

Robotics Project: Part 1

● Interface

Using MATLAB R2019a to finish the project. Open the ‘forward_kinematics.m’ and ‘inverse_kinematics.m’ and run the script. Command window will show the instruction for the user to enter the parameters.

● Program Architecture

- Inverse kinematics:
Define the T_6 matrix and the [n o a p] from user’s input.
Calculate the joint valuables $[\theta_1 \ \theta_2 \ d_3 \ \theta_4 \ \theta_5 \ \theta_6]$ one by one.
Check the joint limit.
Print the result.
- Forward kinematics:
Define the T_6 matrix from user’s input.
Calculate $(x, y, z, \ \psi, \theta, \phi)$.
Print the result.

● Mathematics

- Inverse kinematics:
input: Cartesian point (n, o, a, p).
output: the corresponding joint variables.

To solve inverse kinematics of Stanford Arm, we first obtain the transformation matrix A_1 to A_6 , the process is in the forward kinematics below.

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & 0 & -s_1 & 0 \\ s_1 & 0 & c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & A_2 &= \begin{bmatrix} c_2 & 0 & s_1 & 0 \\ s_2 & 0 & -c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & d_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & A_3 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ A_4 &= \begin{bmatrix} c_4 & 0 & -s_4 & 0 \\ s_4 & 0 & c_4 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & A_5 &= \begin{bmatrix} c_5 & 0 & s_5 & 0 \\ s_5 & 0 & -c_5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & A_6 &= \begin{bmatrix} c_6 & -s_6 & 0 & 0 \\ s_6 & c_6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

We first look at the first three joints of robot arm,

$$T_3 = A_1 * A_2 * A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & c_1 s_2 d_3 - s_1 d_2 \\ | & | & | & s_1 s_2 d_3 + c_1 d_2 \\ | & | & | & c_2 d_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} n_x & o_x & a_x & p_x \\ n_y & o_y & a_y & p_y \\ n_z & o_z & a_z & p_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The equation above, there are no obvious relationships that isolate a single joint variable $(\theta_1, \theta_2, d_3)$, so we rearrange the equation to let the variable be isolated.

$$A_1^{-1} * T_3 = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & c_1 p_x + s_1 p_y \\ | & | & | & -p_z \\ | & | & | & -s_1 p_x + c_1 p_y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & s_2 d_3 \\ | & | & | & -c_2 d_3 \\ | & | & | & d_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = A_2 * A_3$$

We can now equate the third element of the fourth column of $A_1^{-1} * T_3$ and $A_2 * A_3$,

$$-s_1 p_x + c_1 p_y = d_3$$

Now define variables $r = \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}$ and $\Psi = \text{atan2}(p_y, p_x)$, $p_x = r \cos \phi$, $p_y = r \sin \phi$,

substituting this into the equation above, we can obtain $\sin(\phi - \theta_1) = \frac{d_3}{r}$. Using the fact that

$$\cos \theta = \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta}, \quad \cos(\phi - \theta_1) = \pm \frac{\sqrt{r^2 - d_3^2}}{r}, \quad \tan(\phi - \theta_1) = \pm \frac{d_3}{\sqrt{r^2 - d_3^2}}.$$

$$\theta_1 = \text{atan2}(p_y, p_x) - \text{atan2}(d_3, \pm \sqrt{r^2 - d_3^2}).$$

For θ_2 , we equate the (1,4) and (2,4) elements of $A_1^{-1} * T_3$ and $A_2 * A_3$,

$$\begin{aligned} s_2 d_3 &= c_1 p_x + s_1 p_y \\ c_2 d_3 &= p_z \\ \tan \theta_2 &= \frac{s_2 d_3}{c_2 d_3} = \frac{c_1 p_x + s_1 p_y}{p_z} \\ \theta_2 &= \text{atan2}(c_1 p_x + s_1 p_y, p_z). \end{aligned}$$

To find d_3 , multiply $s_2 d_3 = c_1 p_x + s_1 p_y$ by s_2 and multiply $c_2 d_3 = p_z$ by c_2 , then add the these two equations.

$$d_3 = s_2(c_1 p_x + s_1 p_y) + c_2 p_z$$

After solving the three joints, we can take off the effect of them by multiply T_6 by $A_3^{-1} * A_2^{-1} * A_1^{-1}$,

$$\begin{aligned} A_3^{-1} * A_2^{-1} * A_1^{-1} * T_6 &= \begin{bmatrix} c_1 c_2 & c_2 s_1 & -s_2 & 0 \\ -s_1 & c_1 & 0 & -d_2 \\ c_1 s_2 & s_1 s_2 & c_2 & -d_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_x & o_x & a_x & p_x \\ n_y & o_y & a_y & p_y \\ n_z & o_z & a_z & p_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} c_4 c_5 c_6 - s_4 s_6 & -s_4 s_6 - c_4 c_5 c_6 & c_4 s_5 & 0 \\ c_4 s_6 + s_4 c_5 c_6 & c_4 c_6 - s_4 c_5 c_6 & s_4 s_5 & 0 \\ -s_5 c_6 & s_5 s_6 & c_5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = A_4 * A_5 * A_6 \end{aligned}$$

From (1,3) and (2,3) of the matrix, we obtain two equations to solve θ_4

$$\begin{aligned} c_4 s_5 &= a_x c_1 c_2 + a_y c_2 s_1 - a_z s_2 \\ s_4 s_5 &= -a_x s_1 + a_y c_1 \\ \theta_4 &= \text{atan}\left(\frac{s_4 s_5}{c_4 s_5}\right) = \text{atan}\left(\frac{-a_x s_1 + a_y c_1}{a_x c_1 c_2 + a_y c_2 s_1 - a_z s_2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

From (3,1) and (3,2) of the matrix, we obtain two equations to solve θ_6

$$s_5 c_6 = -(n_x c_1 s_2 + n_y s_1 s_2 + n_z c_2)$$

$$s_5 s_6 = o_x c_1 s_2 + o_y s_1 s_2 + o_z c_2$$

$$\theta_6 = \text{atan}\left(\frac{s_5 s_6}{s_5 c_6}\right) = \text{atan}\left(\frac{o_x c_1 s_2 + o_y s_1 s_2 + o_z c_2}{-(n_x c_1 s_2 + n_y s_1 s_2 + n_z c_2)}\right)$$

Finally, we multiply T_6 by $A_4^{-1} * A_3^{-1} * A_2^{-1} * A_1^{-1}$,

$$A_4^{-1} * A_3^{-1} * A_2^{-1} * A_1^{-1} * T_6$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c_1 c_2 c_4 - s_1 s_4 & c_1 s_4 + c_2 c_4 s_1 & -c_4 s_2 & -d_2 s_4 \\ -c_1 s_2 & -s_1 s_2 & -c_2 & d_3 \\ -c_4 s_1 - c_1 c_2 s_4 & c_1 c_4 - c_2 s_1 s_4 & s_2 s_4 & -d_2 c_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_x & o_x & a_x & p_x \\ n_y & o_y & a_y & p_y \\ n_z & o_z & a_z & p_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c_5 c_6 & -c_5 s_6 & s_5 & 0 \\ c_6 s_5 & -s_5 s_6 & -c_5 & 0 \\ s_6 & c_6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = A_5 * A_6$$

$$s_5 = a_x(c_1 c_2 c_4 - s_1 s_4) + a_y(c_1 s_4 + c_2 c_4 s_1) + a_z(-c_4 s_2)$$

$$c_5 = -(a_x(-c_1 s_2) + a_y(-s_1 s_2) + a_z(-c_2))$$

$$\theta_5 = \text{atan}\left(\frac{s_5}{c_5}\right) = \text{atan}\left(\frac{a_x(c_1 c_2 c_4 - s_1 s_4) + a_y(c_1 s_4 + c_2 c_4 s_1) + a_z(-c_4 s_2)}{-(a_x(-c_1 s_2) + a_y(-s_1 s_2) + a_z(-c_2))}\right)$$

θ_1	$\text{atan}_2(p_y, p_x) - \text{atan}_2(d_2, \pm\sqrt{r^2 - d_2^2})$
θ_2	$\text{atan}_2(c_1 p_x + s_1 p_y, p_z)$
d_3	$s_2(c_1 p_x + s_1 p_y) + c_2 p_z$
θ_4	$\text{atan}\left(\frac{-a_x s_1 + a_y c_1}{a_x c_1 c_2 + a_y c_2 s_1 - a_z s_2}\right)$
θ_5	$\text{atan}\left(\frac{a_x(c_1 c_2 c_4 - s_1 s_4) + a_y(c_1 s_4 + c_2 c_4 s_1) + a_z(-c_4 s_2)}{-(a_x(-c_1 s_2) + a_y(-s_1 s_2) + a_z(-c_2))}\right)$
θ_6	$\text{atan}\left(\frac{o_x c_1 s_2 + o_y s_1 s_2 + o_z c_2}{-(n_x c_1 s_2 + n_y s_1 s_2 + n_z c_2)}\right)$

