

Feasibility of Motion Primitives for Choreographed Quadcopter Flight

Angela Schoellig, Markus Hehn, Sergei Lupashin and Raffaello D'Andrea

Institute for Dynamic Systems and Control

ETH Zürich, Switzerland



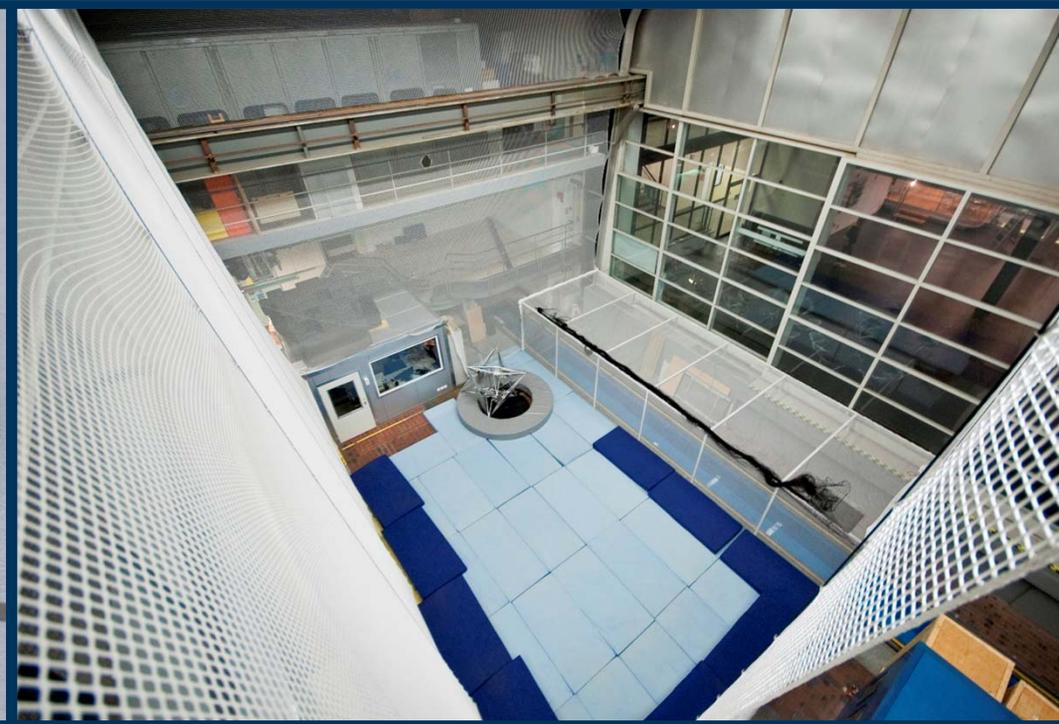
LET'S DANCE



... DANCE IN THE AIR

VISION Dance performance of multiple aerial robots





ACTORS

Type: **Quadcopter**

