

Lecture 11

Planning - III - Configuration Spaces



Course Logistics

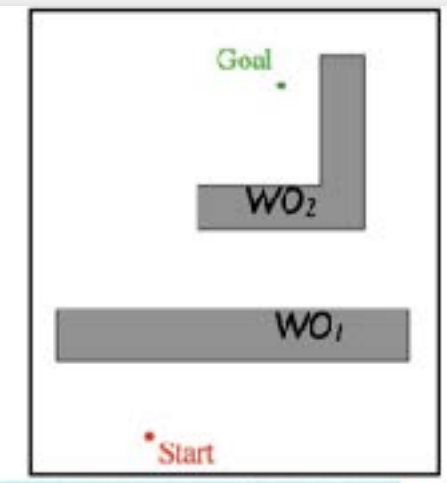
- **Quiz 5 was posted yesterday and was due today at noon.**
- Project 4 was posted on 02/14 and will be due on 02/28.
 - Start early!



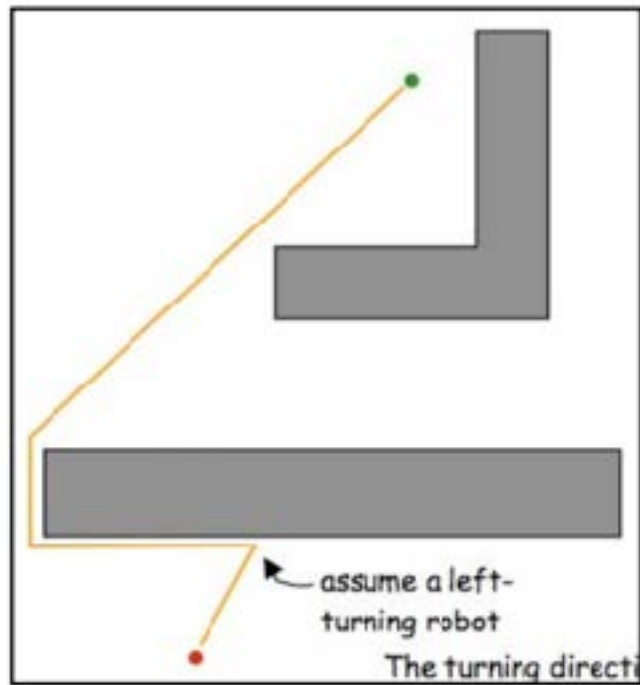
Previously

Bug Algorithms

- Assume bounded world W
- Known: global goal
- measurable distance $d(x,y)$
- Unknown: obstacles WO_i
- Local sensing
 - tactile
 - distance traveled

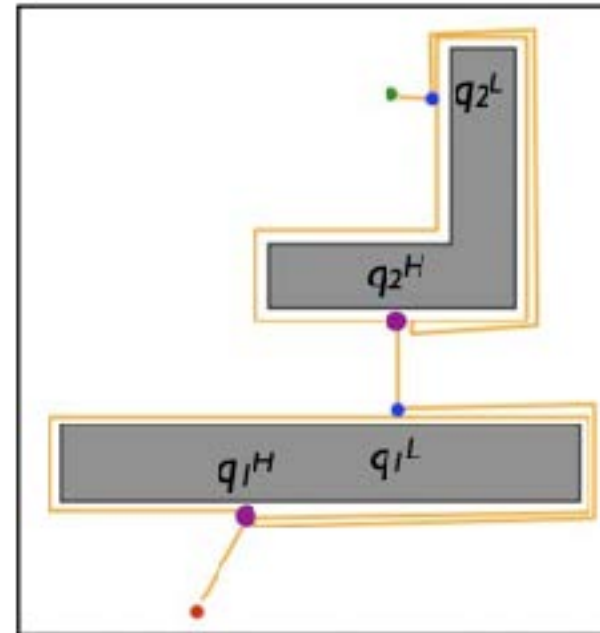


Bug 0



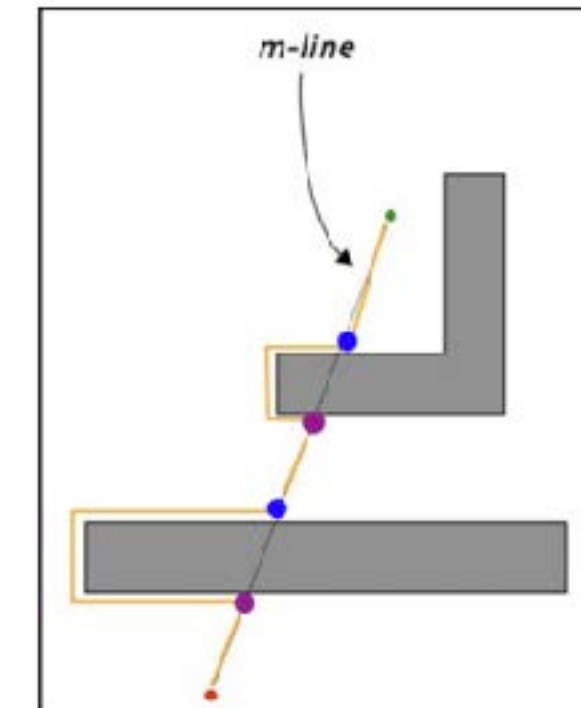
- 1) Head towards goal
- 2) When hit point set, follow wall, until you can move towards goal again (leave point)
- 3) continue from (1)

Bug 1



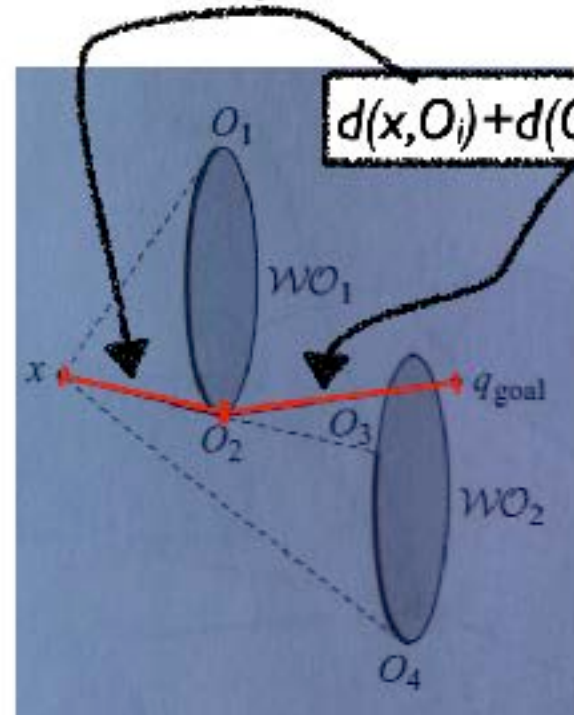
- 1) Head towards goal
- 2) When hit point set, circumnavigate obstacle, setting leave point as closest to goal
- 3) return to leave point
- 4) continue from (1)

Bug 2



- 1) Head towards goal on m -line
- 2) When hit point set, traverse obstacle until m -line is encountered
- 3) set leave point and exit obstacle
- 4) continue from (1)

Tangent Bug: Heuristic Distance-to-Goal

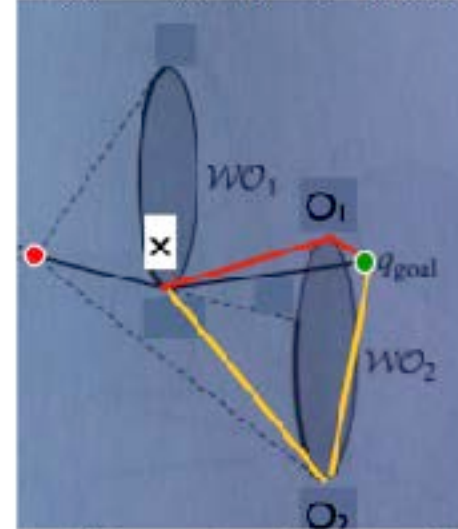


$$d(x, O_i) + d(O_i, q_{goal})$$

- O_i are visible obstacle extents
- $d(x, O_i)$: robot can see
- $d(O_i, q_{goal})$: best path robot cannot see
- Continually move robot such that distance to goal is decreased
- Note similarity to A^* search heuristic

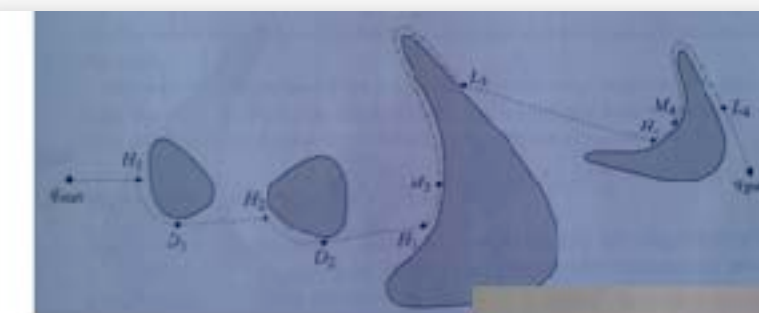
Tangent Bug

$$G(x) = d(x, O_i) + d(O_i, q_{goal})$$



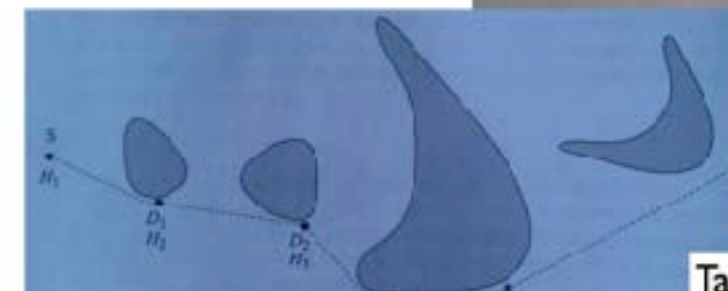
min $G(x)$ in red, others in yellow

- 1) motion-to-goal: Move to current O_i to minimize $G(x)$, until goal (success) or $G(x)$ increases (local minima)
- 2) boundary-follow: move in while loop:
 - a) repeat updates
 - $d_{reach} = \min d(q_{goal}, \{visible\ } O_i)$
 - $d_{follow} = \min d(q_{goal}, sensed(WO_i))$
 - $O_i = \operatorname{argmin}_i d(x, O_i) + d(O_i, q_{goal})$
 - b) until
 - goal reached, (**success**)
 - robot cycles around obstacle, (**fail**)
 - $d_{reach} < d_{follow}$, (**cleared obstacle or local minima**)
- 3) continue from (1)



Tangent bug $R=0$

Tangent bug with limited radius



Tangent bug $R=\infty$

Search Bounds:

Bug 1

Bounds on path distance, assuming

D : distance start-to-goal

P_i : obstacle perimeter

Best case: D

Worst case: $D + 1.5 \sum_i P_i$

Bug 2

Bounds on path distance, assuming

- D : distance start-to-goal

- P_i : obstacle perimeter

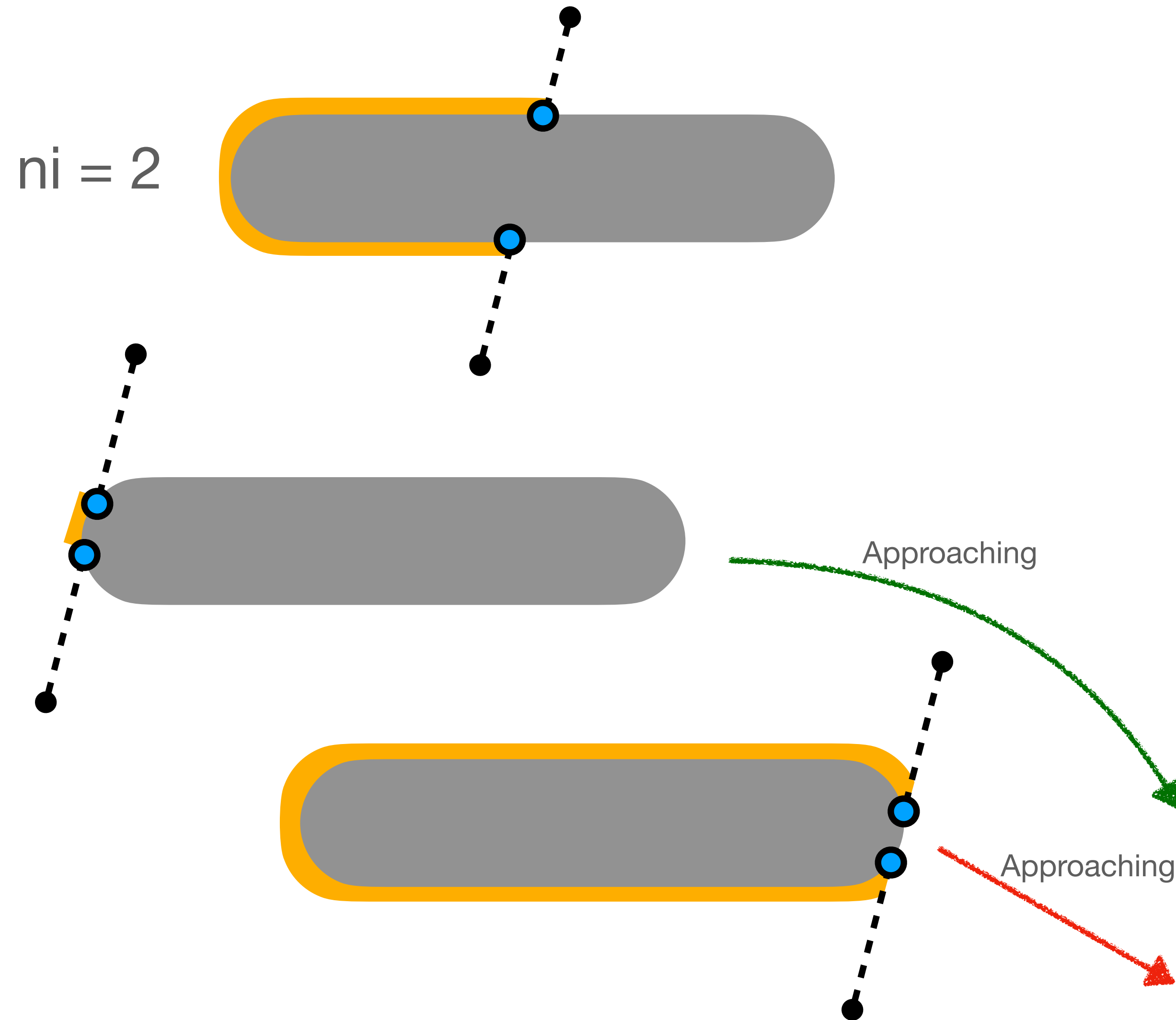
- n_i : number of m-line intersections for WO_i

Best case: D

Worst case: $D + \sum_i (n_i/2)P_i$



Search Bounds:



Bug 2

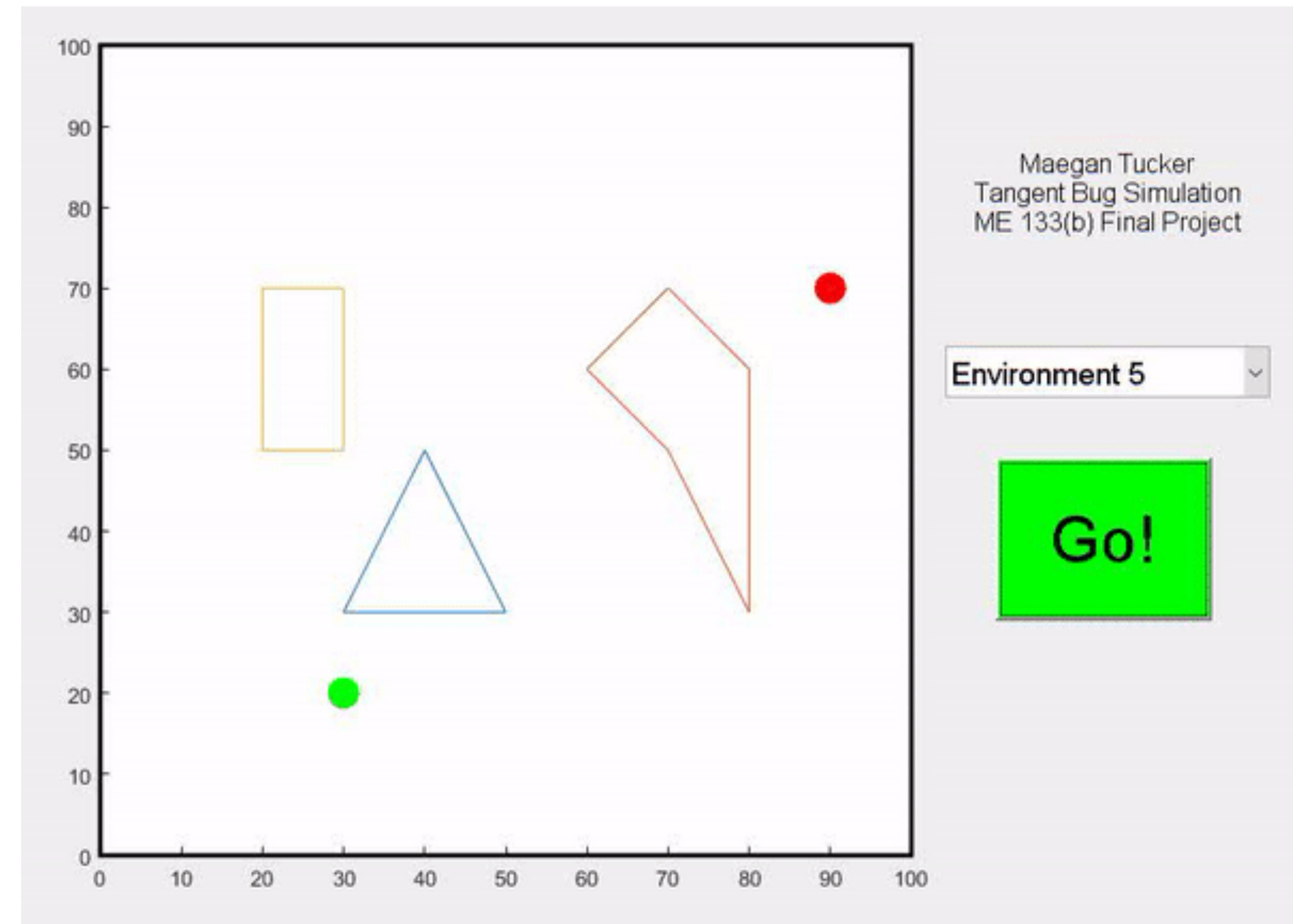
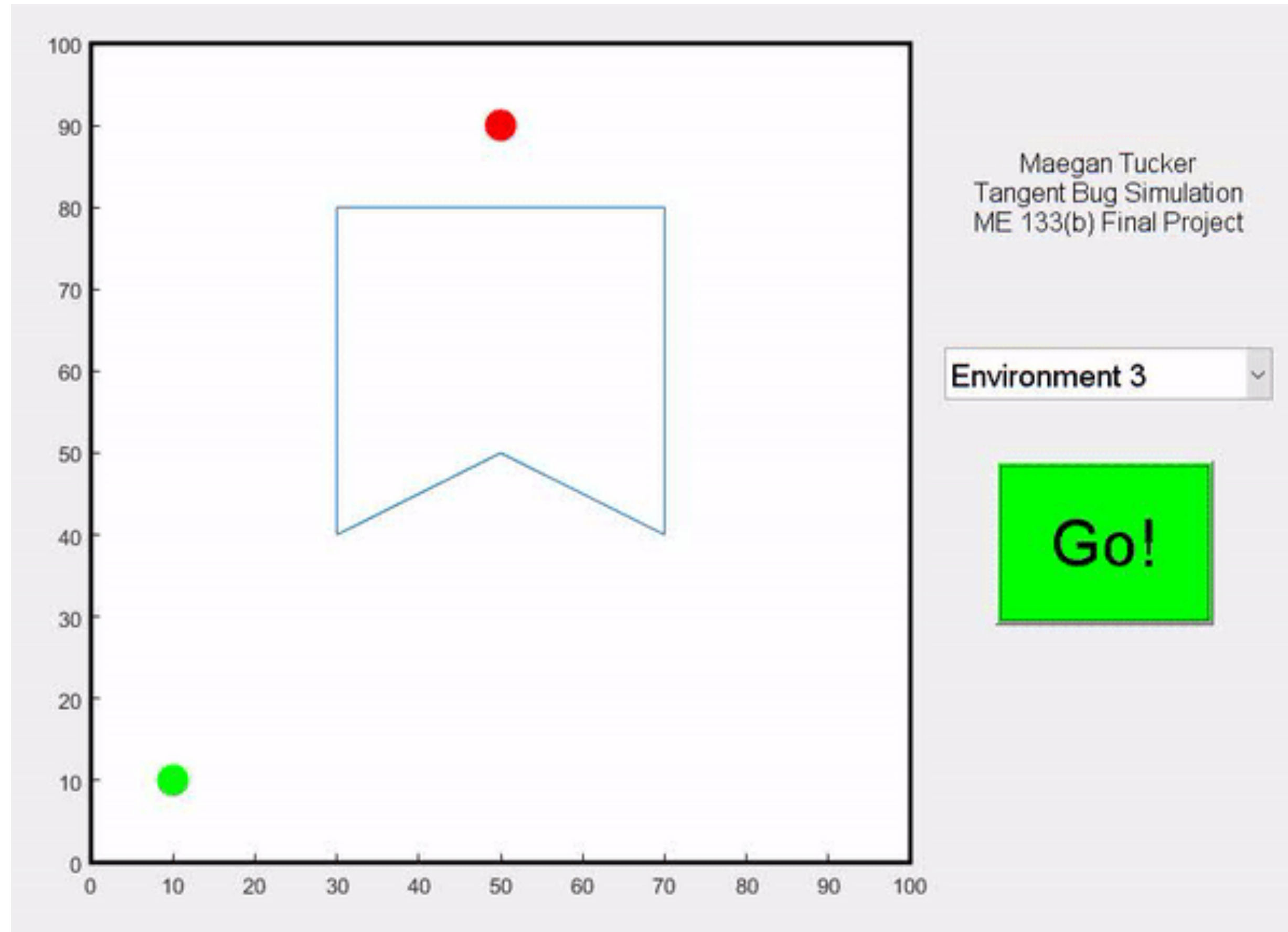
Bounds on path distance, assuming

- D : distance start-to-goal
- P_i : obstacle perimeter
- n_i : number of m-line intersections for WO_i

Best case: D

Worst case: $D + \sum_i (n_i/2) P_i$

Tangent Bug



<https://maegantucker.com/projects/2018-04-01-me133b/>

Will our current search methods apply to this robot?

Assumptions:

- Known graph of traversability
 - How big is this graph? How was this graph built?
- Known localization and map/obstacles
 - How do we detect collisions?
 - Is our robot just a point in workspace?
- Known link geometry
 - Does robot geometry change wrt. configuration?



Configuration Spaces



more than meets the eye

Configuration Space

(or C-space)

- C-space (Q) is the space of all possible configurations (q) of a system
 - kinematics: geometry of possible configurations, without respect to physics
 - dynamics: evolution of configurations over time wrt. physics
- Each degree of freedom (q_i) is a dimension of C-space
- The span of C-space is constrained by obstacles (QO_i), joint limits, etc.

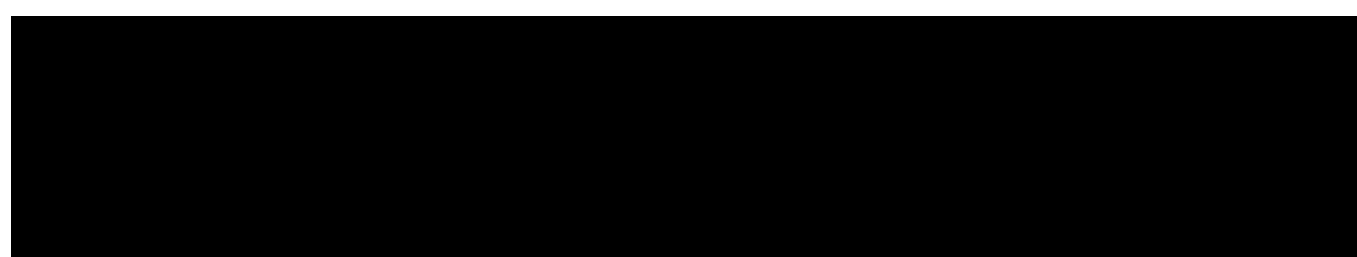


Consider some examples of
configuration spaces



Configuration Space

- Consider a robot $d=21$ DOFs, where each DOF can take 1 of $n=10$ angular values
- How many configurations?



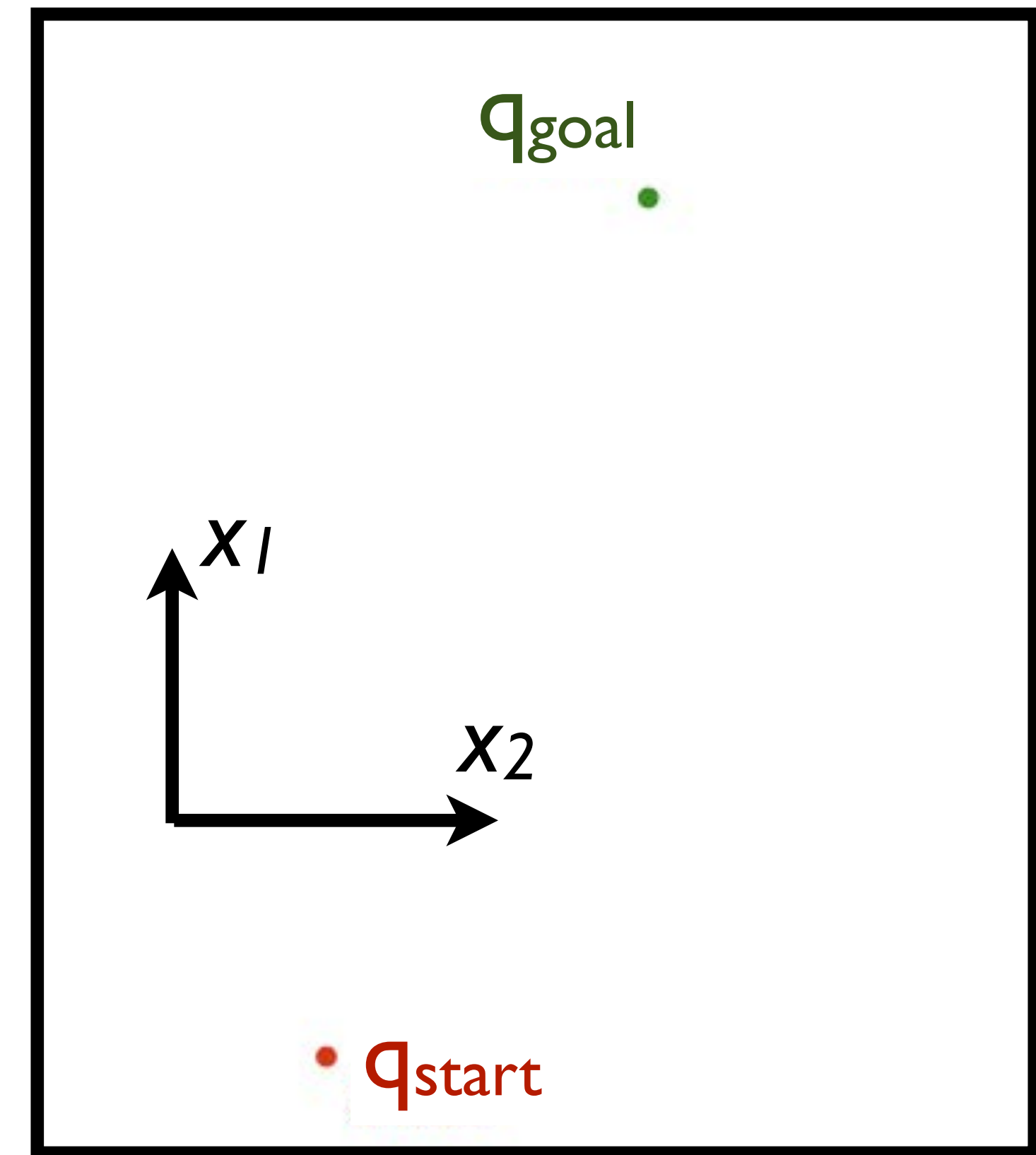
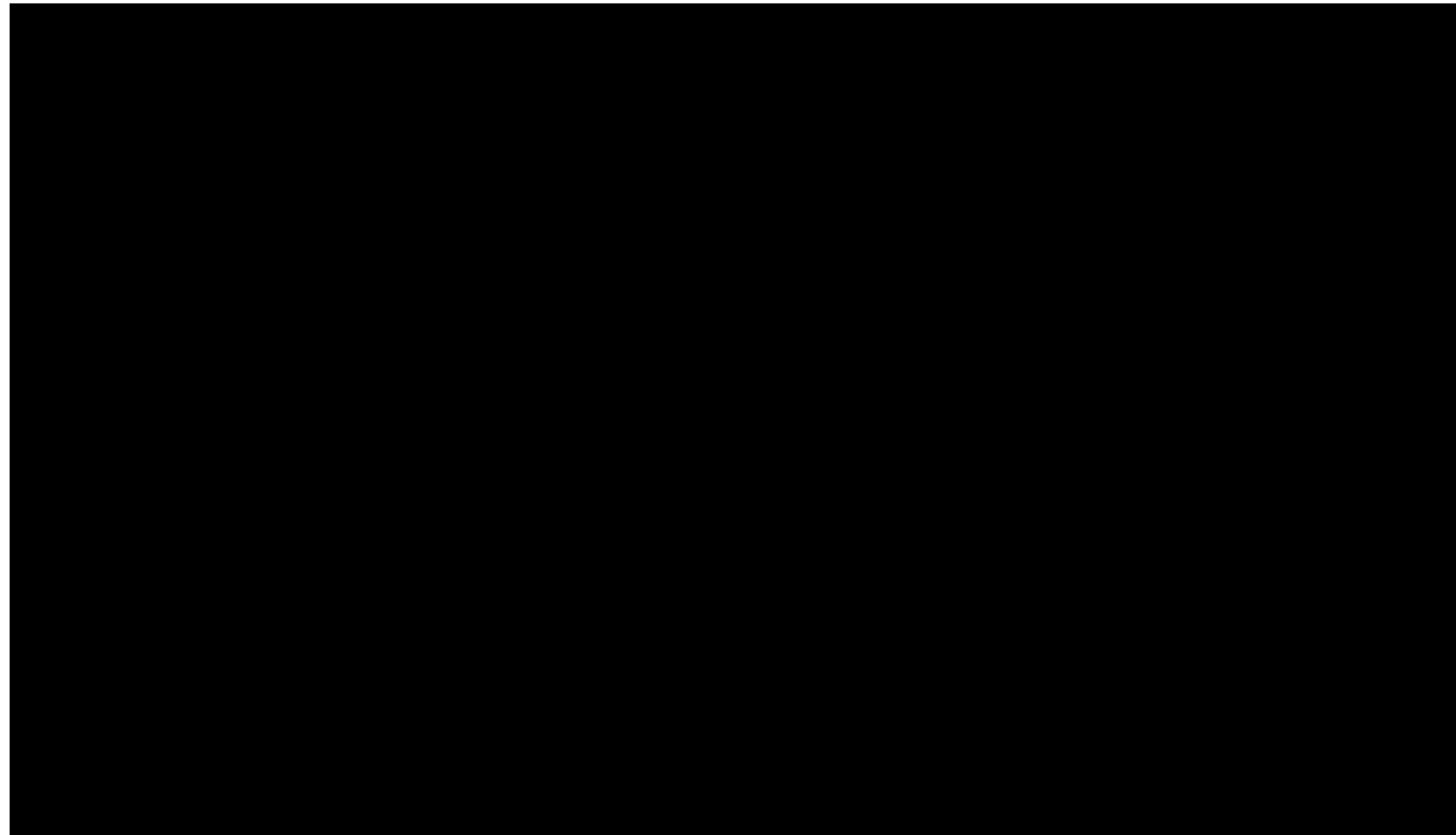
Configuration Space

- Consider a robot $d=21$ DOFs, where each DOF can take 1 of $n=10$ angular values
- How many configurations?
 - 10^{21} , n^d in general
- **“Curse of dimensionality”**
 - exponential growth of C-space wrt. number of DOFs
- Obstacles also create discontinuities and nonlinearities in C-space



C-space examples

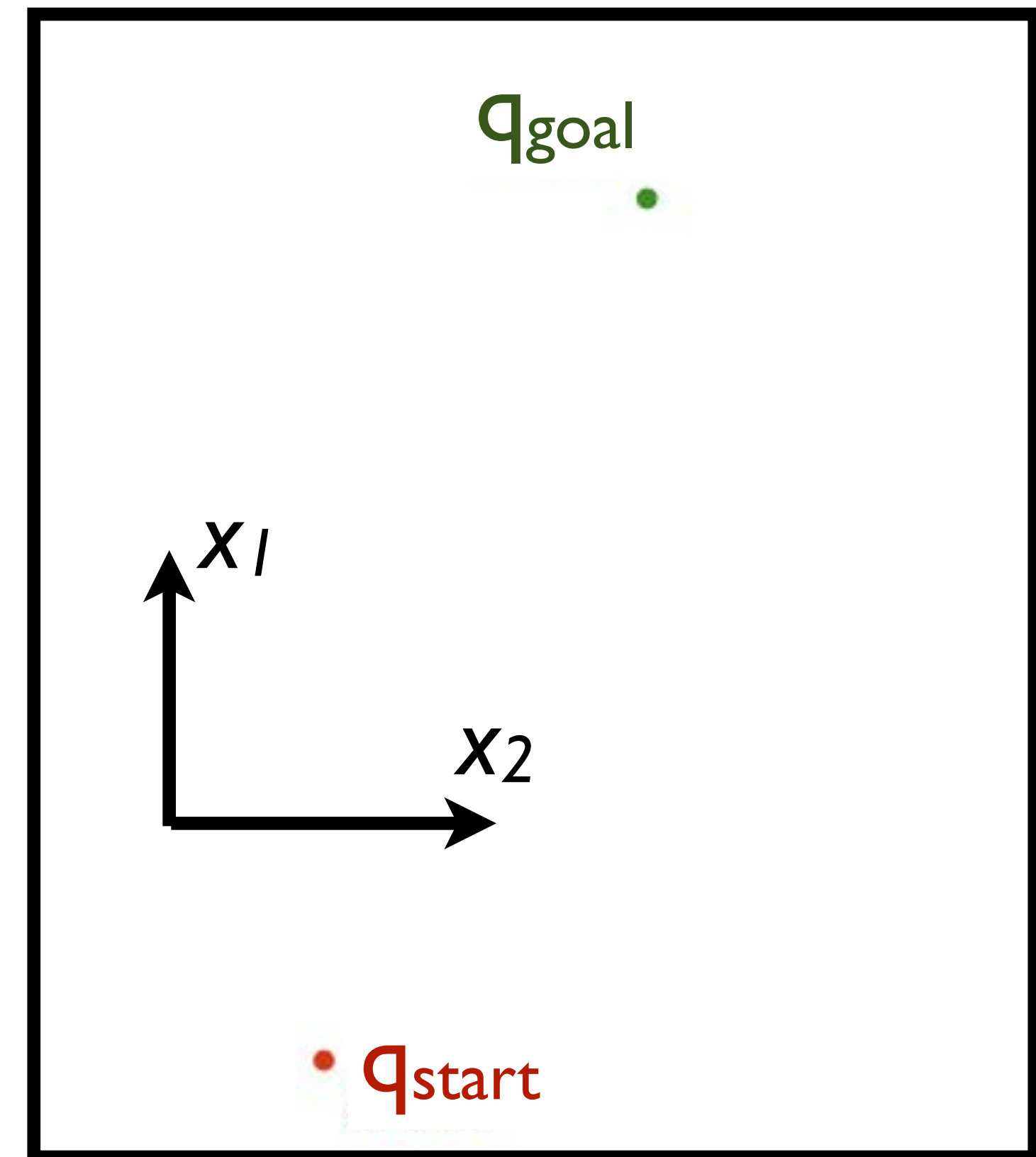
- How many configurations are in the C-space of a planar point robot in a bounded rectangular world?



