

# Planar Bipedal Locomotion with Nonlinear Model Predictive Control: Online Gait Generation using Whole- Body Dynamics

Manuel Yves Galliker †, N Csomay-Shanklin †, R Grandia,  
A J Taylor, F Farshidian, M Hutter, A D Ames  
Humanoids 2022



# Related Approaches – Dynamic Locomotion

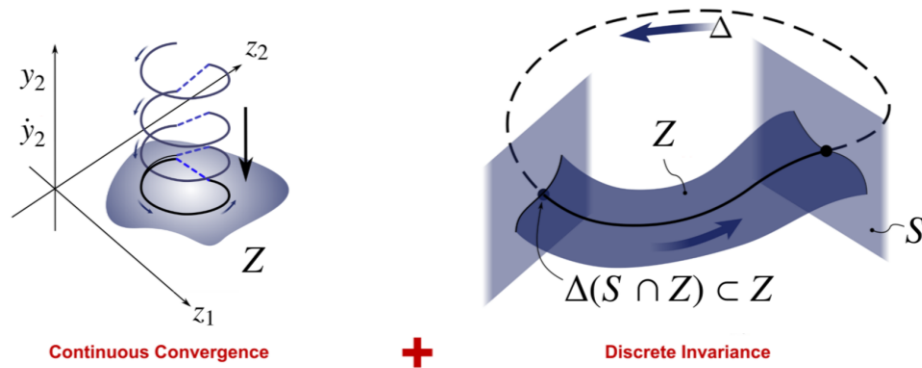
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## Offline Gait Synthesis using Whole-Body Dynamics

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## Offline Gait Synthesis using Whole-Body Dynamics

Hybrid Zero Dynamics (HZD)



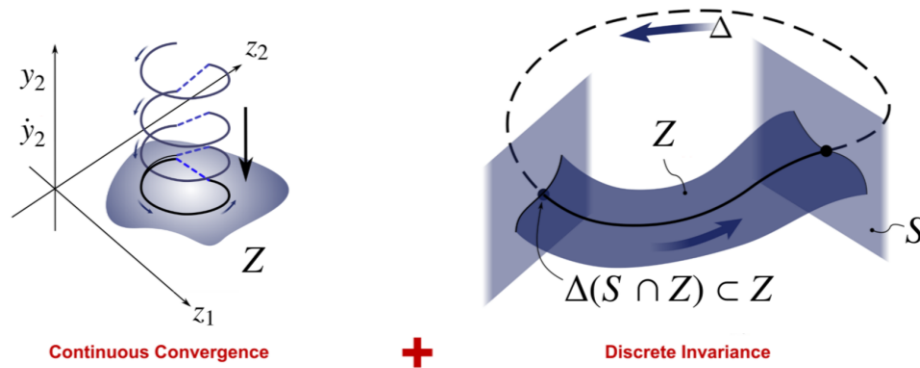
Feedback Control of Dynamic Bipedal Robot Locomotion, Eric R. Westervelt, 2007

- Find periodic trajectory of actuated outputs  $y_d(q, \alpha)$  s.t. unactuated DoF exhibit stable periodic behavior

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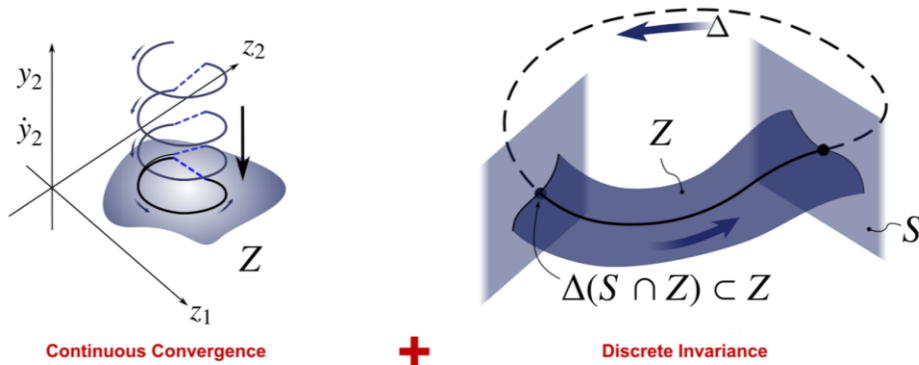
**Precomputed Stable Periodic Trajectories**



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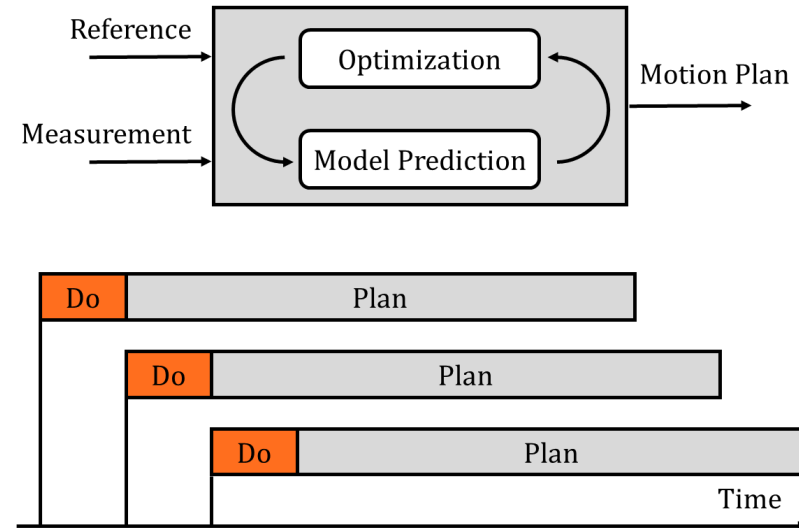


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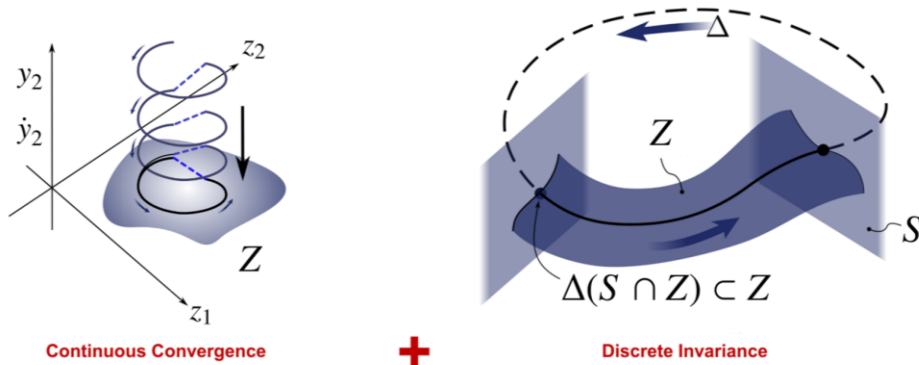
## Online Gait Synthesis using MPC



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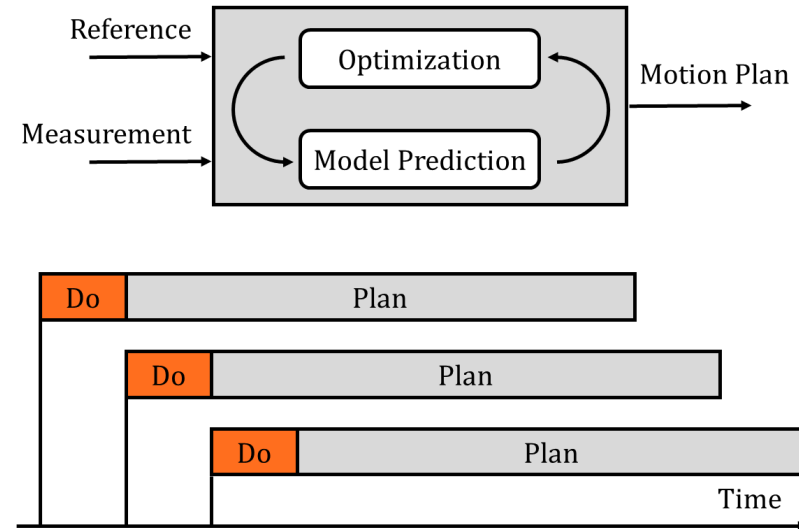