Size: **Ø 3 feet**

Weight: **1 pound**

Flight time: **15 minutes**

STAGE

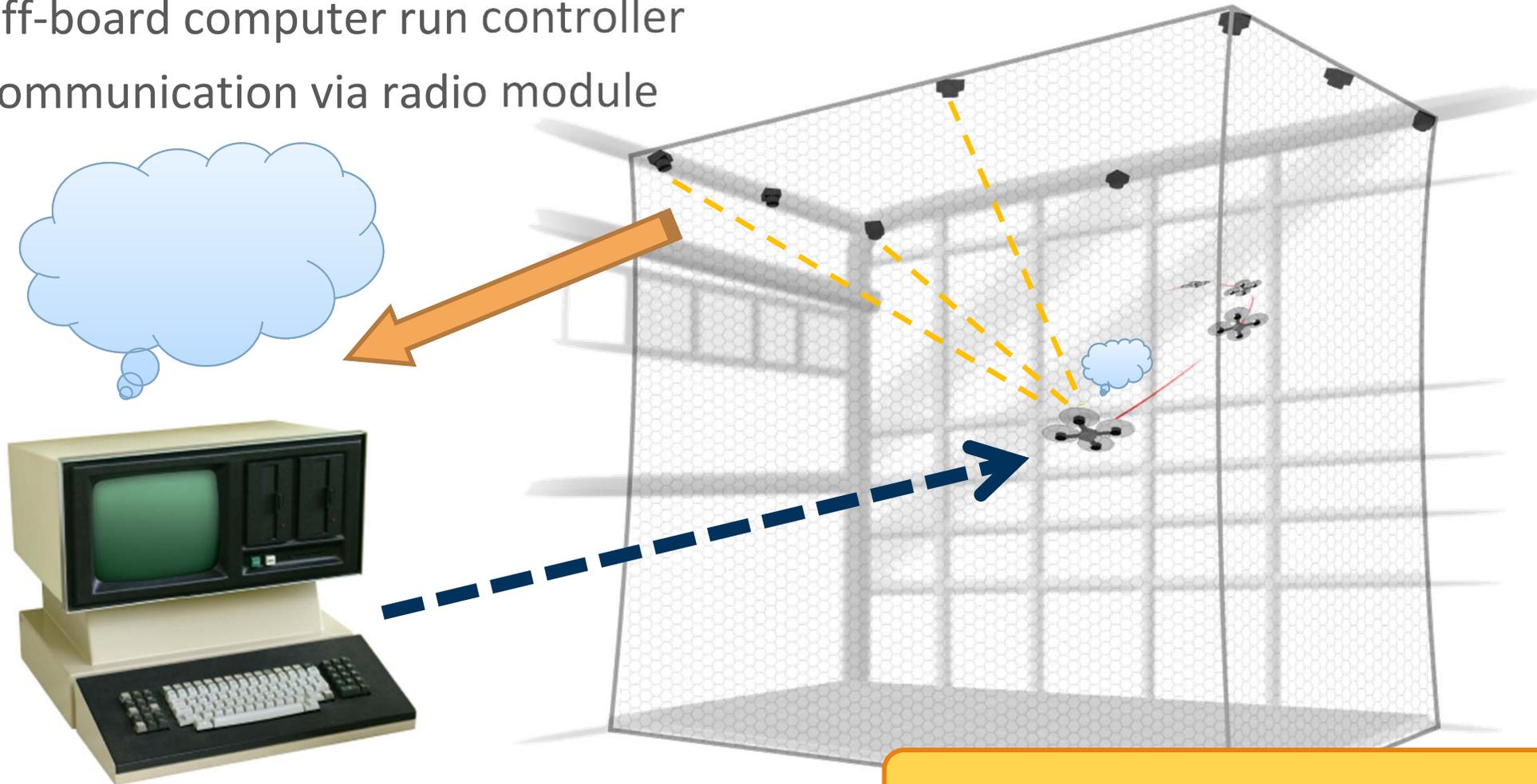
Name: **Flying Machine Arena**

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

Protection: **Nets, Padded floor**

TESTBED

- cameras provide position and attitude
- off-board computer run controller
- communication via radio module



