
Coordination and Synchronization for a Rhythmic Flight Performance

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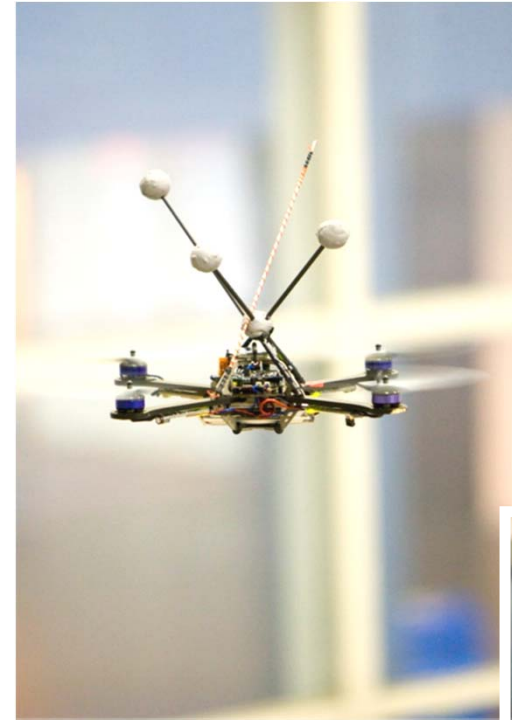


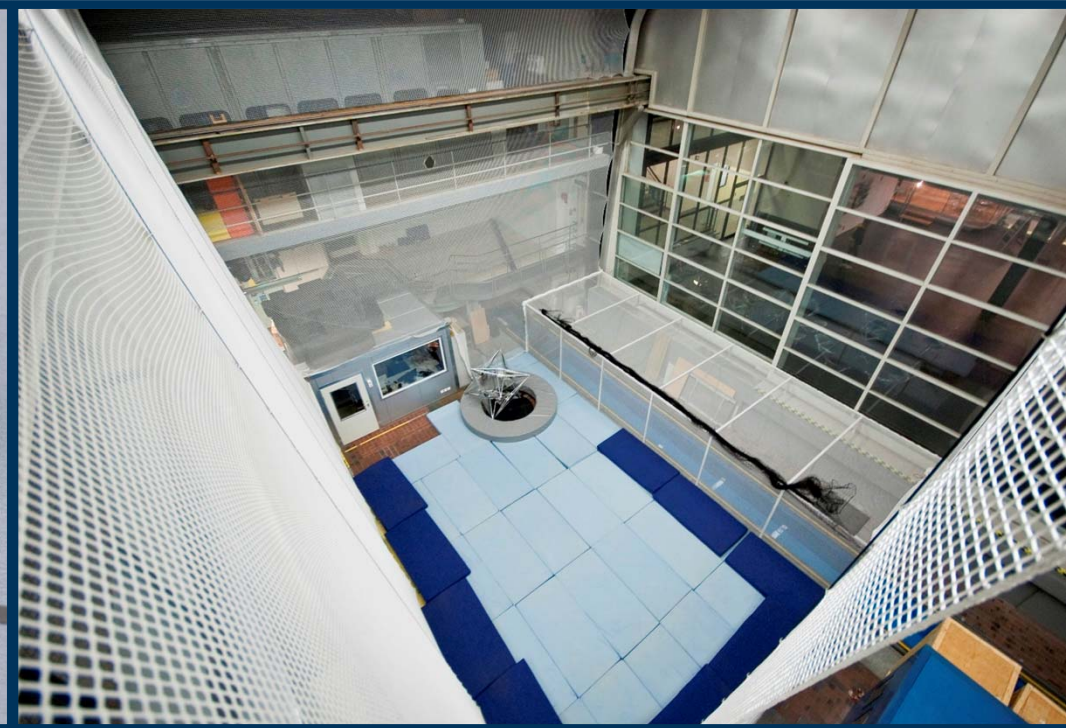
LET'S DANCE



... DANCE IN THE AIR

VISION Dance performance of multiple quadcopters.





ACTORS

Type: **Quadcopter**

Size: **Ø 3 feet**

Weight: **1 pound**

Flight time: **15 minutes**

STAGE

Name: **Flying Machine Arena**

Size: **33 x 33 x 33 feet**

Protection: **Nets, padded floor**

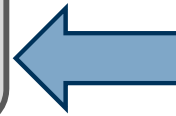
VIDEO <http://youtu.be/DrHlgxf0oQw?list=PLD6AAACCBFFE64AC5>



OBJECTIVE & FOCUS

How do we create an *intuitive interface* for the design of choreographies?

How do we achieve a *rhythmic flight* performance?



... use controls and system dynamics.

MOTION DESIGN

FEASIBILITY

[Schoellig, Hehn, Lupashin and D'Andrea,
ACC 2011]

PREPROGRAMMED.
DONE AHEAD OF TIME.

