

Screws

Reading: Modern Robotics 3.3.2 – 3.3.3



This Lecture



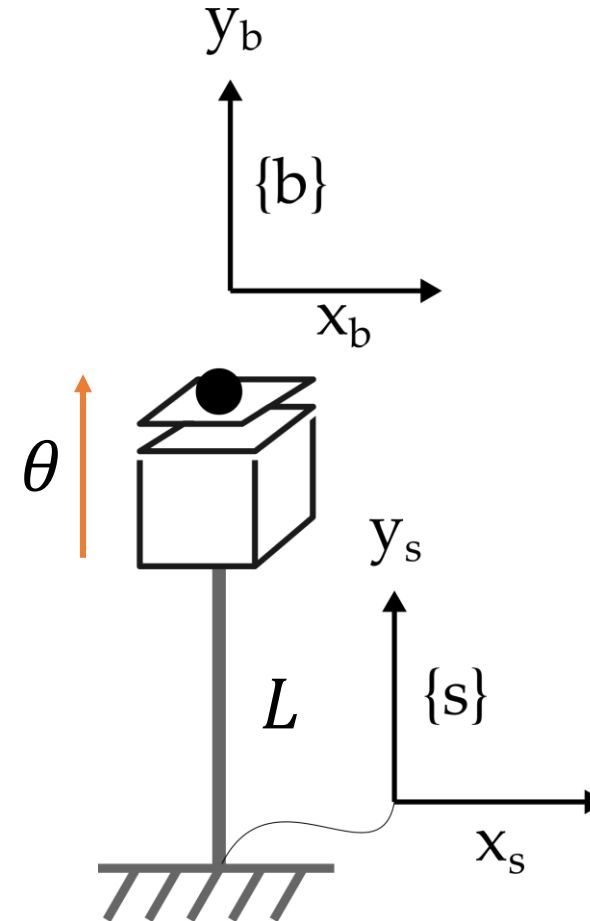
- What twists are associated with prismatic and revolute joints?
- What are screws?
- How can we use screws to find the pose of a moving joint?



Prismatic Joints

Pure translation. 1-DoF joint that enables the link to translate but not rotate

$$V_s = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ v_s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ -\omega_s \times p + \dot{p} \end{bmatrix}$$



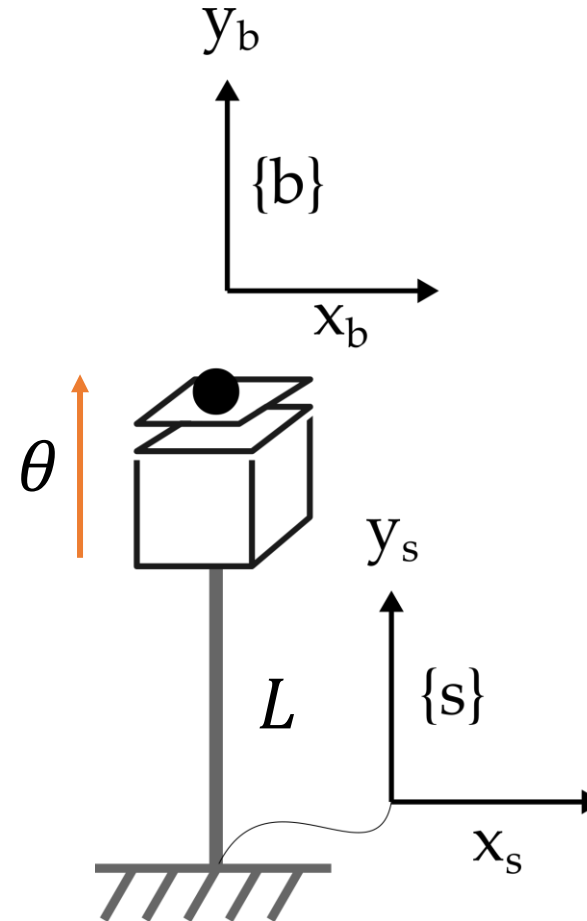
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$\omega_s = 0$

