

# UNDERWATER ROBOTS FOR KARST AND MARINE EXPLORATION: A STUDY OF REDUNDANT AUVs

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Backgrounds
- 3 Static configuration design
- 4 Reconfigurable robot design
- 5 Dynamic Configuration Problem-Umbrella Robot
- 6 Conclusions and Future works

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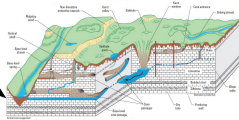
# Introduction - Ocean and Karst exploration

Open-environment



(a) Ocean

Confined-environment



(b) Karst  
Ocean and Karst <sup>1</sup>

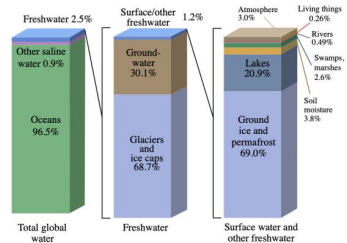


Figure 1: Where is Water of Earth? <sup>2</sup>

- 1 Resource of Earth water
- 2 Water resource management

<sup>1</sup> Taylor2008hydrogeologic

<sup>2</sup> Gleick1993

# Karst exploration - Challenges

Challenges for karst exploration are as follows:

- 1 Umbilical cable management
- 2 Navigation and Mapping
- 3 Guidance and Control
- 4 Robustness
- 5 Reactivity and adaptable autonomy
- 6 Redundancy management

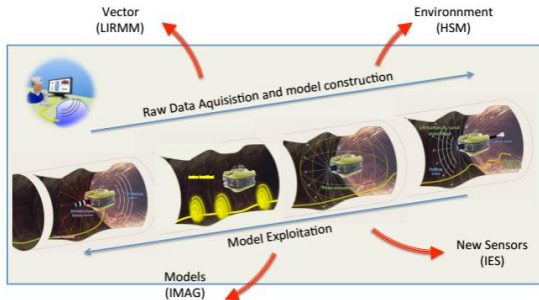


Figure 2: Karst exploration concepts (ALEYIN project): French institutes: LIRMM, HSM, IMAG, IES

# Objectives of the thesis

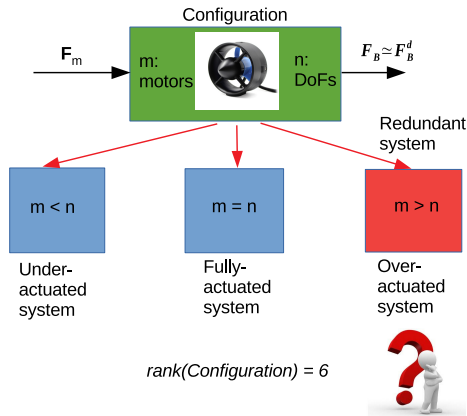


Figure 3: Configuration of a robot

The thesis focuses on *Configuration* in Actuation System of a robot:

- 1 Static configuration (*thrusters are fixed*):
  - a Propose performance indices.
  - b Find a Pareto optimal solution.
  - c Simulate and carry out experiments
- 2 Reconfigurable and dynamic configuration (*thruster's position/direction can be dynamically modified*):
  - a Build a reconfigurable robot - Umbrella Robot (UmRobot).
  - b Propose dynamic configuration problem.
  - c Simulate and carry out experiments on UmRobot.

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# Background - Kinematic and dynamic models

## Kinematic model:

1 Euler formalism:

$$\dot{\eta} = \mathbf{J}(\eta)\nu \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{J}$  is a matrix including rotation and transformation sub-matrices.

2 Quaternion formalism: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\eta}_{1Q} \\ \dot{\mathbf{Q}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q} \odot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \nu_1 \end{bmatrix} \odot \mathbf{Q}^* \\ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Q} \odot \mathbf{W} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Dynamic model:

$$\mathbf{M}\dot{\nu} = \mathbf{F}_B + \mathbf{F}_{wind} + \mathbf{F}_{wave} - \mathbf{C}(\nu)\nu - \mathbf{D}(\nu)\nu - \mathbf{g}(\eta) \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathbf{M}$  is rigid-body mass matrix (including added mass),  $\mathbf{C}$  is Coriolis-Centripetal matrix,  $\mathbf{D}$  is damping matrix,  $\mathbf{g}$  is buoyancy force.  $\mathbf{F}_{wind}$  and  $\mathbf{F}_{wave}$  are environmental forces/moments (wind and wave).

# Background - Mono-objective and Multi-objective optimizations

Mono-objective:

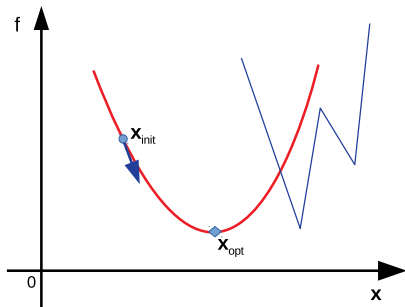


Figure 4: Mono-objective optimization

Multi-objective:

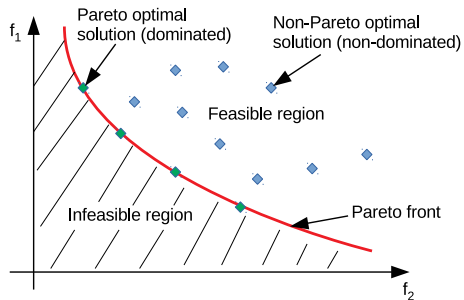


Figure 5: Pareto optimal point and Pareto front

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# Robot's configuration and configuration matrix

