

Kinematics and IK

Manipulator Kinematics

Many slides adapted (with thanks!) from:
 Siegwart, Nourbakhsh and Scaramuzza, Autonomous Mobile Robots
 Renata Melamud, An Introduction to Robot Kinematics, CMU
 Rick Parent, Computer Animation, Ohio State
 Steve Rotenberg, Computer Animation, UCSD
 Angela Sodemann, www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVFhNv2NBo, ASU

Defining Frames for Joints

- What's the frame of reference for a joint?
 - Actually, completely flexible
- We usually choose:
 - 1 axis through the center of rotation/direction of displacement
 - 2 more perpendicular to that
 - Which can be any orientation!
- We can move the origin
 - P is no longer $\langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$
- To use DH method, choose frames carefully

Denavit-Hartenberg Method

- Efficient method for finding transformation matrices
 - Set frames for all joints
 - This is actually the tricky part.
 - Calculate all DH parameters from frames
 - 4 DH parameters fully define position and orientation (not 6)
 - Populate DH parameter table
 - Populate joint-to-joint DH transformation matrices
 - Matrix for 0-1, matrix for 1-2, etc.
 - Multiply all matrices together, in order
 - 0-1 \times 1-2 \times 2-3 \times ...

Choosing Frames for DH

- z axis must be axis of motion
 - Rotation around z for revolute
 - Translation along z for prismatic
- x_i axis orthogonal to z_i and z_{i-1}
 - There's always a line that satisfies this
- y axis must follow the right-hand rule
 - Fingers point $+x$
 - Thumb points $+z$
 - Palm faces $+y$
- x_i axis must intersect z_{i-1} axis (may mean translating origin)

Find DH Parameters

- Fewer values to represent same info
- Efficient to calculate

a_{i-1} : link length – distance Z_{i-1} and Z_i along X_i
 α_{i-1} : link twist – angle Z_{i-1} and Z_i around X_i
 d_i : link offset – distance X_{i-1} to X_i along Z_i
 θ_i : joint angle – angle X_{i-1} and X_i around Z_i

Denavit-Hartenberg Method

- A way of finding transformation matrix (quickly)
 - Assign DH frames to DoFs (previous slide)
 - This takes practice.
 - Create a parameter table
 - Rows = (# frames - 1)
 - Columns = 4 (always) ← your DH parameters θ, α, a, d

	θ	α	a	d
frame 0-1	θ_{0-1}	α_{0-1}	a_{0-1}	d_{0-1}
frame 1-2	θ_{1-2}	α_{1-2}	a_{1-2}	d_{1-2}
frame 2-3

Denavit-Hartenberg Method

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- Given parameter table,
- Fill out transformation matrix* for each transition:

$$R_i^{i-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_i & -\sin \theta_i \cos \alpha_{i,j+1} & \sin \theta_i \sin \alpha_{i,j+1} & a_{i,j+1} \cos \theta_i \\ \sin \theta_i & \cos \theta_i \cos \alpha_{i,j+1} & -\cos \theta_i \sin \alpha_{i,j+1} & a_{i,j+1} \sin \theta_i \\ 0 & \sin \alpha_{i,j+1} & \cos \alpha_{i,j+1} & d_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- And multiply. Ex: $R_2^0 = R_1^0 R_2^1$
- R_2^0 is the same matrix as would be found by other methods. DH is fast and efficient.

** If you'd like the derivation of this, I'll provide a link.*

Example: Rotation in Plane

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$x = a_1 \cos \theta_1 + a_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$
 $y = a_1 \sin \theta_1 + a_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$
 $a_i = \text{the length of } i\text{th link}$

Transformation i to i-1

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a_{i-1} : distance Z_{i-1} and Z_i along X_i } together: screw displacement
 α_{i-1} : angle Z_{i-1} and Z_i around X_i }

$$[X_i] = \text{Trans}_{X_i}(a_{i,i+1}) \text{Rot}_{X_i}(\alpha_{i,i+1})$$

d_i : distance X_{i-1} to X_i along Z_i } together: screw displacement
 θ_i : angle X_{i-1} and X_i around Z_i }

$$[Z_i] = \text{Trans}_{Z_i}(d_i) \text{Rot}_{Z_i}(\theta_i)$$

- Coordinate transformation:

$${}^{i-1}T_i = [Z_i][X_i] = \text{Trans}_{Z_i}(d_i) \text{Rot}_{Z_i}(\theta_i) \text{Trans}_{X_i}(a_{i,i+1}) \text{Rot}_{X_i}(\alpha_{i,i+1}),$$

Transformation i to i-1

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$$\text{Trans}_{Z_i}(d_i) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Rot}_{Z_i}(\theta_i) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_i & -\sin \theta_i & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \theta_i & \cos \theta_i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Trans}_{X_i}(a_{i,i+1}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & a_{i,i+1} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Rot}_{X_i}(\alpha_{i,i+1}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \alpha_{i,i+1} & -\sin \alpha_{i,i+1} & 0 \\ 0 & \sin \alpha_{i,i+1} & \cos \alpha_{i,i+1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Transformation in DH:

$${}^{i-1}T_i = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_i & -\sin \theta_i \cos \alpha_{i,i+1} & \sin \theta_i \sin \alpha_{i,i+1} & a_{i,i+1} \cos \theta_i \\ \sin \theta_i & \cos \theta_i \cos \alpha_{i,i+1} & -\cos \theta_i \sin \alpha_{i,i+1} & a_{i,i+1} \sin \theta_i \\ 0 & \sin \alpha_{i,i+1} & \cos \alpha_{i,i+1} & d_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$