

Constrained Bimanual Planning with Analytic Inverse Kinematics

Thomas Cohn, Seiji Shaw, Max Simchowitz, Russ Tedrake Massachusetts Institute of Technology





ICRA2024

We present a minimal coordinates parametrization for bimanual manipulators with relative end-effector pose constraints, such as when the two hands are manipulating a rigid object.

Why Use this Parametrization?

- Automatically satisfy kinematic constraints
- Works with any planning method
- No nonlinear equality constraints

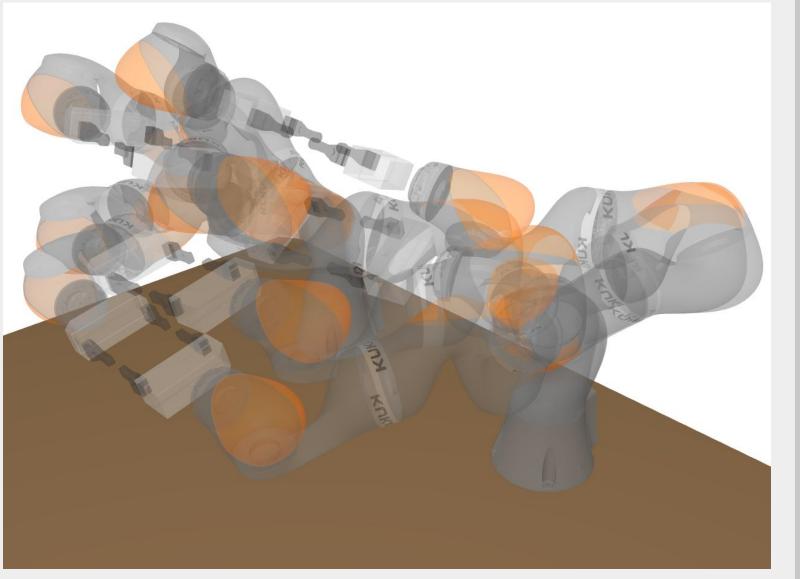
Growing Convex Sets

Algorithm 1: Constrained IRIS (Single Iteration)

Input: Bounding Box $\mathcal{H}_0(A_0, b_0)$ Hyperellipsoid $\mathcal{E}(C, d)$ s.t. $d \in \mathcal{H}_0(A_0, b_0)$ Constraint Sets CS_1, \dots, CS_k Output: Halfspace Intersection $\mathcal{H}(A, b)$ 1 $A \leftarrow A_0, b \leftarrow b_0$ 2 for $CS = CS_1, \dots, CS_k$ do 3 **repeat** 4 $(a^*, b^*) \leftarrow SOLVE[(6), \{A, b, C, d, CS\}]$ 5 $A \leftarrow VSTACK(A, a^*), b \leftarrow VSTACK(b, b^*)$ 6 **until** INFEASIBLE