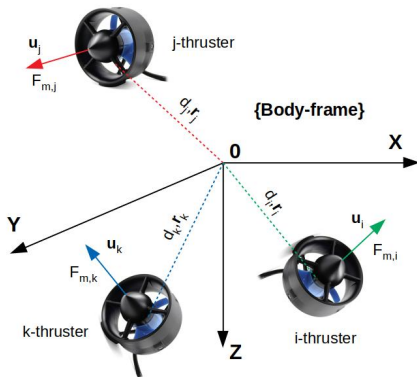


Figure 6: Actuators configuration model

The configuration matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is described:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_1 \\ \mathbf{A}_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

*thrusters are fixed*

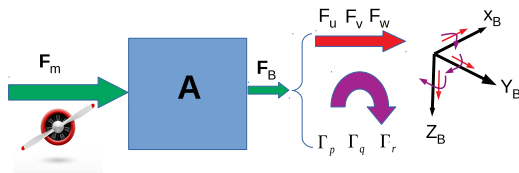


Figure 7: Configuration matrix



# Performance indices

- 1 Manipulability index
- 2 Energetic index
- 3 Workspace index
- 4 Reactive index
- 5 Robustness index

# Manipulability index

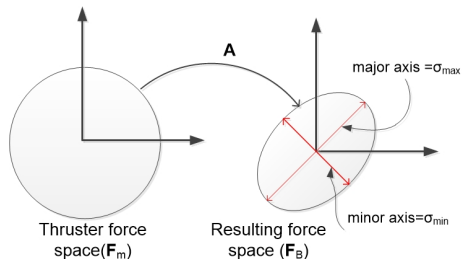


Figure 8: Manipulability ellipsoid with mapping

Manipulability index is defined as:

$$I_m = \text{Cond}(\mathbf{A}) = \frac{\sigma_{max}}{\sigma_{min}} \quad (4)$$

where  $\sigma_{max}$  and  $\sigma_{min}$  are the maximum and minimum singular value of configuration matrix,  $\mathbf{A}$ , respectively.

*Isotropy: the robot can act equally in all directions*

# Energetic index

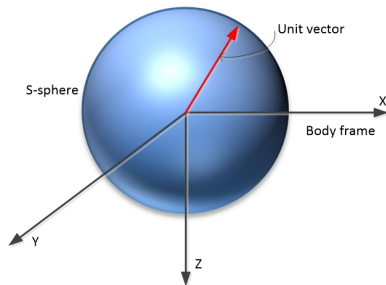


Figure 9: The unit desired vector in 3D sphere

Energetic index is defined as:

$$I_e = \frac{1}{S} \int_S (w_{ef} p_{Ef} + w_{e\tau} p_{E\Gamma}) dS \quad (5)$$

where  $w_{ef}$  and  $w_{e\tau}$  are weighting scalars.

$$\begin{cases} p_{Ef} = \|\mathbf{A}^+(\mathbf{u}_s)\|, & \text{force sphere} \\ p_{E\Gamma} = \|\mathbf{A}^+(\mathbf{0})\|, & \text{torque sphere.} \end{cases}$$

$\mathbf{u}_s$  is a unit vector in 3D-sphere.

# Workspace index

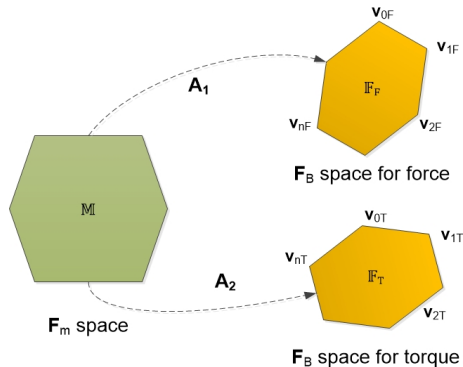


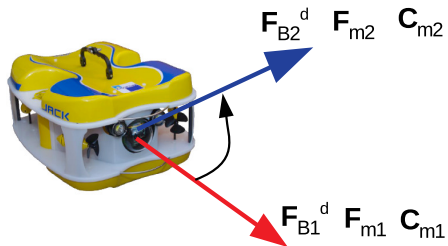
Figure 10: Space Mapping

Workspace index is defined as:

$$I_W = \omega_{wf} Vol(\mathbb{F}_F) + \omega_{wT} Vol(\mathbb{F}_T) \quad (6)$$

where  $Vol$  is the volume measure of a space ( $\mathbb{F}_F$ -force space,  $\mathbb{F}_T$ -torque space),  $\omega_{wf}$  and  $\omega_{wT}$  are weighting coefficients.

# Reactive index



How fast the robot can change the direction of its actuation force. Reactive index is defined as:

$$I_{re} = \|\mathbf{A}^+\| \quad (7)$$

Figure 11: Robot changes its motion direction

# Robustness index

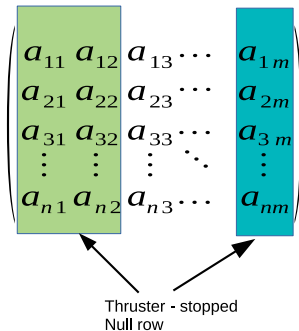


Figure 12: One or more thrusters - be stopped

Robustness index is defined as:

$$I_{ro} = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}|_{\leq m-6}) = 6 \quad (8)$$

where  $\mathbf{A}|_{\leq m-6}$  is the  $\mathbf{A}$  matrix with the maximum number of columns being zero is  $(m - 6)$ .

