

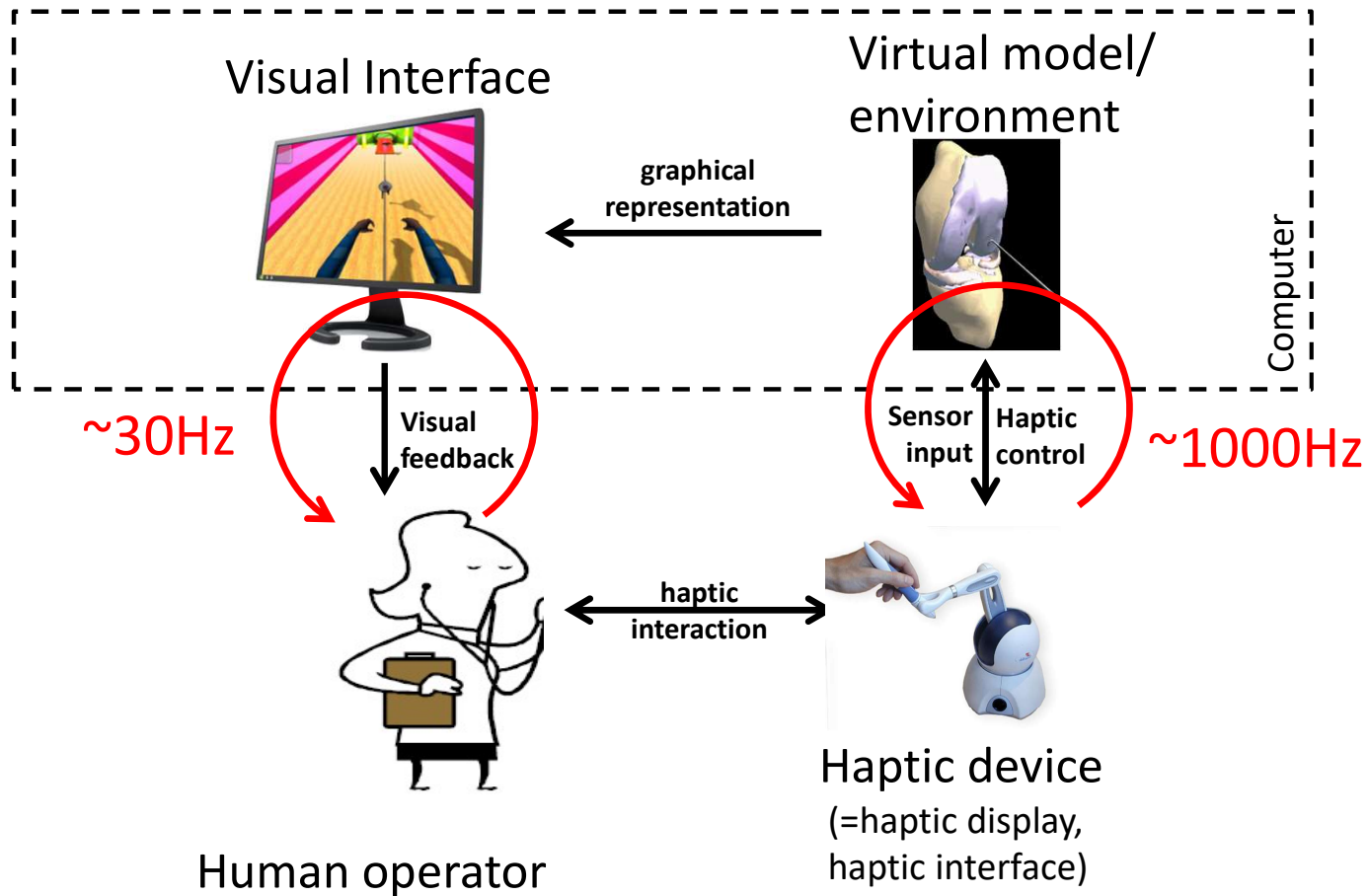
# Human-Robot Interaction

Advanced Control – Control Schemes for a Haptic Interface

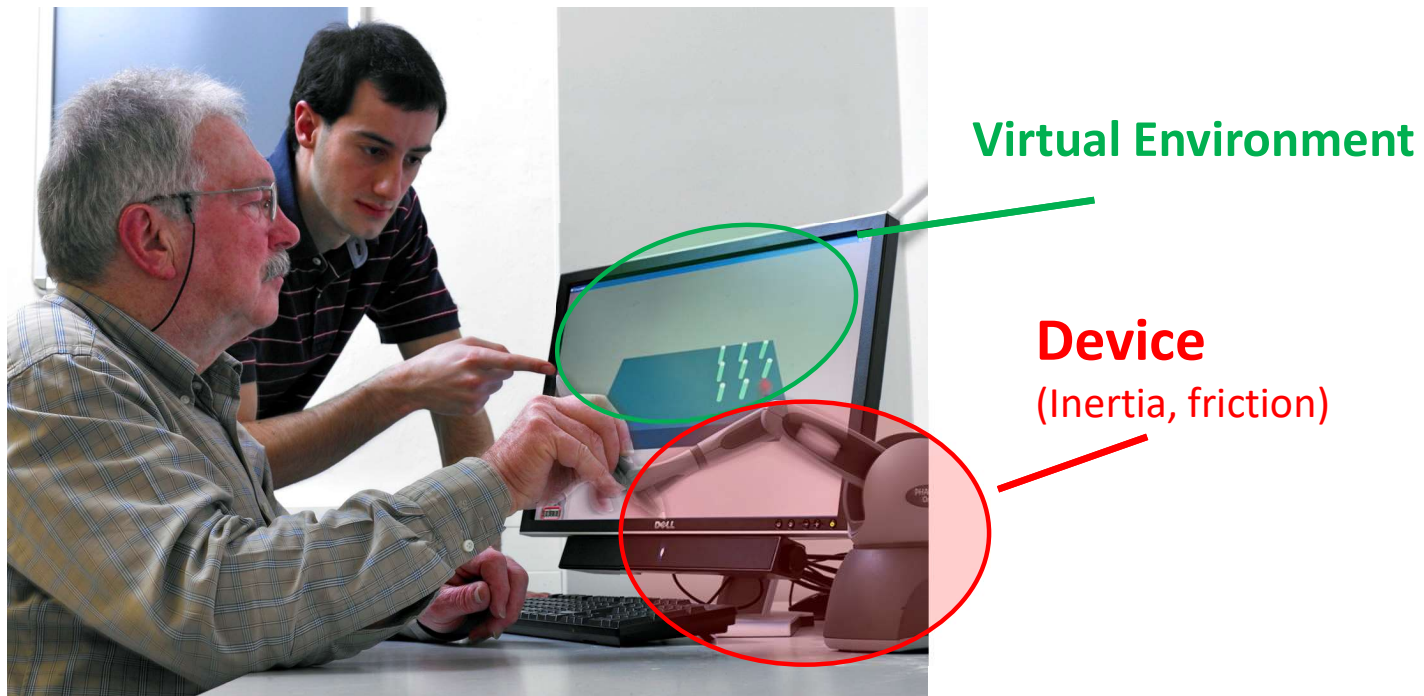
## Part 2- Impedance control and Z-Width

Dr Mohamed Bouri (2024)  
REHAssist, EPFL

# Haptic control and a VE



# What Would We Like to Feel at a Haptic Device? What Do We Feel at a Haptic Device?



A *haptic interface* let a human operator touch, manipulate and feel a virtual environment

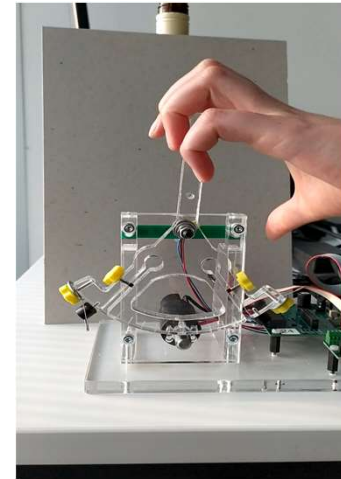
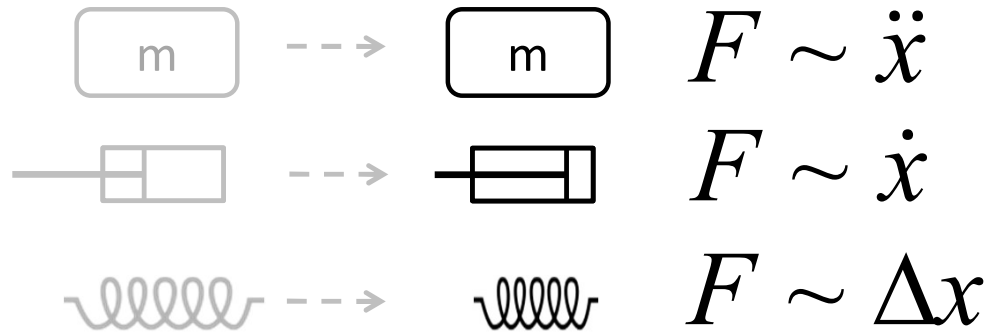
# Mechanical Impedance - $Z$

- *Dynamic* relationship between velocity and force
- Frequency-dependent resistance

$$\mathbf{f}(\omega) = \mathbf{Z}(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{v}(\omega)$$

force

velocity



Mechanical admittance:  $Y = Z^{-1} \rightarrow v(\omega) = Z^{-1} \cdot f(\omega) = Y \cdot f(\omega)$

# Analogy – Electrical Impedance

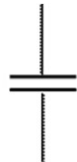
frequency-dependant resistance

Resistor:



$$Z = \frac{V}{I} = R$$

Capacitor:



$$Z = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{1}{j\omega C}$$

$\omega \rightarrow 0$  (DC)  $\rightarrow$  Z large (open circuit)

$\omega \rightarrow \infty$   $\rightarrow$  Z small (short circuit)

Inductance:



$$Z = \frac{V}{I} = j\omega L$$

$\omega \rightarrow 0$  (DC)  $\rightarrow$  Z small (short circuit)

$\omega \rightarrow \infty$   $\rightarrow$  Z large (open circuit)

# What is the Z-Width?

## The range of admissible Z-values

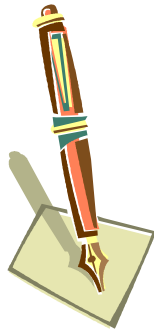


Low mass rigid body  
(almost no resistance to motion)

$$Z \rightarrow 0; Y \rightarrow \infty$$

$$v(\omega) = Z^{-1} \cdot f(\omega) = Y \cdot f(\omega)$$

→ small force  $f$  results in a large motion

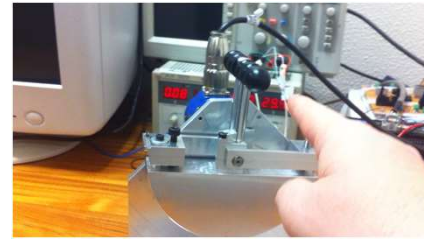


“Stiff viscoelastic body”  
(almost complete resistance to motion  
in direction normal to paper)

$$Z \rightarrow \infty; Y \rightarrow 0$$

$$v(\omega) = Z^{-1} \cdot f(\omega) = Y \cdot f(\omega)$$

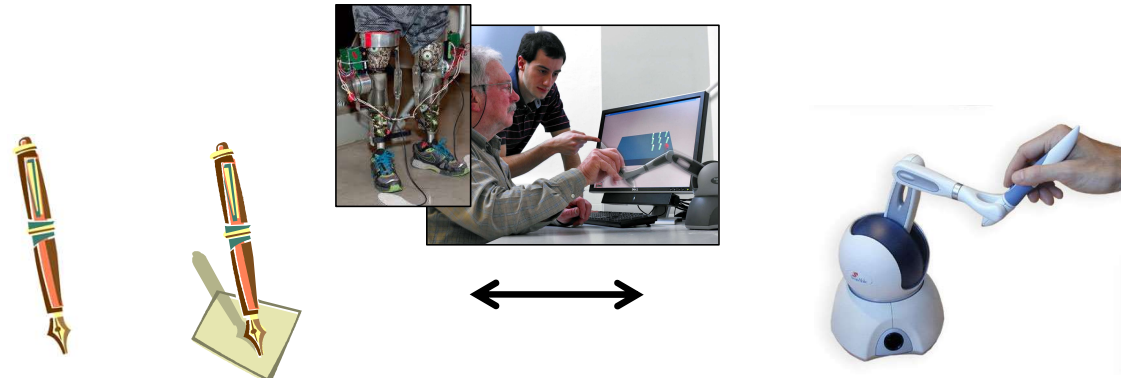
→ large force  $f$  results in a small motion



Z-Width:  
Dynamic range of  
achievable impedances



# The "Ultimate" Multi Purpose of a Haptic Device



How to build a haptic interface with a broad Z-Width and a robust stability property?



