

# Forward Kinematics

Lecture 4

Fall 2022

# Forward Kinematics

If we know our state in configuration space...

$$\mathbf{q} = [q_1 \quad q_2 \quad \dots \quad q_n]$$

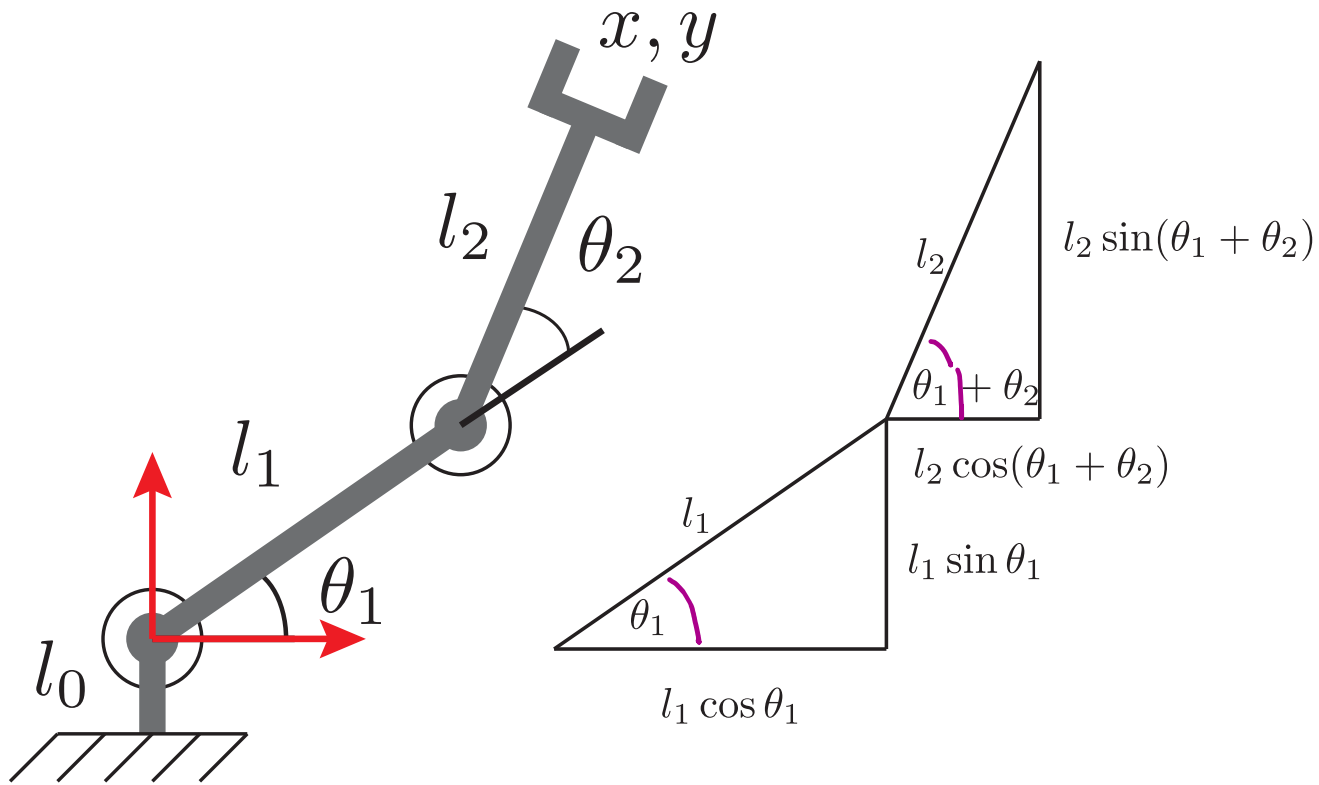
What is our end effector position in the workspace?

$$\mathbf{x} = [x \quad y \quad z \quad \theta \quad \psi \quad \phi]$$

Forward kinematic map is a vector function:

$$\mathbf{x} = f(\mathbf{q})$$

# Planar Arm - Geometry



$$x = l_1 \cos \theta_1 + l_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

$$y = l_1 \sin \theta_1 + l_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

Pose:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{12} \\ l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_{12} \\ \theta_1 + \theta_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$c_i = \cos \theta_i$$

$$c_{ij} = \cos(\theta_i + \theta_j)$$

Joint  
variables:  $\begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \end{bmatrix}$

End  
effector  
pose:  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{bmatrix}$

# Forward Kinematics Equation

Compose kinematics from rigid body transformations

Pose of the end effector in the base frame:

$$H = A_1(q_1) \dots A_n(q_n) = \begin{bmatrix} R_n^0 & o_n^0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Review Homogeneous Transformations

