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# Modèles mathématiques et corrélats anatomiques du mouvement (1/2)

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OUTLINE

I. Cognition, action and movement

2. The organization of action

3. Computational motor control

4. Neural bases of motor control

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### **COGNITION AND ACTION**

#### What to move where

#### **Cognitive science**

Motor control







Moving



vs.



### **COGNITION AND ACTION**



-Wong et al., 2015, Neuroscientist 21(4):385

# **CONTENT OF ACTION**

Every action has a specific direction (left/right, toward/ away, ...), and intensity (velocity, force, ...)



Agonist

Antagonist

0

100

200

300

400 msec

- Anticipatory electrical activities (EEG, EMG)
- Invariant profiles
- Scaling with task conditions





— Angel, 1973, Q J Exp Psychol 25:193

- Gordon et al., 1994, Exp Brain Res 99:112

# **ACTION REFLECTS DECISION**

400





Lexical decision task

Judge the lexical status (word/nonword) of a letter string, and indicate the decision by moving a handle in one direction (word) or in the other direction (nonword)





No stop

-- Nontarget, successful

- Ko & Miller, 2011, Psychon Bull Rev 18:813

Faster movements for words vs nonwords

— Abrams & Balota, 1991, Psychol Sci 2:153

#### **ACTION REFLECTS MOTIVATION**

в

RU





20 deg

500 deg/s

-Aarts et al., 2008, Science 19:1639

— Takikawa et al., 2002, Exp Brain Res 142:284

### **ACTION IS DECISION MAKING**



— Stevens et al., 2005, *Curr Biol* 15:1865





#### **ACTION IS DECISION MAKING**



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### **TYPES OF ACTION**



Walking, running, reaching, grasping, speaking, singing, writing, drawing, looking, smiling, keyboarding, ...

### THE ORGANIZATION OF ACTION

Idea, symbol, object

Space/time displacement/force in task space

Trajectory formation in body space

Joint/muscle force, activations

Neural commands







# LEXICON

#### **Kinematics**

position, velocity, acceleration in task/body space

$$\begin{cases} x = L_1 \cos(\theta_1) + L_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \\ y = L_1 \sin(\theta_1) + L_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \end{cases}$$

#### **Dynamics** force/torque (Newton's law)

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_1 &= (I_1 + I_2 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \cos \theta_2 + \frac{m_1 l_1^2 + m_2 l_2^2}{4} + m_2 l_1^2) \ddot{\theta}_1 + \\ & (I_2 + \frac{m_2 l_2^2}{4} + \frac{m_2 l_1 l_2}{2} \cos \theta_2) \ddot{\theta}_2 - \\ & \frac{m_2 l_1 l_2}{2} \dot{\theta}_2^2 \sin \theta_2 - m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \dot{\theta}_2 \sin \theta_2 \\ \tau_2 &= (I_2 + \frac{m_2 l_1 l_2}{2} \cos \theta_2 + \frac{m_2 l_2^2}{4}) \ddot{\theta}_1 + \\ & (I_2 + \frac{m_2 l_2^2}{4}) \ddot{\theta}_2 + \frac{m_2 l_1 l_2}{2} \dot{\theta}_1^2 \sin \theta_2 \end{aligned}$$

#### **Degrees of freedom**

« the least number of independent coordinates required to specify the position of the system elements without violating any geometrical constraints »

- Saltzman, 1979, J Math Psychol 20:91



# PROBLEMS

#### Redundancy

In task space, body space, muscle space, neural space Problem of degrees of freedom (Bernstein's problem) 600 muscles, 200 joints





### PROBLEMS

#### Noise

At all stages of sensorimotor processing (sensory, cellular, synaptic, motor)



— Faisal et al., 2008, Nat Rev Neurosci 9:292

— Todorov, 2002, Neural Comput 14:1233

### PROBLEMS



- Scott, 2012, Trends Cogn Sci 16:541

#### Trajectories

Point-to-point movements are straight with bell-shaped velocity profiles



#### Motor equivalence

Actions are encoded in the central nervous system in terms that are more abstract than commands to specific muscles



