

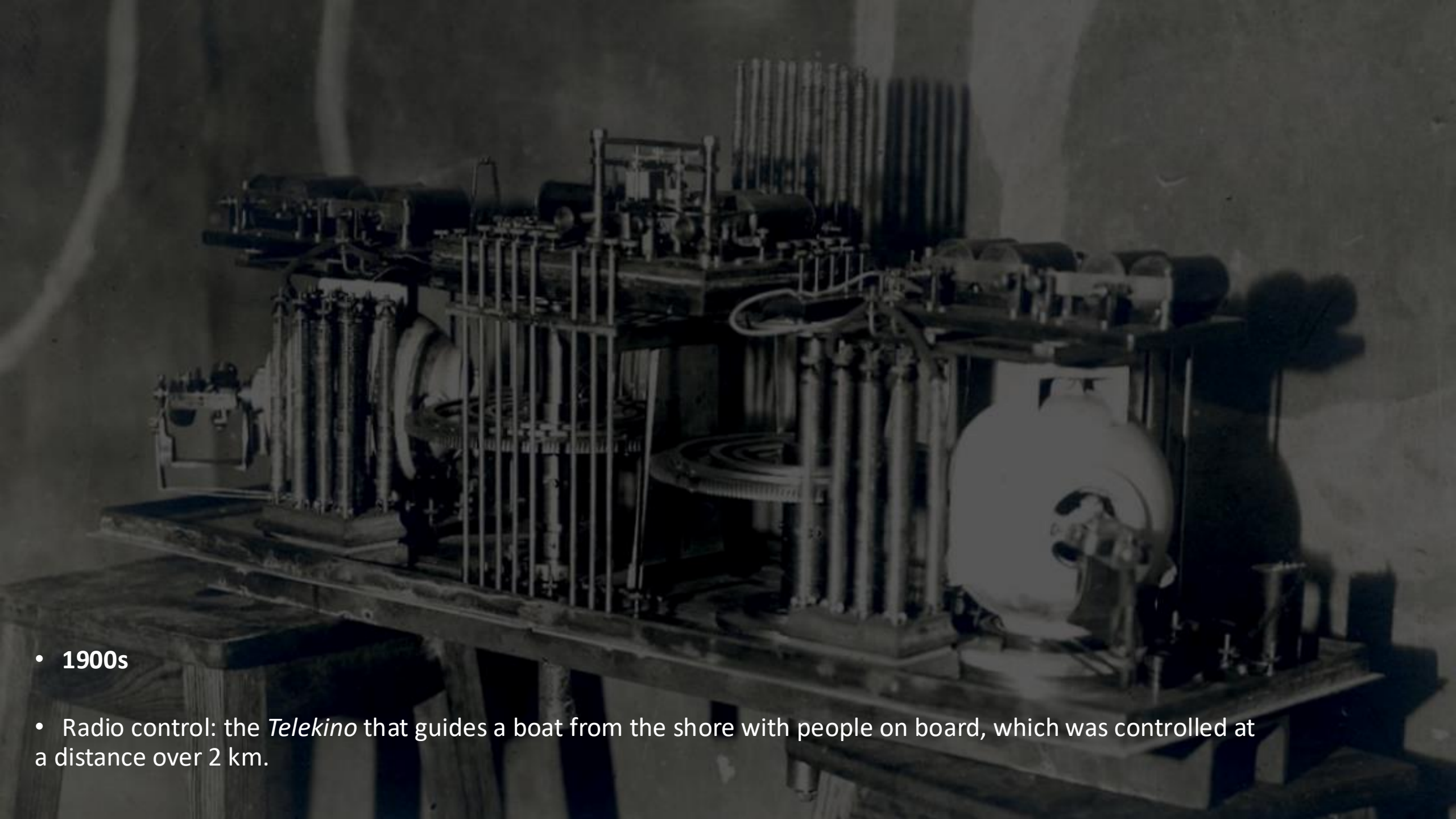
ELEC 5530/6530

Robot Control

Lecture 1: Introduction

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Electrical and Computer Engineering
Auburn University
Spring 2026

-
- **History**
 - **Concepts**
 - **Examples**



- 1900s

- Radio control: the *Telekino* that guides a boat from the shore with people on board, which was controlled at a distance over 2 km.

