



Semnan University
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درس رباتیک

ROBOTICS

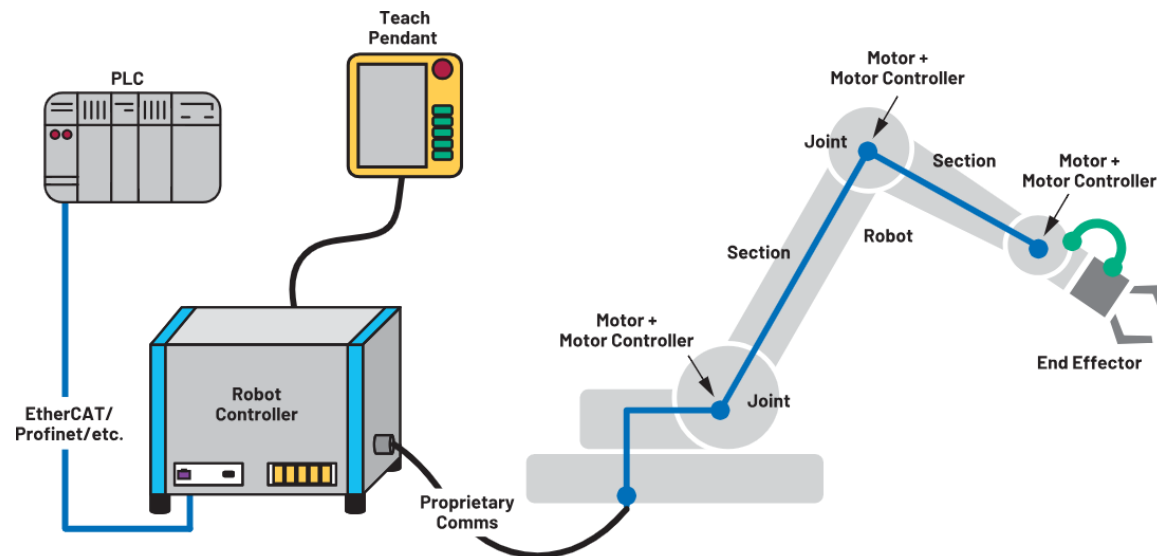
Chapter 6 – Control Architecture
Class Lecture

❑ CONTENTS:

- ❖ Chapter 1: Introduction
- ❖ Chapter 2: Kinematics
- ❖ Chapter 3: Differential Kinematics and Statics
- ❖ Chapter 4: Trajectory Planning
- ❖ Chapter 5: Actuators and Sensors
- ➔ ❖ Chapter 6: **Control Architecture**

6. CONTROL ARCHITECTURE

- ❑ A reference functional architecture of an industrial robot control system
- ❑ Emphasizing its hierarchical modular structure
 - ❖ Clarifies how robot functions are organized and executed
 - ❖ Defines programming requirements, such as abstraction levels and interfaces
 - ❖ Guides the hardware architecture by specifying control responsibilities at each level