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Precomputed Stable Periodic Trajectories

## Online Gait Synthesis using MPC



- S-LIP Model, Centroidal Dynamics

A Unified MPC Framework for Whole-Body Dynamic Locomotion and Manipulation, Jean-Pierre Sleiman, 2021

Simplified/Reduced Model Dynamics

# Contribution



# Contribution

## Whole-Body Nonlinear MPC

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**Whole-Body Nonlinear MPC**

**Reduced computational cost via HZD Reference & Terminal**

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**Experimental validation on planar biped AMBER-3M**

# MPC Formulation – Reparametrized Whole-Body Dynamics

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- $x = (q_b, q_j, \dot{q}_b, \dot{q}_j)^T$
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$$D(q) \ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q}) \dot{q} = B \tau + J_c^T(q) \lambda_c$$



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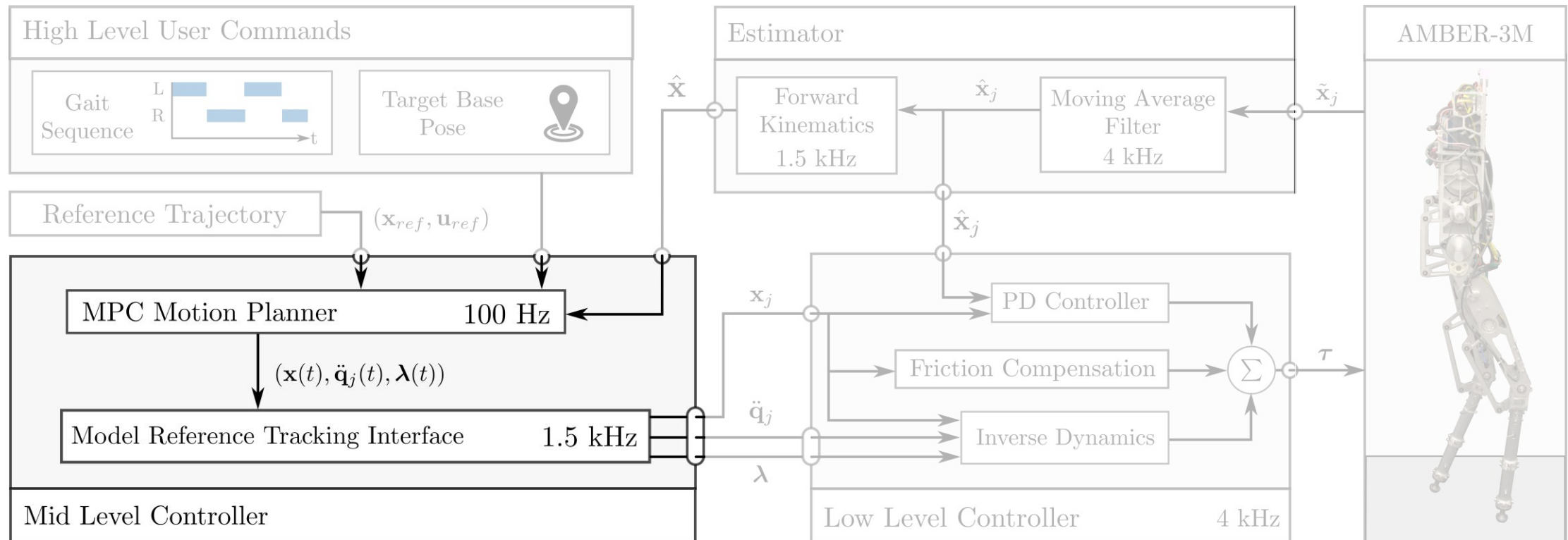
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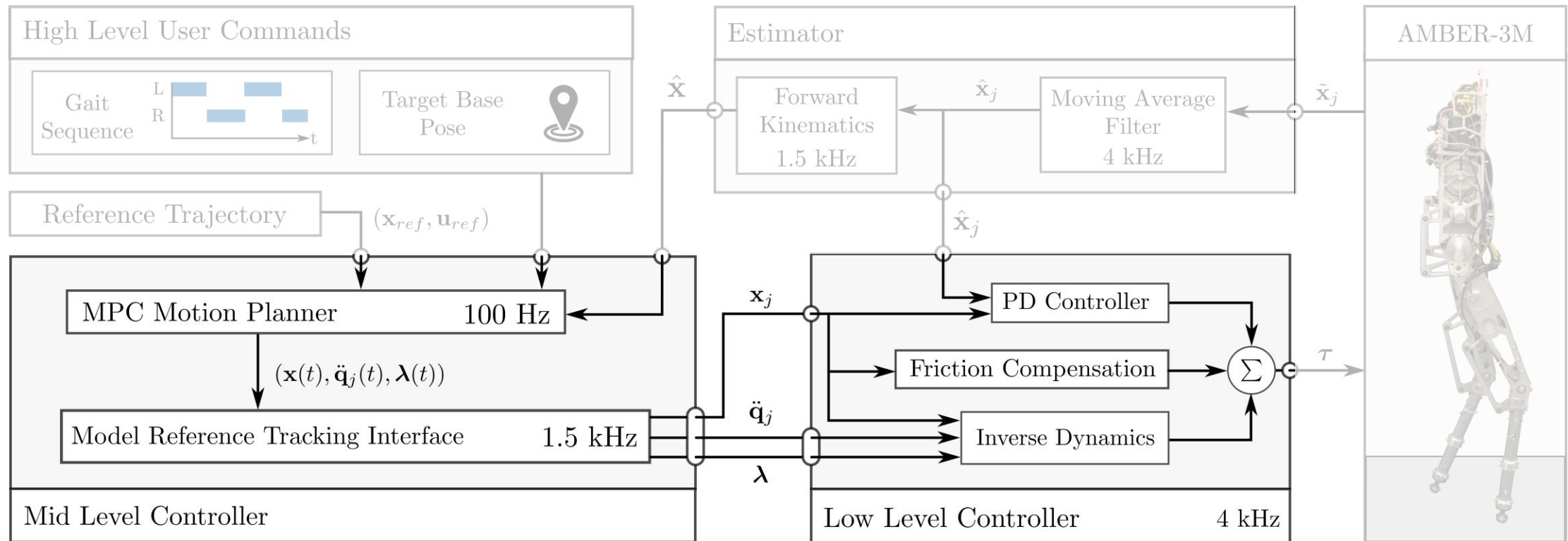
Whole-Body nonlinear dynamics/constraints