From **remote control** (human-in-the-loop) to **automation**

1910s



El Ajedrecista: had a true integrated automation built to play chess without human guidance

1920s



Human-Robot Interaction

Eric: one of the first **humanoid robots** was exhibited
move its hands/head controlled by remote control or voice control



Elektro: 1939,
Seven feet tall (2.1 m) and weighing 265 pounds (120 kg), it could walk by voice command, speak about 700 words, smoke cigarettes, blow up balloons, and move its head and arms.

- The earliest designs of industrial robots in the United States.
- These manipulators had joints modelled on human shoulder-arm-wrist kinetics to replicate human motions like pulling, pushing, pressing and lifting.

The Industrial & Modern Era (1950s–1980s)

1954



"represents the foundation of the modern robotics industry."

Unimate-the first digitally operated and programmable robot

1976



A GBU-10 Paveway II, an American laser-guided bomb, based on the Mk 84 general-purpose bomb, but with laser seeker and wings for guidance.



1983

KUKA IR 160/60 Robots

- Industrial robots for factory automation
- BMW, GM, Chrysler, Ford, Volvo, Volkswagen

The Collaborative Era (1990s)

1990s

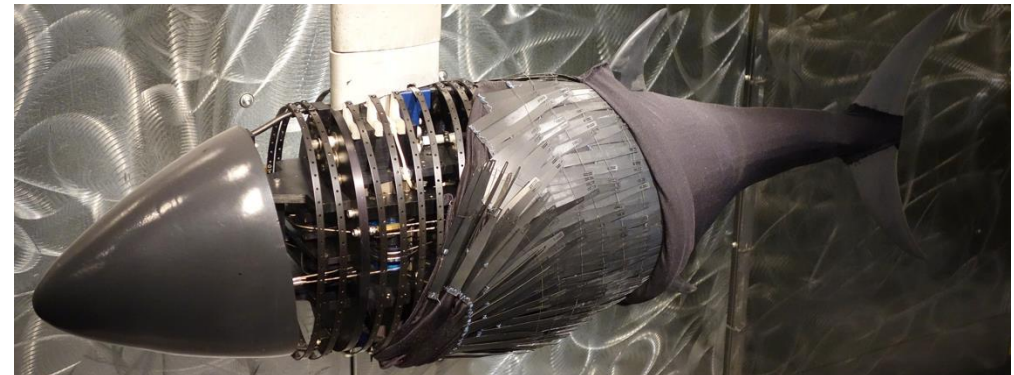


Sensors allow collaborative robots (cobots) to interact directly with humans

Robotic dog capable of interacting with humans-Sony



RoboTuna- MIT



The Era of Autonomy (2000s)



Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Global Hawk

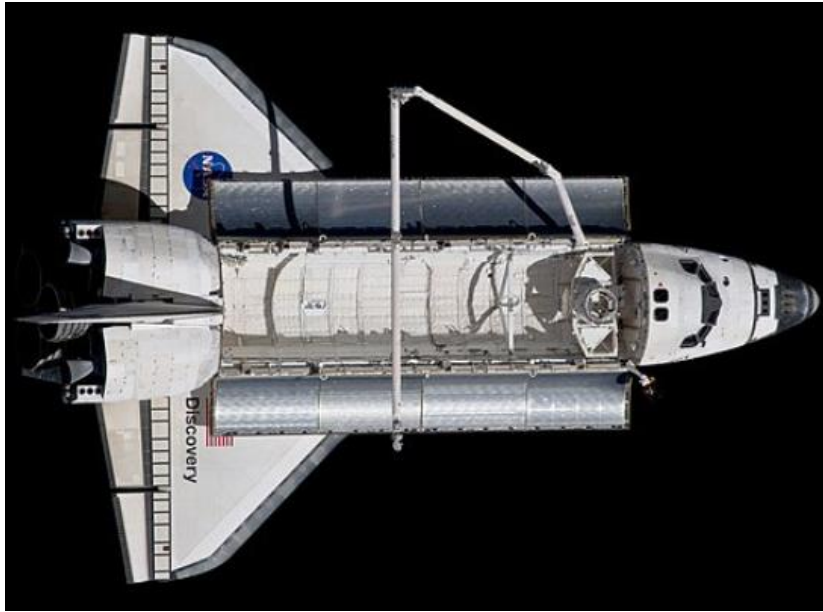