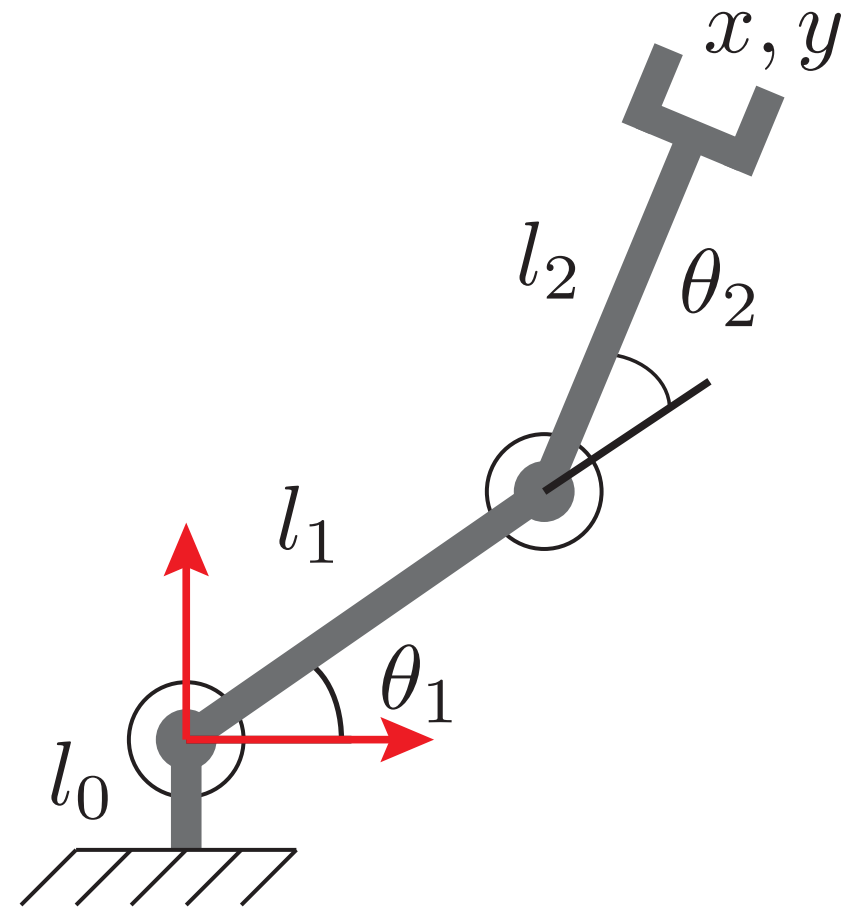
- Rigid body motion can be represented as a homogeneous transformation.
- 3DOF in 2D
- Homogeneous transformation matrix is a product of homogeneous rotation and translation matrices.

$$H = \begin{matrix} & \text{Rotation} & & \text{Translation} \\ \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & t_x \\ 0 & 1 & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} R & d \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}; R \in SO(2), d \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