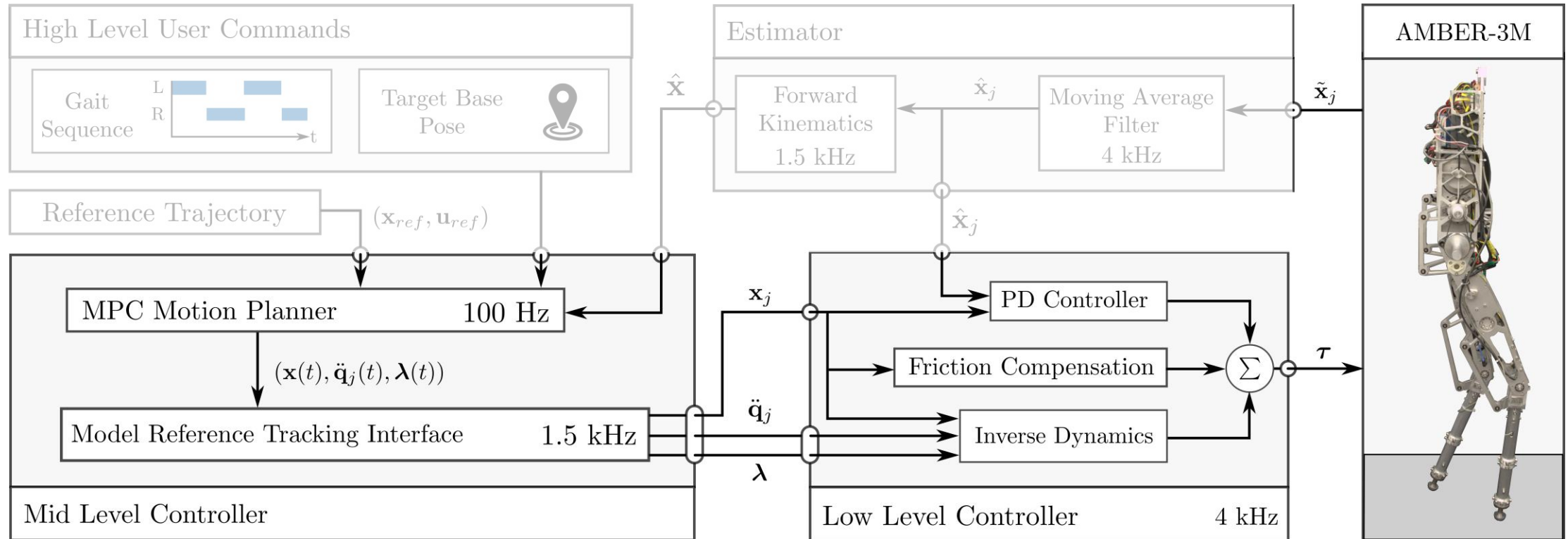
# AMBER Implementation – Control Overview