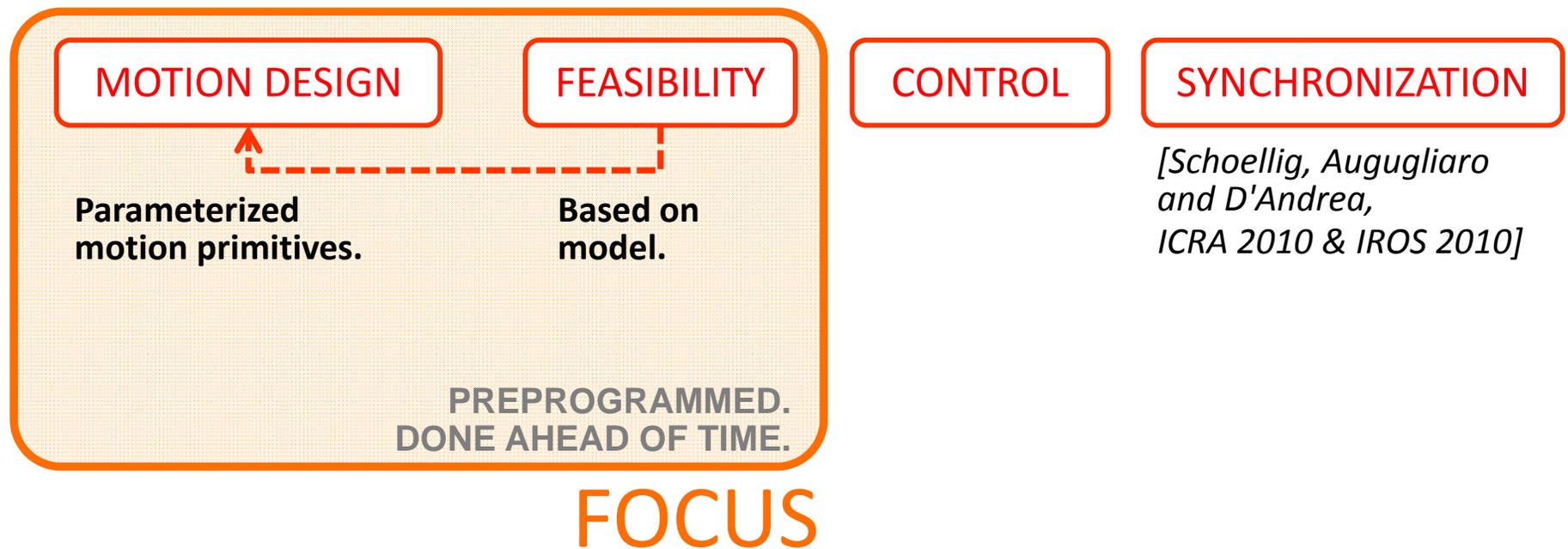
VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/DrHlgxf0oQw?list=PLD6AAACCBFFE64AC5>



OBJECTIVE & FOCUS

GOAL *An intuitive* interface for creating meaningful and feasible quadcopter choreography.

... use controls and system dynamics.



MOTION DESIGN – idea

CHOREOGRAPHY – concatenation of basic motion elements

MOTION PRIMITIVE A

MOTION PRIMITIVE B

....

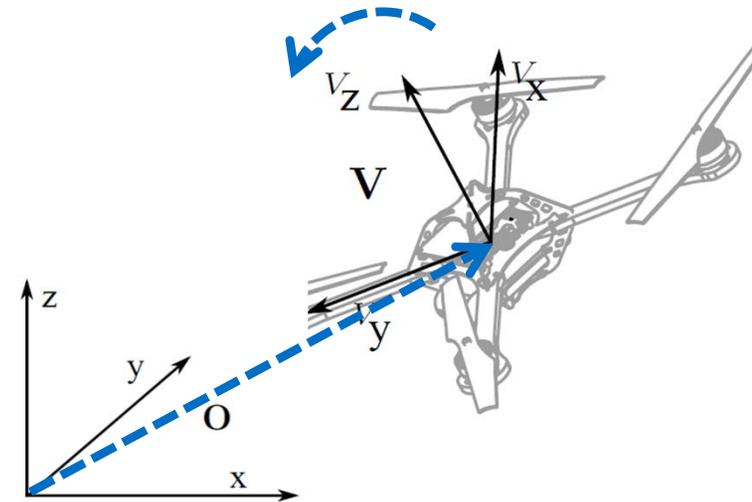
MOTION PRIMITIVE D

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:

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



DESIGN PARADIGM. space – time – energy – structure

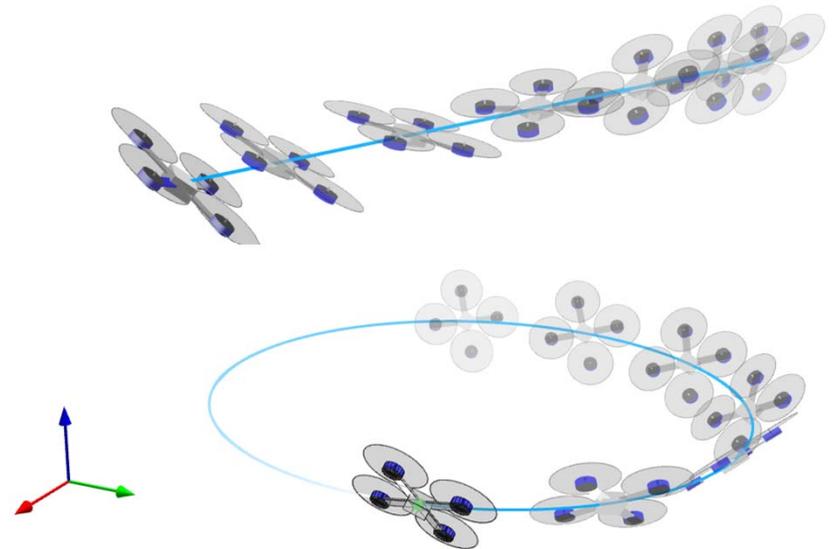
MOTION DESIGN – example

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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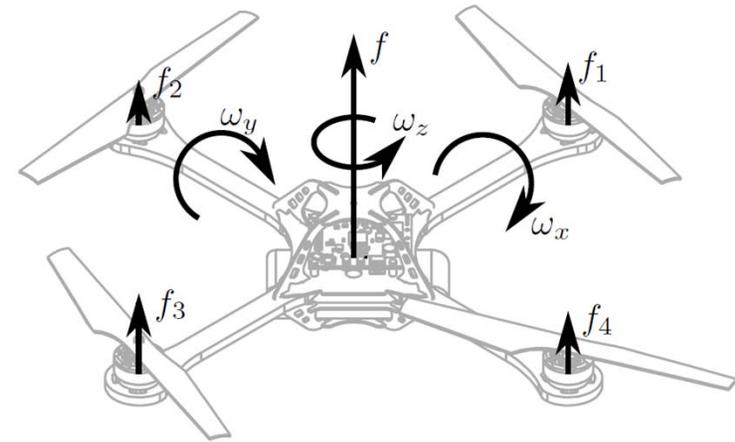
DESIGN PARADIGM. space – time – energy – structure

MOTION FEASIBILITY – model/constraints

First principles model.

$$\ddot{s} = \frac{O}{V} R(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ f \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix}, \quad f = \sum_{i=1}^4 f_i.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\gamma} \\ \dot{\beta} \\ \dot{\alpha} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \beta \cos \gamma & -\sin \gamma & 0 \\ \cos \beta \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma & 0 \\ -\sin \beta & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{bmatrix}, \quad \omega = (\omega_x, \omega_y, \omega_z).$$

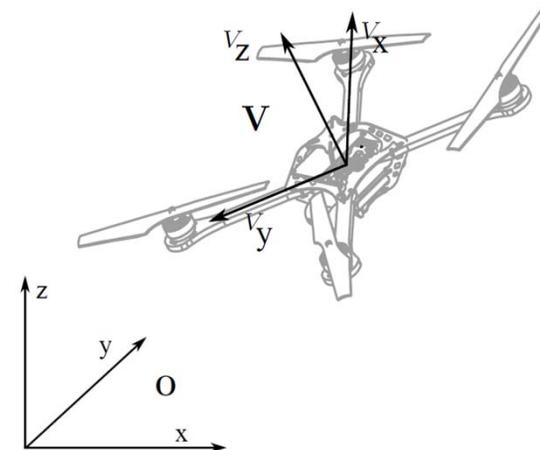


INPUTS
send to vehicle

Constraints.