C-space examples

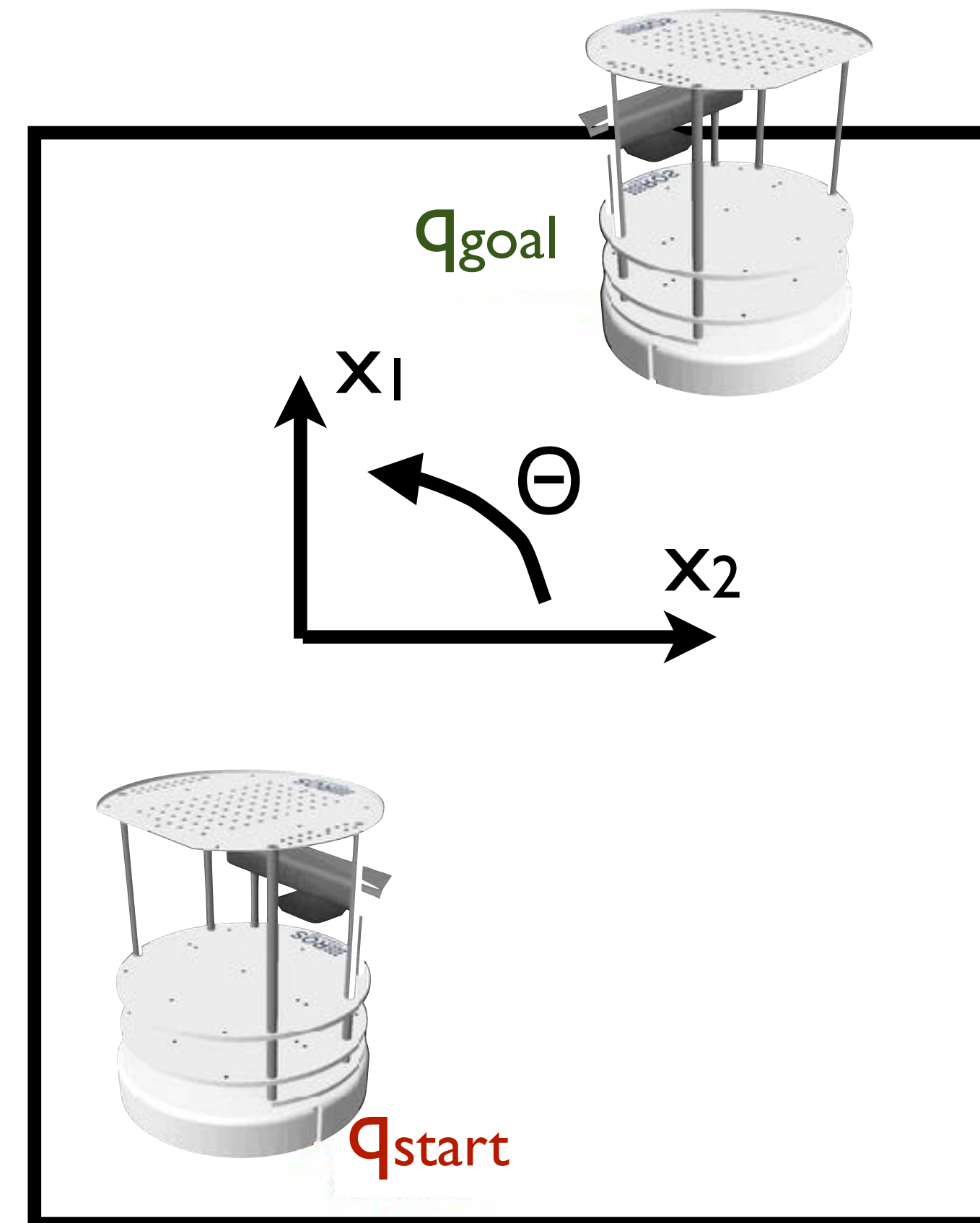
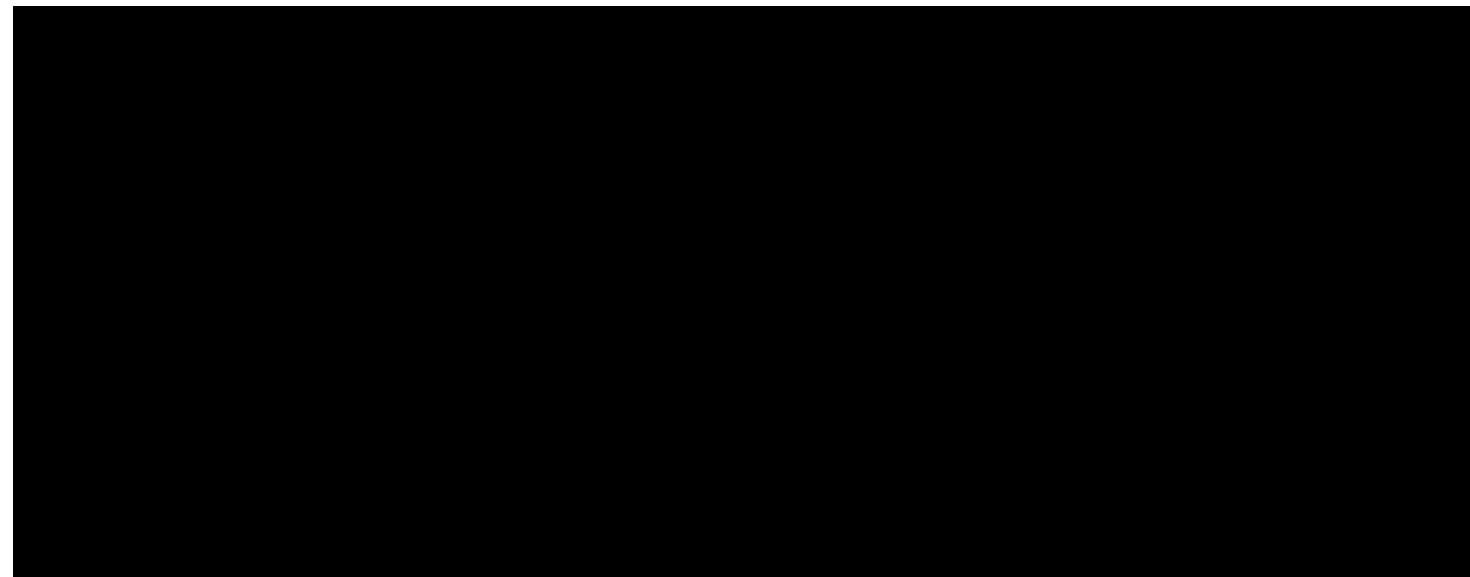
- How many configurations are in the C-space of a planar point robot in a bounded rectangular world?
 - DOFs: 2, $\{x_1, x_2\}$
 - Number of poses is infinite
 - C-space: \mathbb{R}^2

Topologically, this C-space is a homeomorphism of \mathbb{R}^2



C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Turtlebot?



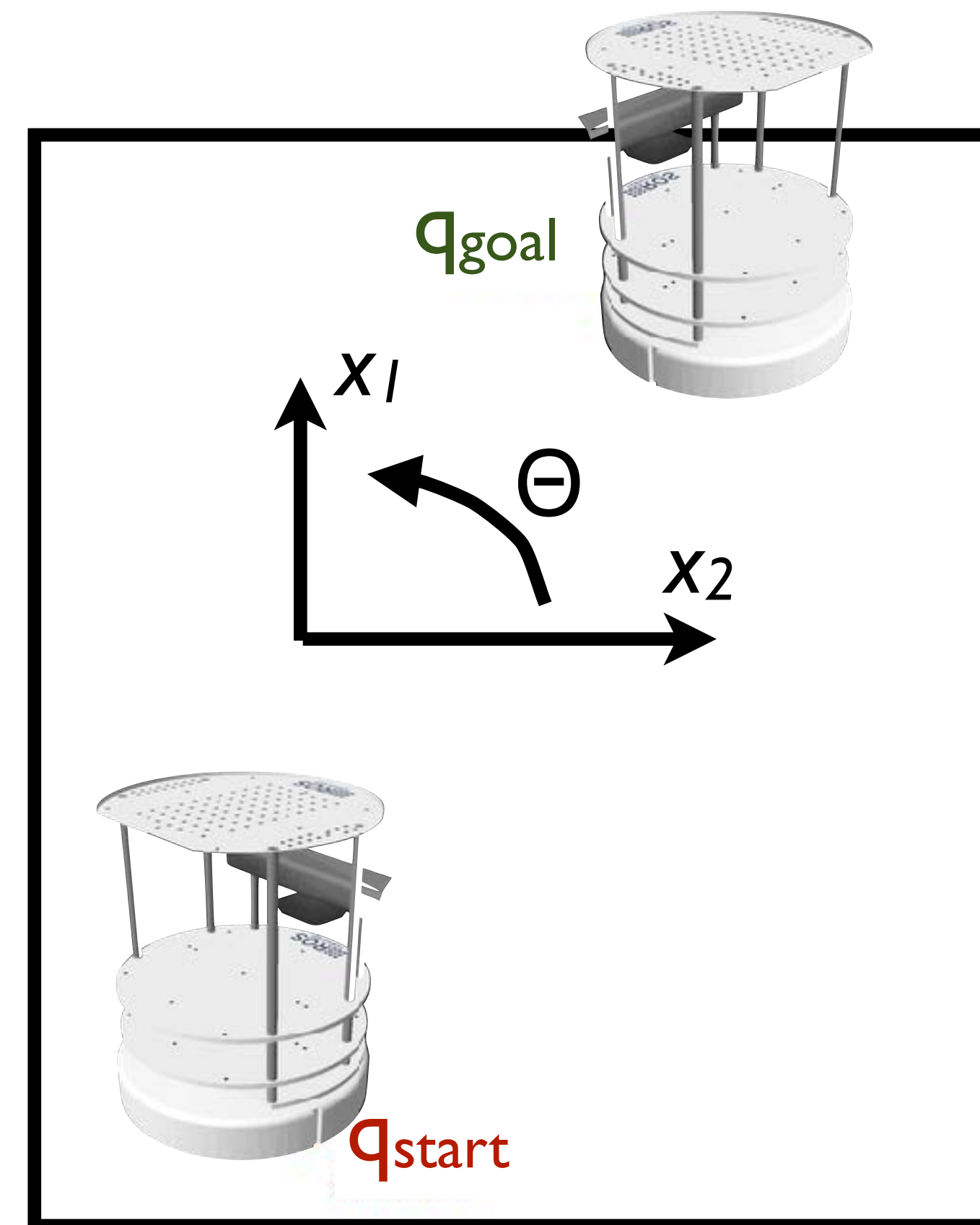
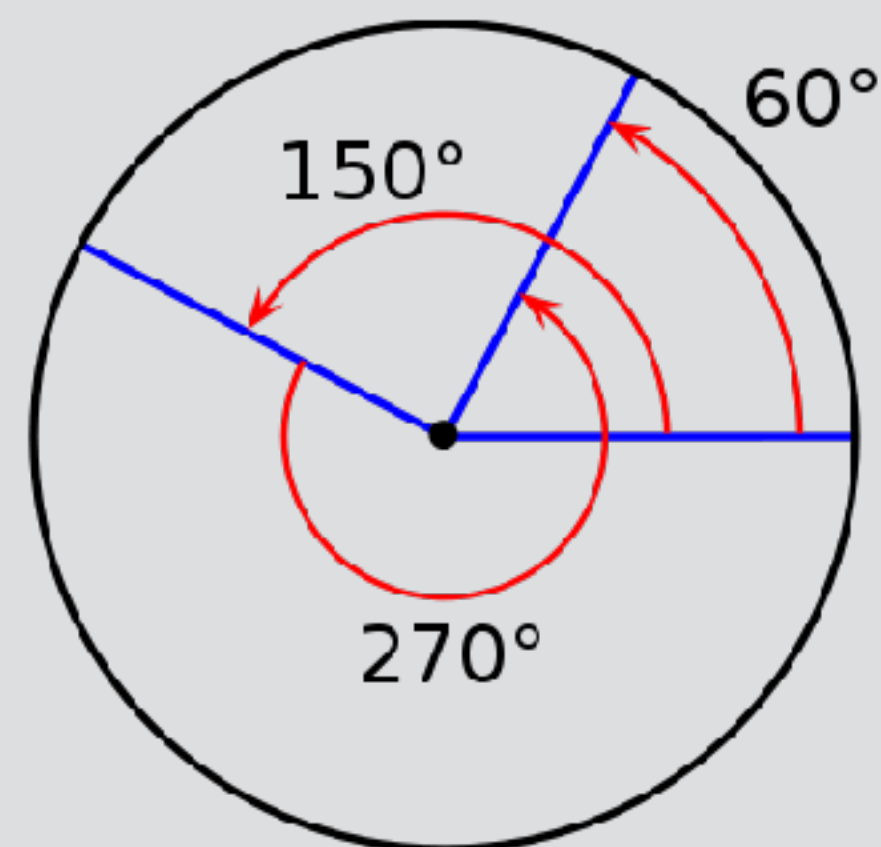
C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Turtlebot?
 - DOFs: 3, $\{x_1, x_2, \Theta\}$
 - C-space: $\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1$

S^1 is the 1-sphere
group of 1D rotations

S^n is the n-sphere

$$S^1 \times S^1 \neq S^2$$



C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Turtlebot?

- DOFs: 3, $\{x_1, x_2, \Theta\}$

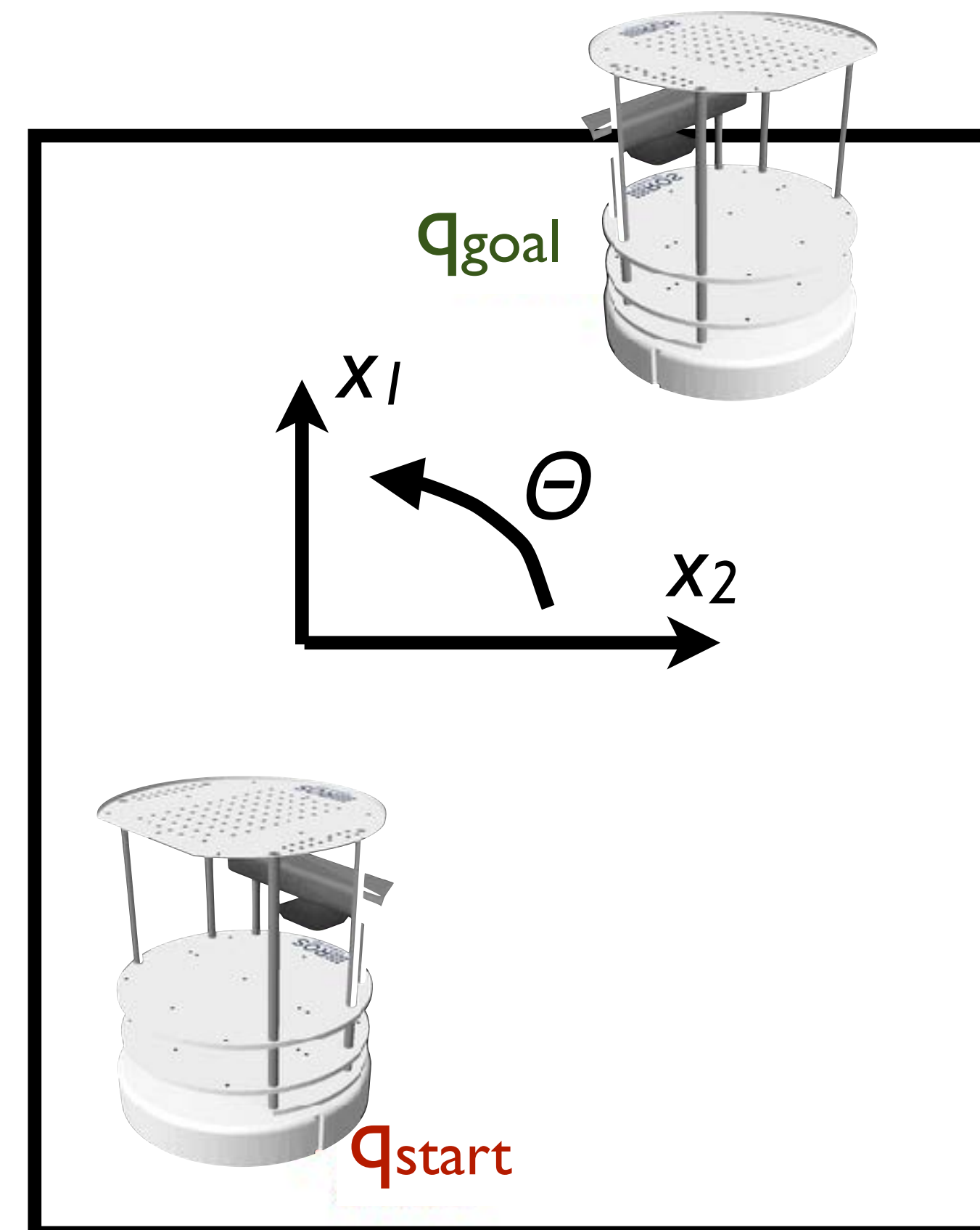
- C-space: $\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1$

2D translation

rotation in 2D

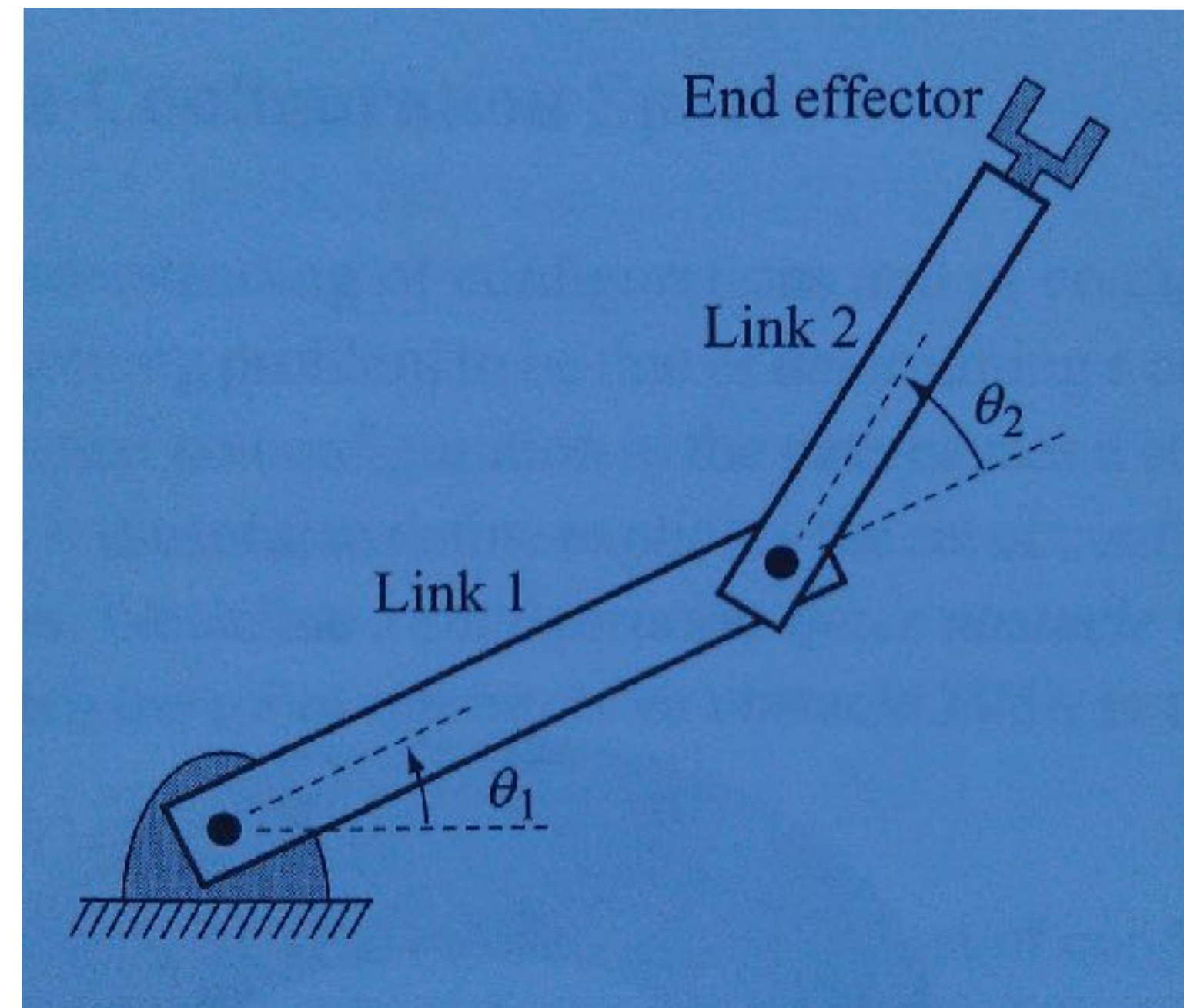
$\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1$ is also known as the $SE(2)$ group.

Group of homogeneous transformations in 2D



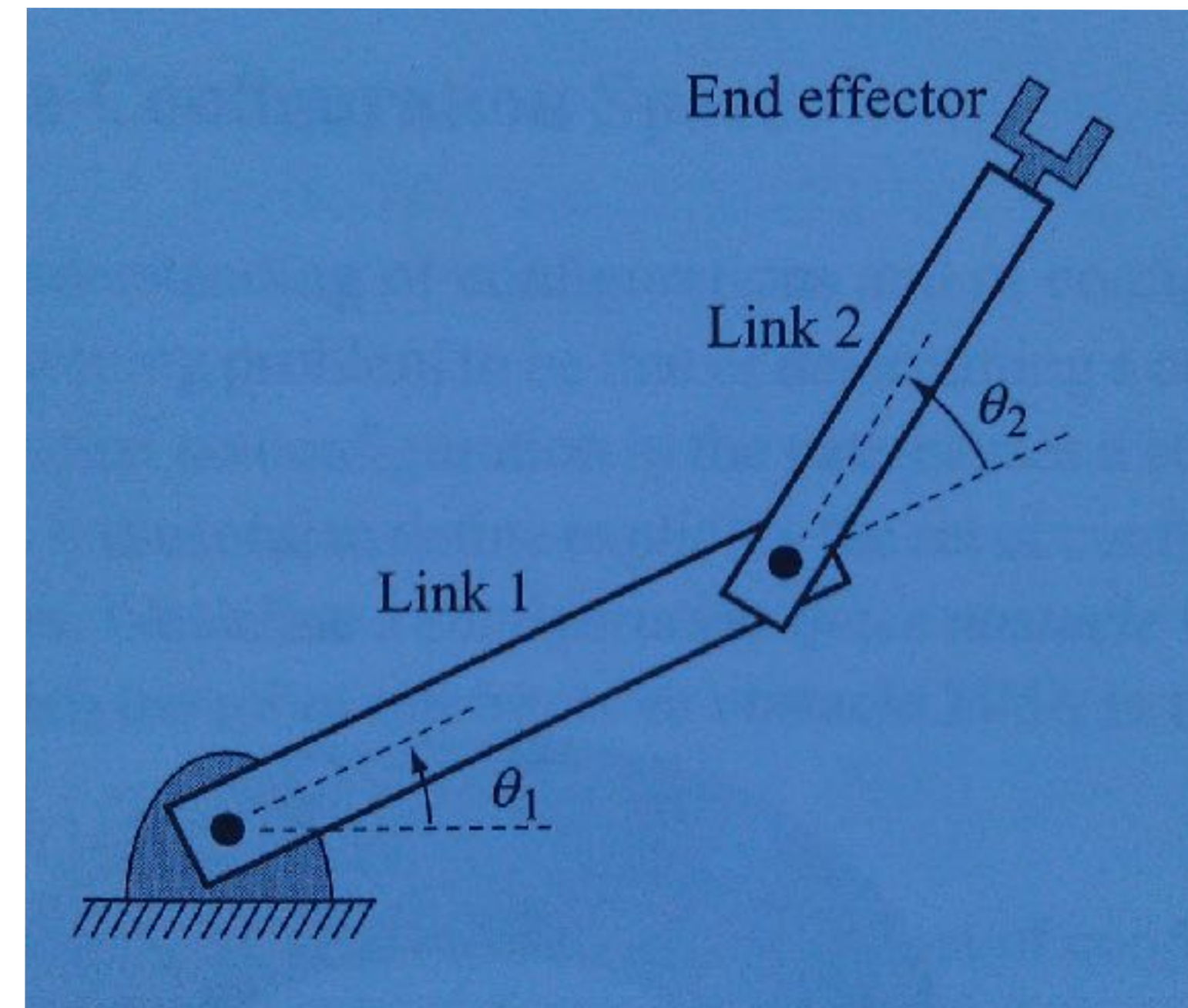
C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a planar arm with 2 rotational joints?



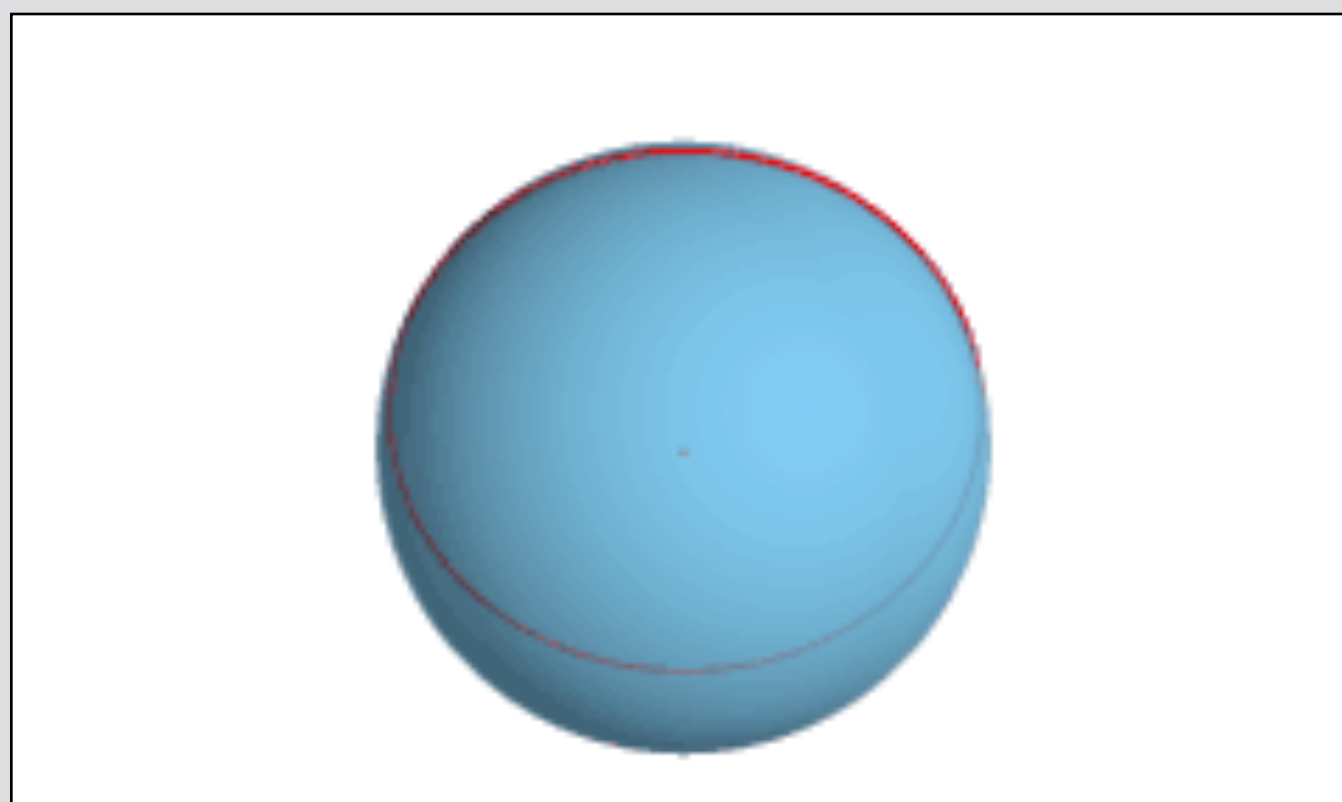
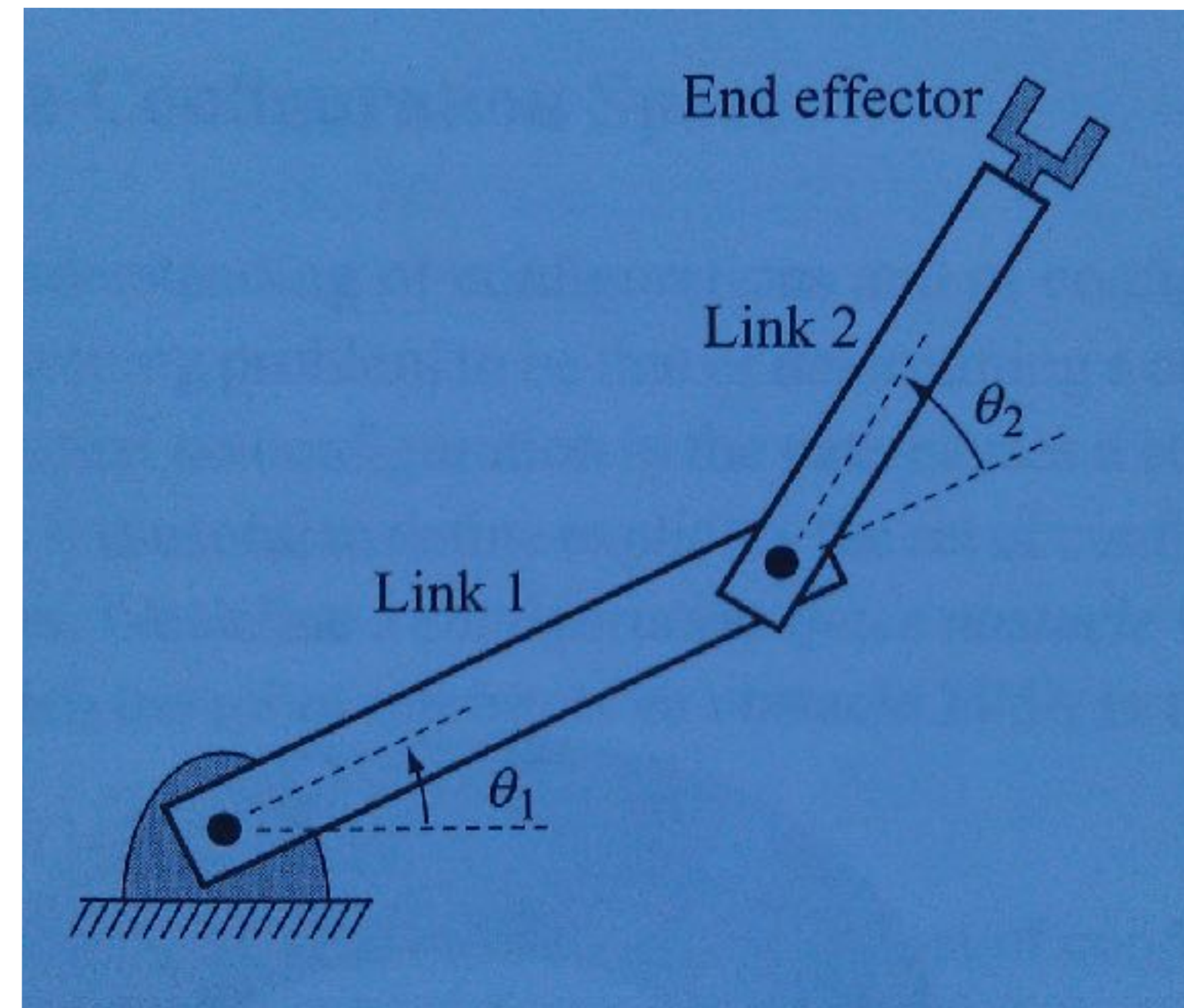
C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a planar arm with 2 rotational joints?
 - DOFs: [REDACTED]
 - C-space: [REDACTED]



C-space examples

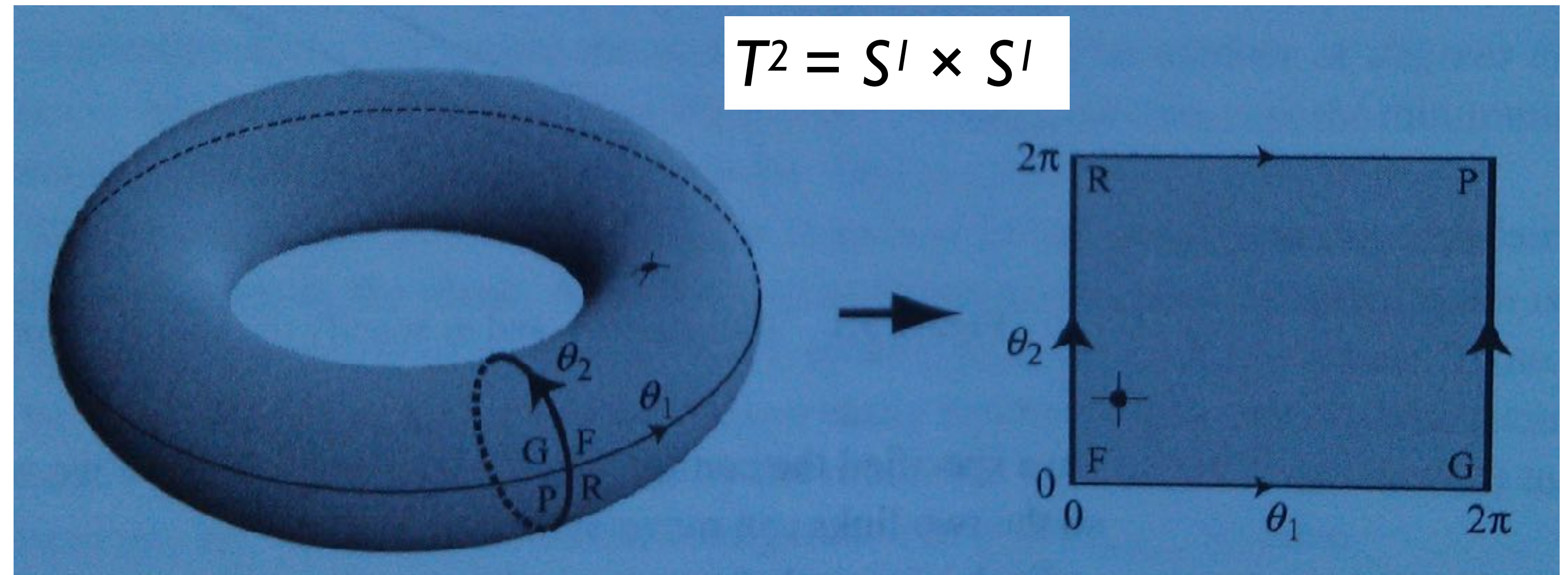
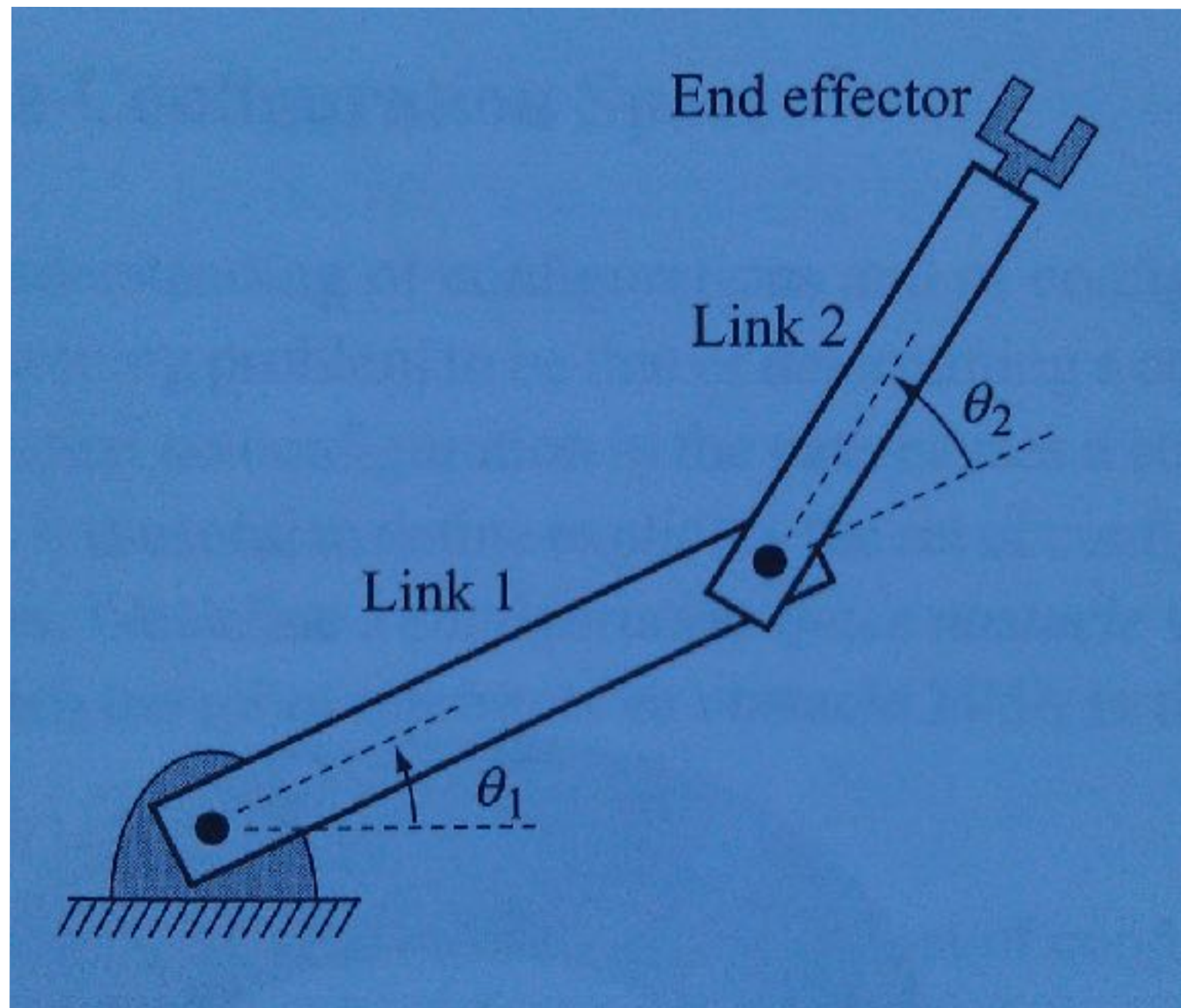
- What is the C-space of a planar arm with 2 rotational joints?
 - DOFs: 2, $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$
 - C-space: \mathbb{R}^2 or S^2 or $S^1 \times S^1$?



$S^1 \times S^1 = S^2$ when torus axis on surface

T² Torus Group

Space must fuse on each DOF where $2\pi = 0$



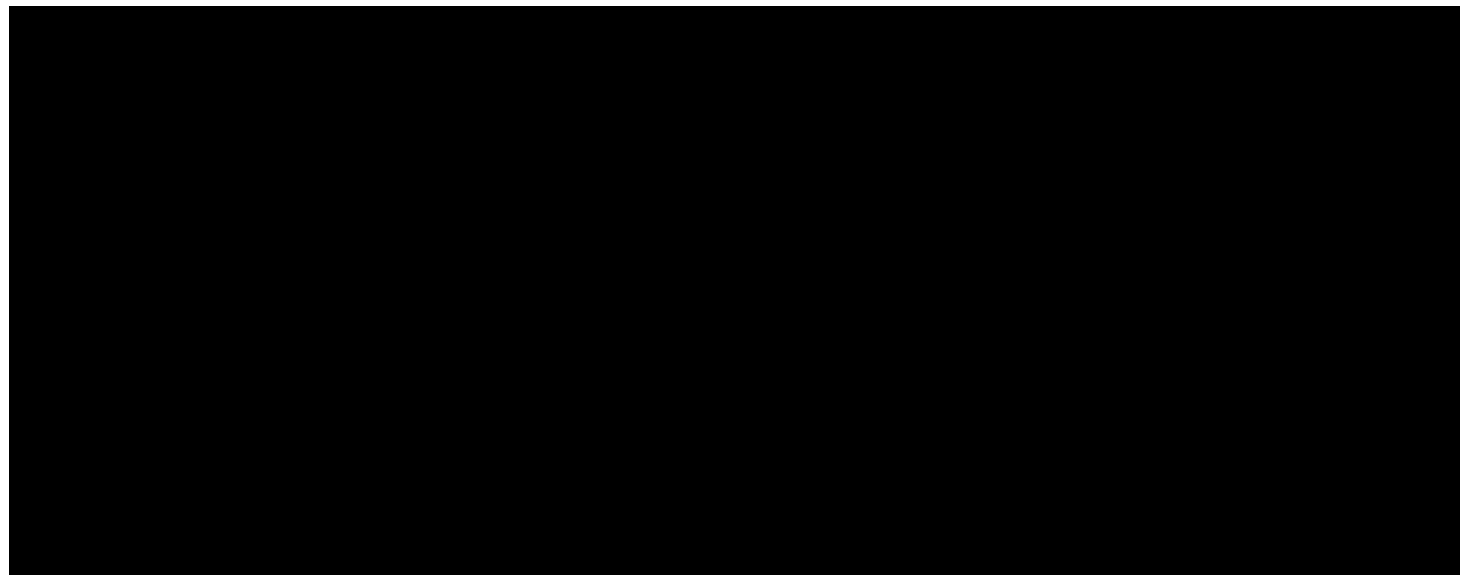
$$T^2 = S^1 \times S^1$$

T^n is the torus group for an N-D rotational system

$$T^n = \underbrace{S^1 \times S^1 \times \dots \times S^1}_n$$

C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Barrett WAM arm with 4 rotational joints, not including fingers of gripper?