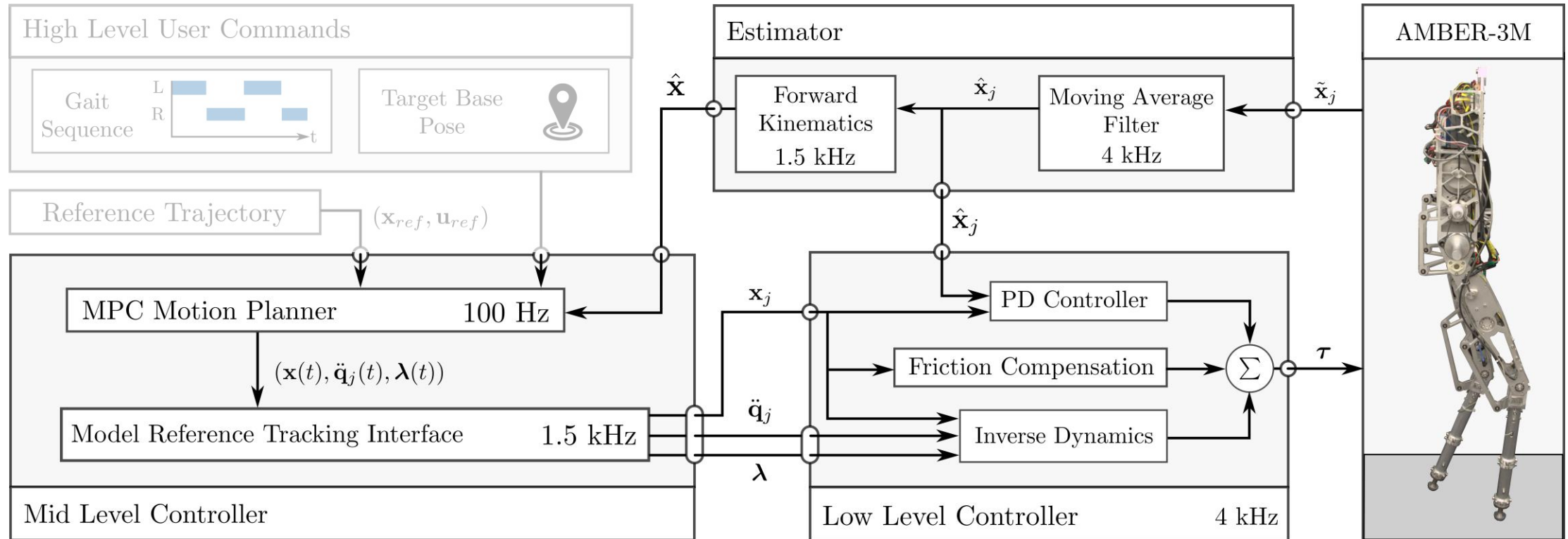
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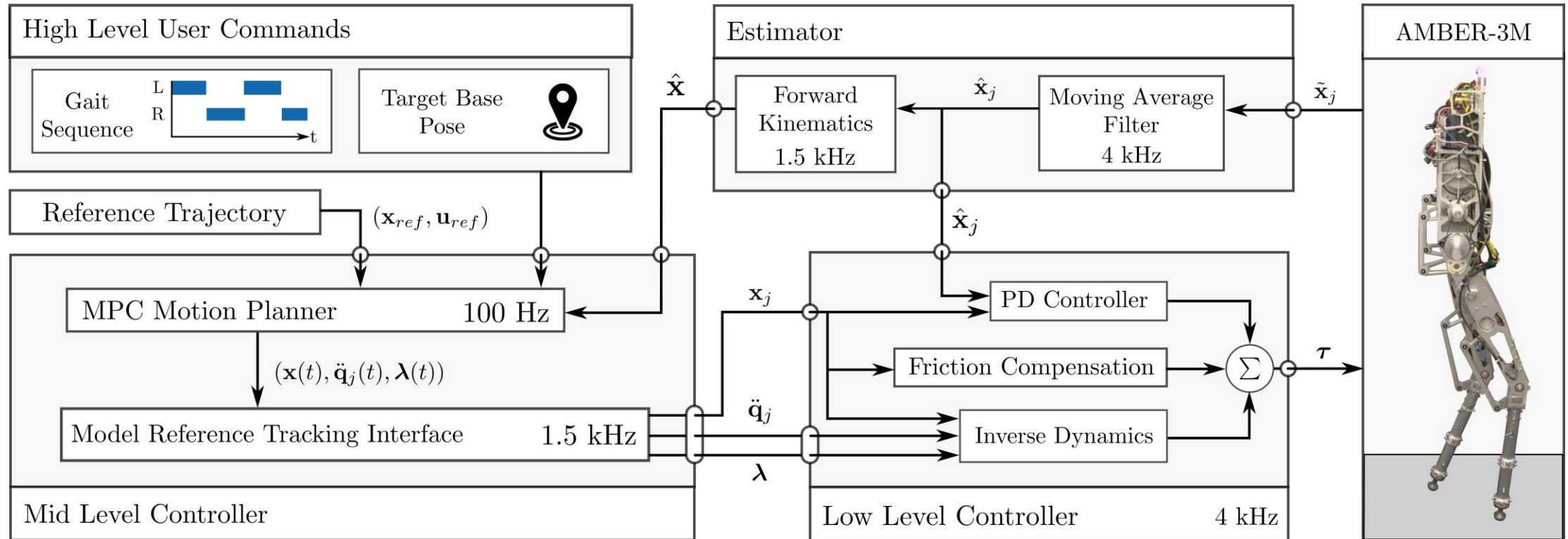
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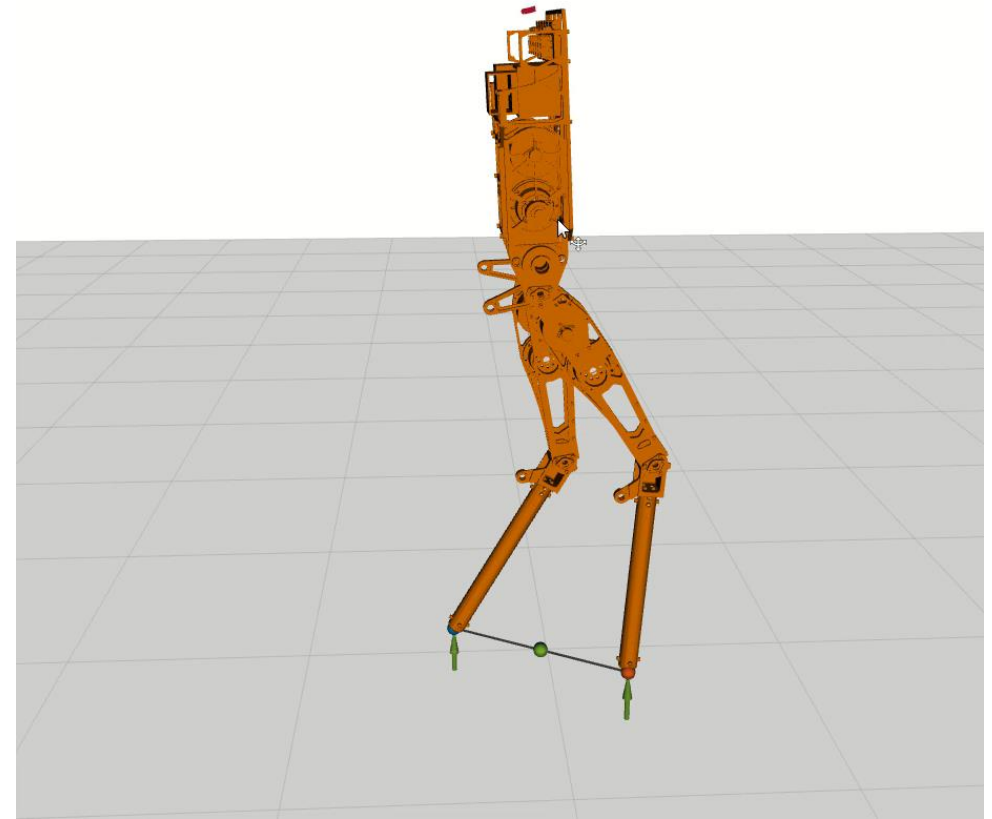
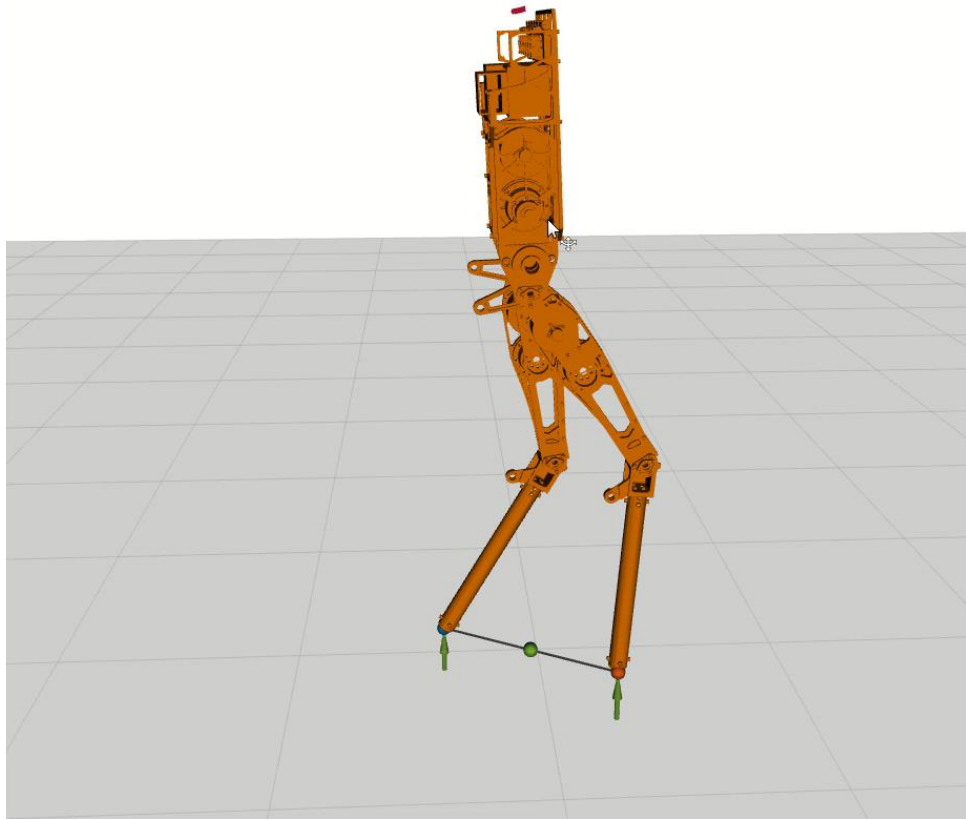
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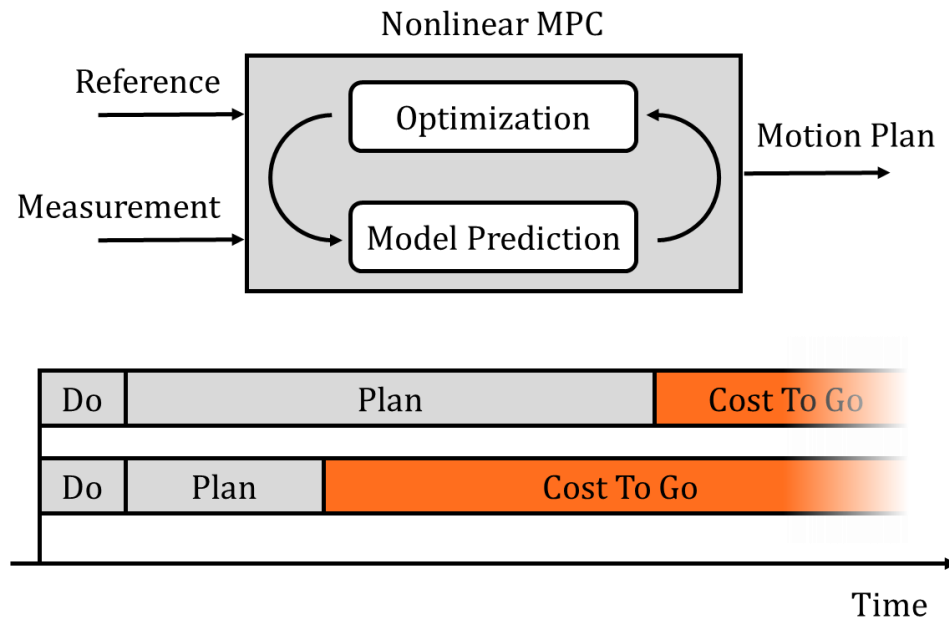