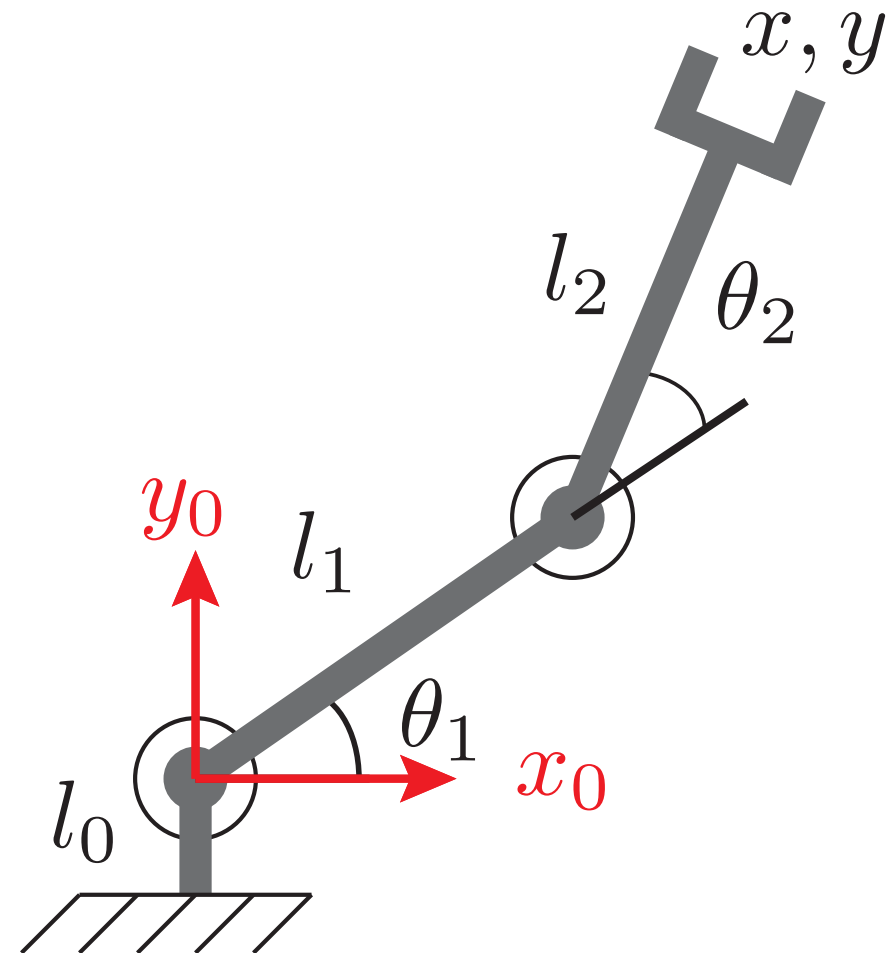
# Serial Chain Conventions

- $n$  links,  $n - 1$  joints
- Each joint is single DOF
- Joints numbered 1 to  $n$
- Links numbered 0 to  $n$
- Joint  $i$  connects link  $i - 1$  to link  $i$
- Joint  $i$  moves link  $i$



# Assigning Frames

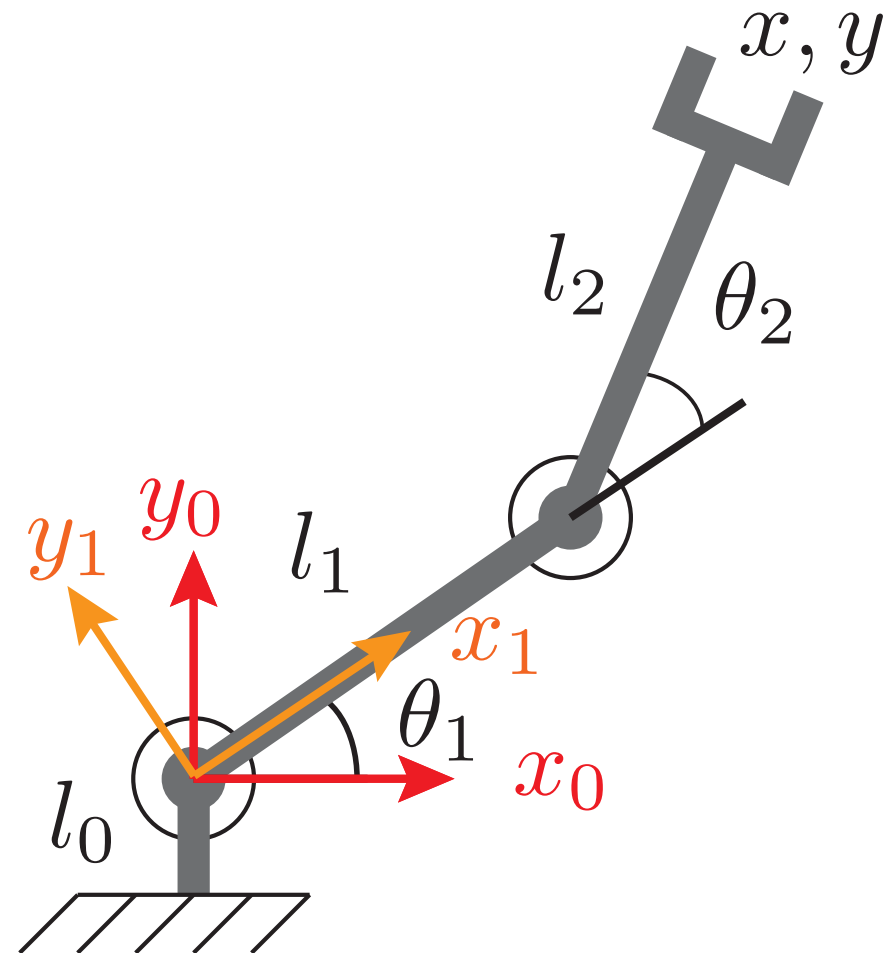
- Assign the base frame conveniently on the axis of joint 1



# Assigning Frames

- Assign frame 1 attached to link 1

$$A_1 = H_1^0 = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & -s_1 & 0 \\ s_1 & c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