# Problem formulation

Static configuration problem is written as:

$$\min_{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{A}) = \min_{\mathbf{A}} [l_m \ l_e \ \frac{1}{l_w} \ l_{re}]^T \quad (9)$$

*s.t*  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{A}$

where  $\mathbf{A}$  is matrix variable.  $\mathbb{A}$  is the constraint set including constraints of positions and orientations of thrusters, and robustness index.

The problem is rewritten clearly:

$$\min_{\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\tau})} \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{A}) = \min_{\mathbf{A}} [l_m, l_e, \frac{1}{l_w}, l_{re}]^T \quad (10)$$

*s.t*  $\|\mathbf{u}_i\| = 1, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$   
 $\|\boldsymbol{\tau}_i\| \leq 1, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$   
 $\boldsymbol{\tau}_i^T \mathbf{u}_i = 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$   
 $l_{ro} = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}|_{\leq m-6}) = 6$

# Ball robot and Cube robot - Design

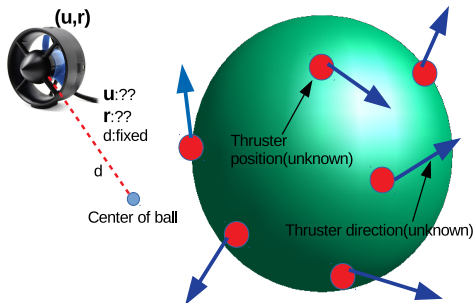


Figure 13: Ball robot concept

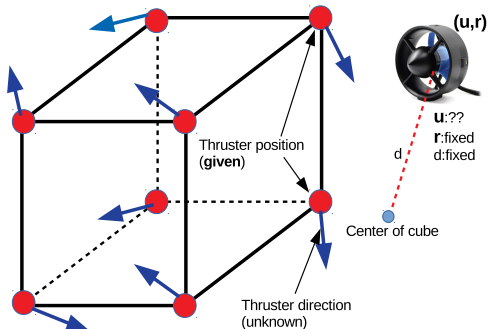


Figure 14: Cube robot concept



# Solution

Design a robot with  $m = 8$  thrusters  
and  $n = 6$  DoFs ( $\sigma_{max} = \sqrt{2\frac{m}{n}}$ ).

Process of searching Pareto optimal solution

- 1 Phase 1: Find one Pareto solution of configuration matrix with goal attainment method.
- 2 Phase 2: Check robustness index of the chosen solution in phase 1.

Index	Optimal formula and condition	Desired Value
$l_m$	$\sigma_{max} = \sigma_{min}$	1
$l_e$	$2 \ \mathbf{A}^+\ $	1.2248
$l_w$	$l_w = l_{wF} + l_{wT}$	303.0303
$l_{re}$	$\frac{1}{\sigma_{max}}$	0.6124

Table 1: Desired values of indices ( $m = 8$  thrusters)

# Simulation - General case

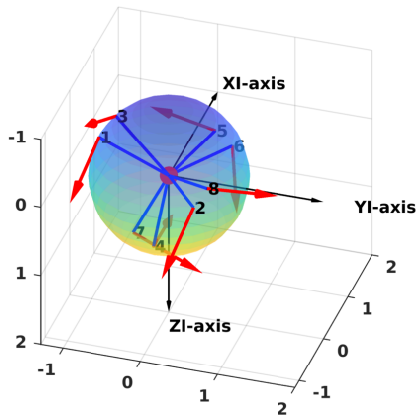
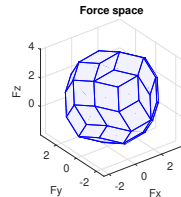
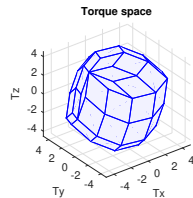


Figure 15: Robot design (Ball robot - general case) with 8 thrusters



(a) Force space attainability



(b) Torque space attainability

Figure 16: Force and Torque attainable spaces

# Simulations - given position case

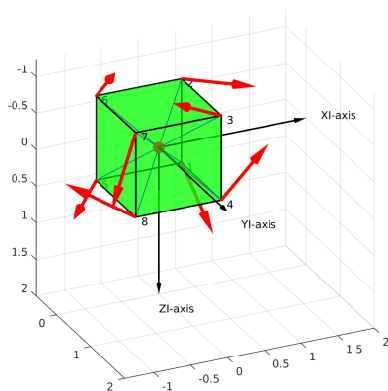
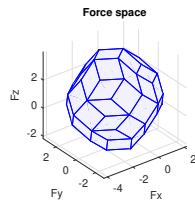
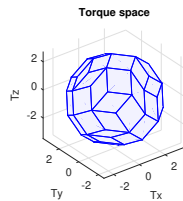


Figure 17: Robot design (Cube robot - given position case)

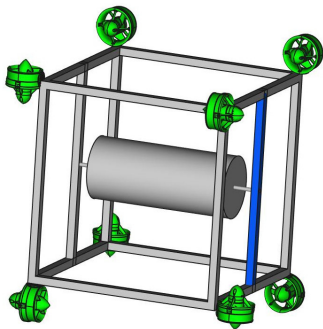
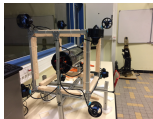