# Results - Simulation

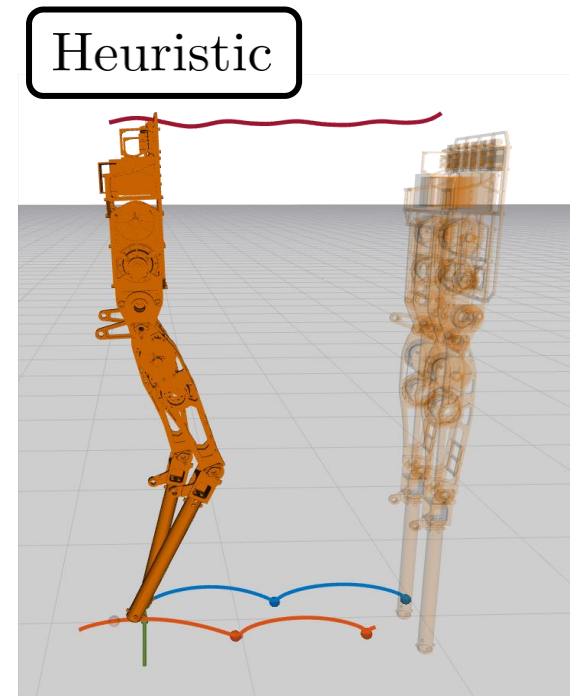
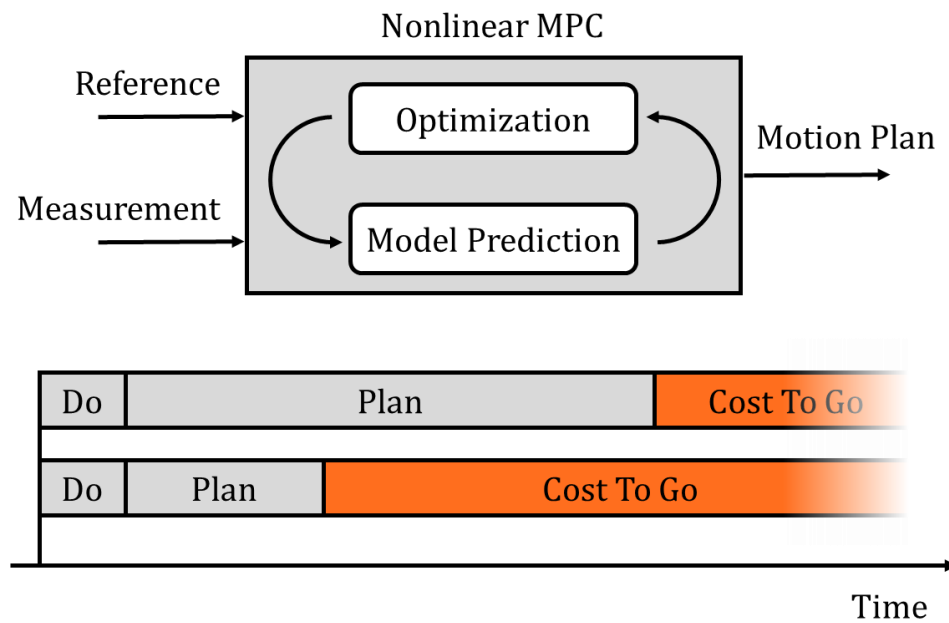




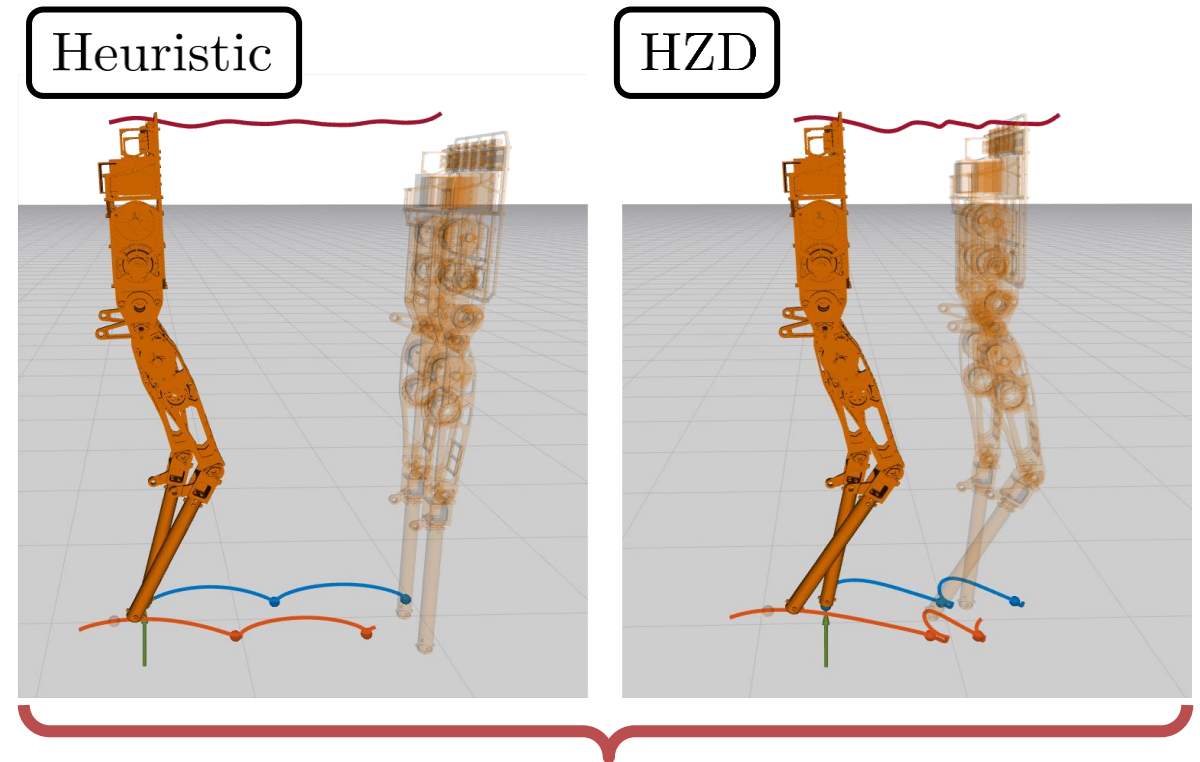
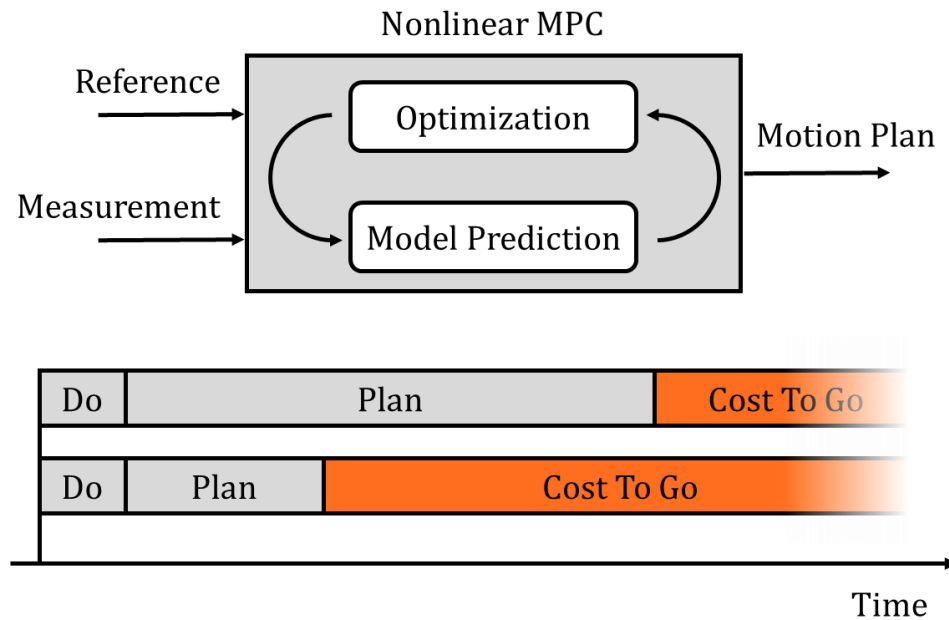
# Reduce Computational Cost via Horizon Shortening