Low end: limited by inertia and friction



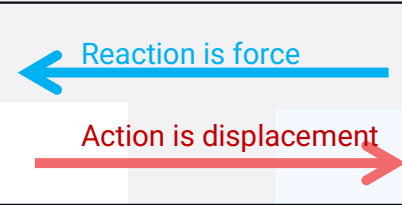
High end: - limited by system stability

[Increase high-end → More Force needed → larger actuators,  
Drive mechanisms, linkages → More inertia, more friction → reduce low-end ]  
(Clover et al., 1997, Book and Ruis 1981)

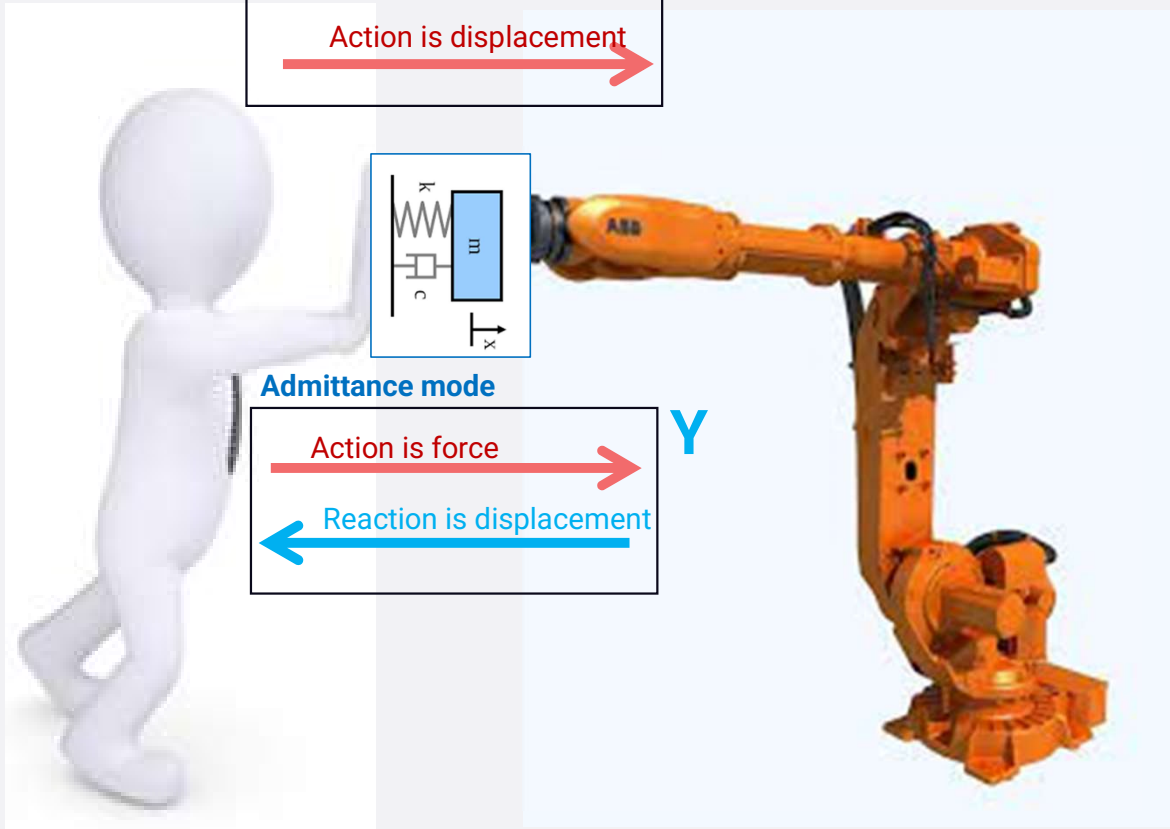


# Did you say “Impedance” or “Admittance” ?

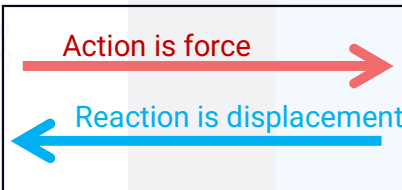
Impedance mode



Z



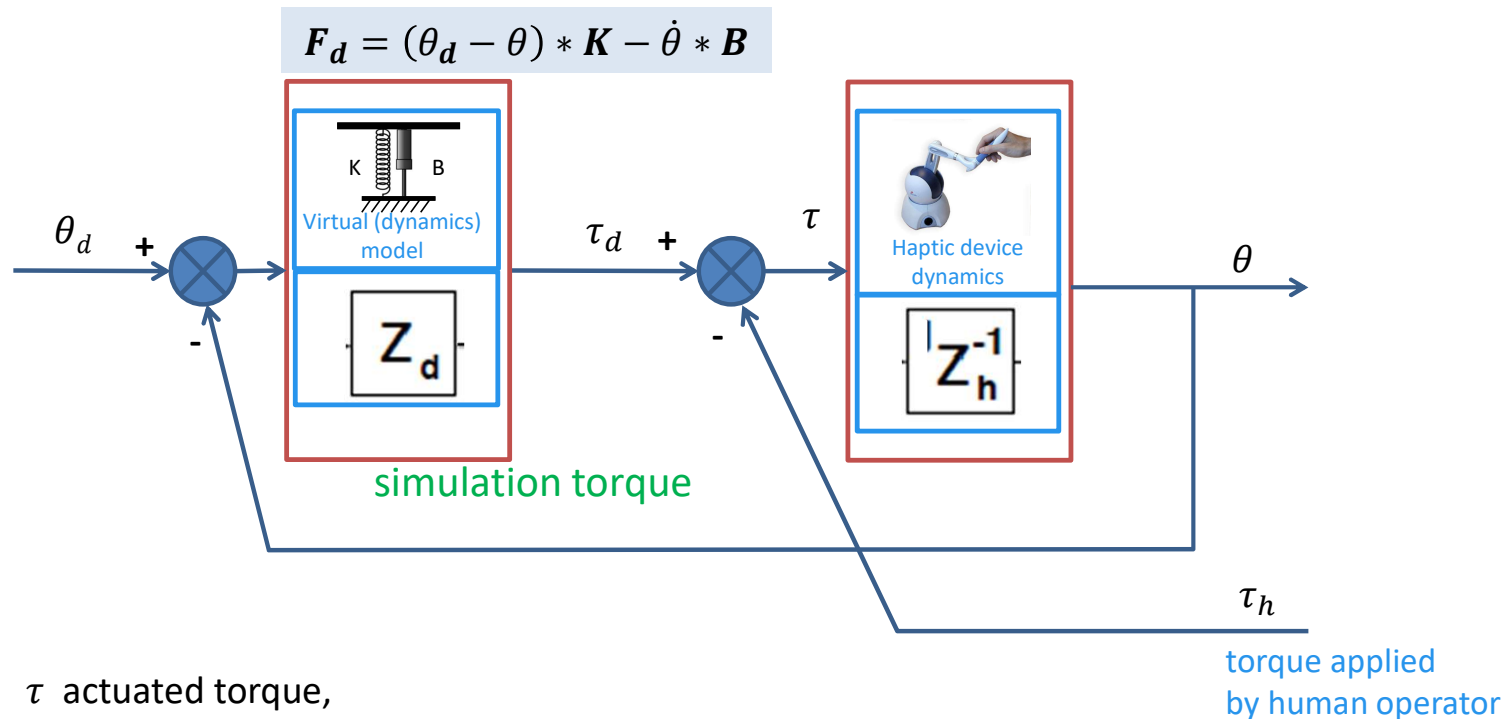
Admittance mode



Y



# (Open-loop) Impedance Control

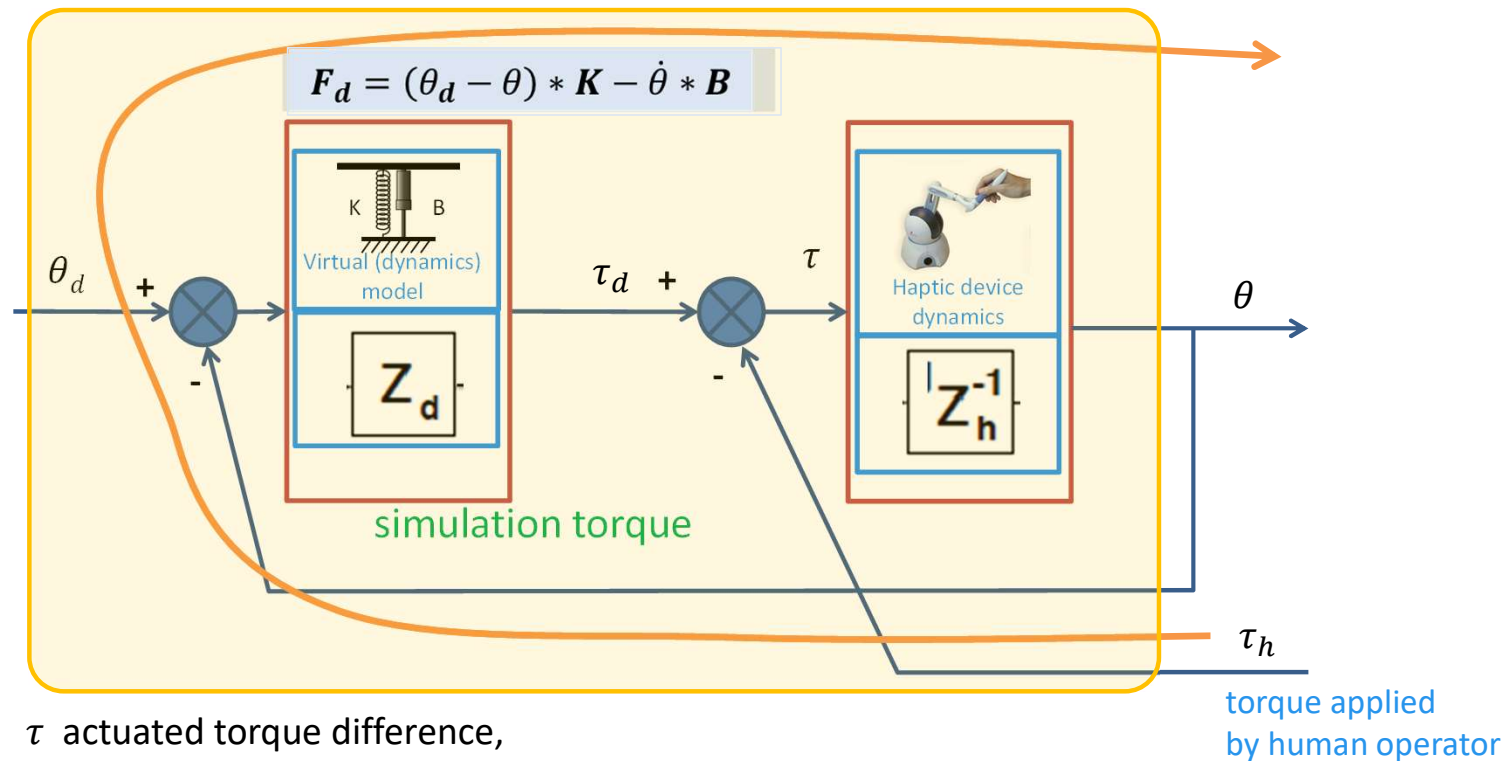


$\tau$  actuated torque,  
 $x$  current position  
 $x_d$  desired position

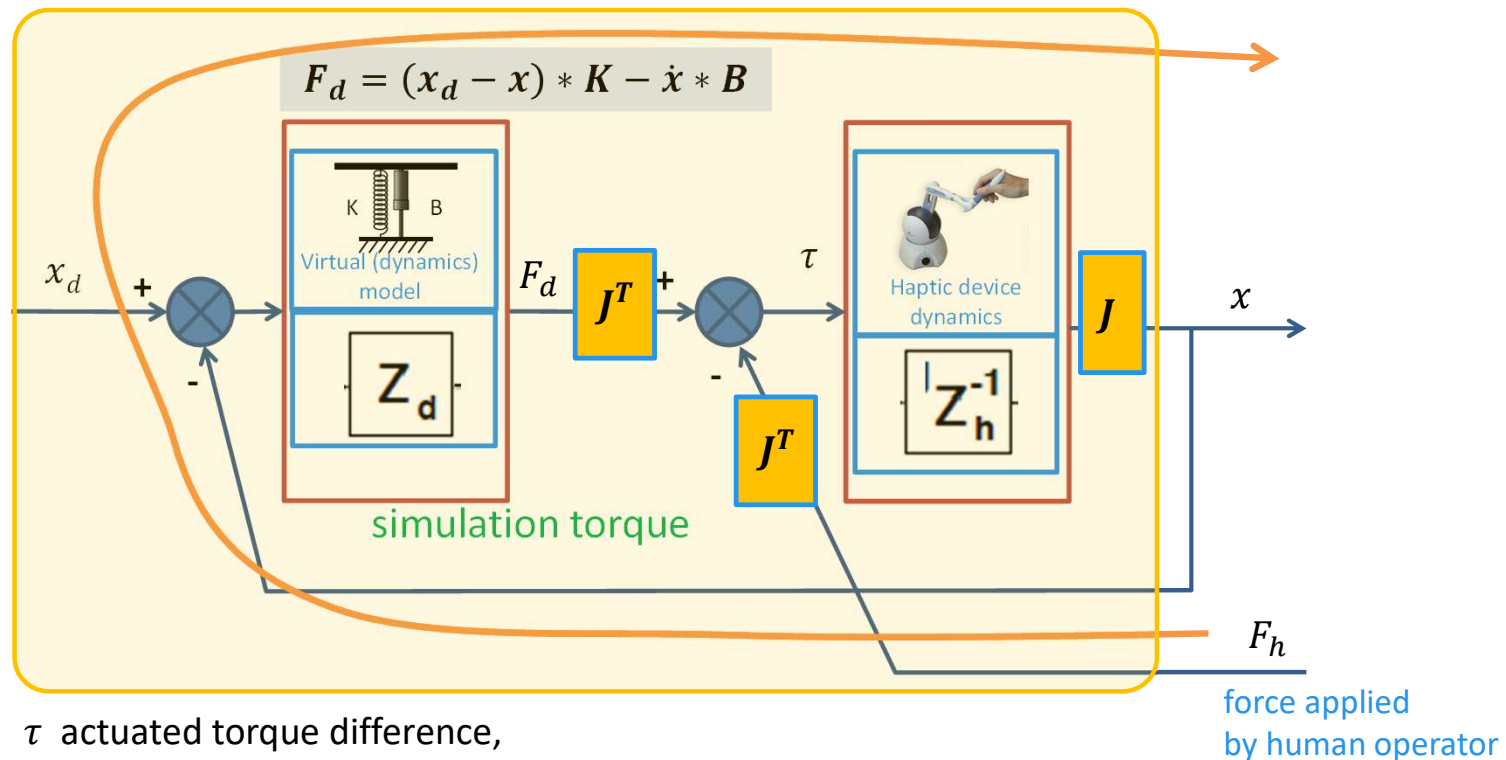
What human operator feels = simulation torque + Friction, gravity, inertia

*Closed-loop force control for haptic simulation of virtual environments,  
 Carignan and Cleary, 2000*

# (Open-loop) Impedance Control



# (Open-loop) Impedance Control

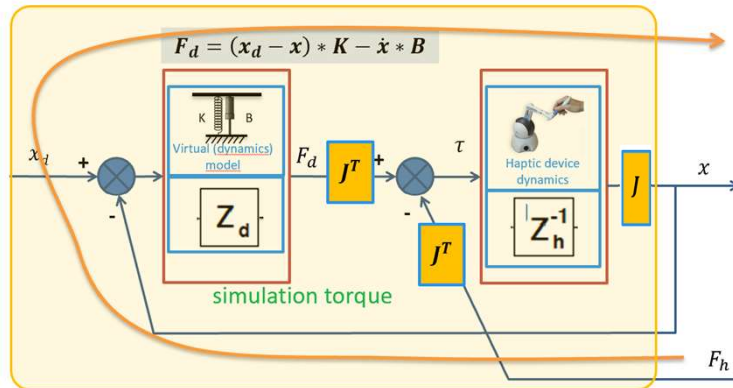


$\tau$  actuated torque difference,  
 $x$  current position  
 $x_d$  desired position

What human operator feels = simulation torque + Friction, gravity, inertia

*Closed-loop force control for haptic simulation of virtual environments,  
 Carignan and Cleary, 2000*

# (Open-loop) Impedance Control



$$F(\omega) = Z(\omega) \cdot X(\omega)$$

$$Z(\omega)^{-1} \cdot F(\omega) = X(\omega)$$

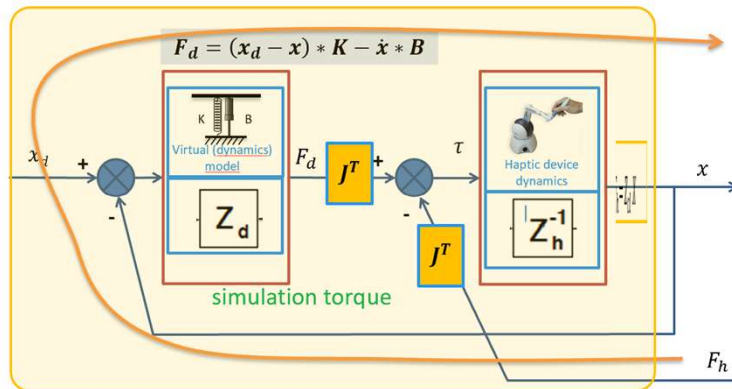
**[Haptic device]**

$$Z_h(\omega)^{-1} \cdot F(\omega) = X(\omega)$$

$$Z_h(\omega)^{-1} \cdot \tau(\omega) = \theta(\omega)$$

(if we consider joints)

