

Kinematic Singularities and Jacobians

Geeth Karunarathne

Introduction

- the position and orientation of the manipulator end-effector were evaluated in relation to **joint displacements**.
- The joint displacements corresponding to a given end-effector location were obtained by solving the **kinematic equation** for the manipulator
- In order to move the end-effector in a **specified direction at a specified speed**, it is necessary to coordinate the motion of the individual joints.
- in order to coordinate joint motions, **we derive the differential relationship** between the joint displacements and the end-effector location, and then solve for the individual joint motions.

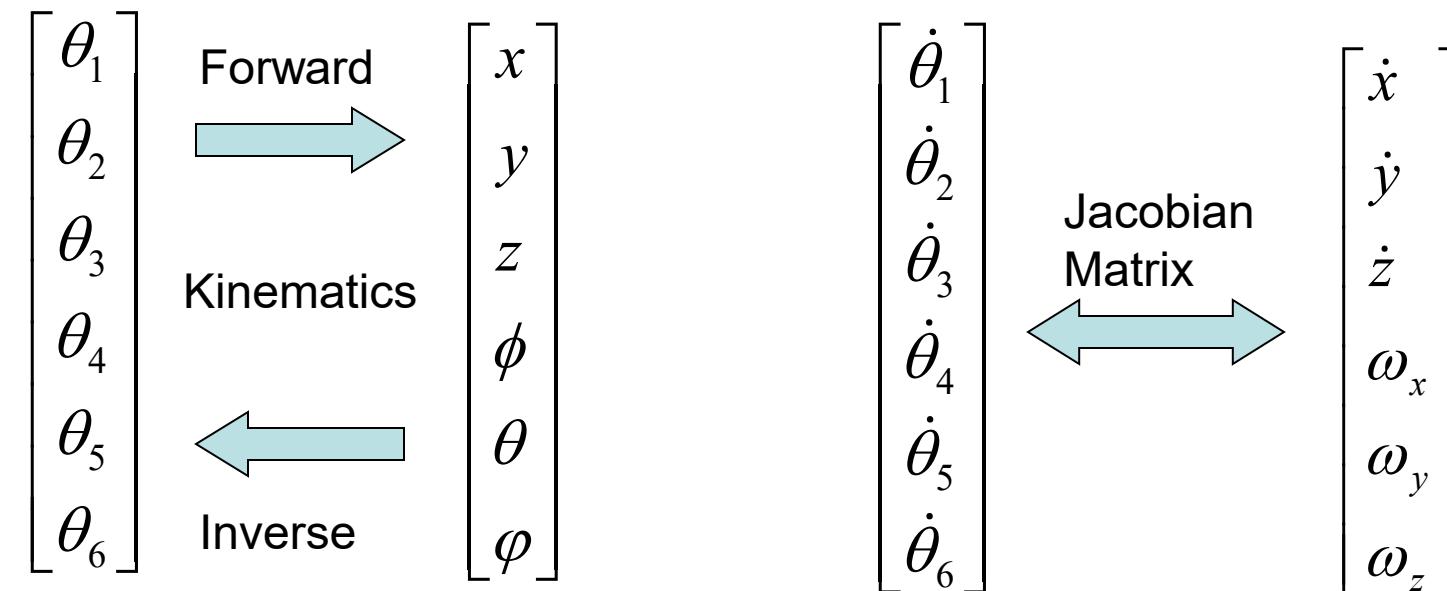
Kinematic Singularities

- If we try to control a manipulator in Cartesian space, we can sometimes run into difficulties since the inverse mapping from Cartesian space to joint space can sometimes become a problem.
- These **problem positions** of the robot are referred to as **singularities**
- At a singularity, the **mobility** of a manipulator is **reduced**.
- Usually, arbitrary motion of the manipulator in a Cartesian direction is lost.
- This is referred to as “**Losing a DOF**”.

Kinematic Singularities...

- Boundary Singularities (**workspace singularities**) are a common type of singularity.
- They are usually caused by a full extension of a joint, and asking the manipulator to move beyond where it can be positioned.
- Typically, this is trying to reach out of the workspace at the farthest extent of the workspace.
- Internal Singularities (**joint space singularities**).
- They are generally caused by an alignment of the robots axes in space.
- For example, if 2 axes become aligned in space, rotation of one can be canceled by counterrotation of the other, leaving the actual joint location indeterminate.