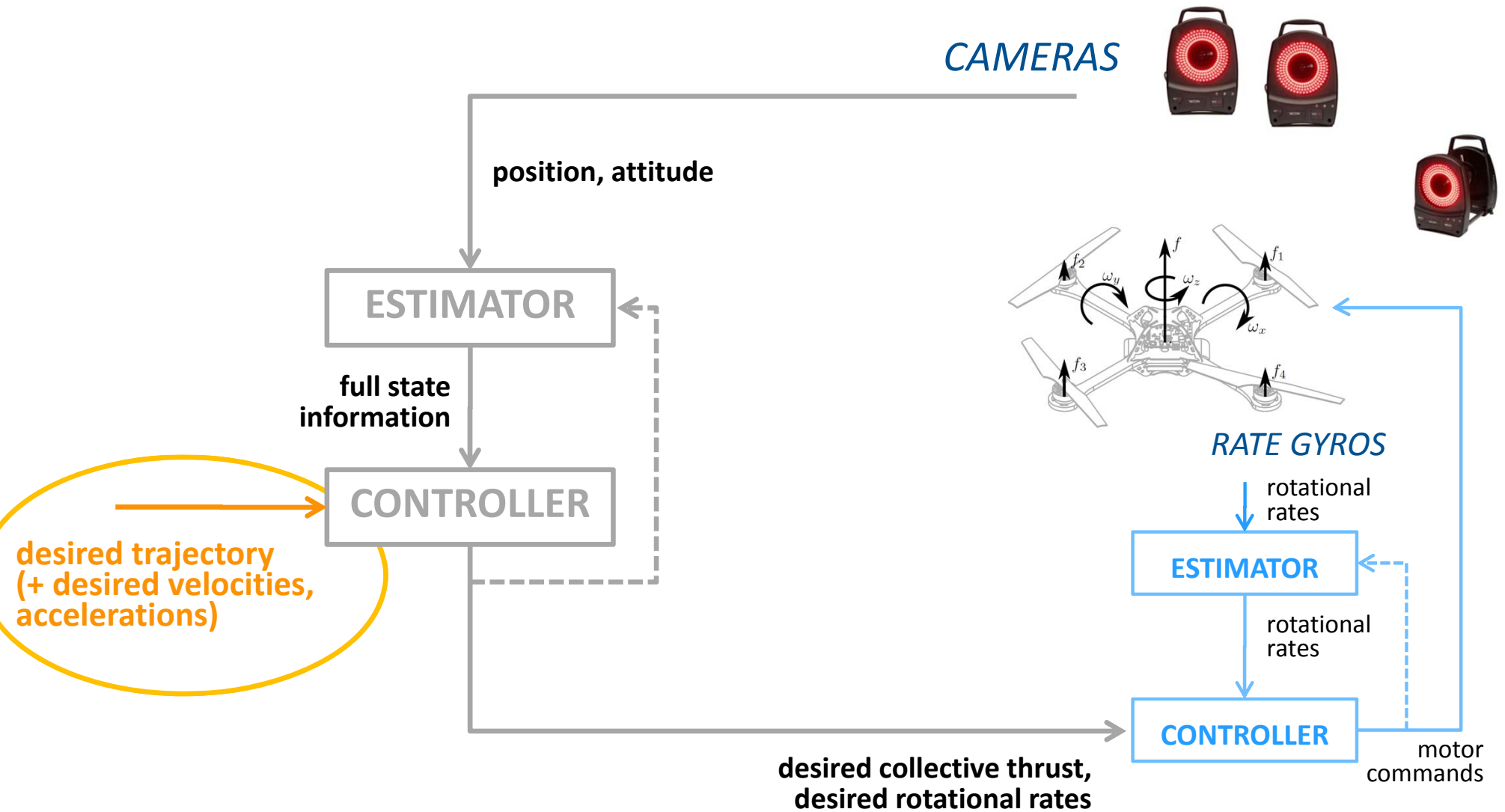
CONTROL

SYNCHRONIZATION

[Schoellig, Augugliaro and D'Andrea,
ICRA 2010 & IROS 2010]

FOCUS

MOTION CONTROL



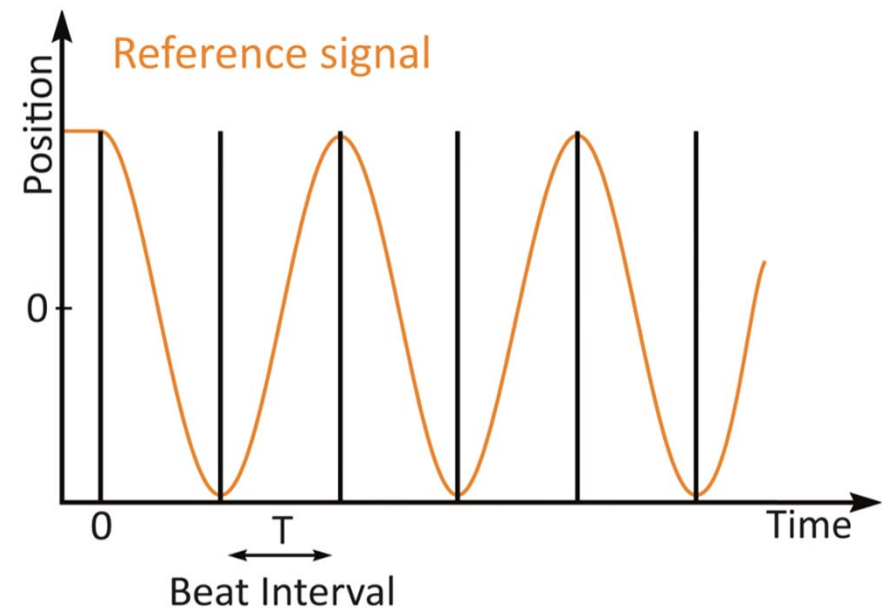
RHYTHMIC MOTION

First... Synchronize the SIDE-TO-SIDE MOTION of a quadcopter to music.