# (Open-loop) Impedance Control



$$F_h = Z_{cl} X$$

$$Z_{hCL} = Z_d + Z_h$$

$$X = Z_h^{-1} \cdot (Z_d(X_d - X) - F_h)$$

$$Z_h X = Z_d(X_d - X) - F_h$$

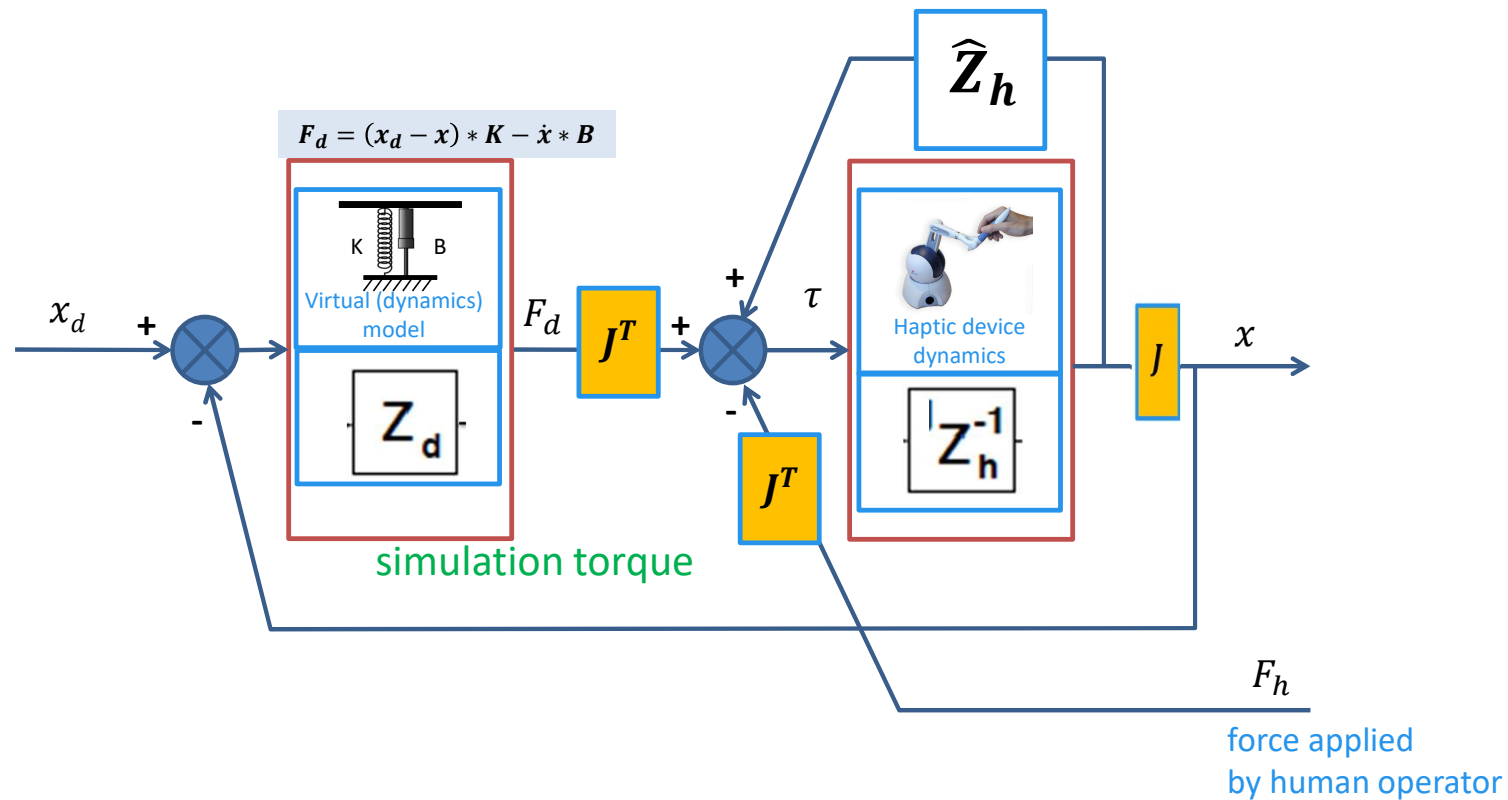
$$F_h = Z_d(X_d - X) - Z_h X$$

Setting  $X_d = 0$ , without loss of generality,  
leads to

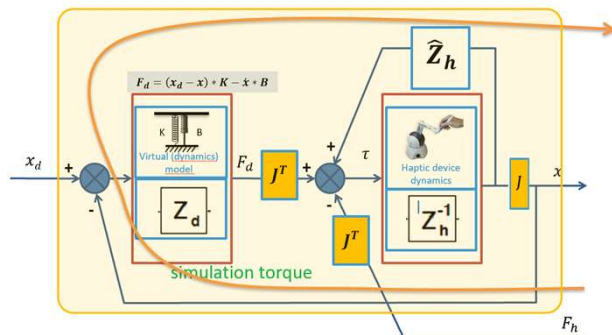
$$F_h = -(Z_d + Z_h) X$$

What human operator feels = simulation torque + Friction, gravity, inertia

# (Open-Loop) Impedance Control with Model Compensation



# (Open-Loop) Impedance Control with Model Compensation



$$X = Z_h^{-1} \cdot (Z_d(X_d - X) + \hat{Z}_h X - F_h)$$

$$Z_h X = Z_d(X_d - X) + \hat{Z}_h X - F_h$$

$$F_h = Z_d(X_d - X) + \hat{Z}_h X - Z_h X$$

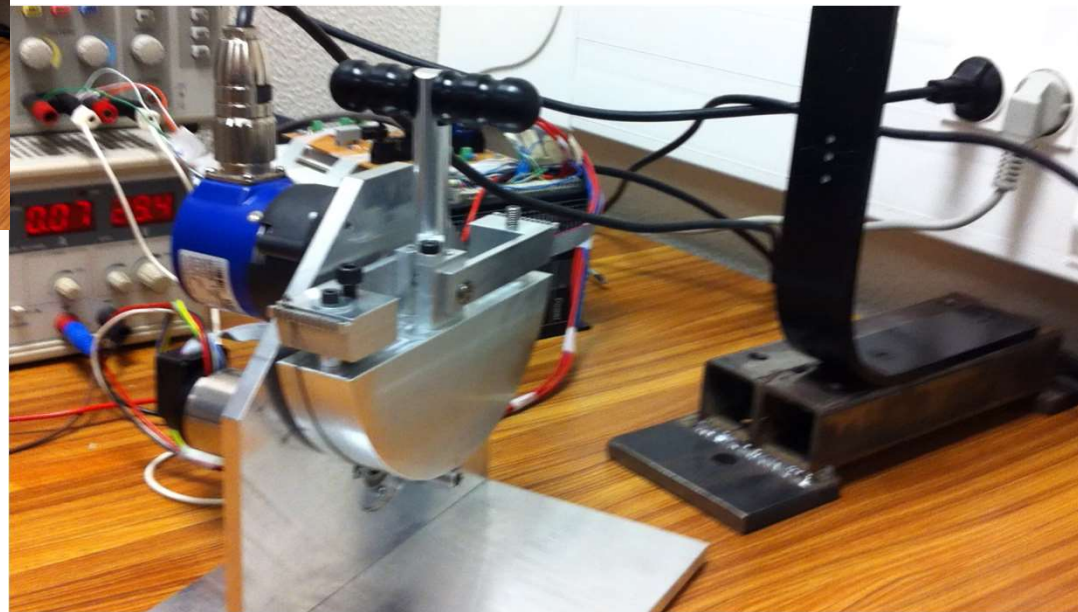
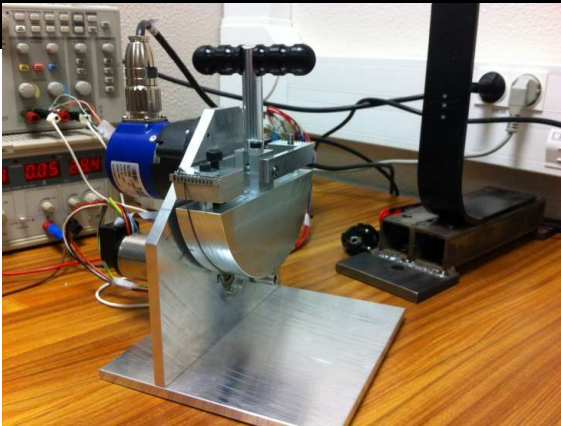
Setting  $X_d = 0$ , without loss of generality,  
leads to

$$F_h = -(Z_d + Z_h - \hat{Z}_h) X$$

$$Z_{hCL} = \underbrace{Z_d + Z_h - \hat{Z}_h}_{=0?}$$

- Modeling errors
- Increased computational load  $\rightarrow$  lower loop rates  $\rightarrow$  compromise maximal stiffness