➤ Forward kinematics:

input: joint variables

output: Cartesian point (n, o, a, p) and (x, y, z, ψ, θ, ϕ)

Using D-H model to establish the relationship between two coordinate systems. First, find A_n transformation matrix between coordinate frames n-1 and n.

$$A_n = Rot(z, \theta_n) * Trans(0, 0, d_n) * Trans(a_n, 0, 0) * Rot(x, \alpha_n)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} c\theta_n & -s\theta_n c\alpha_n & s\theta_n s\alpha_n & a_n c\theta_n \\ s\theta_n & c\theta_n c\alpha_n & -c\theta_n s\alpha_n & a_n s\theta_n \\ 0 & s\alpha_n & c\alpha_n & d_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obtaining the D-H parameters from the kinematic table below,

Joint	$d(in)$	$a(in)$	α	θ
1	0	0	-90°	θ_1
2	6.375	0	90°	θ_2
3	d_3	0	0°	0
4	0	0	-90°	θ_4
5	0	0	90°	θ_5
6	0	0	0°	θ_6

By substituting the parameters into the transformation matrix, A_1 to A_6 will be

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & 0 & -s_1 & 0 \\ s_1 & 0 & c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} c_2 & 0 & s_2 & 0 \\ s_2 & 0 & -c_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & d_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} c_4 & 0 & -s_4 & 0 \\ s_4 & 0 & c_4 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_5 = \begin{bmatrix} c_5 & 0 & s_5 & 0 \\ s_5 & 0 & -c_5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_6 = \begin{bmatrix} c_6 & -s_6 & 0 & 0 \\ s_6 & c_6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore, from $T_N = A_1 * A_2 * A_3 * A_4 * A_5 * A_6$, we get the transformation matrix T_6 from base of robot to the tool which is at the end of robot. T_6 is look like the form below.

$$T_6 = \begin{bmatrix} n_x & o_x & a_x & p_x \\ n_y & o_y & a_y & p_y \\ n_z & o_z & a_z & p_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We can further divide T_6 into linear transformation and Euler angle transformation, the vector $[p_x \ p_y \ p_z]^T$ is the position of end effector $[x \ y \ z]^T$. Then we need to solve the Euler angles ψ, θ, ϕ .

$$Euler(\phi, \theta, \psi) = T_{6, without \ translation}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi \cos \theta \cos \psi - \sin \phi \sin \psi & -\cos \phi \cos \theta \sin \psi - \sin \phi \cos \psi & \cos \phi \sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \phi \cos \theta \cos \psi + \cos \phi \sin \psi & -\sin \phi \cos \theta \sin \psi + \cos \phi \cos \psi & \sin \phi \sin \theta & 0 \\ -\sin \theta \cos \psi & \sin \theta \sin \psi & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} n_x & o_x & a_x & 0 \\ n_y & o_y & a_y & 0 \\ n_z & o_z & a_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

From the solving process of ϕ, θ, ψ in the lecture note, we can obtain the solution:

$$\phi = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{a_y}{a_x}\right) \text{ or } \phi = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{a_y}{a_x}\right) + 180^\circ$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{s\theta}{c\theta}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{c\phi a_x + c\phi n_y}{a_z}\right)$$

$$\psi = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{s\psi}{c\psi}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{-s\phi n_x + c\phi n_y}{-s\phi o_x + c\phi o_y}\right)$$

$$x = p_x$$

$$y = p_y$$

$$z = p_z$$

● Bonus

➤ Algebraic method

It is complicated for increasing degree of freedoms.

Involving some complicated matrix multiplication.

The algebraic method may occur the problems like heavy computational burden, high time-consuming computation, and difficult symbolic expansion.

To keep numerical errors small, we may try to simplify the system of equations by some method.

Does not guarantee a solution for general structure and even if it exists.

➤ Geometric method

Need the intuition of robot physical construction in 3-D space.

The geometric method cannot solve the solutions of 4, 5, 6 axis.

Can obtain solution through less computation and phases.