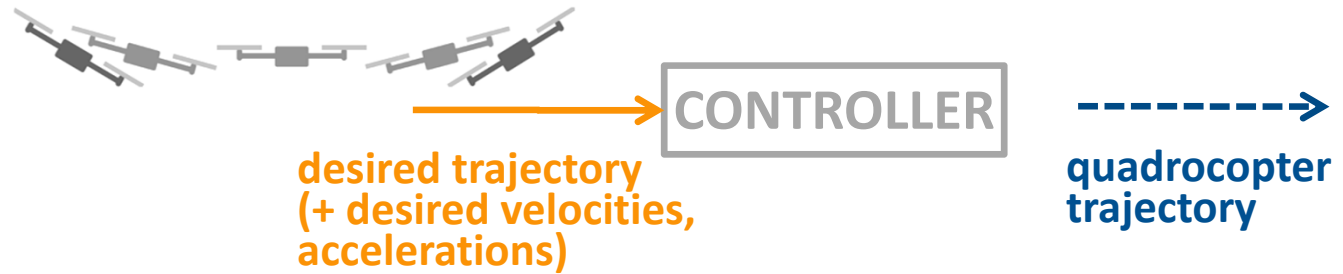
Music.

Side-to-side motion.

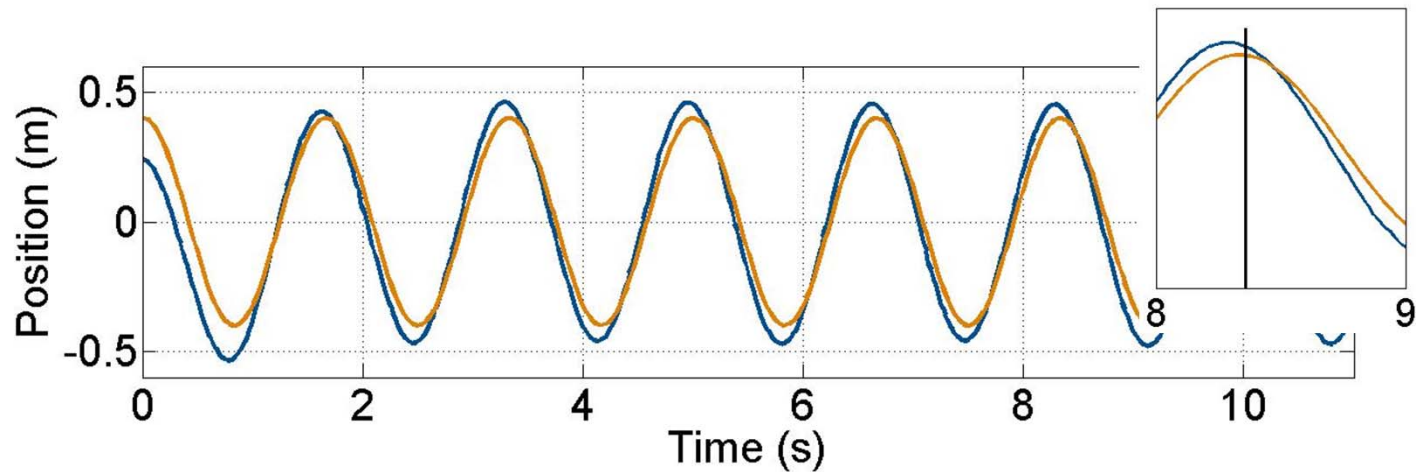
$$s_d(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x_d(t) \\ y_d(t) \\ z_d(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A \cos(\Omega t) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$