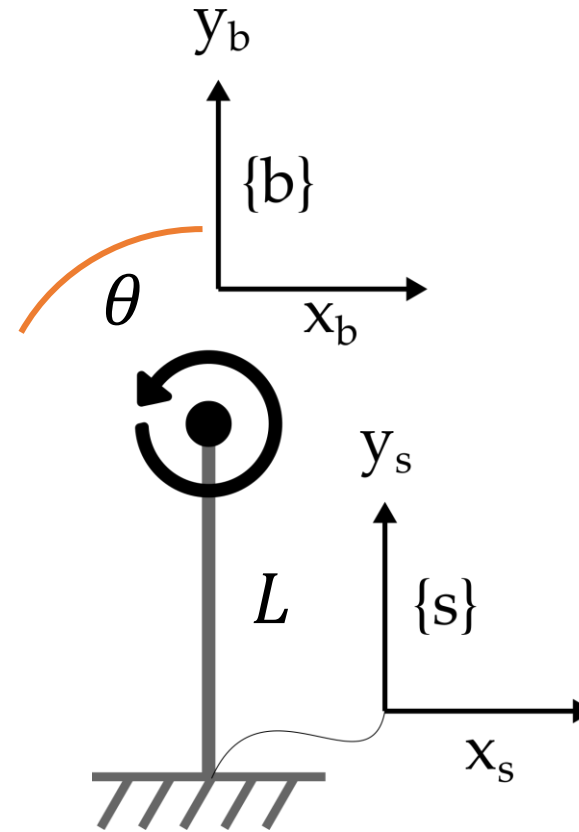
$$V_s = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ v_s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \dot{p} \end{bmatrix}$$



Revolute Joints

Pure rotation. 1-DoF joint that enables the link to rotate but not translate

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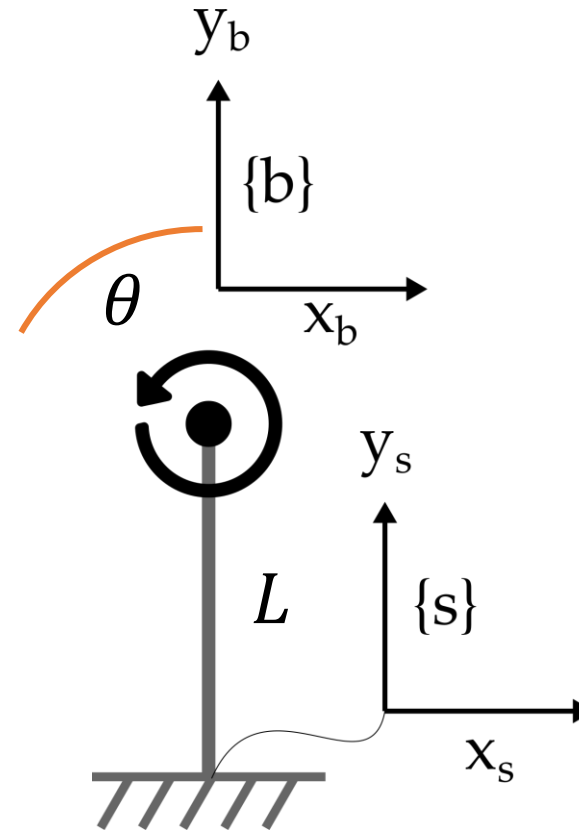
Revolute Joints

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$$V_s = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ v_s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ -\omega_s \times p + \dot{p} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\dot{p} = 0$

$$V_s = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ v_s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ -\omega_s \times p \end{bmatrix}$$





Screws

A screw is a **normalized twist**:

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v_s \end{bmatrix}$$

prismatic

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ -\omega_s \times p \end{bmatrix}$$

revolute

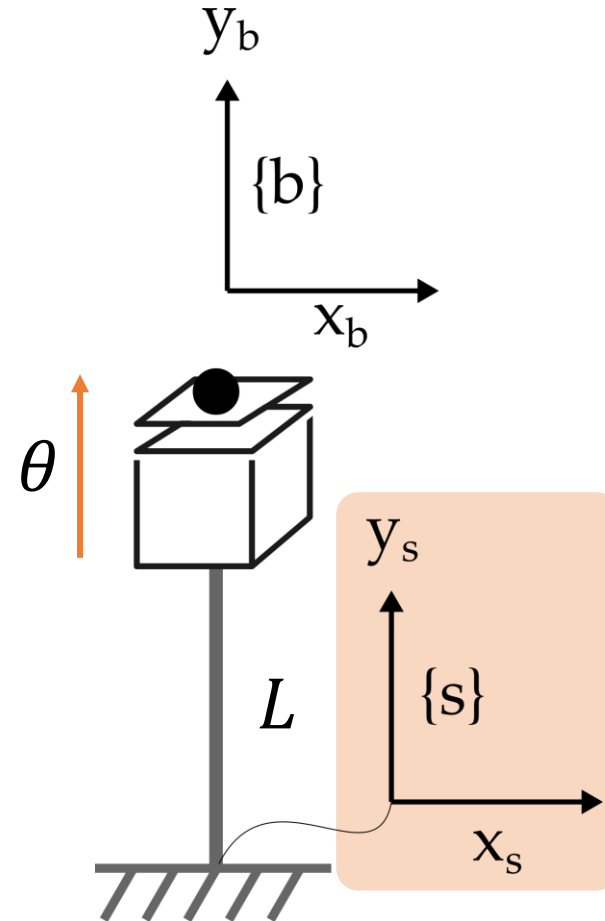
Prismatic: $\omega_s = 0$ and v_s is a unit vector

Revolute: ω_s is a unit vector and $v_s = -\omega_s \times p$

Prismatic Joints

Pure translation. 1-DoF joint that enables the link to translate but not rotate

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v_s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

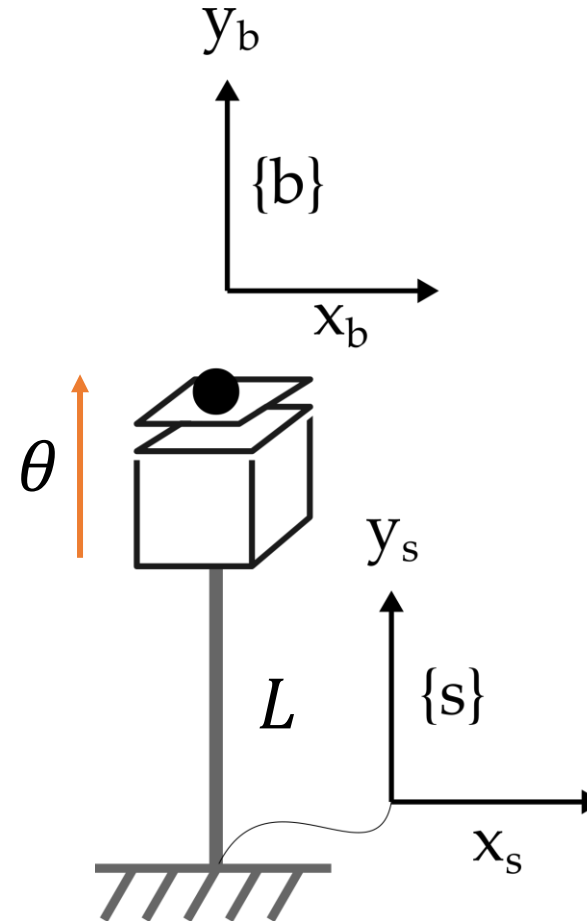


Prismatic Joints

Pure translation. 1-DoF joint that enables the link to translate but not rotate

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v_s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