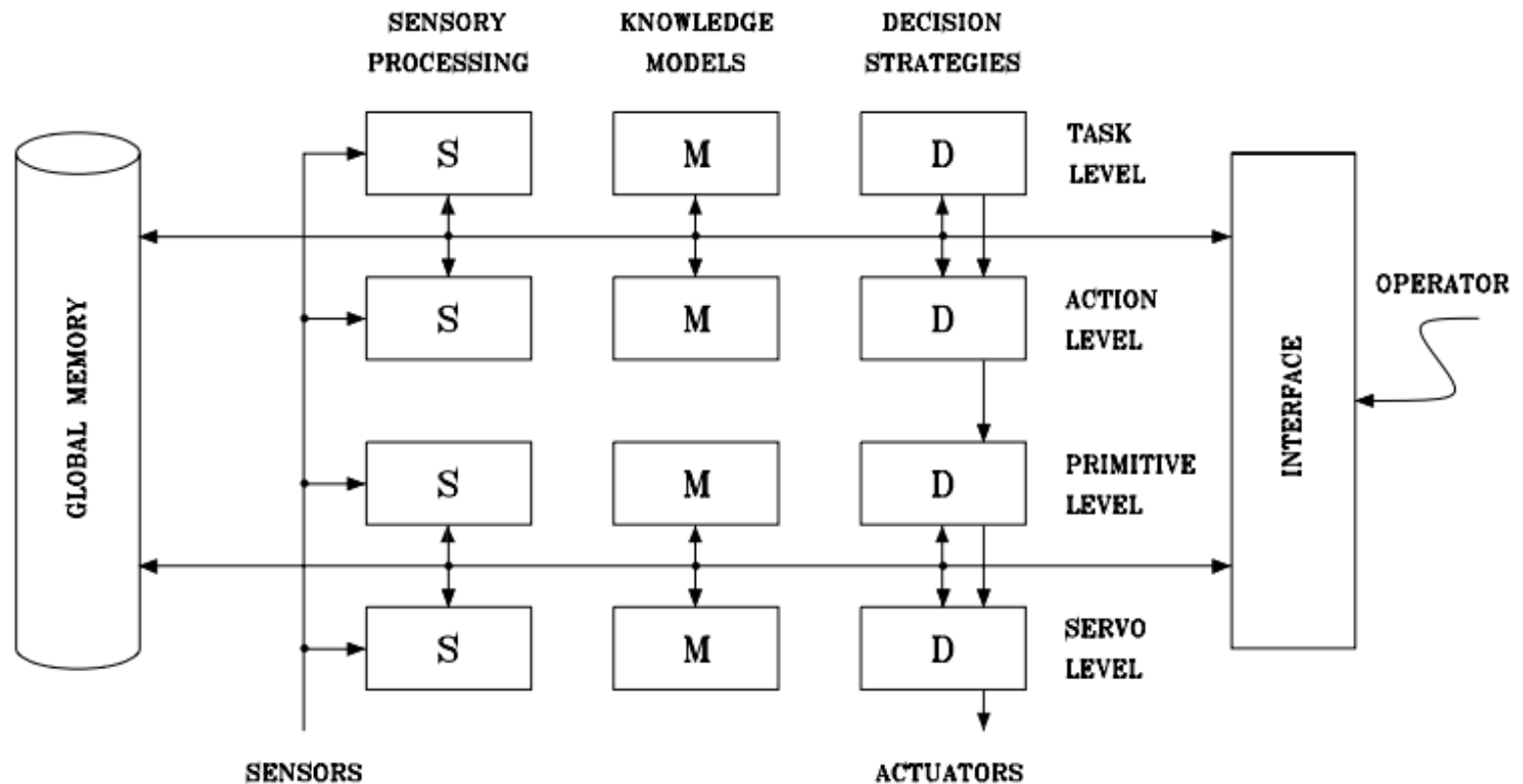


6.1 FUNCTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

- ❑ The control system to supervise the activities of a robotic system should be endowed with a number of tools providing the following functions:
 - ❖ Capability of moving physical objects in the working environment, i.e., manipulation ability
 - ❖ Capability of obtaining information on the state of the system and working environment, i.e., sensory ability
 - ❖ Capability of exploiting information to modify system behaviour in a preprogrammed manner, i.e., intelligence ability
 - ❖ Capability of storing, elaborating and providing data on system activity, i.e., data processing ability.

6.1 FUNCTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

- Reference model for a control system functional architecture



6.1 FUNCTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

❑ Task Level – High-Level Planning

- ❖ User-defined goal, specified in a symbolic or abstract form (e.g., "assemble part A to part B")
- ❖ The system analyzes and decomposes this task into elementary actions.
- ❖ Relies on a knowledge base (e.g., tools, parts, procedures) and sensor data (e.g., object locations via cameras or proximity sensors).
- ❖ Outputs: symbolic actions (like "move to part", "pick", "assemble")

6.1 FUNCTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

❑ Action Level – Path Planning

- ❖ Translates symbolic actions into specific motion paths or intermediate configurations
- ❖ Decides:
 - ✓ Coordinate system (e.g., joint space vs operational space)
 - ✓ Separation of translation and rotation
 - ✓ Path planning (e.g., via points, interpolation)
- ❖ Checks for feasibility
 - ✓ Collision avoidance, joint limits, singularities, and use of redundancy
- ❖ Uses a geometric/environmental model and receives updates from range or low-level vision sensors.