#### Scaling laws

Duration and velocity scale with amplitude and load



— Gordon et al., 1994, Exp Brain Res 99:112

#### EMG

Triphasic pattern during fast movements





-Wadman et al., 1979, J Hum Mov Stud 5:3

# **MOTOR VARIABILITY**



#### Uncontrolled manifold, structured variability

« Repetition without repetition » (Bernstein)





— Gordon et al., 1994, Exp Brain Res 99:97

- Todorov & Jordan, 2002, Nat Neurosci 5:1226

### FLEXIBILITY

#### Motor control is highly flexible in space and time



### FLEXIBILITY

Errors are only corrected if they affect the behavioral goal and are ignored if they do not





Corrective responses are directed back to the circular target, whereas responses for the rectangular bar are redirected to a new location along the bar.

Corrective responses do not return to a desired trajectory

- Nashed et al., 2012, J Neurophysiol 109:999

### LAWS OF MOVEMENT

**Fitts' law** Speed/accuracy trade-off



— Fitts, 1954, J Exp Psychol 47:381



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# COMPUTATIONAL MOTOR CONTROL

#### Descriptive (mechanistic) vs normative models

- Descriptive statements present an account of how the world is
- Normative statements present an evaluative account, or an account of how the world should be





Action characteristics result from properties of synapses, neurons, neural networks, muscles, ... Action characteristics result from principles, overarching goals, ...

Problems: planning, control, estimation, learning

# THEORETICAL BASES

#### Dynamical systems theory

Describes the behavior in space and time of complex, coupled systems.

x[n]	state	y[n]	output (observation
u[n]	<sup><i>i</i>]</sup> <i>input (control)</i>		
x[n+1] = f(x[n], u[n])			state equation
y[n] = g(x[n])			output equation
y[n +	1] = h(x[n	], u[n])	

**state**: « the smallest possible subset of system variables that can represent the entire state of the system at any given time »

#### **Control theory**

Deals with the behavior of dynamical systems with inputs, and how their behavior is modified by feedback.



## TWO CONTROL PRINCIPLES — CLOSED LOOP



### TWO CONTROL PRINCIPLES — OPEN LOOP



# TWO CONTROL PRINCIPLES

#### **Open-loop (feedforward)**

The controller is an *inverse* model of the system.



#### Closed-loop (feedback)

The controller is a function of an error signal.



- Predictive control
- Model-based
- Sensitive to modeling uncertainty
- Sensitive to unexpected, unmodeled perturbations
- Error correction
- No model
- Not sensitive to modeling uncertainty
- Robust to perturbations

### FORWARD MODEL



Model of the causal relationship between inputs and their consequences (states, outputs)

input → predicted output input → predicted state

# INVERSE MODEL



Model of the relationship between desired consequences (outputs, states) and corresponding inputs

desired state → input desired output → input

# TWO MAIN THEORIES

#### Task-dynamics approach

Generalized closed-loop systems. Movements result from convergence to attractors of a dynamical system.

> Action systems approach Dynamical systems Ecological psychology



#### Internal model approach

Builds an inverse model of the system to follow a prescribed trajectory or match some constraints (e.g. optimization).

> Information processing approach Cognitive approach Motor programs



### **PROPOSED ARCHITECTURE**



— Scott, 2004, Nat Rev Neurosci 5:534

# **PROPOSED ARCHITECTURE**

#### **Optimality principle**

The interaction between the behavior and the environment leads a better adaptation of the former to the latter. The tendency could lead to an optimal behavior, i.e. the best behavior corresponding to a goal, according to a given criterion.





control theory  $\rightarrow$  optimal control theory Define an « *objective* function »: minimization/ maximization of task and action related quantities (cost, utility)

Find the smallest 
$$u(t)$$
  
(t in  $[t_o;t_f]$ ) such that  
 $x(t_o) = x_o, x(t_f) = x_f$   
and  
 $\ddot{mx} + b\dot{x} + k(x-x_f) = u$