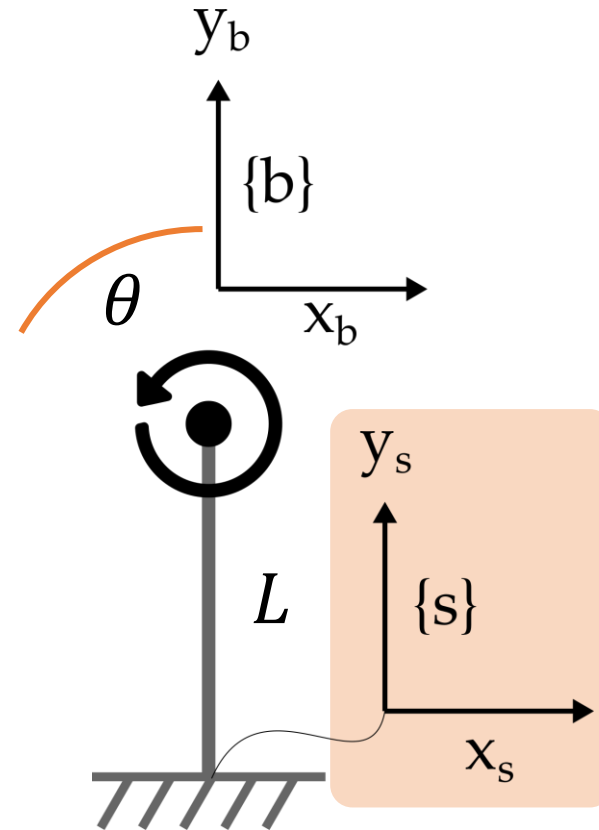
unit vector



Revolute Joints

Pure rotation. 1-DoF joint that enables the link to rotate but not translate

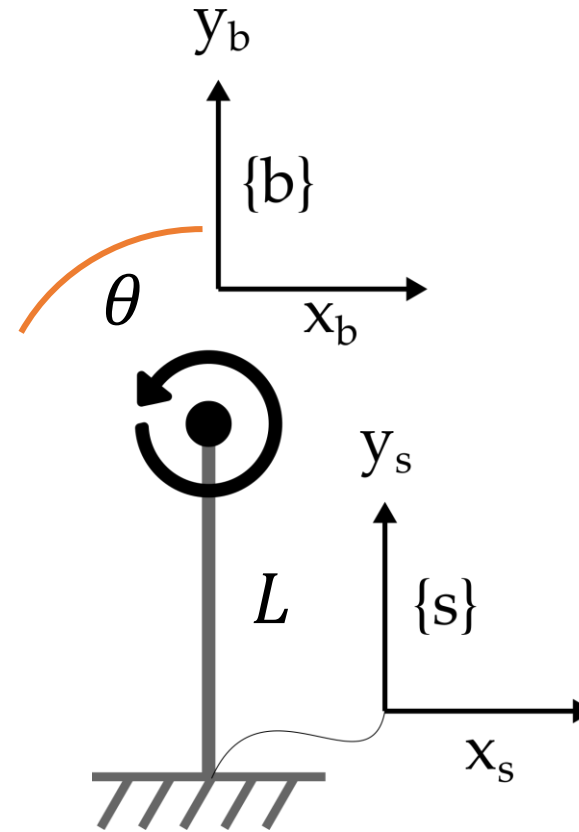
$$\underline{S = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ -\omega_s \times p \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ L \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}$$
$$p = p_{sb} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ L \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



Revolute Joints

Pure rotation. 1-DoF joint that enables the link to rotate but not translate

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \\ -\omega_s \times p \end{bmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{unit vector} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ L \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$





We can use screws to capture the **motion** caused by a joint.

Joint Motion

We use $[S]$ notation the same as $[V]$ to write the screw as a 4×4 matrix

$$\dot{T} = [S]T$$

Joint Motion

We use $[S]$ notation the same as $[V]$ to write the screw as a 4×4 matrix

$$\dot{T} = [S]T$$

$$T(\theta) = e^{[S]\theta} T(0)$$



$T(0)$ is the initial transformation from $\{s\}$ to $\{b\}$

Joint Motion

We use $[S]$ notation the same as $[V]$ to write the screw as a 4×4 matrix

$$\dot{T} = [S]T$$

$$T(\theta) = e^{[S]\theta} T(0)$$



$e^{[S]\theta}$ is a transformation matrix. See *expm* in *matlab*.
This captures the motion in the **fixed frame**.