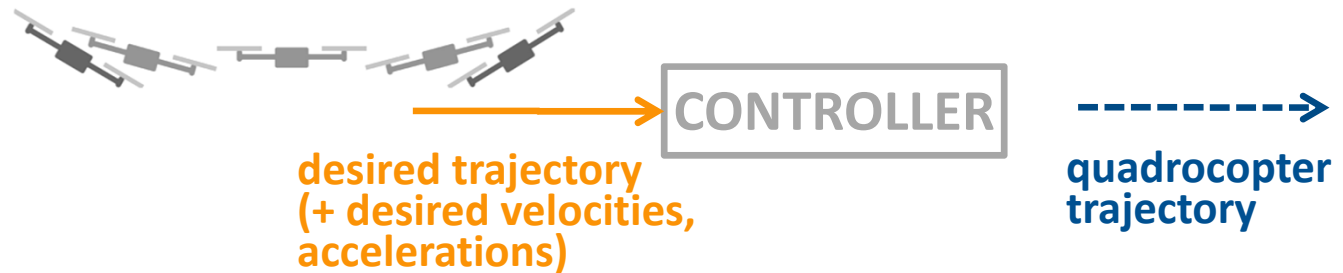
PHASE ERROR



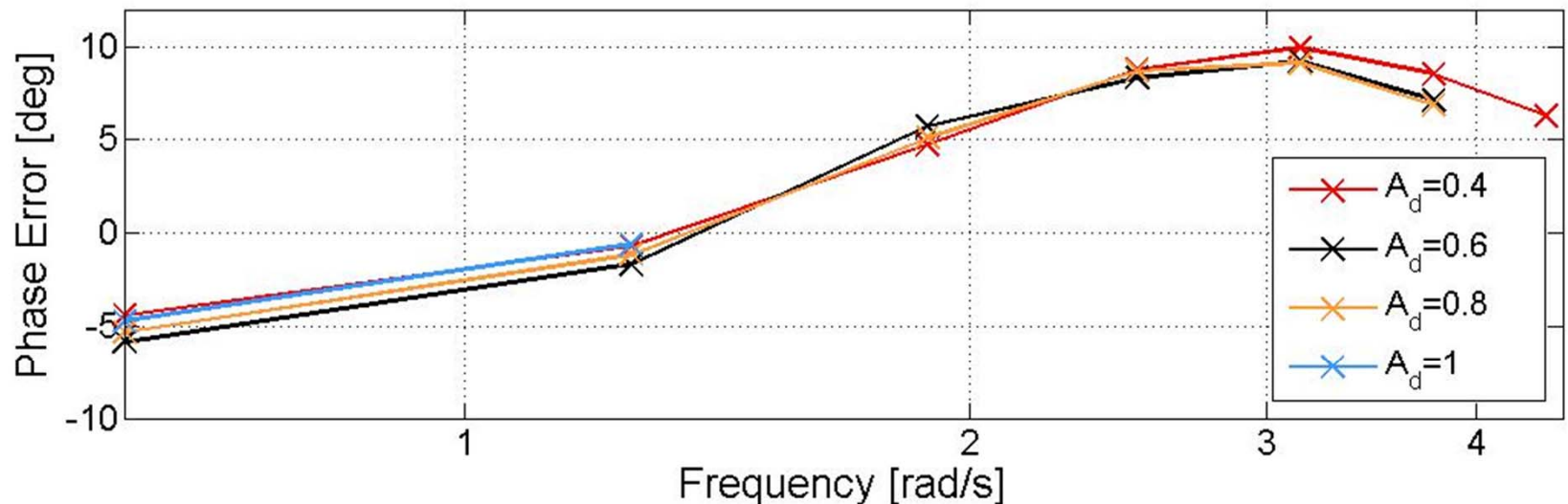
Quadcopter response shows **constant phase error** after a transient phase.



PHASE ERROR



Quadrocopter response shows **constant phase error** after a transient phase.



Linear system behavior. Repeatable.