Space Station Remote Manipulator System

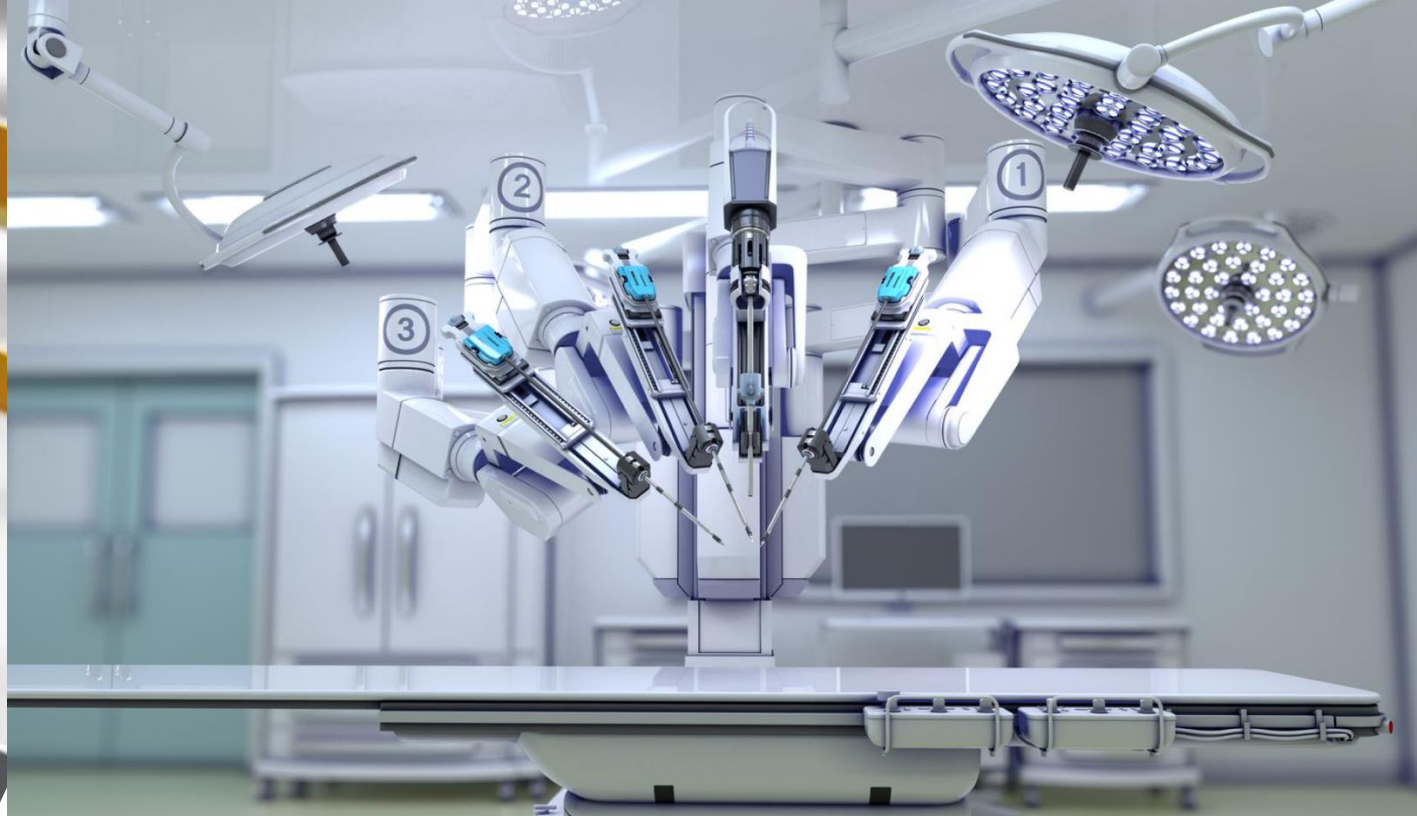
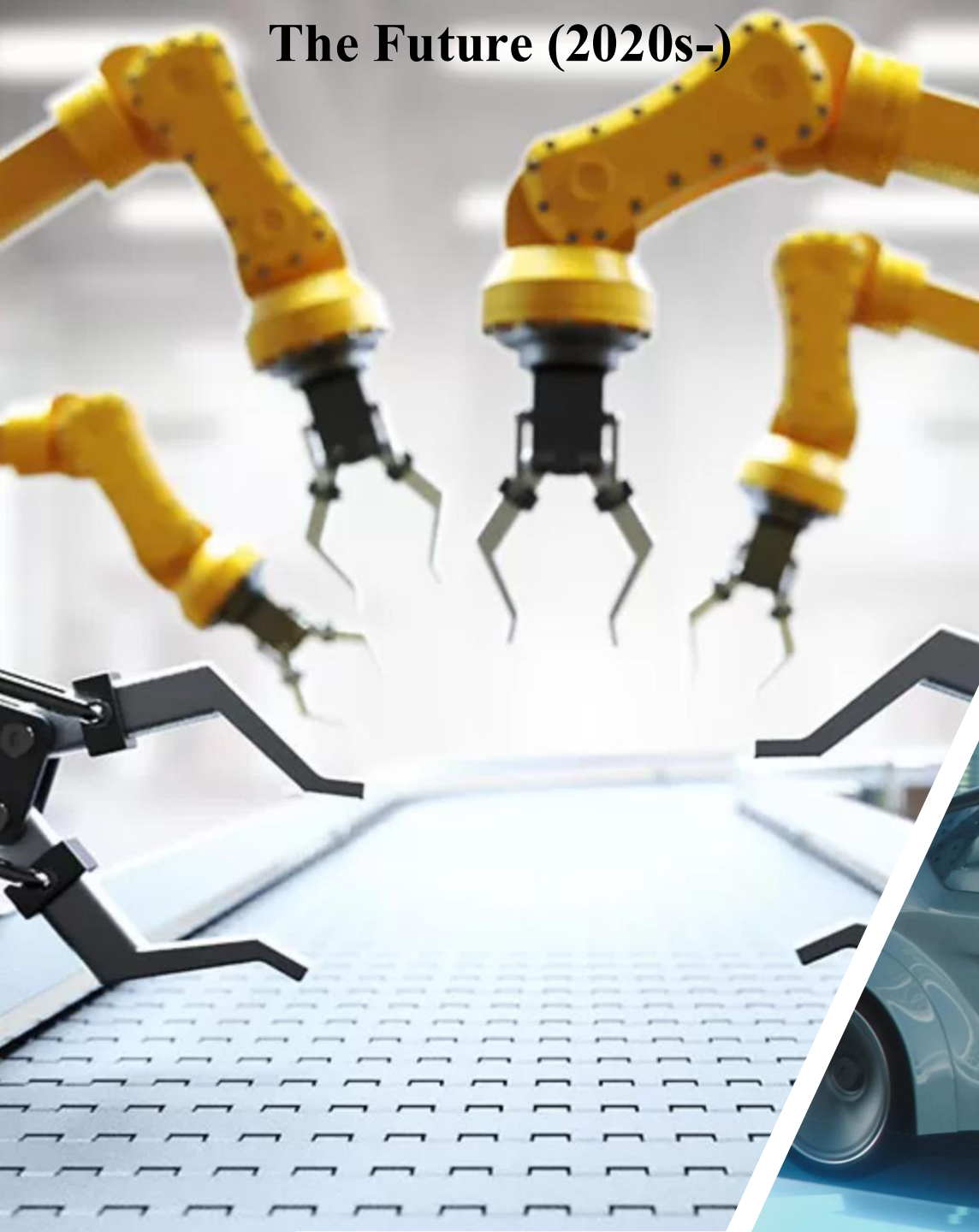