6.1 FUNCTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

□ Primitive Level – Trajectory and Control Preparation

- ❖ Computes detailed motion trajectories from paths provided by the action level
- ❖ Determines:
 - ✓ Trajectory interpolation (for smooth execution)
 - ✓ Control strategy (e.g., centralized, decentralized, impedance control)
 - ✓ Gains and transformations (like inverse kinematics)
- ❖ Uses the dynamic model of the manipulator
- ❖ Sensory feedback (like force sensors) is used to detect and handle conflicts between plan and execution.

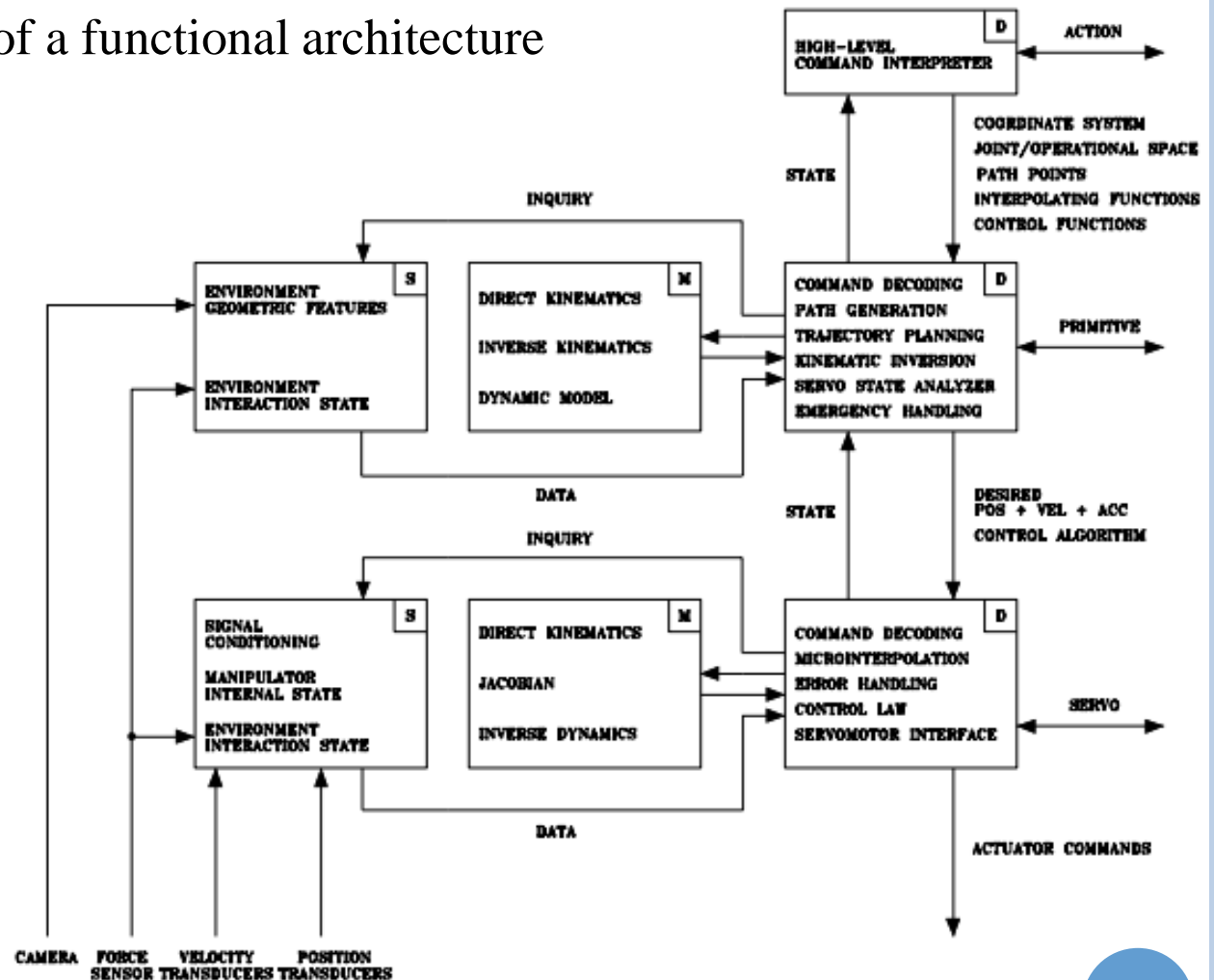
6.1 FUNCTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

❑ Servo Level – Low-Level Control

- ❖ Executes real-time control laws to drive the robot's actuators (motors)
- ❖ Performs:
 - ✓ Microinterpolation for precise motion,
 - ✓ Computation of control signals (e.g., voltage, current)
 - ✓ Error correction using sensor feedback (from proprioceptive sensors)
- ❖ Ensures smooth and accurate trajectory following based on the kinematic/dynamic models.

