An Introduction to Robot Kinematics

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Kinematics studies the motion of bodies

An Example - The PUMA 560

2

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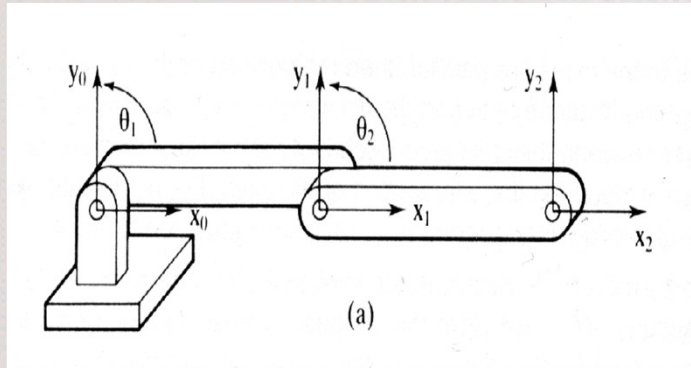
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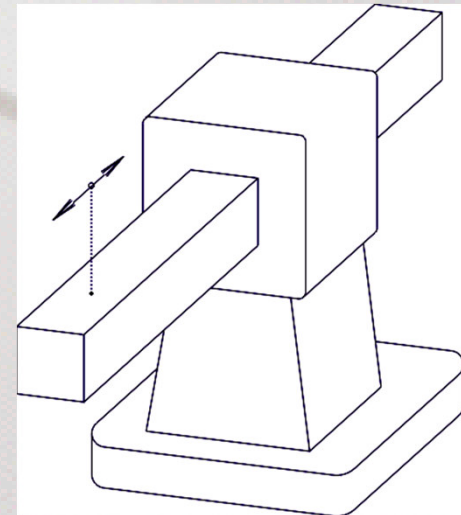There are two more joints on the end effector (the gripper)
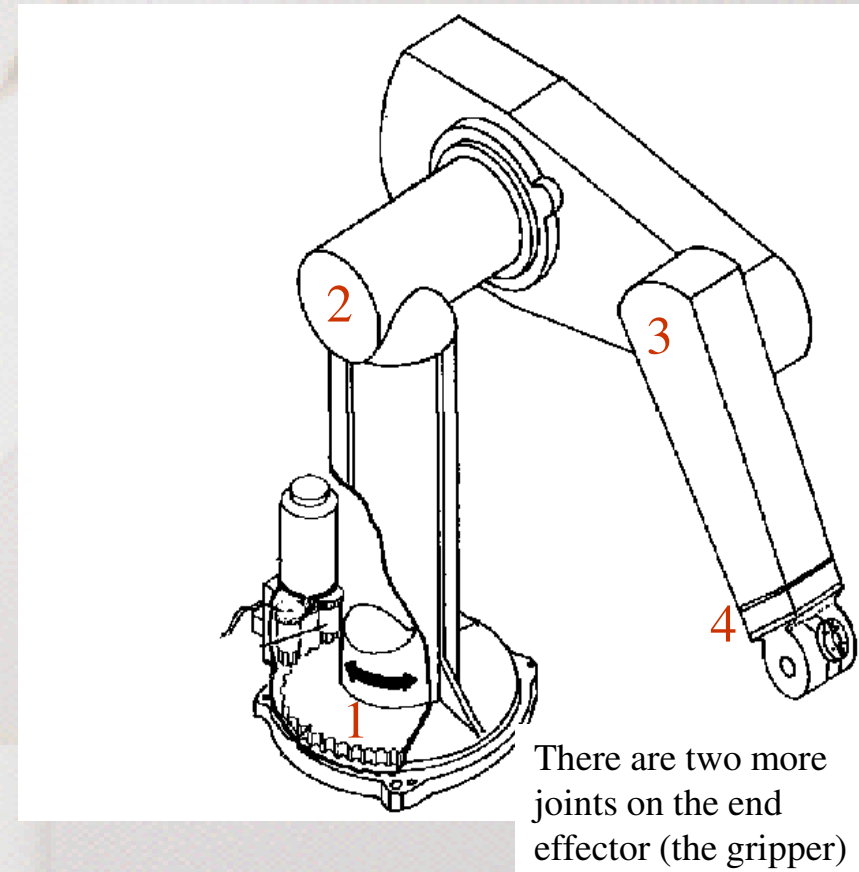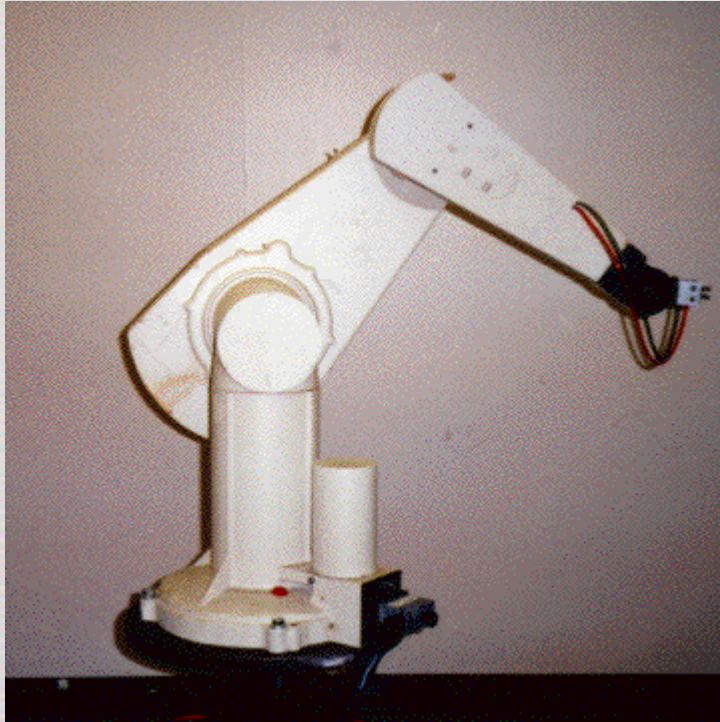
The PUMA 560 has SIX revolute joints
   A revolute joint has ONE degree of freedom (1 DOF) that is
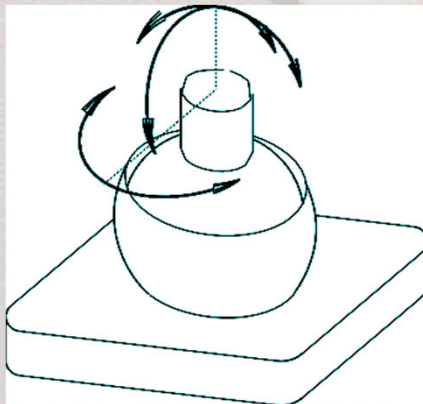   defined by its angle

Other basic joints

Revolute Joint
1 DOF (Variable - Y)

Prismatic Joint
1 DOF (linear) (Variables - d)

Spherical Joint
3 DOF (Variables - Y_1, Y_2, Y_3)

We are interested in two kinematics topics

Forward Kinematics (angles to position)

What you are given: The length of each link

                                     The angle of each joint

What you can find: The position of any point

                                     (i.e. it's (x, y, z) coordinates)

Inverse Kinematics (position to angles)

What you are given: The length of each link

                                     The position of some point on the robot

What you can find: The angles of each joint needed to obtain
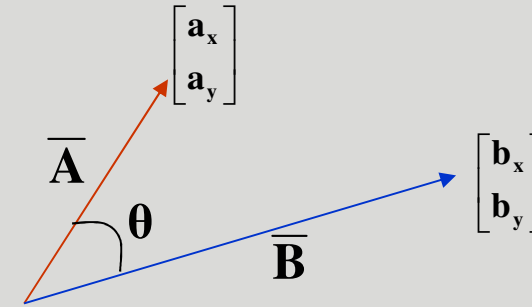
                                     that position

Quick Math Review

Dot Product:

Geometric Representation:

$$\overline{A} \bullet \overline{B} = \|A\|\|B\|\cos\theta$$

Matrix Representation:

$$\overline{A} \bullet \overline{B} = \begin{bmatrix} a_x \\ a_y \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} b_x \\ b_y \end{bmatrix} = a_x b_x + a_y b_y$$

Unit Vector

Vector in the direction of a chosen vector but whose magnitude is 1.

$$\overline{u}_B = \frac{\overline{B}}{\|B\|}$$
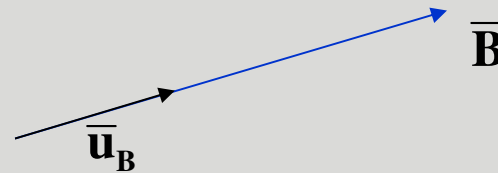
Quick Matrix Review

Matrix Multiplication:

An (m x n) matrix A and an (n x p) matrix B, can be multiplied since the number of columns of A is equal to the number of rows of B.

<u>Non-Commutative Multiplication</u>

AB is NOT equal to BA

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ g & h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (ae+bg) & (af+bh) \\ (ce+dg) & (cf+dh) \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix Addition:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ g & h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (a+e) & (b+f) \\ (c+g) & (d+h) \end{bmatrix}$$

Basic Transformations
Moving Between Coordinate Frames

Translation Along the X-Axis
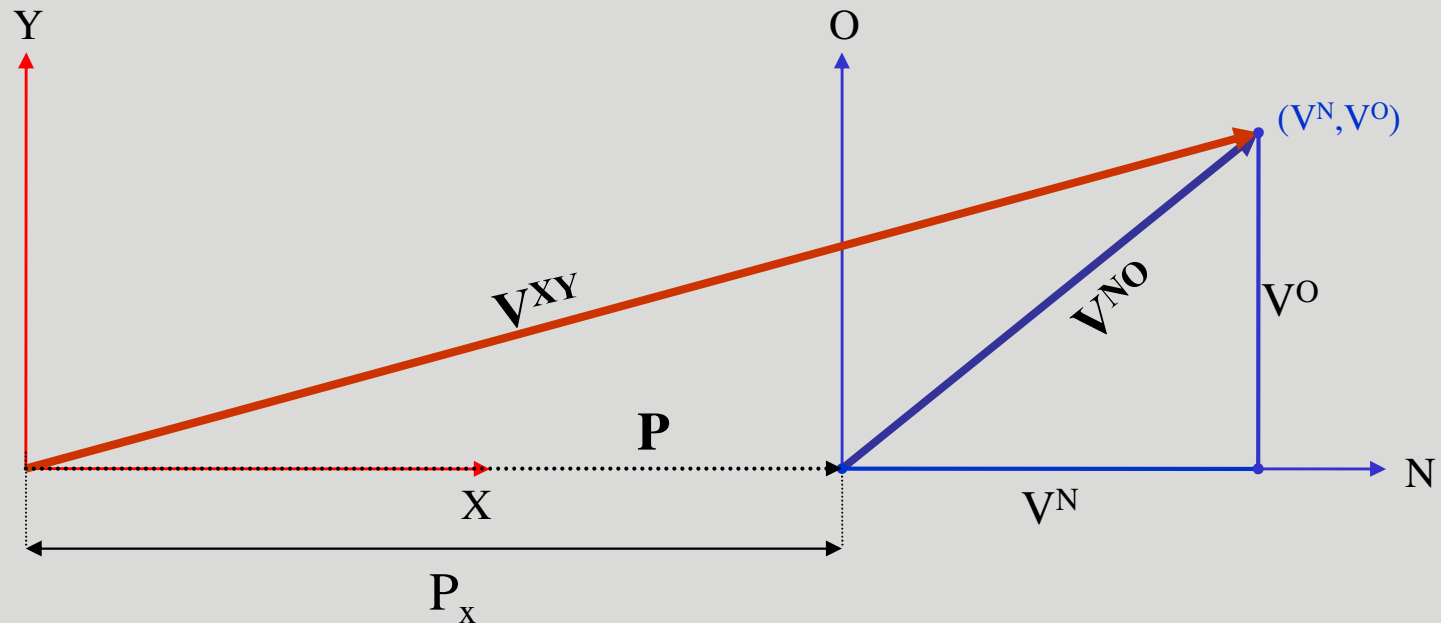
P_x = distance between the XY and NO coordinate planes