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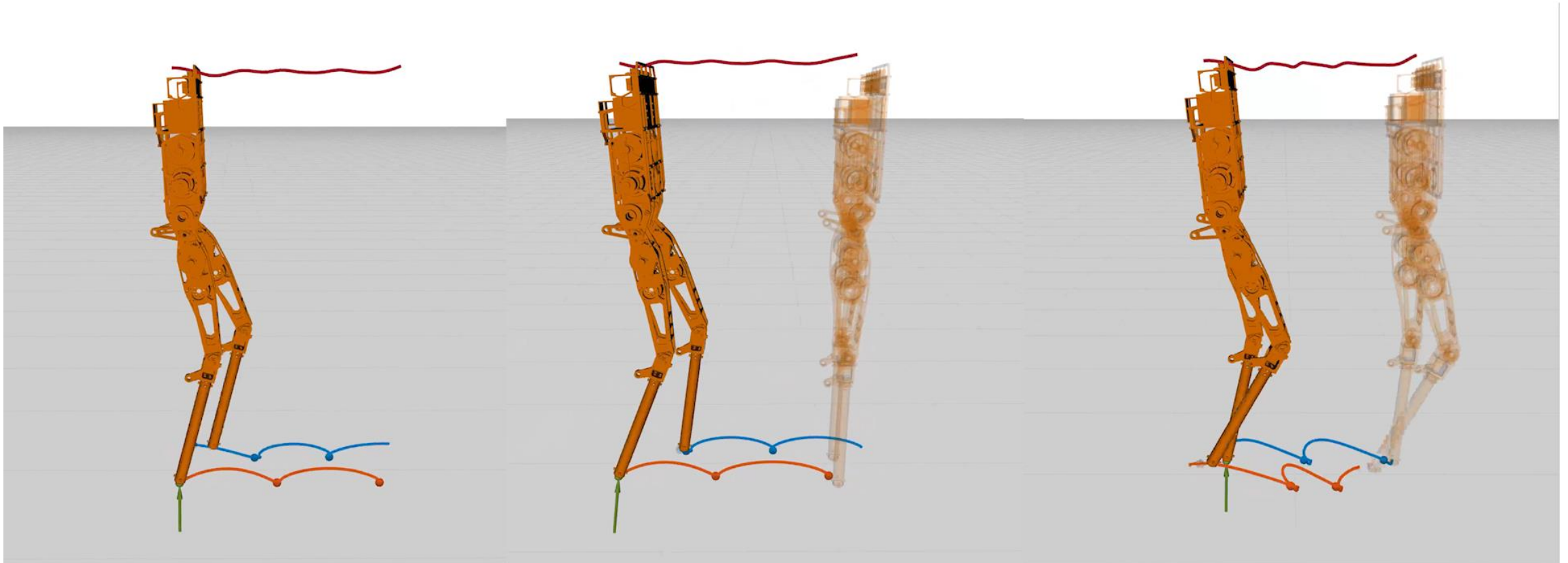
$$\underset{\mathbf{u}(\cdot)}{\text{minimize}} \quad \phi(\mathbf{x}(t_H)) + \int_0^{t_H} l(\mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{u}(t), t) dt$$

# MPC Terminal Cost Visualization 2s Horizon

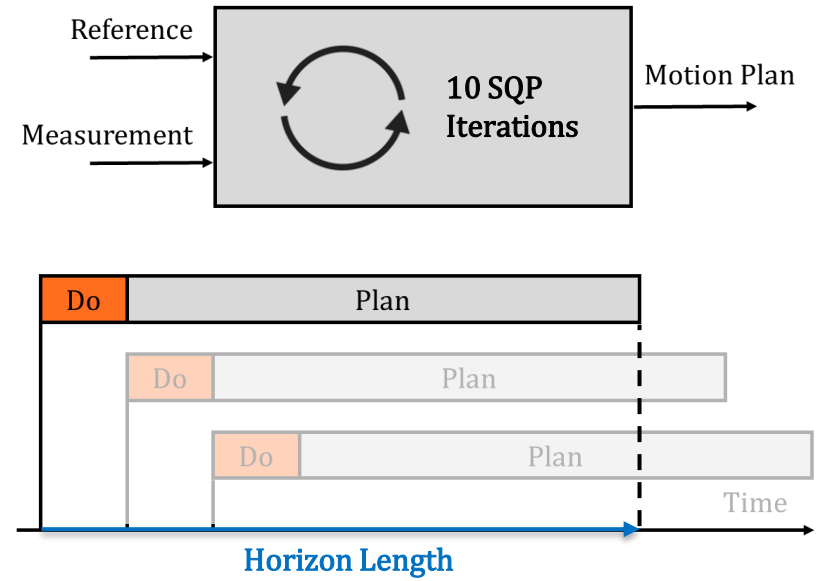
No Terminal

Heuristic Terminal

HZD Terminal



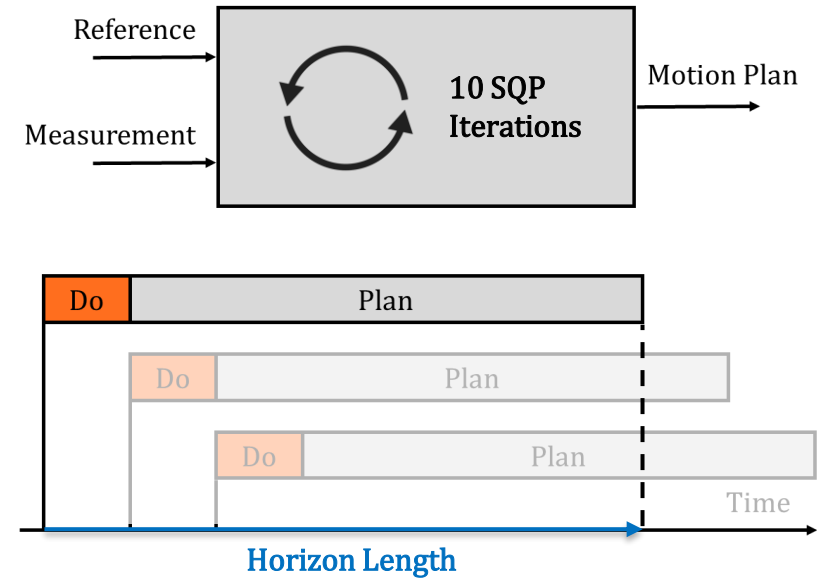
# Results - Metrics



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Ryzen 9 5950x at 10 SQP Iterations

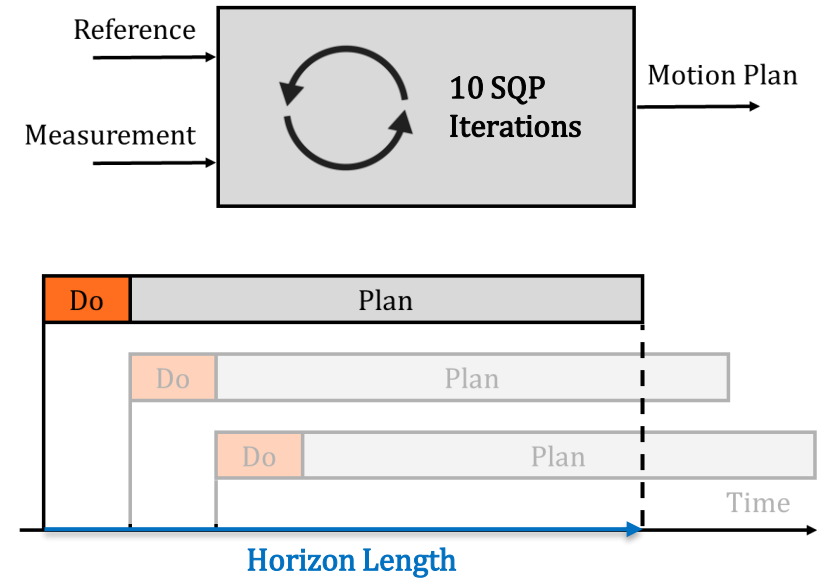
Horizon Length [s]	2.0	1.0	0.5	0.2
MPC Frequency [Hz]	270	480	670	850