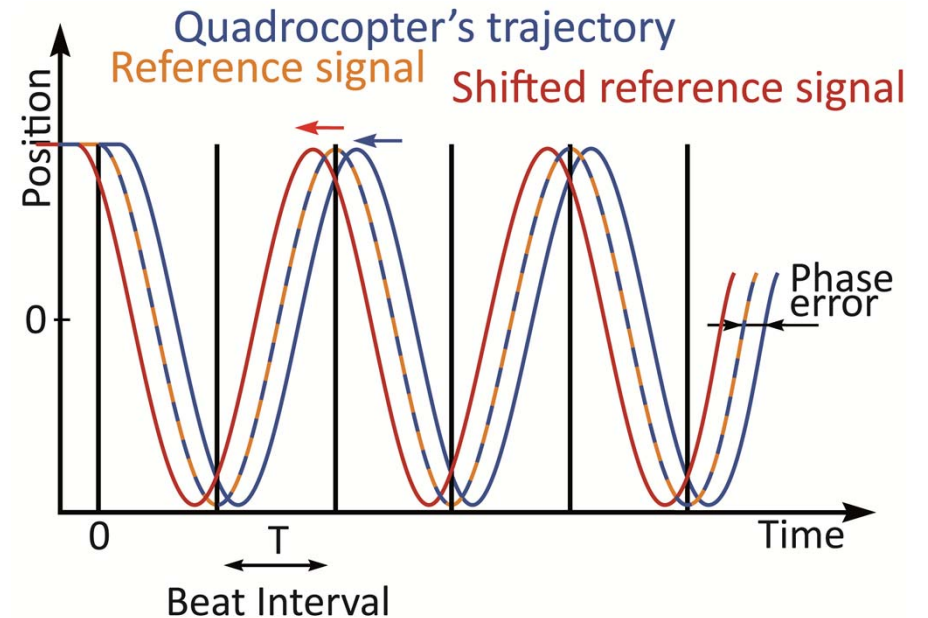
SYNCHRONIZATION

OPTION 1: Online phase detection and correction

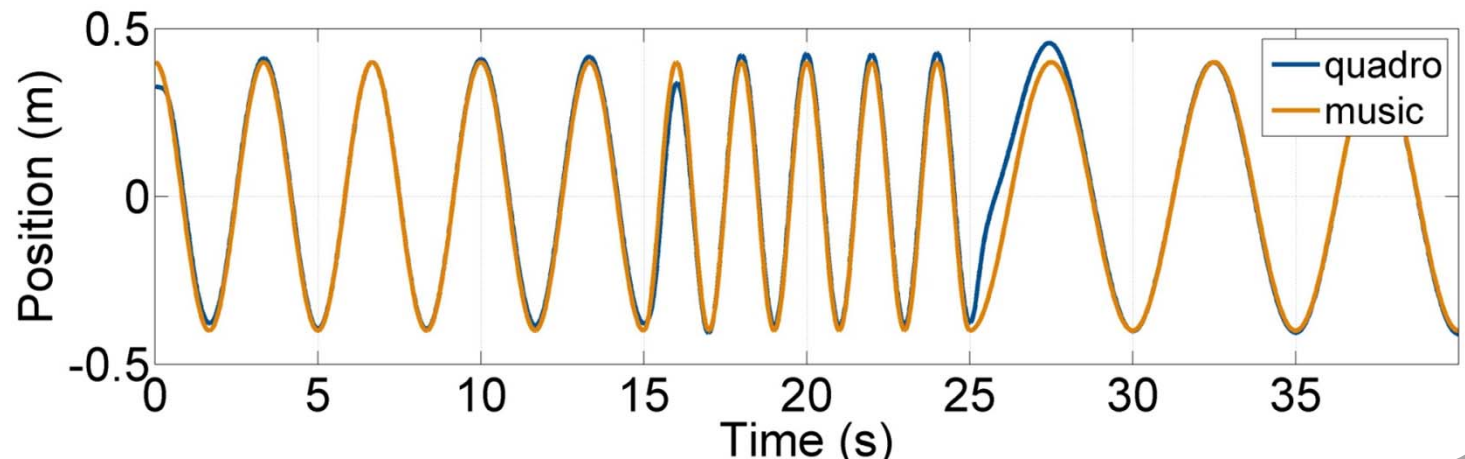
→ transient behavior

OPTION 2: Learn phase offset ahead of time, feedforward compensation

→ less robust



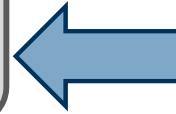
COMBINE!



OBJECTIVE & FOCUS

How can we create an *intuitive interface* for the design of choreographies?

How can we achieve a *rhythmic flight* performance?



... use controls and system dynamics.

MOTION DESIGN

Parameterized
motion primitives.

FEASIBILITY

Based on
model.

PREPROGRAMMED.
DONE AHEAD OF TIME.

FOCUS

CONTROL

SYNCHRONIZATION



MOTION DESIGN – idea

CHOREOGRAPHY – concatenation of basic motion elements

MOTION PRIMITIVE A

MOTION PRIMITIVE B

....

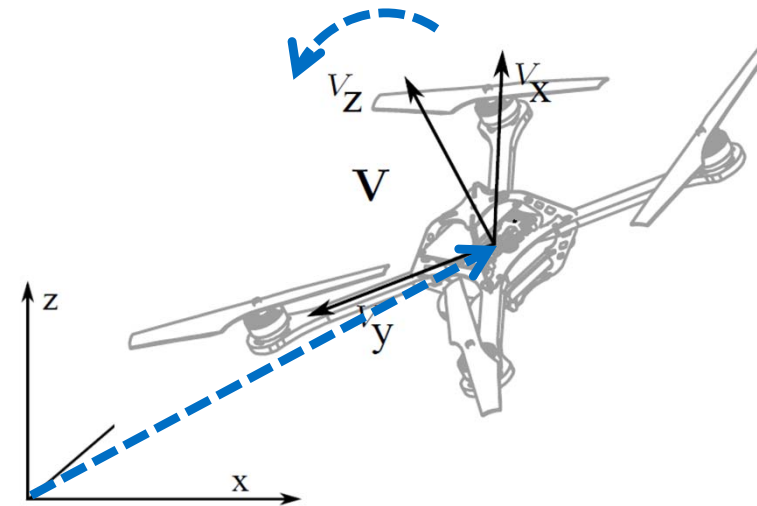
MOTION PRIMITIVE D

Specify motion through
position and **yaw** (4DOF):

$$\begin{cases} s(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t)) \\ \alpha(t) \end{cases}$$

Introduce parametrized motion primitives:

$$\begin{cases} s_d(t) = s_d(p, t), & t \in [t_0, t_f] \\ \alpha_d(t) = \alpha_d(p, t) \end{cases}$$



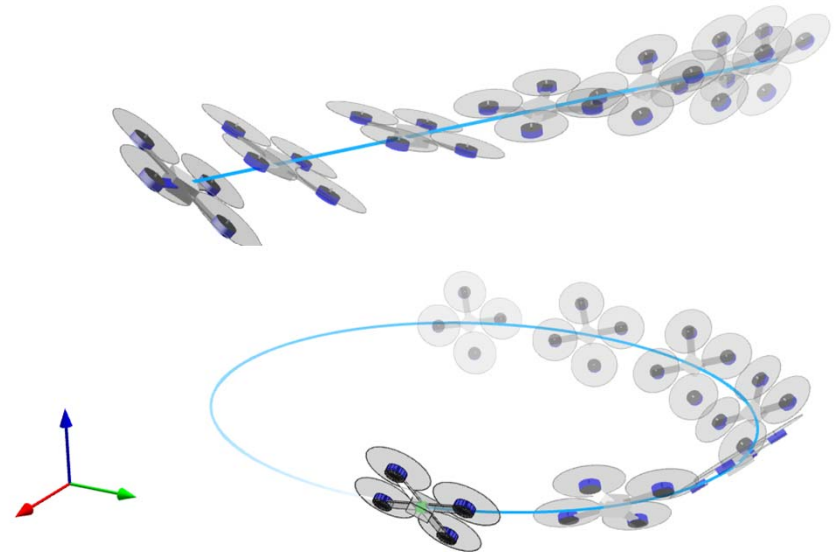
MOTION DESIGN – example

Periodic motion primitive.