Notation: $\overline{V}^{XY} = \begin{bmatrix} V^X \\ V^Y \end{bmatrix}$ $\overline{V}^{NO} = \begin{bmatrix} V^N \\ V^O \end{bmatrix}$ $\overline{P} = \begin{bmatrix} P_x \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Writing $\overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{XY}}$ in terms of $\overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}}$
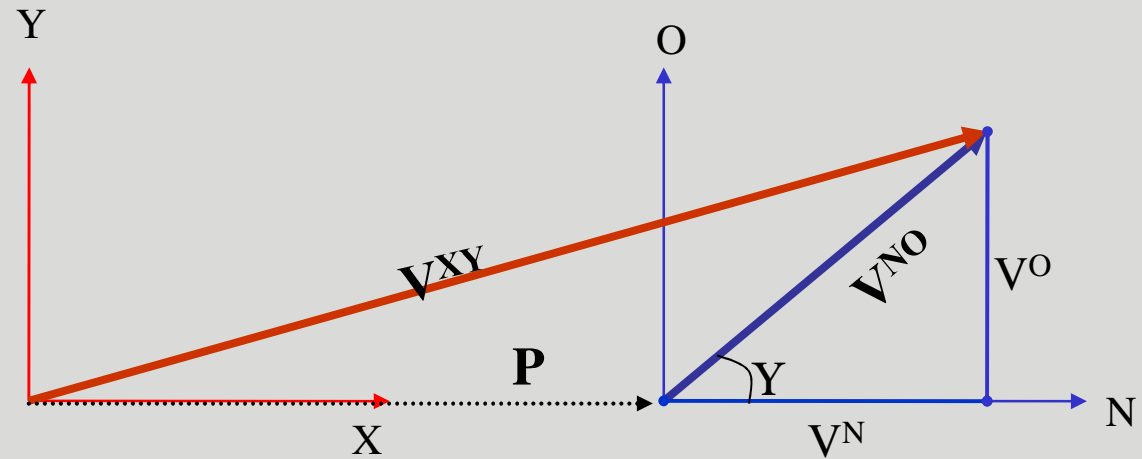
$$\overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{XY}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P_X + V^N} \\ \mathbf{V^O} \end{bmatrix} = \overline{\mathbf{P}} + \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}}$$

Translation along the X-Axis and Y-Axis

$$\overline{P}^{XY} = \begin{bmatrix} P_x \\ P_Y \end{bmatrix}$$
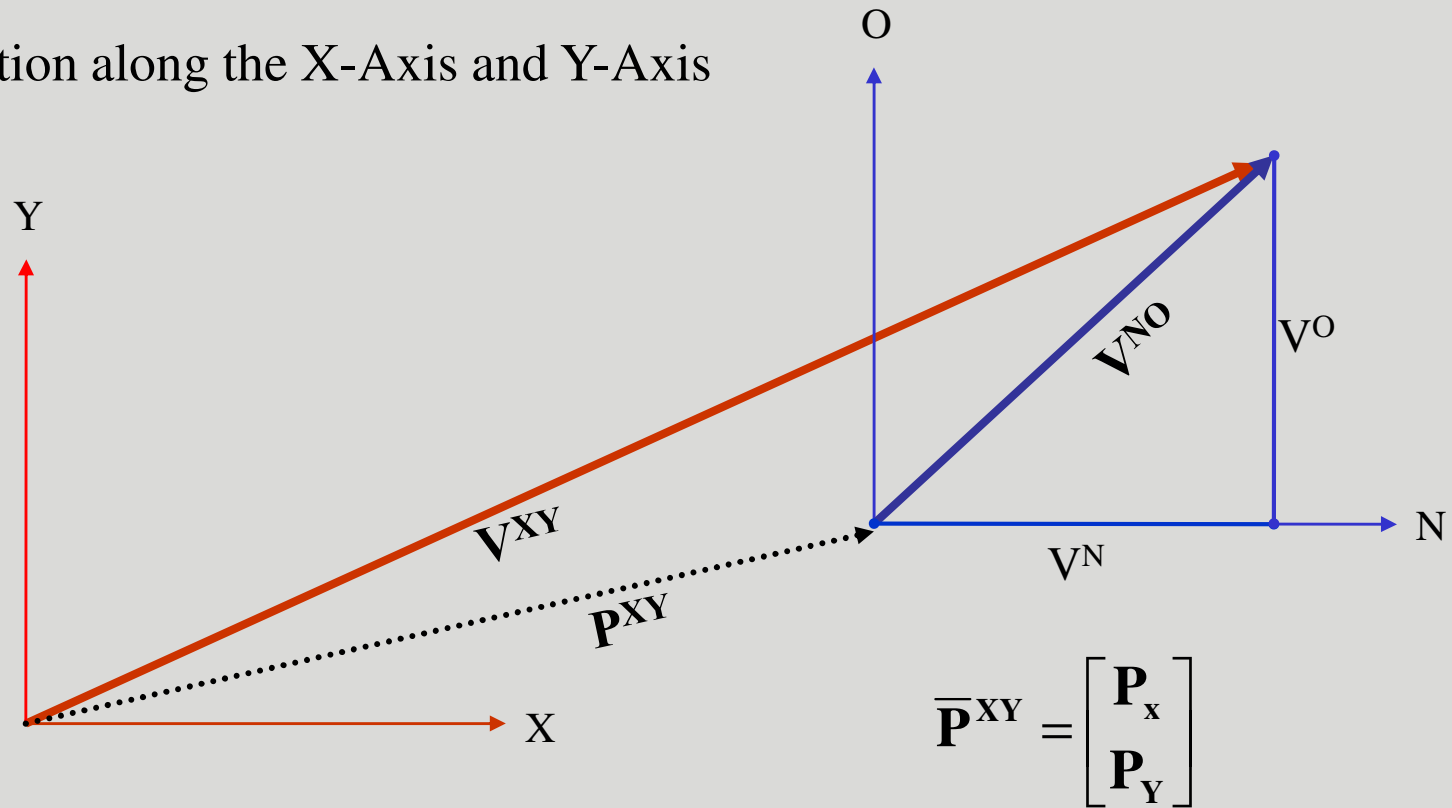
$$\overline{V}^{XY} = \overline{P} + \overline{V}^{NO} = \begin{bmatrix} P_X + V^N \\ P_Y + V^O \end{bmatrix}$$

Using Basis Vectors

Basis vectors are unit vectors that point along a coordinate axis

$\overline{\mathbf{n}}$ Unit vector along the N-Axis

$\overline{\mathbf{o}}$ Unit vector along the N-Axis

$\left\|\mathbf{V^{NO}}\right\|$ Magnitude of the V^{NO} vector

$$\overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V^N} \\ \mathbf{V^O} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \left\|\mathbf{V^{NO}}\right\|\mathbf{cos\theta} \\ \left\|\mathbf{V^{NO}}\right\|\mathbf{sin\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \left\|\mathbf{V^{NO}}\right\|\mathbf{cos\theta} \\ \left\|\mathbf{V^{NO}}\right\|\mathbf{cos(90-\theta)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}} \bullet \overline{\mathbf{n}} \\ \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}} \bullet \overline{\mathbf{o}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotation (around the Z-Axis)
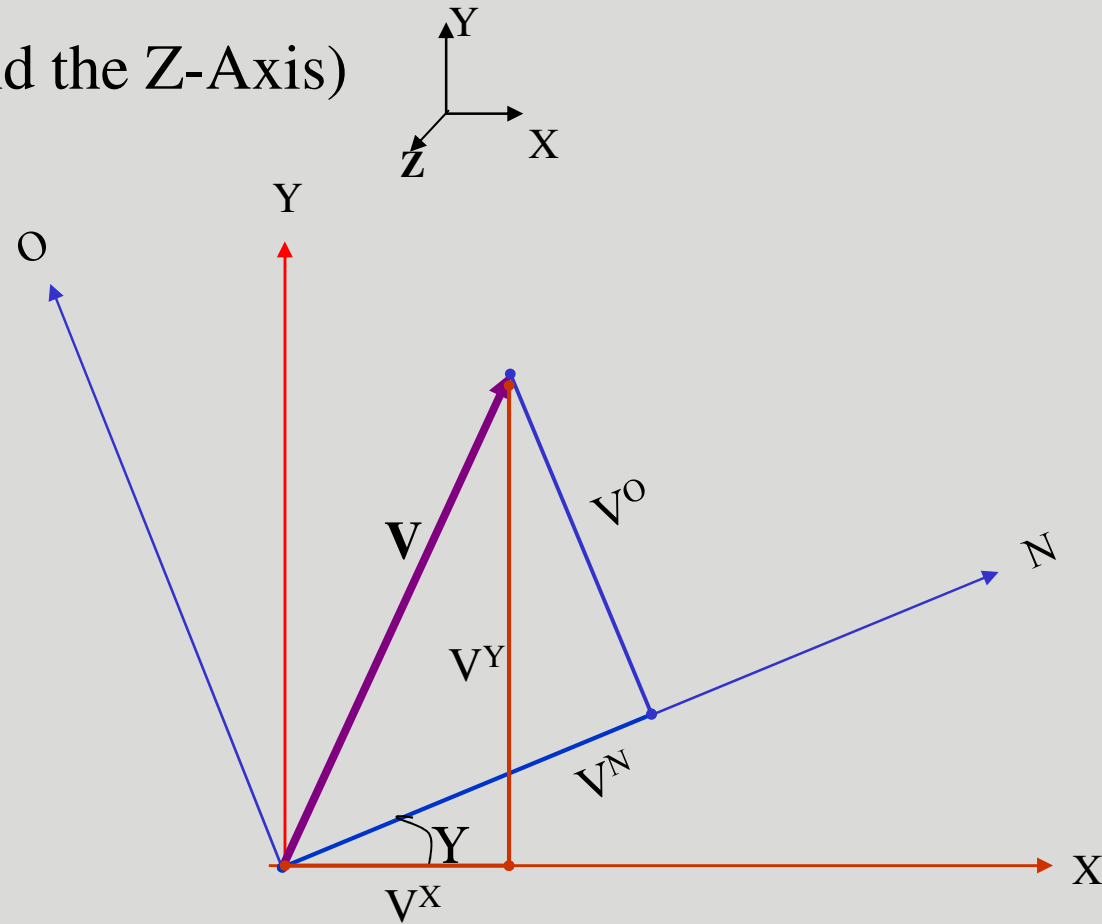
Y = Angle of rotation between the XY and NO coordinate axis
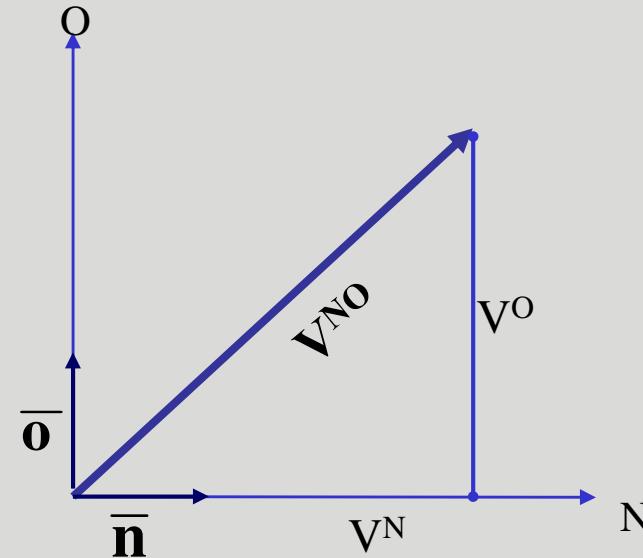
$$\overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{XY}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V^X} \\ \mathbf{V^Y} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V^N} \\ \mathbf{V^O} \end{bmatrix}$$
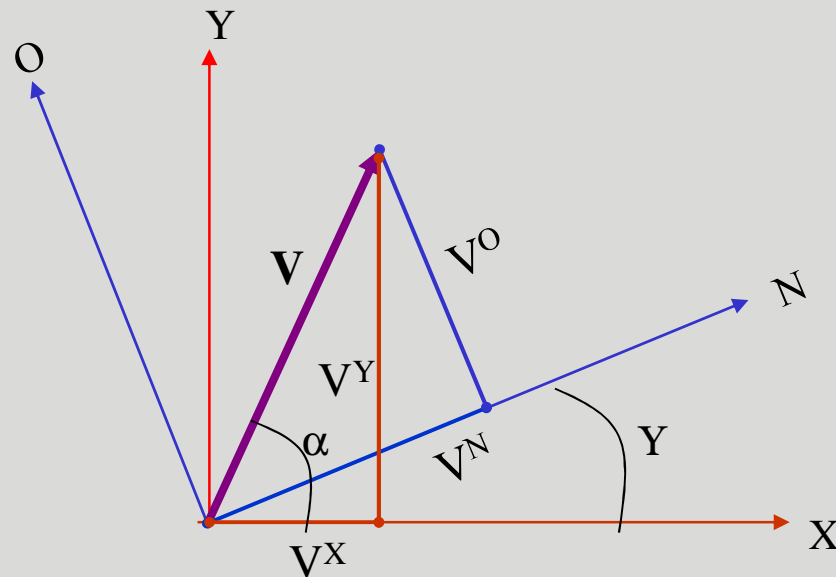
$\underline{\overline{\mathbf{x}}}$ Unit vector along X-Axis