C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Barrett WAM arm with 4 rotational joints, not including fingers of gripper?
 - DOFs: 4
 - C-space: T^4



C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a quad rotor helicopter?



V. Kumar et al. (2010) - UPenn - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvRTALJp8DM>





C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a quad rotor helicopter?
- DOFs: 6
- C-space: $SE(3)$,
 - or $\mathbb{R}^3 \times SO(3)$



3D translation 3D rotation

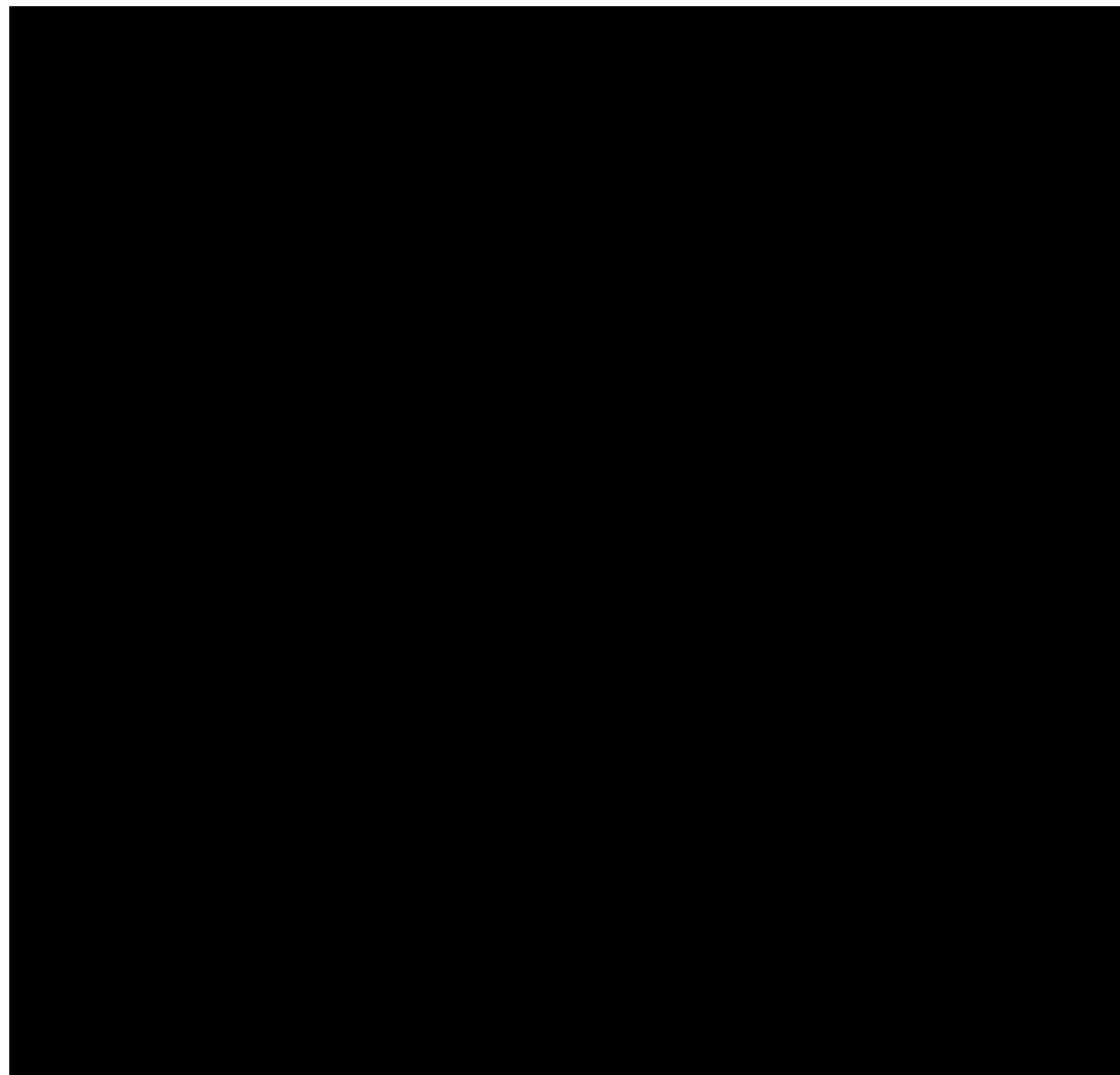
Group of homogeneous transformations in 3D

$SE(3)$ combines:
 \mathbb{R}^3 : 3D translation and
 $SO(3)$: 3D rotation

$$SO(3) = S^I \times S^I \times S^I$$

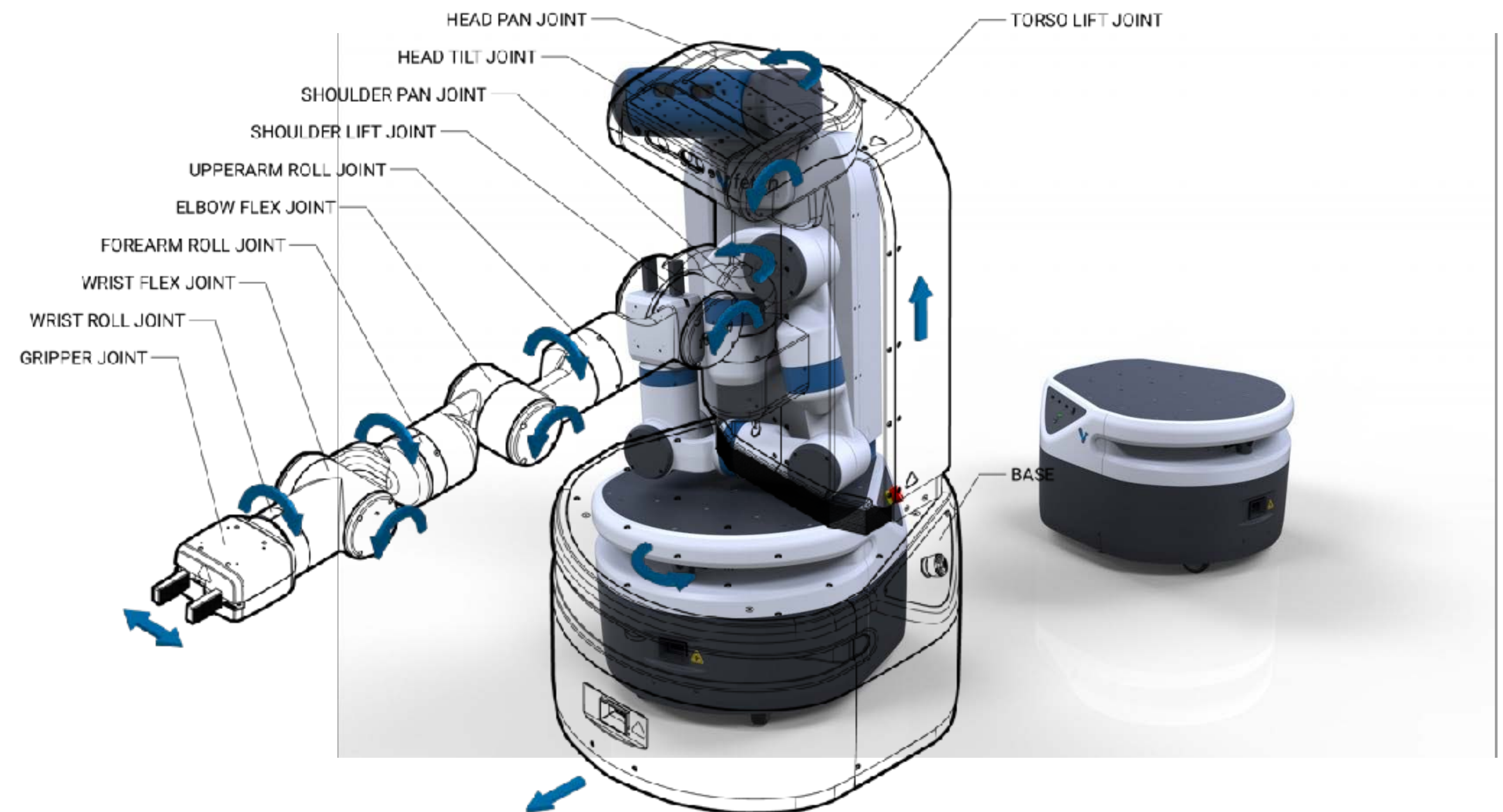
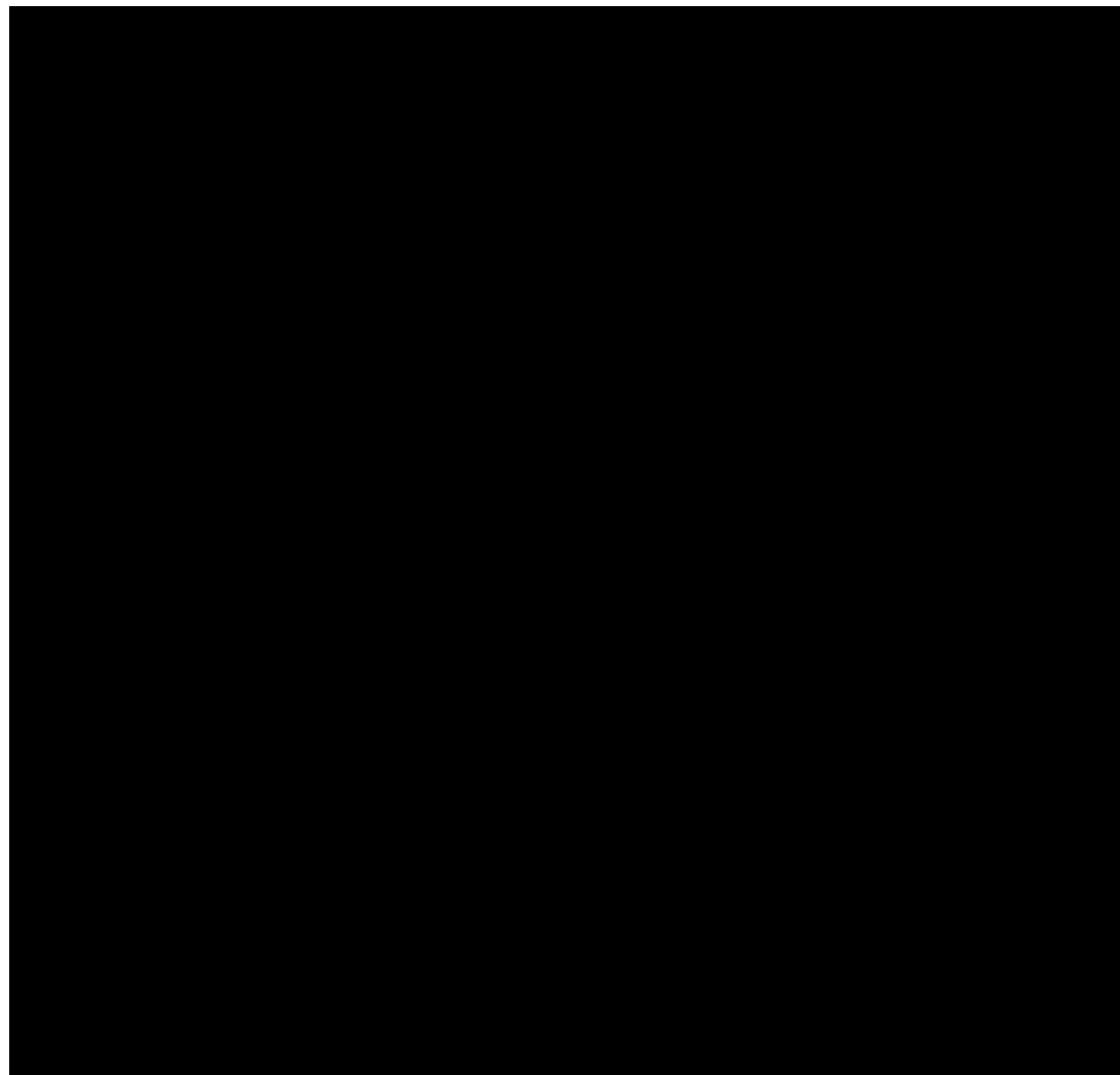
C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Fetch robot, not including grippers?



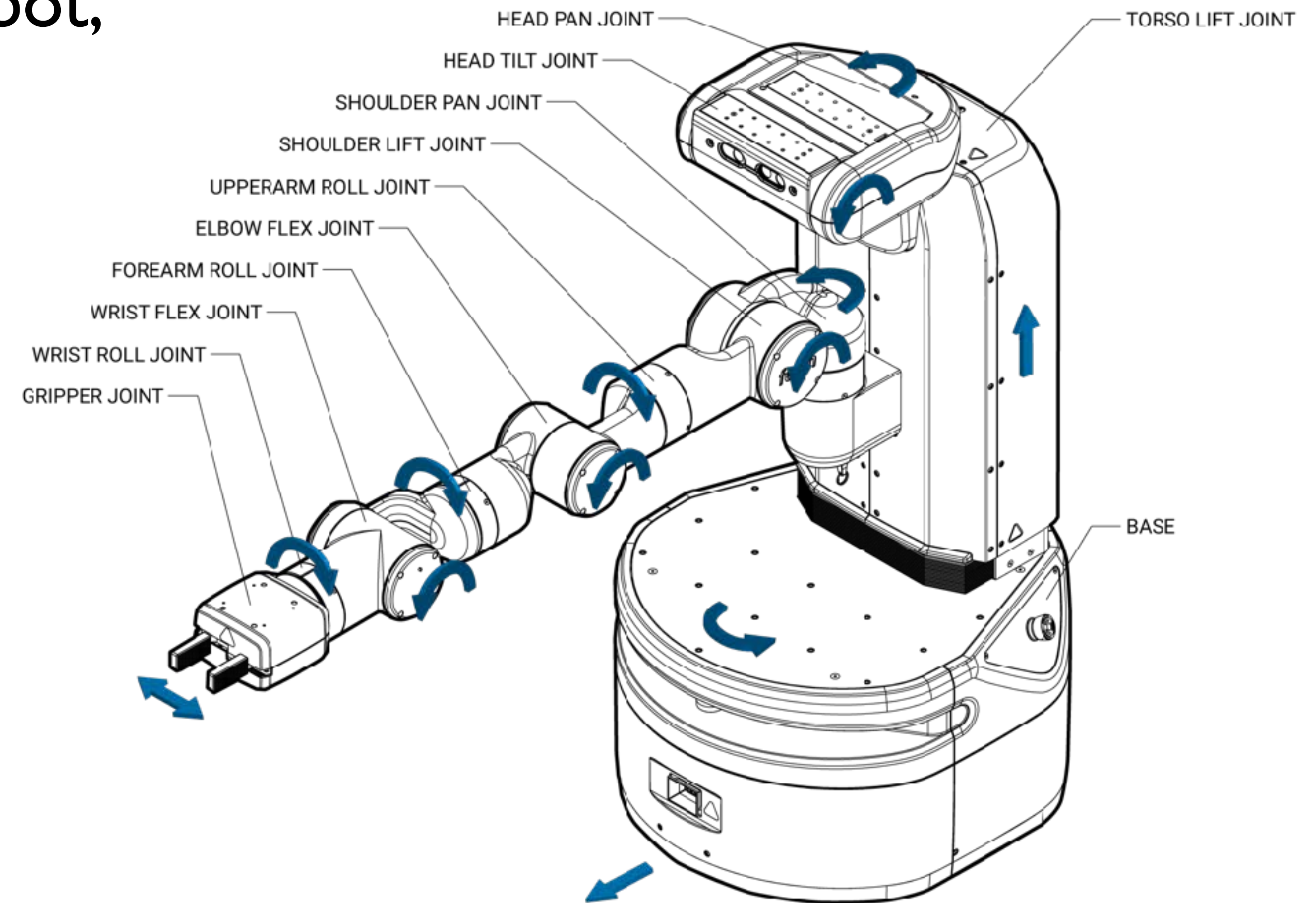
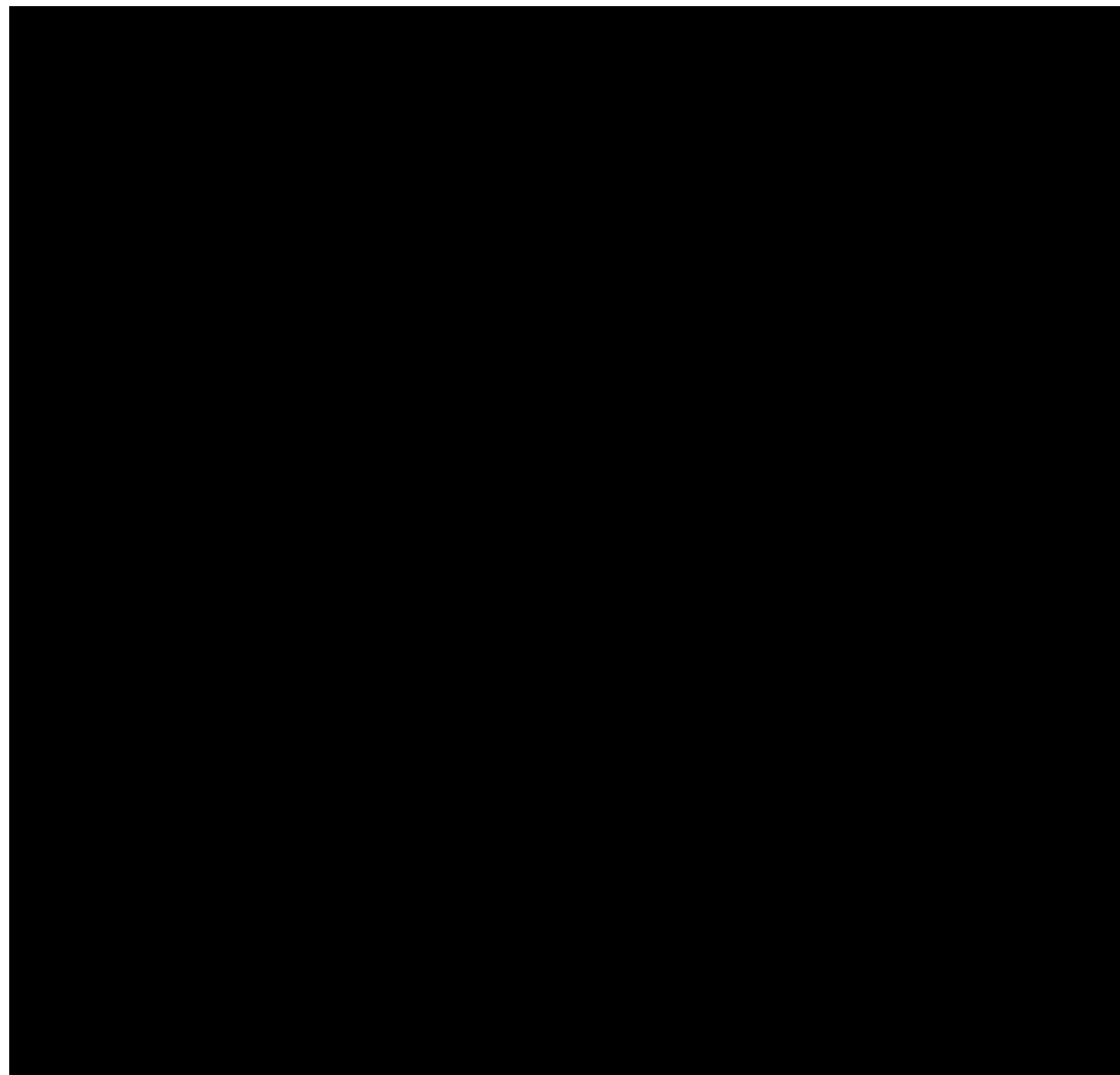
C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Fetch robot, not including grippers?



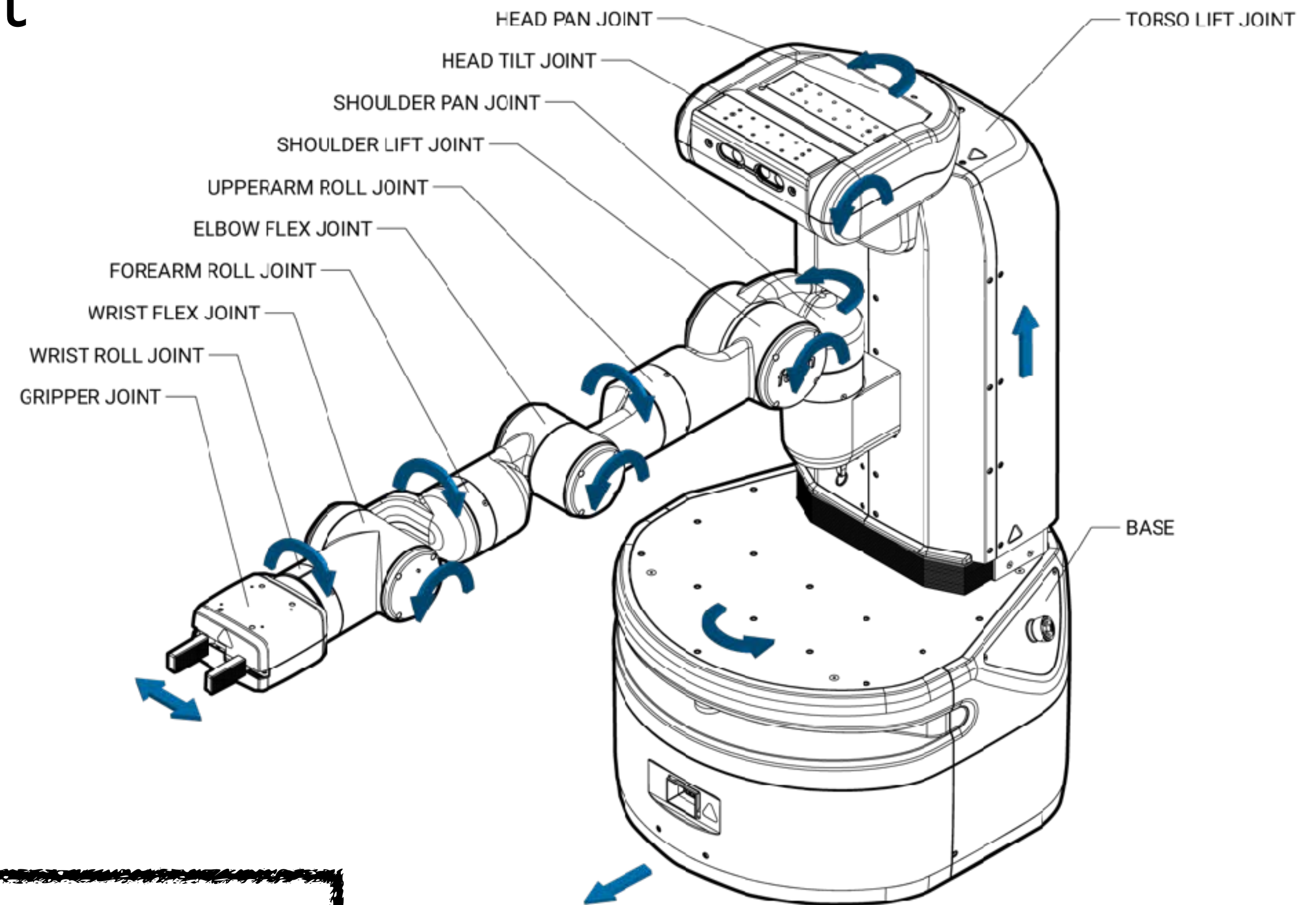
C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Fetch robot, not including grippers?



C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Fetch, not including grippers?
- DOFs: 13
 - 3 in base: $SE(2)$
 - 7 in arm: T^7
 - 1 in the spine: \mathcal{R}^1
 - 2 in neck: T^2

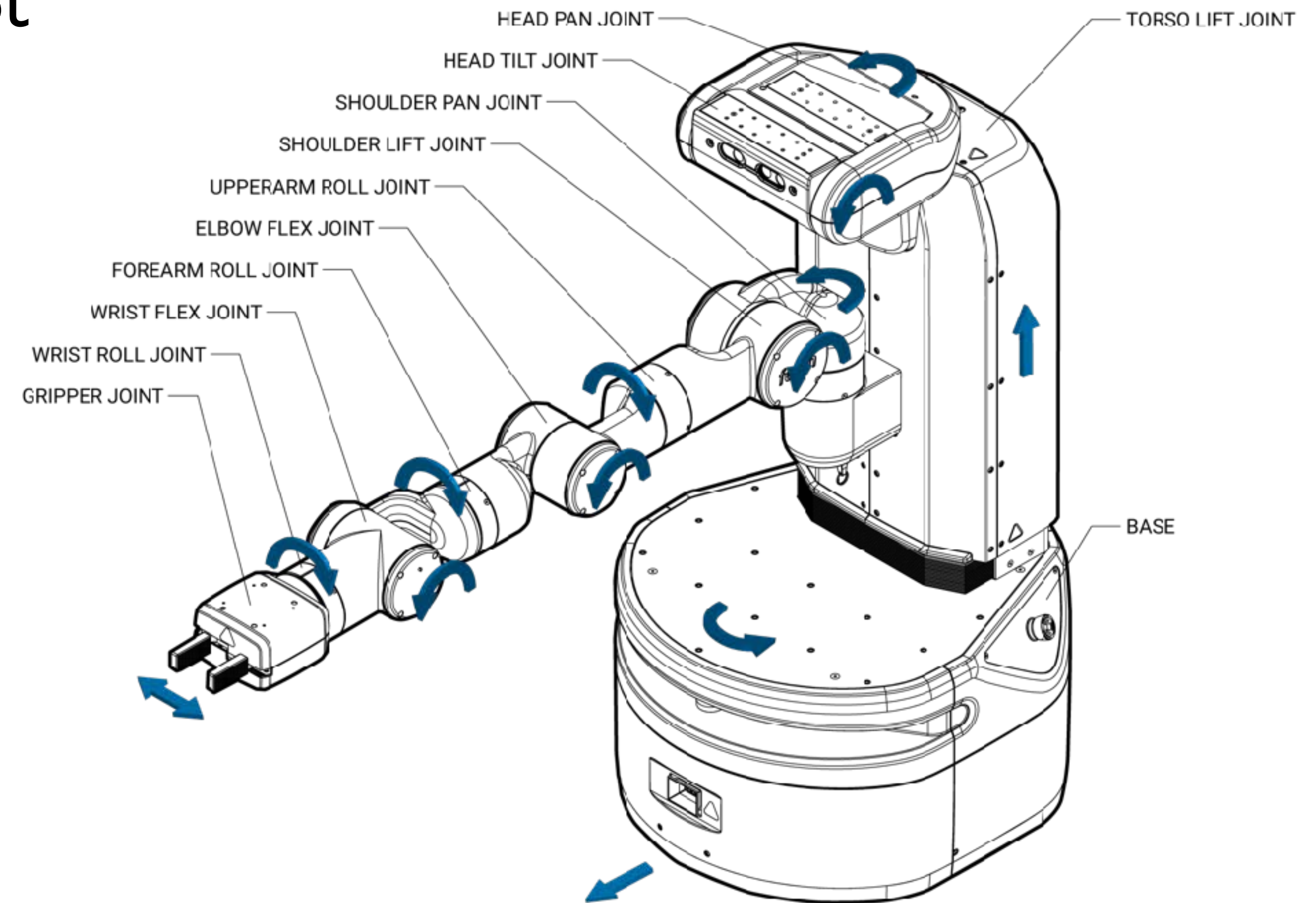


C-space: $SE(2) \times T^7 \times \mathcal{R}^1 \times T^2$

Did we get this wrong?

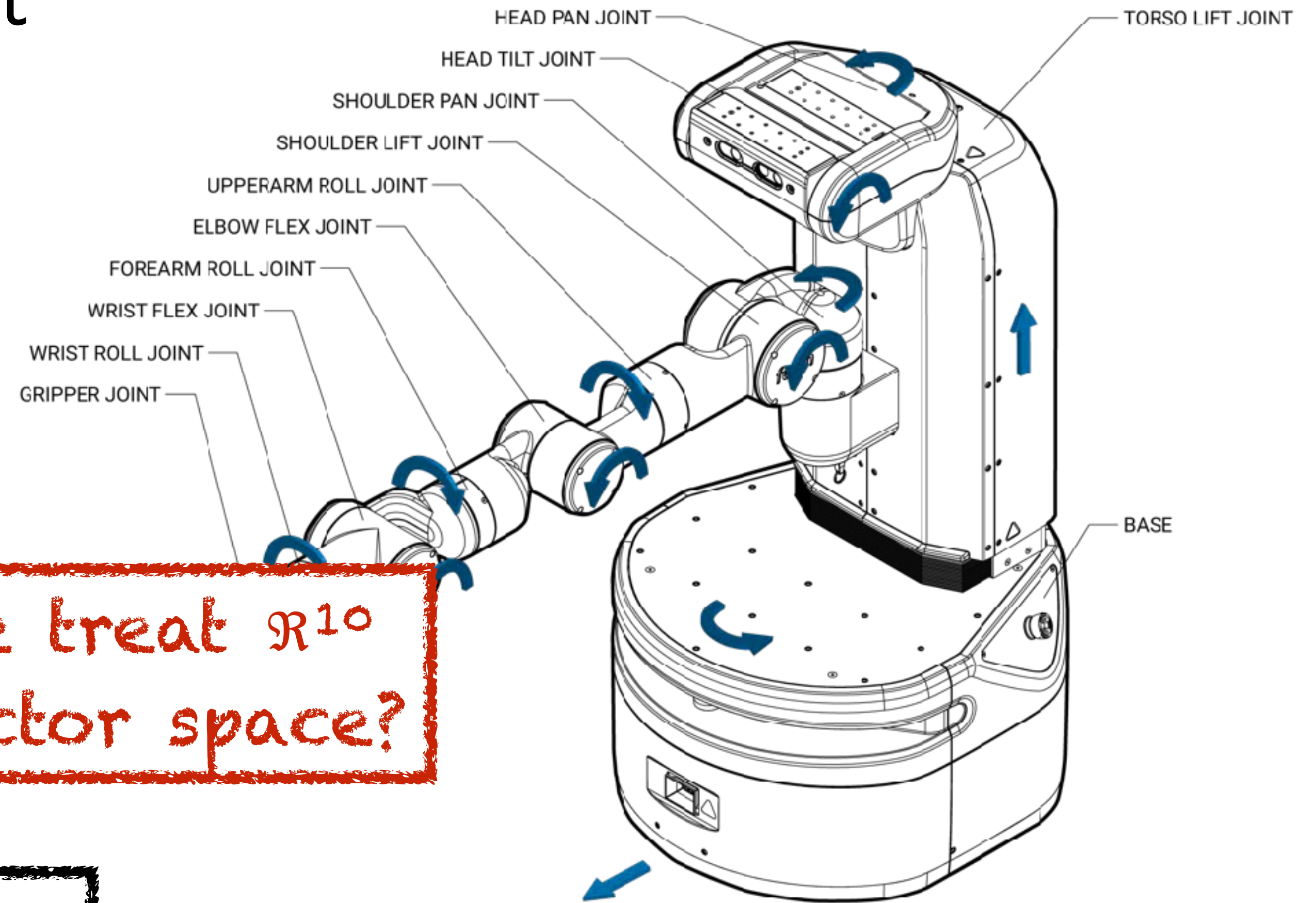
- What is the C-space of a Fetch, not including grippers?
- DOFs: 13
 - 3 in base: $SE(2)$
 - 7 in arm: ~~T^7~~
 - 1 in the spine: \mathcal{R}^1
 - 2 in neck: ~~T^2~~

Consider joint limits



C-space with joint limits

- What is the C-space of a Fetch, not including grippers?
- DOFs: 13
 - 3 in base: $SE(2)$
 - 7 in arm: \mathbb{R}^7
 - 1 in the spine: \mathbb{R}^1
 - 2 in neck: \mathbb{R}^2



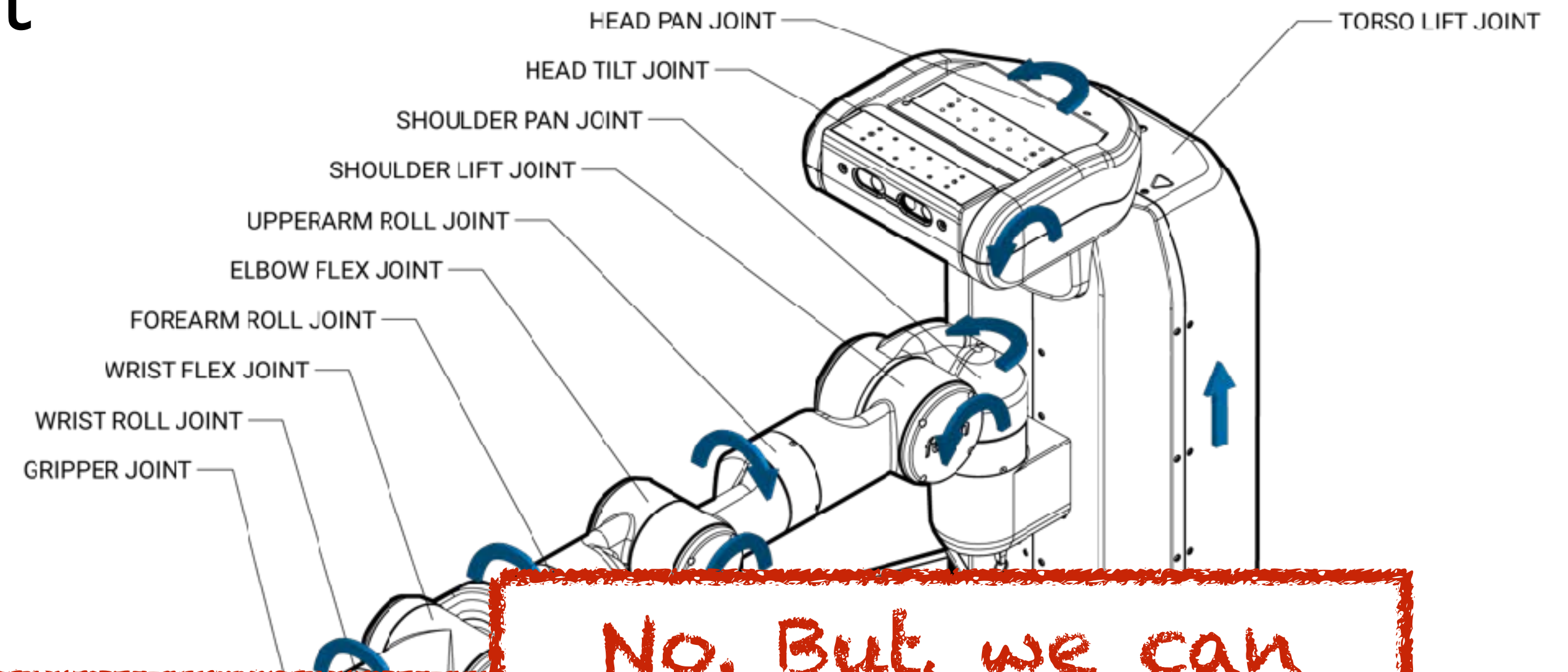
Can we treat \mathbb{R}^{10} as a vector space?