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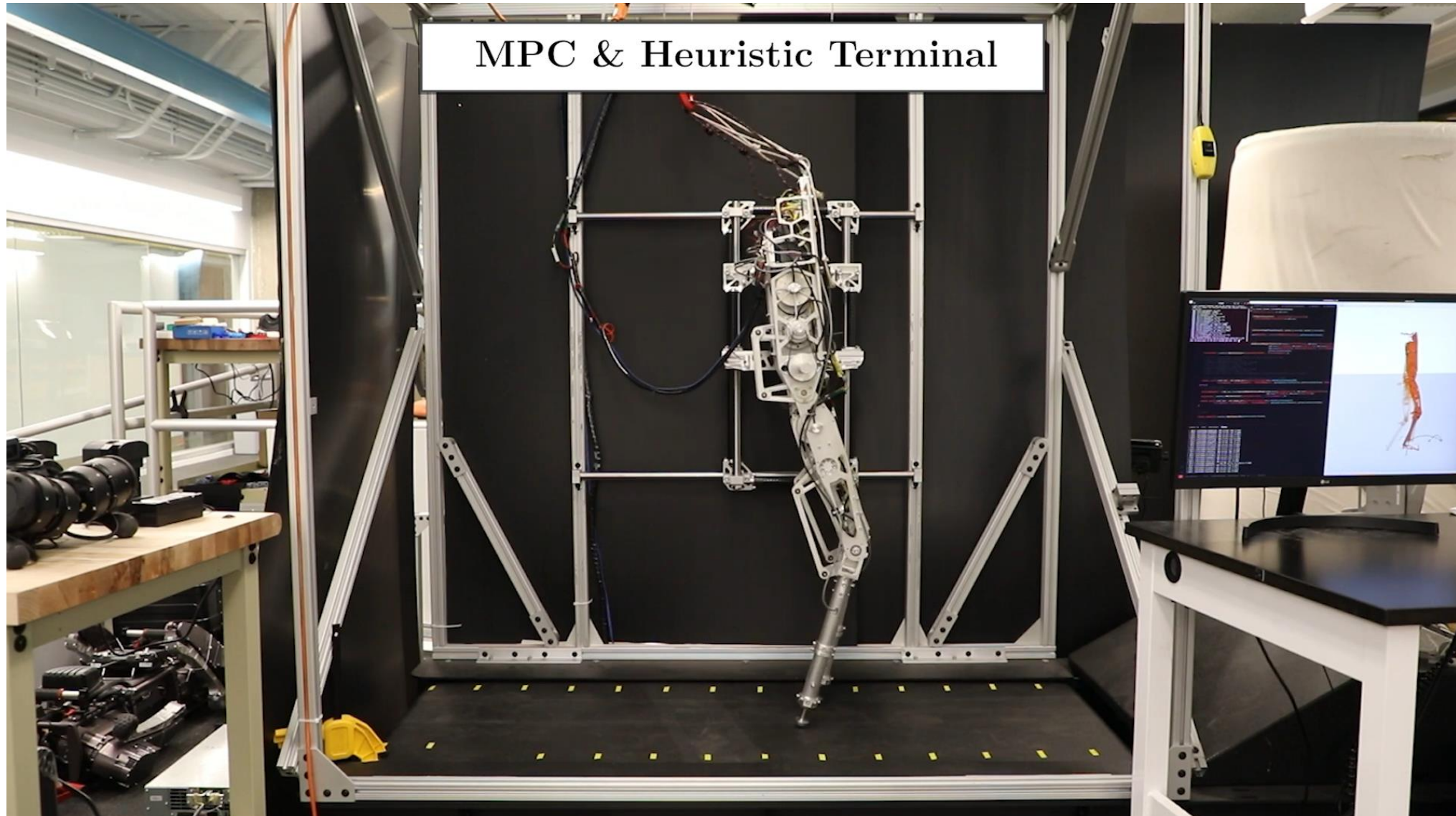
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➔ Reduce computational complexity through terminal

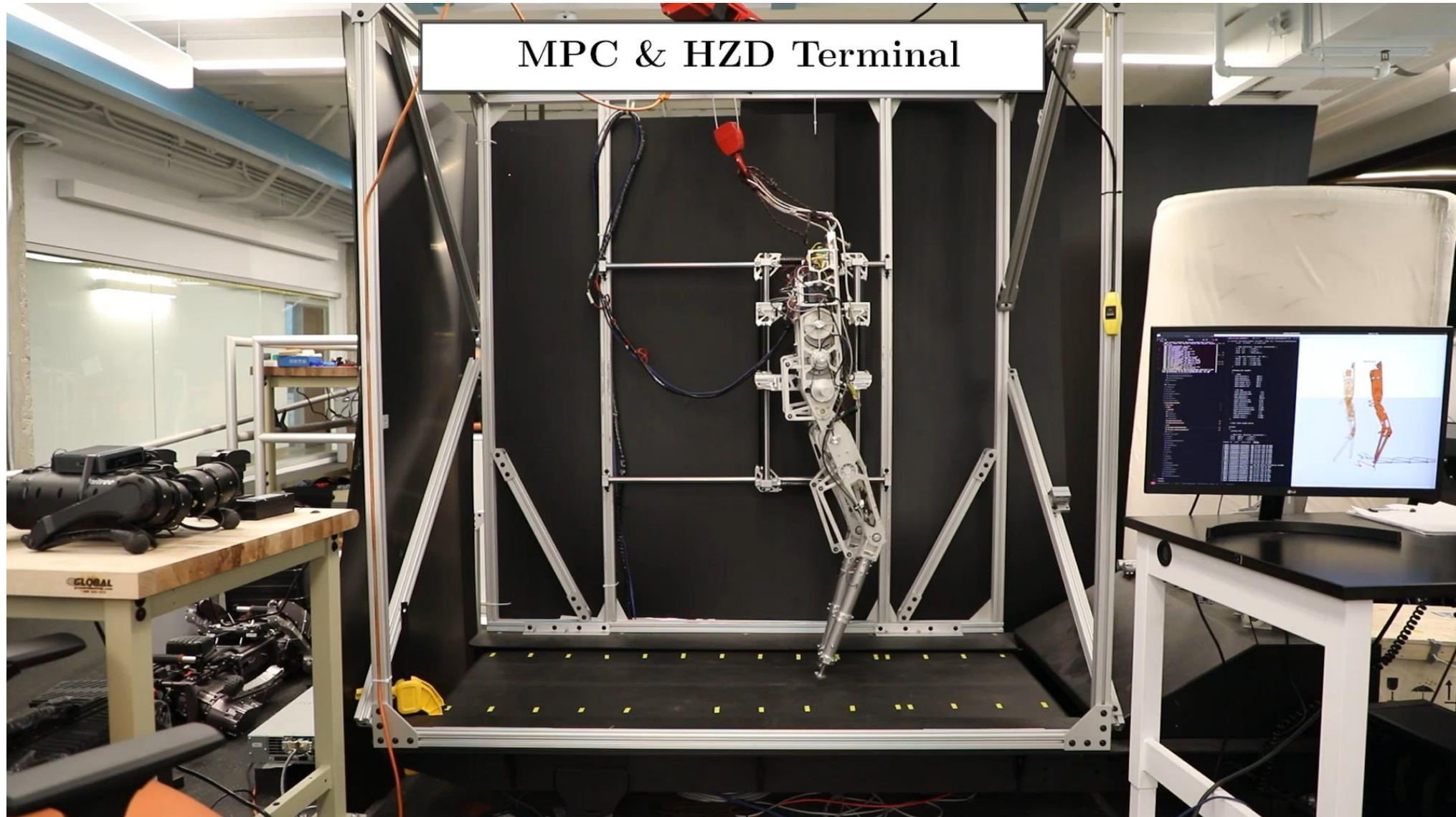


# Results





# Results – MPC & HZD Terminal



# Conclusion

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Reparametrized Whole-Body NMPC Formulation