(a) Force space

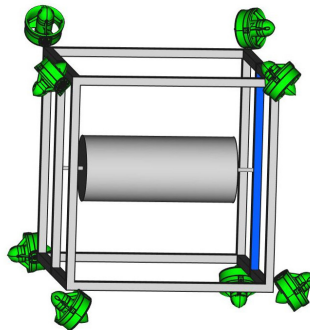


(b) Torque space

# Simulation - A comparison on Cube's robot



(a) Cube robot in  $\mathbf{C}^1$  configuration



(b) Cube robot in  $\mathbf{C}^2$  configuration

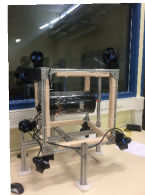


Figure 19: Cube robot in two configurations  $\mathbf{C}^1$  and  $\mathbf{C}^2$

# Simulations- A comparison

No.	Indices	$C^1$	$C^2$
1	$I_m$	7.12	2.5592
2	$I_e$	3.32	2.09
3	$I_w$	6511536.45	10919428.13
4	$I_{re}$	4.05	1.5622
5	$I_{ro}^1$	0	2

Table 2: Performance indices of two configurations

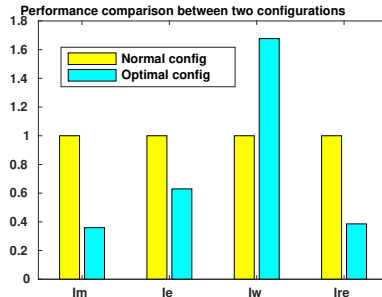


Figure 20: Comparison between two configurations

<sup>1</sup> the maximum number of thrusters which can be failed to make sure that  $rank(\mathbf{A}) = 6$

# Simulations - A comparison

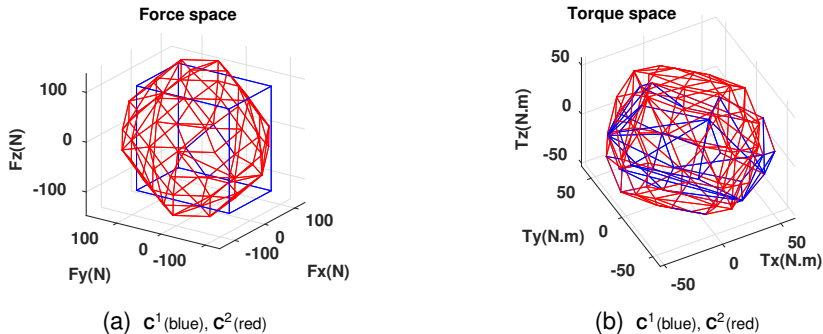


Figure 21: Attainable spaces of two configurations

# Simulations - A comparison - Attainability about X-axis

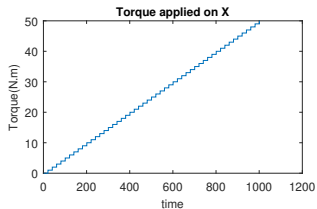
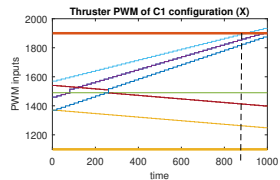
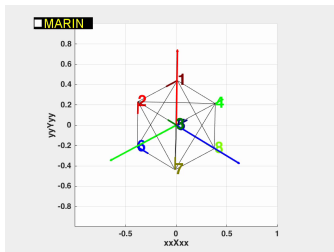
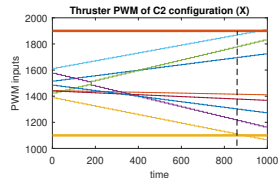


Figure 22: Applied torque about X-axis



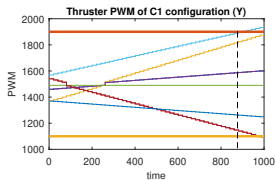
(a) PWM inputs of  $\mathbf{c}^1$



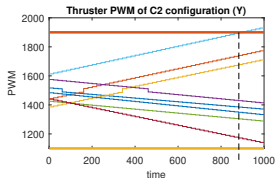
(b) PWM inputs of  $\mathbf{c}^2$

Figure 23: The simulation of cube rotation about X-axis for  $\mathbf{c}^1$  and  $\mathbf{c}^2$

# Simulations - A comparison - Attainability about Y and Z-axis

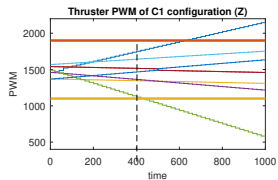


(a) PWM inputs of C1

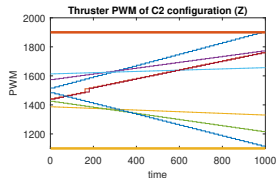


(b) PWM inputs of C2

Figure 24: The simulation of cube rotation about Y-axis for  $C^1$  and  $C^2$



(a) PWM inputs of C1



(b) PWM inputs of C2

Figure 25: The simulation of cube rotation about Z-axis for  $C^1$  and  $C^2$



# Experimental results - Cube description

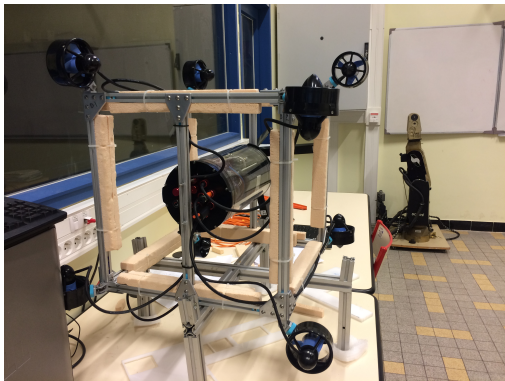


Figure 26:  $C^1$  configuration

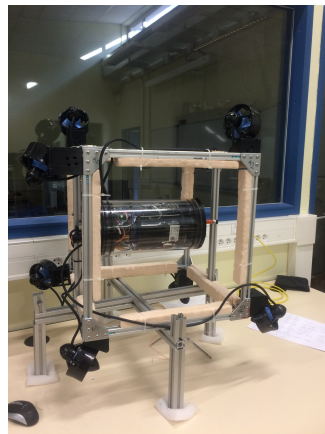
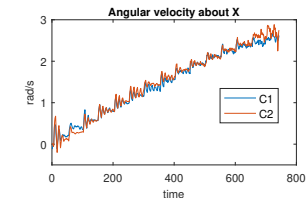
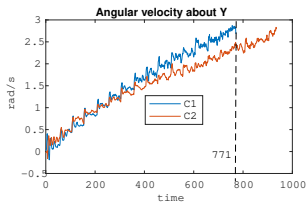