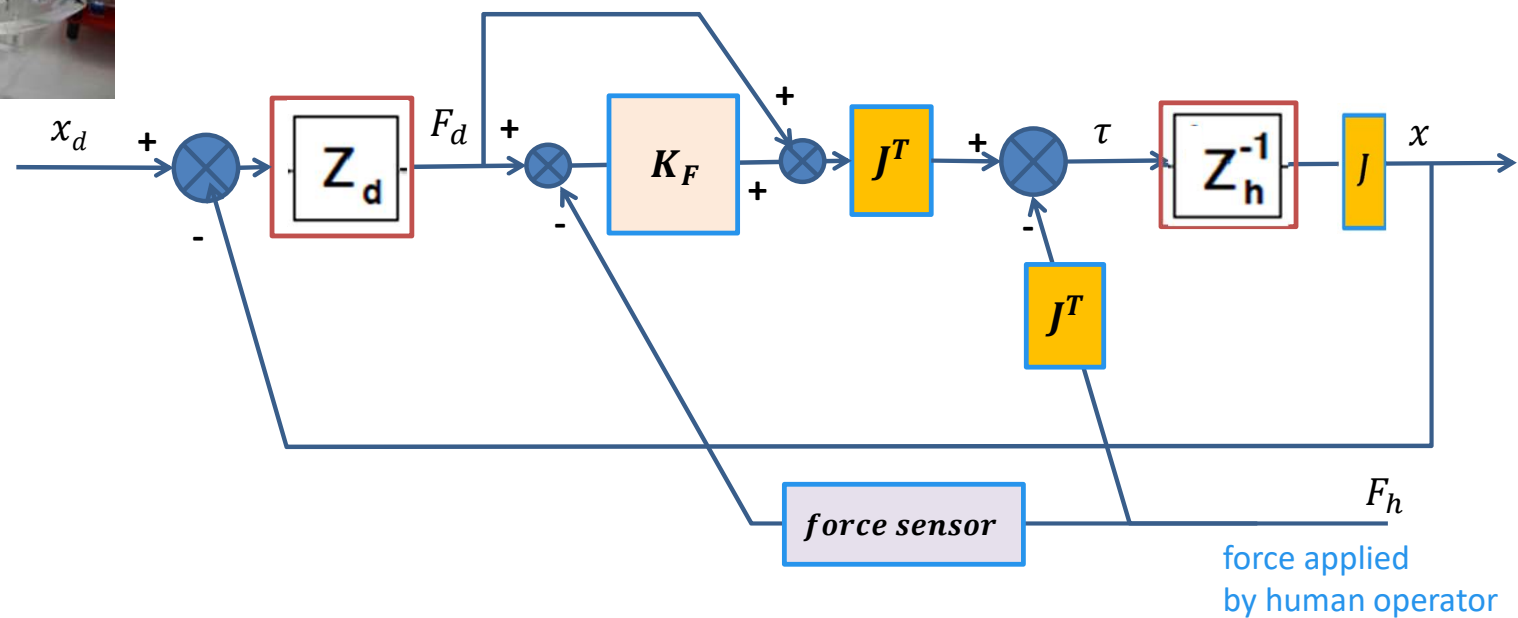
# Example – Gravity and Friction Compensation- transparency





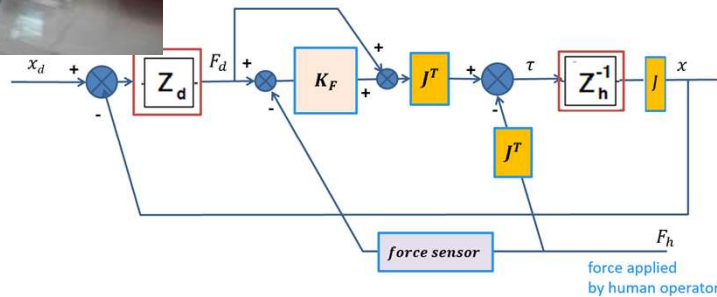


# Impedance Control with Force Feedback





# Impedance Control with Force Feedback



$$Z_{hCL} = Z_d + (I + K_F)^{-1} Z_h$$

$K_F = 0 \rightarrow Z_h$   
(Open loop case)

$K_F \text{ big} \rightarrow 0$   
(stability!)

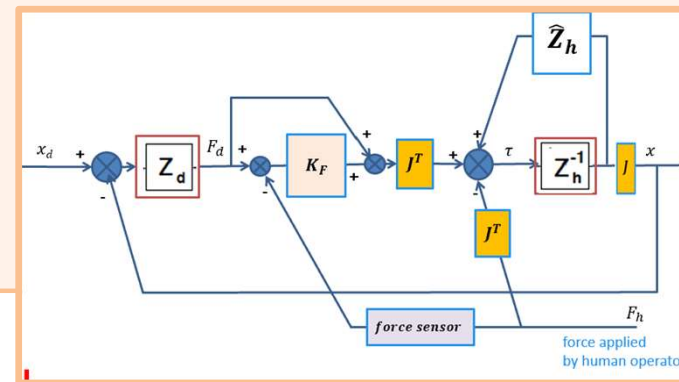
## Summary

- Open-loop Impedance control  $Z_{hCL} = Z_d + Z_h$
- Open-loop Impedance control with model feedforward  $Z_{hCL} = Z_d + Z_h - \hat{Z}_h$
- Impedance control with force feedback  $Z_{hCL} = Z_d + (I + K_F)^{-1} Z_h$

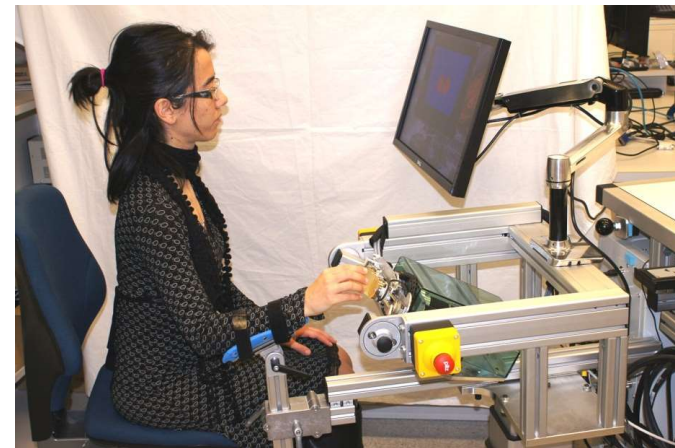
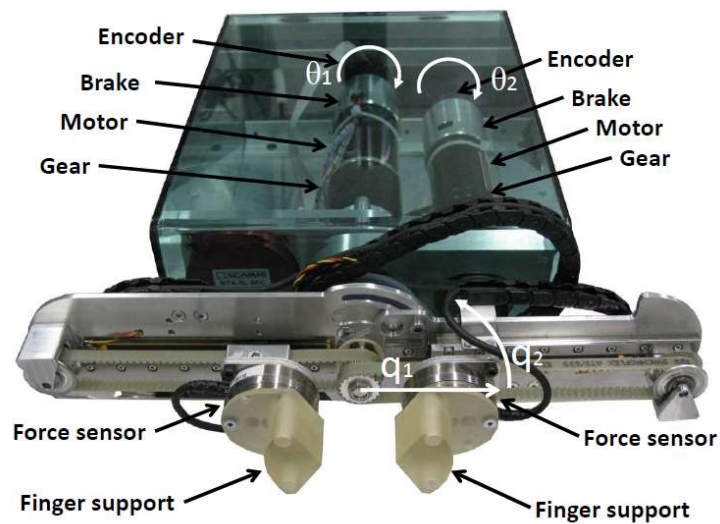
*Closed-loop force control for haptic simulation of virtual environments, Carignan and Cleary, 2000*

### Impedance control with force feedback and model feedforward

→ Smaller feedback error → large force control gain possible



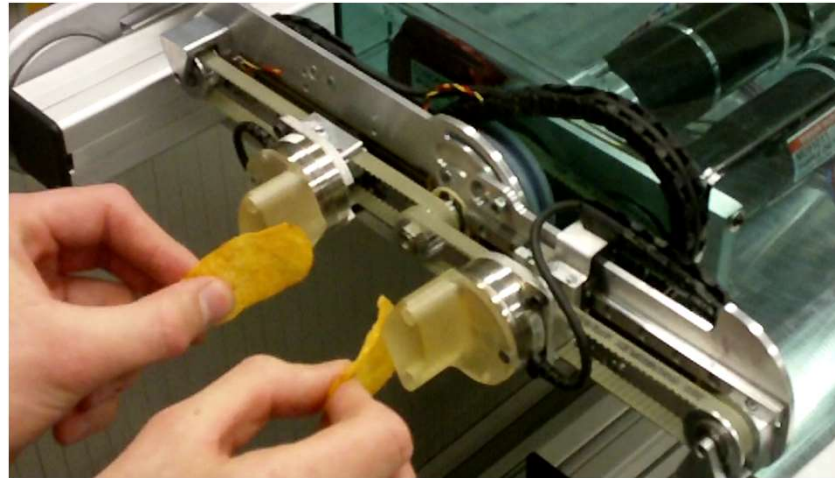
# Hand Rehabilitation Robot - ReHapticKnob