$\underline{\overline{\wedge}}$ Can be considered with respect to the XY coordinates or NO coordinates

$$\left\| \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{XY}} \right\| = \left\| \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}} \right\|$$

$$\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{X}} = \left\| \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{XY}} \right\| \cos \boldsymbol{\alpha} = \left\| \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}} \right\| \cos \boldsymbol{\alpha} = \overline{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{NO}} \bullet \overline{\mathbf{x}}$$

$$\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{X}} = (\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{N}} * \overline{\mathbf{n}} + \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{O}} * \overline{\mathbf{o}}) \bullet \overline{\mathbf{x}}$$

(Substituting for V^{NO} using the N and O components of the vector)

$$\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{N}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}} \bullet \overline{\mathbf{n}}) + \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{O}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}} \bullet \overline{\mathbf{o}})$$

$$= \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{N}}(\cos \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{O}}(\cos(\boldsymbol{\theta} + 90))$$

$$= \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{N}}(\cos \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{O}}(\sin \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

Similarly….

$$V^Y = \left\| \overline{V}^{NO} \right\| \sin \alpha = \left\| \overline{V}^{NO} \right\| \cos(90 - \alpha) = \overline{V}^{NO} \bullet \overline{y}$$

$$V^Y = (V^N * \overline{n} + V^O * \overline{o}) \bullet \overline{y}$$

$$V^Y = V^N (\overline{y} \bullet \overline{n}) + V^O (\overline{y} \bullet \overline{o})$$

$$= V^N (\cos(90 - \theta)) + V^O (\cos \theta)$$

$$= V^N (\sin \theta) + V^O (\cos \theta)$$

So….

$$V^X = V^N (\cos \theta) - V^O (\sin \theta) \qquad\qquad \overline{V}^{XY} = \begin{bmatrix} V^X \\ V^Y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$V^Y = V^N (\sin \theta) + V^O (\cos \theta)$$

Written in Matrix Form

$$\overline{V}^{XY} = \begin{bmatrix} V^X \\ V^Y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V^N \\ V^O \end{bmatrix} \qquad \text{Rotation Matrix about the z-axis}$$
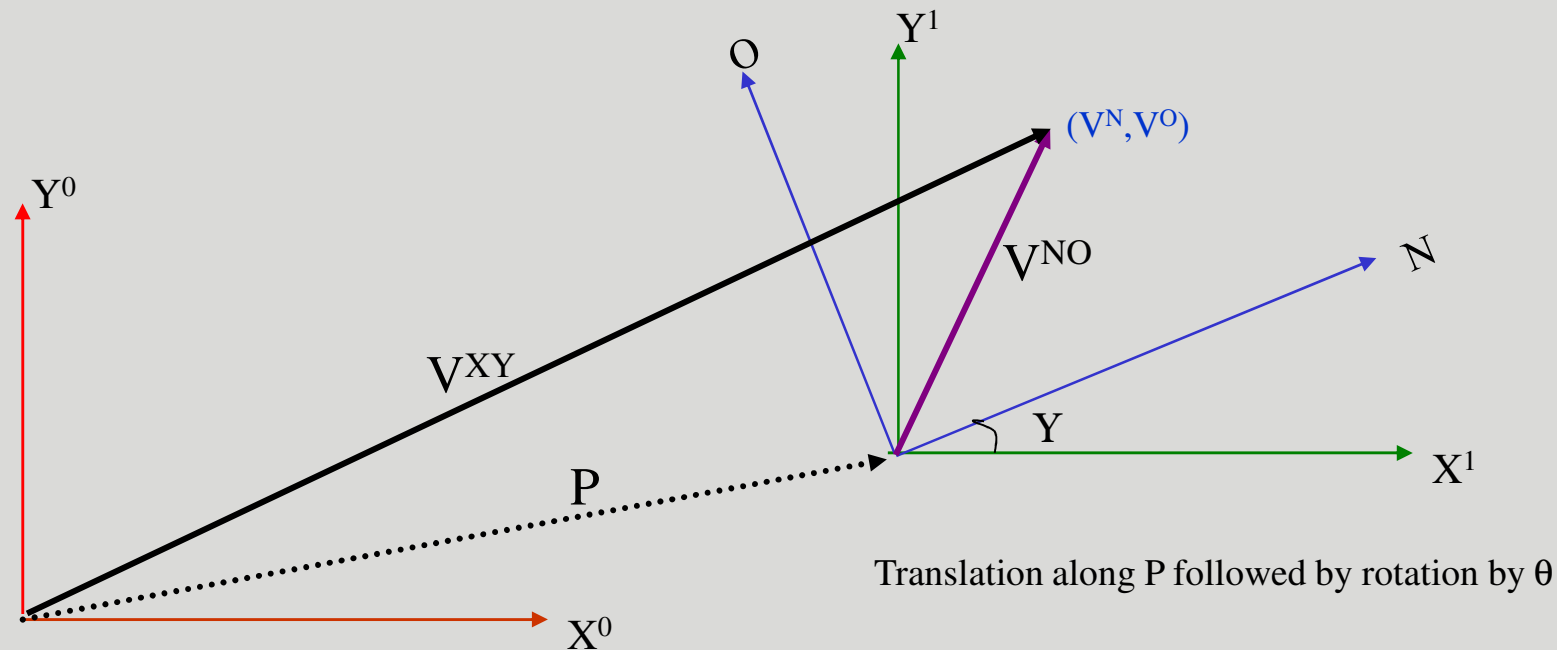
$$V^{XY} = \begin{bmatrix} V^X \\ V^Y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} P_x \\ P_y \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V^N \\ V^O \end{bmatrix}$$

(Note : P_x, P_y are relative to the original coordinate frame. Translation followed by rotation is different than rotation followed by translation.)

In other words, knowing the coordinates of a point (V^N, V^O) in some coordinate frame (NO) you can find the position of that point relative to your original coordinate frame $(X^0 Y^0)$.

HOMOGENEOUS REPRESENTATION

Putting it all into a Matrix

$$V^{XY} = \begin{bmatrix} V^X \\ V^Y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} P_x \\ P_y \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V^N \\ V^O \end{bmatrix}$$

What we found by doing a translation and a rotation

$$= \begin{bmatrix} V^X \\ V^Y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} P_x \\ P_y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta & 0 \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V^N \\ V^O \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Padding with 0's and 1's

$$= \begin{bmatrix} V^X \\ V^Y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta & P_x \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta & P_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V^N \\ V^O \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Simplifying into a matrix form

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta & P_x \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta & P_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Homogenous Matrix for a Translation in XY plane, followed by a Rotation around the z-axis

Rotation Matrices in 3D – OK,lets return from homogenous repn

$$R_z = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta & 0 \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$ ← Rotation around the Z-Axis

$$R_y = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & 0 & \sin\theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin\theta & 0 & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$$ ← Rotation around the Y-Axis

$$R_z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ 0 & \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$$ ← Rotation around the X-Axis

Homogeneous Matrices in 3D

H is a 4x4 matrix that can describe a translation, rotation, or both in one matrix