Figure 27:  $C^2$  configuration

# Experimental results - Workspace (attainability) validation



(a) Angular velocities - X axis



(b) Angular velocities - Y axis

Figure 28: About X and Y-axis for  $C^1$  and  $C^2$

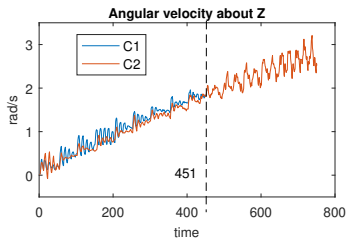
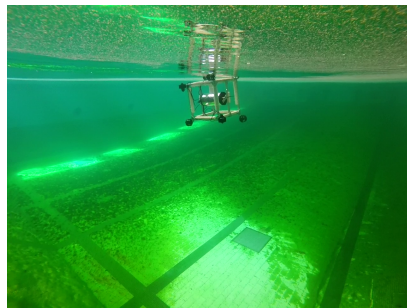


Figure 29: About Z-axis for  $C^1$  and  $C^2$



# Experimental results - Energetic validation

The energetic-like criterion is computed as:

$$\mathbf{E} = \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{t=0}^T |PWM^i(t) - 1500| dt \quad (11)$$

No.	Rotation	$\mathbf{E}_{C^1}$	$\mathbf{E}_{C^2}$	Percentage
1	$p$	7.2303e+04	6.9603e+04	3.73 %
2	$q$	7.5480e+04	1.0590e+05	see Table 4
3	$r$	3.1637e+04	7.4350e+04	see Table 4

Table 3: Energy consumption of two configurations

No.	Rotation	$\mathbf{E}_{C^1}$	$\mathbf{E}_{C^2}$	Percentage
1	$q$	7.5480e+04	7.2715e+04	3.66 %
2	$r$	3.1637e+04	3.3312e+04	-5.03 %

Table 4: Energy consumption of two configurations with the same time duration

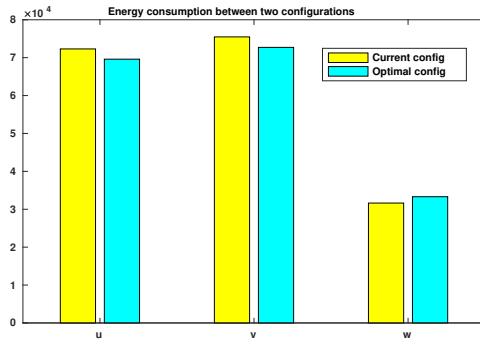


Figure 30: Energetic-like consumption between two configurations

# Experimental results - Robustness and reactive validations

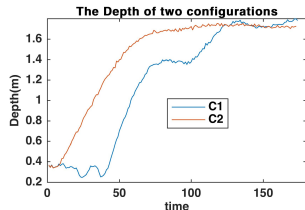


Figure 31: Depth control for  $C^1$  and  $C^2$  with three motors stopped

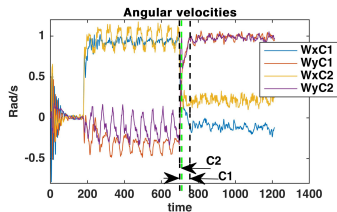
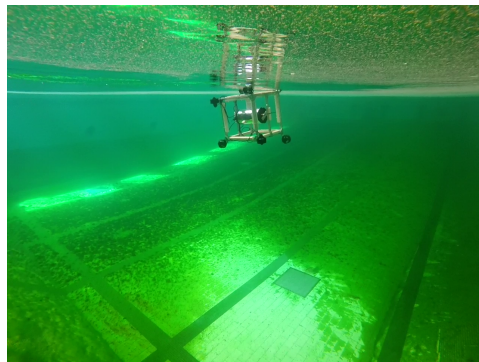


Figure 32: Angular velocity evaluation for  $C^1$  and  $C^2$ : diving, rotating X-axis, and rotating Y-axis



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# Reconfigurable robot - A glance



Figure 33: Tortuga ROV - SubSea Tech

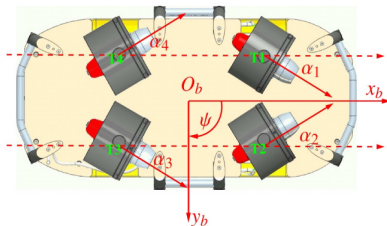
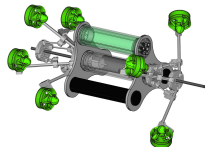
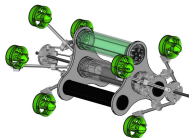