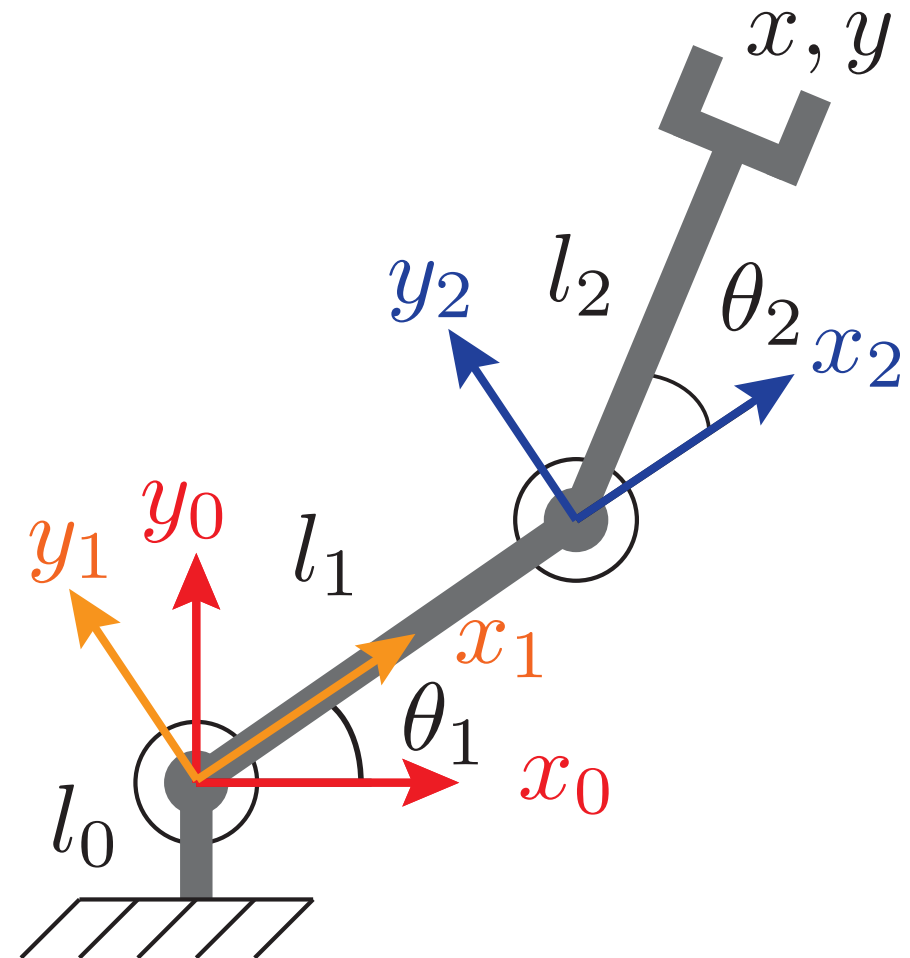




# Assigning Frames

- Assign frame 2 at the end of link 1

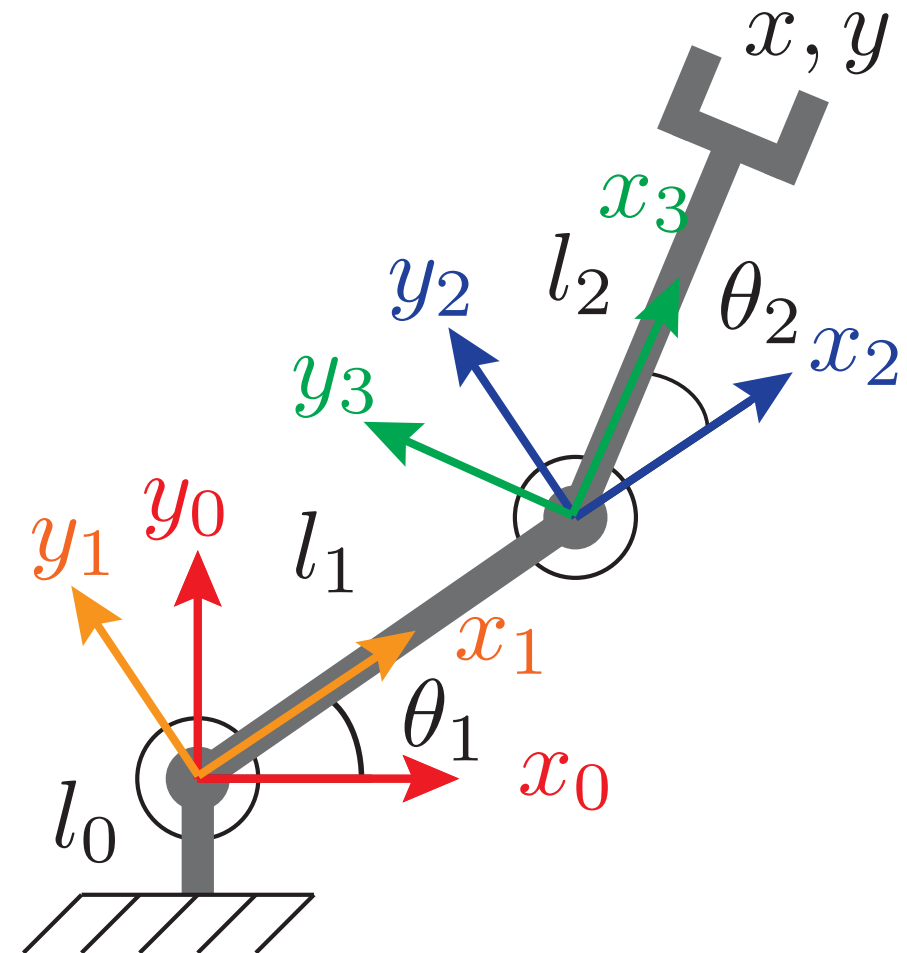
$$A_2 = H_2^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & l_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Assigning Frames