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

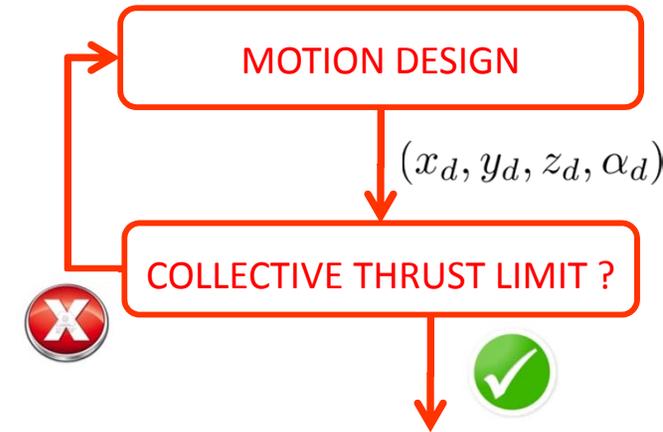
(2) Single motor thrust $f_{i,min} \leq f_i \leq f_{i,max}$



MOTION FEASIBILITY – check

CHECK 1: Collective thrust limits.

$$\ddot{s}_d + g = {}^O_V R(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ f_d \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow f_d = \sqrt{(\ddot{x}_d)^2 + (\ddot{y}_d)^2 + (\ddot{z}_d + g)^2}$$



CHECK 2: Single motor thrust limits.

(1) Desired attitude

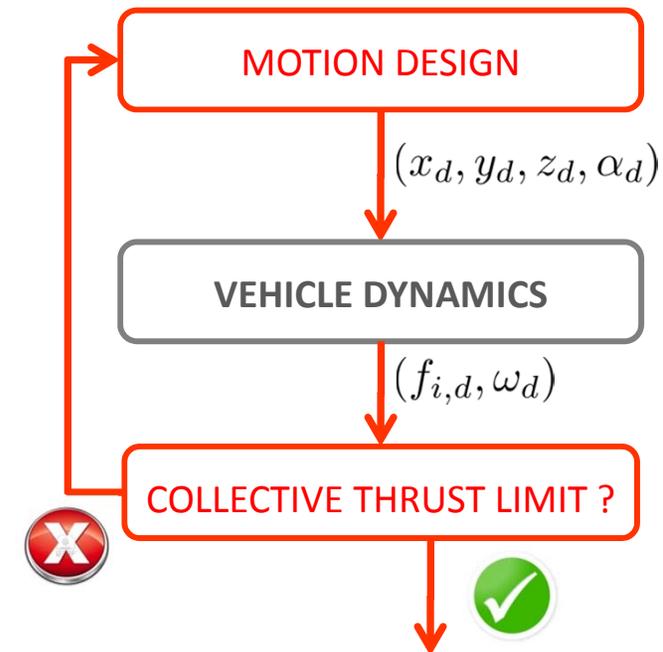
$$\text{---} \rightarrow (\alpha_d, \beta_d, \gamma_d), f_d$$

(2) Rotational rates

$$\begin{bmatrix} \omega_{y,d} \\ -\omega_{x,d} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = ({}^O_V R(\alpha_d, \beta_d, \gamma_d))^T \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{f_d}{|f_d|} \right) \rightarrow \omega_d$$

(3) Single motor thrusts

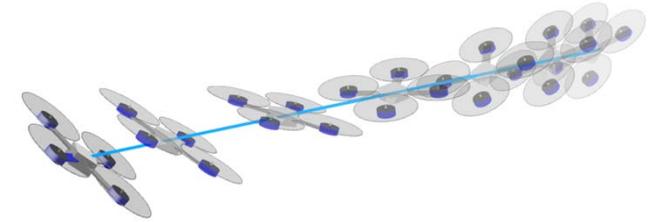
$$\begin{bmatrix} L(f_{2,d} - f_{4,d}) \\ L(f_{3,d} - f_{1,d}) \\ k(f_{1,d} - f_{2,d} + f_{3,d} - f_{4,d}) \end{bmatrix} = m(I\dot{\omega}_d + \omega_d \times I\omega_d) \rightarrow f_{i,d}$$