Figure 34: Reconfigurable principle of Tortuga

# Reconfigurable robot Design



(a) Umbrella robot in *open-forward*



(b) Umbrella robot in *close*

Figure 35: The 3D model of UmRobot

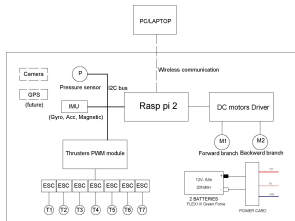


Figure 36: The principle diagram of UmRobot

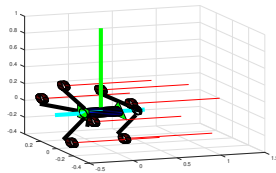


Figure 37: Umbrella robot like Torpedo

The robot includes:

- 1 Two branches (front and rear) controlled by two DC motors
- 2 Rasp pi 2
- 3 Pressure sensor
- 4 IMU
- 5 7 thrusters

One robot - different configurations

# Prototype



Figure 38: A prototype of Umbrella Robot

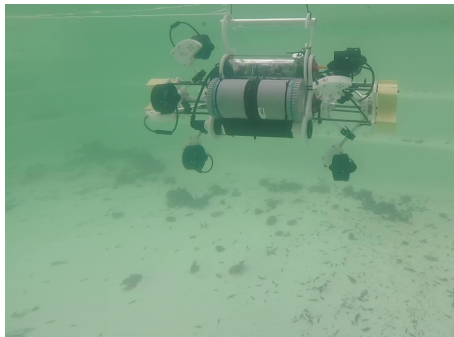


Figure 39: A prototype of Umbrella Robot in water



# Simulations-Manipulability index

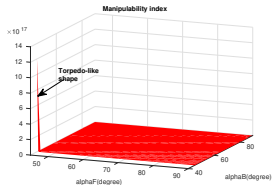


Figure 40: Manipulability index of Umbrella robot

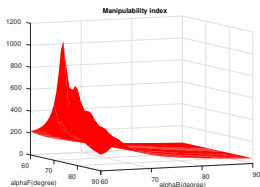
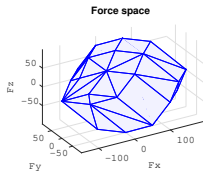
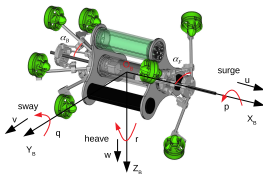
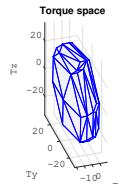


Figure 41: Manipulability index  $[60^\circ - 90^\circ]$



(a) Attainable force space



(b) Attainable torque space

Figure 42: Attainable space if  $\alpha_F = \alpha_B = 90^\circ$

# Acting ability - Umbrella Robot

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2m} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{rank}(A) = 6$$

$\sum a_{ij}^2$

Figure 43: Acting ability

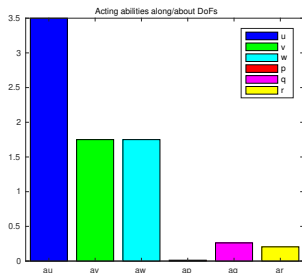


Figure 44: with  $\alpha_F = \alpha_B = 90^\circ$

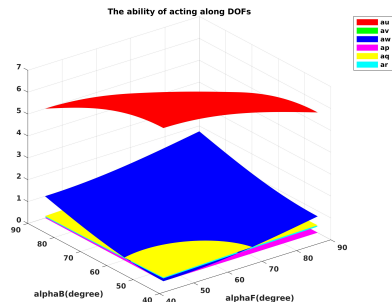


Figure 45: with varying  $\alpha_F$  and  $\alpha_B$

# Acting ability - Optimization problem

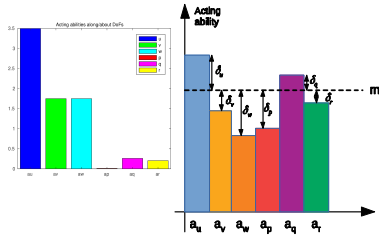


Figure 46: Acting ability along each DOFs and deviations

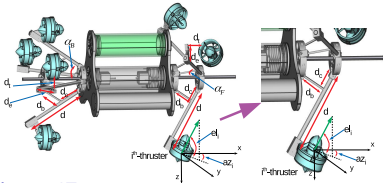


Figure 47: variables in configuration optimization problem

No.	Variable	Optimal value
1	$\alpha_F$	$90^\circ$
2	$\alpha_B$	$45^\circ$
3	$d$	$0.5(m)$
4	$d_e$	$0.2(m)$
5	$d_l$	$0.2(m)$
6	$d_c$	$0.0914(m)$
7	$d_b$	$0.15(m)$
8	$az_i, el_i(rad)$	$\begin{pmatrix} az_1 = 0.6106 & el_1 = 2.2317 \\ az_2 = 1.7060 & el_2 = 0.4642 \\ az_3 = -0.6106 & el_3 = -0.9099 \\ az_4 = -0.3754 & el_4 = 2.6030 \\ az_5 = 0.1261 & el_5 = -2.5692 \\ az_6 = 2.9525 & el_6 = -1.9817 \\ az_7 = 3.0155 & el_7 = 0.5724 \end{pmatrix}$

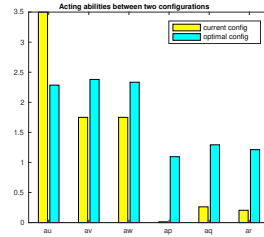
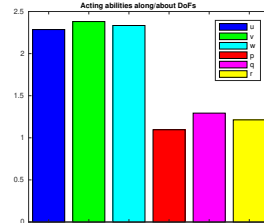
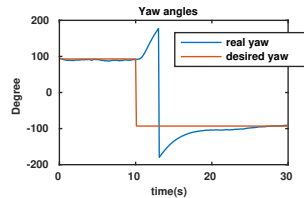
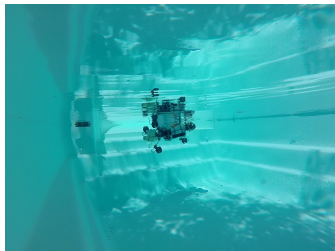