Self-driving Cars

The Social & Integrated Era (2010s)



The Future (2020s-)



Joints

Links

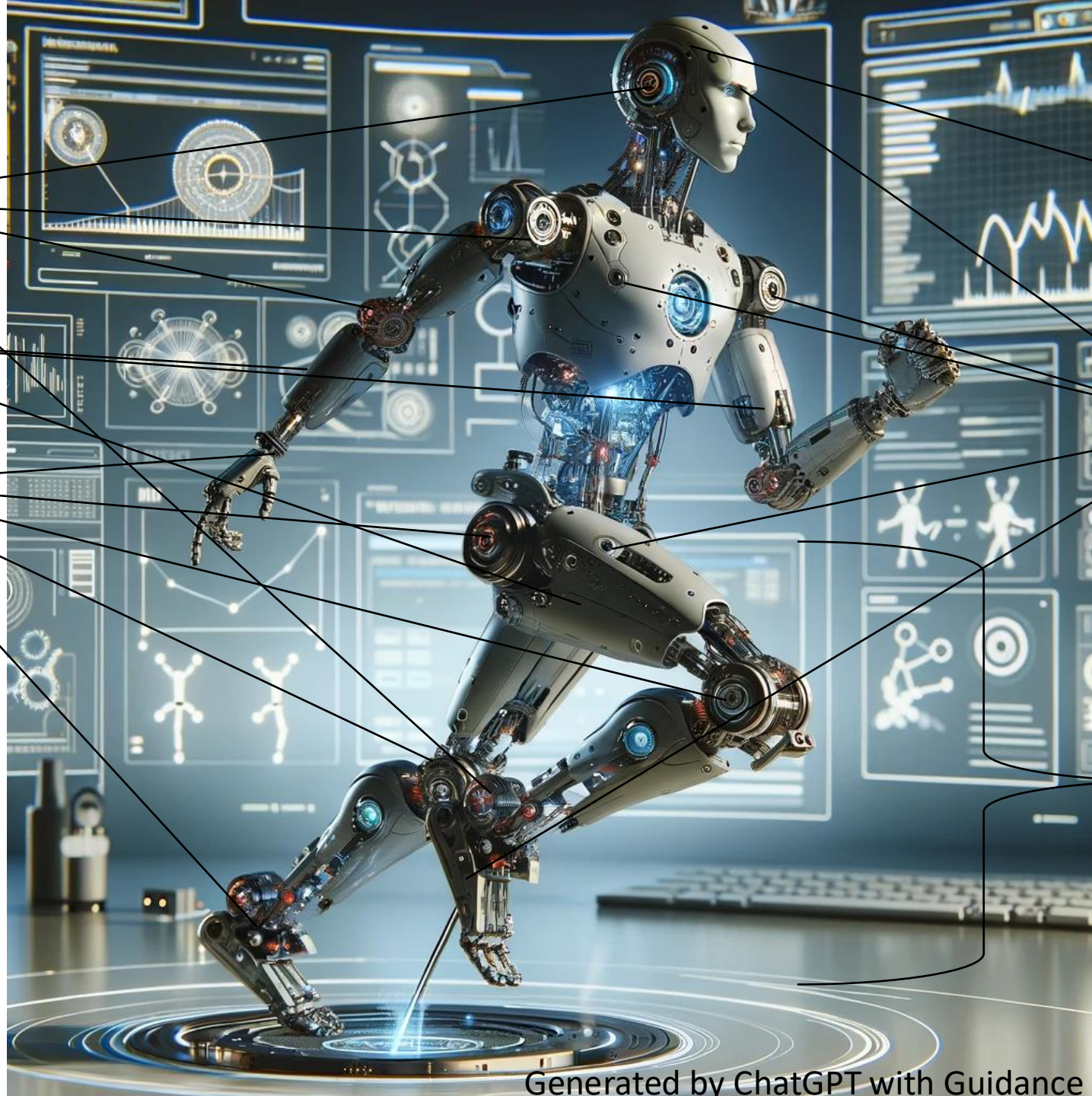
Actuators

Control Systems

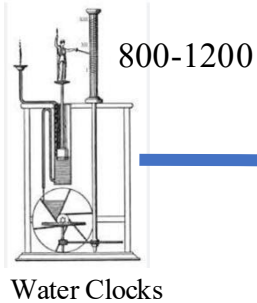
Control Algorithms

Sensors

Robot Kinematics
and Dynamics



Generated by ChatGPT with Guidance



Newton



Leibniz

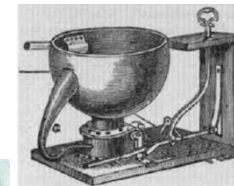
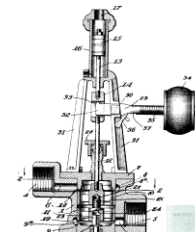