Joint Motion

We use $[S]$ notation the same as $[V]$ to write the screw as a 4×4 matrix

$$\dot{T} = [S]T$$

$$T(\theta) = e^{[S]\theta} T(0)$$

$T(\theta)$ is the new transformation from $\{s\}$ to $\{b\}$
after **translating the prismatic joint by θ units** or
rotating the revolute joint by θ units

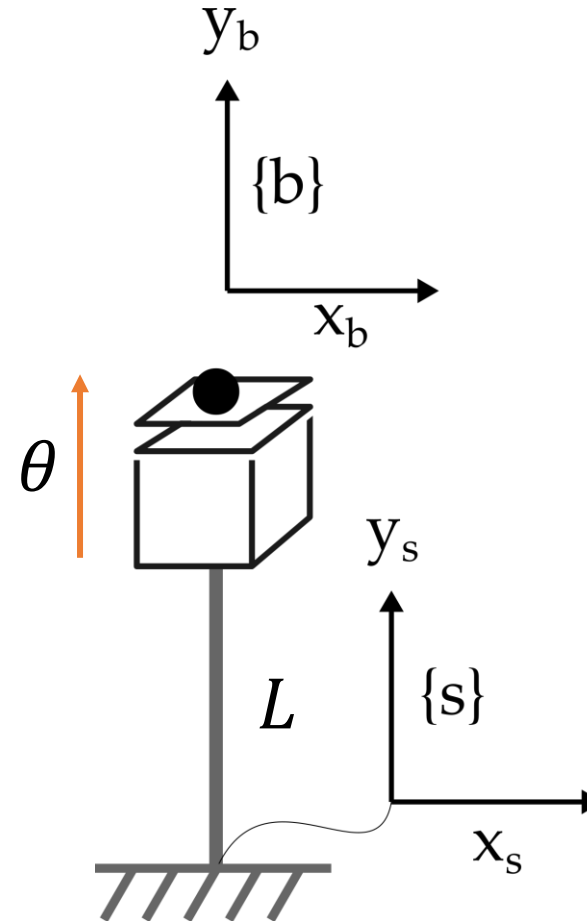


Let's see some examples!

Prismatic Joints

By looking at the drawing, we found:

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & L \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



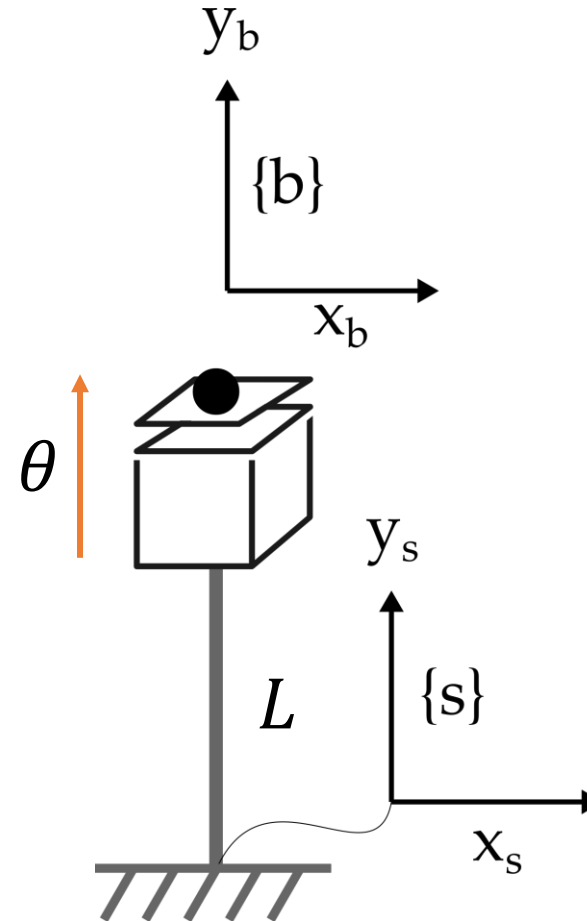
Prismatic Joints

Converting screws to joint motion:

$$T(\theta) = e^{[S]\theta} T(0)$$

$$T(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & L + \theta \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & 0 & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