$$s_d(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^N a_k \cos(k \Omega t) + b_k \sin(k \Omega t), \quad \Omega = 2\pi/T.$$

includes

- side-to-side motions
- circles
- spirals
-



DESIGN PARADIGM. space – time – energy – structure

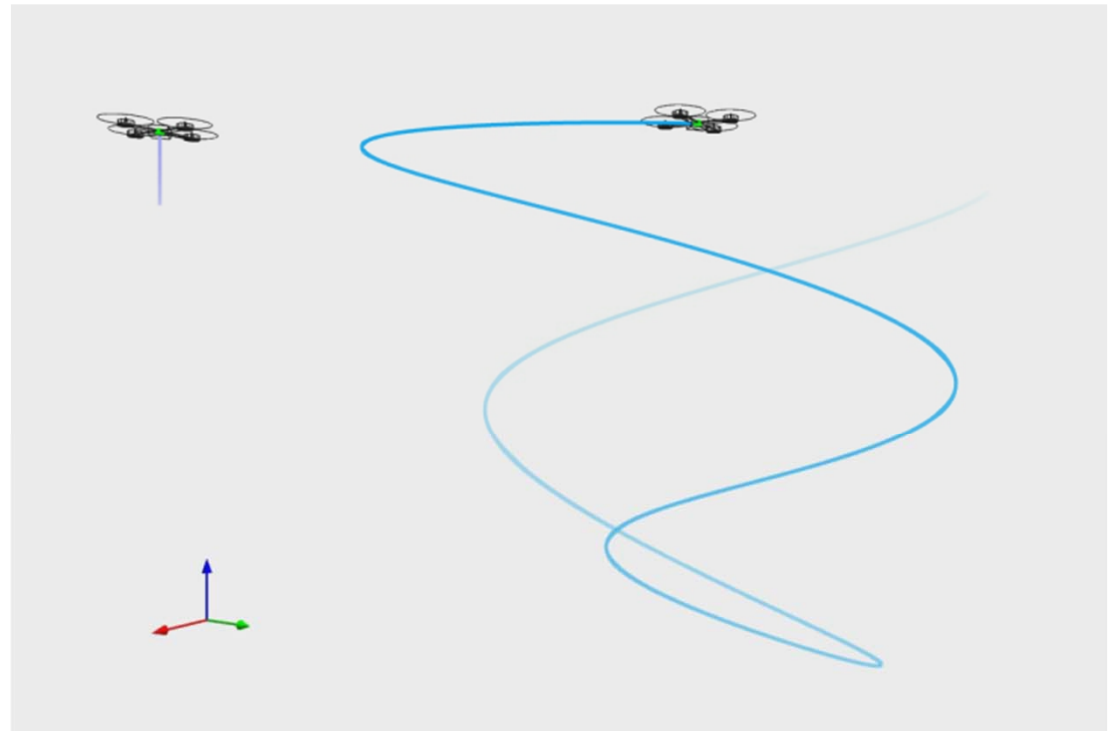
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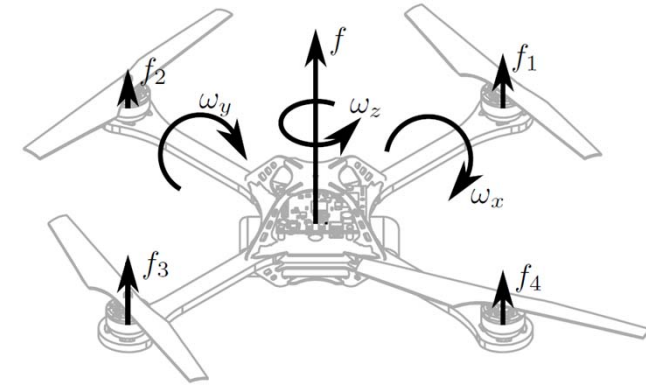
MOTION FEASIBILITY – model/constraints

First principles model.

Constraints.

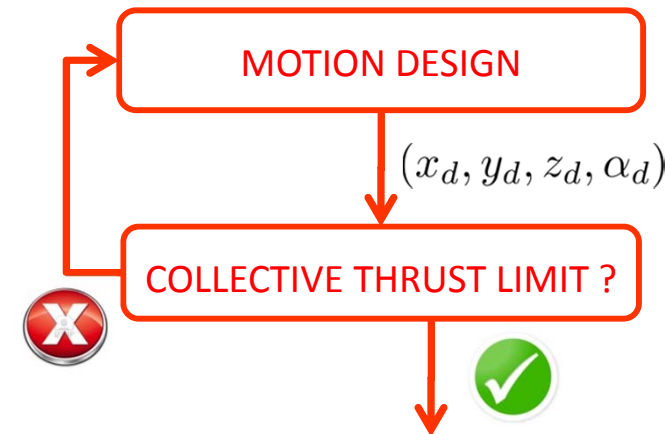
(1) Collective thrust (*input*) $f_{min} \leq f \leq f_{max}$

(2) Single motor thrust $f_{i,min} \leq f_i \leq f_{i,max}$



CHECK 1: Collective thrust limits.