Bernoulli

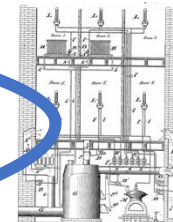


Riccati

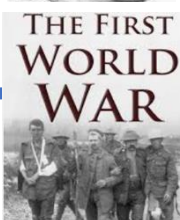
1600-1700



1769- *Industrial Revolution*



1910-



1870- *Stability Theory*

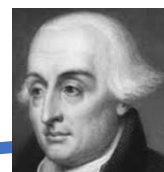


1800-1870

Birth of Mathematical Control Theory



Hamilton



Lagrange



Airy

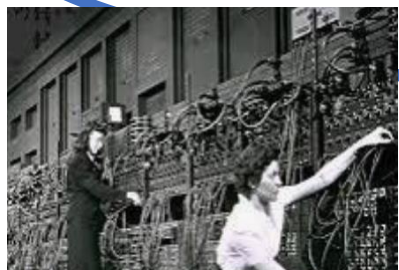
Differential equations

Dynamical systems

Frequency-Domain Analysis

Ship Control, Weapons Development, Radiation

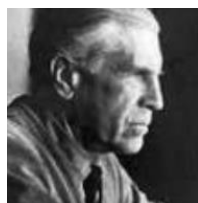
1940



-Time-Domain Design
-Nonlinear Control Theory



1960s
Optimal Control
Estimation Theory



1980-
Optimal Control
Model Predictive Control
Sliding Mode Control
Adaptive Control
Fuzzy Logic Control
Neural Network Control
Robust Control
Hybrid and Switched Control
Game Theory
Graph Theory

2000-
Multiagent Systems
Reinforcement Learning
Deep Neural Networks



Definitions of "robot"

What exactly is a robot? This actually turns out to be a rather difficult question. Several definitions exist, including the following:

"A reprogrammable, multifunctional manipulator designed to move material, parts, tools, or specialized devices through various programmed motions for the performance of a variety of task."
- Robot Institute of America, 1979

"An automatic device that performs functions normally ascribed to humans or a machine in the form of a human."
-Webster's Dictionary

"a reprogrammable manipulator device"
-British Department of Industry

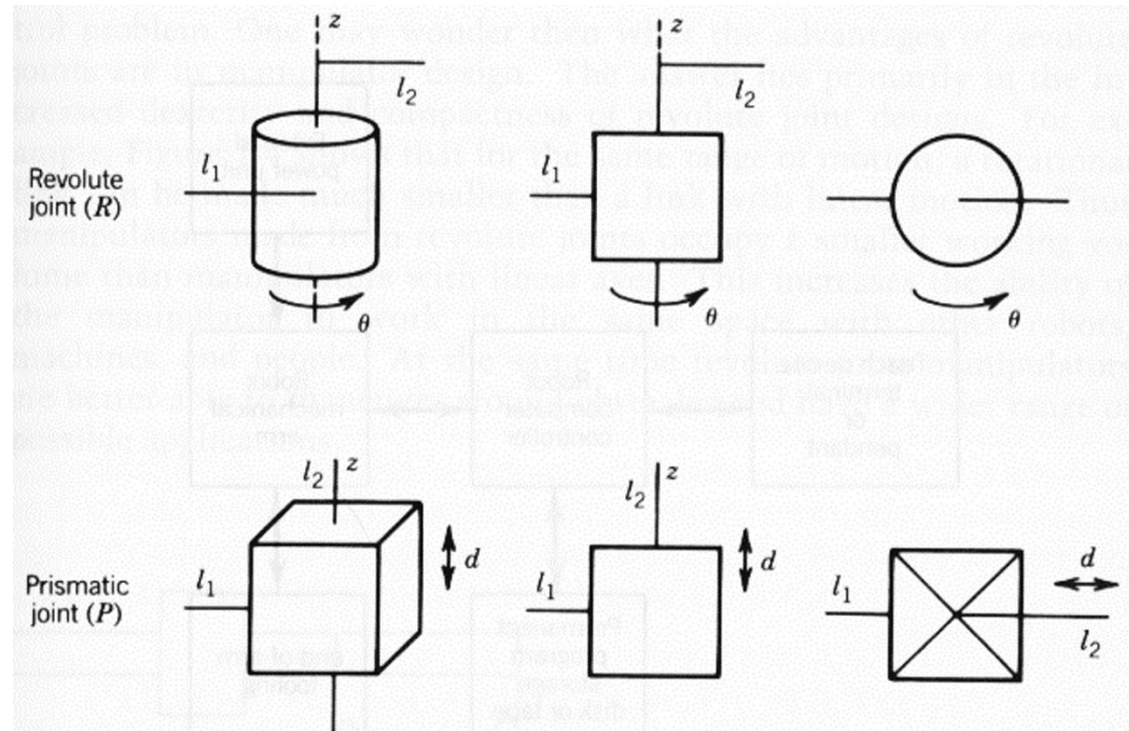
"Robotics is that field concerned with the intelligent connection of perception to action."
-Mike Brady

❑ Robot manipulators (This course)

- Robot manipulators are composed of links connected by joints into an open kinematic chain.