Translation without rotation
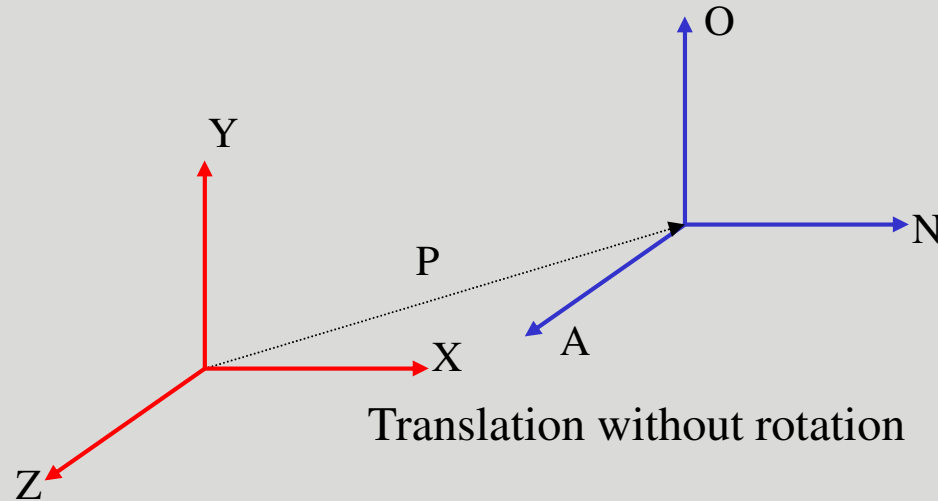
$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & P_x \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & P_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & P_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotation without translation
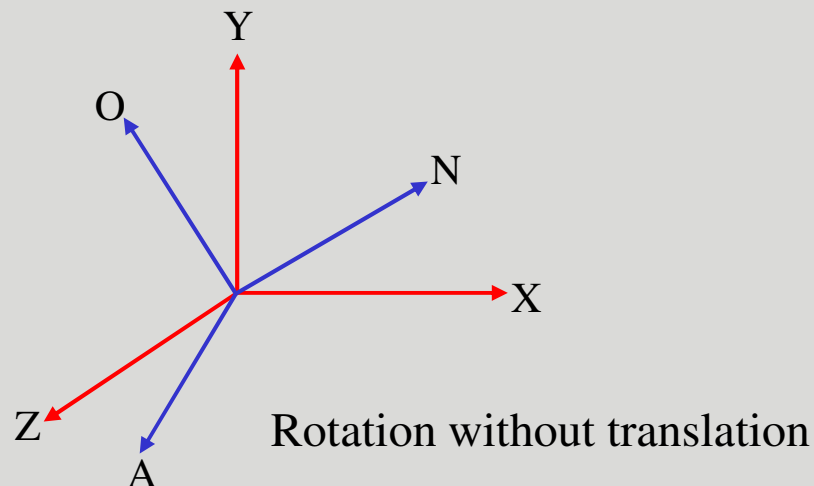
$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} n_x & o_x & a_x & 0 \\ n_y & o_y & a_y & 0 \\ n_z & o_z & a_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotation part:
   Could be rotation around z-axis, x-axis, y-axis or a combination of the three.

Homogeneous Continued….

$$V^{XY} = H \begin{bmatrix} V^N \\ V^O \\ V^A \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The (n,o,a) position of a point relative to the current coordinate frame you are in.

$$V^{XY} = \begin{bmatrix} n_x & o_x & a_x & P_x \\ n_y & o_y & a_y & P_y \\ n_z & o_z & a_z & P_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V^N \\ V^O \\ V^A \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$V^X = n_x V^N + o_x V^O + a_x V^A + P_x$$

The rotation and translation part can be combined into a single homogeneous matrix IF and ONLY IF both are relative to the same coordinate frame.

Finding the Homogeneous Matrix

EX.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W^X} \\ \mathbf{W^Y} \\ \mathbf{W^Z} \end{bmatrix}$$ Point relative to the X-Y-Z frame

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W^I} \\ \mathbf{W^J} \\ \mathbf{W^K} \end{bmatrix}$$ Point relative to the I-J-K frame

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W^N} \\ \mathbf{W^O} \\ \mathbf{W^A} \end{bmatrix}$$ Point relative to the N-O-A frame

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W^I} \\ \mathbf{W^J} \\ \mathbf{W^K} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P_i} \\ \mathbf{P_j} \\ \mathbf{P_k} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{n_i} & \mathbf{o_i} & \mathbf{a_i} \\ \mathbf{n_j} & \mathbf{o_j} & \mathbf{a_j} \\ \mathbf{n_k} & \mathbf{o_k} & \mathbf{a_k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W^N} \\ \mathbf{W^O} \\ \mathbf{W^A} \end{bmatrix}$$

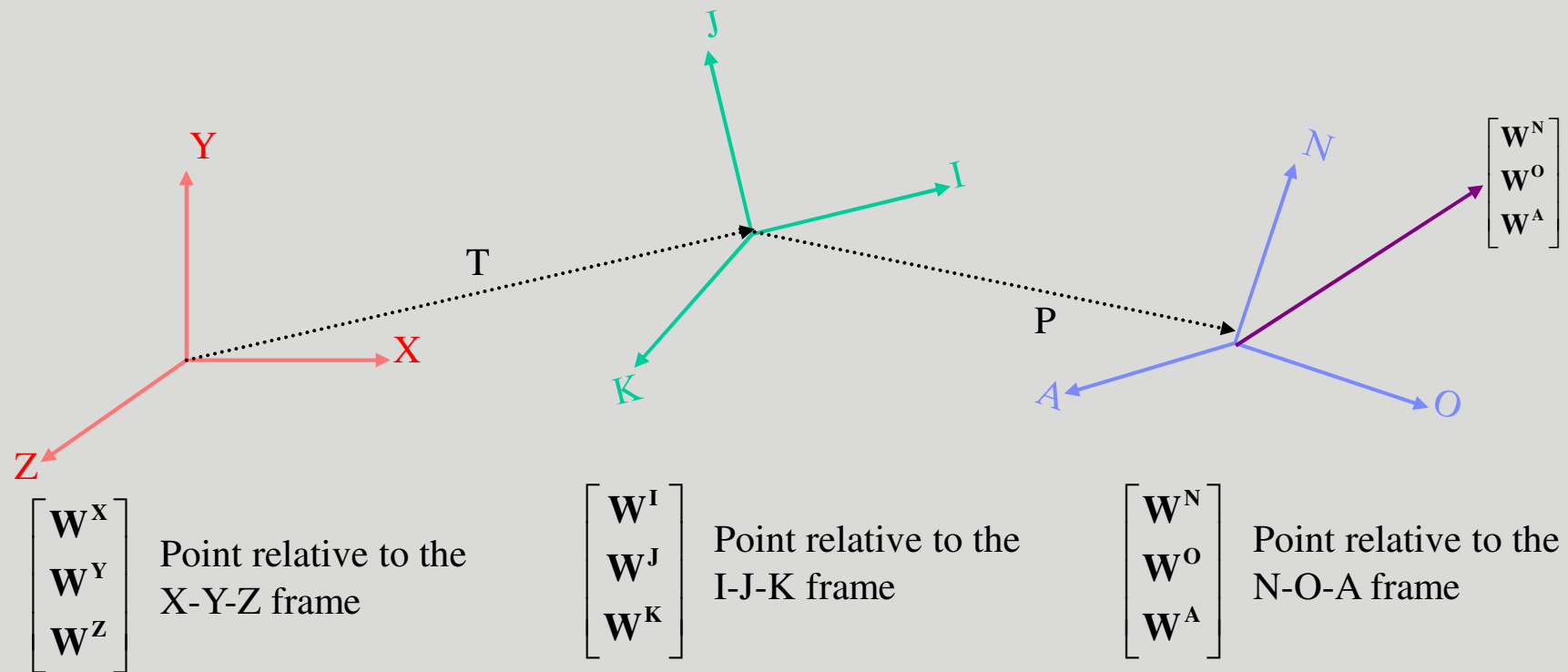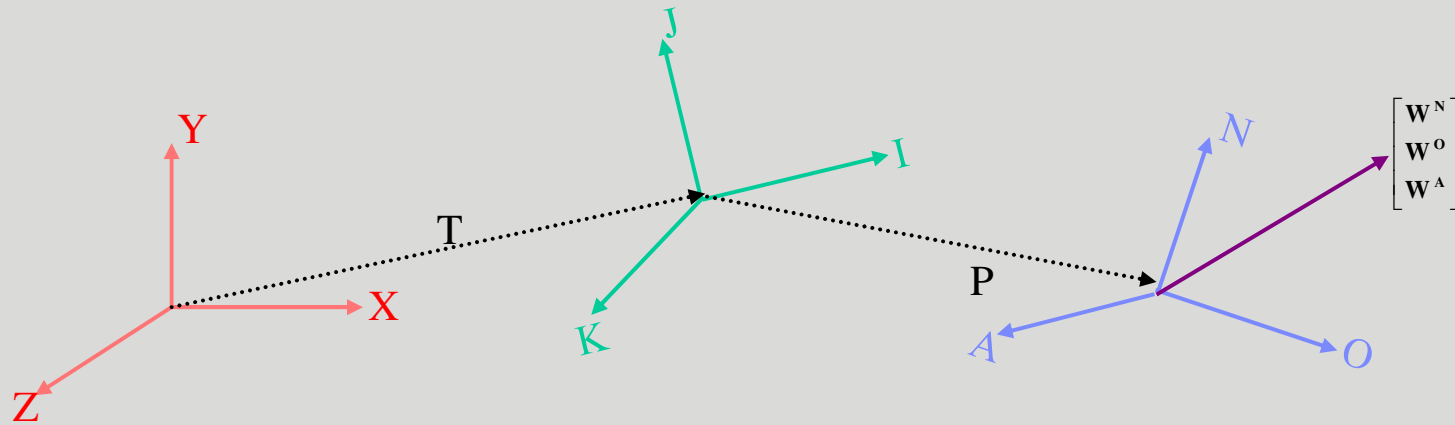$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W^I} \\ \mathbf{W^J} \\ \mathbf{W^K} \\ \mathbf{1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{n_i} & \mathbf{o_i} & \mathbf{a_i} & \mathbf{P_i} \\ \mathbf{n_j} & \mathbf{o_j} & \mathbf{a_j} & \mathbf{P_j} \\ \mathbf{n_k} & \mathbf{o_k} & \mathbf{a_k} & \mathbf{P_k} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W^N} \\ \mathbf{W^O} \\ \mathbf{W^A} \\ \mathbf{1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} W^X \\ W^Y \\ W^Z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_x \\ T_y \\ T_z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} i_x & j_x & k_x \\ i_y & j_y & k_y \\ i_z & j_z & k_z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} W^I \\ W^J \\ W^k \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} W^X \\ W^Y \\ W^Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} i_x & j_x & k_x & T_x \\ i_y & j_y & k_y & T_y \\ i_z & j_z & k_z & T_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} W^I \\ W^J \\ W^K \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting for $\begin{bmatrix} W^I \\ W^J \\ W^K \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} W^X \\ W^Y \\ W^Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} i_x & j_x & k_x & T_x \\ i_y & j_y & k_y & T_y \\ i_z & j_z & k_z & T_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_i & o_i & a_i & P_i \\ n_j & o_j & a_j & P_j \\ n_k & o_k & a_k & P_k \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} W^N \\ W^O \\ W^A \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} W^X \\ W^Y \\ W^Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = H \begin{bmatrix} W^N \\ W^O \\ W^A \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} i_x & j_x & k_x & T_x \\ i_y & j_y & k_y & T_y \\ i_z & j_z & k_z & T_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_i & o_i & a_i & P_i \\ n_j & o_j & a_j & P_j \\ n_k & o_k & a_k & P_k \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

⟶ Product of the two matrices

Notice that H can also be written as:

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & T_x \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & T_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & T_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_x & j_x & k_x & 0 \\ i_y & j_y & k_y & 0 \\ i_z & j_z & k_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & P_i \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & P_j \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & P_k \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_i & o_i & a_i & 0 \\ n_j & o_j & a_j & 0 \\ n_k & o_k & a_k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

H = (Translation relative to the XYZ frame) * (Rotation relative to the XYZ frame)
    * (Translation relative to the IJK frame) * (Rotation relative to the IJK frame)