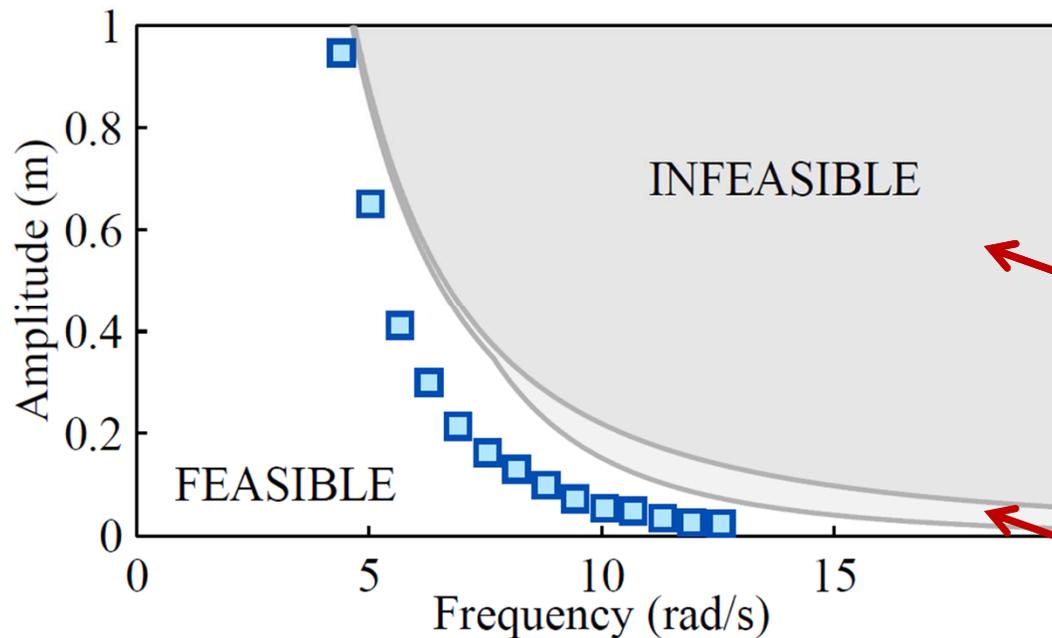
MOTION FEASIBILITY – example

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



Violates collective thrust limit (CHECK 1)

Violates single motor thrust limit (CHECK 2)

CURRENT STATUS

Work with Federico Augugliaro

names.txt

File Feasibility

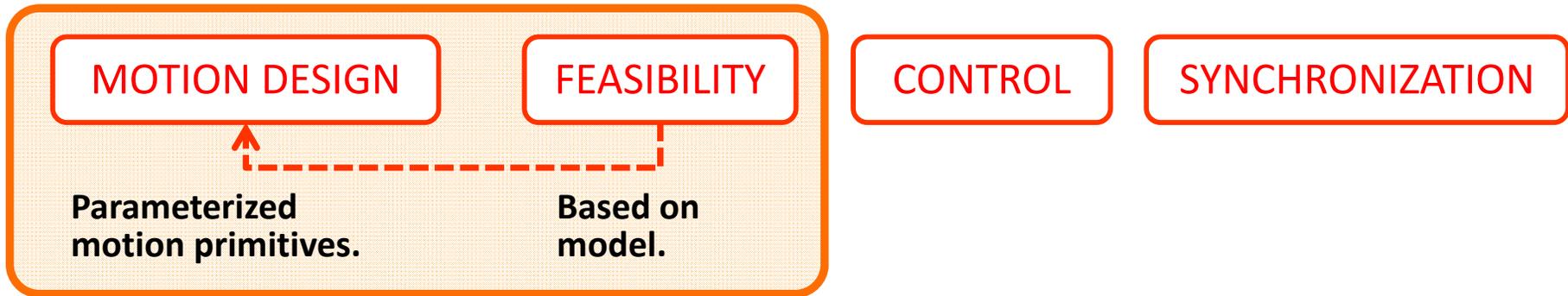
Choreography Editor

Check Position Insert Motion Save Load New

```
#=====
# 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;
```

SUMMARY



- choreographies based on motion primitives that are adjustable in their parameters
- check feasibility ahead of time based on first principles models

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

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

Armageddon @ the Flying Machine Arena

April 2011



ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

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American Control Conference 2011
San Francisco – Jul 1, 2011

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Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich