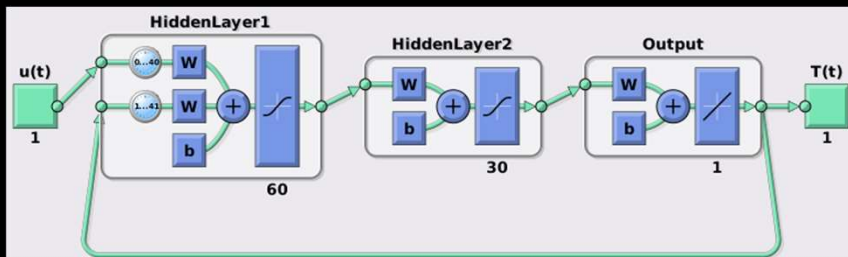
Digital twin for jet engines

$$T_k = NN(u_k, u_{k-1}, \dots, u_{k-p}, T_{k-1}, T_{k-2}, \dots, T_{k-q}; \Theta)$$

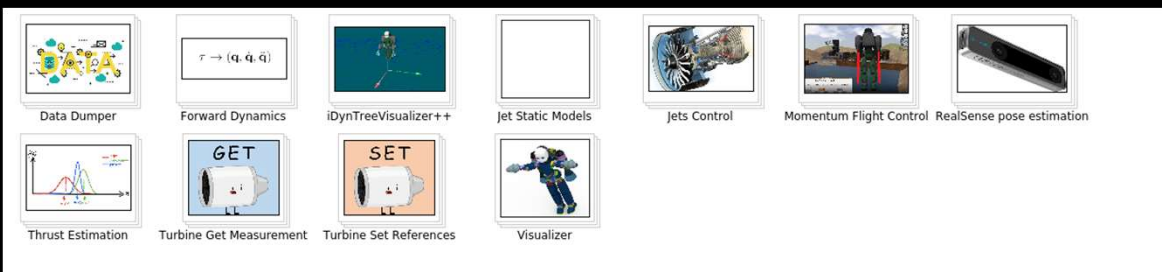
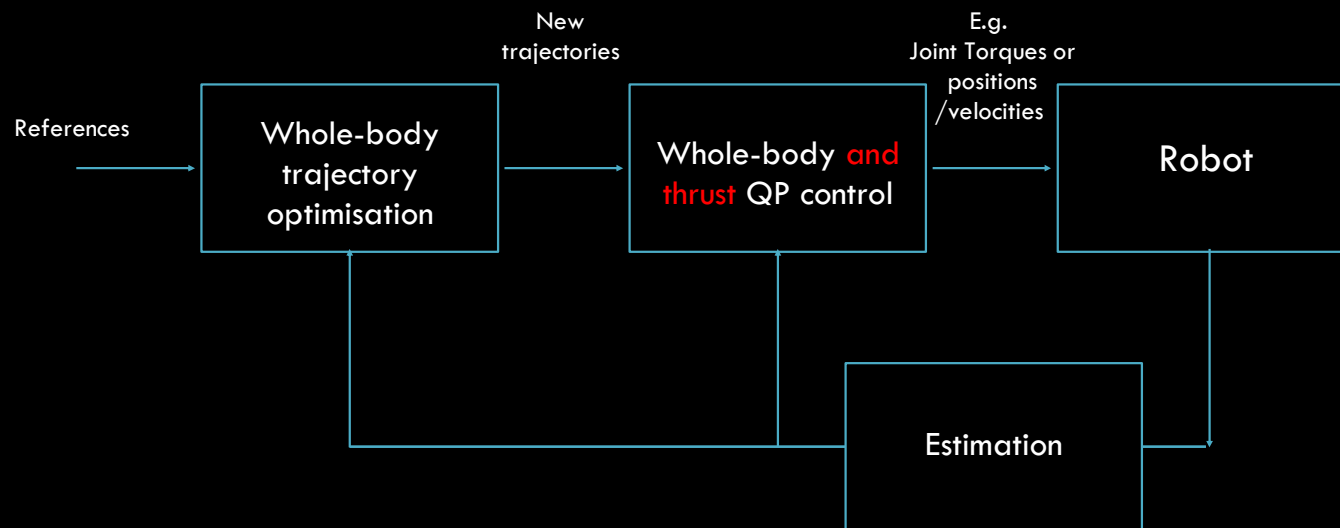
Training