- Assign frame 3 attached to link 2

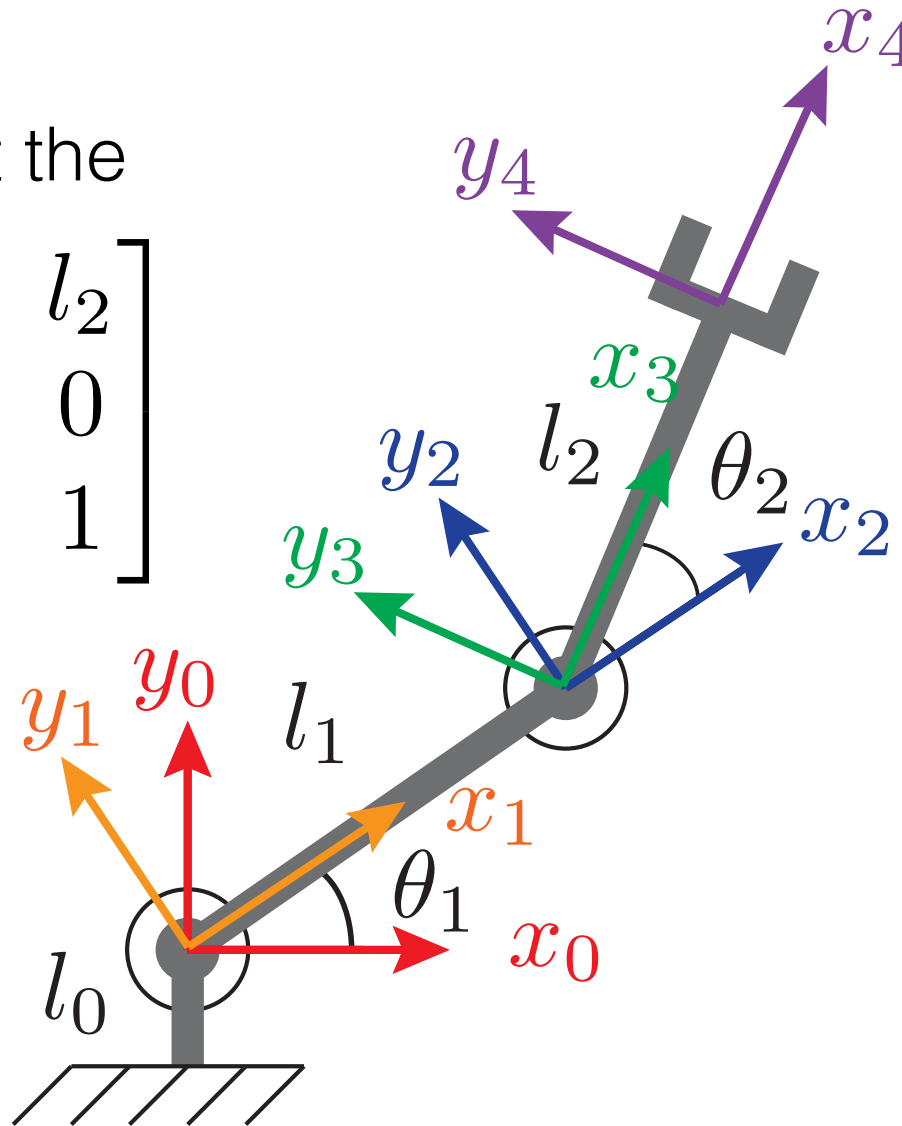
$$A_3 = H_3^2 = \begin{bmatrix} c_2 & -s_2 & 0 \\ s_2 & c_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Assigning Frames

- Finally place frame 4 at the end effector

$$A_4 = H_4^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & l_2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Forward Kinematics Equations

$$H_4^0 = H_1^0 H_2^1 H_3^2 H_4^3$$

$$H_1^0 H_2^1 = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & -s_1 & 0 \\ s_1 & c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & l_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & -s_1 & l_1 c_1 \\ s_1 & c_1 & l_1 s_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H_3^2 H_4^3 = \begin{bmatrix} c_2 & -s_2 & 0 \\ s_2 & c_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & l_2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_2 & -s_2 & l_2 c_2 \\ s_2 & c_2 & l_2 s_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H_4^0 = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & -s_1 & l_1 c_1 \\ s_1 & c_1 & l_1 s_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_2 & -s_2 & l_2 c_2 \\ s_2 & c_2 & l_2 s_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c_{12} & -s_{12} & l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{12} \\ s_{12} & c_{12} & l_1 s_1 + l_2 c_{12} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