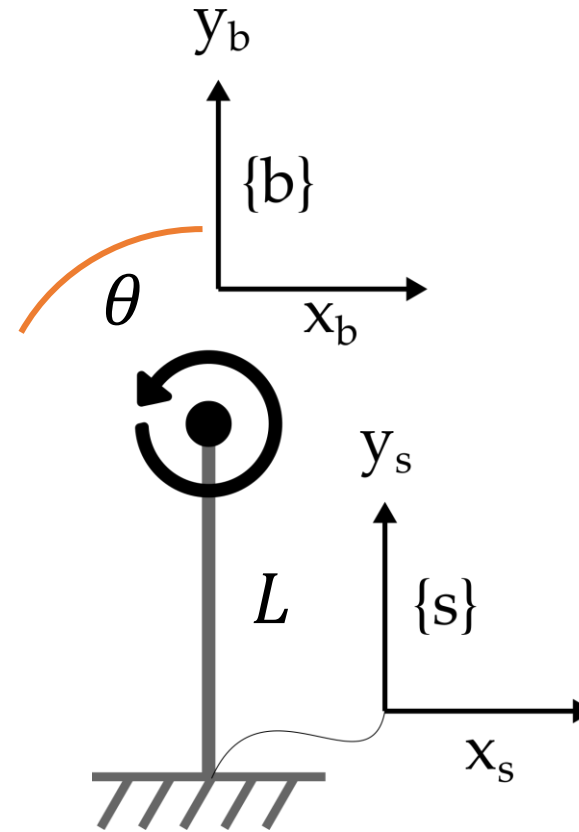
{b} translates along y_s axis



Revolute Joints

By looking at the drawing, we found:

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ L \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & L \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



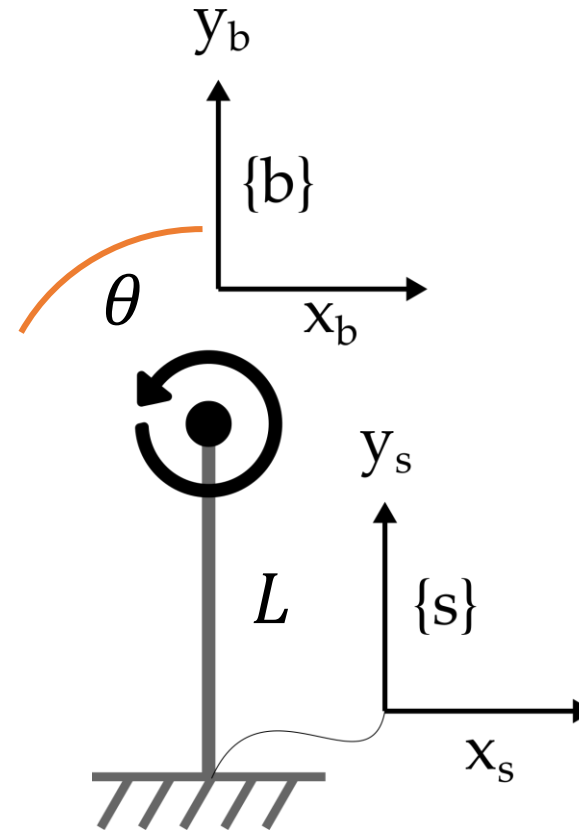
Revolute Joints

Converting screws to joint motion:

$$T(\theta) = e^{[S]\theta} T(0)$$

$$T(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & L \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\{b\}$ rotates around z_s axis



This Lecture



- What twists are associated with prismatic and revolute joints?
- What are screws?
- How can we use screws to find the pose of a moving joint?

Next Lecture



- How can we extend this to find the pose of a robot arm?