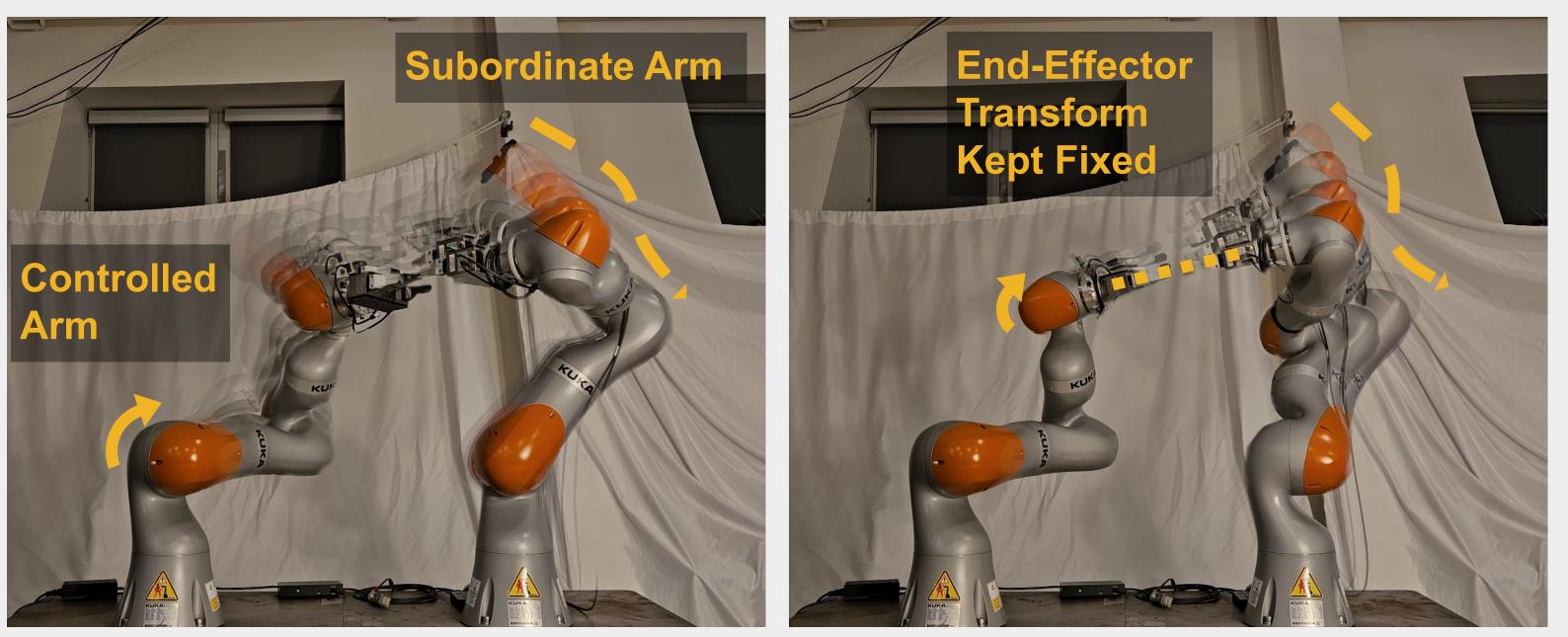
7 return $\mathcal{H}(A,b)$

We visualize a C-space convex set by plotting multiple configurations contained within it.



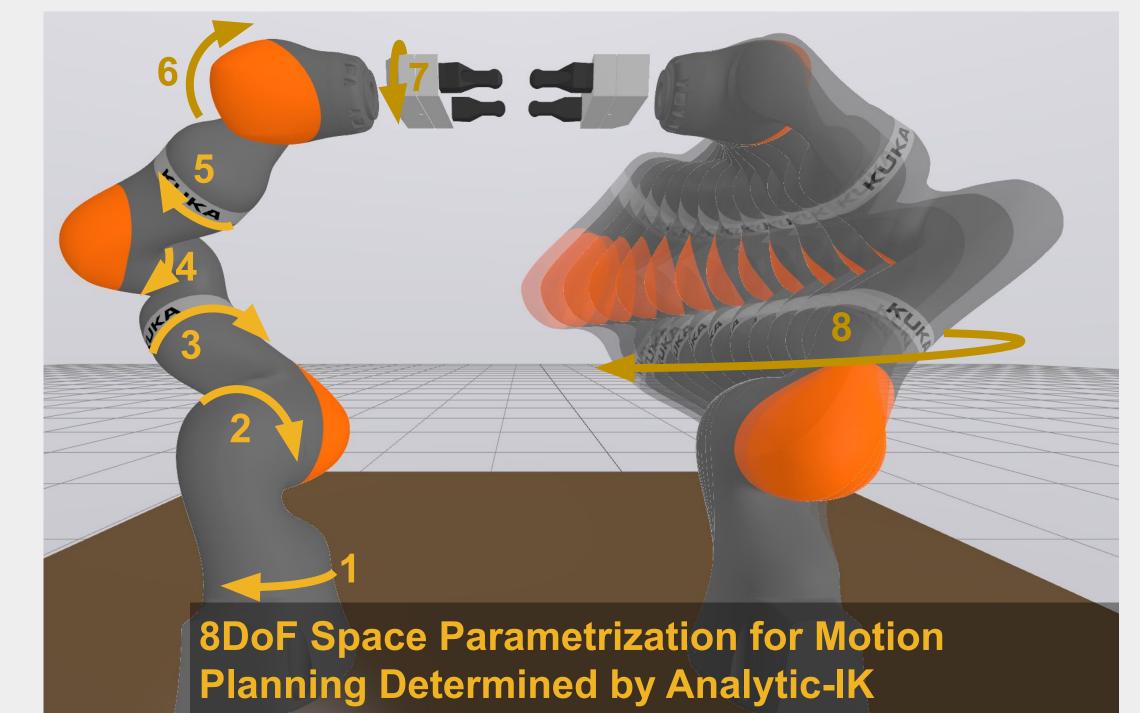
• Differentiate through the IK mapping to use trajopt