6.1 FUNCTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

- Hierarchical levels of a functional architecture for industrial robots



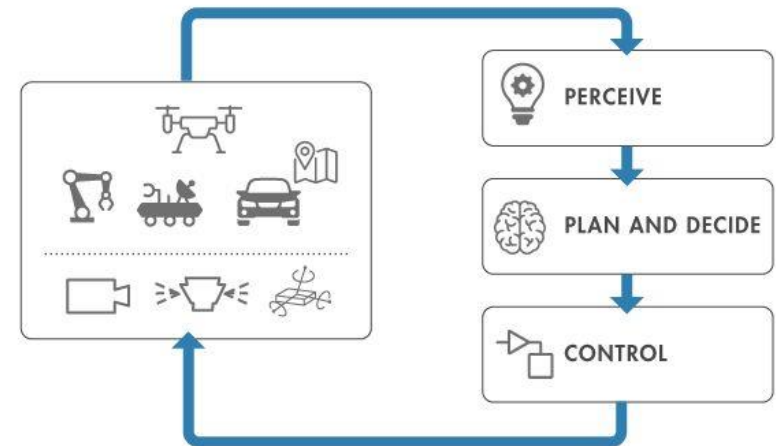
6.2 PROGRAMMING ENVIRONMENT

- ❖ Programming Environment: Provides tools and languages for task definition
- ❖ Task Instructions: Operators use the environment to specify robot actions
- ❖ Translation Function: Converts high-level commands into executable instructions
- ❖ Monitoring Function: Checks and verifies correct task execution
- ❖ Unique Challenges: Impacts the physical world, not just virtual outcomes
- ❖ Unexpected situations may occur despite accurate models
- ❖ Key Difference from Traditional Programming: Must handle real-world unpredictability

6.2 PROGRAMMING ENVIRONMENT

❑ A robot programming environment features:

- ❖ Real-time operating system
- ❖ World modelling
- ❖ Motion control
- ❖ Sensory data reading
- ❖ Interaction with physical system
- ❖ Error detection capability
- ❖ Recovery of correct operational functions
- ❖ Specific language structure



6.2 PROGRAMMING ENVIRONMENT

❑ 6.2.1 Teaching-by-Showing

- ❖ Basic Concept: Operator manually guides the robot or uses a teach pendant
- ❖ Motion Storage: Joint positions are recorded for later playback
- ❖ No Logic Handling: Lacks capabilities for logic or sequence control
- ❖ Low Technical Barrier: Plant technicians can program without special skills
- ❖ Robot Downtime: Robot must be offline during teaching
- ❖ Common Uses: Spot welding, spray painting, simple palletizing
- ❖ Can be improved by advanced control algorithms

6.2 PROGRAMMING ENVIRONMENT

❑ 6.2.2 Robot-oriented Programming

- ❖ Improved by Low-Cost Computing: Enabled development of structured, robot-specific languages.
- ❖ Integration of Functions: Combines high-level language features (e.g., BASIC, PASCAL) with robotics-specific needs.
- ❖ Still Supports Teaching-by-Showing: Retains compatibility with early methods.
- ❖ Requires Skilled Programmers: Operator must be fluent in structured languages.
- ❖ Supports Offline Programming: Programs can be developed without the robot, ideal for structured environments.
- ❖ Enables Complex Applications: Suitable for tasks like assembly in work cells with other machines.
- ❖ Functional Access Level: Operator works at the action level.