sum and difference formulas for sine and cosine

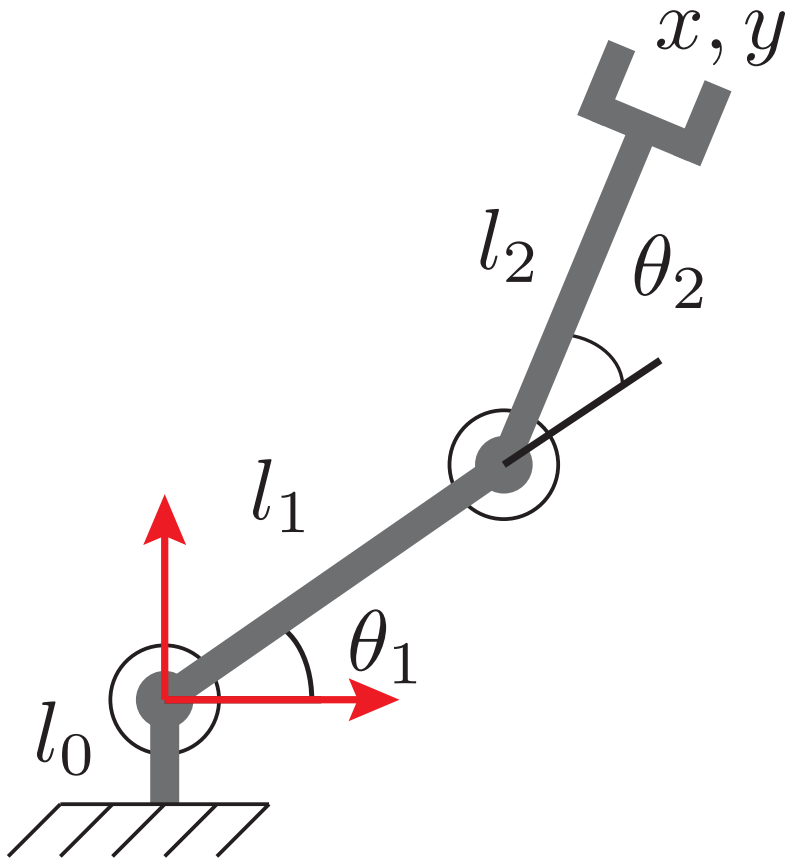
$$\sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta$$

$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$$

$$\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta - \cos \alpha \sin \beta$$

$$\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \alpha \sin \beta$$

# Planar Arm Kinematics



Geometrical  
Result:

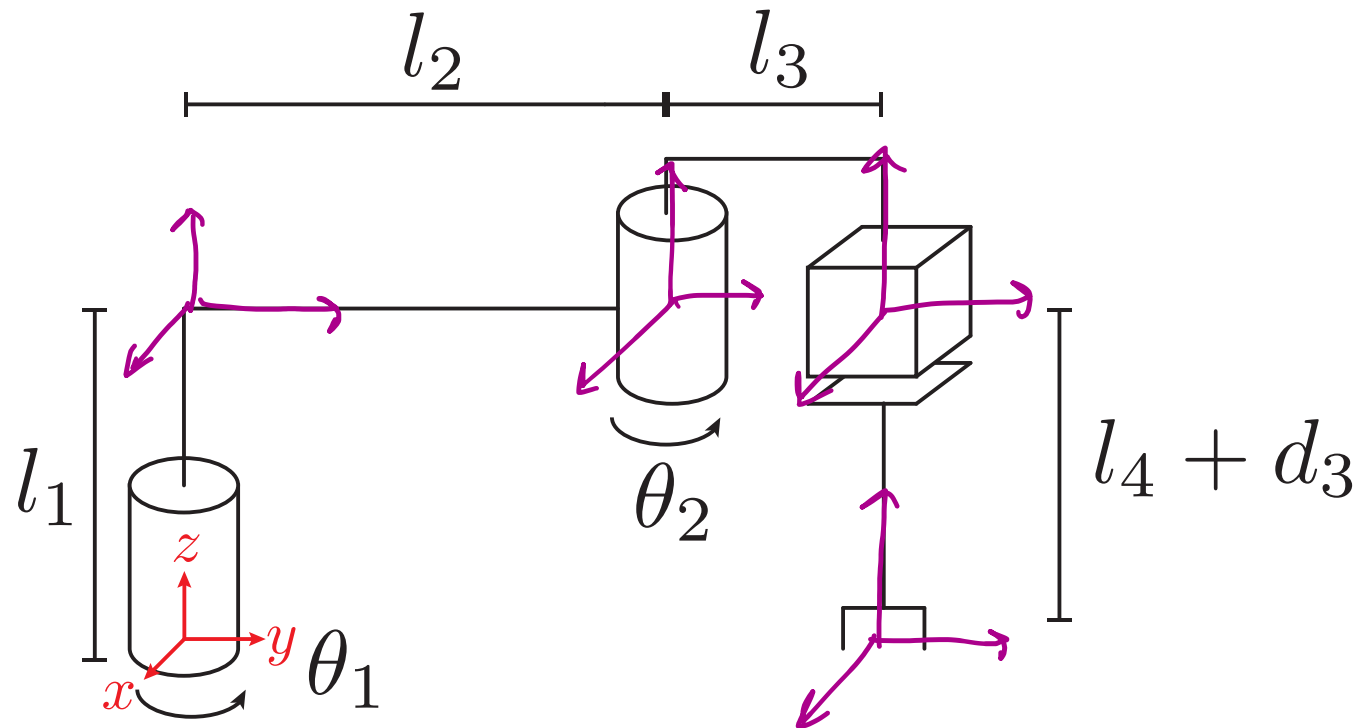
$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{12} \\ l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_{12} \\ \theta_1 + \theta_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix Result:

$$H_4^0 = \begin{bmatrix} c_{12} & -s_{12} & l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{12} \\ s_{12} & c_{12} & l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_{12} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Kinematics in 3D

$$H = R_{z,\theta_1} T_{z,l_1} T_{y,l_2} R_{z,\theta_2} T_{y,l_3} T_{z,-(l_4+d_3)}$$



# Denavit-Hartenberg Convention

- Arbitrary transformations require 6 parameters
- Simplify to 4 parameters by careful choice of frames
- Standard in robotics for several decades
- More modern approaches exist

# DH Parameters

$$A_i = \text{Rot}_{z,\theta_i} \text{Trans}_{z,d_i} \text{Trans}_{x,a_i} \text{Rot}_{x,\alpha_i}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_i & -s\theta_i & 0 & 0 \\ s\theta_i & c\theta_i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & a_i \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c\alpha_i & -s\alpha_i & 0 \\ 0 & s\alpha_i & c\alpha_i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

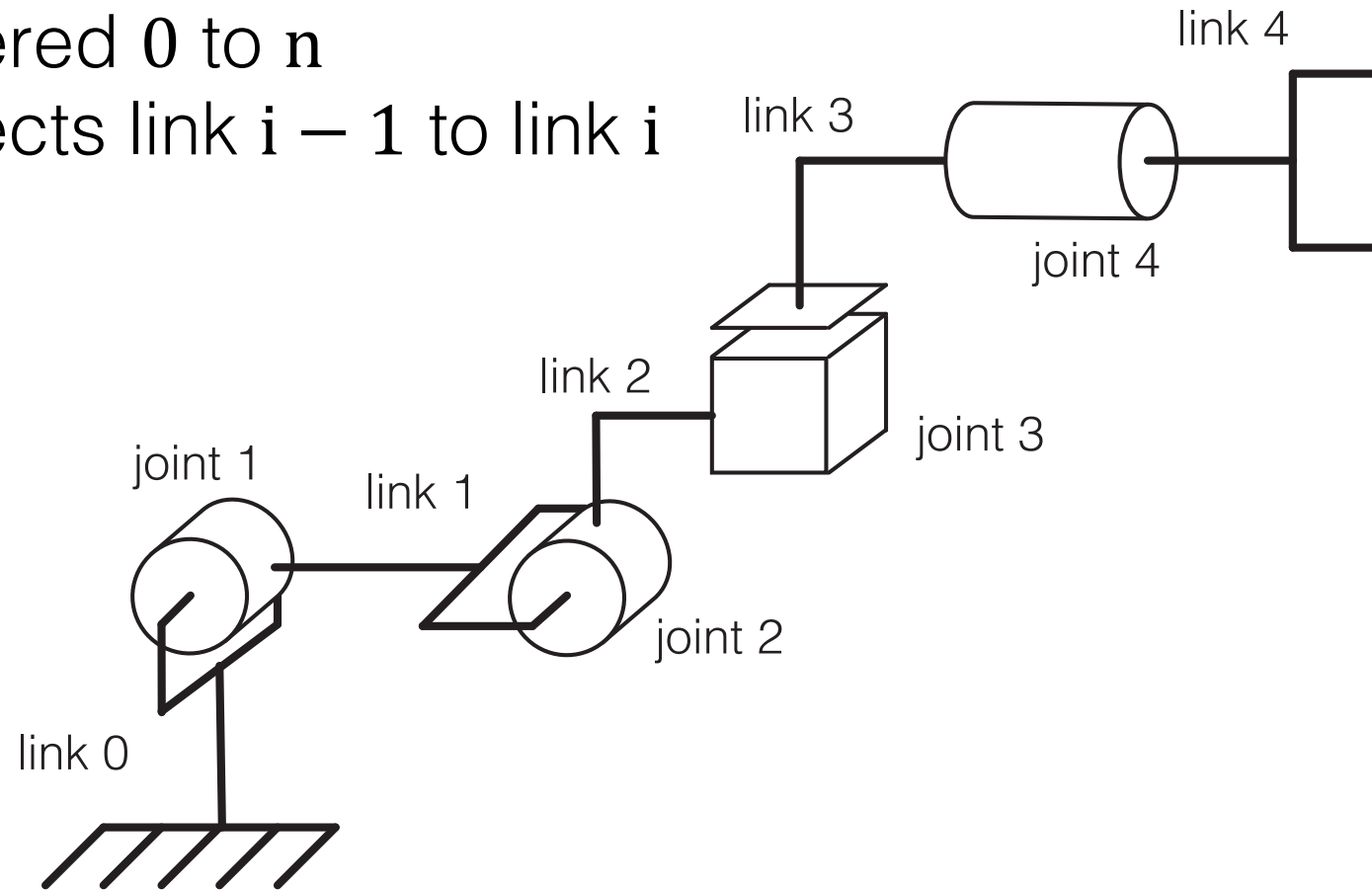
DH Parameters:  $\begin{bmatrix} \theta_i & d_i & a_i & \alpha_i \end{bmatrix}$