Figure 48: Optimal acting of Umbrella robot and the comparison with current configuration

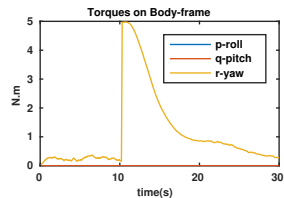
# Experiment results - Yaw control



Figure 49: Umbrella Robot at the swimming pool



(a) Yaw angles



(b) Applied torques

# Experiment results - Depth control

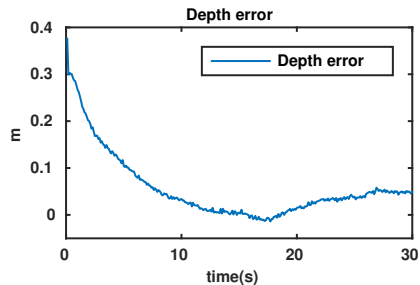


Figure 51: Depth error

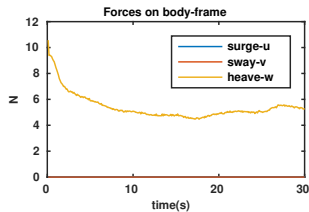


Figure 52: Applied forces

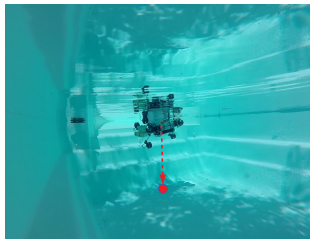


Figure 53: Mission descriptions

The robot has to open the umbrella.

# Experiment results - Surge, pitch, yaw control

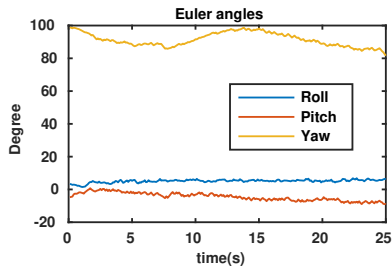


Figure 54: Euler angles

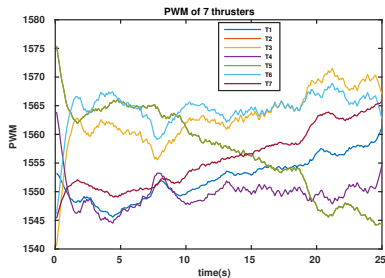
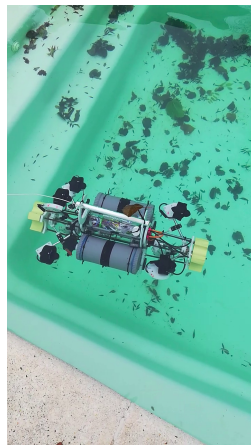
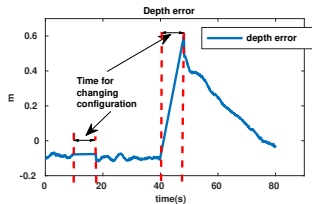


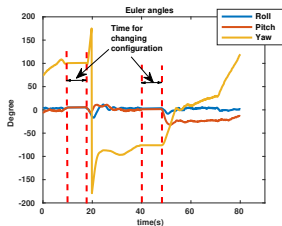
Figure 55: PWM of thrusters



# Experiment results - Integrated mission



(a) Depth error



(b) Euler angles

Figure 56: Integrated Mission of UmRobot

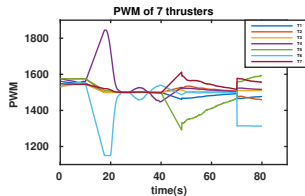


Figure 57: PWM of thrusters



Figure 58: Mission descriptions

The robot surges forward, turns back, dives to desired depth, and finally sways.

# A Toolbox

A toolbox for validating performance indices and acting abilities of a robot

please choose kind of robots

UmRobot

Front angle

90

Rear angle

90

Performance indices

Im-Manipulability

47.226

Ie-Energy

14.45

Iw-Workspace

5628748.9807

Ire-Reactive

25.2196

Iro-Robust

OK

Acting Ability

along U

3.5

along V

1.75

along W

1.75

about P

0.0126

about Q

0.26171

about R

0.20498

Quit

Plot Act-Ability

Compare

Performance indices and Acting ability of different robot

A matrix

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	0.7071	0.7071	0.7071	0.7071	0.7071	0.7071	0.7071
2	0.6124	0.0000	-0.6124	0.7071	0.0000	-0.7071	0.0000
3	0.3536	-0.7071	0.3536	0.0000	-0.7071	0.0000	0.7071
4	0.0424	-0.0424	-0.0424	0.0424	-0.0424	-0.0424	-0.0424
5	-0.2297	0.3860	-0.2297	-0.0424	0.0424	-0.0424	-0.0424
6	0.3130	-0.0424	-0.3130	0.0424	-0.0424	-0.0424	0.0424

Figure 59: Toolbox for configuration evaluation: main page



# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Backgrounds
- 3 Static configuration design
- 4 Reconfigurable robot design
- 5 Dynamic Configuration Problem-Umbrella Robot**
- 6 Conclusions and Future works

# Dynamic configuration problem

With capacity of varying configurations, how can we choose a proper one? A-SQP approach

$$\min_{\alpha_F, \alpha_B, \mathbf{F}_m} J = \|\mathbf{F}_m\|^2 \quad (12a)$$

$$s.t \quad 45^0 \leq \alpha_F, \alpha_B \leq 90^0 \quad (12b)$$

$$\mathbf{F}_m \in \mathbb{F} \quad (12c)$$

$$\mathbf{F}_B^d - \mathbf{A}(\alpha_F, \alpha_B)\mathbf{F}_m = 0 \quad (12d)$$

where  $\mathbf{F}_B^d$  is desired control vector (from the controller),  $\mathbb{F}$  is a feasible set of thrusters forces. The constraint (12b) is mechanical limitations of the Umbrella robot.