Parametrization



Planning is done in the configuration space of the joints of the *controlled arm* and the continuous redundancy parameter of an analytic IK solution applied to the *subordinate arm*.

Individual Degrees of Freedom

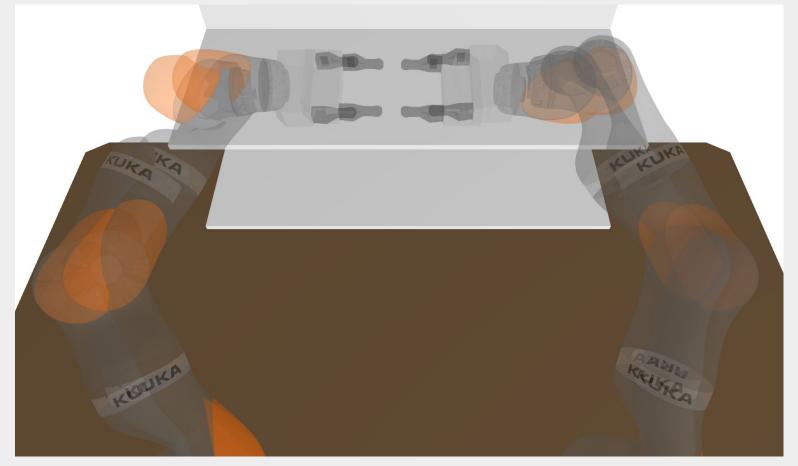


Counterexample $q = \frac{||q - d||_C^2}{|s.t.|}$ Search Program (6) s.t. $Aq \le b$ $q \notin CS$

Individual sets cover large parts of task space.



Individual sets allow a robot to reach into and out of a set of shelves.