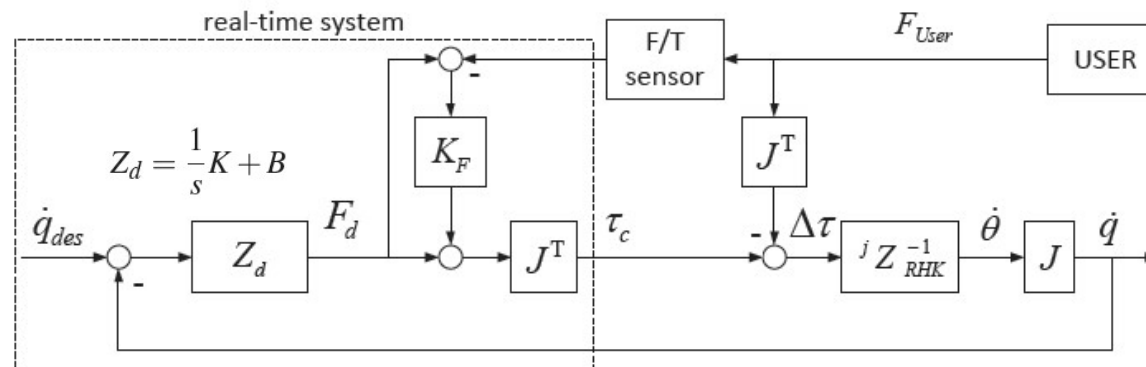
ReHapticKnob with healthy subject  
**REL**AB **ETH** zürich

# Impedance Control With Force Feedback – Transparent control

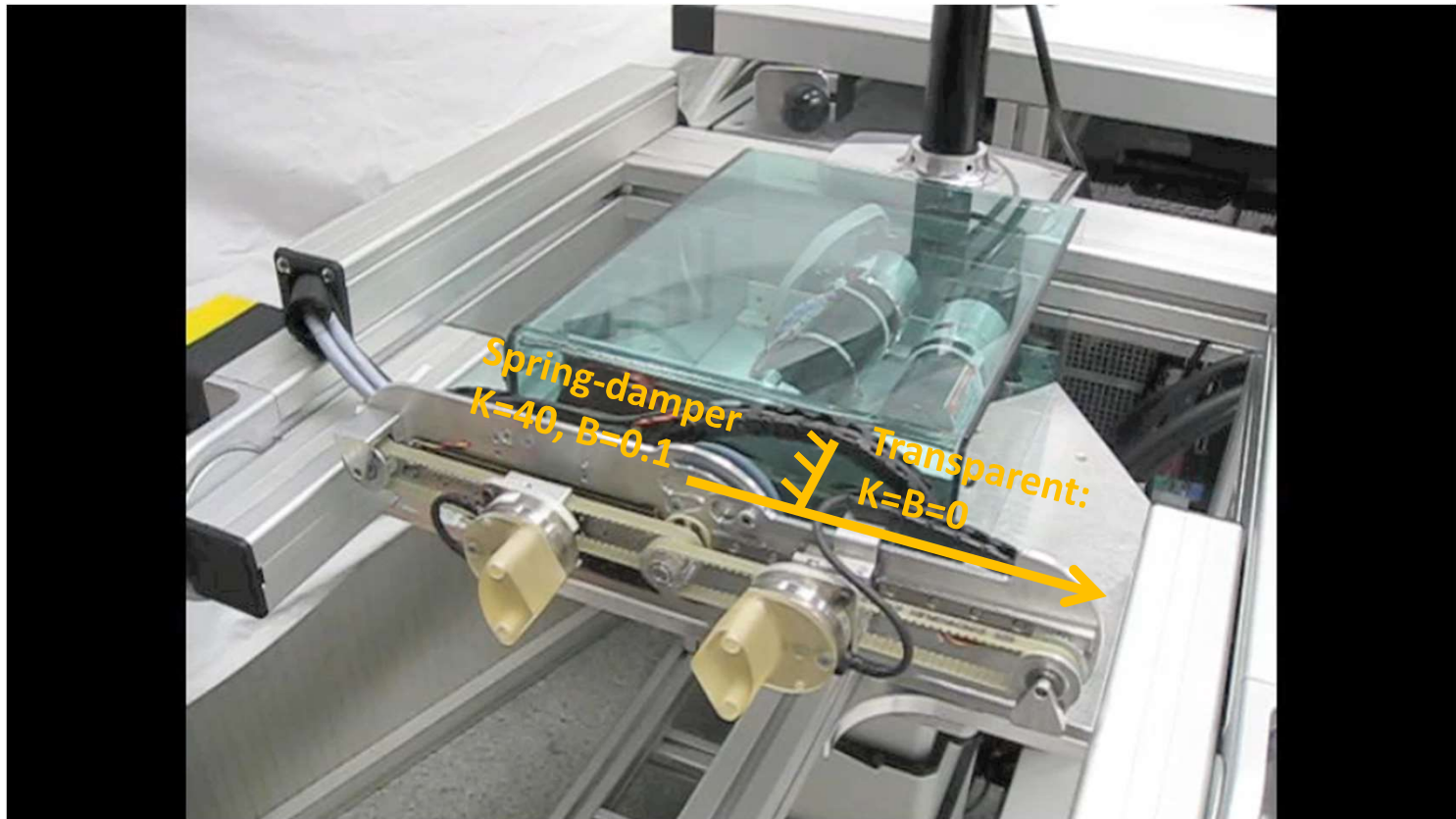
$K=B=0$   
 $K_F$  large



RELAB **ETH** zürich

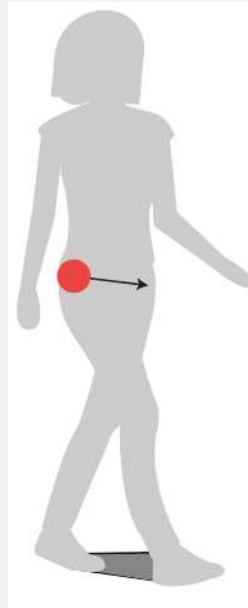
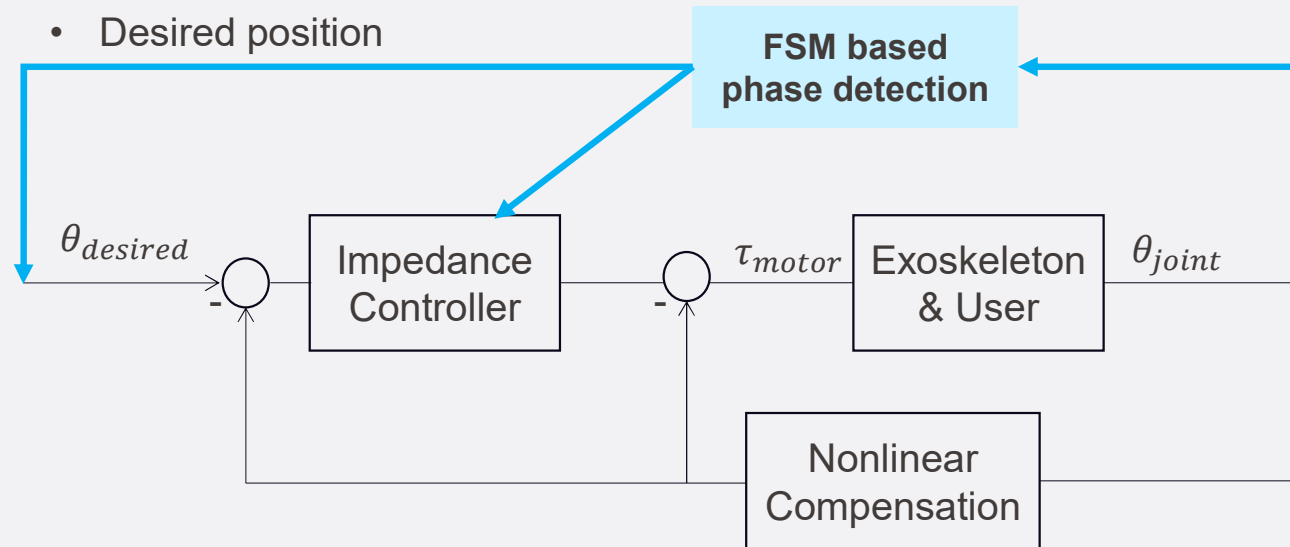
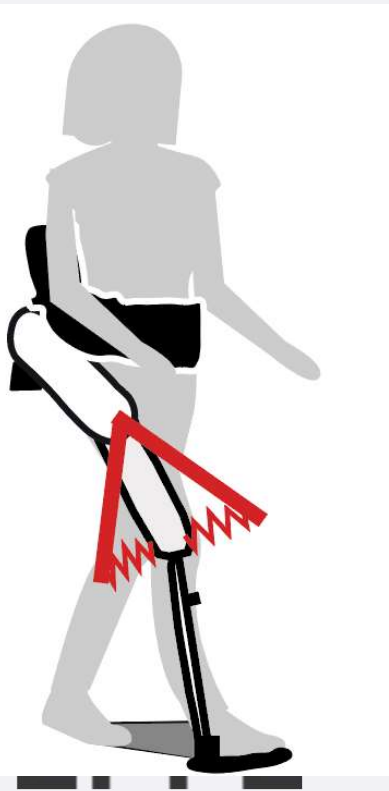


# Impedance Control With Force Feedback - Virtual Wall



RELAB **ETH** zürich

# Variable impedance gait assistance strategy



|                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Swing:          | $V_{hip} > V_{lim+}$         |
| Stance:         | $V_{opp\_hip} > V_{lim+}$    |
| Double support: | $V_{hip} \leq V_{lim+}$      |
|                 | $V_{opp\_hip} \leq V_{lim+}$ |



# Impedance control for assistance





# How to **qualify** a Haptic interface?

# Quality of a haptic interface:

accuracy – fidelity – Z width

Impedance „**accuracy**“:

how close matches the apparent impedance (felt impedance) that of the virtual environment

Impedance „**fidelity**“:

resolution – level of impedance discrimination that can be rendered at the haptic interface  
(→ Fidelity is limited by the natural dynamics of the device)

„**Z width**“:

Defines the range of accessible stable Z, from (fully transparent capabilities,  $Z = 0$ ) to (very stiff,  $Z = \infty$ )

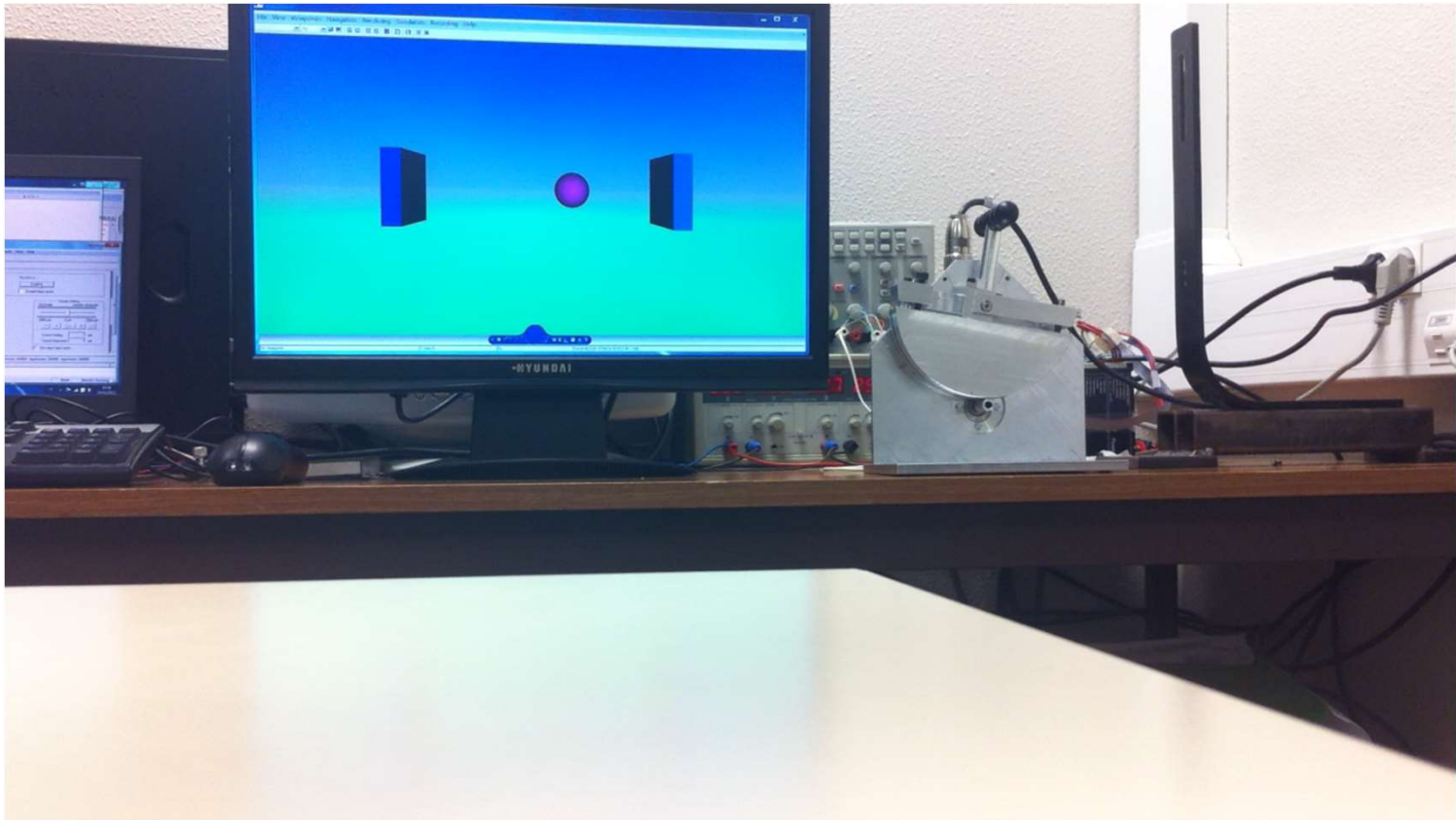
# How to achieve a good-performance Haptic Device?