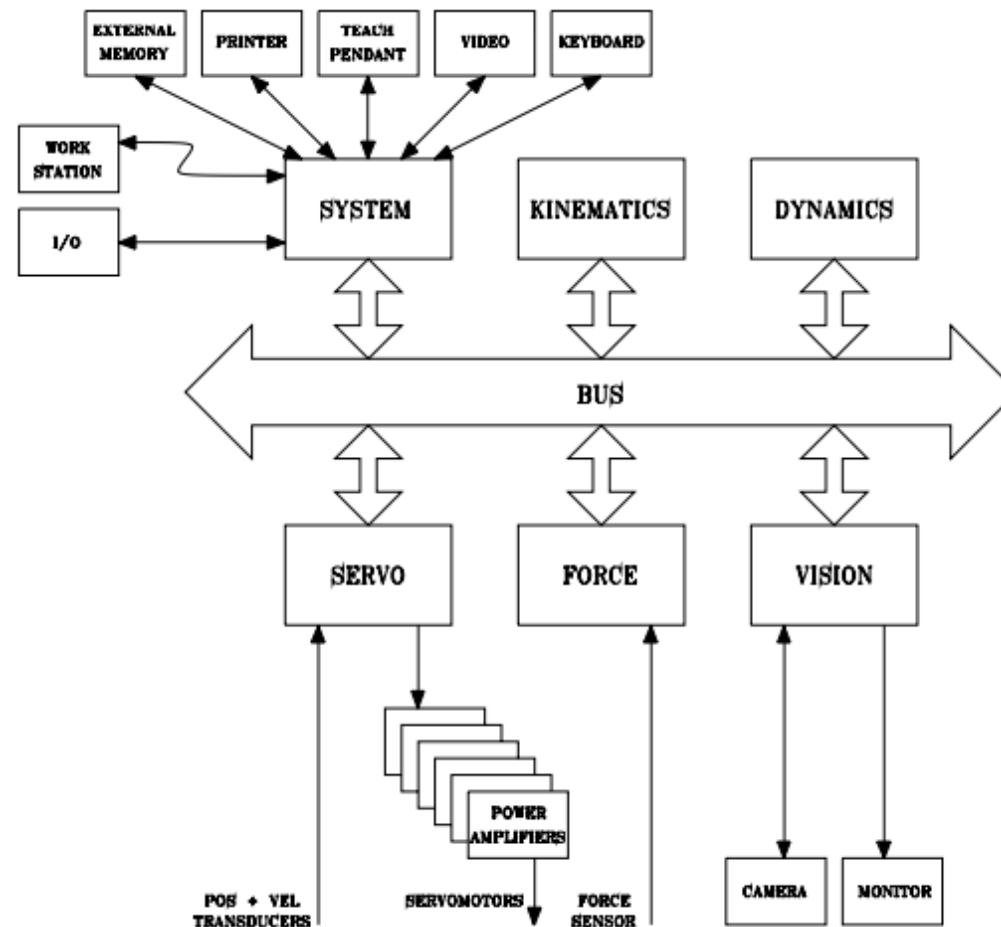


6.3 HARDWARE ARCHITECTURE

- ❑ Hierarchical Functional Structure: Control system follows a layered model
- ❑ Distributed Implementation: Functions are mapped to distributed computational boards
- ❑ Communication Infrastructure: Boards connected via a high-speed bus system
- ❑ Real-Time Performance:
 - ❖ Servo and primitive levels require high real-time computing
 - ❖ Action level still has limited implementation in most systems
- ❑ Bus Bandwidth: Must be sufficient to handle real-time data flow between modules

6.3 HARDWARE ARCHITECTURE

- General model of the hardware architecture of an industrial robot's control system



6.3 HARDWARE ARCHITECTURE

- ❑ The system board is typically a CPU endowed with:
 - ❖ A microprocessor with mathematical coprocessor
 - ❖ A bootstrap EPROM (Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory) memory
 - ❖ A local RAM memory
 - ❖ A RAM memory shared with the other boards through the bus
 - ❖ A number of serial and parallel ports interfacing the bus and the external world
 - ❖ Counters, registers and timers

6.3 HARDWARE ARCHITECTURE

❑ Additional Processing Power:

- ❖ Boards may include extra processors
- ❖ Purpose: To handle computationally intensive or specialized tasks
- ❖ Architecture: complement the basic system board and integrated via the bus system

❑ The other boards

- ❖ Kinematics board
- ❖ Dynamics board
- ❖ Servo board
- ❖ Force board
- ❖ Vision board