- **Joints**

- Rotary/revolute
- Linear/prismatic



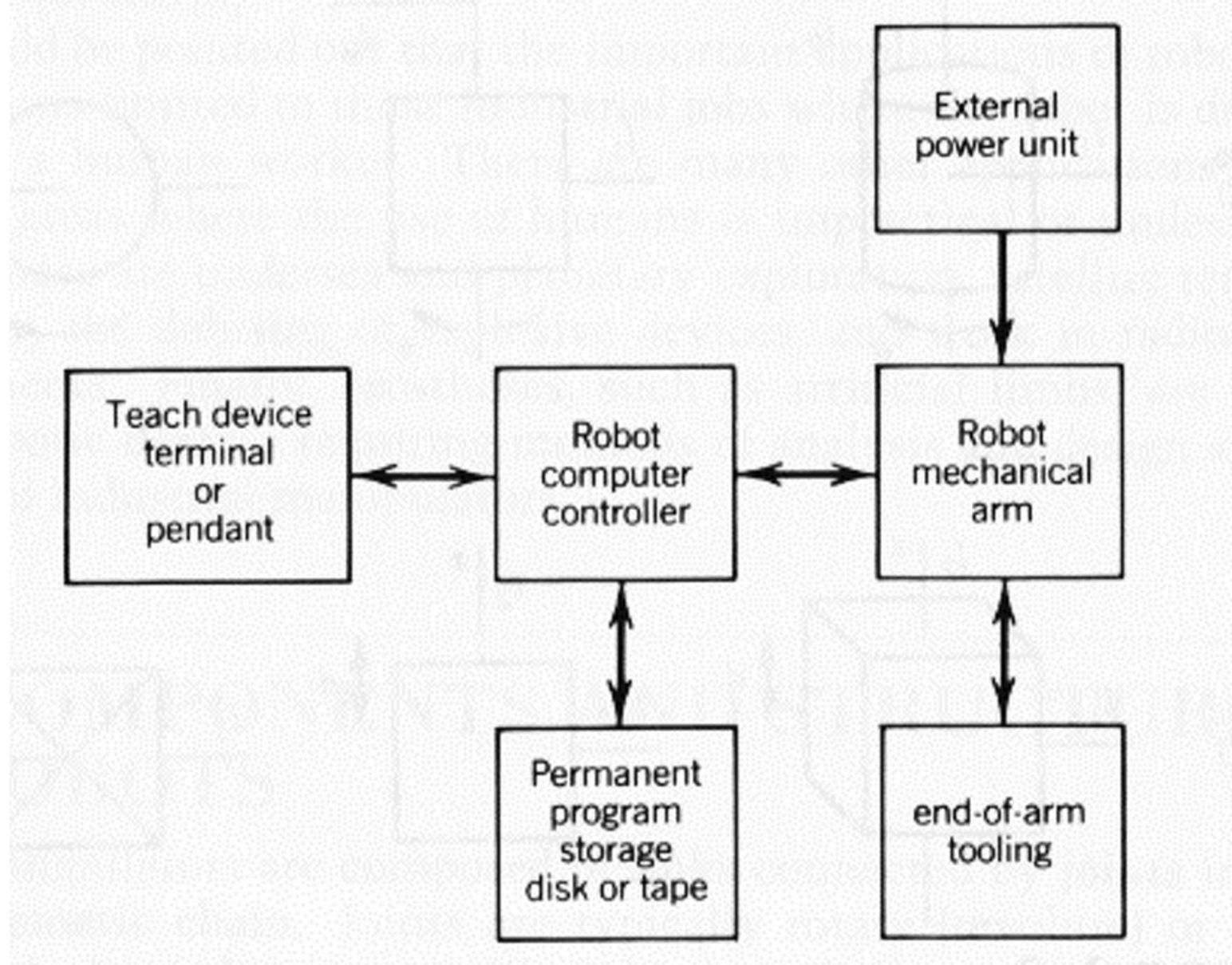
- Degree of freedom-the number of joints
- Three for positioning and three for orientation

