

# Math Fundamentals

EE468/CE468: Mobile Robotics

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- 1 Reference Frames and Coordinate Axes
- 2 Frames for robots
- 3 Transformations
- 4 Change of reference frames
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# Measurements require context.

- Speed of your car is measured as 45 km/h by the speed gun on Shuhada-e-ASF road.



# Measurements require context.



- Speed of your car is measured as 45 km/h by the speed gun on Shuhada-e-ASF road.
- Every measurement requires context:
  - Unit system (e.g. meters, hour)
  - Number system (e.g. base 10)
  - Coordinate system (e.g. north, east)
  - Reference frame to which measurement is ascribed (e.g. car)
  - Reference system with respect to which measurement is made (e.g. speed gun)



# Is coordinate system same as frame of reference? [1, Section 4.1]

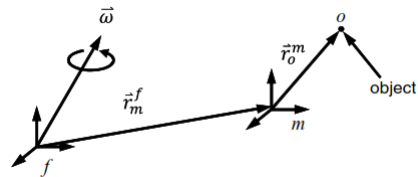


Figure: Transformation between frames

- **Coordinate systems** are conventions for representation.
- A **reference frame** is a state of motion, which is linked to a moving body for convenience.

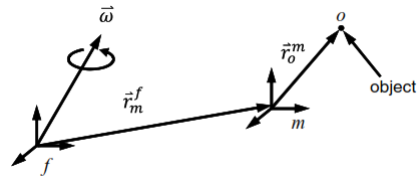


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- **Coordinate systems** are conventions for representation.
- A **reference frame** is a state of motion, which is linked to a moving body for convenience.
- We use laws of physics to convert among frames, while laws of physics hold regardless of coordinate system.

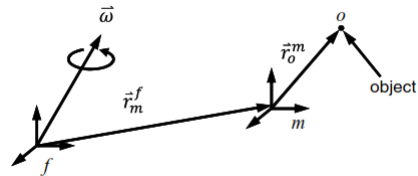
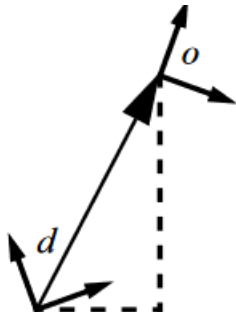


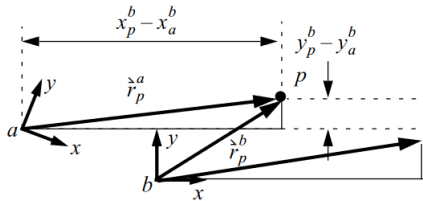
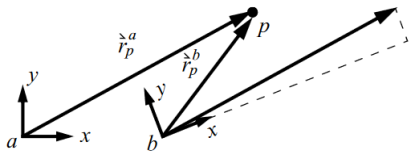
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$${}^c r_o^d$$


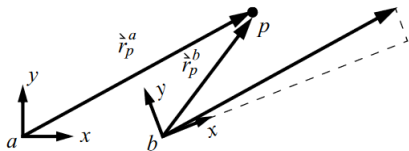
$r$ : physical quantity / property  
 $o$ : object possessing property  
 $d$ : object whose state of motion serves as datum  
 $c$ : object whose coordinate system is used to express result

# Change of reference frame vs Change of coordinates

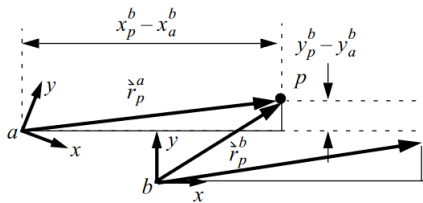


- Datum with respect to which measurement is made has changed.
- This is change of reference frame.
- Requires laws of physics.

# Change of reference frame vs Change of coordinates



- Datum with respect to which measurement is made has changed.
- This is change of reference frame.
- Requires laws of physics.



- Change of coordinates. Quantity remains  $r_p^a$ .
- Quantity is free vector. Moved from origin of 'a' to origin of 'b'.
- Magnitude and direction remain the same.



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# Robot is modeled as a rigid body on wheels.

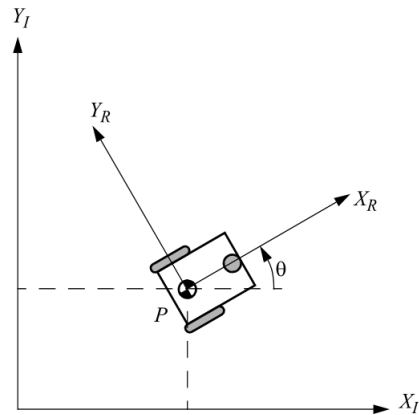


Figure: Pose of a mobile robot (Source: Autonomous Mobile Robots)

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- Robot **chassis** is the rigid body minus joints and wheels with internal dof.

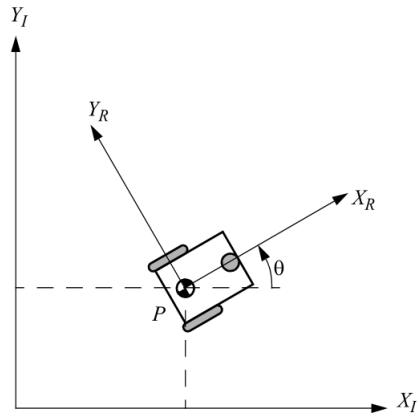


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# Robot is modeled as a rigid body on wheels.

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- Assume robot moves on horizontal plane only.

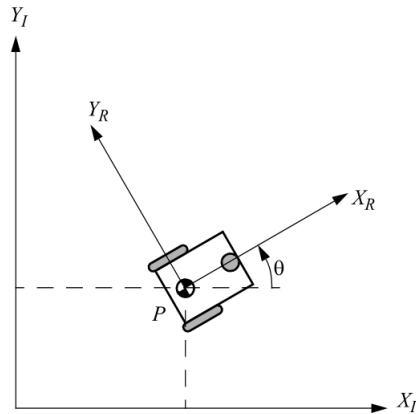


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# Robot is modeled as a rigid body on wheels.

- Robot **chassis** is the rigid body minus joints and wheels with internal dof.
- Assume robot moves on horizontal plane only.
- Describing motion of the frame  $\{R\}$ , rigidly attached to the chassis, with respect to a global inertial frame of reference  $\{I\}$  completely captures the motion of chassis.

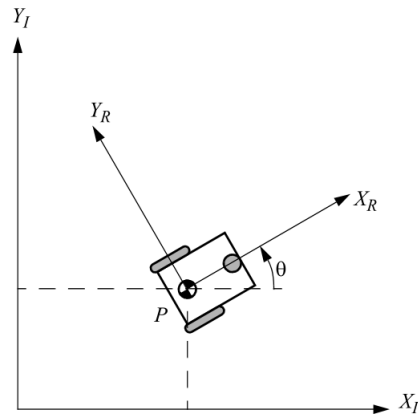


Figure: Pose of a mobile robot (Source: Autonomous Mobile Robots)



# Embedded frames abstract the motion of a body.

- Choose any point  $P$  on the robot chassis and attach a frame  $\{R\}$  to it.

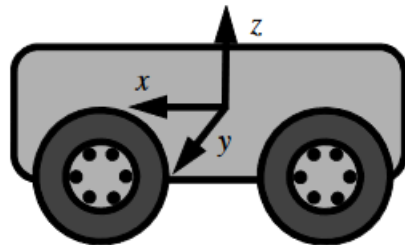


Figure: Embedded frame (Source: [1])

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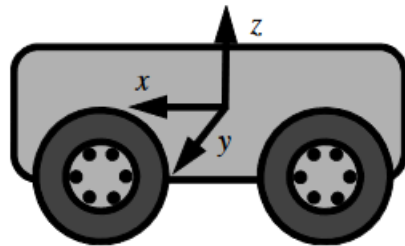


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# Embedded frames abstract the motion of a body.

- Choose any point  $P$  on the robot chassis and attach a frame  $\{R\}$  to it.
- Frame moves with the robot.
- It possesses properties of both reference frame and coordinate system.

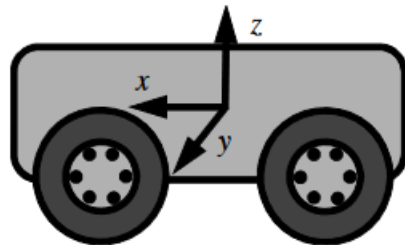
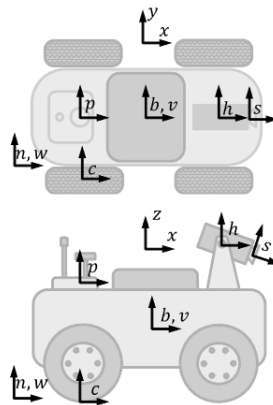


Figure: Embedded frame (Source: [1])

- w: world frame
- b: body frame
- c: wheel contact frame
- p: position estimator frame
- s: sensor frame
- h: sensor housing



**Figure 2.24 Standard Vehicle Frames.** Many coordinate frames are commonly used when modelling vehicles.



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Position in  $m$ -dimensional space is given by an  $m \times 1$  vector.

- $2 \times 1$  position vector

$${}^A P = \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \end{bmatrix}$$

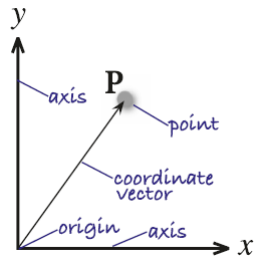


Figure: Source: Robotics, Vision, and Control

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- Superscript indicates coordinate axes or frame information.

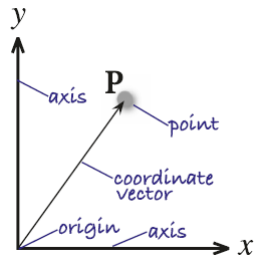


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We'll use rotation matrix to describe the orientation.

$$\hat{x}_b = \cos \theta \hat{x}_s + \sin \theta \hat{y}_s$$

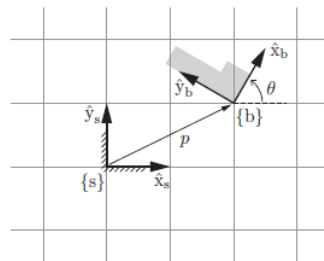


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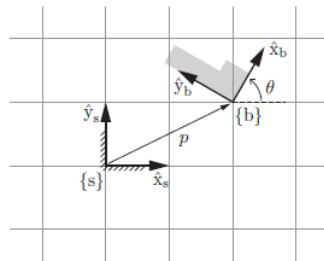


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- Orientation representation

$$\begin{aligned} {}^sR_b &= \begin{bmatrix} {}^s\hat{x}_b & {}^s\hat{y}_b \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \hat{x}_b \cdot \hat{x}_s & \hat{y}_b \cdot \hat{x}_s \\ \hat{x}_b \cdot \hat{y}_s & \hat{y}_b \cdot \hat{y}_s \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

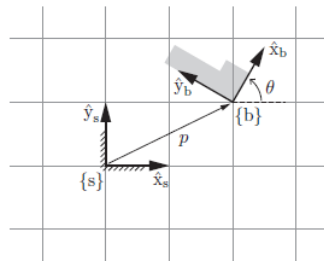


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- Called the **Rotation matrix**.

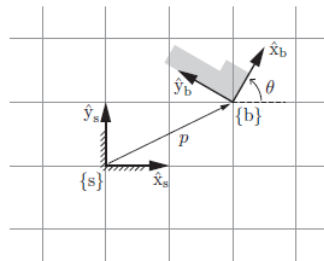


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Pair ( ${}^sP$ ,  ${}^sR_b$ ) can describe a reference frame relative to another.



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- Dof of planar end-effector (rigid body) is 3, but we're using 6 numbers here!
- Any rotation matrix,  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$  with columns  $c_i$ , has 3 constraints.
  - Each column is a unit vector, i.e.  $\|c_i\| = 1$ , for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .
  - Two columns are orthogonal to each other, i.e.  $c_1^T c_2 = 0$ .



# We want right-handed frames

- $\det R = +1$  corresponds to right-handed frame.
  - The  $\hat{x}$ ,  $\hat{y}$ , and  $\hat{z}$  of right-handed reference frame are aligned with index finger, middle finger, and thumb respectively.

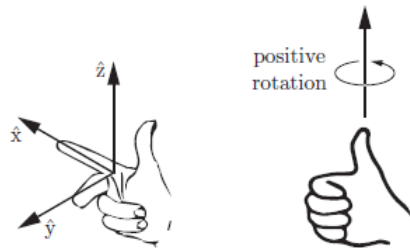


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- Positive rotation along an axis is in direction the fingers of right-hand curl when thumb is pointed along axis.

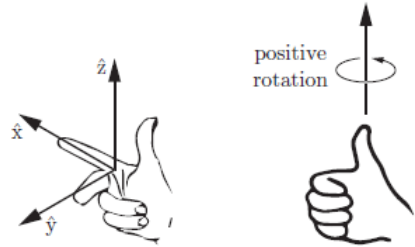


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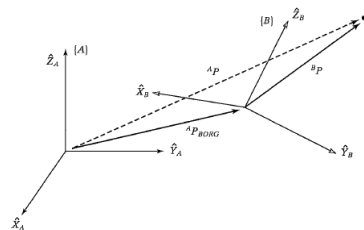


Figure: Source: Intro to Robotics, Mechanics and Control

- $$\begin{bmatrix} {}^A P \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B & {}^A O_B \\ \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^B P \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
- $4 \times 4$  matrix is called **homogeneous transformation**,  ${}^A T_B$ .
- $\begin{bmatrix} {}^B P \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is **homogeneous representation** of vector  ${}^B P$ .

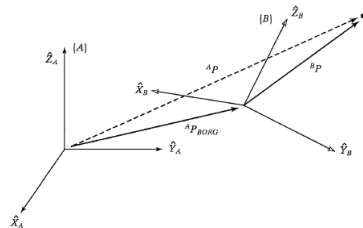


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# Three interpretations of homogeneous transformation, $T_B^A$

- **Description of relationship between frames:** Moves frame  $A$  to be in coincidence with frame  $B$ .



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- **Change of frame:** Same operator  $T_B^A$  acting on point  $r_P^B$ , vector relative to  $B$  and expressed in  $B$ , changes it to  $r_P^A$ , vector relative to  $A$  and expressed in  $A$ , i.e.  
$$r_P^A = T_B^A r_P^B$$

# Rotation matrix can be used to transform only coordinates.

- Given some velocity  $\xi$  in the global frame,  $I$ , we can convert its coordinates to the local frame,  $R$ , as:

$$\dot{\xi}_R = {}^R R_I \dot{\xi}_I$$

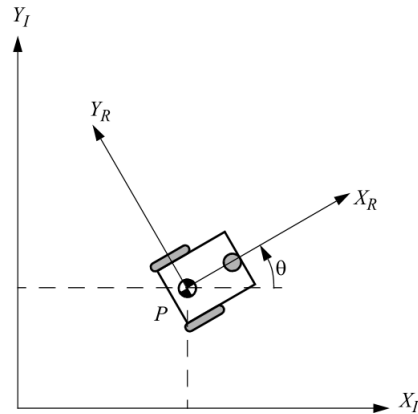


Figure: Pose of a mobile robot (Source: Autonomous Mobile Robots)



# Inverse of a rotation matrix is its transpose.

■ Interestingly,

$${}^R R_I^{-1} = {}^R R_I^T$$

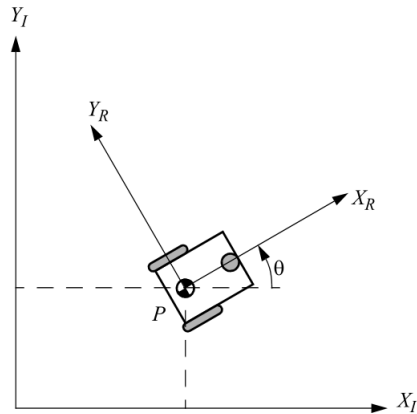


Figure: Pose of a mobile robot (Source: Autonomous Mobile Robots)

# Inverse of a rotation matrix is its transpose.

■ Interestingly,

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■ Inverse of a homogeneous transformation is not its transpose. We have to find matrix inverse.

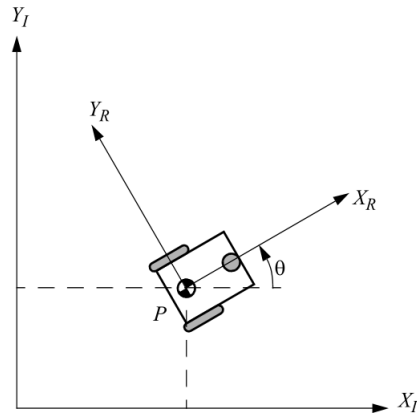
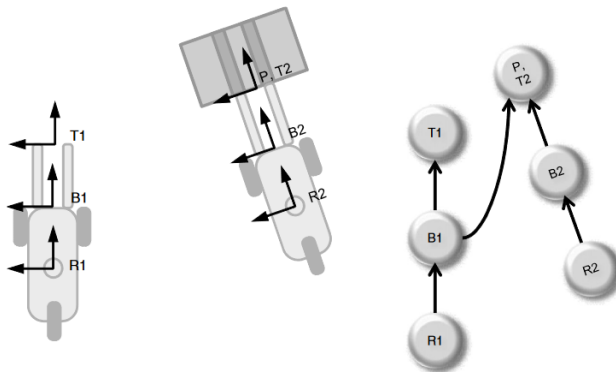
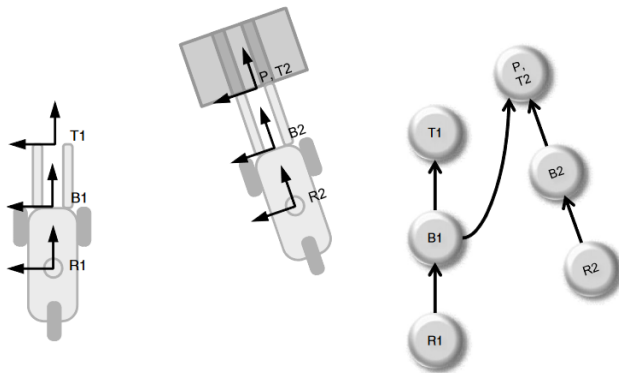


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**Figure 2.38 Kinematic Placement Problem.** Where must  $R2$  be relative to  $R1$  if the tip frame ( $T2$ ) is to be aligned with the pallet ( $P$ )?



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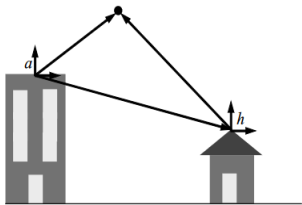
$$T_{R2}^{R1} = T_{B1}^{R1} T_P^{B1} T_{T2}^P T_{B2}^{T2} T_{R2}^{B2} = T_B^R T_P^B (T_T^B)^{-1} (T_B^R)^{-1}$$



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# Mutually Stationary Frames

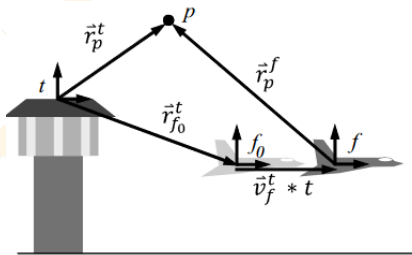


**Figure 4.2 Mutually Stationary Frames.** Observers in the two buildings will agree on the velocity of the particle but not on its position vector.

$$\vec{r}_p^a = \vec{r}_p^h + \vec{r}_h^a$$

Differentiating the expression,

$$\vec{v}_p^a = \vec{v}_p^h$$



**Figure 4.3 Frames Moving at Constant Velocity.** Observers in the tower and airplane will agree on the acceleration of the particle but not on its velocity vector.

$$\vec{r}_p^t = \vec{r}_p^f + \vec{r}_{f0}^t + \vec{v}_f^t \cdot t$$

Differentiating the expression,

$$\vec{v}_p^t = \vec{v}_p^f + \vec{v}_f^t$$



# Rotating Frames: Coriolis Equation or Transport Theorem

- Frame  $m$  is rotating with respect to frame  $f$  with instantaneous angular velocity  $\vec{\omega}$ .
- For any vector  $\vec{u}$ ,

$$\left(\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt}\right)_f = \left(\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt}\right)_m + \vec{\omega} \times \vec{u}$$



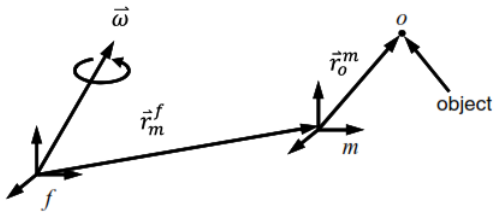


Figure: Frames in general motion

$$\vec{r}_o^f = \vec{r}_m^f + \vec{r}_o^m$$

Differentiating,

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}_o^f &= \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_f \vec{r}_m^f + \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_f \vec{r}_o^m \\ &= \vec{v}_m^f + \vec{v}_o^m + \vec{\omega}_m^f \times \vec{r}_o^m \end{aligned}$$



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- 
- [1] **Alonzo Kelly.**  
**Mobile robotics: mathematics, models, and methods.**  
Cambridge University Press, 2013.