The Homogeneous Matrix is a concatenation of numerous translations and rotations
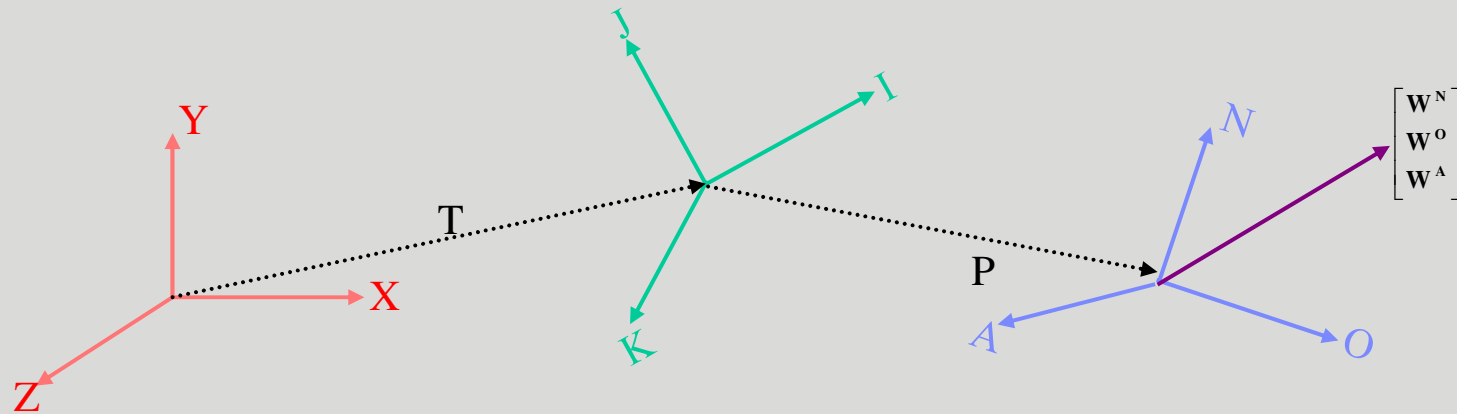
One more variation on finding H:

H =   (Rotate so that the X-axis is aligned with T)

   * (Translate along the new t-axis by ‖ T ‖ (magnitude of T))

   * (Rotate so that the t-axis is aligned with P)

   * (Translate along the p-axis by ‖ P ‖)

   * (Rotate so that the p-axis is aligned with the O-axis)

This method might seem a bit confusing, but it's actually an easier way to solve our problem given the information we have. Here is an example…

Forward Kinematics
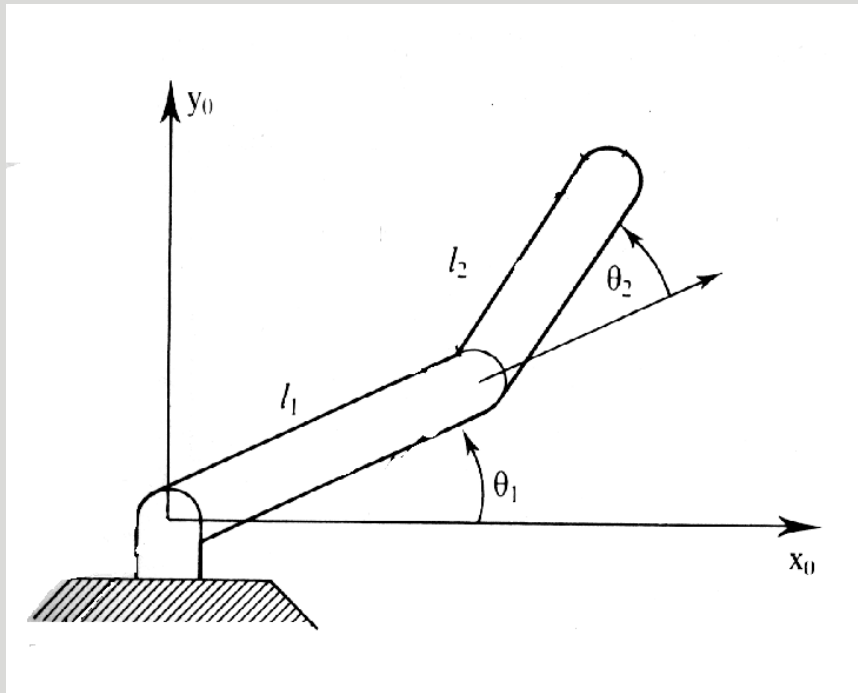
The Situation:

You have a robotic arm that starts out aligned with the x_o-axis. You tell the first link to move by Y_1 and the second link to move by Y_2.

The Quest:

What is the position of the end of the robotic arm?

Solution:

1. Geometric Approach

This might be the easiest solution for the simple situation. However, notice that the angles are measured relative to the direction of the previous link. (The first link is the exception. The angle is measured relative to it's initial position.) For robots with more links and whose arm extends into 3 dimensions the geometry gets much more tedious.

2. Algebraic Approach

Involves coordinate transformations.

Example Problem:
    You are have a three link arm that starts out aligned in the x-axis. Each link has lengths l_1, l_2, l_3, respectively. You tell the first one to move by Y_1, and so on as the diagram suggests. Find the Homogeneous matrix to get the position of the yellow dot in the X^0Y^0 frame.
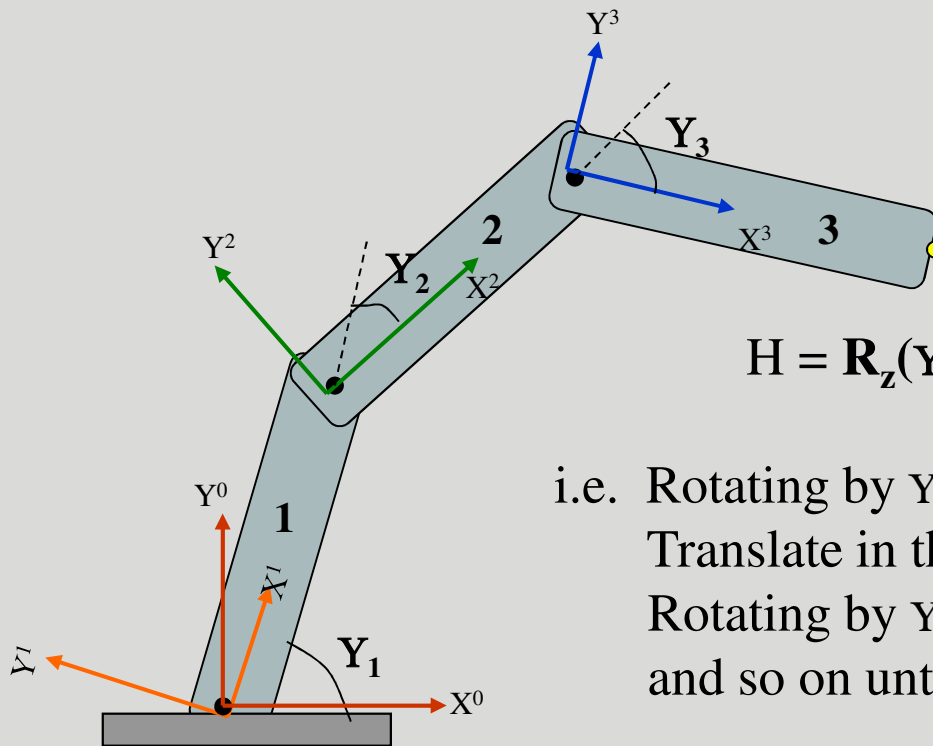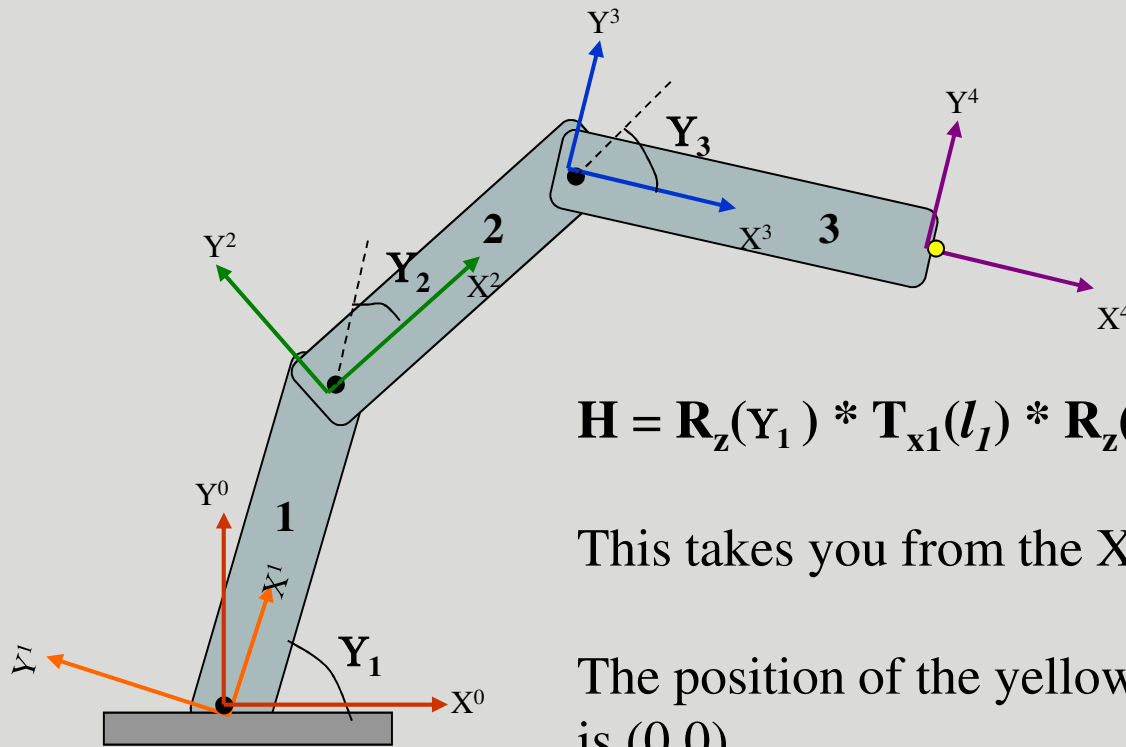

$$H = R_z(Y_1) * T_{x1}(l_1) * R_z(Y_2) * T_{x2}(l_2) * R_z(Y_3)$$

i.e. Rotating by Y_1 will put you in the X^1Y^1 frame.
      Translate in the along the X^1 axis by l_1.
      Rotating by Y_2 will put you in the X^2Y^2 frame.
      and so on until you are in the X^3Y^3 frame.

The position of the yellow dot relative to the X^3Y^3 frame is $(l_1, 0)$. Multiplying H by that position vector will give you the coordinates of the yellow point relative the the X^0Y^0 frame.

Slight variation on the last solution:

Make the yellow dot the origin of a new coordinate X^4Y^4 frame

$$H = R_z(Y_1) * T_{x1}(l_1) * R_z(Y_2) * T_{x2}(l_2) * R_z(Y_3) * T_{x3}(l_3)$$

This takes you from the X^0Y^0 frame to the X^4Y^4 frame.