## Take care about:

- The current loop Bandwidth. **Why?**
- Current resolution. **Why?**
- Position resolution. **Why?**
- Velocity resolution. **Why?**
- Sampling rates of both VR loop and force loop. **Why?**
- Reduce the dry friction in the mechanical transmissions. **Why?**

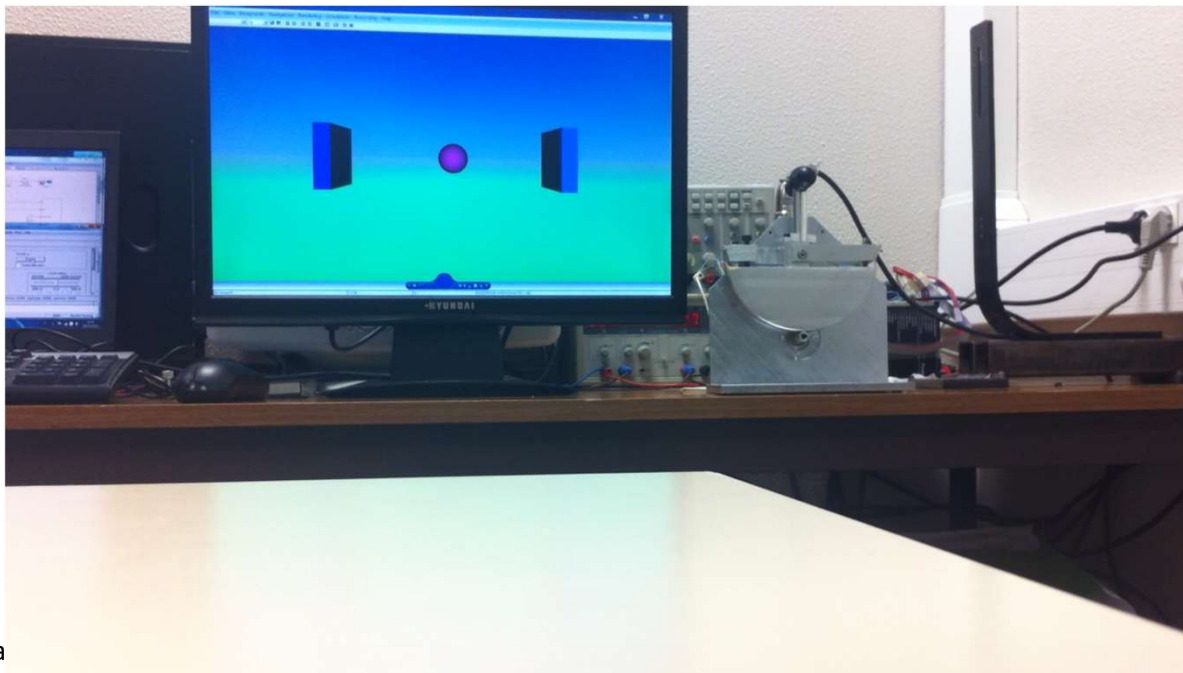
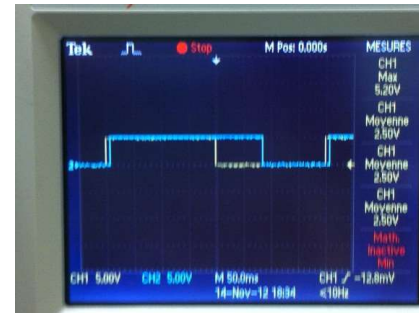
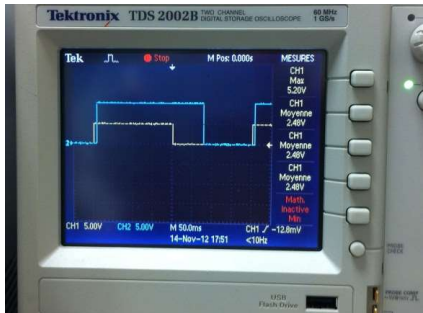
## Performances – Effects of the Feedback Delay

Wall effect stability – **No delay**

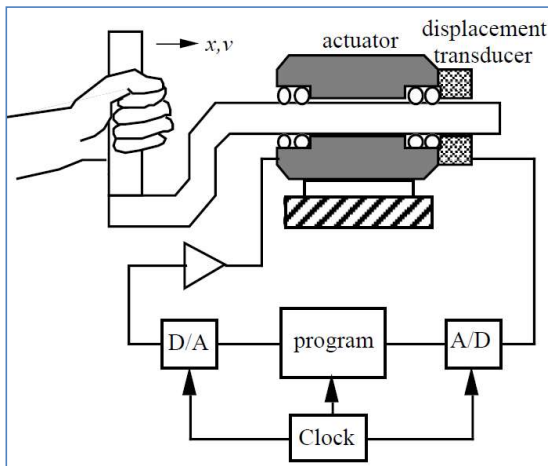


# Performances – Effects of the Feedback Delay

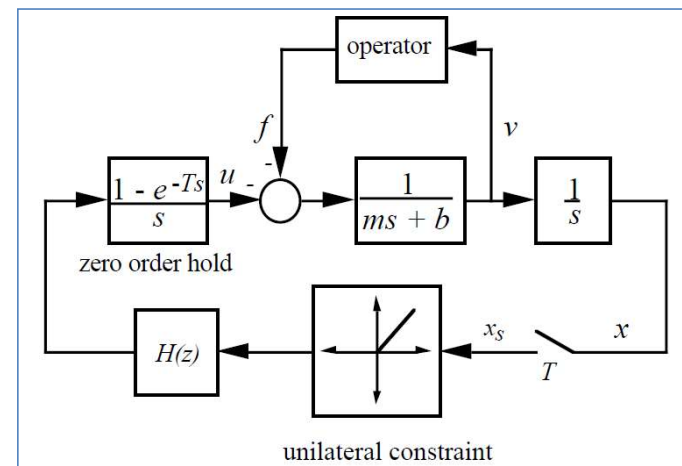
Under Delay



# Colgate's experiment : 1 DoF Haptic Interface

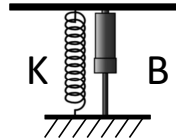


Illustration



Block diagram

$$H(z) = K + B \frac{z-1}{Tz}$$

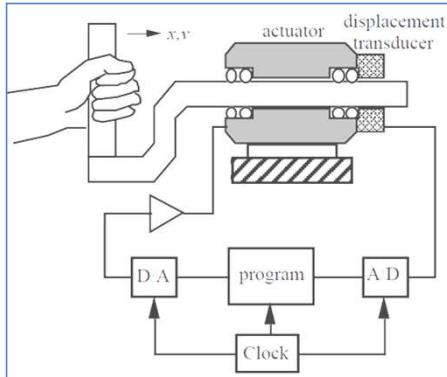


*Factors Affecting the Z-Width of a Haptic Display, J. Edward Colgate, J. Michael Brown, 1994*

Z-transform: converts a discrete time-domain signal, which is a sequence of real or complex numbers, into a complex frequency-domain representation. One of its properties is the *time shifting*:

$$x_k = z \cdot x_{k-1} \text{ and therefore: } v_k = \frac{x_k - x_{k-1}}{T} = \frac{x_k - \frac{1}{z}x_k}{T} = \frac{z-1}{Tz} x_k$$

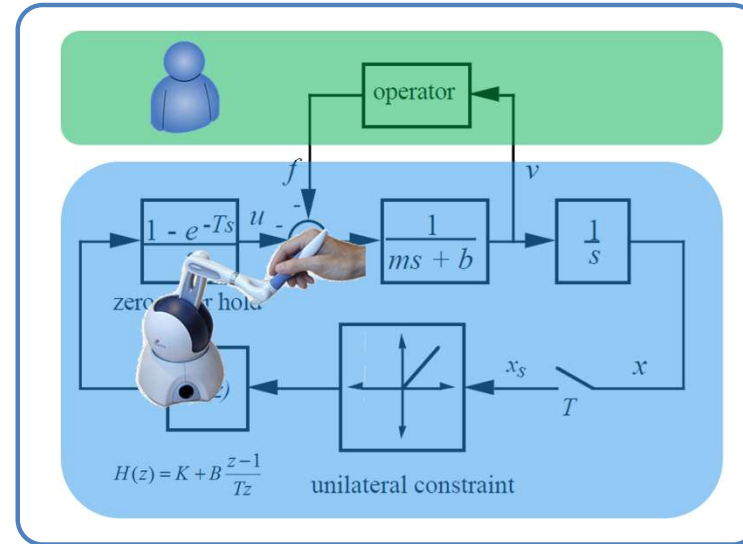
# Colgate's experiment : 1 DoF Haptic Interface



If the haptic display behaves passively, then the operator can never extract energy from it. Here, we will use the slightly more stringent statement that the energy input to the haptic display from the operator must be positive for all admissible force histories  $f(t)$  (see discussion in Section 3.2) and all times greater than zero:

$$\int_0^t f(\tau)v(\tau)d\tau > 0, \quad \forall t > 0, \text{ admissible } f(t) \quad (2.1)$$

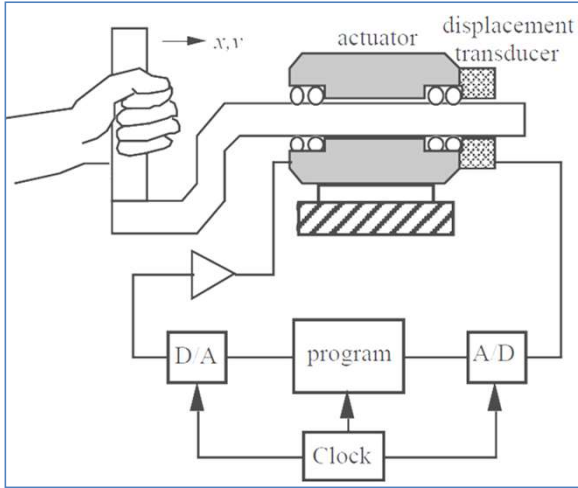
A system which does not satisfy 2.1 is said to be "active."