# Simulations

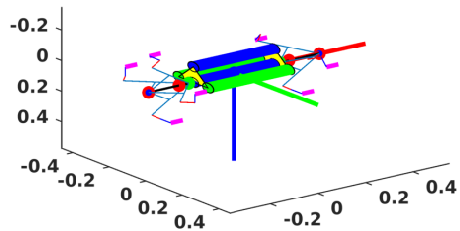
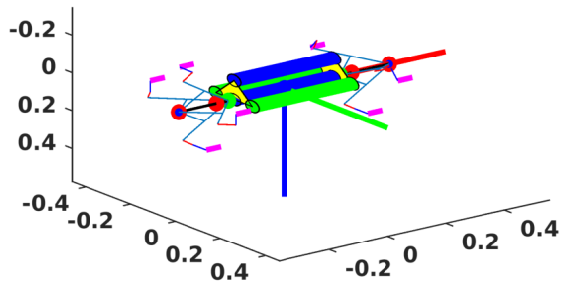


Figure 60: Simulated robot



# Simulations - Given desired control vector

Given desired control vector  $\mathbf{F}_B^d$

No	desired control vector
1	$\mathbf{F}_B^d = [10 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]^T$
2	$\mathbf{F}_B^d = [10 \ 10 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]^T$
3	$\mathbf{F}_B^d = [0 \ 0 \ 10 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]^T$

- 1 Configuration with  $\alpha_F = \alpha_B = 90^\circ$
- 2 Configuration with  $\alpha_F = 60^\circ$  and  $\alpha_B = 70^\circ$
- 3 Optimal configuration (statically)
- 4 Dynamic configuration

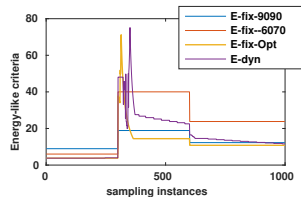
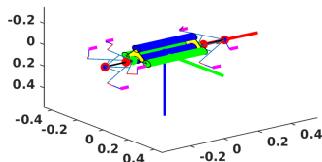


Figure 61: Evolution of energy-like criterion with different cases



# Simulations - Path following problem

The path is parameterized as:

$$x = 60 \cos(0.2618s) \quad (13)$$

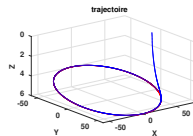
$$y = 60 \sin(0.2618s) \quad (14)$$

$$z = \sin(0.2618s) + 5 \quad (15)$$

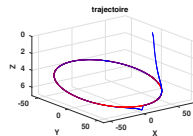
where  $s$  is a path parameter.

Path following problem with:

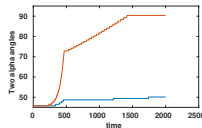
- 1 Configuration with  $\alpha_F = \alpha_B = 70^\circ$
- 2 Configuration with  $\alpha_F = \alpha_B = 90^\circ$
- 3 Dynamic configuration.



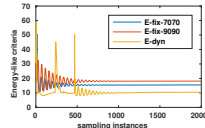
(a) trajectory of Robot in fixed cases



(b) trajectory of Robot in dynamic case



(c) evolution of two angles



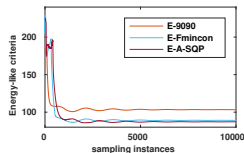
(d) Energy-like criteria for Path following problem

Figure 62: Path following for ellipse with different configurations

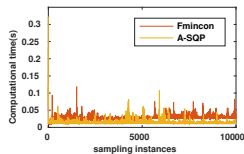
# Simulations-Observation problem (station-keeping)

Simulations with observation mission:  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $z = 1(m)$  and  $p = q = r = 1(rad/s)$

- 1 Fixed configuration ( $\alpha_F = \alpha_B = 90^0$ )
- 2 dynamic configuration with interior-point method (Fmincon function)
- 3 dynamic configuration with A-SQP



(a) Energy-like criterion evolution



(b) Computational time

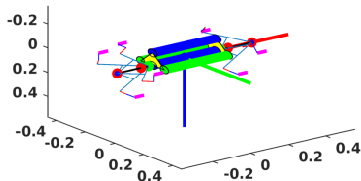


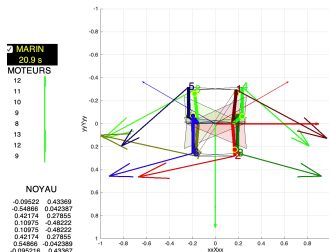
Figure 63: A comparison

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
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# Conclusions and Future works

- 1 Static configuration design.
- 2 Reconfigurable robot design.
- 3 Dynamic configuration problem.
- 4 Hybrid cube:



- 1 Pareto front.
- 2 Experiments with dynamic configuration problem.
- 3 Multiparametric programming.
- 4 Other reconfigurable mechanisms.
- 5 Efficient control allocation algorithm.
- 6 Redundancy management



Thank you for your attention

Thank you for your attention