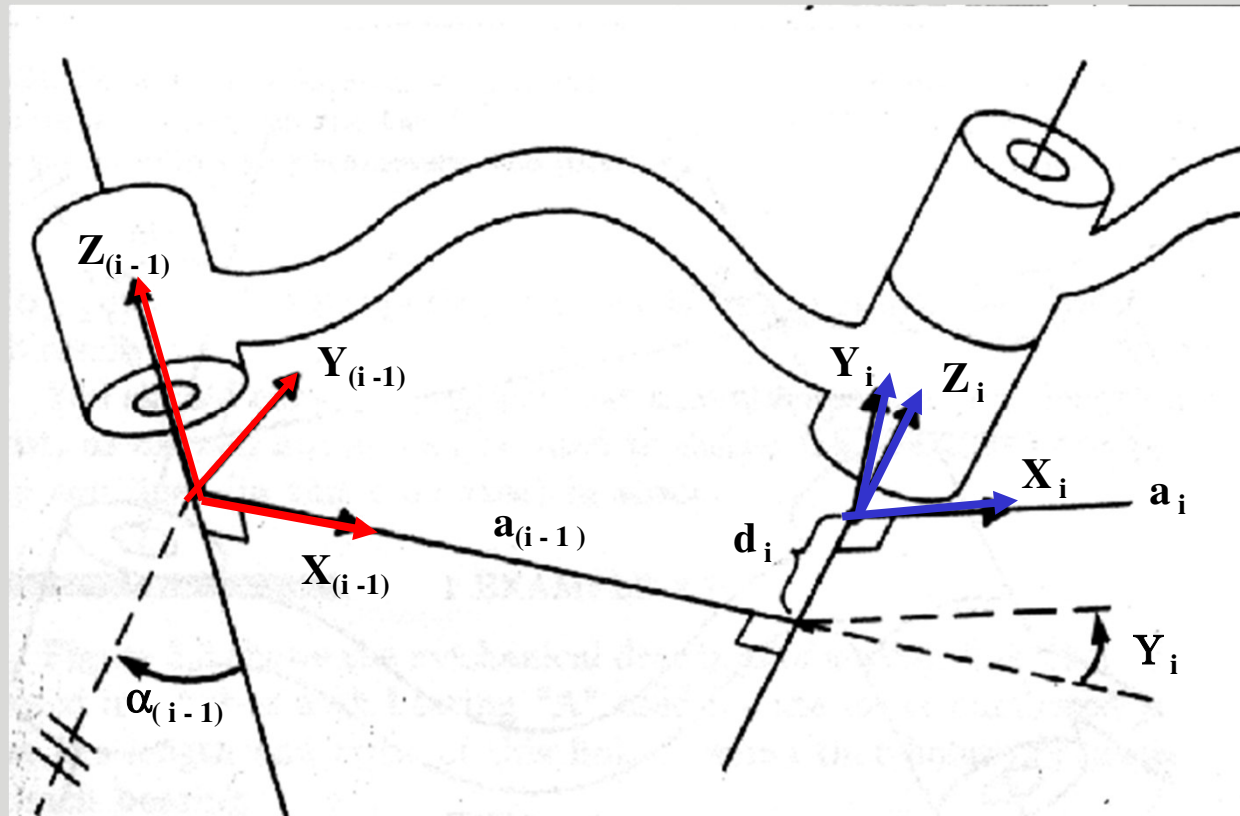The position of the yellow dot relative to the X^4Y^4 frame is (0,0).

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = H \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Notice that multiplying by the (0,0,0,1) vector will equal the last column of the H matrix.

More on Forward Kinematics…
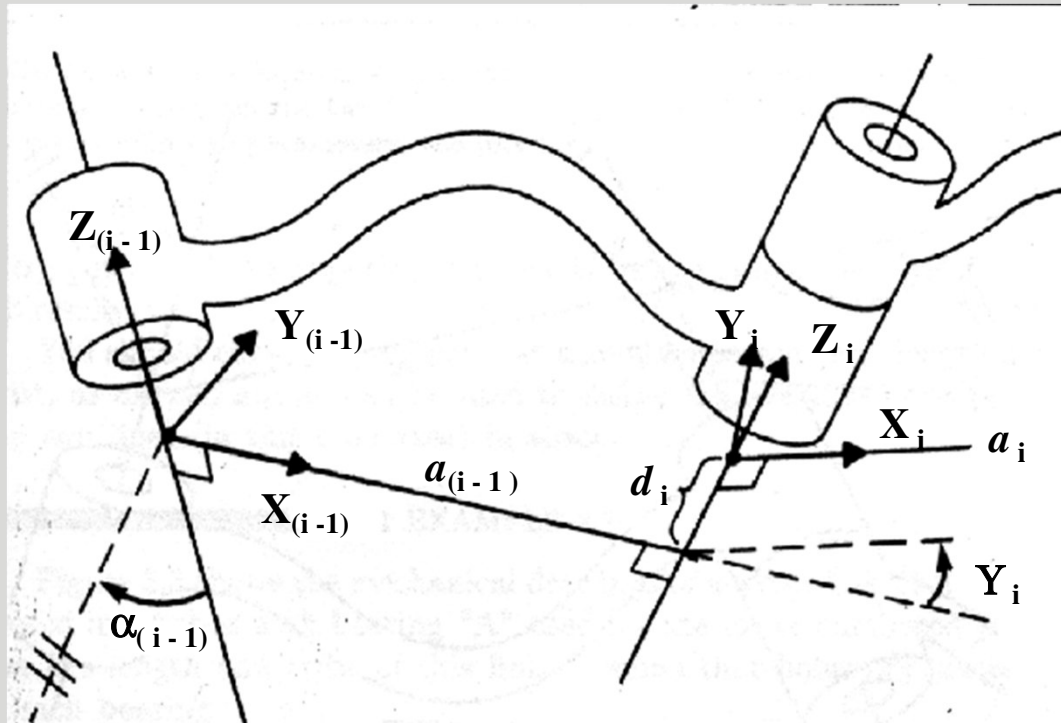
Denavit - Hartenberg Parameters

Denavit-Hartenberg Notation

IDEA: Each joint is assigned a coordinate frame. Using the Denavit-Hartenberg notation, you need 4 parameters to describe how a frame (*i*) relates to a previous frame (*i -1*).

THE PARAMETERS/VARIABLES: α, a , d, Y

The Parameters

You can align the two axis just using the 4 parameters

1) $a_{(i-1)}$

Technical Definition: $a_{(i-1)}$ is the length of the perpendicular between the joint axes. The joint axes is the axes around which revolution takes place which are the $Z_{(i-1)}$ and $Z_{(i)}$ axes. These two axes can be viewed as lines in space. The common perpendicular is the shortest line between the two axis-lines and is perpendicular to both axis-lines.

$a_{(i-1)}$ *cont...*

<u>Visual Approach</u> - "A way to visualize the link parameter $a_{(i-1)}$ is to imagine an expanding cylinder whose axis is the $Z_{(i-1)}$ axis - when the cylinder just touches the joint axis i the radius of the cylinder is equal to $a_{(i-1)}$." (Manipulator Kinematics)

<u>It's Usually on the Diagram Approach</u> - If the diagram already specifies the various coordinate frames, then the common perpendicular is usually the $X_{(i-1)}$ axis. So $a_{(i-1)}$ is just the displacement along the $X_{(i-1)}$ to move from the *(i-1)* frame to the *i* frame.

If the link is prismatic, then $a_{(i-1)}$ is a variable, not a parameter.
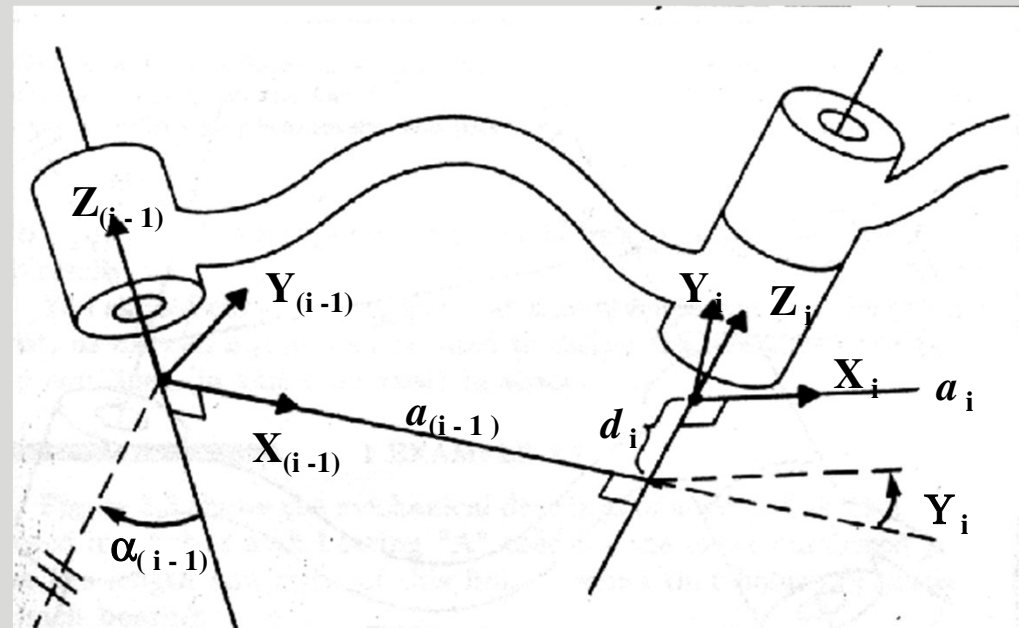
2) $\alpha_{(i-1)}$

Technical Definition: Amount of rotation around the common perpendicular so that the joint axes are parallel.

i.e. How much you have to rotate around the $X_{(i-1)}$ axis so that the $Z_{(i-1)}$ is pointing in the same direction as the Z_i axis. Positive rotation follows the right hand rule.

3) $d_{(i-1)}$

Technical Definition: The displacement along the Z_i axis needed to align the $a_{(i-1)}$ common perpendicular to the a_i common perpendicular.

In other words, displacement along the Z_i to align the $X_{(i-1)}$ and X_i axes.
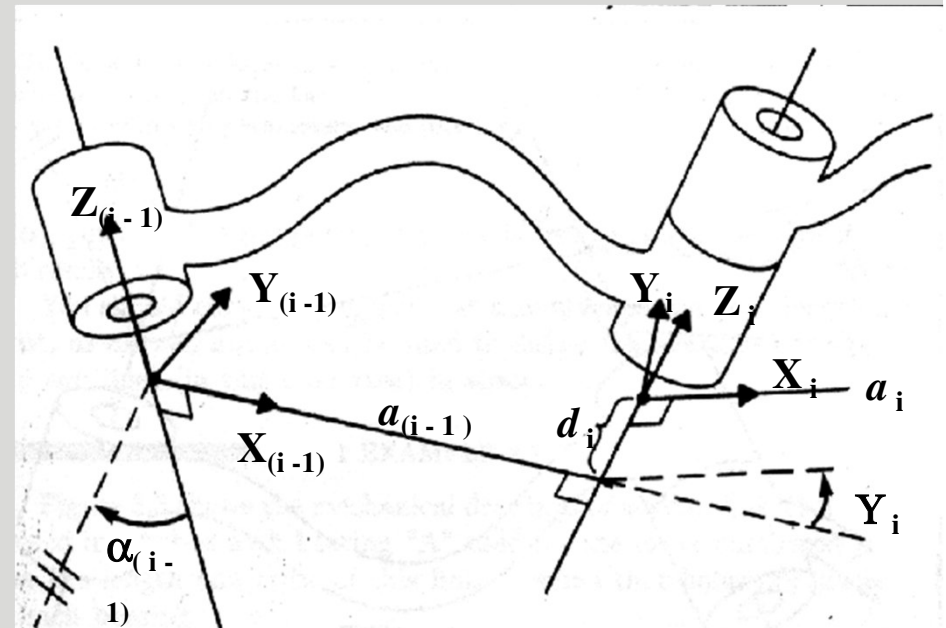
4) Y_i

Amount of rotation around the Z_i axis needed to align the $X_{(i-1)}$ axis with the X_i axis.