C-space: $SE(2) \times \mathbb{R}^{10}$



C-space with joint limits

- What is the C-space of a Fetch, not including grippers?
- DOFs: 13
 - 3 in base: $SE(2)$
 - 7 in arm: \mathbb{R}^7
 - 1 in the spine: \mathbb{R}^1
 - 2 in neck: \mathbb{R}^2



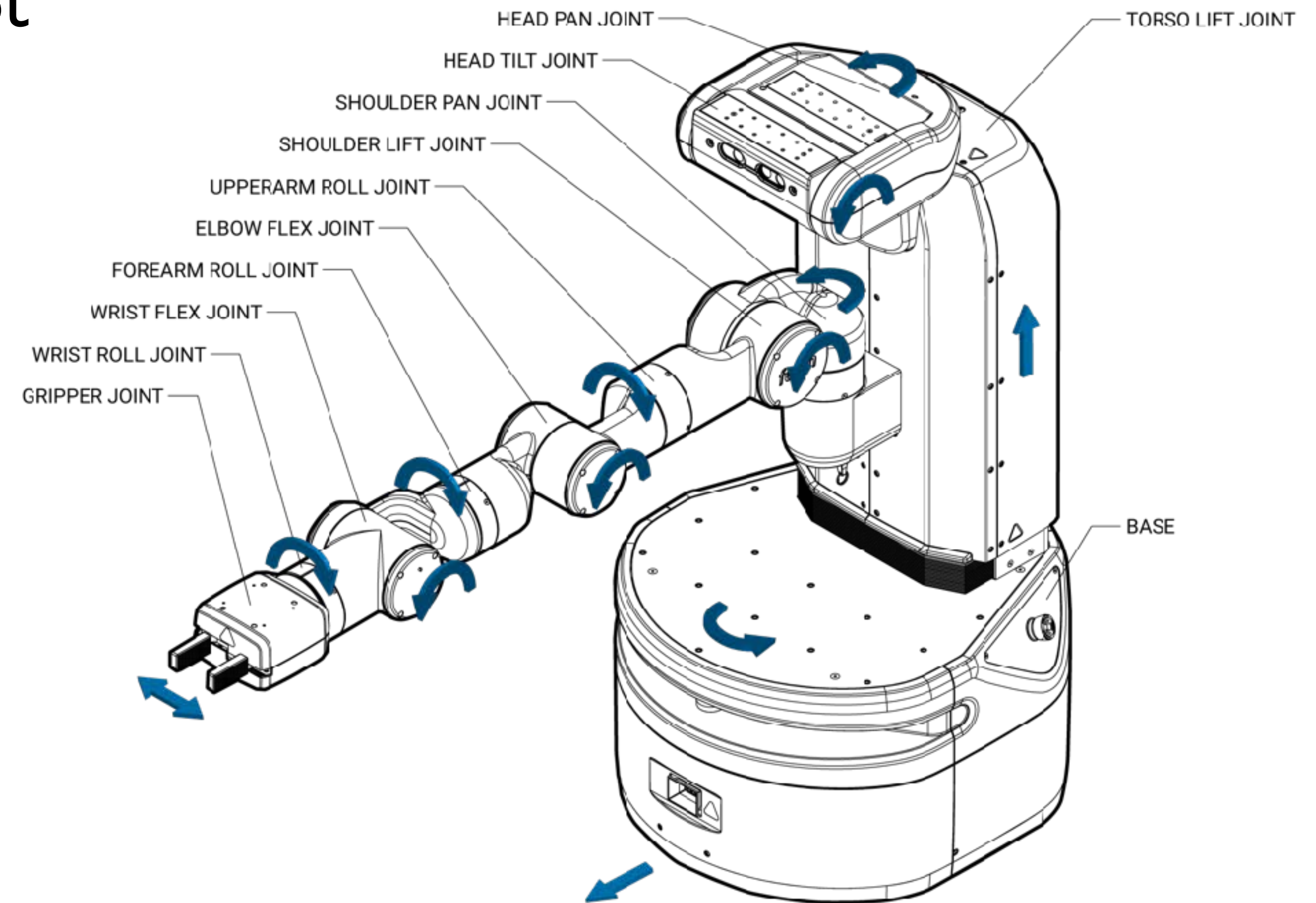
Can we treat \mathbb{R}^{10} as a vector space?

No. But, we can sample C-space using vector operations

C-space: $SE(2) \times \mathbb{R}^{10}$

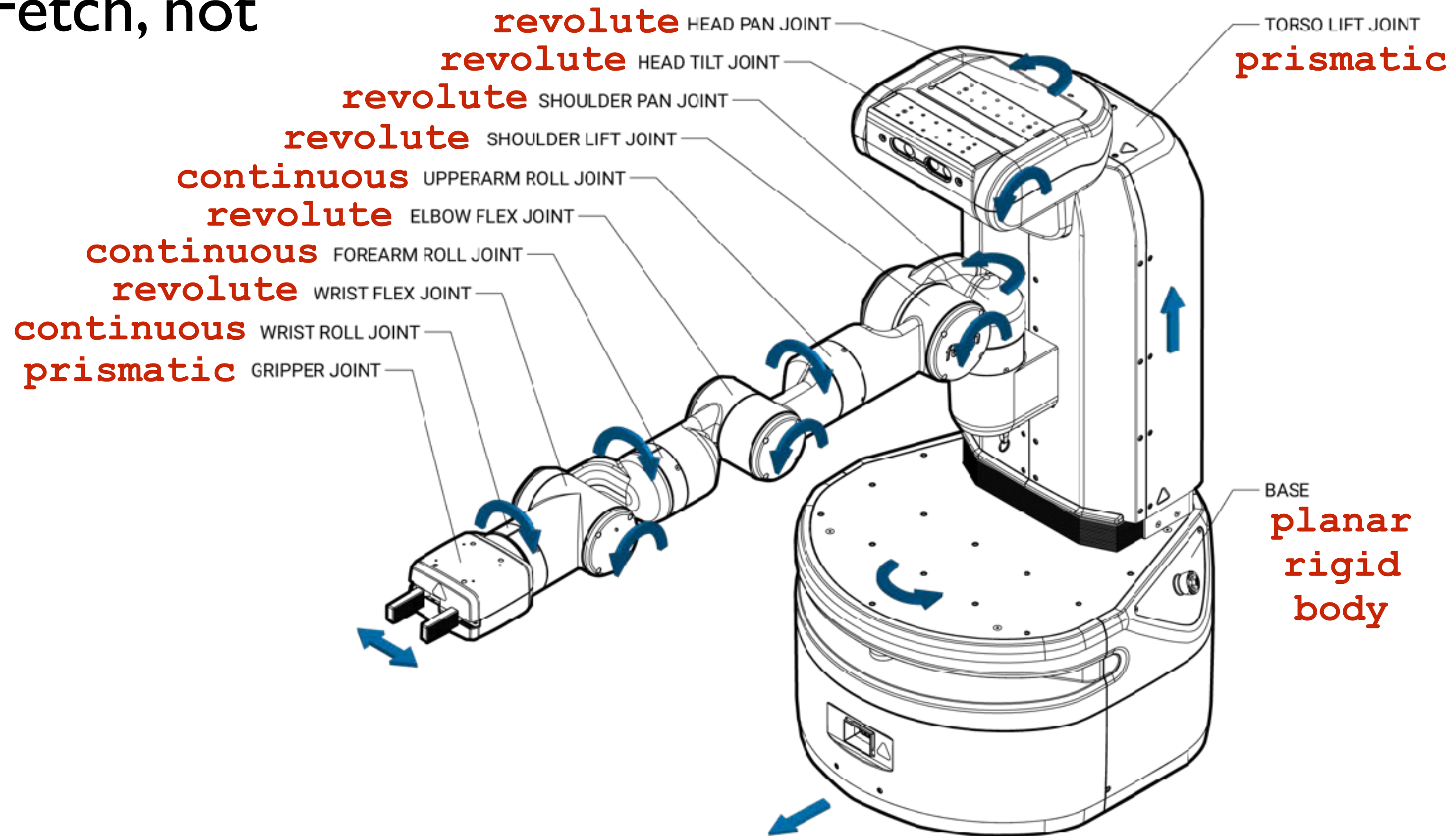
Still not quite right...

- What is the C-space of a Fetch, not including grippers?
- DOFs: 13
 - 3 in base: $SE(2)$
 - 7 in arm: ~~\mathcal{R}^7~~
 - 1 in the spine: \mathcal{R}^1
 - 2 in neck: \mathcal{R}^2

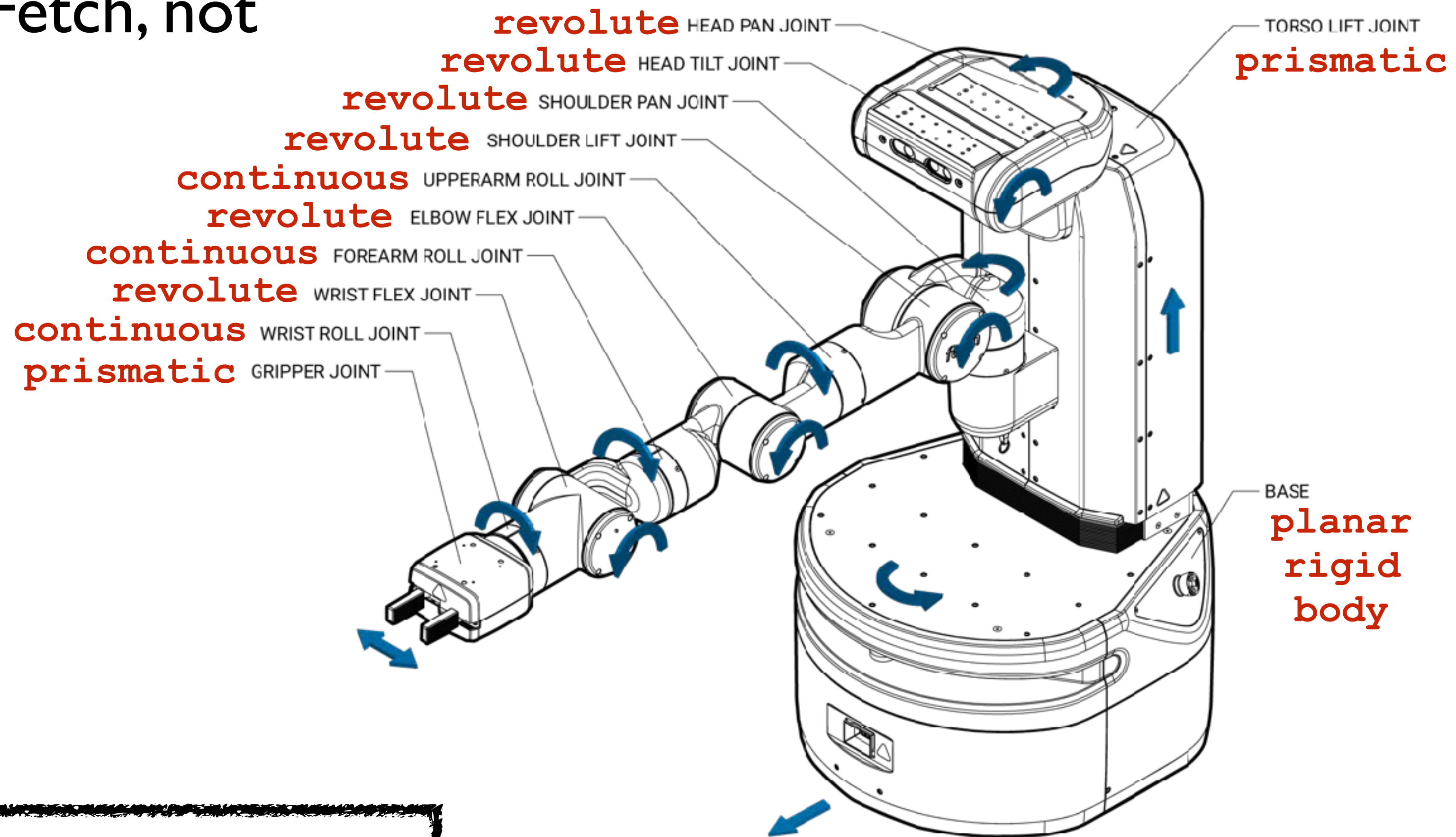


Still not quite right...

- What is the C-space of a Fetch, not including grippers?
- DOFs: 13
 - 3 in base: $SE(2)$
 - 7 in arm: \mathcal{R}^7
 - 1 in the spine: \mathcal{R}^1
 - 2 in neck: \mathcal{R}^2



- What is the C-space of a Fetch, not including grippers?
- DOFs: 13
 - 3 in base: $SE(2)$
 - 3 continuous: T^3
 - 1 prismatic: \mathcal{R}^1
 - 6 revolute: \mathcal{R}^6

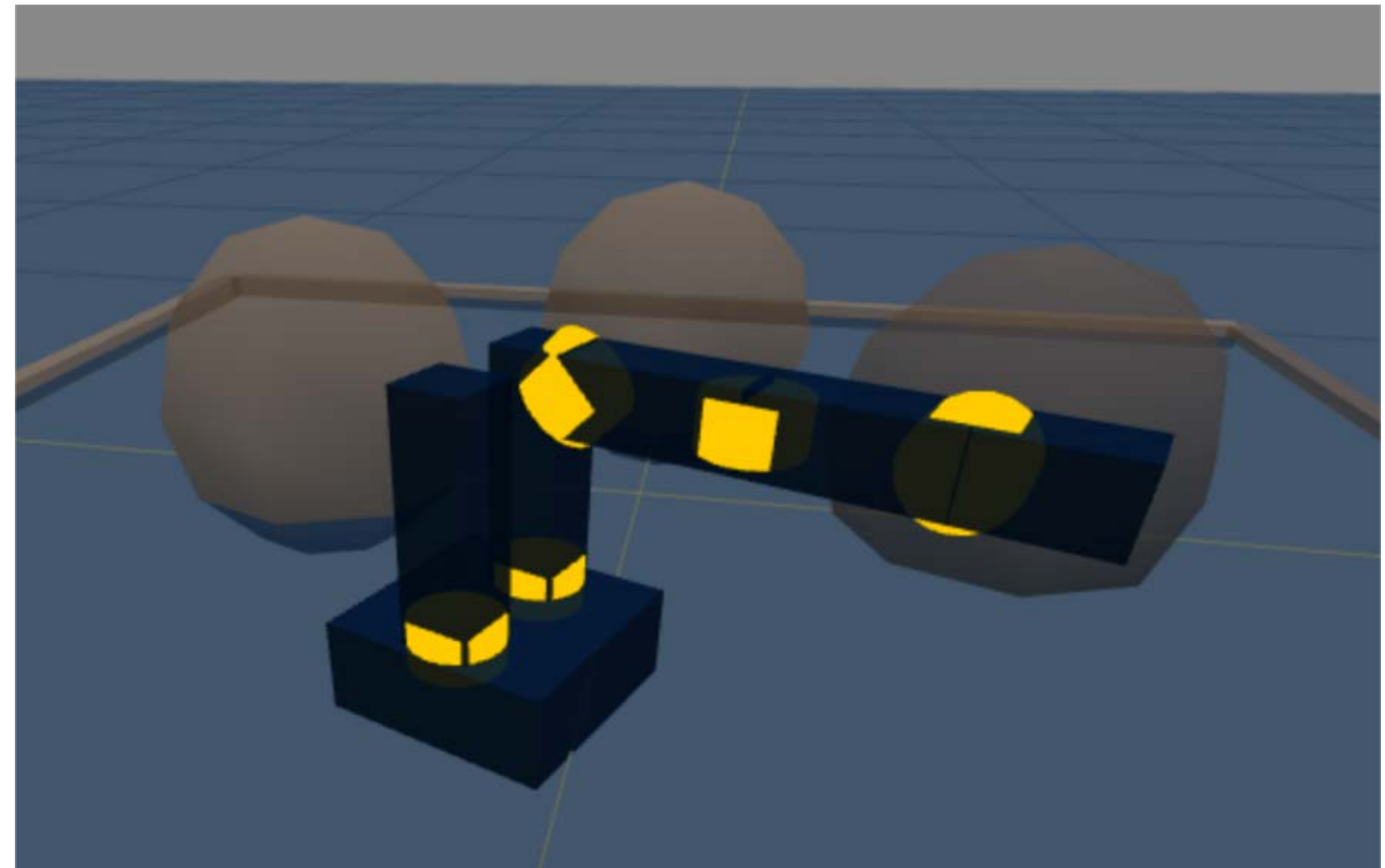
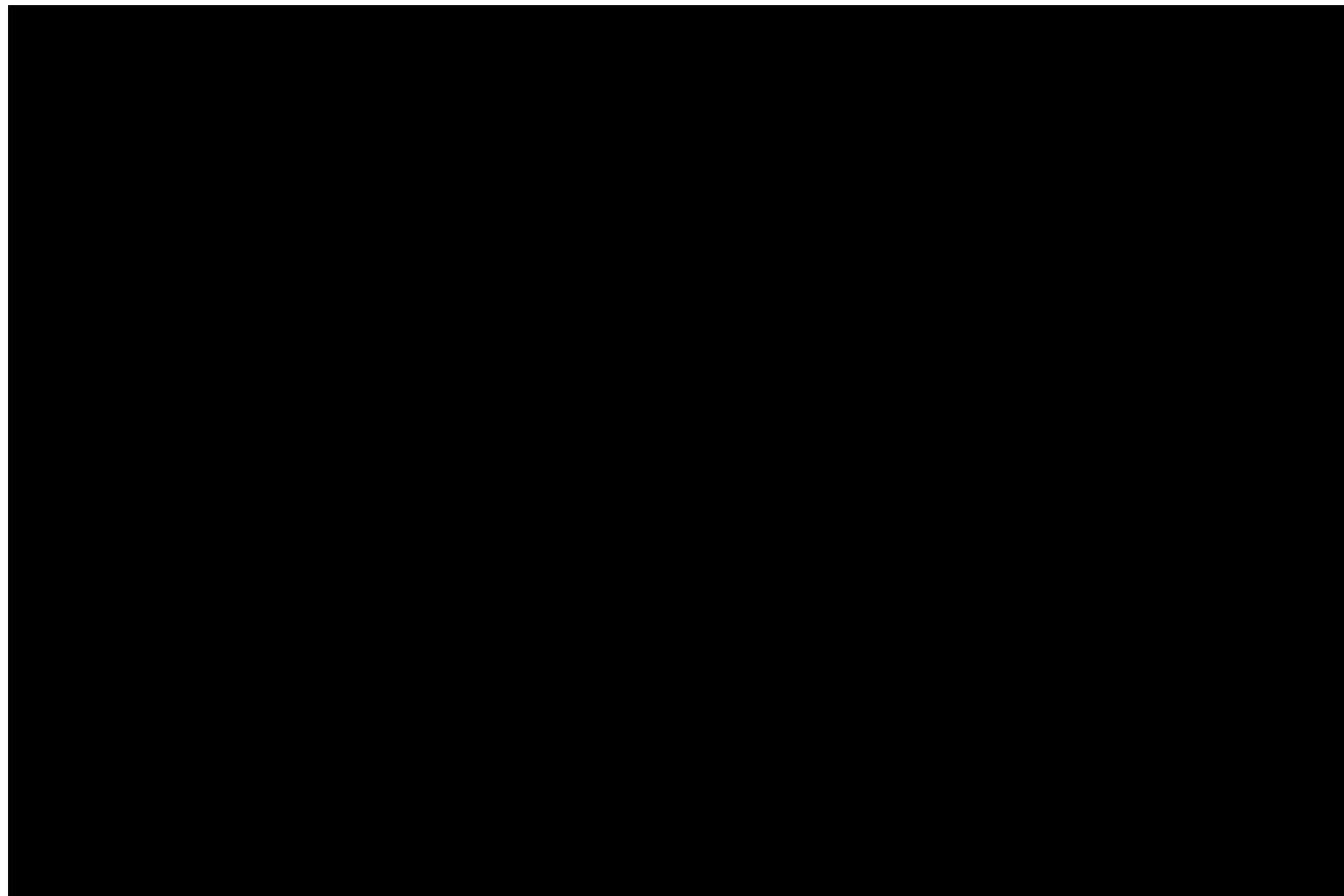


C-space: $SE(2) \times T^3 \times \mathcal{R}^7$



C-space examples

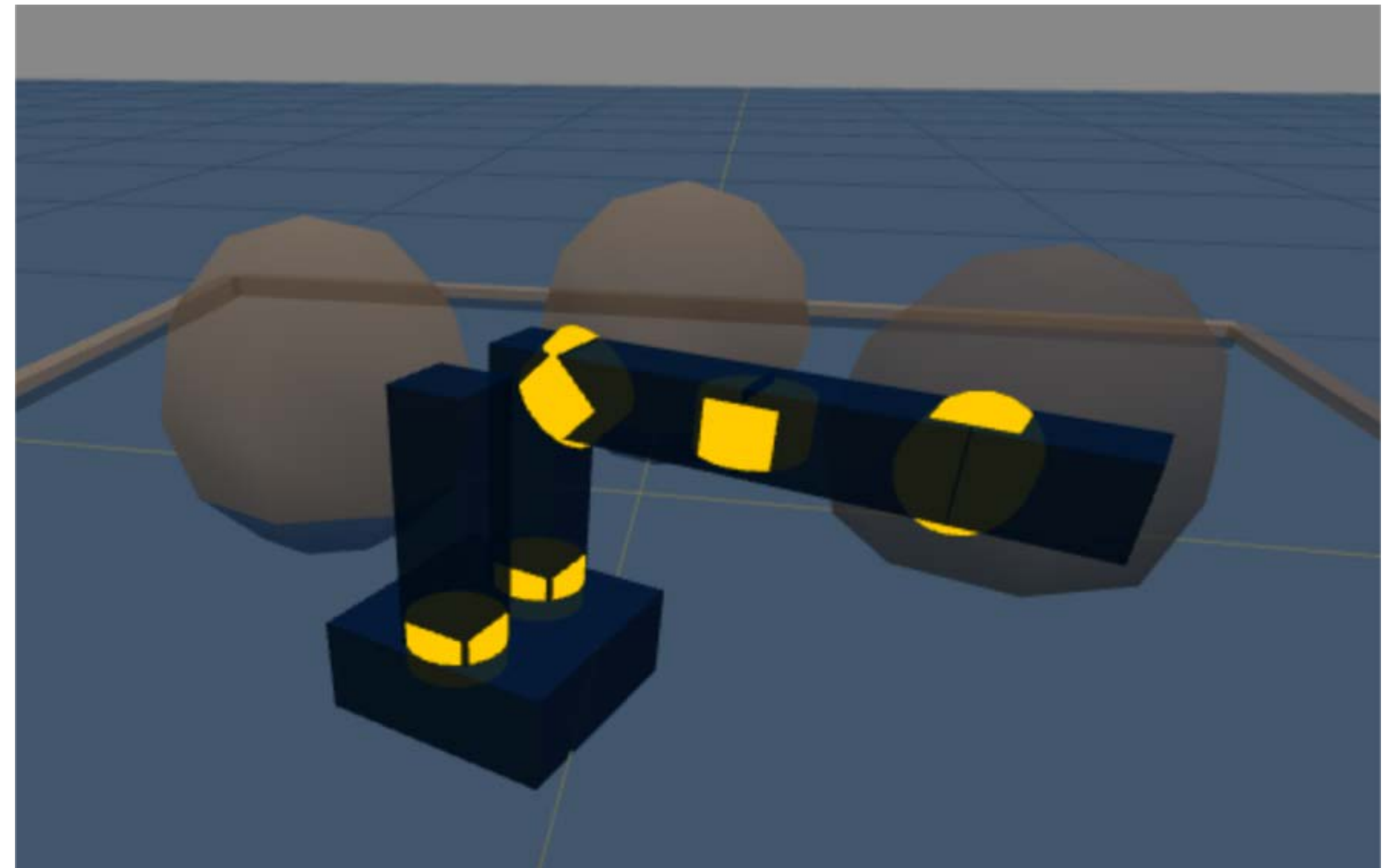
- What is the C-space of a MR2?



C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a MR2?
- DOFs: 14
 - 3 in base: $SE(2)$
 - 5 in arms: T^5

C-space: $SE(2) \times T^5$



C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a Robonaut 2 on the International Space Station?

- What is the C-space of a PR2?

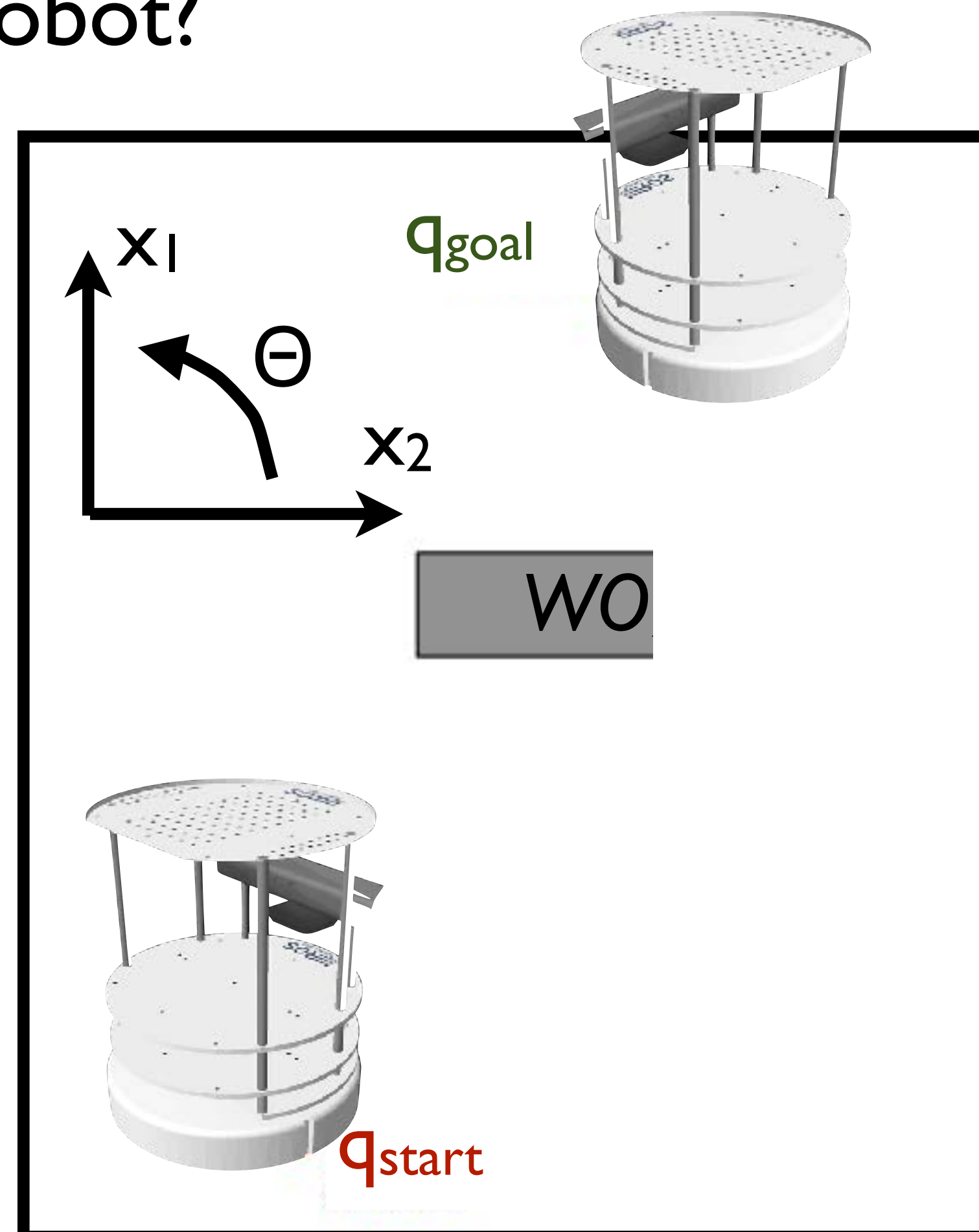
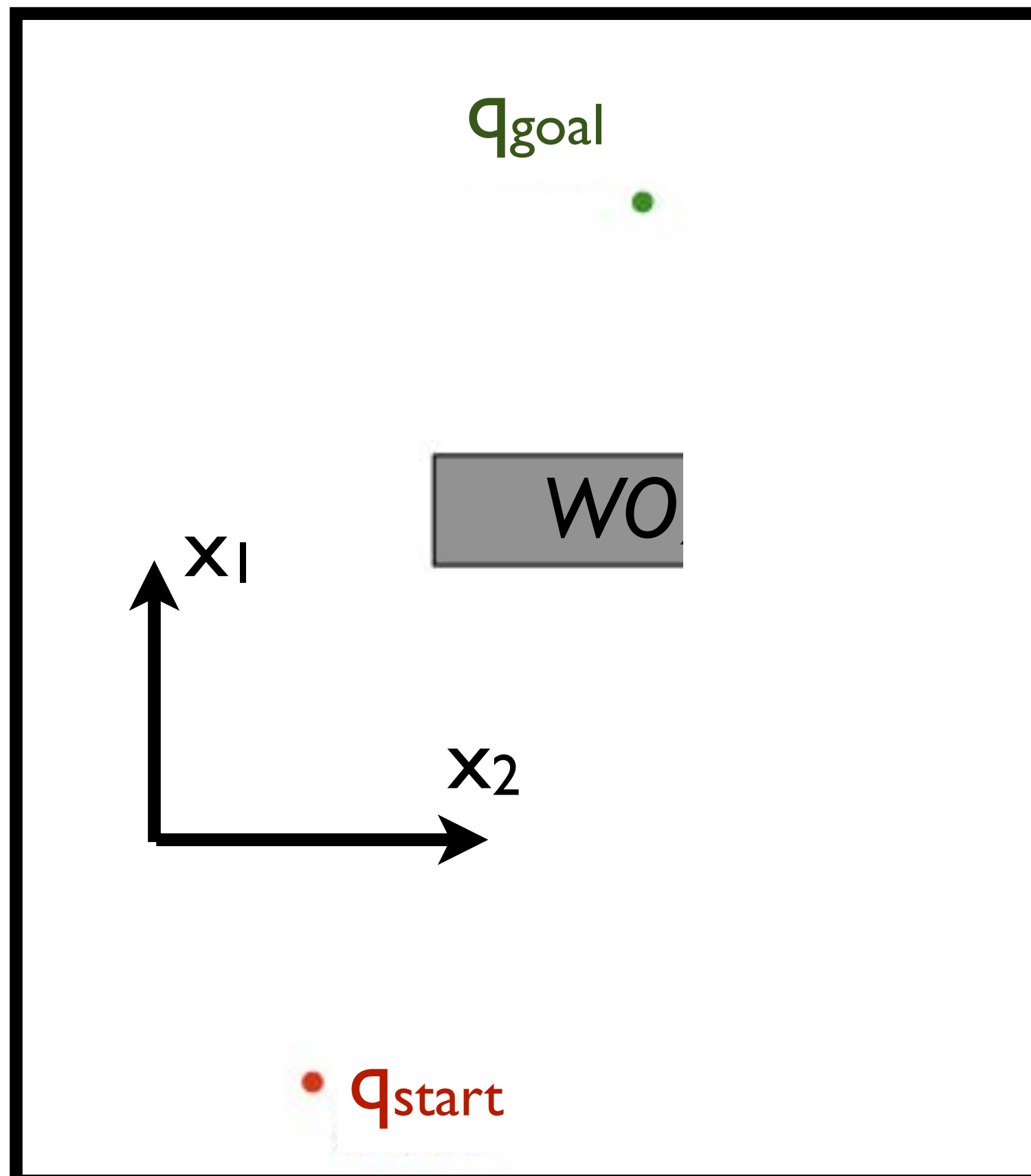


What about the robot's
physical geometry?



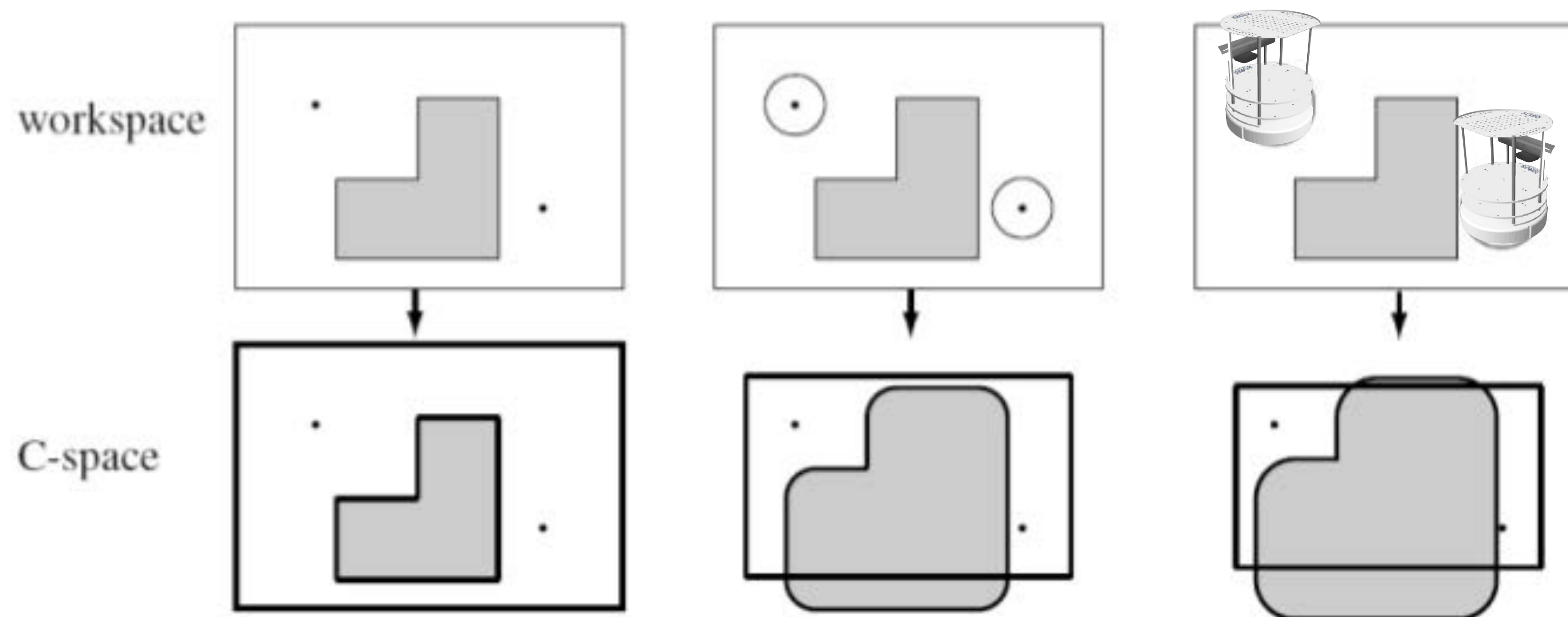
Configuration v. Workspaces

- Other than rotation, how is the Turtlebot different than the point robot?