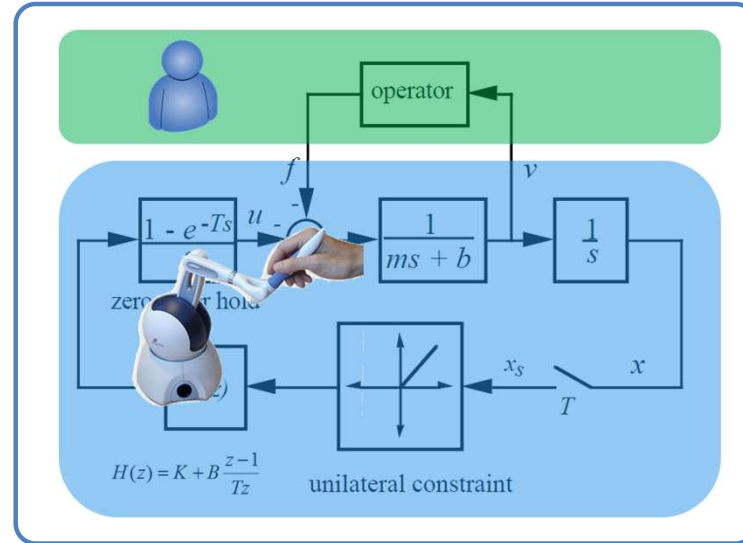
Block diagram

One of the well-known consequences of passivity is the following: a strictly passive system, connected to any passive environment, is necessarily stable. Thus, stability when connected to a linear time-invariant, passive, but otherwise arbitrary environment may be considered a necessary condition for passivity. This idea is the basis of the necessity proof.

# Colgate's experiment : 1 DoF Haptic Interface



## Illustration



## Block diagram

Condition for passivity:

$$b > \frac{T}{2} \frac{1}{1 - \cos \omega T} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left( 1 - e^{-j\omega T} \right) H \left( e^{j\omega T} \right) \right\}$$

$$b > \frac{KT}{2} + |B|$$

Passivity of a Class of Sampled-Data Systems: Application to Haptic Interfaces,  
J. Edward Colgate, Gerd G. Schenkel, 1995



# Conclusion from Passivity Analysis

Inherent damping    Virtual stiffness    Sampling time    Virtual damping

$$b > \frac{KT}{2} + |B|$$

- Passivity only with some physical dissipation  $b$

- With  $b$  and  $B$  fixed:  
achievable stiffness  $\sim$  sampling rate

- Minimize  $T$  (fast sampling)
- Maximize  $b$  (maximize physical damping)



High stiffness  $K$  due to  
high physical damping  $b$



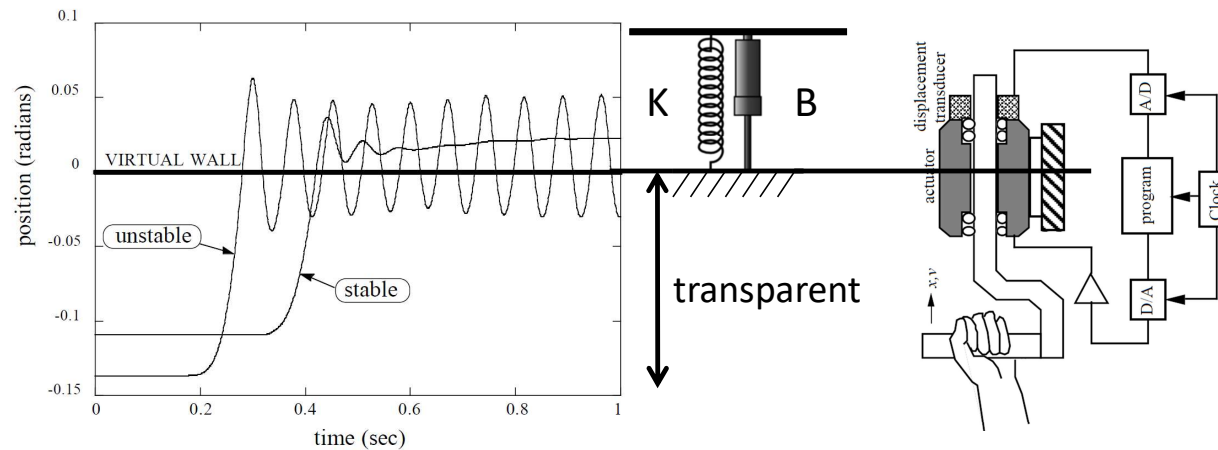
High physical damping!?

$$B = -b$$

# Colgate's experiment : 1 DoF Haptic Interface

## 16 possible configurations:

|                    |                           |              |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Damper             | engaged                   | disengaged   |
| Sampling rate      | high (1 KHz)              | low (100 Hz) |
| Encoder resolution | high (900K cpr)           | low (8K cpr) |
| Velocity filter    | first order, 30 Hz cutoff | none         |



# Sensor Quantization & Velocity Filtering

**Minimize T (fast sampling)**

$$v = \frac{x_k - x_{k-1}}{T}$$

→ Velocity resolution of sensor increases  $\frac{\Delta_{encoder}}{T}$   
→ BUT: Velocity used for virtual damping!

$$F = (x - x_d) \cdot K + \dot{x} \cdot B$$

**Example:**

Position encoder: 2000 counts/turn (4x500)

Position resolution:  $360^\circ/2000 = \mathbf{0.18^\circ/count}$

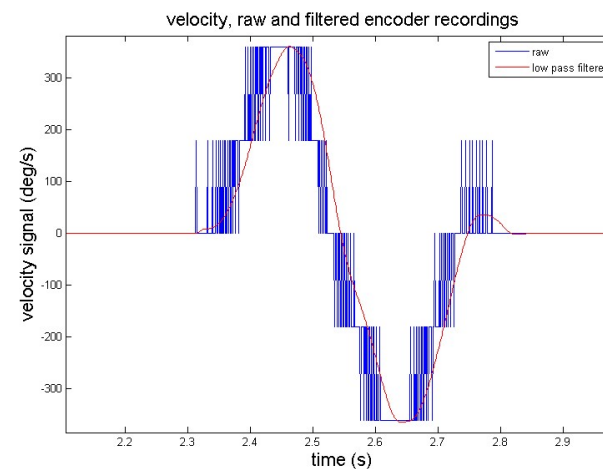
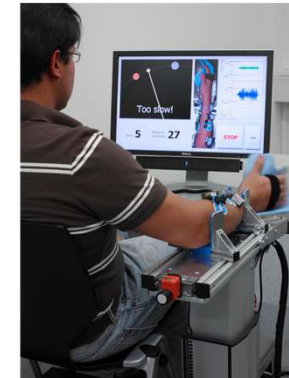
Sampling time: 0.01s (100 Hz)

Velocity resolution:  $0.18^\circ/0.01s = \mathbf{18^\circ/s}$

Sampling time: 0.001s (1 kHz)

Velocity resolution:  $0.18^\circ/0.001s = \mathbf{180^\circ/s}$

1. Slower sampling (bigger T) → stiffness!
2. Use encoder with higher resolution
3. Digital velocity filter
4. Analog sensor



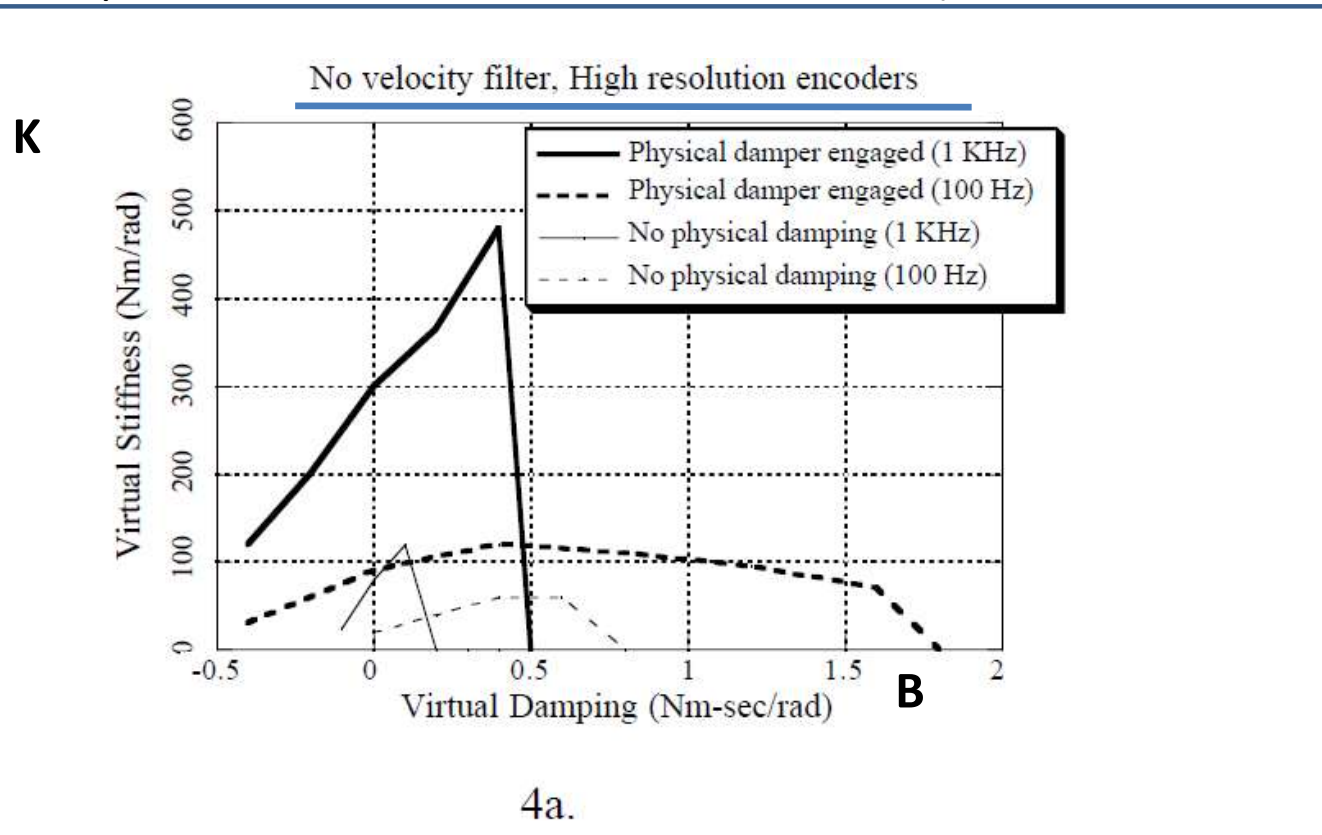
# K-B-Plot



Z-Width



Experimental Results. Plots indicate Z-Width (area beneath the curves)



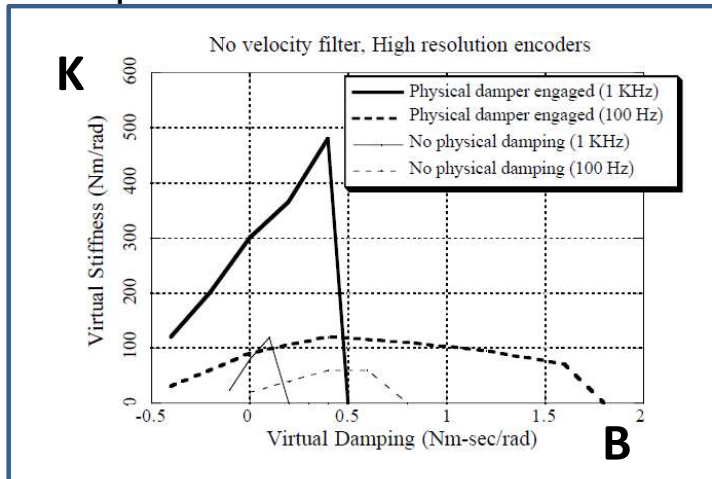
# K-B-Plot



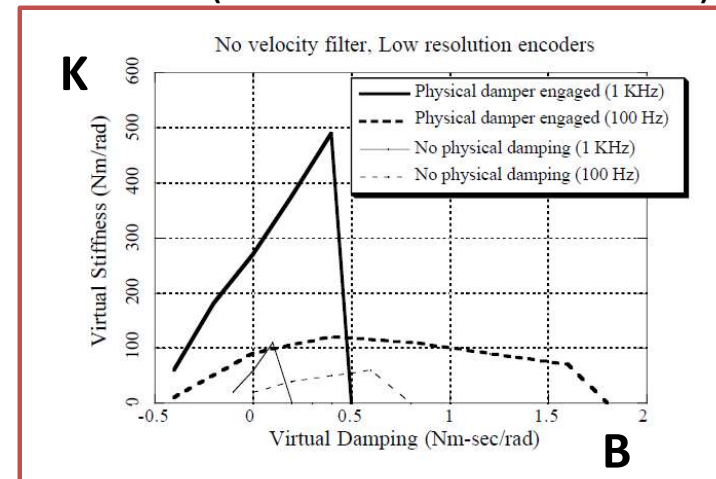
Z-Width



Experimental Results. Plots indicate Z-Width (area beneath the curves)



4a.