Jacobian Matrix



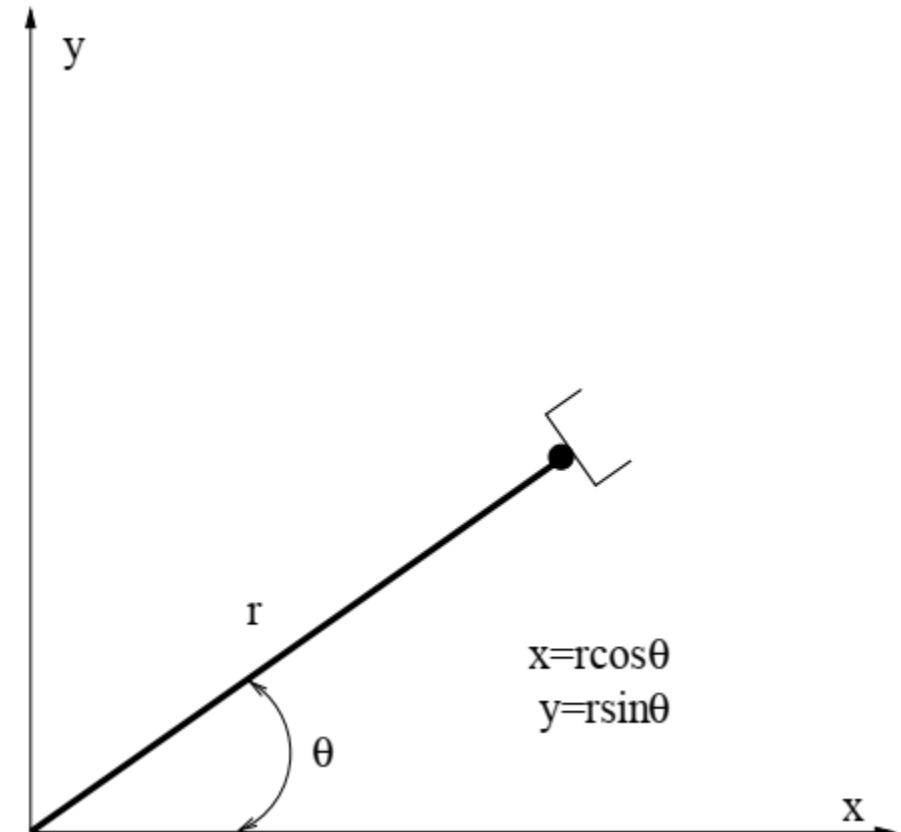
Joint Space

Task Space

Jacobian Matrix: Relationship between joint space velocity with task space velocity

Manipulator Jacobians

- Joint 1 is a revolute joint and joint 2 is a prismatic joint
- Let us find the rate of change of x and y
- their velocities, using the chain rule to differentiate x and y with respect to time t



2-DOF Polar, planar manipulator. The endpoint has coordinates $(r\cos\theta ; r\sin\theta)$.

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{\partial(r \cos\theta)}{\partial r} \frac{dr}{dt} + \frac{\partial(r \cos\theta)}{\partial\theta} \frac{d\theta}{dt} \implies \dot{x} = \cos\theta\dot{r} - r\sin\theta\dot{\theta}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{\partial(r \sin\theta)}{\partial r} \frac{dr}{dt} + \frac{\partial(r \sin\theta)}{\partial\theta} \frac{d\theta}{dt} \implies \dot{y} = \sin\theta\dot{r} + r\cos\theta\dot{\theta}$$

J

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{dx}{dt} \\ \frac{dy}{dt} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial\theta} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial\theta} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{d\theta}{dt} \\ \frac{dr}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -r\sin\theta & \cos\theta \\ r\cos\theta & \sin\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\theta} \\ \dot{r} \end{bmatrix}$$

Chain rule $z = F(x, y) \quad dz = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} dy \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$

Manipulator Jacobians...

- The matrix which relates changes in joint parameter velocities to Cartesian velocities is called the **Jacobian Matrix**.
- The Jacobian for this manipulator is:

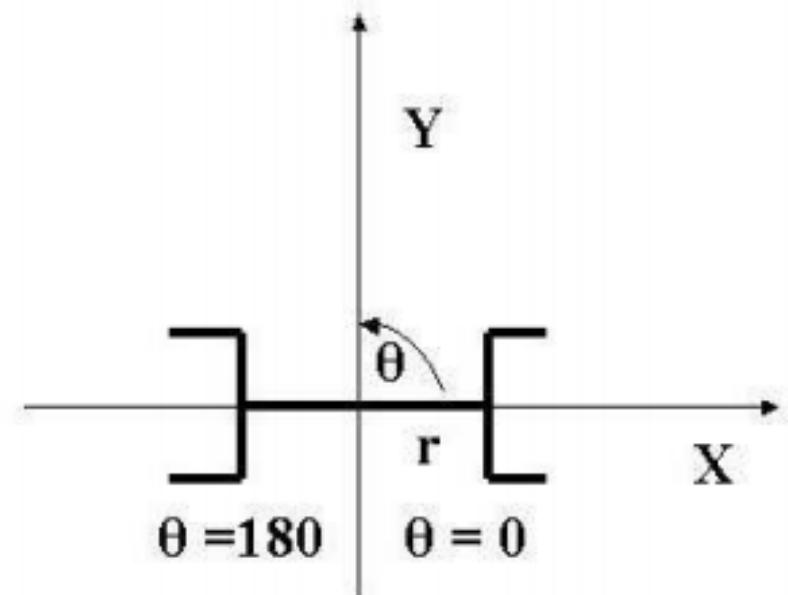
$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} = J \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\theta} \\ \dot{r} \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } J = \begin{bmatrix} -r \sin \theta & \cos \theta \\ r \cos \theta & \sin \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Manipulator Jacobians...

- If we specify the Cartesian velocities, we can find the joint parameter velocities with the inverse Jacobian.
- The inverse Jacobian is:
$$[J^{-1}] \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\theta} \\ \dot{r} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad J^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-\sin \theta}{r} & \frac{\cos \theta}{r} \\ \cos \theta & \sin \theta \end{bmatrix}$$
- A singularity occurs when the joint velocity in joint space becomes infinite to maintain Cartesian velocity.
- A singularity occurs whenever the determinant of the **Jacobian is 0**
- The associated Jacobian matrix is said to be singular. $\det(J) = 0$

Manipulator Jacobians...

- In this case, $\det(J) = -r$. The determinant is 0 when $r = 0$.
- Since r is the radius of the manipulator, the robot has a singularity when we try to move through the origin in Cartesian space.
- At this point, the joint space velocity of joint 1 becomes infinite to achieve any Cartesian velocity vector