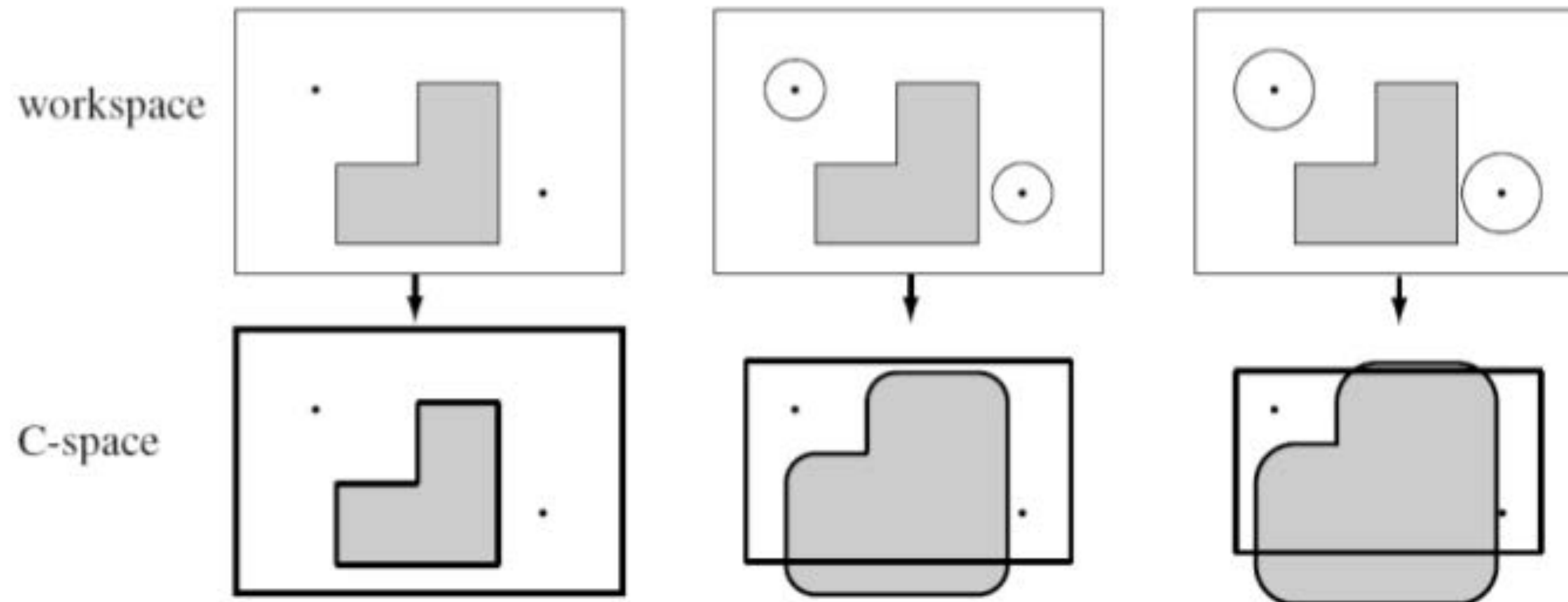
Robot Geometry

- Turtlebot is larger than a point, having a circular radius in the robot's planar workspace
- As this radius increases, the C-space shrinks

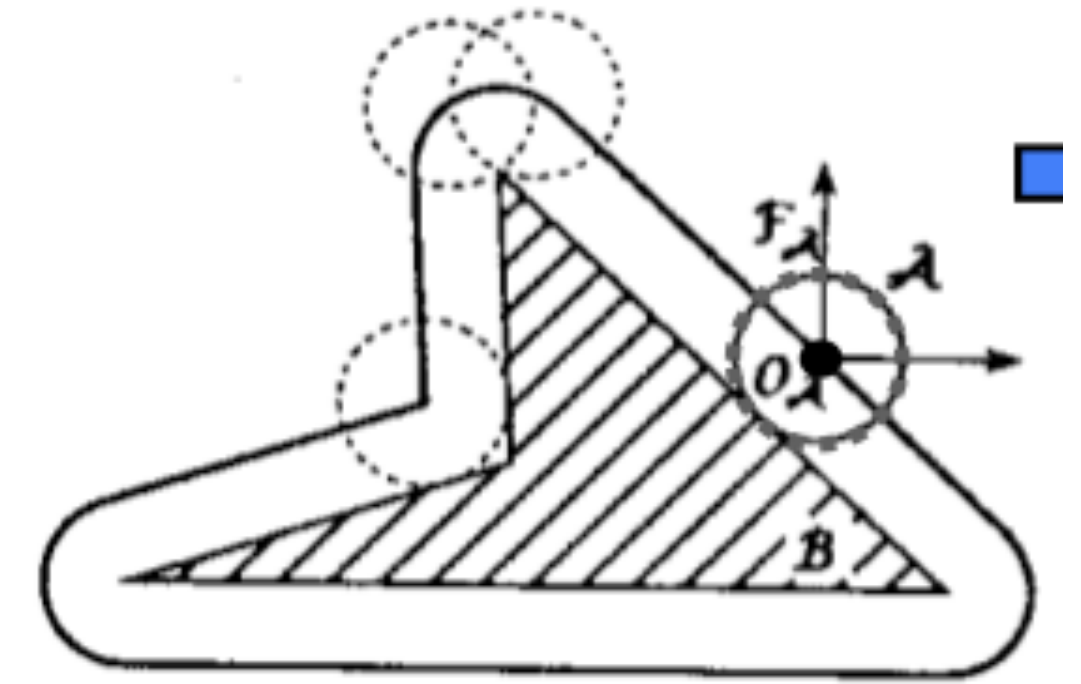


Robot Geometry

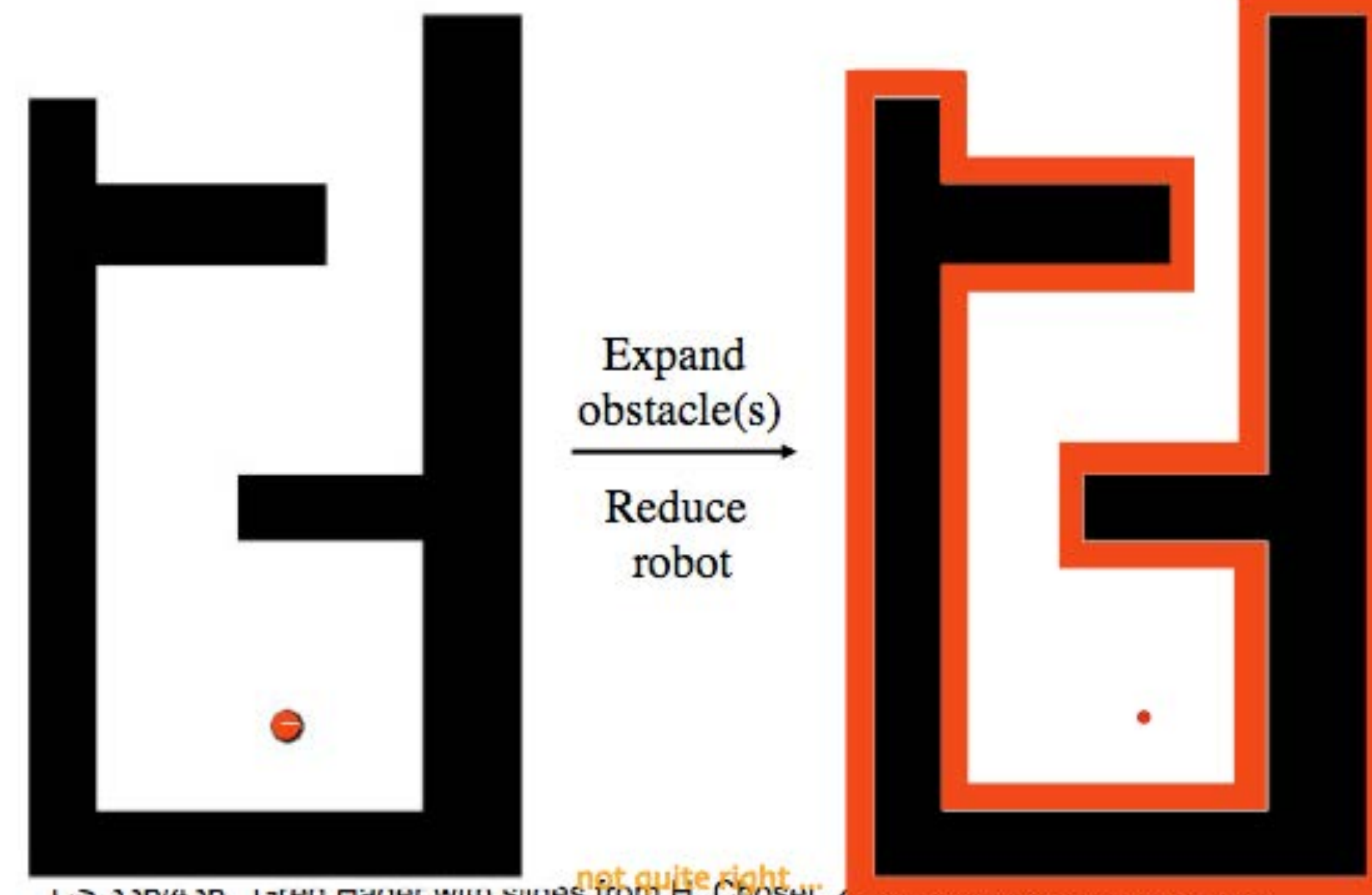
- Turtlebot is larger than a point, having a circular radius in the robot's planar workspace
- As this radius increases, the C-space shrinks



Conversion to point robot C-space



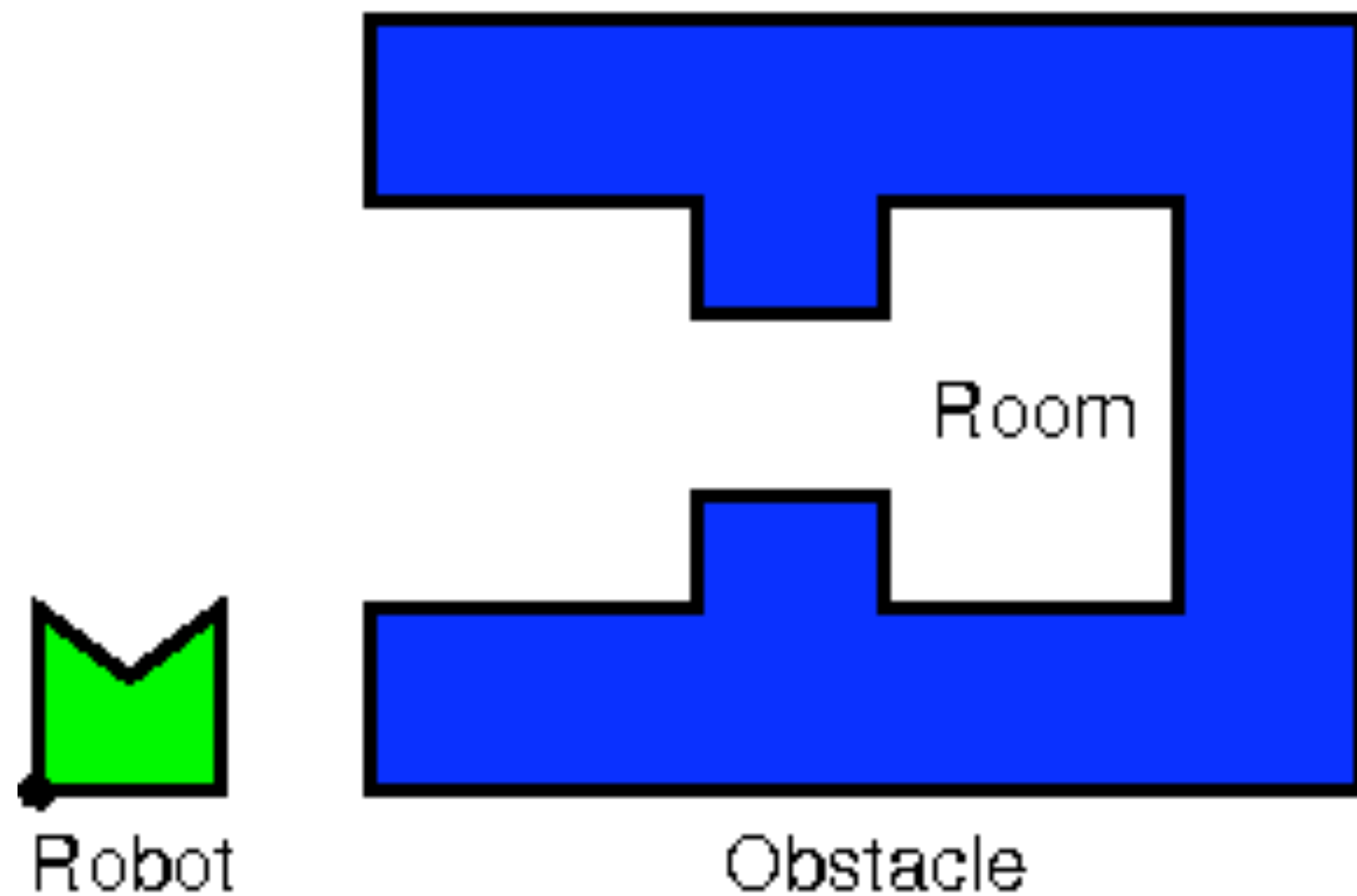
- Workspace for robot can be converted to point robot C-space
- Expand obstacles by tracing robot geometry along boundary
- Computable by Minkowski sum



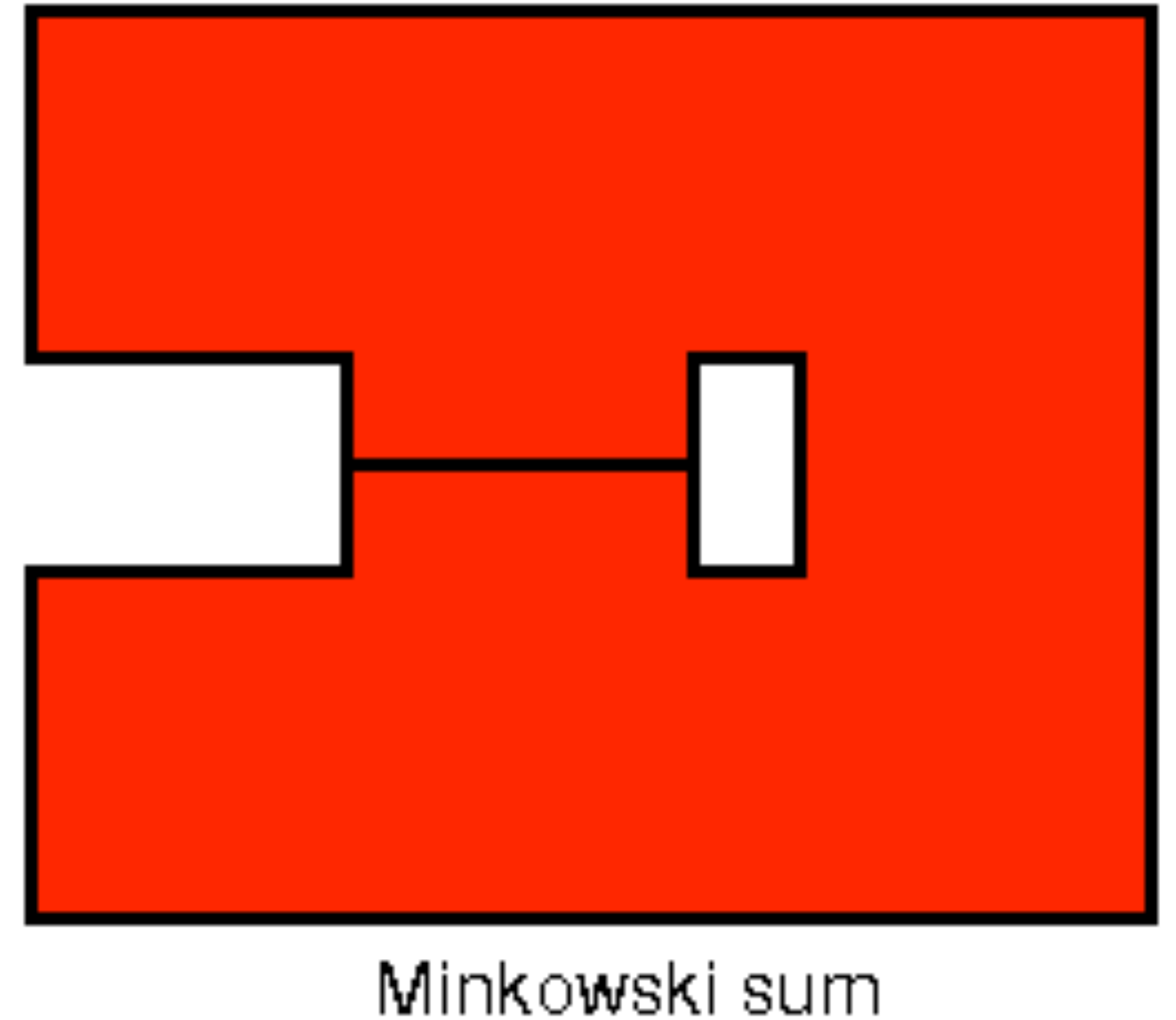
CS 550/450, Greg Hager with slides from H. Choset, Z. Bouadi, and Elnor Medina

Minkowski Planning

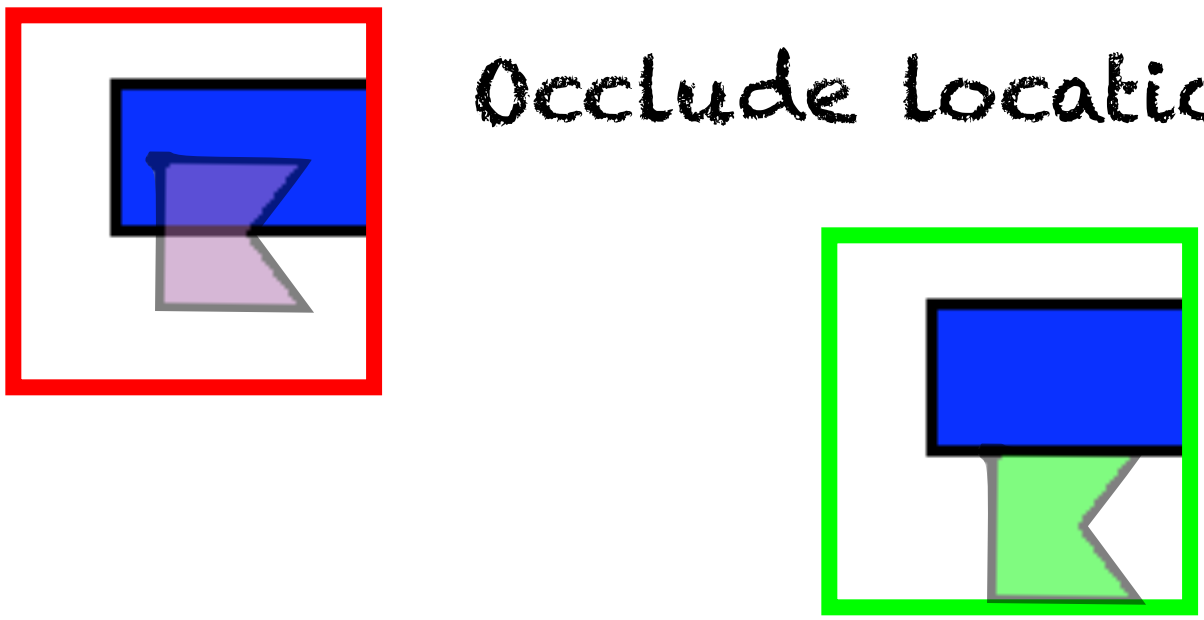
Given



Compute



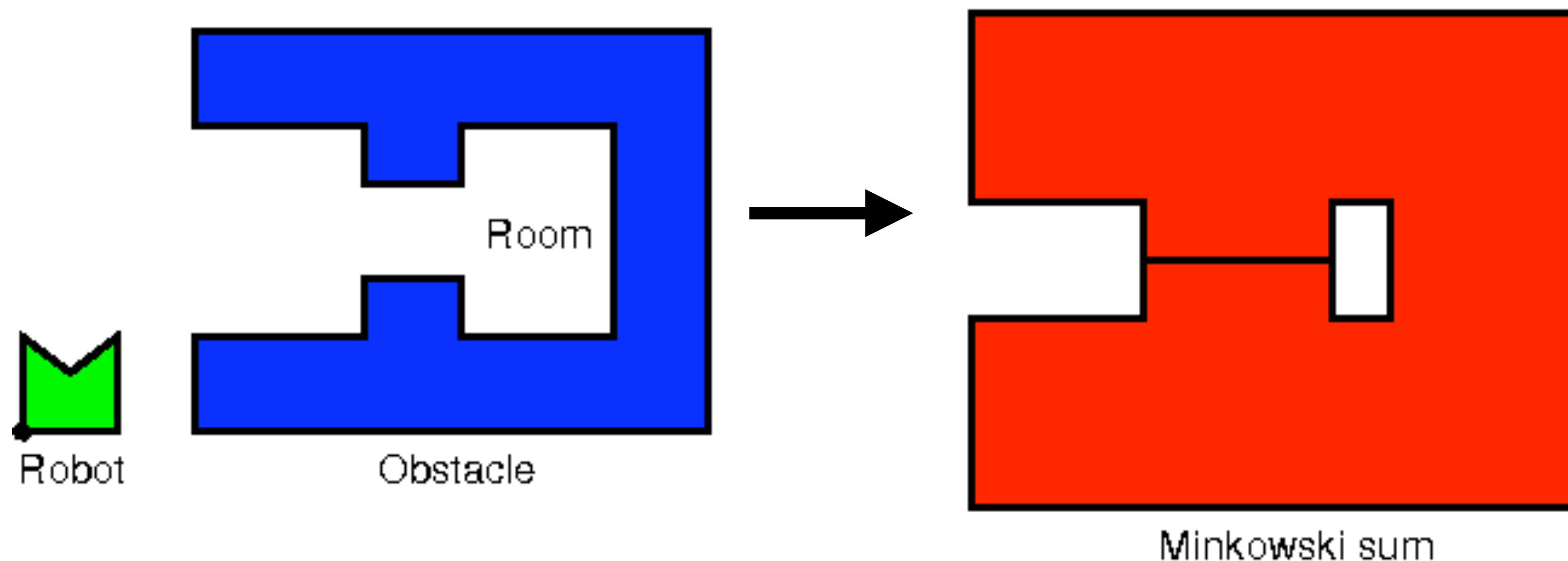
Minkowski Planning



Occlude location if robot intersects obstacle

Leave location free if robot non-intersecting with object

Minkowski sum: identify non intersecting robot locations

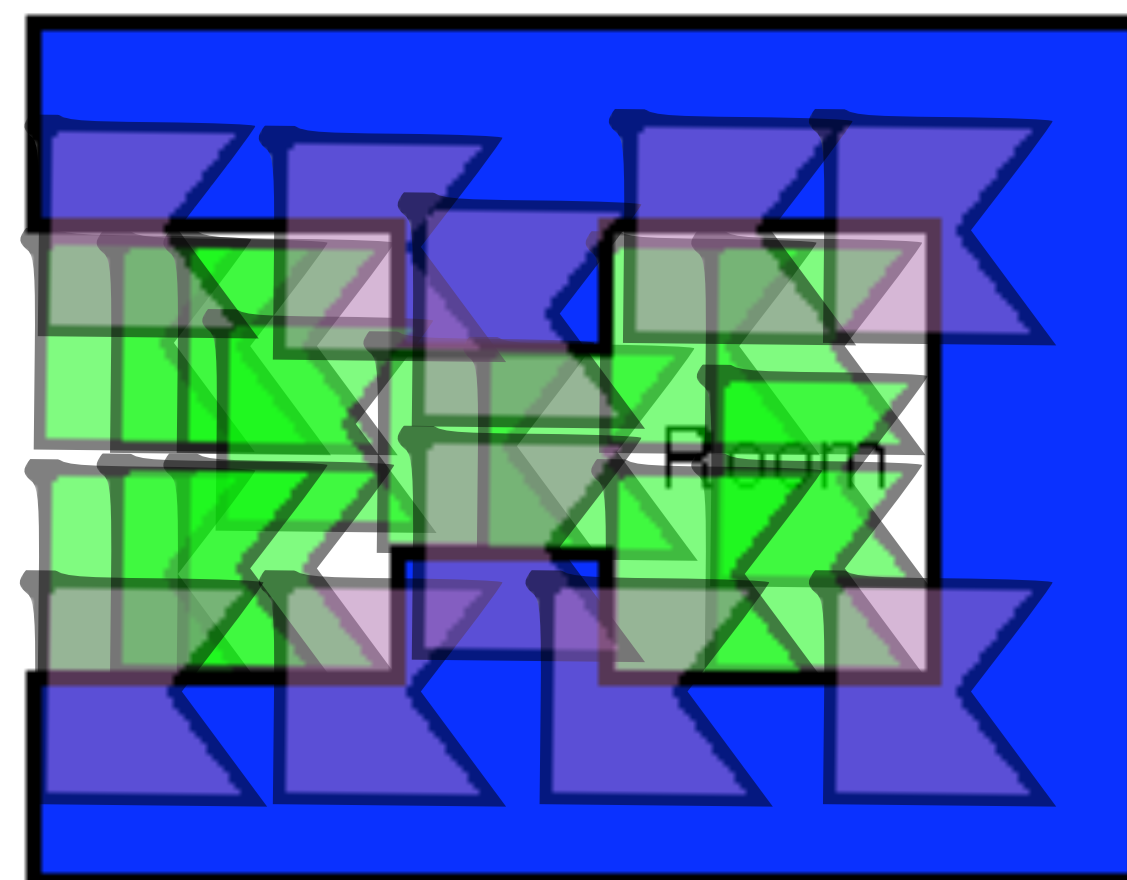
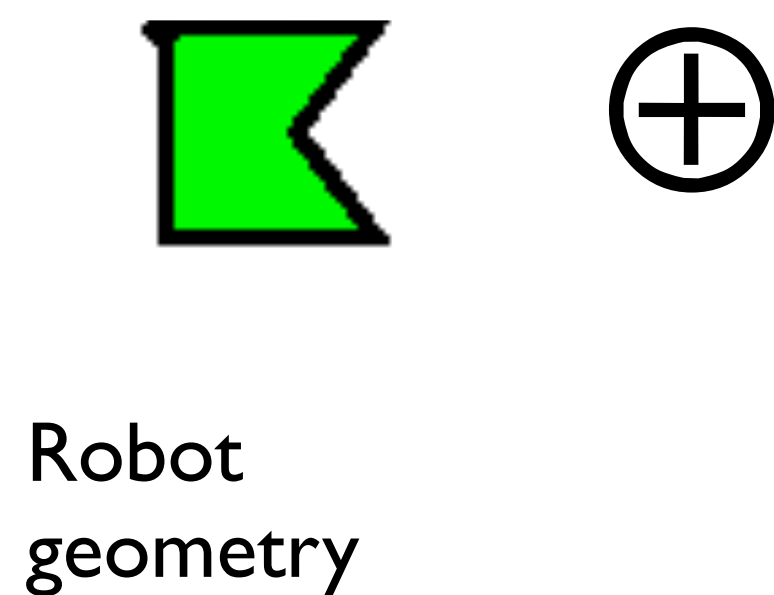


Minkowski Planning

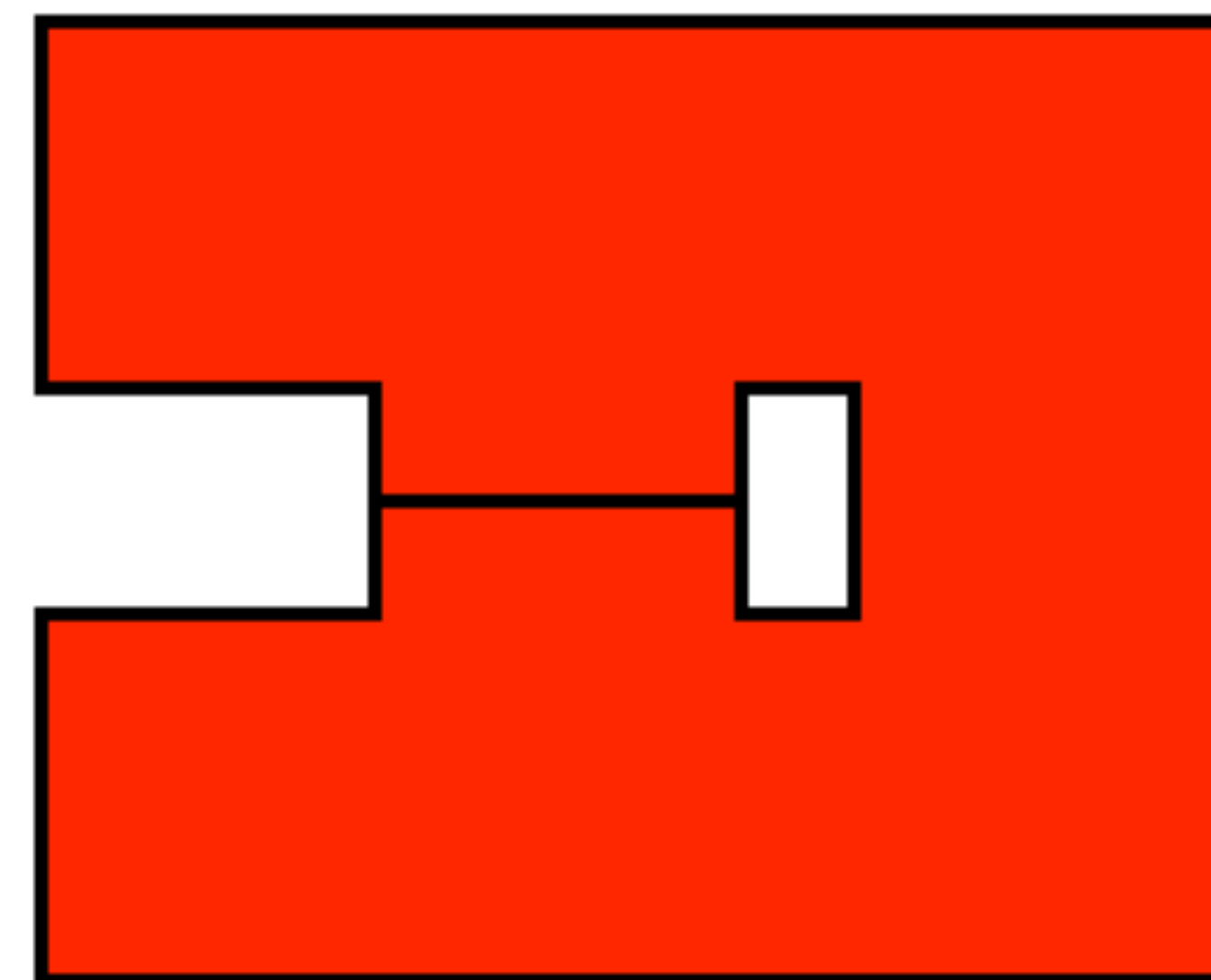
Occlude location if robot intersects obstacle

Leave location free if robot non-intersecting with object

Minkowski sum: identify non intersecting robot locations

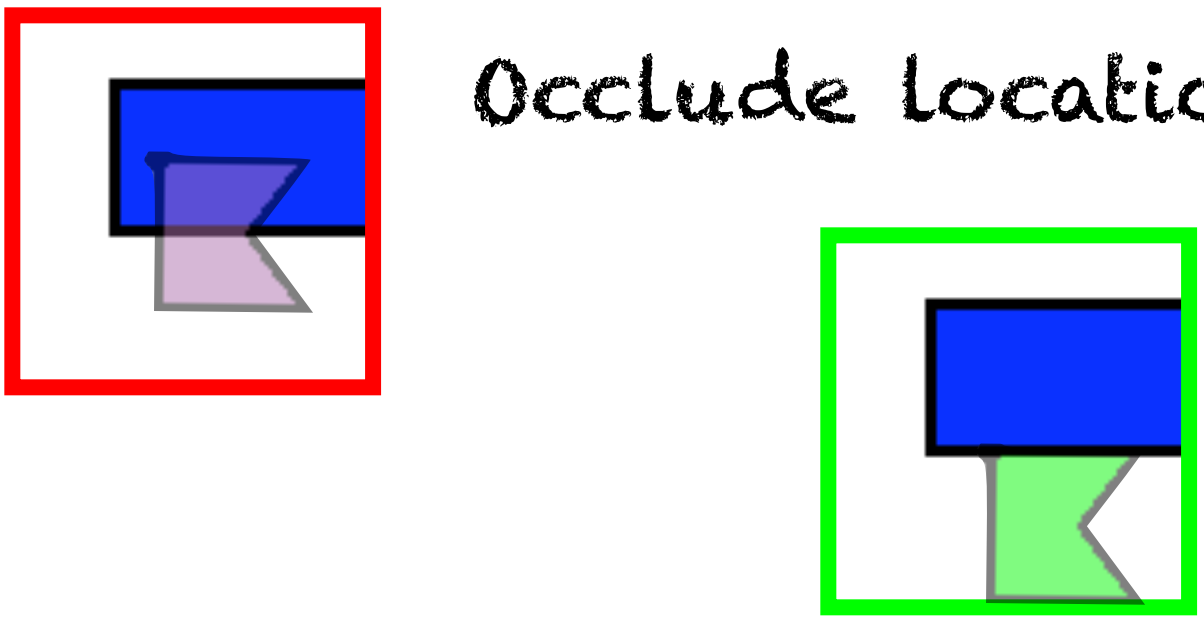


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Space of valid paths defined by Minkowski sum

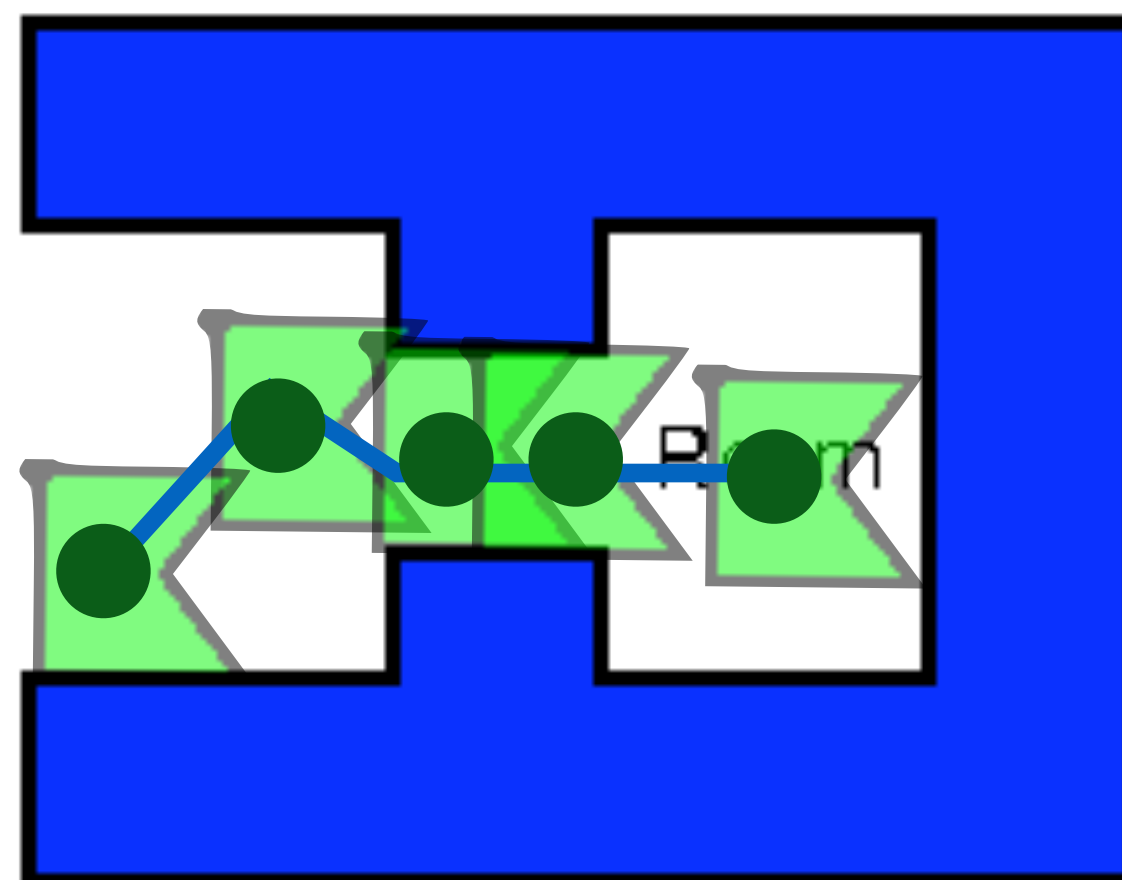
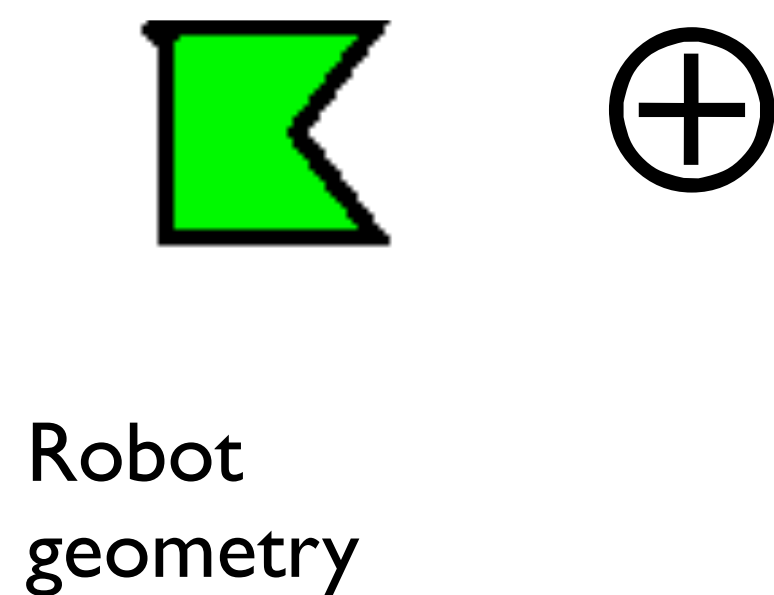
Minkowski Planning



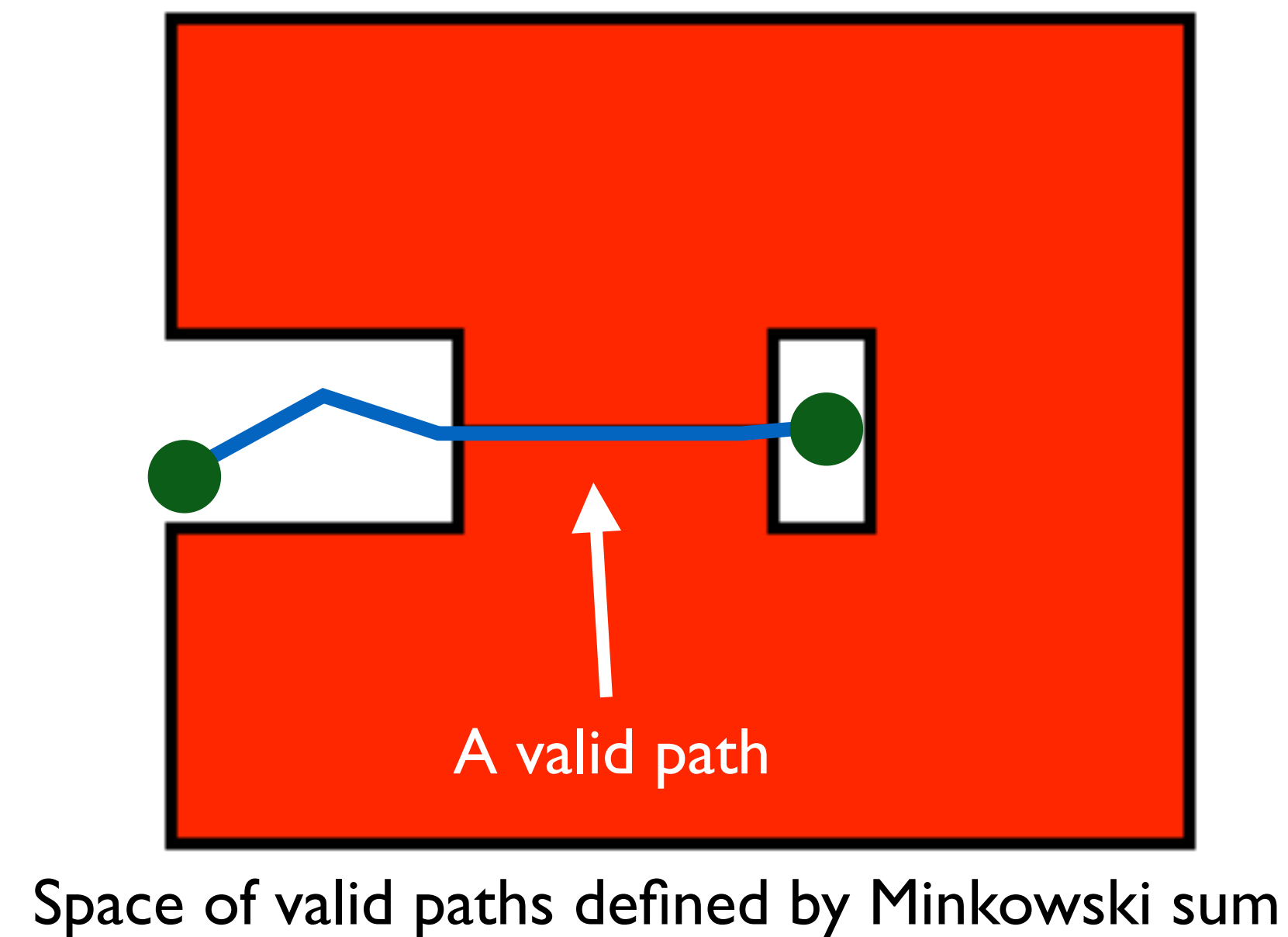
Occlude location if robot intersects obstacle