$$f_d = \sqrt{(\ddot{x}_d)^2 + (\ddot{y}_d)^2 + (\ddot{z}_d + g)^2}$$



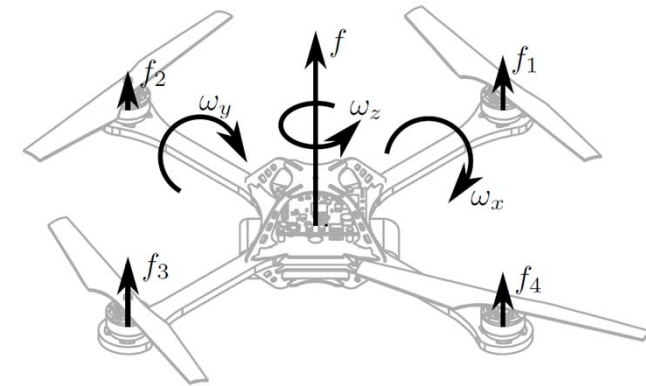
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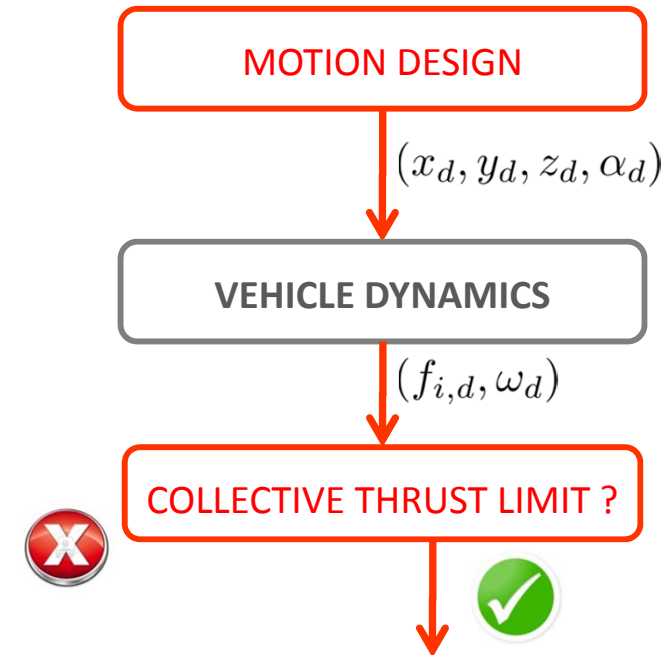
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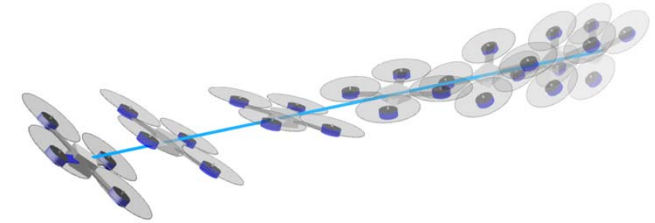
CHECK 2: Single motor thrust limits.



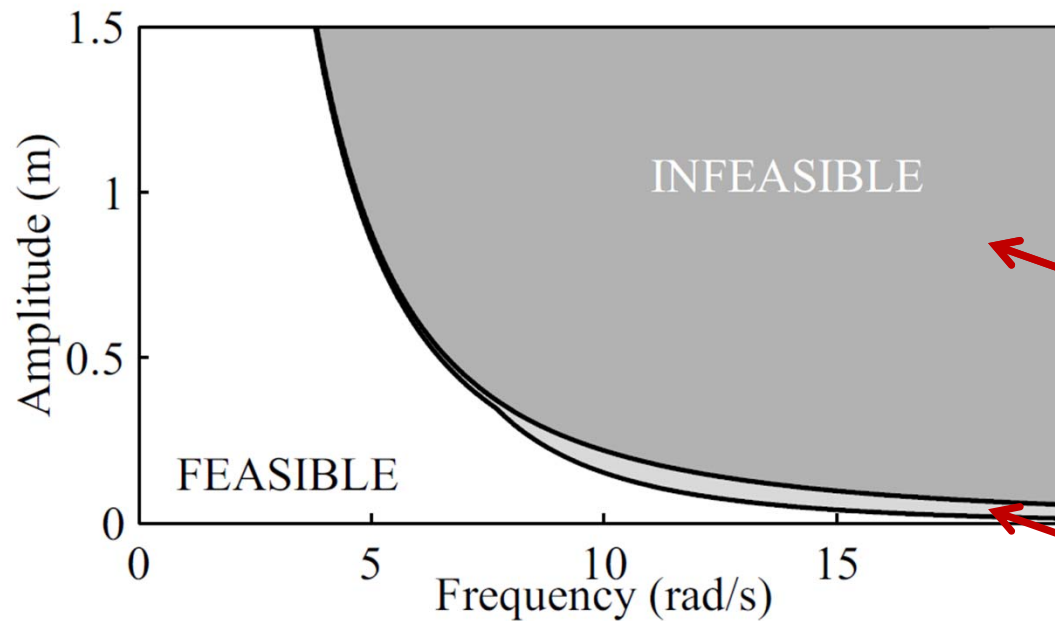
MOTION FEASIBILITY – example

Side-to-side motion.

$$s_d(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x_d(t) \\ y_d(t) \\ z_d(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A \cos(\Omega t) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$



Feasibility.