Jacobian of 2-link Revolute-Revolute (RR) Manipulator

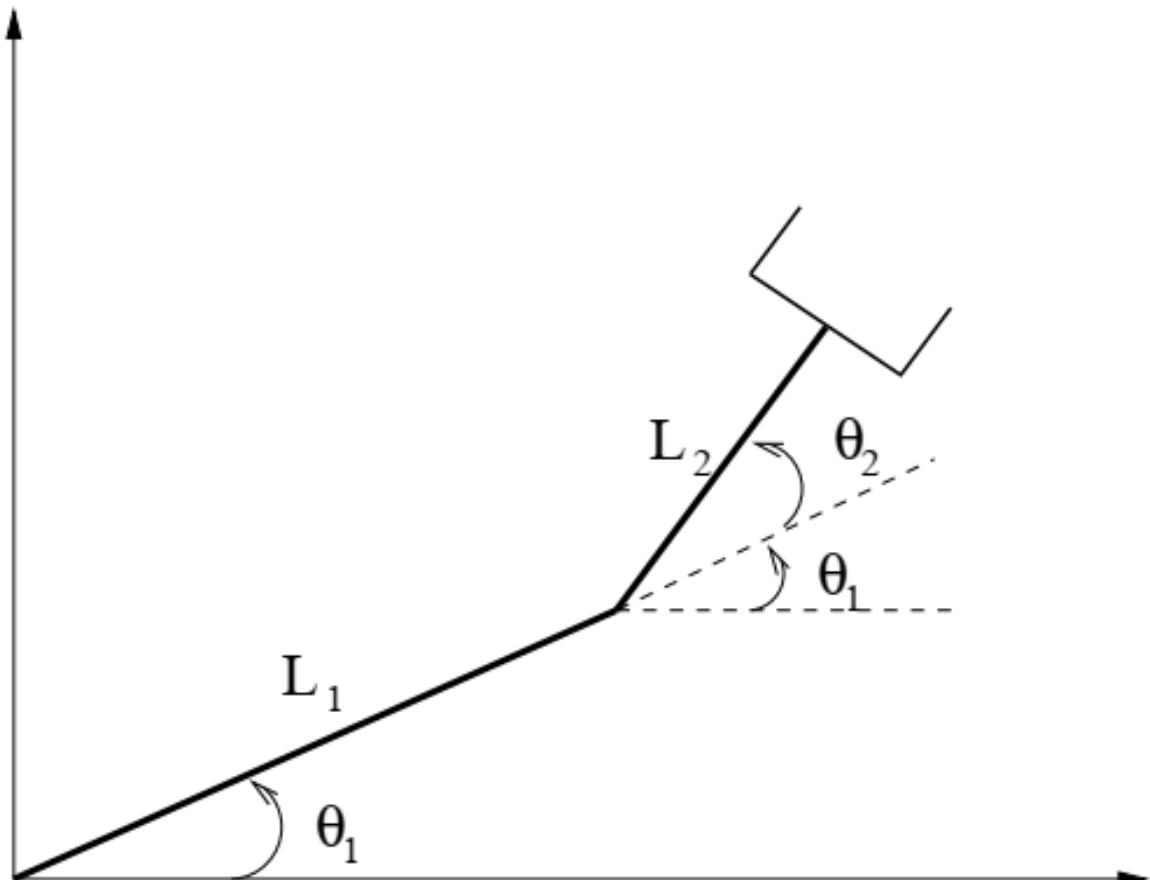


Figure 3: 2-Link RR Planar Manipulator

$$T_1^0 = \begin{bmatrix} C_1 & -S_1 & 0 & C_1 L_1 \\ S_1 & C_1 & 0 & S_1 L_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad T_2^1 = \begin{bmatrix} C_2 & -S_2 & 0 & C_2 L_2 \\ S_2 & C_2 & 0 & S_2 L_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad T_2^0 = \begin{bmatrix} C_{12} & -S_{12} & 0 & C_1 L_1 + L_2 C_{12} \\ S_{12} & C_{12} & 0 & S_1 L_1 + L_2 S_{12} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

we will find J such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{X} \\ \dot{Y} \end{bmatrix} = J \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\Theta}_1 \\ \dot{\Theta}_2 \end{bmatrix} ; \quad J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial X}{\partial \Theta_1} & \frac{\partial X}{\partial \Theta_2} \\ \frac{\partial Y}{\partial \Theta_1} & \frac{\partial Y}{\partial \Theta_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X = C_1 L_1 + L_2 C_{12} ; \frac{\partial X}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial(C_1 L_1 + L_2 C_{12})}{\partial \Theta_1} \frac{\partial \Theta_1}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(C_1 L_l + L_2 C_{12})}{\partial \Theta_2} \frac{\partial \Theta_2}{\partial t}$$

$$\dot{X} = (-S_1 L_1 - L_2 S_{12}) \dot{\Theta}_1 - L_2 S_{12} \dot{\Theta}_2$$

$$Y = S_1 L_1 + L_2 S_{12} ; \frac{\partial Y}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial(S_1 L_1 + L_2 S_{12})}{\partial \Theta_1} \frac{\partial \Theta_1}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(S_1 L_1 + L_2 S_{12})}{\partial \Theta_2} \frac{\partial \Theta_2}{\partial t}$$

$$\dot{Y} = (C_1 L_1 + L_2 C_{12}) \dot{\Theta}_1 + L_2 C_{12} \dot{\Theta}_2$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{X} \\ \dot{Y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -S_1 L_1 - L_2 S_{12} & -L_2 S_{12} \\ C_1 L_1 + L_2 C_{12} & L_2 C_{12} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\Theta}_1 \\ \dot{\Theta}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

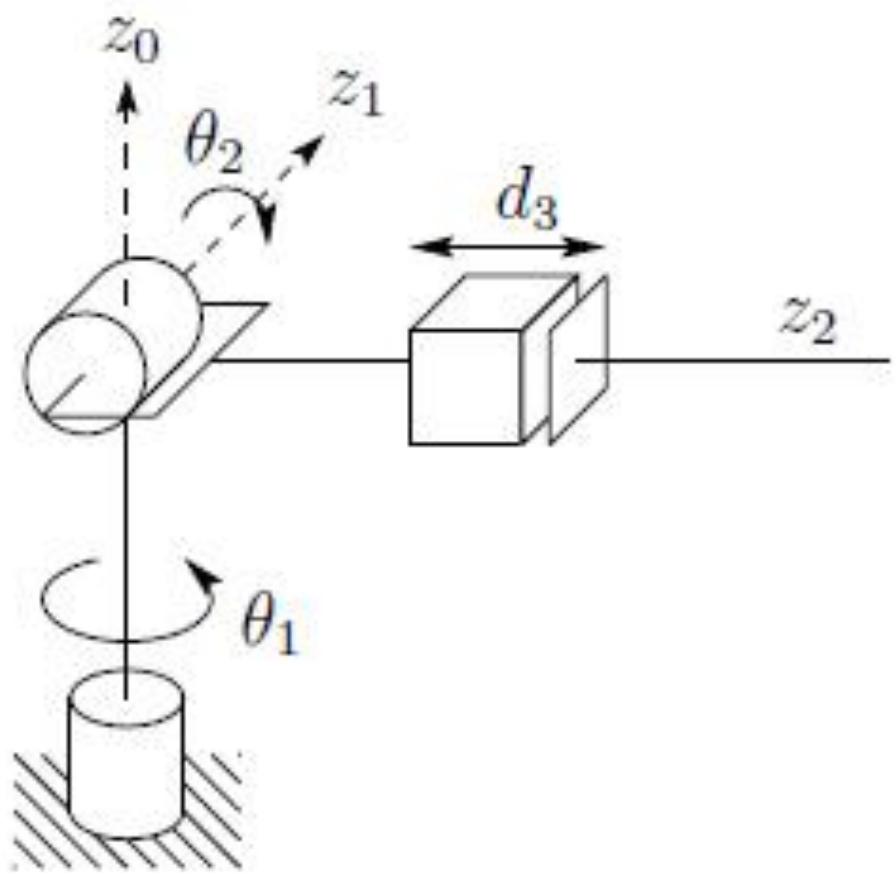
Finding Singularities of the 2-Link Manipulator