Leave location free if robot non-intersecting with object

Minkowski sum: identify non intersecting robot locations



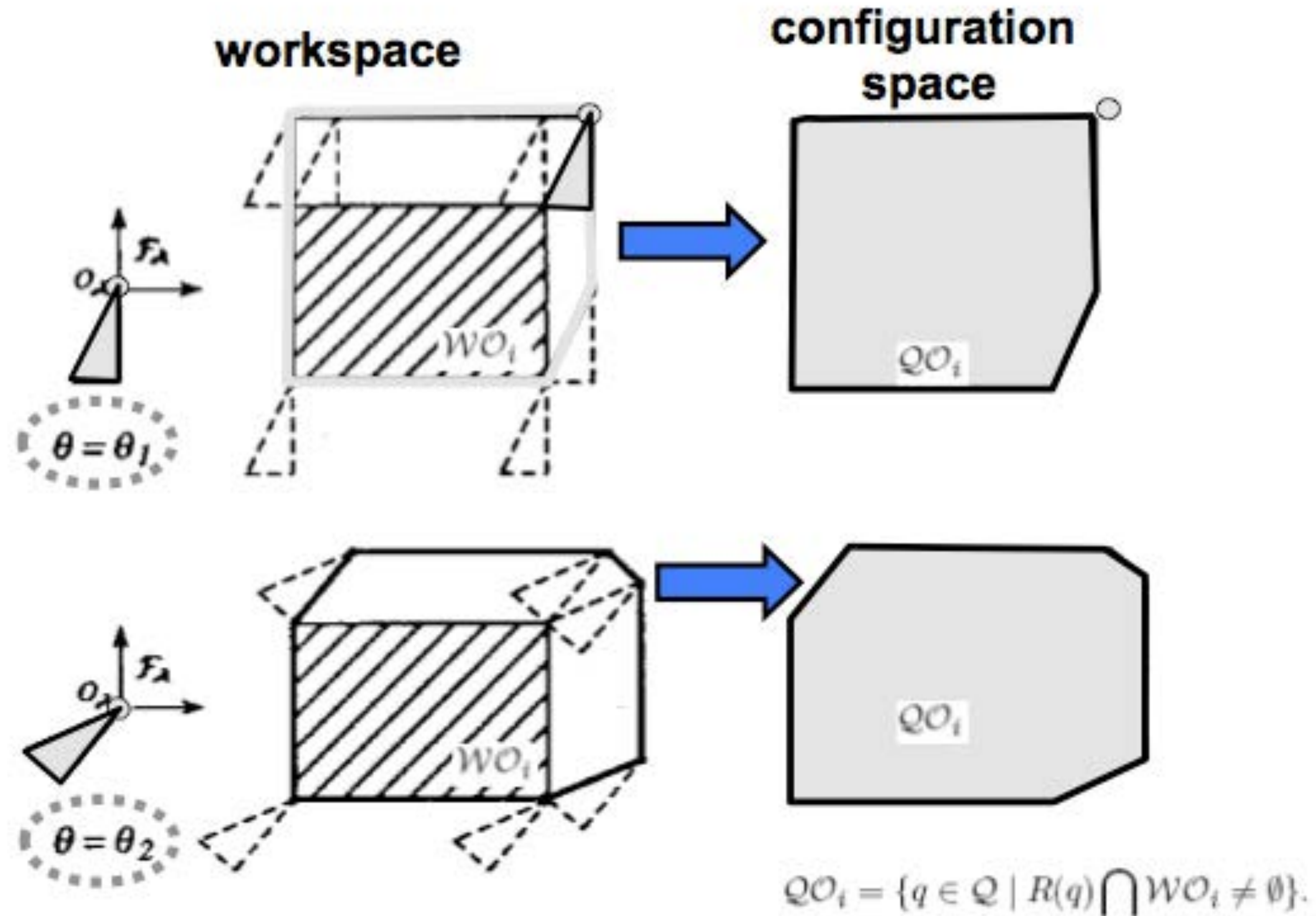
=



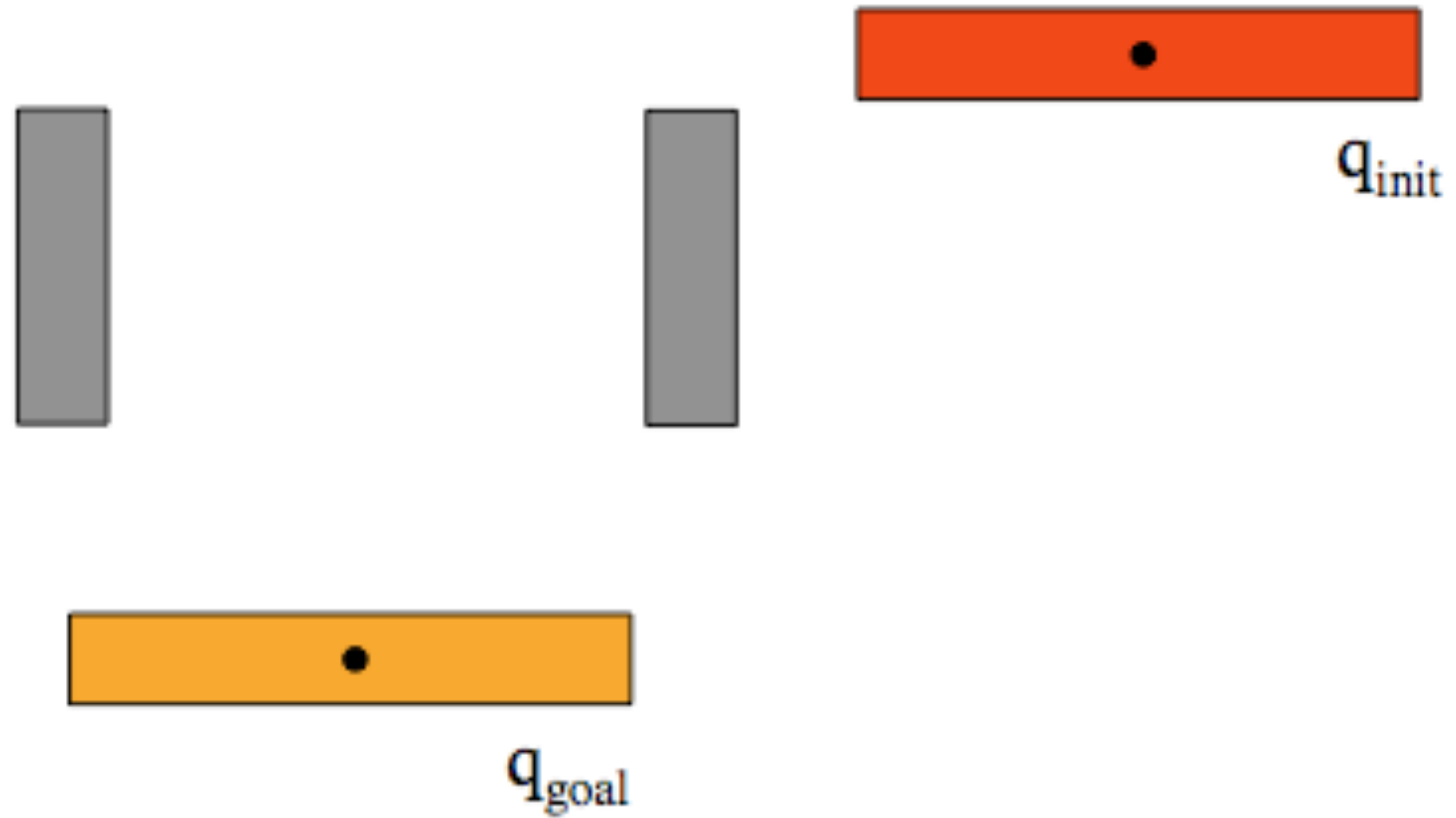
What does an obstacle look like
in configuration space?



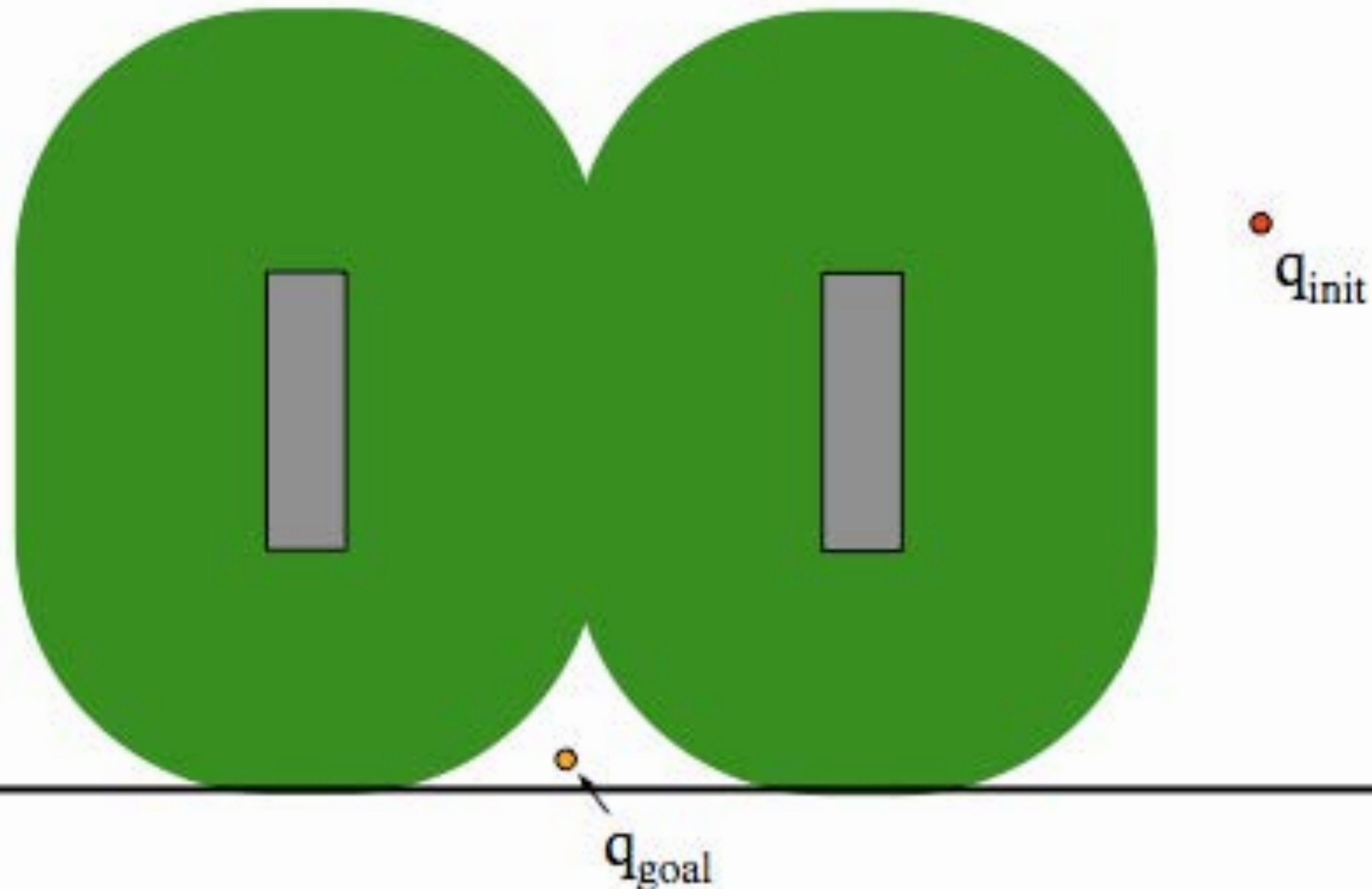
C-space depends on rotation



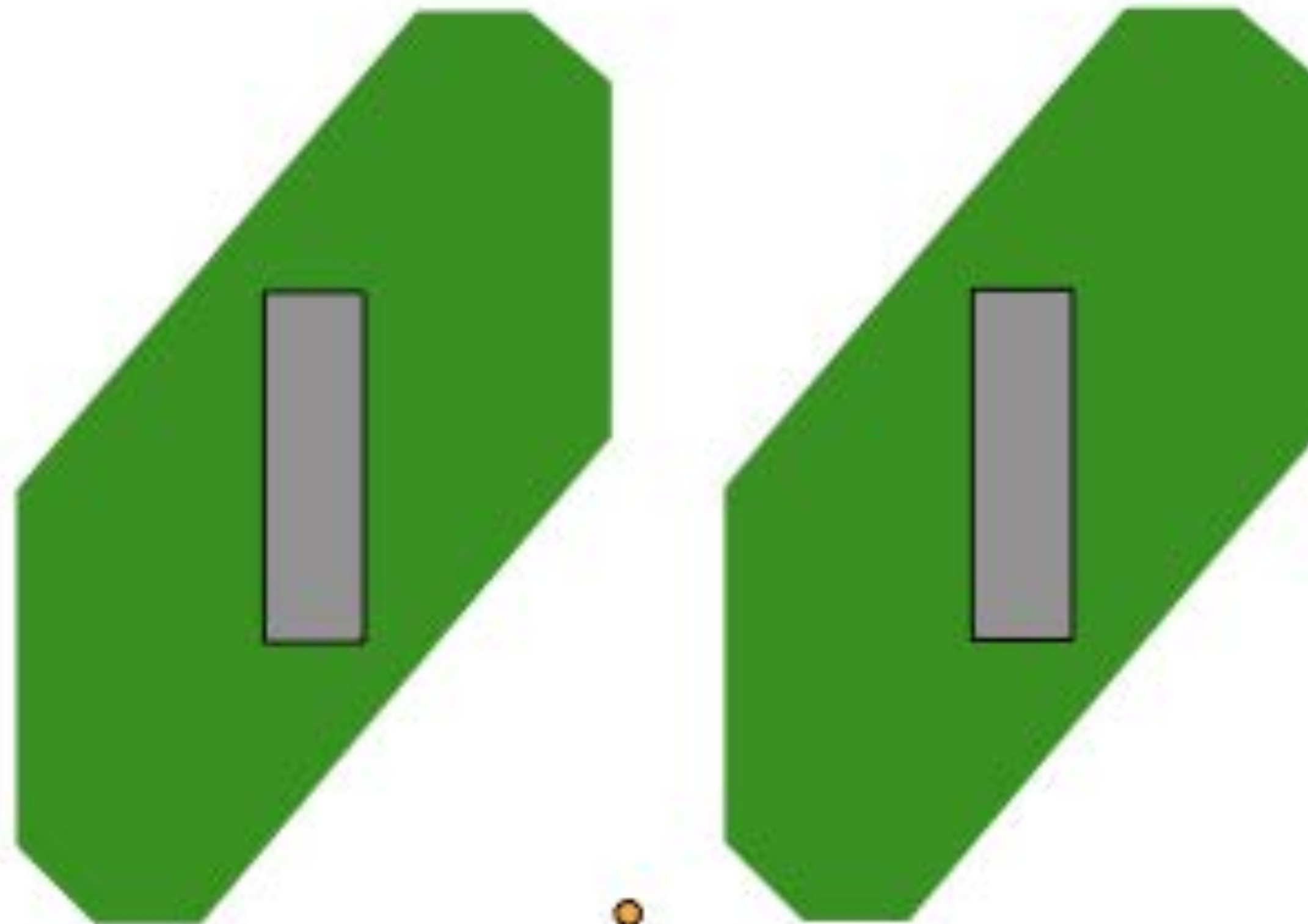
Consider this workspace...



C-space where obstacles are grown with all possible object positions and orientations



C-space where obstacles are grown with all possible object positions, orientation constrained to 45 degrees



q_{init}

q_{goal}

it depends...





C-space where obstacles are grown with all possible object positions, orientation constrained to 0 degrees



q_{goal}

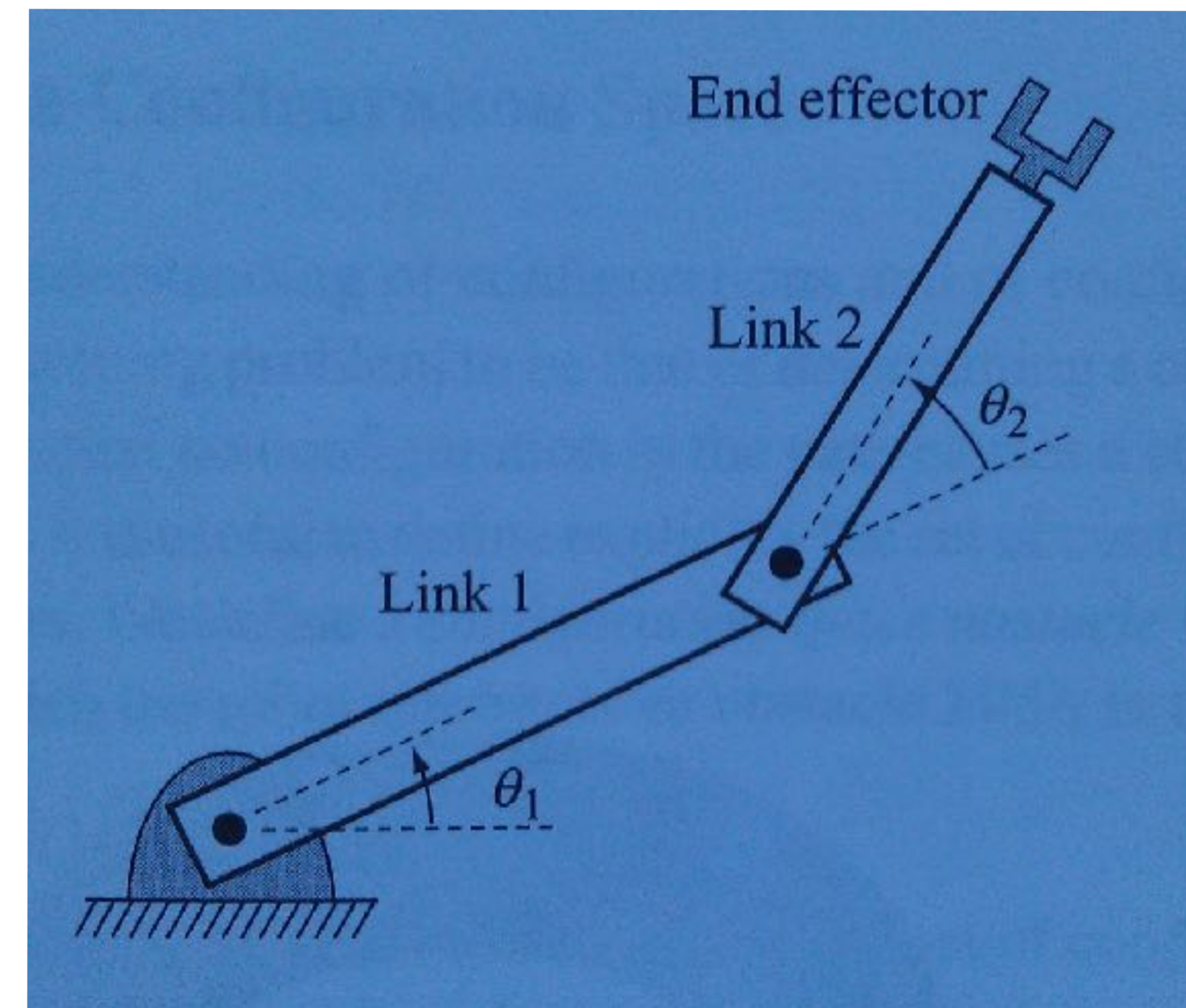
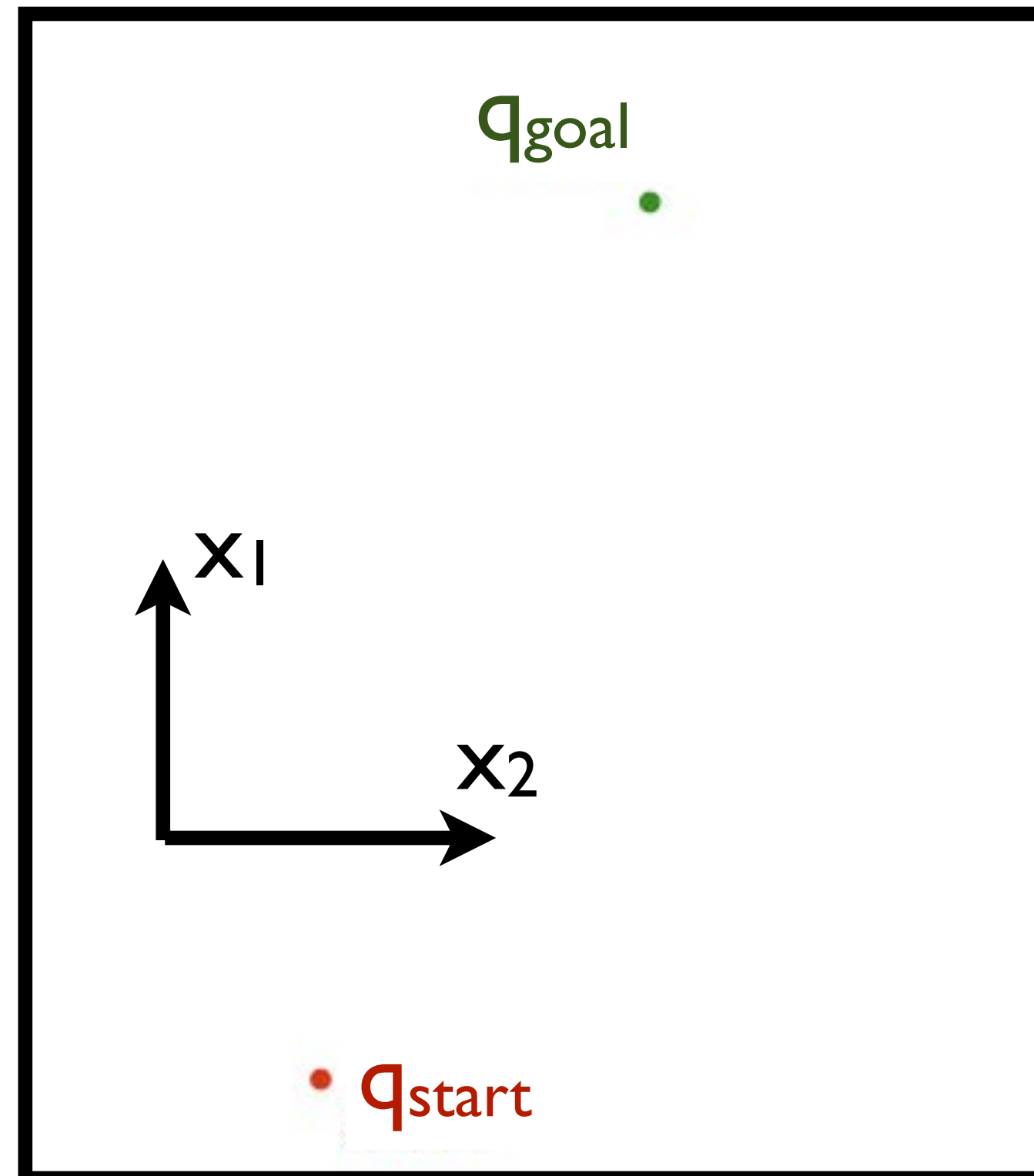
q_{init}

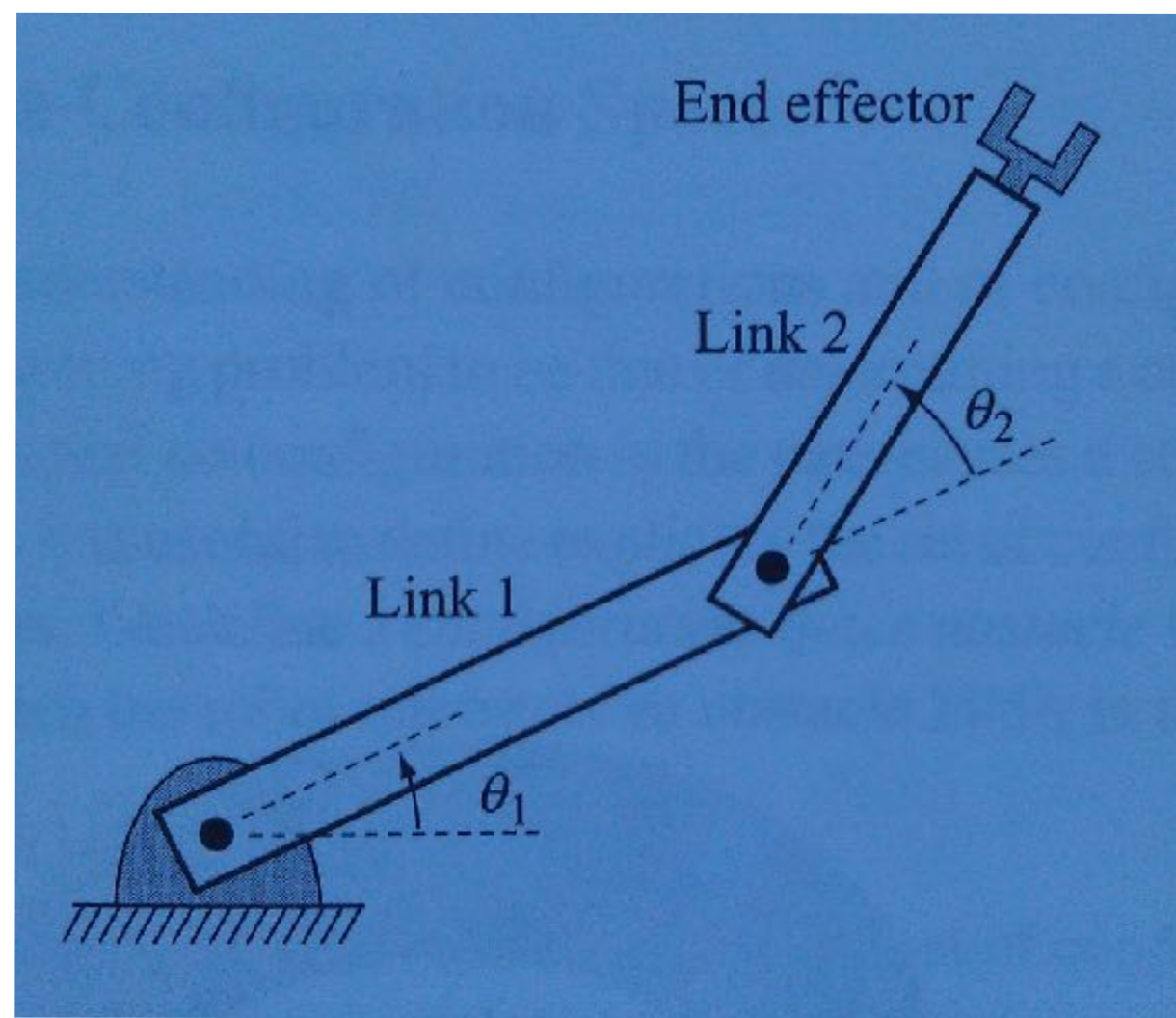
it can make it...



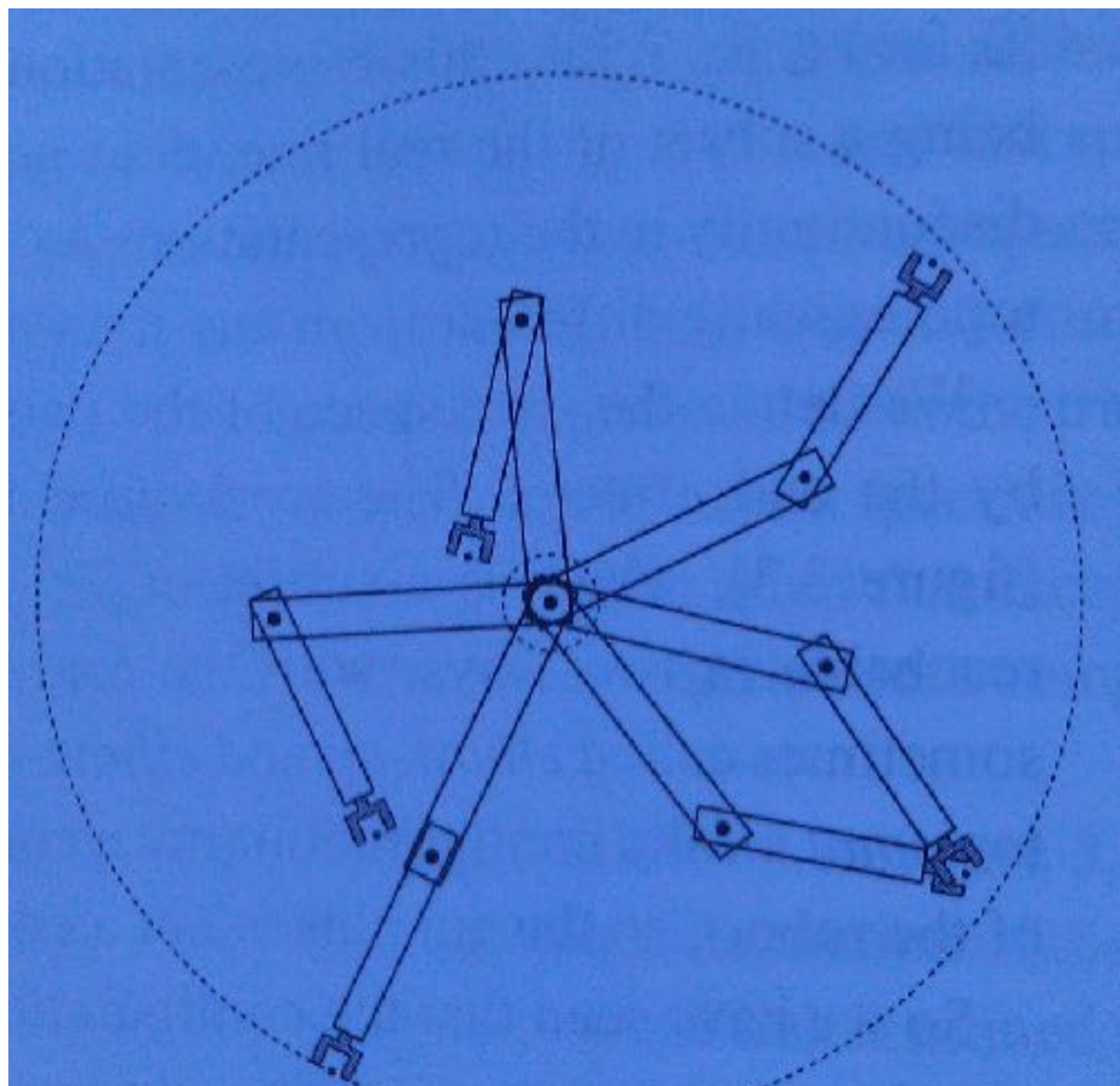
Configuration v. Workspaces

- Other than rotation and geometry, how is the 2-link arm different than the point robot?

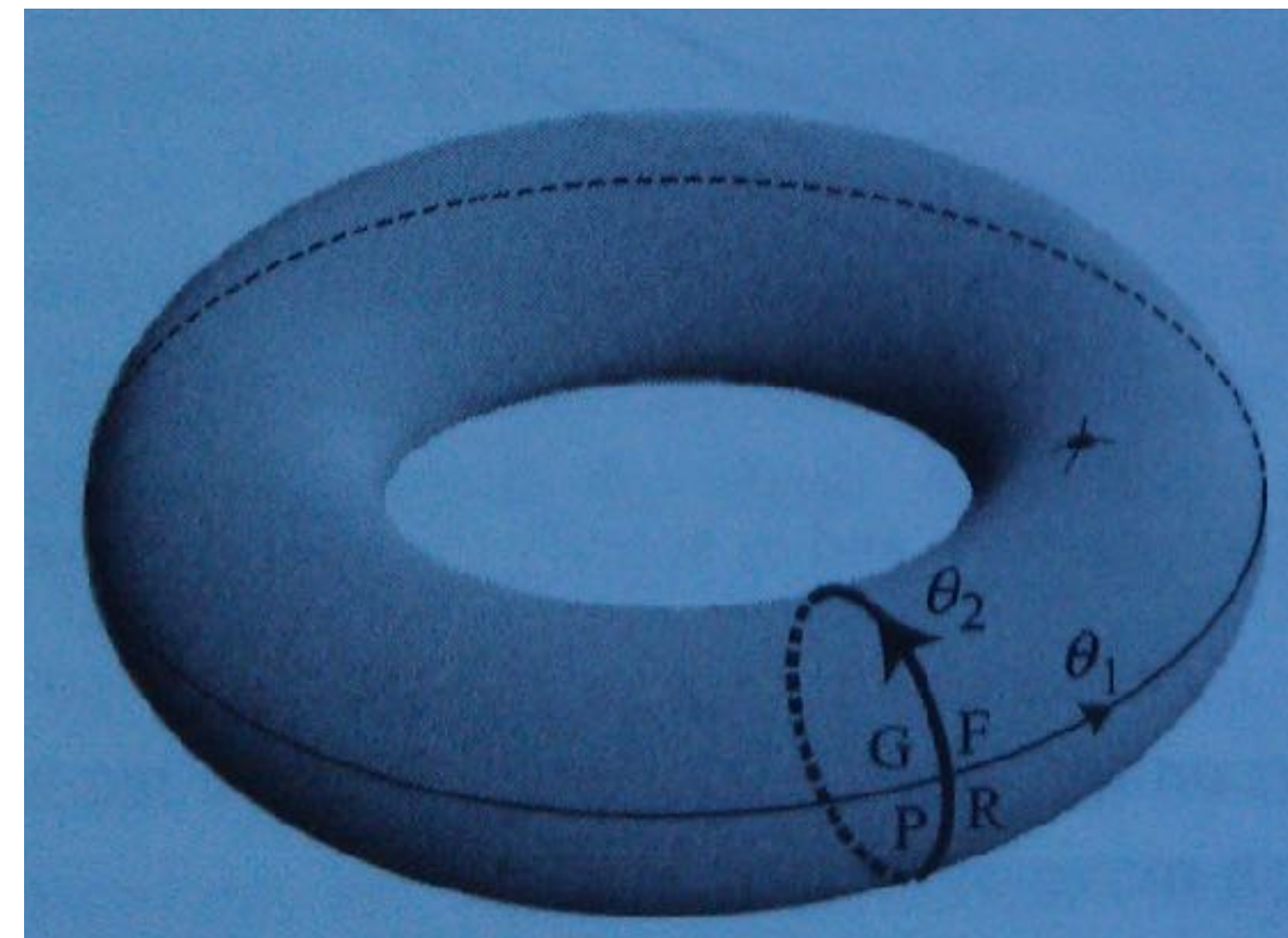




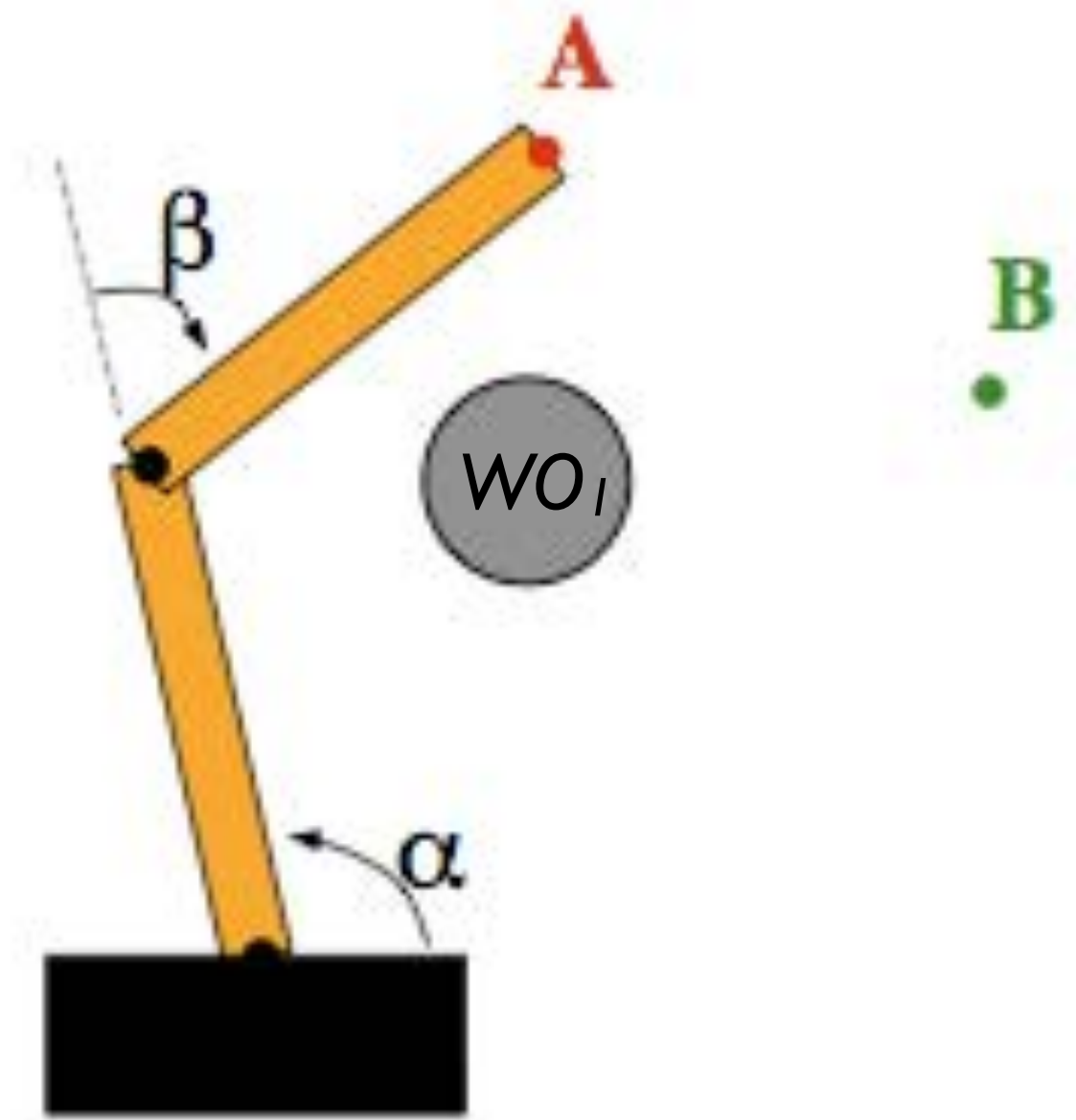
Workspace is w.r.t. end-effector position (x,y)