The Denavit-Hartenberg Matrix

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\cos\theta_i & -\sin\theta_i & 0 & a_{(i-1)} \\
\sin\theta_i\cos\alpha_{(i-1)} & \cos\theta_i\cos\alpha_{(i-1)} & -\sin\alpha_{(i-1)} & -\sin\alpha_{(i-1)}d_i \\
\sin\theta_i\sin\alpha_{(i-1)} & \cos\theta_i\sin\alpha_{(i-1)} & \cos\alpha_{(i-1)} & \cos\alpha_{(i-1)}d_i \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{bmatrix}
$$

Just like the Homogeneous Matrix, the Denavit-Hartenberg Matrix is a transformation matrix from one coordinate frame to the next. Using a series of D-H Matrix multiplications and the D-H Parameter table, the final result is a transformation matrix from some frame to your initial frame.
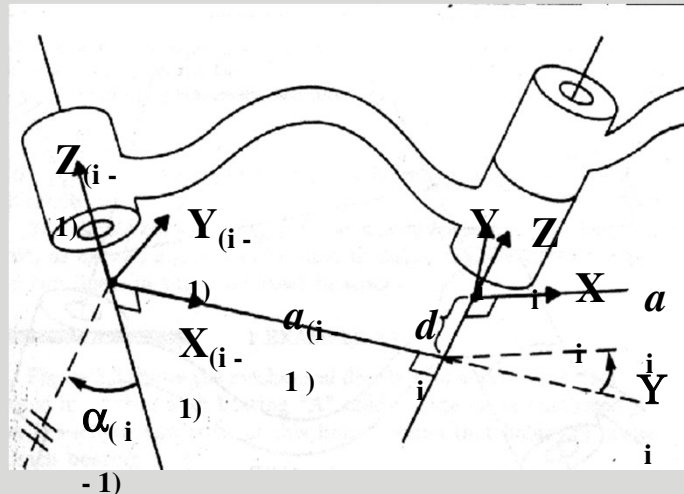
3 Revolute Joints
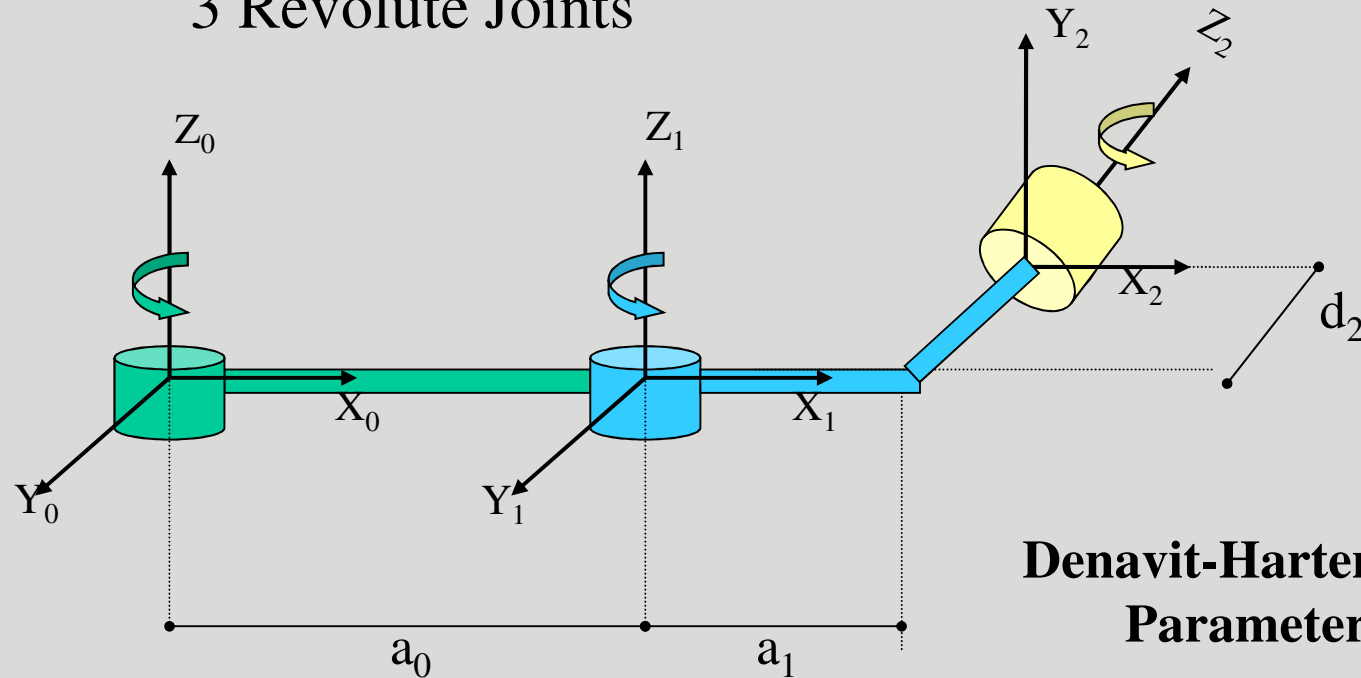
Denavit-Hartenberg Link Parameter Table

Notice that the table has two uses:

1) To describe the robot with its variables and parameters.

2) To describe some state of the robot by having a numerical values for the variables.

i	$\alpha_{(i-1)}$	$a_{(i-1)}$	d_i	θ_i
0	0	0	0	θ_0
1	0	a_0	0	θ_1
2	-90	a_1	d_2	θ_2
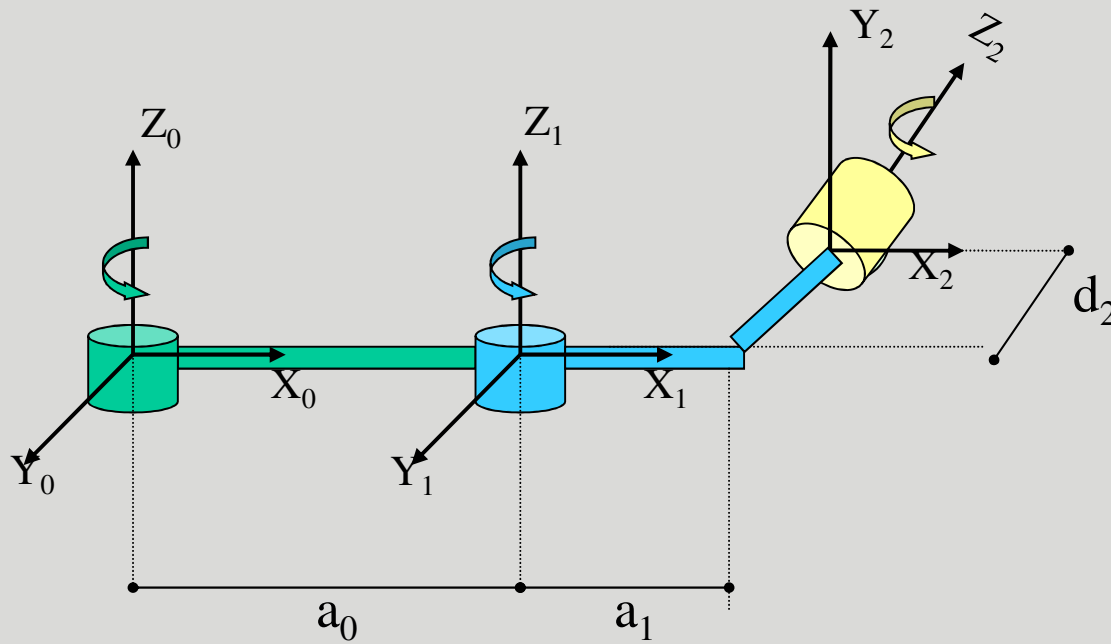
i	$\alpha_{(i-1)}$	$a_{(i-1)}$	d_i	θ_i
0	0	0	0	θ_0
1	0	a_0	0	θ_1
2	-90	a_1	d_2	θ_2

$$V^{X_0 Y_0 Z_0} = T \begin{bmatrix} V^{X_2} \\ V^{Y_2} \\ V^{Z_2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T = (_0 T)(_1^0 T)(_2^1 T)$$

Note: T is the D-H matrix with $(i\text{-}1) = 0$ and $i = 1$.

i	$\alpha_{(i-1)}$	$a_{(i-1)}$	d_i	θ_i
0	0	0	0	θ_0
1	0	a_0	0	θ_1
2	-90	a_1	d_2	θ_2

$$_0T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta_0 & -\sin\theta_0 & 0 & 0 \\ \sin\theta_0 & \cos\theta_0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is just a rotation around the Z_0 axis

$$_1^0T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta_1 & -\sin\theta_1 & 0 & a_0 \\ \sin\theta_1 & \cos\theta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is a translation by a_0 followed by a rotation around the Z_1 axis

$$_2^1T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta_2 & -\sin\theta_2 & 0 & a_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_2 \\ -\sin\theta_2 & -\cos\theta_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is a translation by a_1 and then d_2 followed by a rotation around the X_2 and Z_2 axis
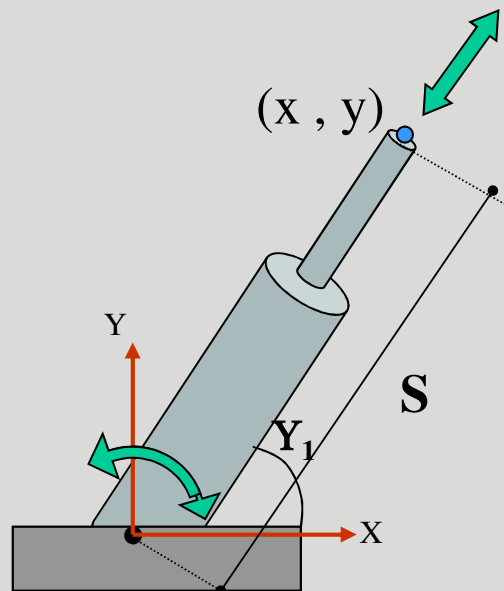
$$T = (_0T)(_1^0T)(_2^1T)$$

Inverse Kinematics

From Position to Angles

A Simple Example

Revolute and
Prismatic Joints
Combined

Finding **Y**: $\theta = \arctan(\frac{y}{x})$

More Specifically:

$\theta = \arctan 2(\frac{y}{x})$ arctan2() specifies that it's in the first quadrant

the function **atan2** is the arctangent function with two arguments. The purpose of using two arguments instead of one is to gather information on the signs of the inputs in order to return the appropriate quadrant of the computed angle, which is not possible for the single-argument arctangent function.
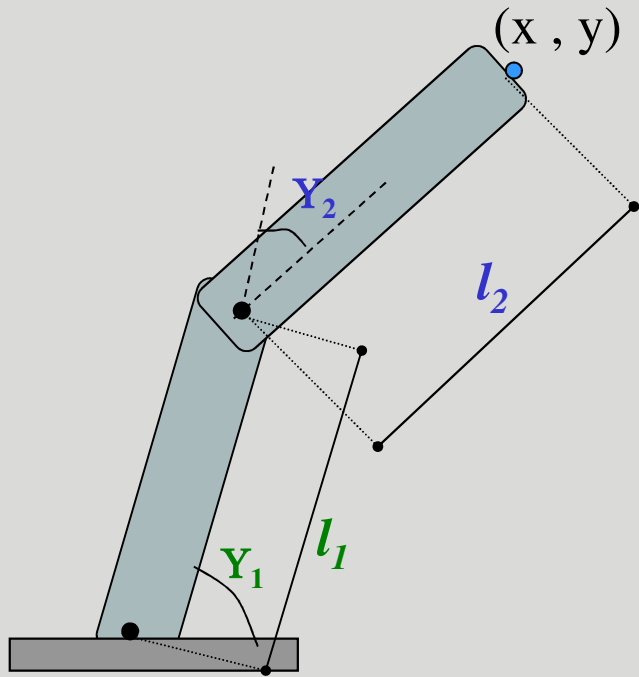
(x , y)

Y

S

Y_1

X
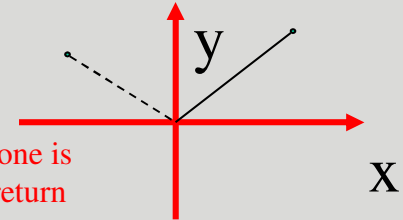
$\theta = a\tan 2(y,x) = \begin{cases} 0° \leq \theta \leq 90° & for \quad +x \quad and \quad +y \\ 90° \leq \theta \leq 180° & for \quad -x \quad and \quad +y \\ -180° \leq \theta \leq -90° & for \quad -x \quad and \quad -y \\ -90° \leq \theta \leq 0° & for \quad +x \quad and \quad -y \end{cases}$

Finding **S**:

$S = \sqrt{(x^2 + y^2)}$

Inverse Kinematics of a Two Link Manipulator
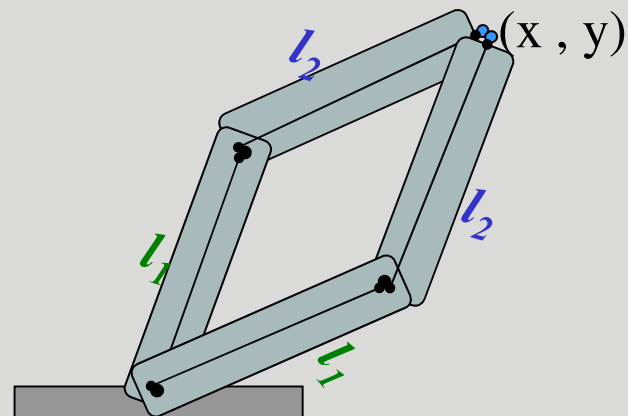
(x , y)

Y₂

l₂

Y₁

l₁

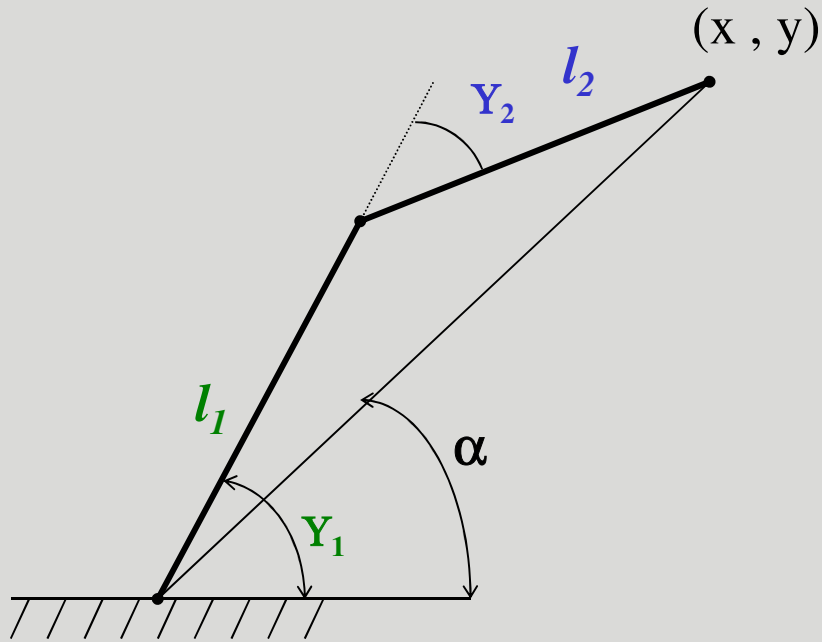Given: l_1, l_2, x, y

Find: Y_1, Y_2

Redundancy:

  A unique solution to this problem does not exist. Notice, that using the "givens" two solutions are possible. Sometimes no solution is possible.

l_2

(x , y)

l_2

l_1

l_1

The Geometric Solution

Using the Law of Cosines:

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab\cos C$$

$$(x^2 + y^2) = l_1^2 + l_2^2 - 2l_1l_2\cos(180 - \theta_2)$$

$$\cos(180 - \theta_2) = -\cos(\theta_2)$$

$$\cos(\theta_2) = \frac{x^2 + y^2 - l_1^2 - l_2^2}{2l_1l_2}$$

$$\theta_2 = \arccos\left(\frac{x^2 + y^2 - l_1^2 - l_2^2}{2l_1l_2}\right)$$

Redundant since θ_2 could be in the first or fourth quadrant.

Using the Law of Cosines:

$$\frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$$

$$\frac{\sin\overline{\theta}_1}{l_2} = \frac{\sin(180 - \theta_2)}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} = \frac{\sin(\theta_2)}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

$$\theta_1 = \overline{\theta}_1 + \alpha$$

$$\alpha = \arctan 2\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

Redundancy caused since θ_2 has two possible values

$$\theta_1 = \arcsin\left(\frac{l_2\sin(\theta_2)}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}\right) + \arctan 2\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

The Algebraic Solution
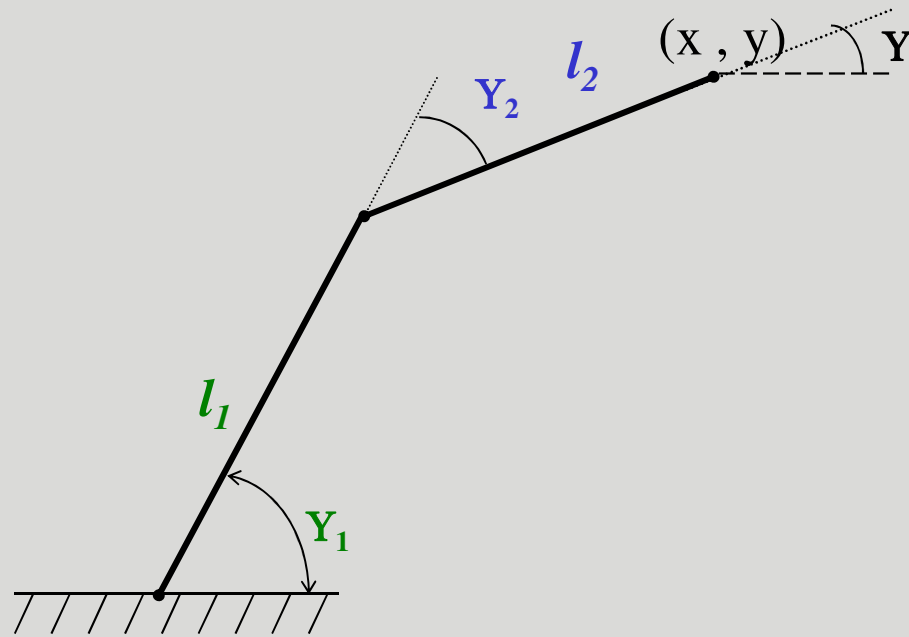
$c_1 = \cos \theta_1$

$c_{1+2} = \cos(\theta_2 + \theta_1)$

(1) $x = l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{1+2}$

(2) $y = l_1 s_1 + l_2 \sin_{1+2}$

(3) $\theta = \theta_1 + \theta_2$

$(1)^2 + (2)^2 = x^2 + y^2 =$

$= \left(l_1^2 c_1^2 + l_2^2 (c_{1+2})^2 + 2l_1 l_2 c_1(c_{1+2}) \right) + \left(l_1^2 s_1^2 + l_2^2 (\sin_{1+2})^2 + 2l_1 l_2 s_1(\sin_{1+2}) \right)$

$= l_1^2 + l_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2 \left(c_1(c_{1+2}) + s_1(\sin_{1+2}) \right)$

$= l_1^2 + l_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2\, \boxed{c_2}$ ← Only Unknown

$\therefore \theta_2 = \arccos\left(\dfrac{x^2 + y^2 - l_1^2 - l_2^2}{2l_1 l_2} \right)$

Note:

$\cos(a \overset{+}{_-} b) = (\cos a)(\cos b) \overset{-}{_+} (\sin a)(\sin b)$

$\sin(a \overset{+}{_-} b) = (\cos a)(\sin b) \overset{+}{_-} (\cos b)(\sin a)$

$$x = l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{1+2}$$
$$= l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_1 c_2 - l_2 s_1 s_2$$
$$= c_1 (l_1 + l_2 c_2) - s_1 (l_2 s_2)$$

Note:
$$\cos(a \overset{+}{-} b) = (\cos a)(\cos b) \overset{-}{+} (\sin a)(\sin b)$$
$$\sin(a \overset{+}{-} b) = (\cos a)(\sin b) \overset{+}{-} (\cos b)(\sin a)$$

$$y = l_1 s_1 + l_2 \sin_{1+2}$$
$$= l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_1 c_2 + l_2 s_2 c_1$$
$$= c_1 (l_2 s_2) + s_1 (l_1 + l_2 c_2)$$

We know what θ_2 is from the previous slide. We need to solve for θ_1 . Now we have two equations and two unknowns (sin θ_1 and cos θ_1)

$$c_1 = \frac{x + s_1 (l_2 s_2)}{(l_1 + l_2 c_2)}$$

$$y = \frac{x + s_1 (l_2 s_2)}{(l_1 + l_2 c_2)} (l_2 s_2) + s_1 (l_1 + l_2 c_2)$$

Substituting for c_1 and simplifying many times

$$= \frac{1}{(l_1 + l_2 c_2)} \left(x \, l_2 s_2 + s_1 (l_1{}^2 + l_2{}^2 + 2 l_1 l_2 \, c_2) \right)$$

Notice this is the law of cosines and can be replaced by $x^2 + y^2$

$$s_1 = \frac{y(l_1 + l_2 c_2) - x \, l_2 s_2}{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\theta_1 = \arcsin \left(\frac{y(l_1 + l_2 c_2) - x \, l_2 s_2}{x^2 + y^2} \right)$$