Collaborative Robot



Balance Master Manipulator Arm





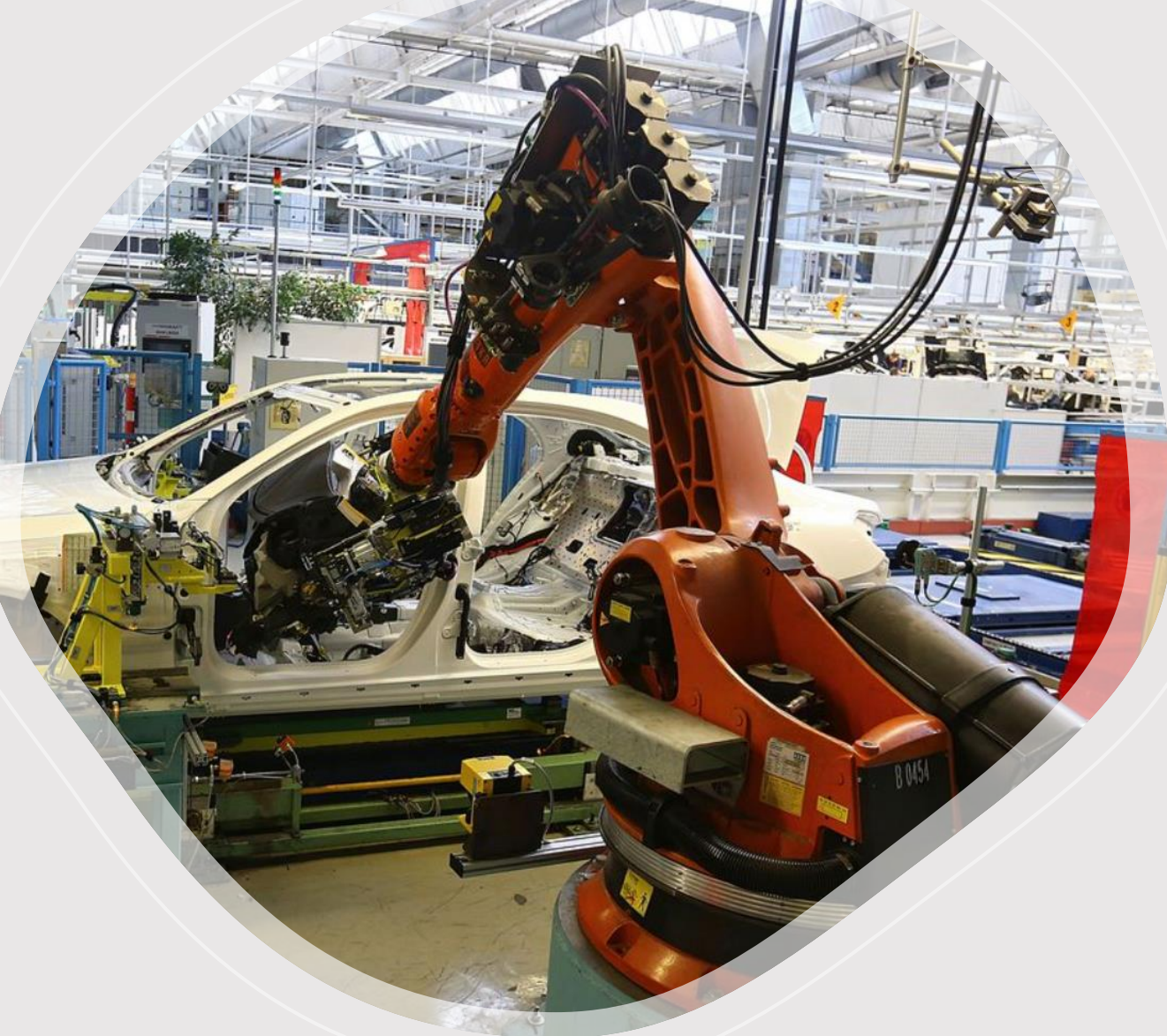
Components of robots



Examples

- Arm Robot with R-30ib Controller

- Robotic Arms for Distribution



Arm for manufacturing

Arm for electric welding