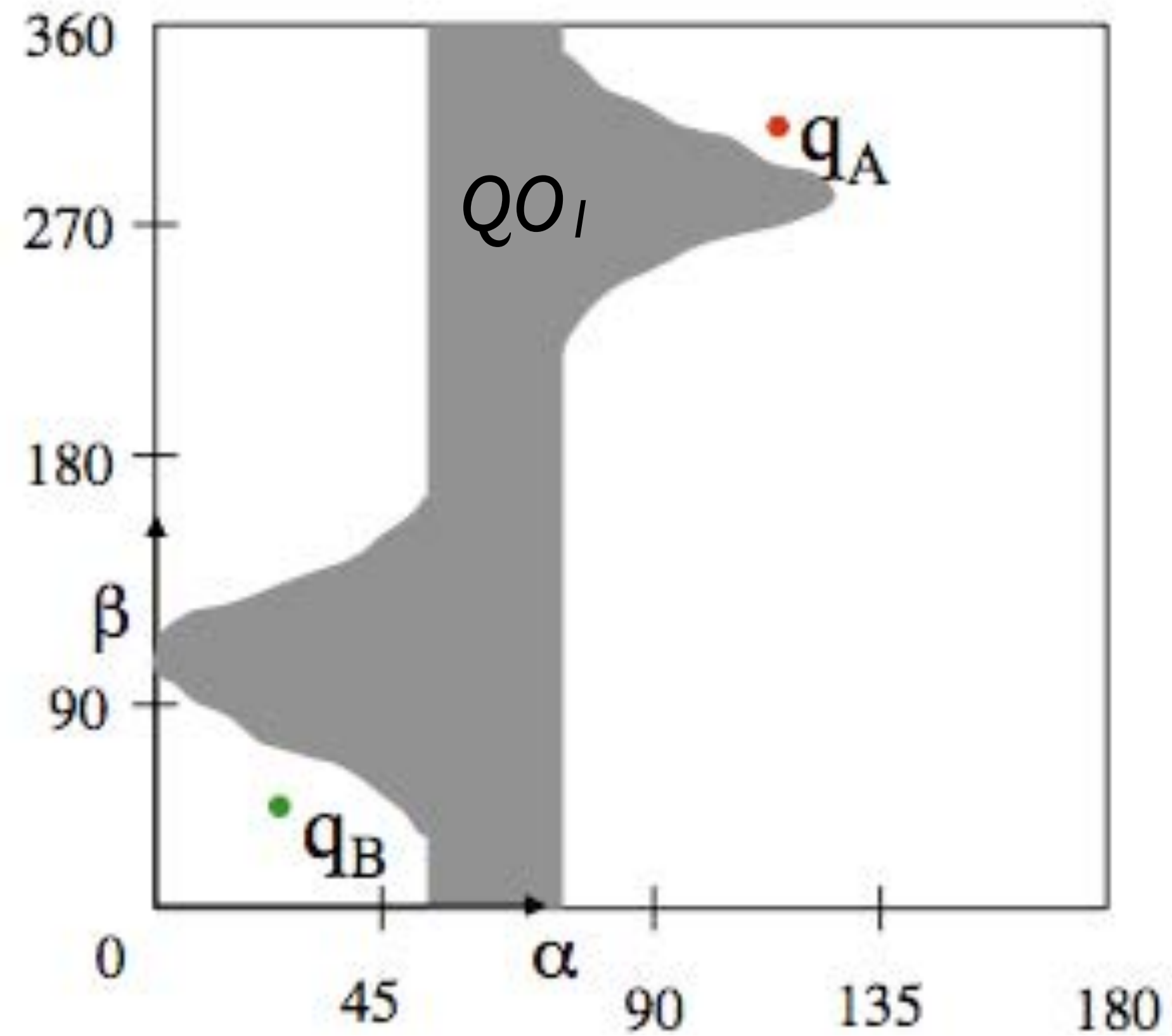
C-space is w.r.t. joint angles (θ_1, θ_2)



Obstacles in T^2

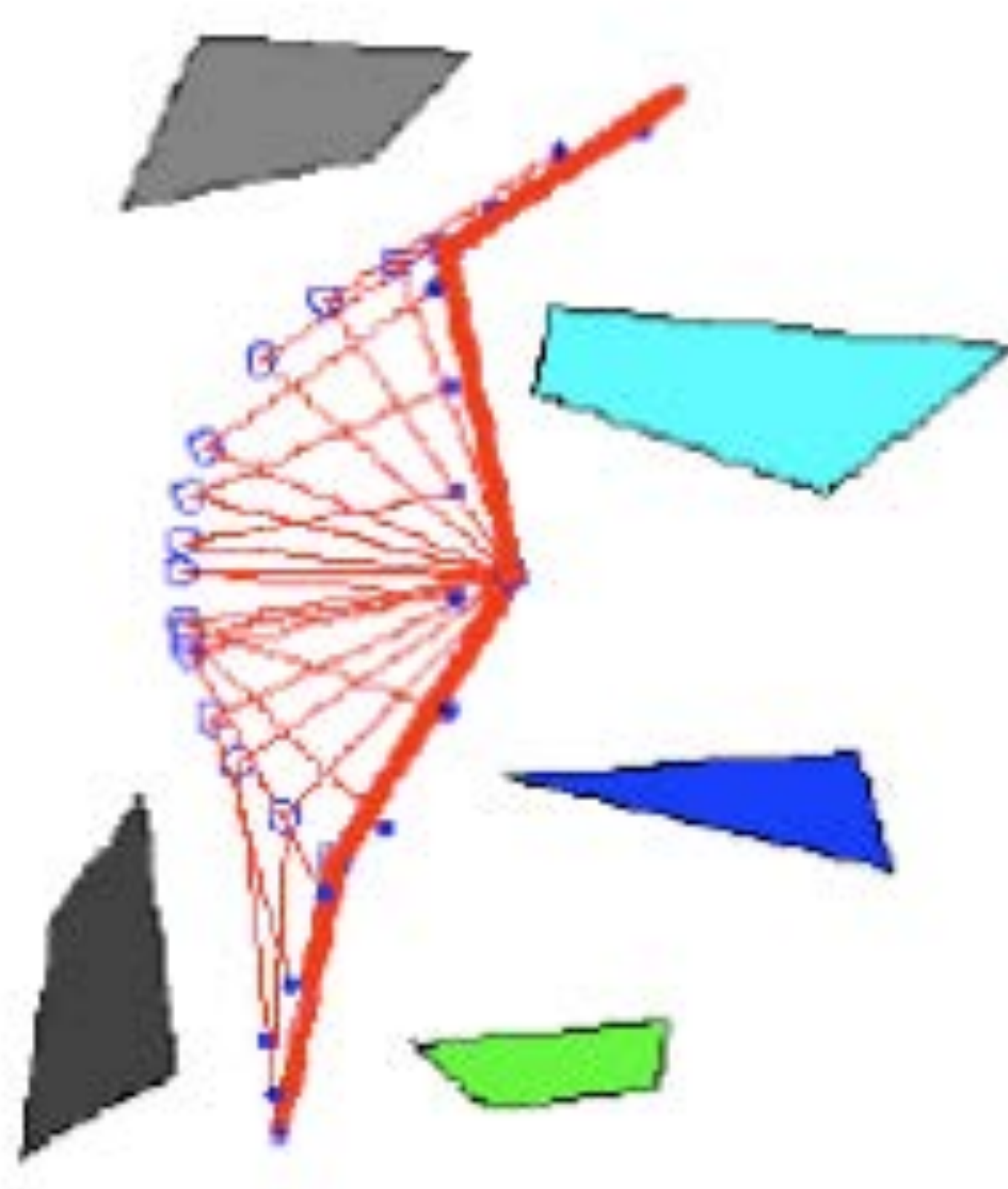


Circular obstacle in workspace

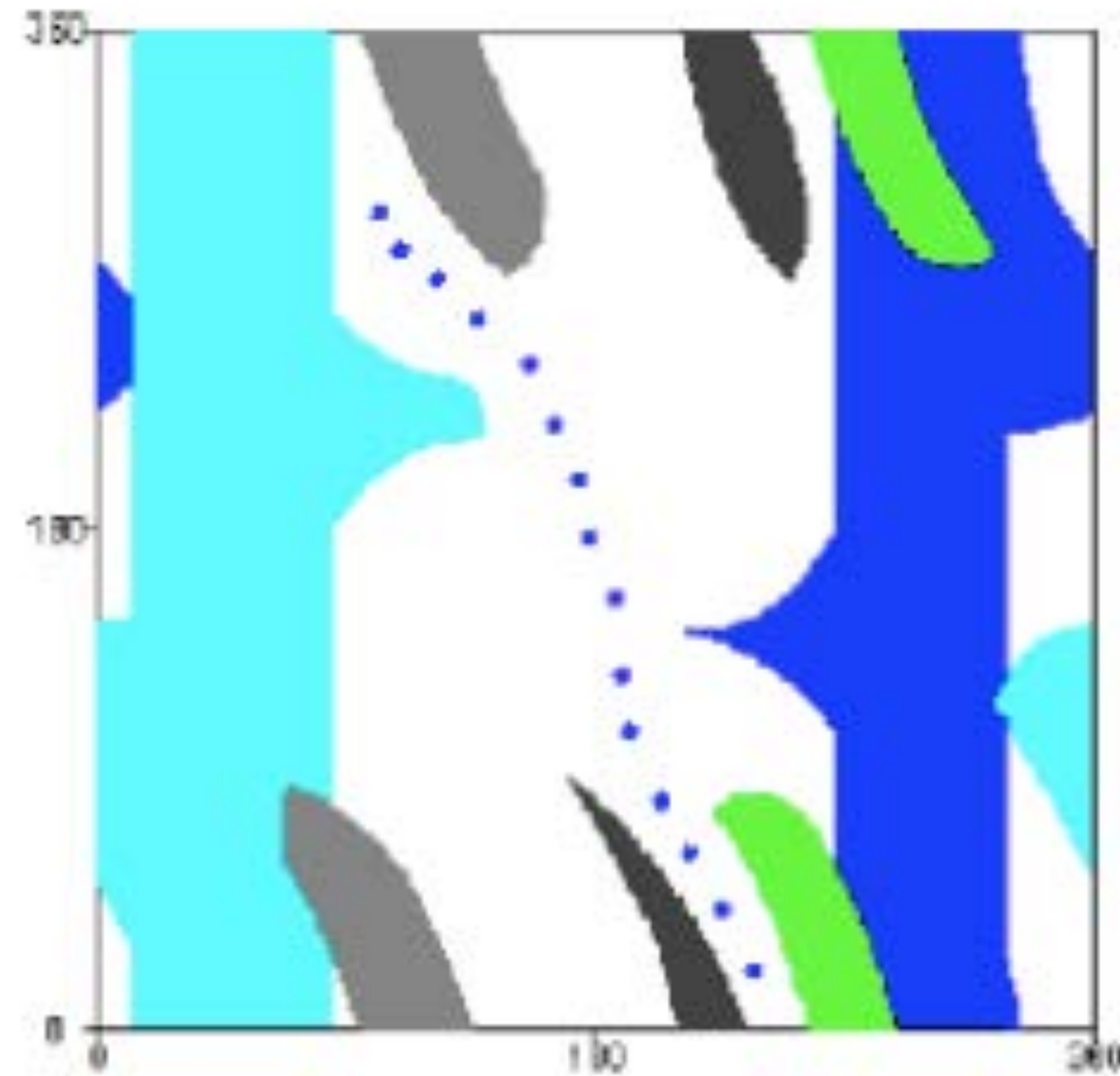


C-space representation

Path in T^2 with several obstacles



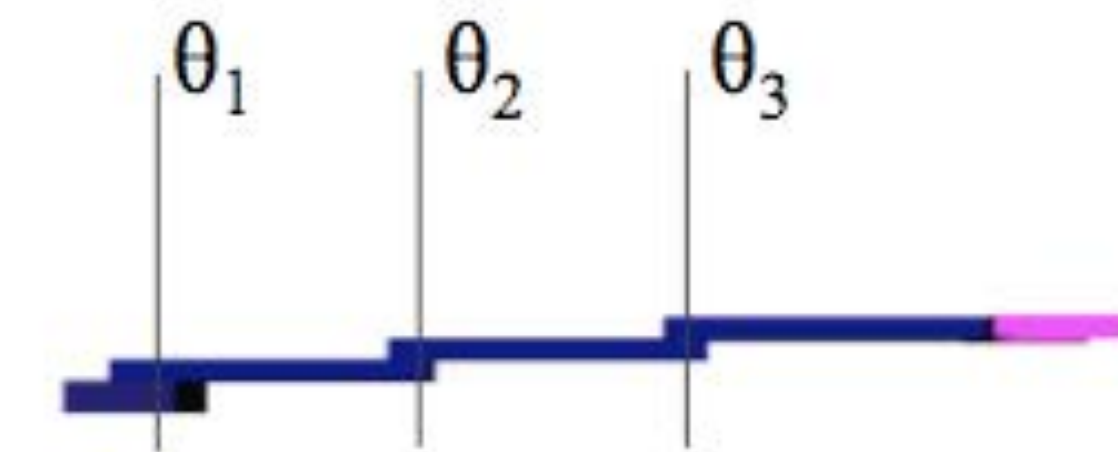
Arm navigation in workspace



C-space representation

C-space for 3-link arm

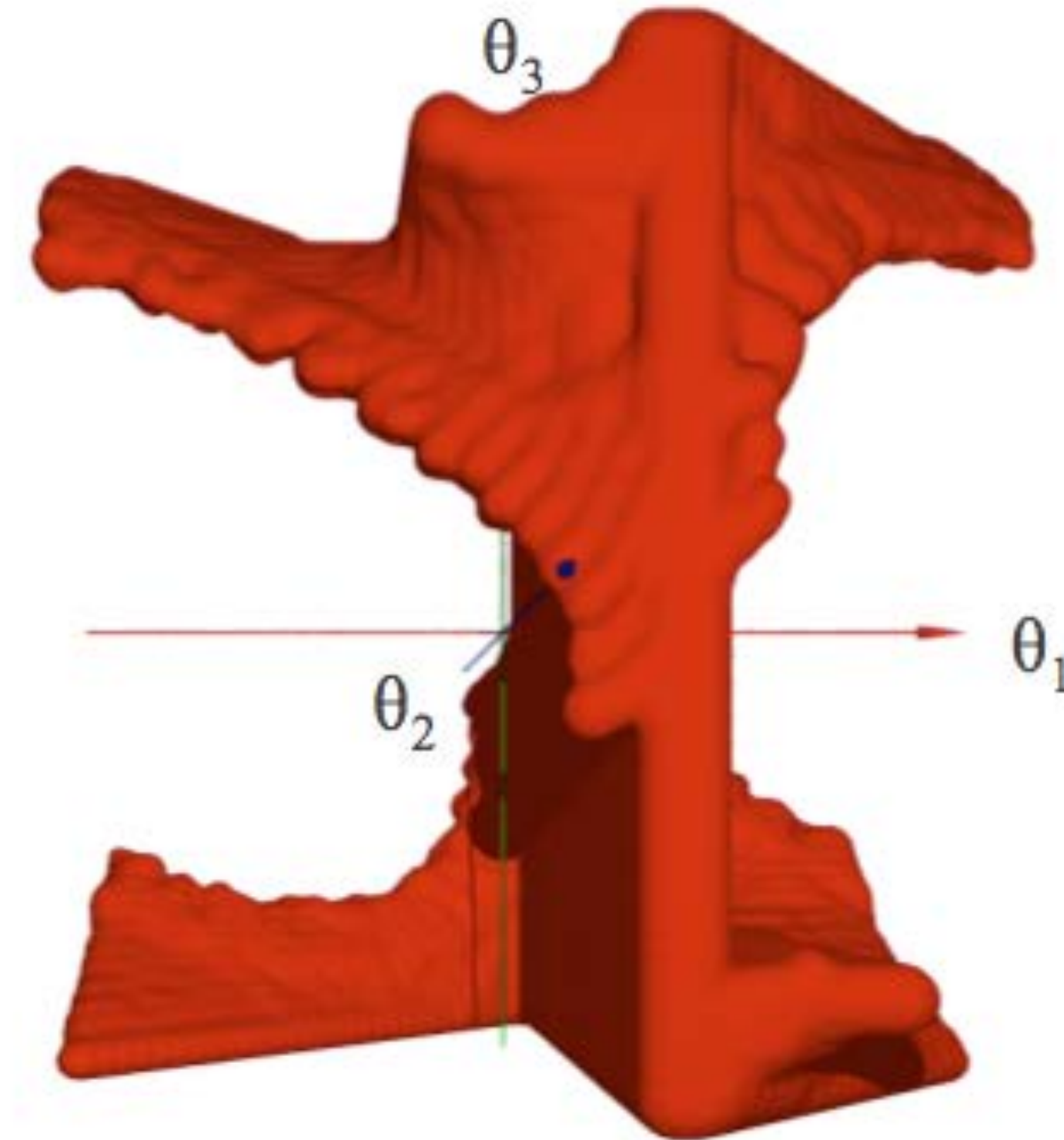
The Configuration Space (C-space)



TOP
VIEW



workspace



C-space

Generalizing graph search for robot configurations



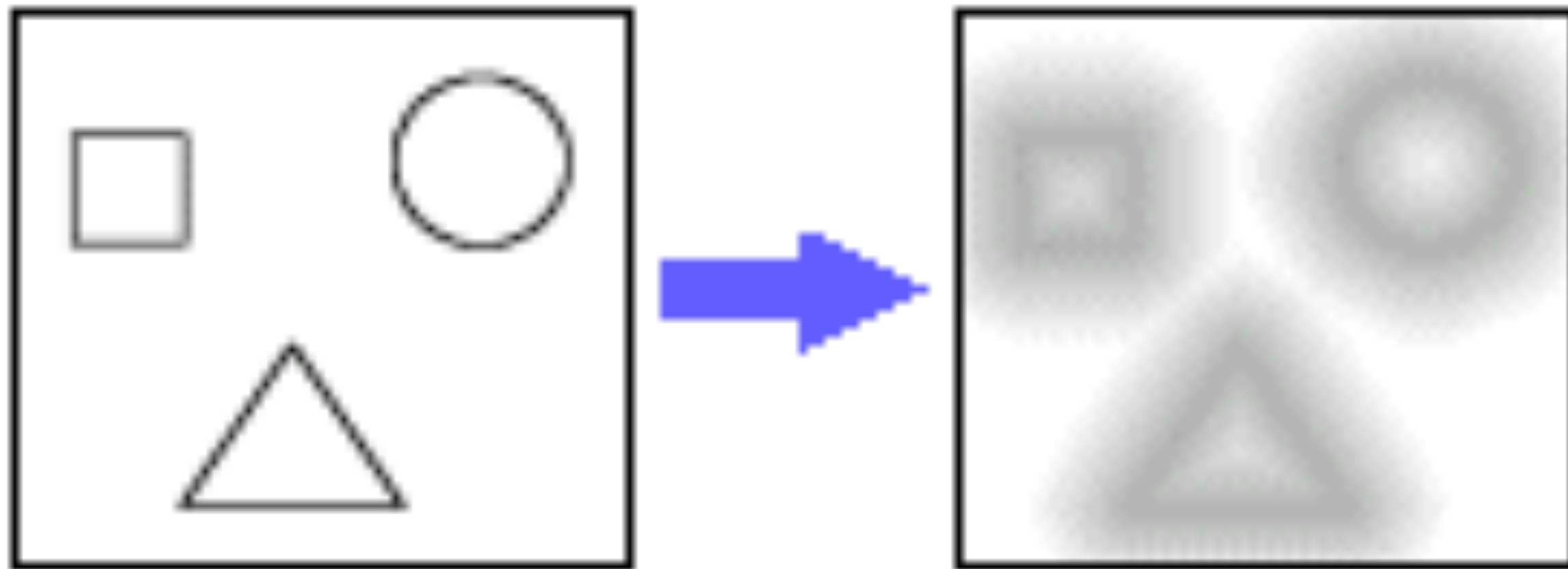
Costmaps: Graph Search Revisited

- Optimality: Path length vs. Path cost?
- **Costmap** provides weights on graph nodes based on cost factors:
 - Robot motion: joint limits, holonomicity, smoothness
 - Collisions and safety: distance from objects, trajectory predictions
 - Environmental conditions: traversability, slip

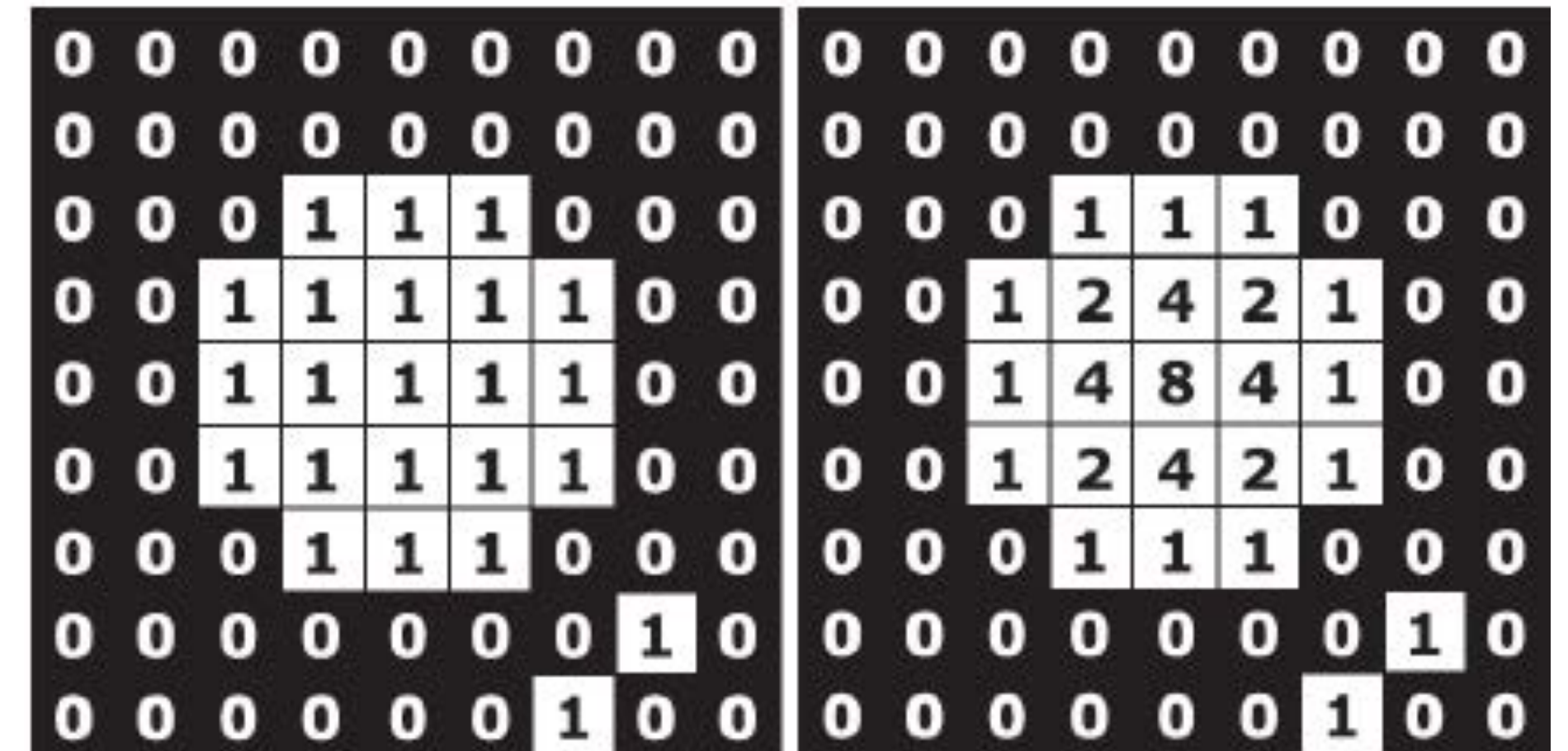


Distance Transform

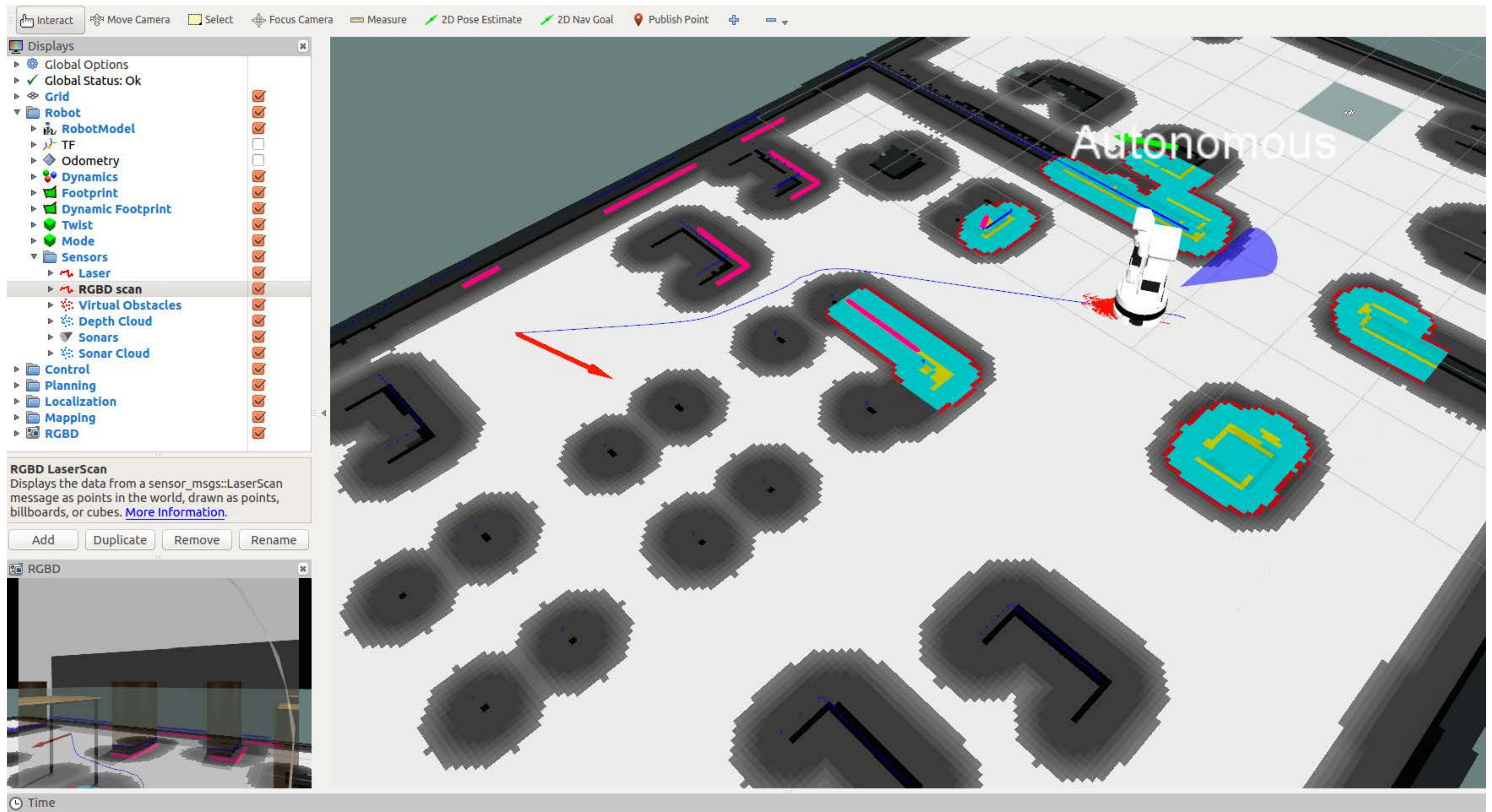
Compute distance of each grid cell to nearest obstacle boundary;
Weight grid cell cost higher if closer to a boundary



http://www.gavrila.net/Research/Chamfer_System/chamfer_basics2.gif



Nasonov and Krylov 2010
(zero indicates obstacle)



Search algorithm template

all nodes \leftarrow {dist_{start} \leftarrow infinity, parent_{start} \leftarrow none, visited_{start} \leftarrow false}

start_node \leftarrow {dist_{start} \leftarrow 0, parent_{start} \leftarrow none, visited_{start} \leftarrow true}

visit_list \leftarrow start_node

while visit_list \neq empty && current_node \neq goal

cur_node \leftarrow highestPriority(visit_list)

visited_{cur_node} \leftarrow true

for each nbr in not_visited(adjacent(cur_node))

add(nbr to visit_list)

if dist_{nbr} > dist_{cur_node} + distance(nbr,cur_node)

parent_{nbr} \leftarrow current_node

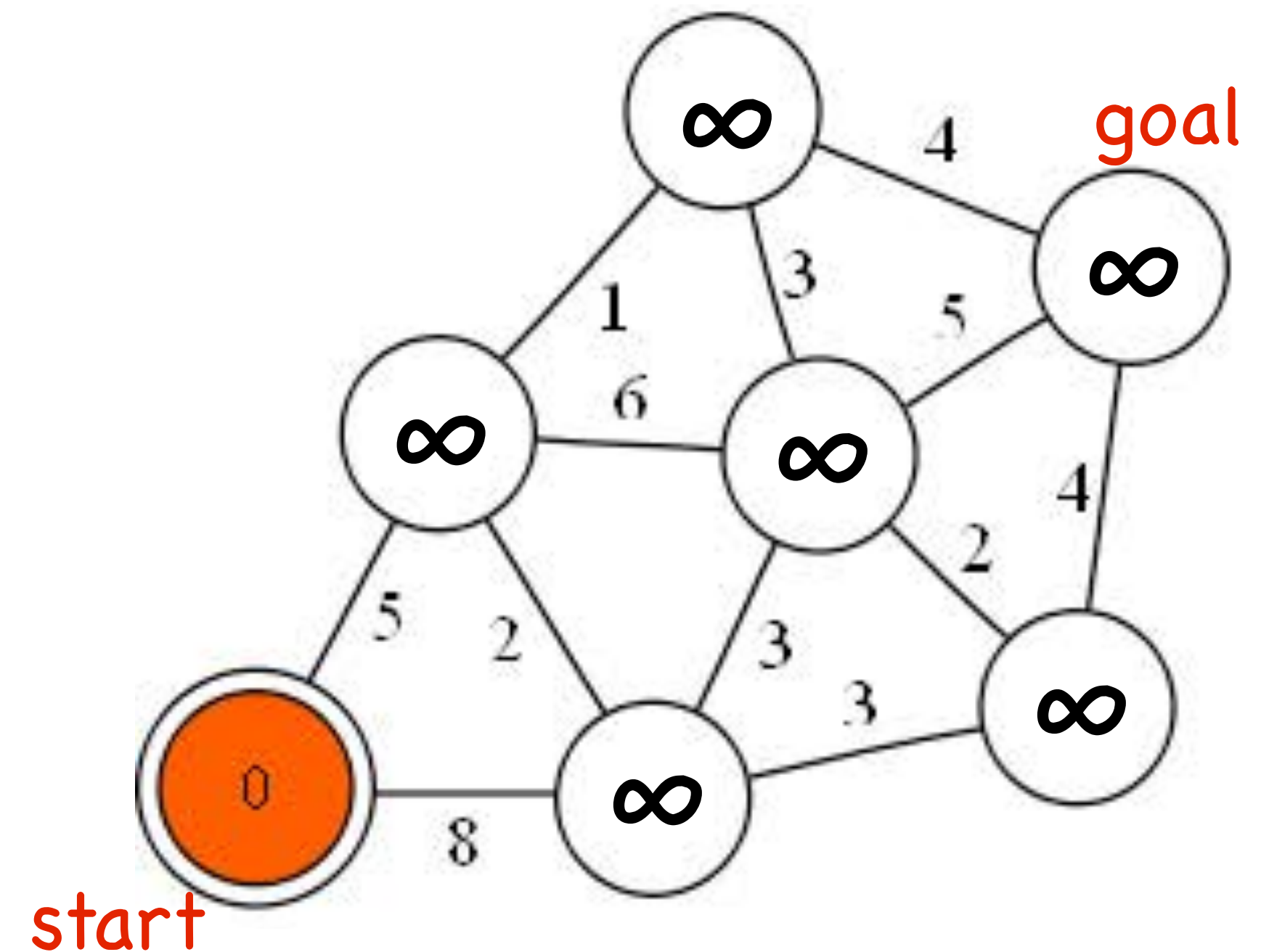
dist_{nbr} \leftarrow dist_{cur_node} + distance(nbr,cur_node)

end if

end for loop

end while loop

output \leftarrow parent, distance



Search algorithm template

all nodes \leftarrow { $\text{cost}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ infinity, $\text{parent}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ none, $\text{visited}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ false}

start_node \leftarrow { $\text{cost}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ 0, $\text{parent}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ none, $\text{visited}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ true}

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for each nbr in not_visited(adjacent(cur_node))

add(nbr to visit_list)

if $\text{cost}_{\text{nbr}} > \text{cost}_{\text{cur_node}} + \text{cost}(\text{nbr})$

parent_{nbr} \leftarrow current_node

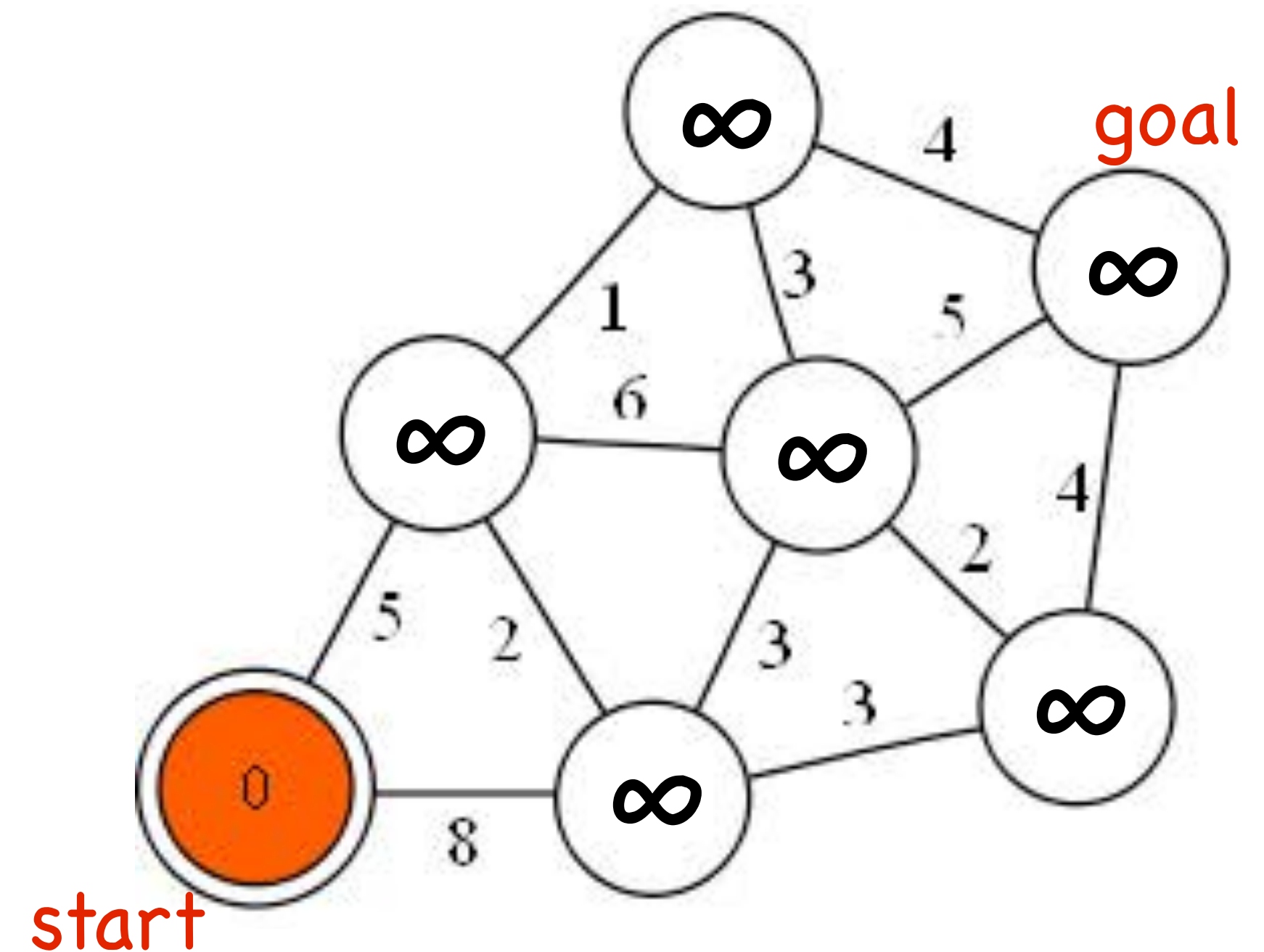
$\text{cost}_{\text{nbr}} \leftarrow \text{cost}_{\text{cur_node}} + \text{cost}(\text{nbr})$

end if

end for loop

end while loop

output \leftarrow parent, distance



A-star shortest path algorithm

all nodes \leftarrow { $\text{cost}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ infinity, $\text{parent}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ none, $\text{visited}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ false}

start_node \leftarrow { $\text{cost}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ 0, $\text{parent}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ none, $\text{visited}_{\text{start}} \leftarrow$ true}

visit_queue \leftarrow start_node

while (visit_queue \neq empty) && current_node \neq goal

 dequeue: cur_node \leftarrow f_score(visit_queue)

 visited_{cur_node} \leftarrow true

for each nbr in not_visited(adjacent(cur_node))

 enqueue: nbr to visit_queue

if $\text{cost}_{\text{nbr}} > \text{cost}_{\text{cur_node}} + \text{cost}(\text{nbr})$

 parent_{nbr} \leftarrow current_node

$\text{cost}_{\text{nbr}} \leftarrow \text{cost}_{\text{cur_node}} + \text{cost}(\text{nbr})$

 f_score $\leftarrow \text{cost}_{\text{nbr}} + \text{line_distance}_{\text{nbr,goal}}$