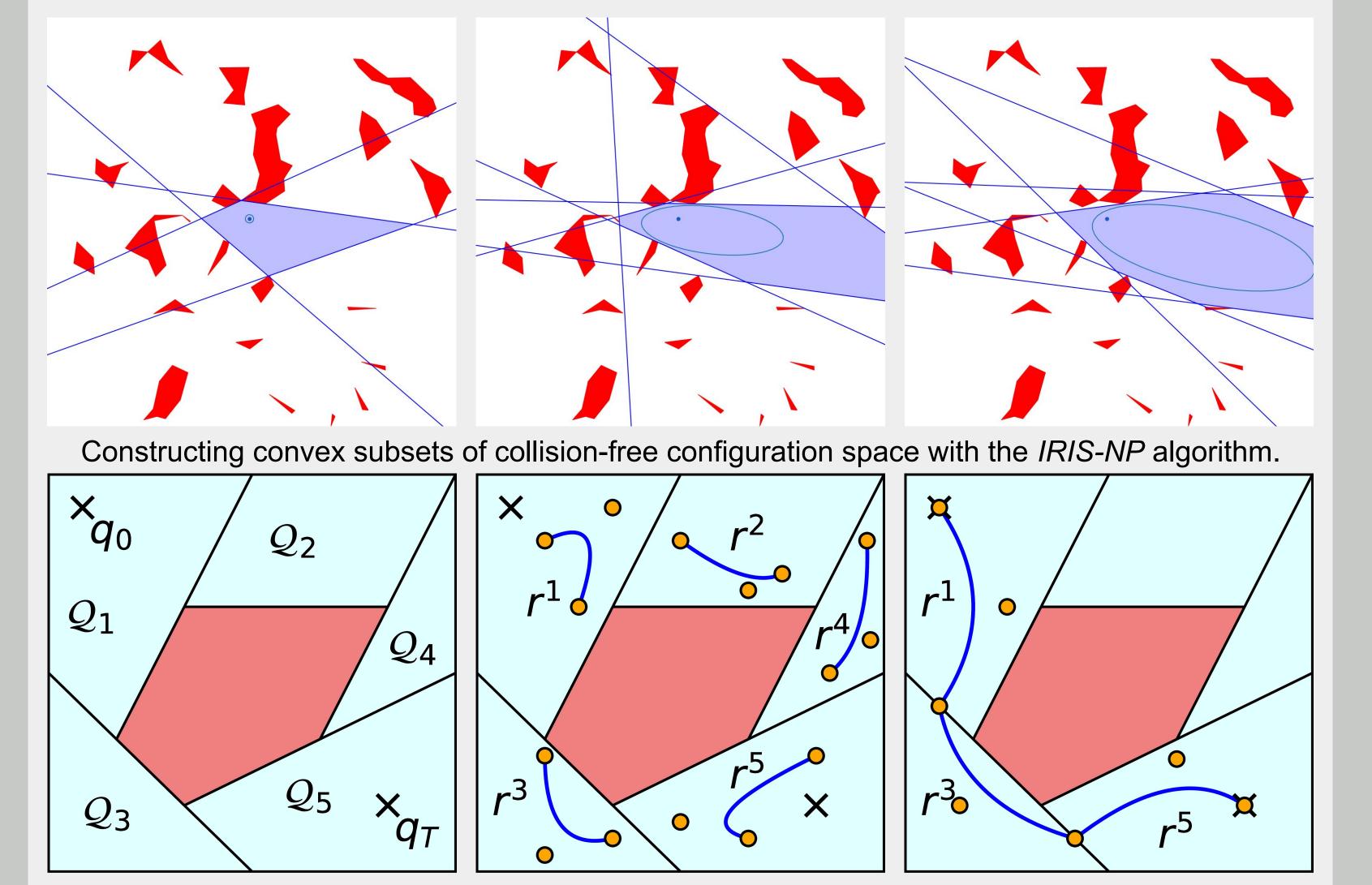


Individual sets can treat a varying grasp distance as an additional degree of freedom.

Bimanual Motion Planning



Planning through Convex Sets











Moving boxes of different sizes between a set of shelves with the Graph of Convex Sets planner.

Comparison of Algorithms

Reproduced from Motion Planning around Obstacles with Convex Optimization, Marcucci et. al.

Method	Top to Middle	Middle to Bottom	Bottom to Top
Trajopt	4.58*	2.85*	4.35*
Atlas-BiRRT	4.72	5.04	6.61
Atlas-PRM	5.43	5.67	6.99
IK-Trajopt	4.24*	1.81*	8.87
IK-BiRRT	9.91	8.69	11.42
IK-PRM	4.67	8.93	9.21
IK-GCS	2.09	3.32	5.62

Method	Top to Middle	Middle to Bottom	Bottom to Top
Trajopt	10.37	5.36	7.25
Atlas-BiRRT	140.82	155.91	201.32
Atlas-PRM	0.69	0.86	0.96
IK-Trajopt	19.48	18.70	22.29
IK-BiRRT	49.42	52.53	54.10
IK-PRM	0.46	0.64	0.61
IK-GCS	3.41	2.32	3.32

Comparison of path lengths (in configuration space) for different planning approaches.

- Asterisks denote plans that had collisions.
- BiRRT plans are averaged over 10 runs.

Comparison of online planning runtimes (in seconds).

Acknowledgements: Thank you Zak Kingston and Josep Porta for helpful feedback and advice on this work.