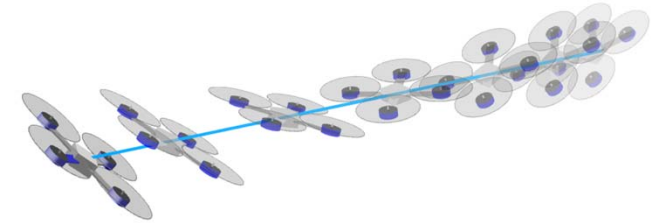
Violates collective thrust limit (CHECK 1)

Violates single motor thrust limit (CHECK 2)

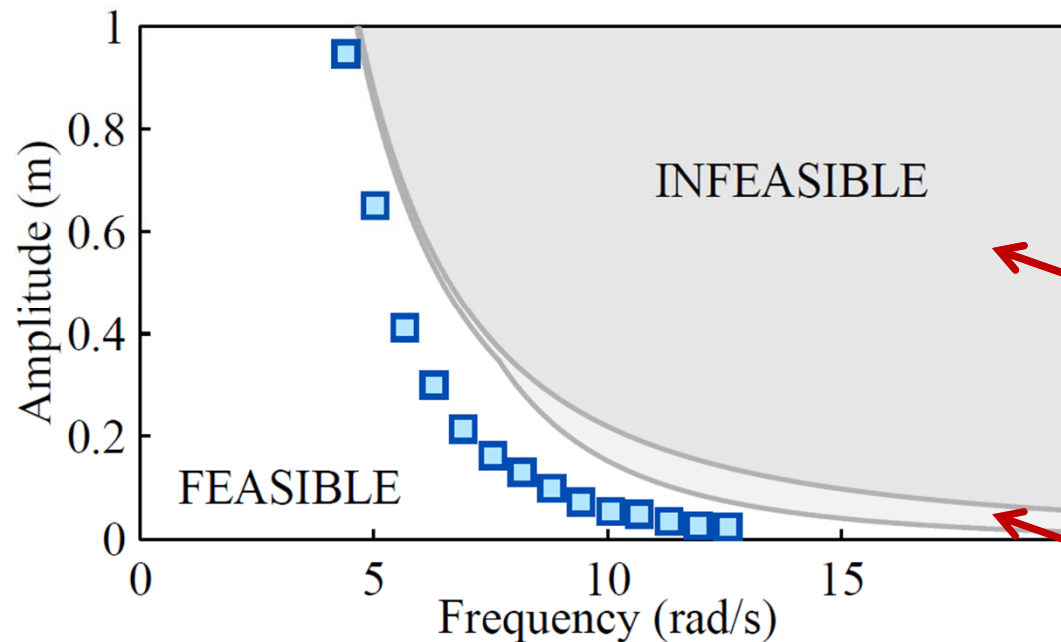
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EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS:
motor commands saturated 1% of the time.



Violates collective thrust limit (CHECK 1)

Violates single motor thrust limit (CHECK 2)

CURRENT STATUS

Motion design.

Work with Federico Augugliaro

names.txt

File Feasibility

Choreography Editor

Check Position Insert Motion Save Load New

Text Editor

Feasibility Check

Flying Mode

```
#=====
# Title of the choreography
#=====
TITLE = "This Choreography Title"

#=====
# Start defining the choreography
# Format:
#       Time Indication      [{T,B,M,S,A}double,]
#       Quadcopter id        [integer,]
#       Motion Type           [string]
#       Separator             [ ]
#       Key Value Sequence    +[key=value,]
#       End Tag                [END;]
#=====
START CHOREOGRAPHY #Let this tag here!

S1-S5, 1, CIRCLE | radius = 2.0 , center=[0; 0; 4], nrRounds=4, phi=0.0 , tCompStart=3.0, tCompEnd=0, kComp=0.3 END;
S1-S3, 4, CIRCLE | radius = 0.5 , center=[0; 0; 4], nrRounds=2.5, phi=0.0 , END;
S3-S5, 4, GOTO | endPosition=[2;2;8], k = 0.3, END;
```

CURRENT STATUS

Feasibility.

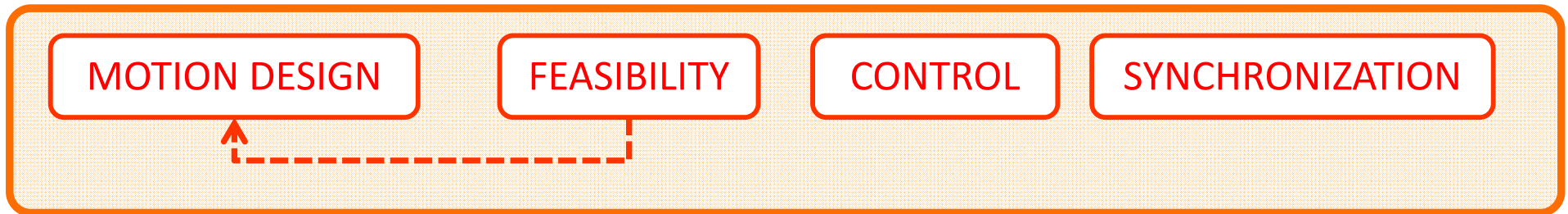
Work with Federico Augugliaro

Choreography Editor

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```

SUMMARY



- choreographies based on motion primitives that are adjustable in their parameters
- feasibility check prior to flight based on first principles models
- synchronization to the music while flying

... **One step** towards creating choreography in a simple and intuitive way.

LET'S DANCE <http://youtu.be/7r281vgfotg?list=PLD6AAACCBFFE64AC5>

Armageddon @ the Flying Machine Arena

April 2011



ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Videos:

www.tinyurl.com/dance2gether

www.tinyurl.com/tripleDance

More:

www.FlyingMachineArena.org