- If we invert the Jacobian, we get: $J^{-1} \dot{X} = \dot{\Theta}$
- The inverse is undefined whenever $\det(J)=0$. So, by solving $\det(J)=0$, we can find singularities in the robot workspace.

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} -S_1L_1 - L_2S_{12} & -L_2S_{12} \\ C_1L_1 + L_2C_{12} & L_2C_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\det(J) &= (-S_1L_1 - L_2S_{12})(L_2C_{12}) + (L_2S_{12})(C_1L_1 + L_2C_{12}) \\ &= -S_1L_1L_2C_{12} - L_2^2S_{12}C_{12} + C_1L_1L_2S_{12} + L_2^2S_{12}C_{12} \\ &= L_1L_2(S_{12}C_1 - C_{12}S_1) = L_1L_2(S(\Theta_1 + \Theta_2 - \Theta_1)) \\ \det(J) &= L_1L_2S\Theta_2\end{aligned}$$

RRP robot(Stanford arm)



$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C_1 S_2 d_3 - S_1 d_2 \\ S_1 S_2 d_3 + C_1 d_2 \\ C_2 d_3 + d_1 \end{bmatrix}; \begin{bmatrix} \dot{X} \\ \dot{Y} \\ \dot{Z} \end{bmatrix} = J \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\Theta}_1 \\ \dot{\Theta}_2 \\ \dot{d}_3 \end{bmatrix}; \begin{bmatrix} \dot{X} \\ \dot{Y} \\ \dot{Z} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial X}{\partial \Theta_1} & \frac{\partial X}{\partial \Theta_2} & \frac{\partial X}{\partial d_3} \\ \frac{\partial Y}{\partial \Theta_1} & \frac{\partial Y}{\partial \Theta_2} & \frac{\partial Y}{\partial d_3} \\ \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \Theta_1} & \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \Theta_2} & \frac{\partial Z}{\partial d_3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\Theta}_1 \\ \dot{\Theta}_2 \\ \dot{d}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} -S_1 S_2 d_3 - C_1 d_2 & C_1 C_2 d_3 & C_1 S_2 \\ C_1 S_2 d_3 - S_1 d_2 & S_1 C_2 d_3 & S_1 S_2 \\ 0 & -S_2 d_3 & C_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Singularities: when $\det(J)=0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det(J) &= S_2 d_3 (S_1 S_2 (-S_1 S_2 d_3 - C_1 d_2) - C_1 S_2 (C_1 S_2 d_3 - S_1 d_2)) \\
 &\quad + C_2 ((-S_1 S_2 d_3 - C_1 d_2)(S_1 C_2 d_3) - (C_1 S_2 d_3 - S_1 d_2)(C_1 C_2 d_3)) \\
 &= S_2 d_3 [-S_1^2 S_2^2 d_3 - S_1 S_2 C_1 d_2 - C_1^2 S_1^2 d_3 + C_1 S_1 S_2 d_2] \\
 &\quad + C_2 [-S_1^2 S_2 C_2 d_3^2 - C_1 S_1 C_2 d_2 d_3 - C_1^2 S_2 C_2 d_3^2 + C_1 S_1 C_2 d_2 d_3] \\
 &= S_2 d_3 [-d_3 S_2^2 [C_1^2 + S_1^2] + C_2 [-S_2 C_2 d_3^2 [S_1^2 + C_1^2]]] \\
 &= S_2 d_3 [-d_3 S_2^2] - C_2^2 S_2 d_3^2 = -S_2^2 d_3^2 - C_2^2 S_2 d_3^2 = -S_2 d_3^2 [S_2^2 + C_2^2] \\
 \det(J) &= -S_2 d_3^2
 \end{aligned}$$