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Significant Horizon shortening through HZD Terminal

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Hardware Demonstration of Whole-Body Online Planning

# Thank you for your Attention!



Noel Csomay-Shanklin, AMBER-lab, Caltech



Andrew J. Taylor, AMBER-lab, Caltech



Prof. Dr. Aaron Ames, AMBER-lab, Caltech



Ruben Grandia, RSL, ETH Zurich



Dr. Farbod Farshidian, RSL, ETH Zurich



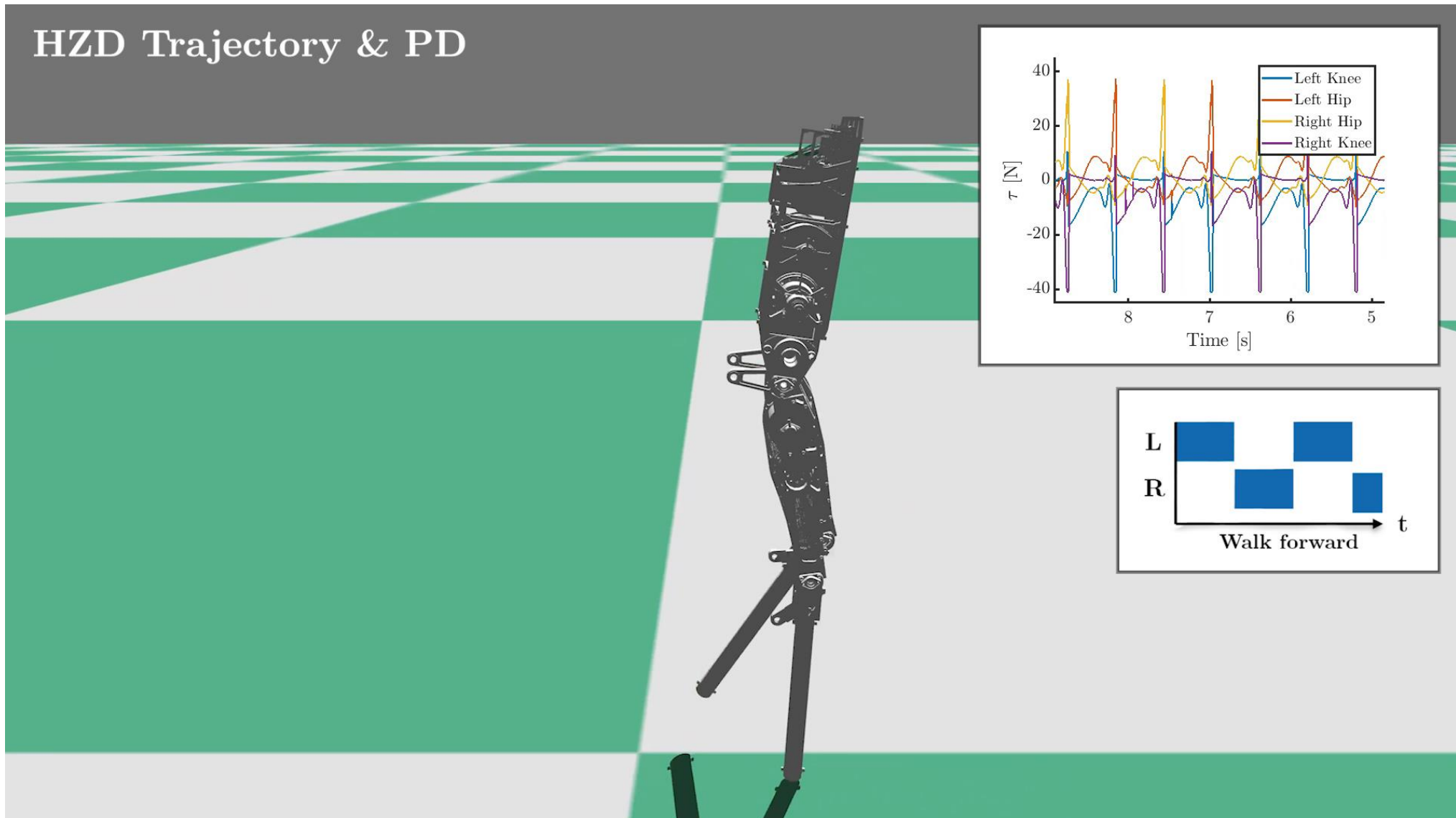
Prof. Dr. Marco Hutter, RSL, ETH Zurich

# Questions?





# Results - Simulation



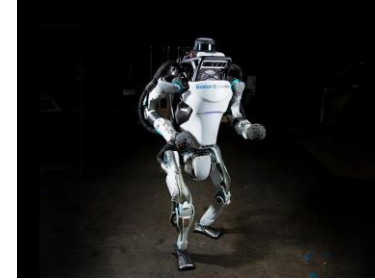
# Outlook

- **Add impact maps to MPC formulation**
- **Investigate theoretical properties of using HZD terminal components**
- **Full computational comparison between centroidal MPC, whole-body MPC and the proposed reparametrized whole-body MPC.**
- **Transfer approach to 3D bipedal platform**

# Goal

## Dynamic, stable and robust locomotion

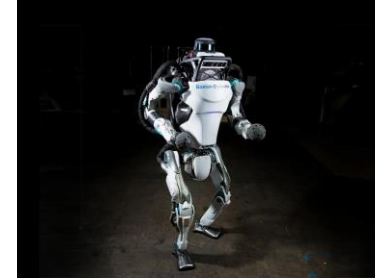
- Wide range of behaviors
- Diverse environments



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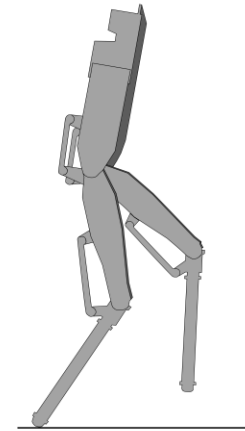
## Legged Robot Dynamics

- Hybrid
- Nonlinear
- Underactuated

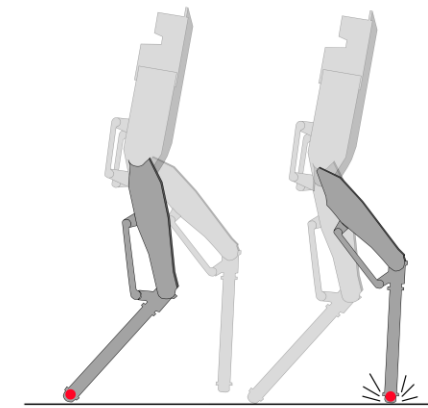
## Hybrid Dynamics Model

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{u}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^+ = \Delta(\mathbf{x}^-)$$



Continuous



Discrete