end if

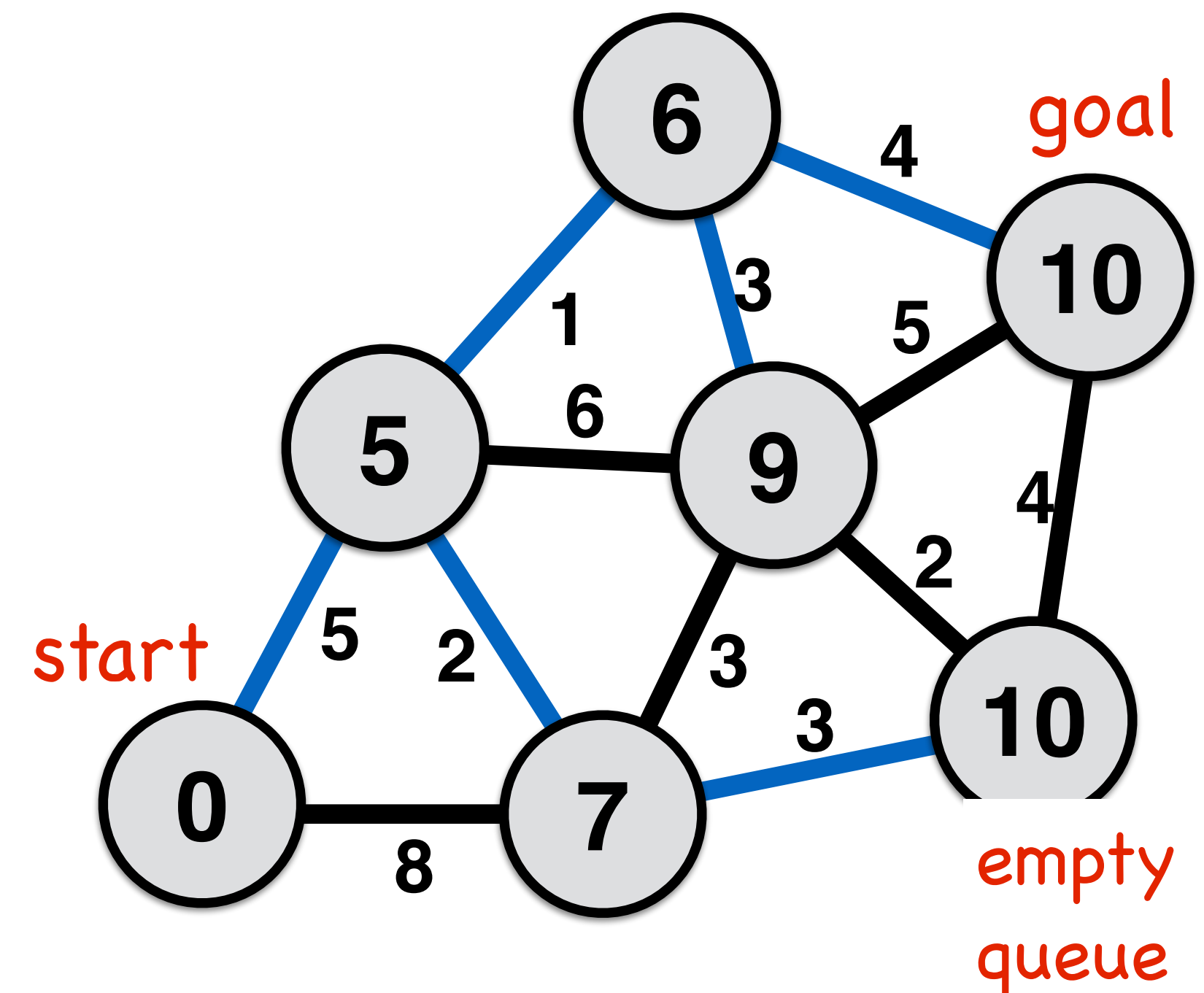
end for loop

end while loop

output \leftarrow parent, distance

\uparrow
g_score:
cost from start

\uparrow
h_score:
optimistic cost to goal



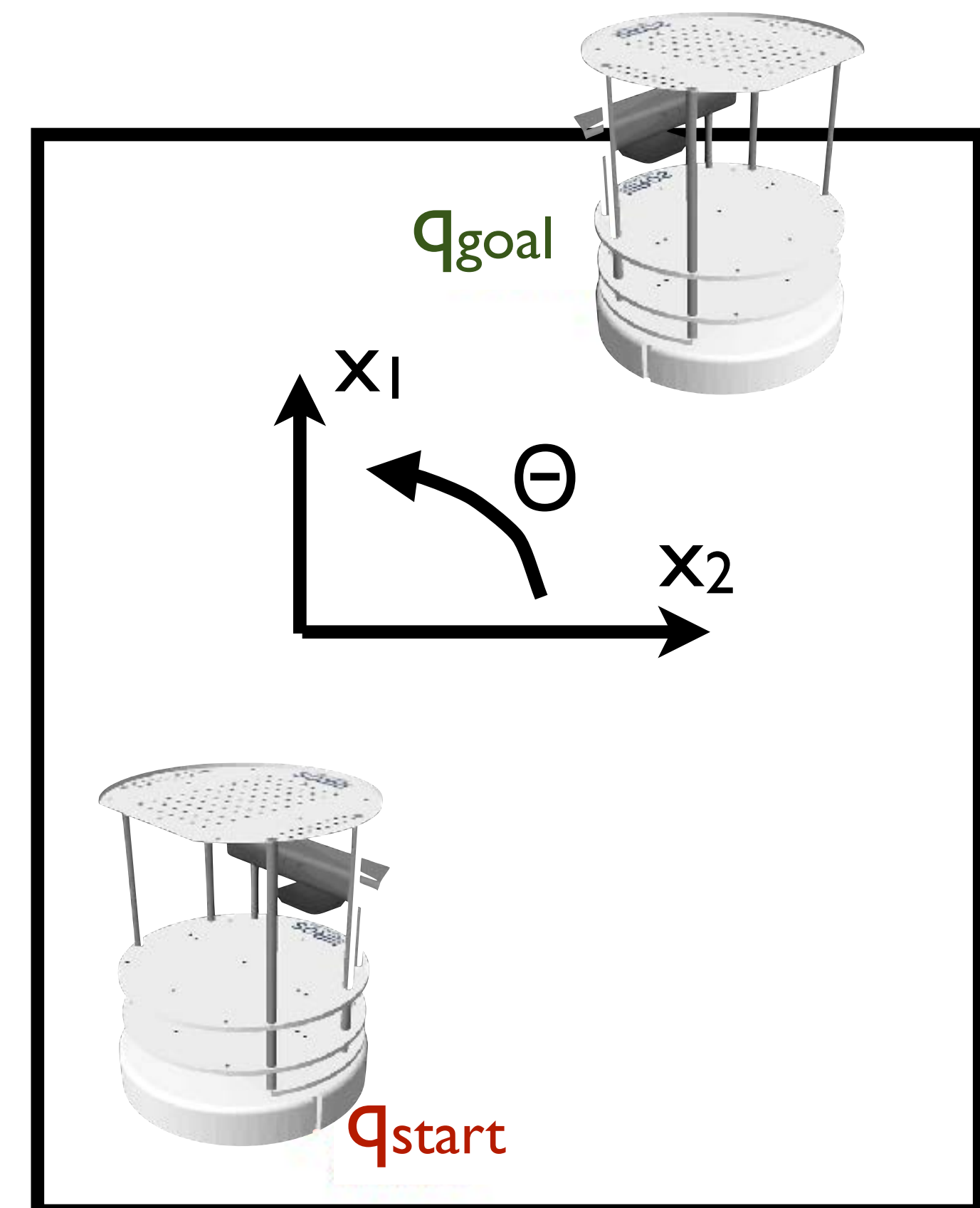
Can a robot move in any direction instantaneously?



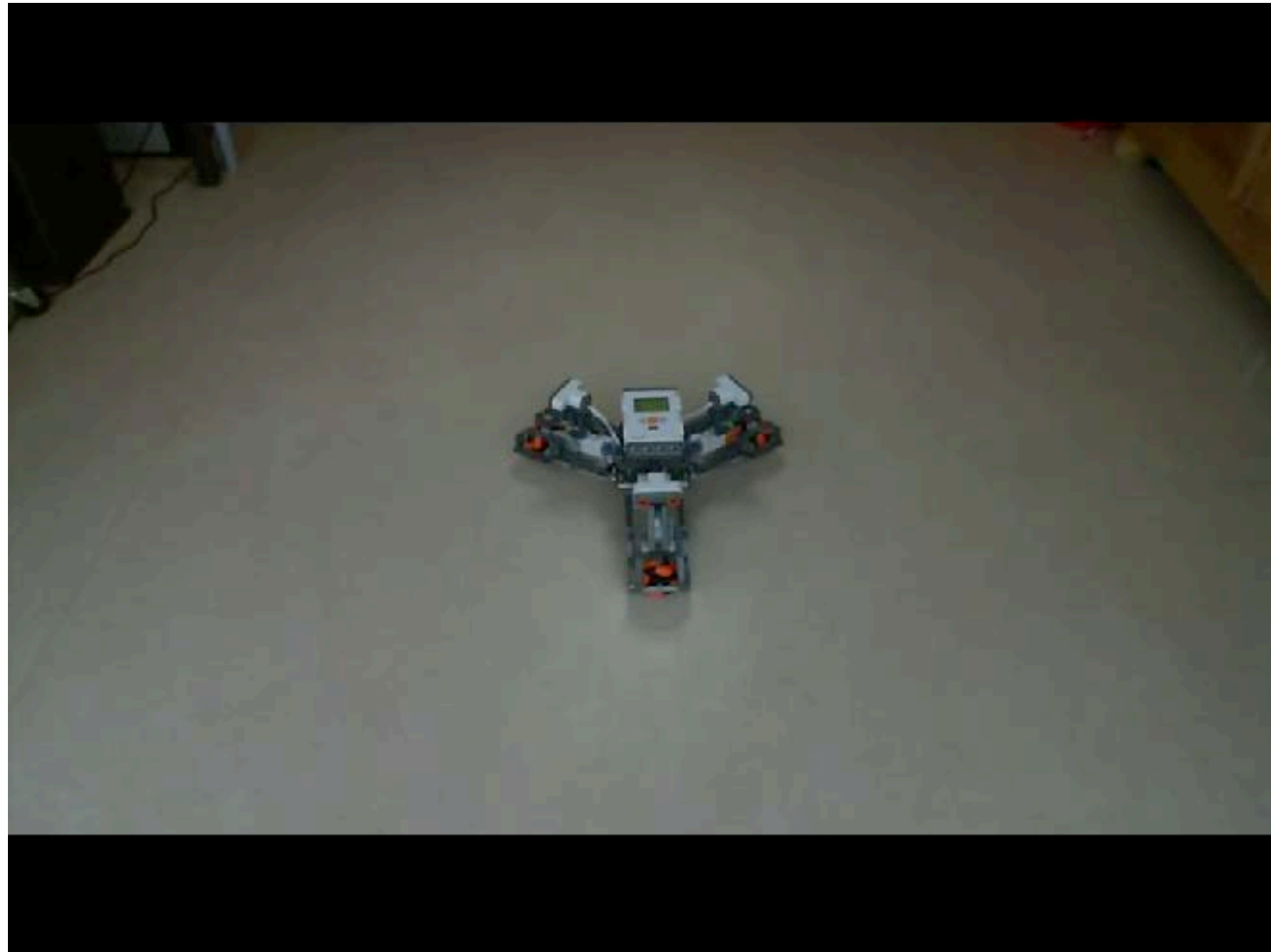
Holonomicity

- Does the Turtlebot have 2 DOFs, instead of 3?
- The Turtlebot can only move along 2 axes
 - linear: forward/backward
 - angular: turning

Turtlebot is nonholonomic



Holonomicity



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-IEjVsoiGo>

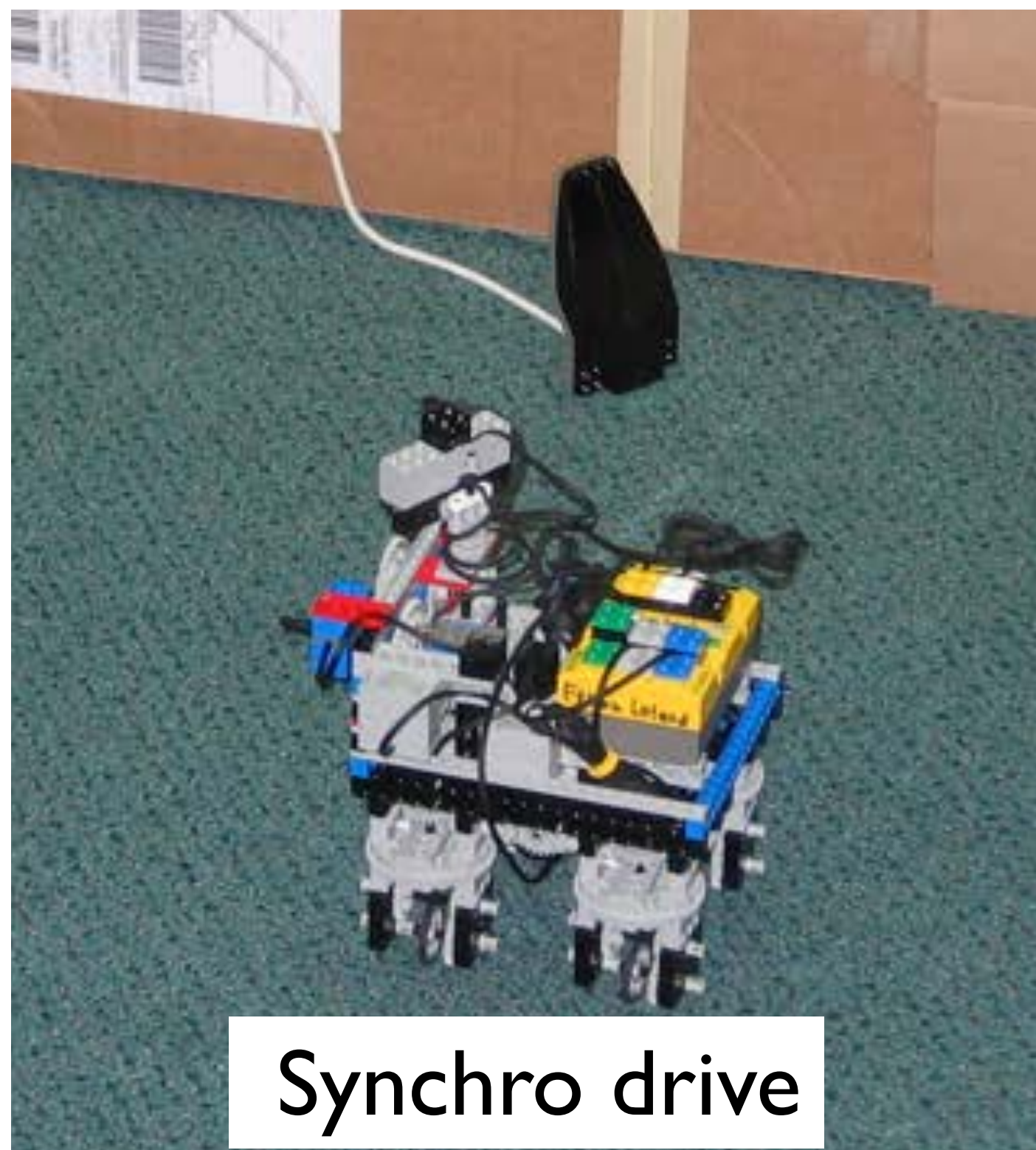


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ak17mdRg5I&t=75s>

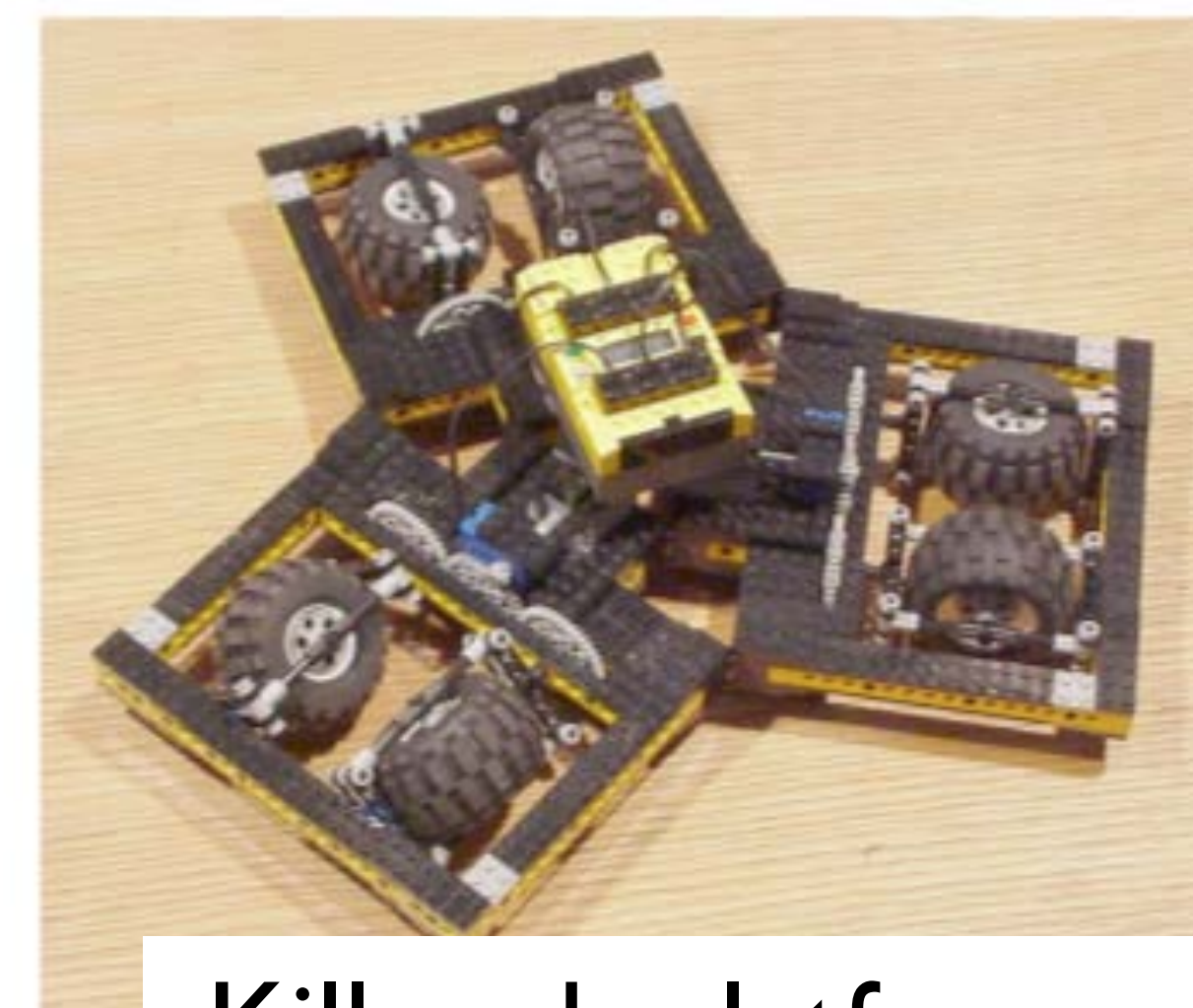
- A robot is holonomic if it can change its pose instantaneously to move in all directions
- Otherwise, the robot is nonholonomic

Holonomic mobile robot systems

Omni-wheel drive



Synchro drive



Killough platform

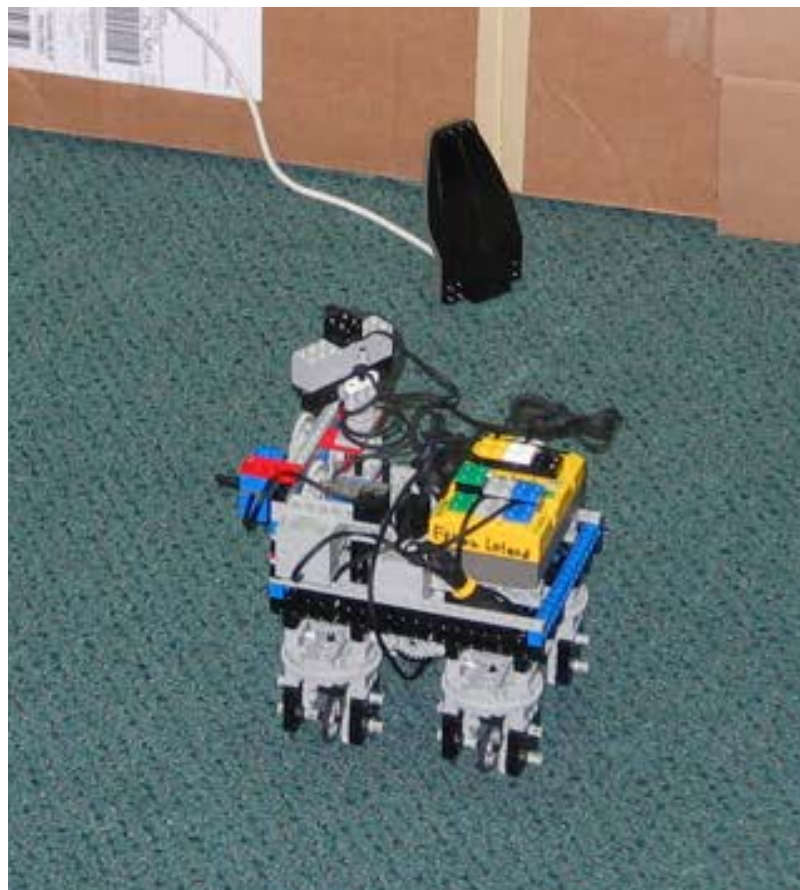


Mecanum wheels

E. Leland, Segway, robotthoughts.com



Synchro Drive



markclego, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THdu6QD8Roc>



KUKA YouBot with Mecanum wheels



Me teleoperating KUKA YouBot from my house via a web browser, http://youtu.be/sVrRiy0AM_w



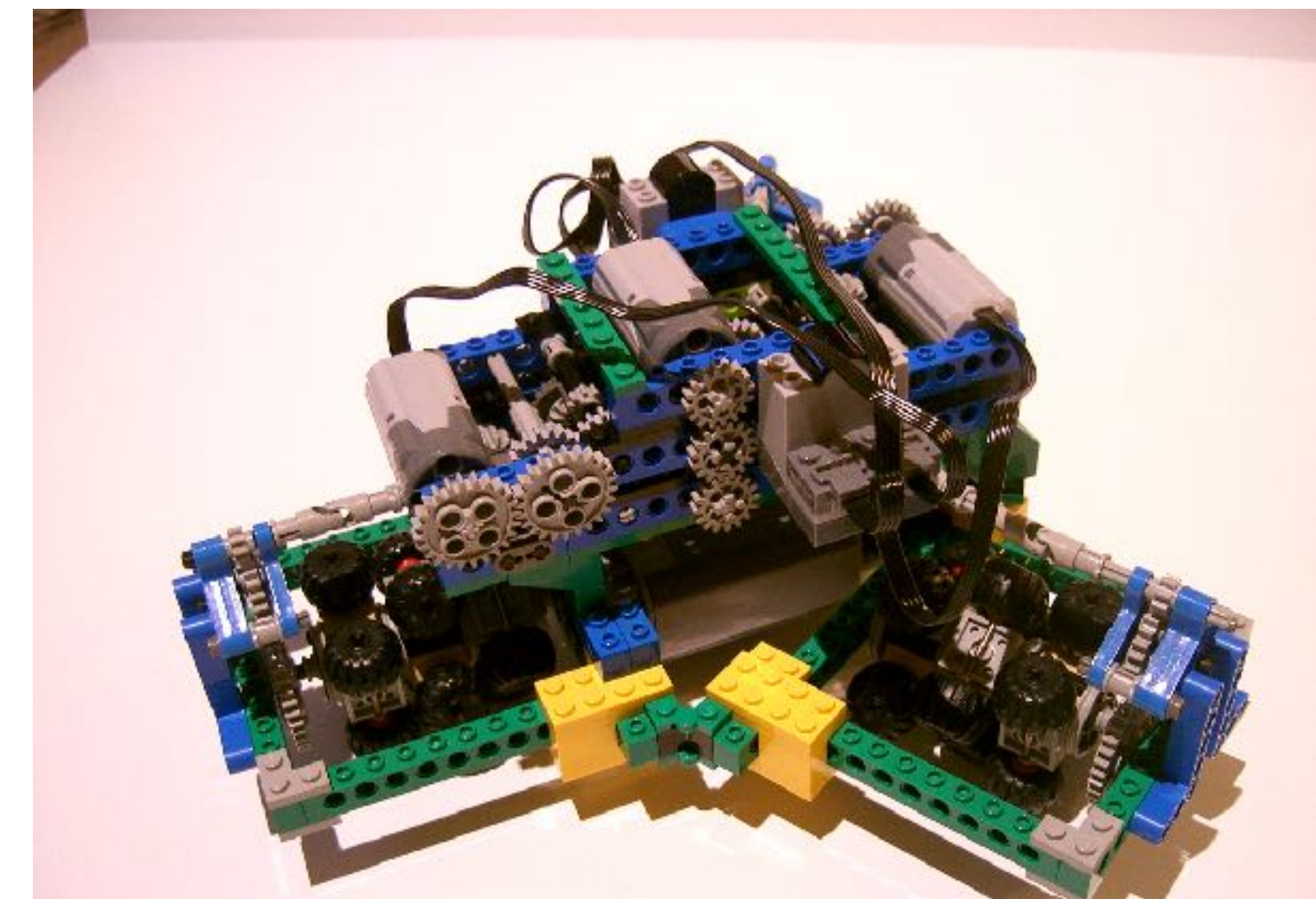
DJI Robomaster Racing



Japan Times, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52skH4Npnl>



Killough platform

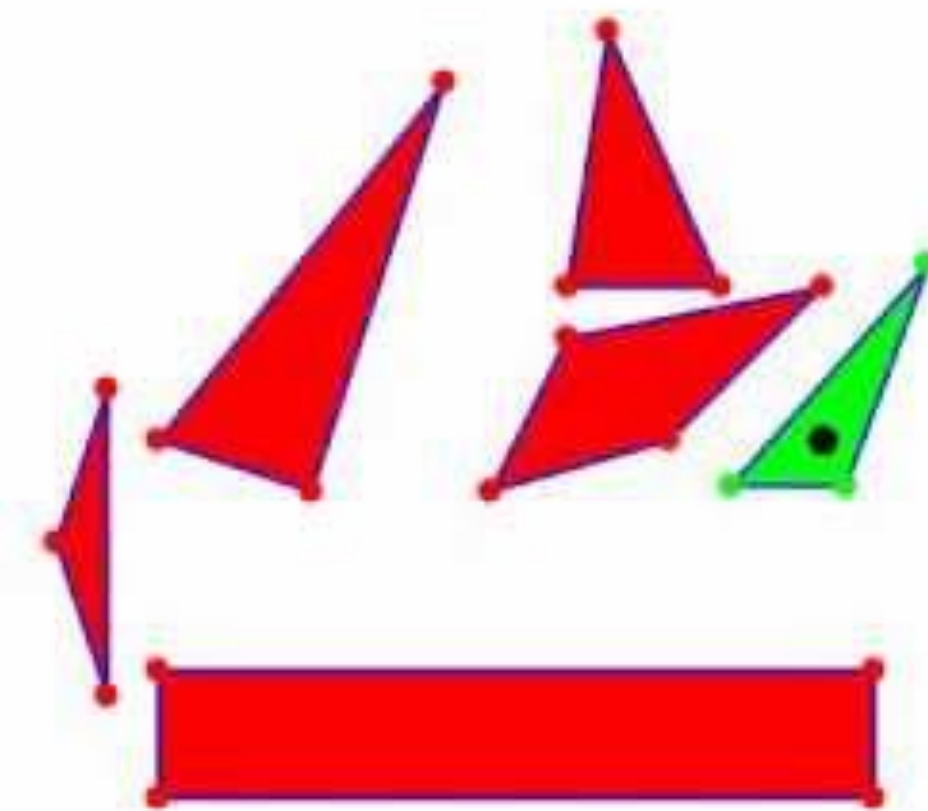
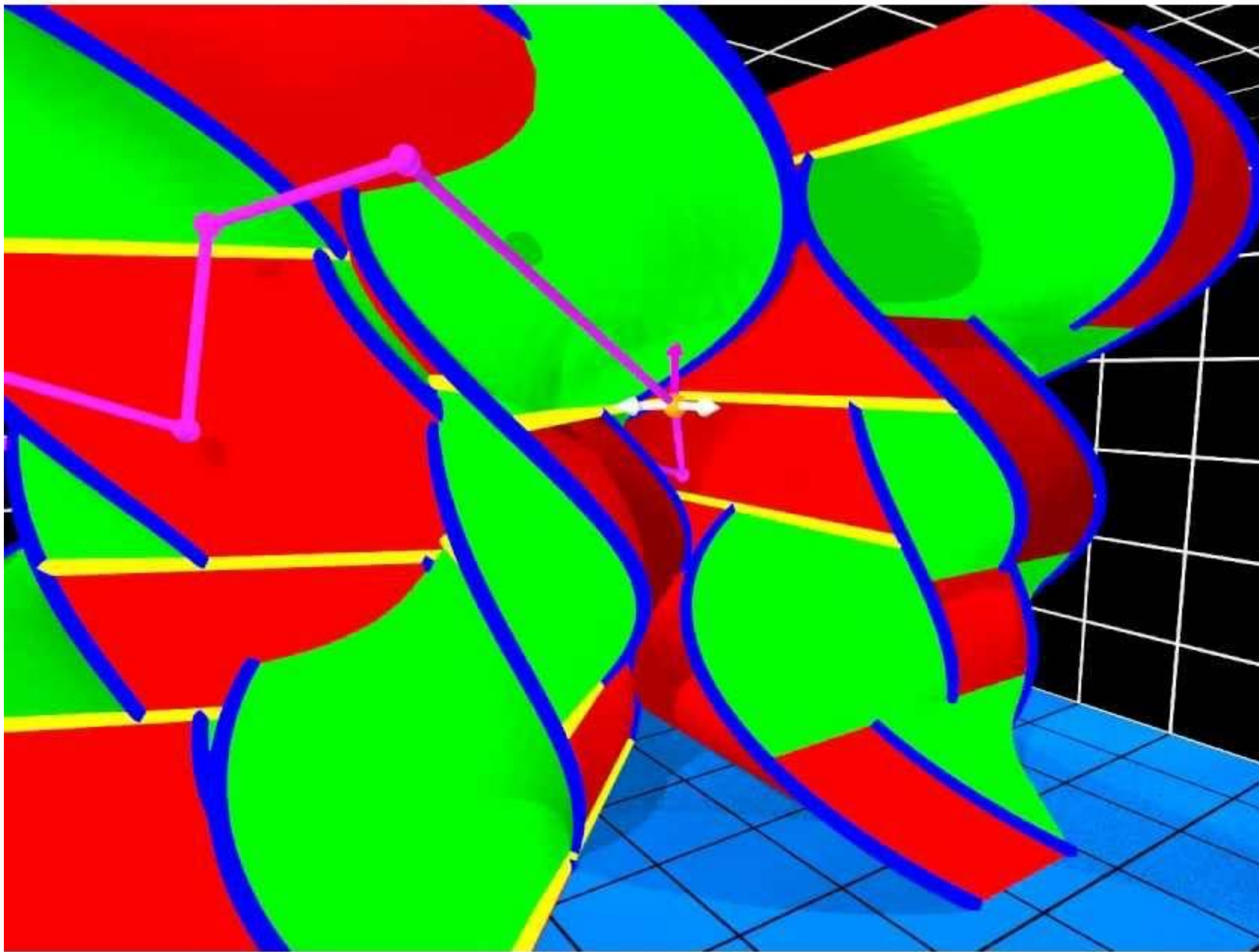


robotthoughts.com; http://technicbricks.blogspot.com/2008/08/going-to-all-places-in-all-directions_29.html

Recommended: D'Andrea on Omni-drive

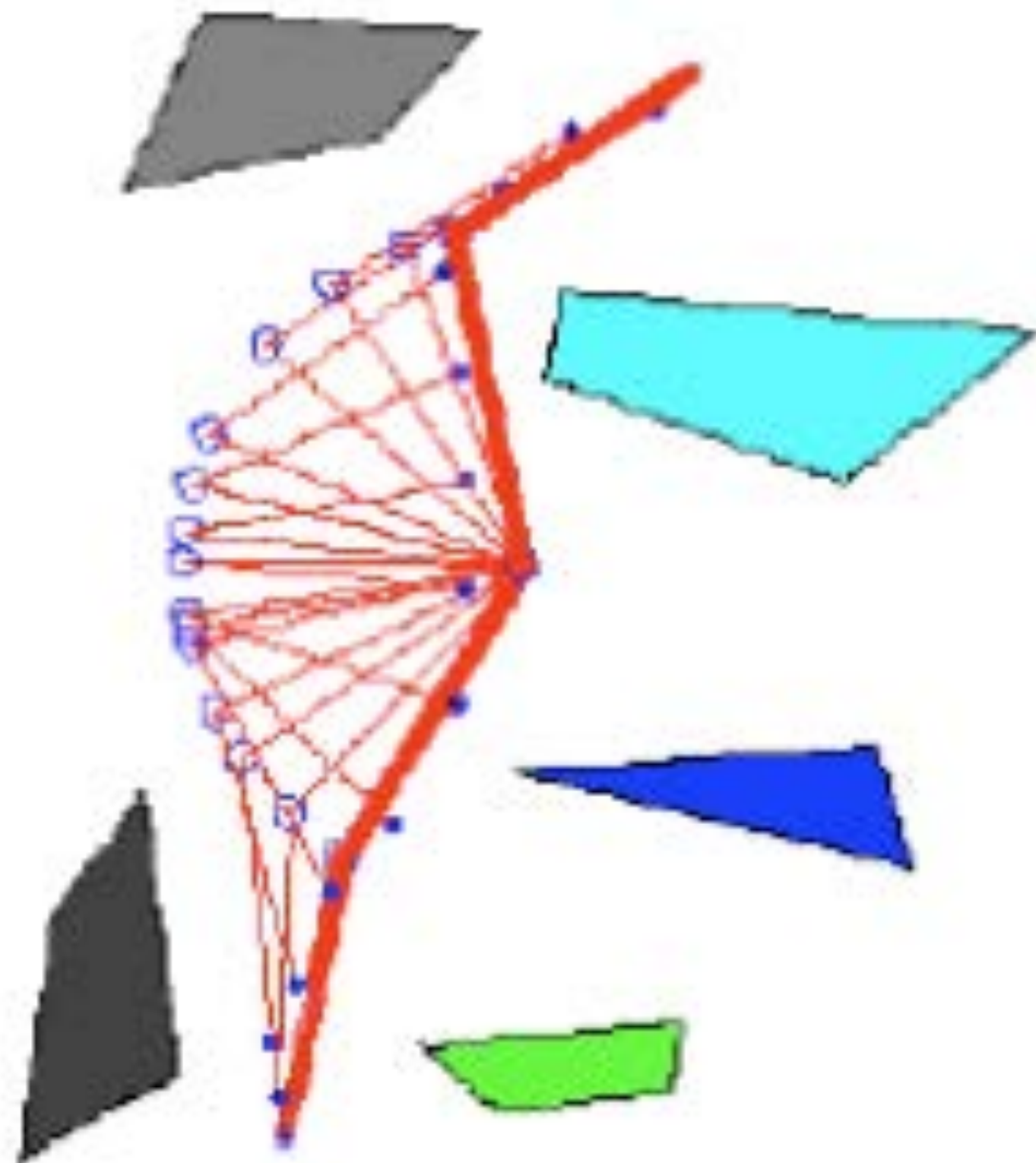


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_WI-C-ORso

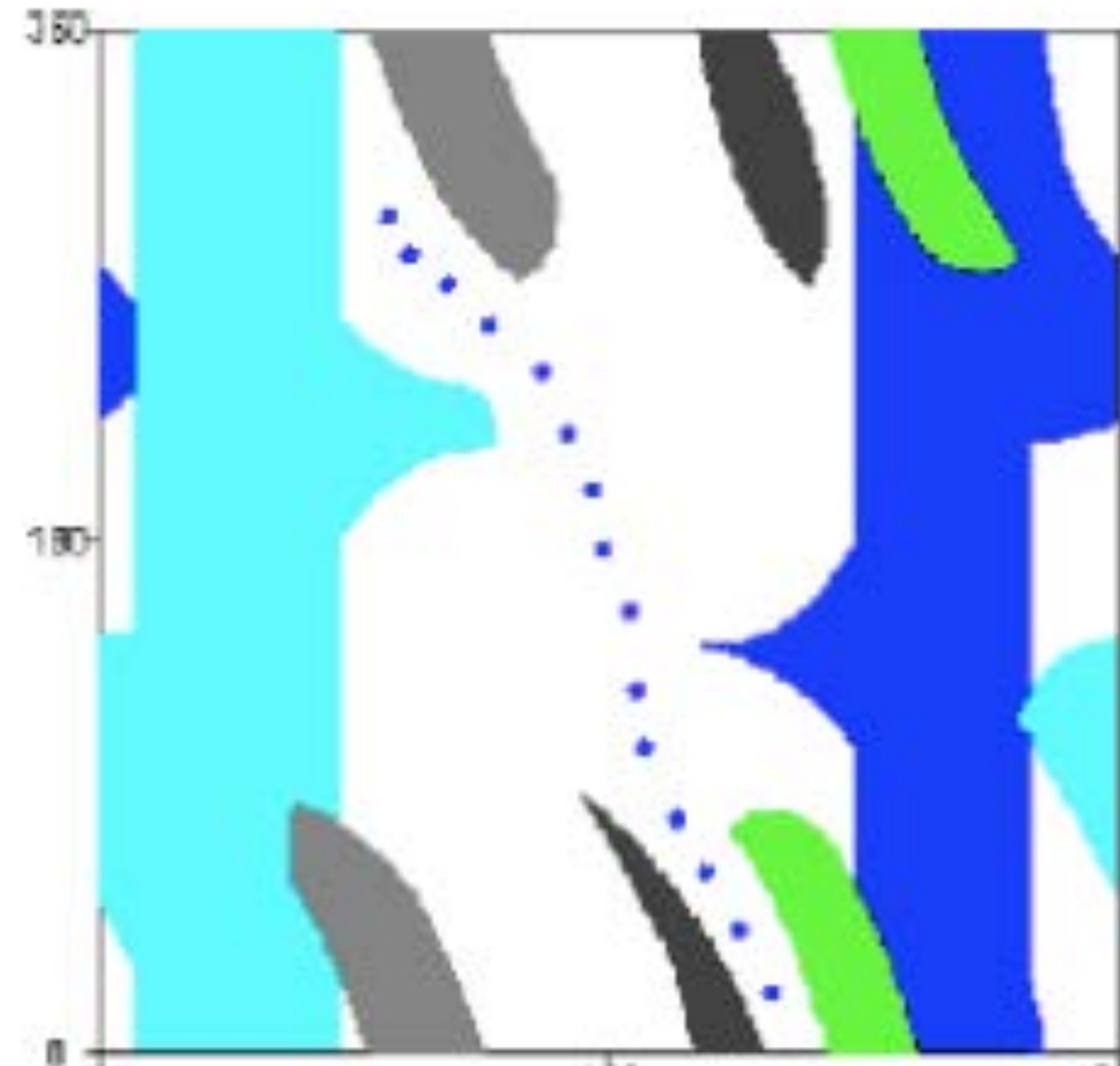


Visualization developed by Dror Atariah and Günter Rote - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBFwgR4K1Gk>

How do we search arbitrary C-spaces?



Arm navigation in workspace



C-space representation

How build graphs in arbitrary C-spaces?

Next Lecture

Planning - IV - Sampling-based Planning