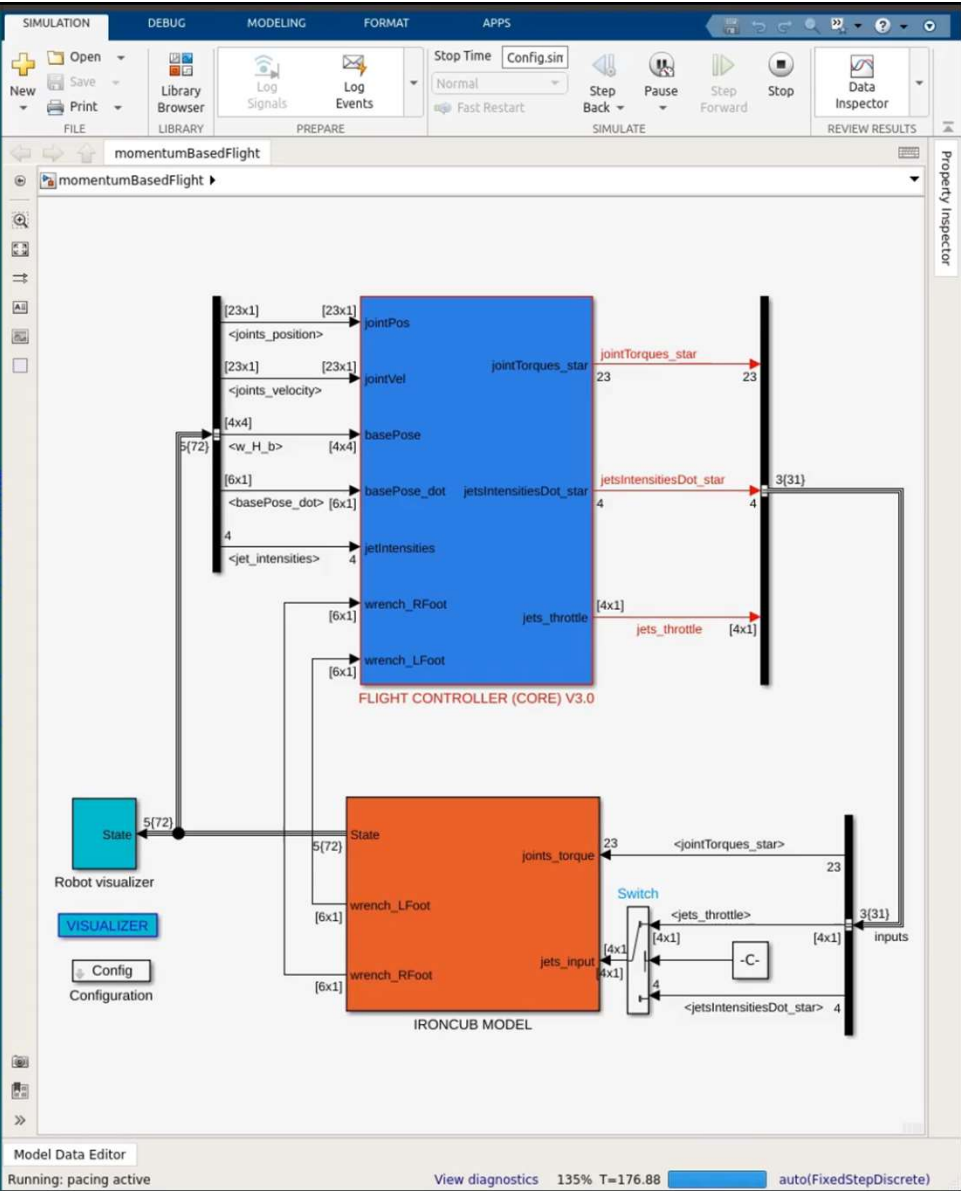