4b.

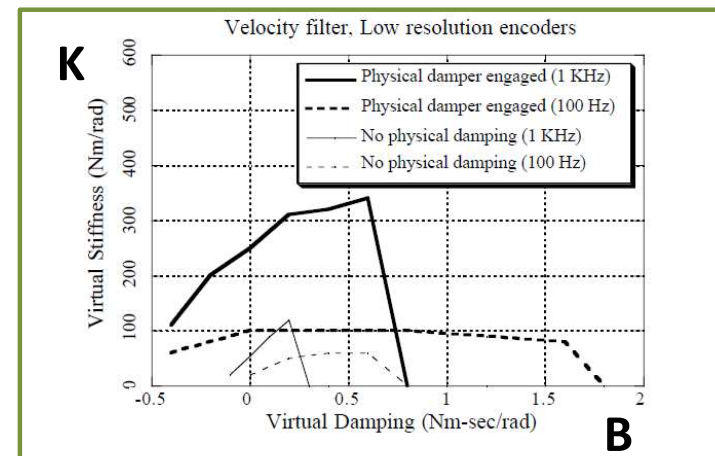
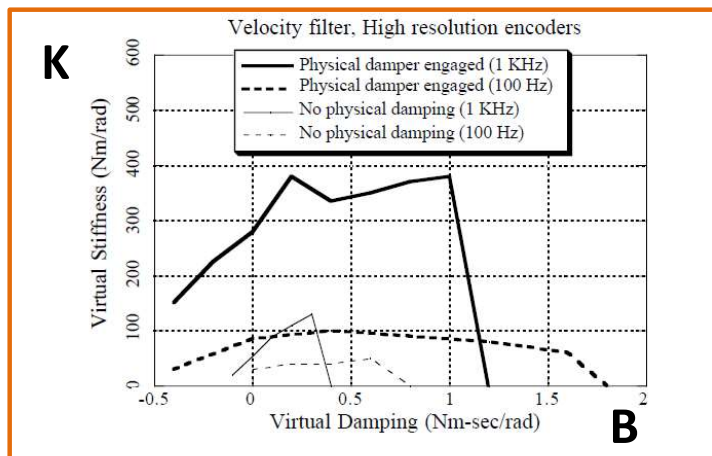
# K-B-Plot



Z-Width



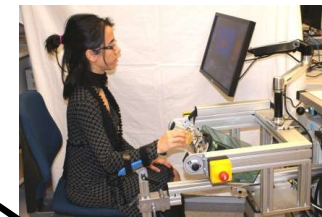
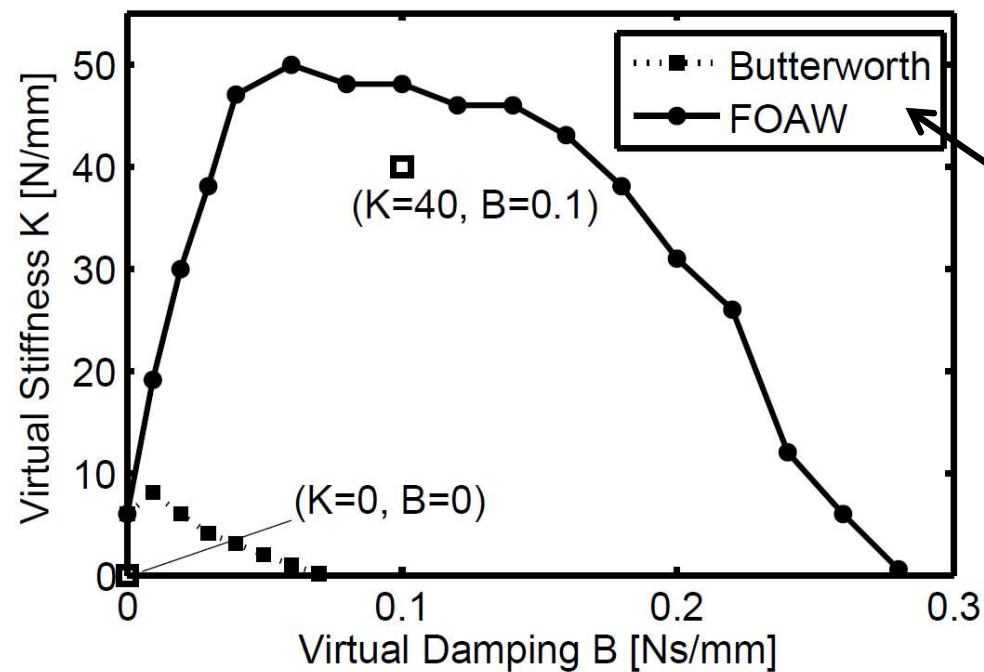
Experimental Results. Plots indicate Z-Width (area beneath the curves)



# K-B-Plot of the ReHapticKnob

Z-Width comparison between two velocity estimators:

- Backward euler differentiation + 2nd order butterworth
- First order adaptive windowing (FOAW) estimator



$$F = (x - x_d) \cdot K + \dot{x} \cdot B$$

## Some comments about your Lab3

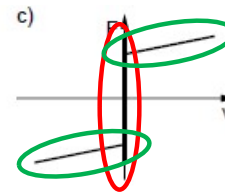


# Some Comments on Stability

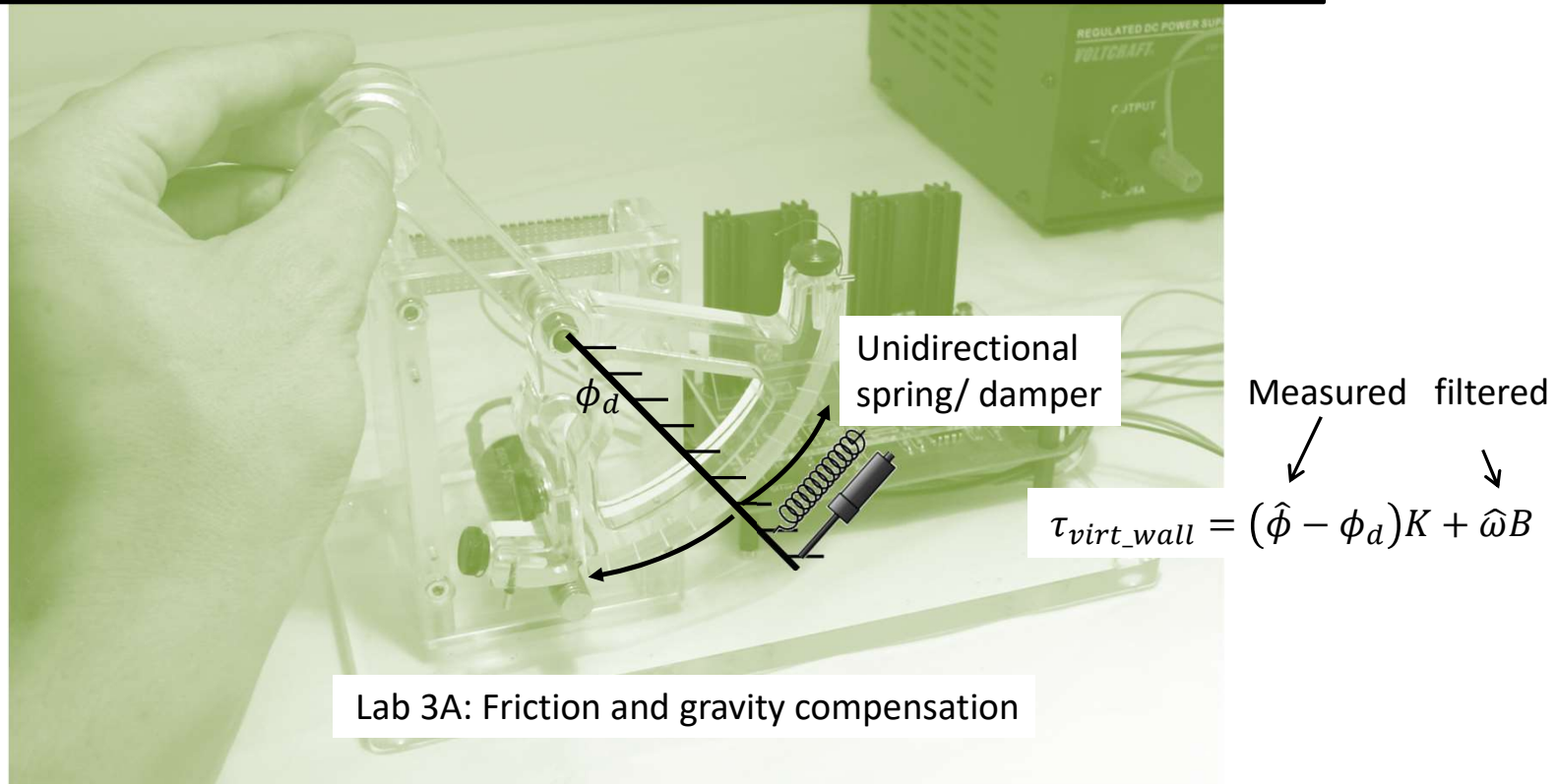
- *Factors Affecting the Z-Width of a Haptic Display*, J. Edward Colgate, J. Michael Brown, 1994
- *Passivity of a Class of Sampled-Data Systems: Application to Haptic Interfaces*, J. Edward Colgate, Gerd G. Schenkel, 1995
- *Stable Haptic Interaction with Virtual Environments*, R. Adams and B. Hannaford, 1999
- *Control architectures, design and implementation for 1-DoF haptic interfaces*, Suleman Khan

The main possible sources for stability problems of haptic devices:

- stiction and Coulomb friction
- actuator saturation and bandwidth
- sensor noise
- sampling rate of time discrete implementation
- stiffness of robot joints and links
- sensor dynamics
- virtual environment dynamics
- human arm dynamics
- operator's dynamic force/motion input



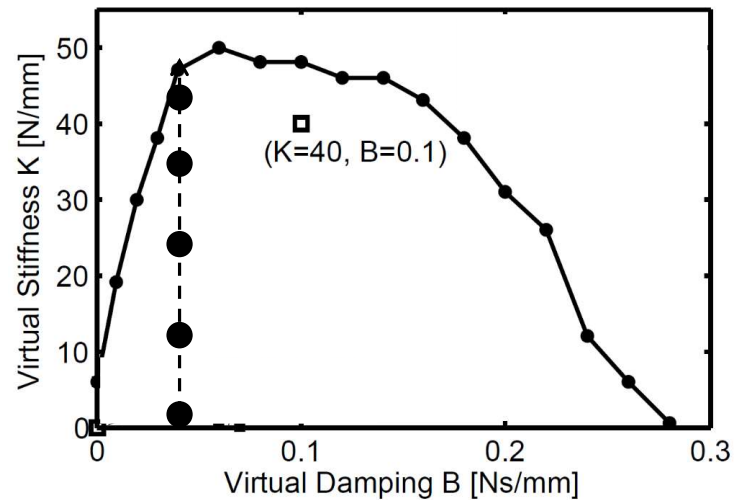
# Lab 3 – K-B-Plot



Using friction and gravity compensation

$$i_m = \frac{1}{\bar{K}} (\hat{\tau}_{friction} + m_p g l \sin(\hat{\phi}_p) - \tau_{virt\_wall})$$

# Lab 3 – K-B-Plot



1. Select a damping value  $B$  (e.g. 0.05)
2. Increase  $K$  until virtual wall *feels* unstable (trembling)

# Questions?

## Important comments about your lab 3,

- Unit of  $K_p$  and  $K_d$  (or  $B$ )  
In  $Nm\_output / rd$  and  $Nm\_output/rd/sec$
- Always present torque in unit  $Nm\_output$
- Keep the same scaling when comparing graphs (in X and in Y coordinates of the associated figure)
- I suggest that you remind in the report
  - Sampling period,
  - Resolution of position (encoder and Hall sensor)
  - Resolution of velocity
  - Resolution of output torque, assuming that the resolution of current is  $4Amps / 256$  (8 bits)
- More general : Never forget units
- Take care that even in simulation, the ranges of values are not infinite (there is always physical limits)