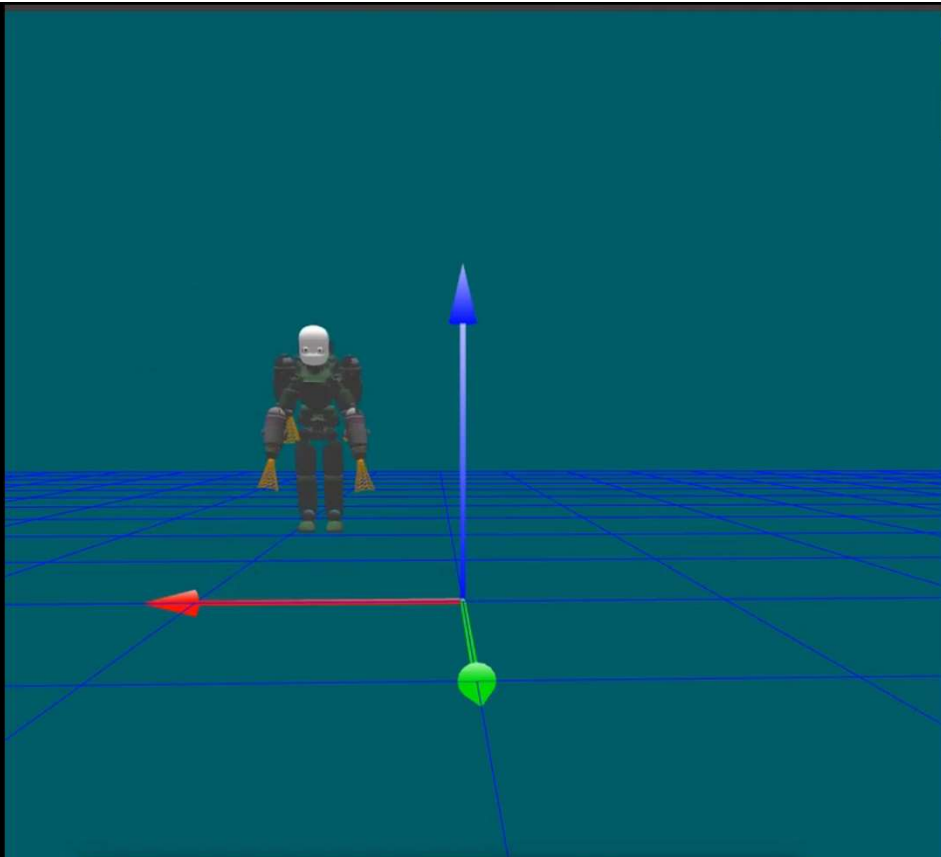
Testing



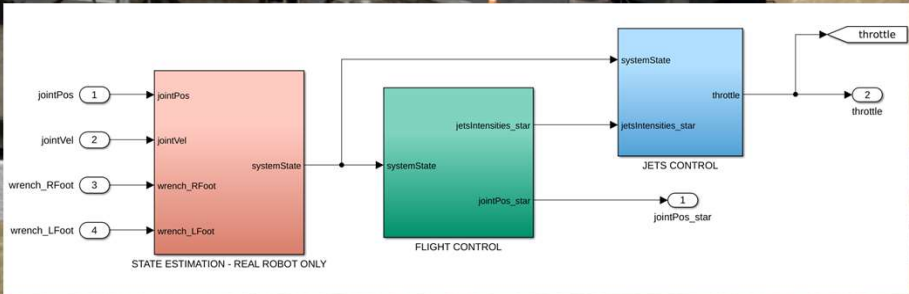
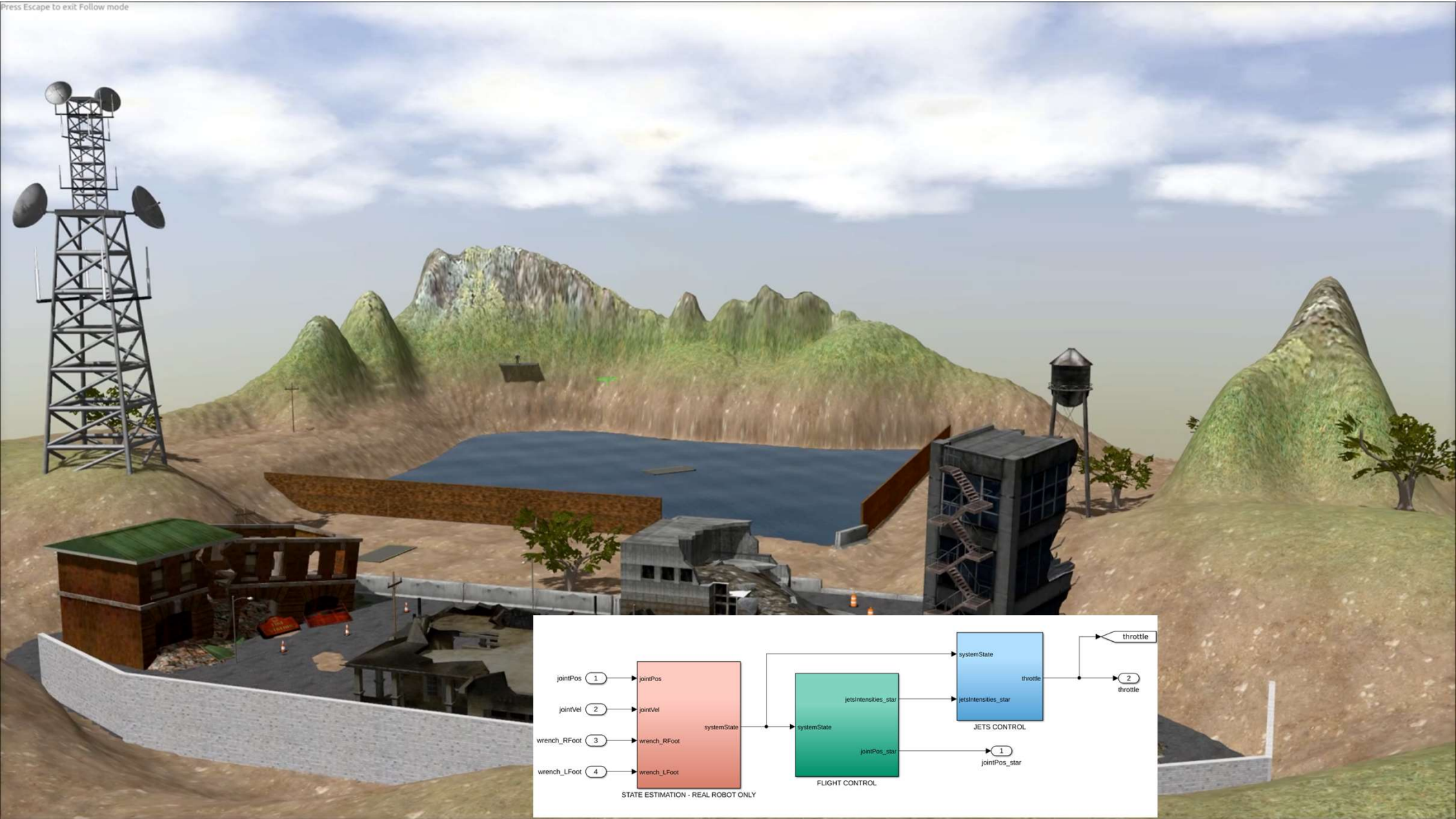
The control architecture for the iRonCub: Simulink library

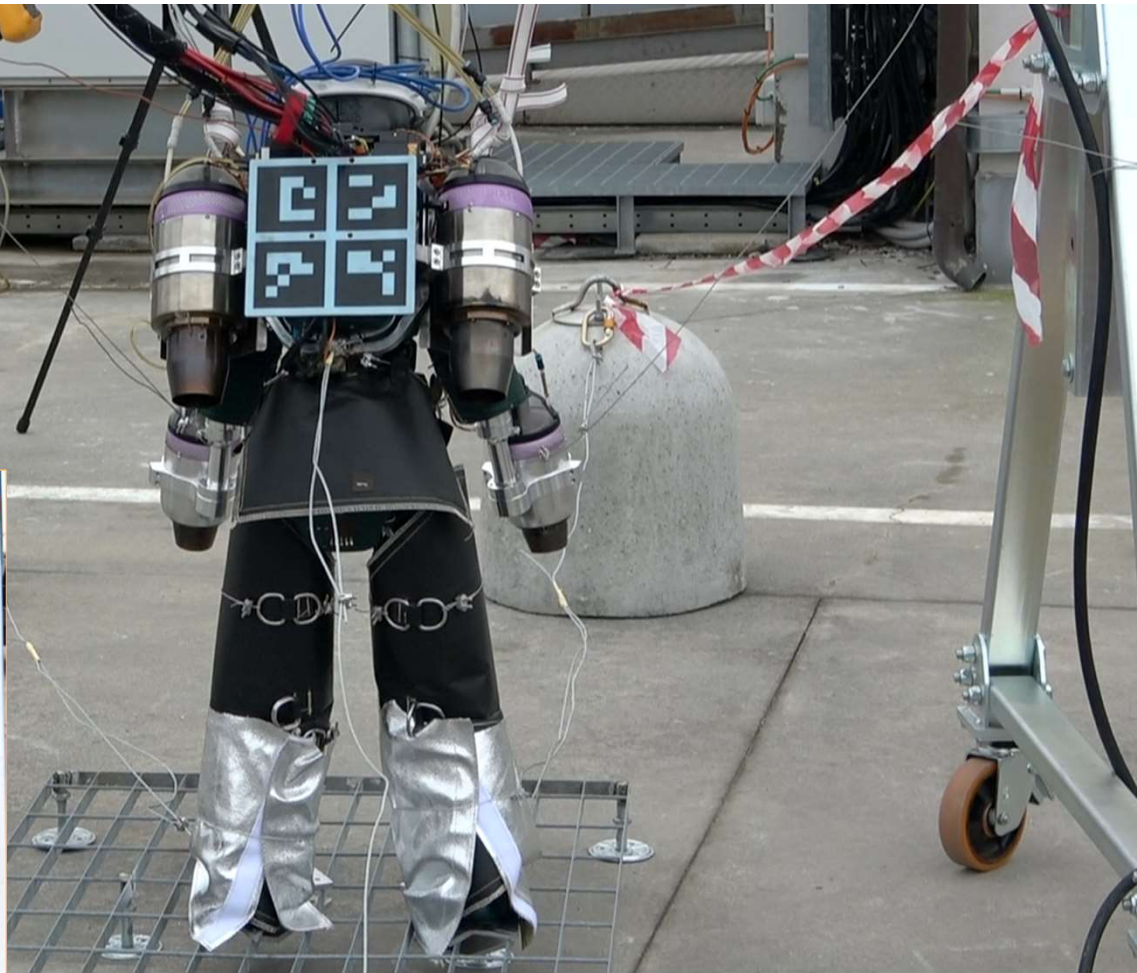


- Control System Toolbox
- Curve Fitting Toolbox
- Robotics System Toolbox
- Stateflow
- Symbolic Math Toolbox
- WBToolbox <https://github.com/robotology/wb-toolbox>
- https://github.com/ami-iit/ironcub_software



Press Escape to exit Follow mode





Flight 0: 2022

Flight 1: soon.

Why and When MathWorks Tools?

1. Lower barriers for non-expert coders
2. Fast analysis, rapid prototyping and deployment



Aerial Humanoid Robotics



Human-Robot Collaboration



ami.iit.it



github.com/ami-iit

“The trouble with our times is that the future is not what it used to be.”

Paul Valéry



HONDA