Joint Angle	Joint Offset	Link Length	Link Twist
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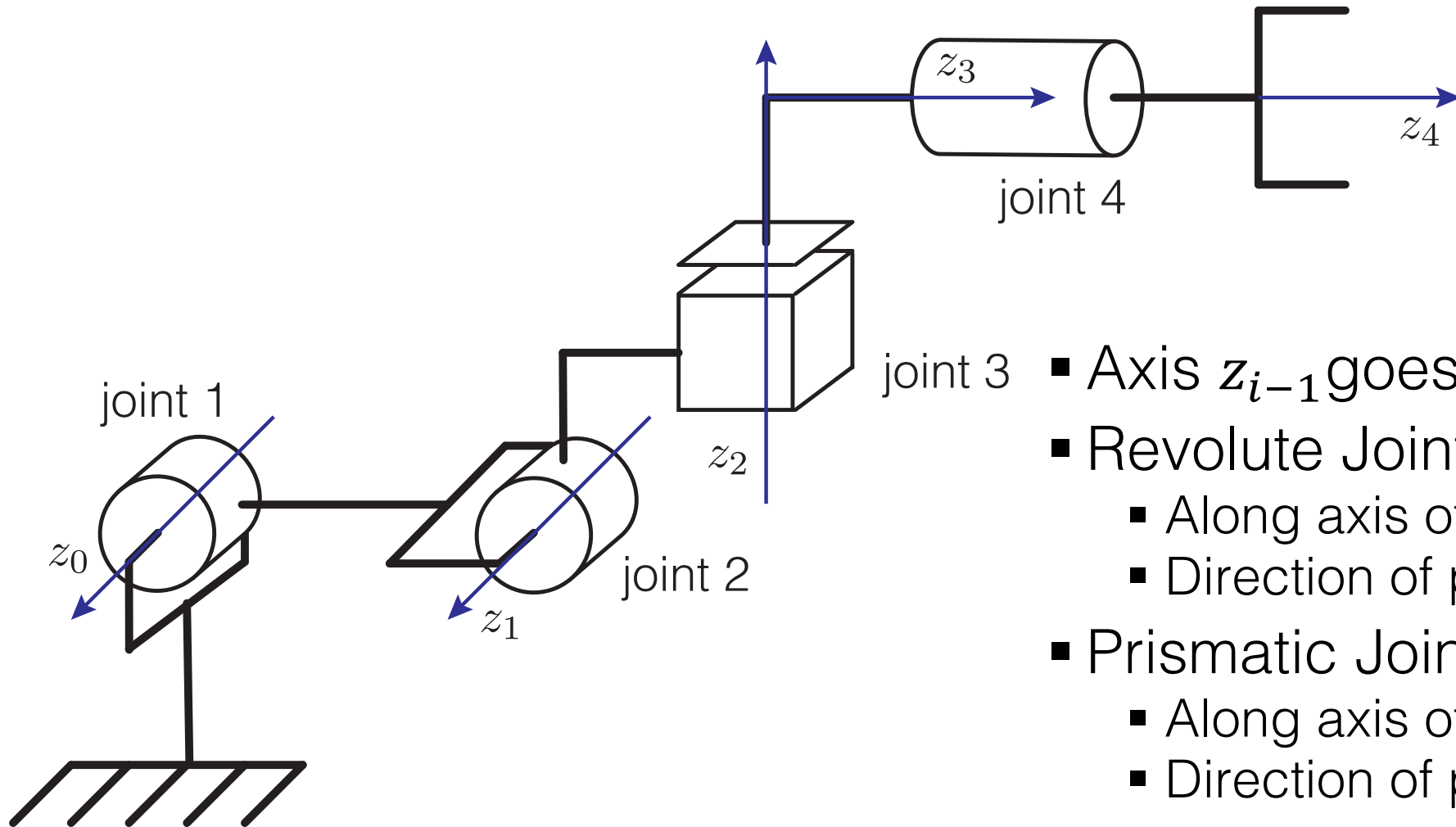


# DH – Identify Links & Joints

- Joints numbered 1 to  $n$
- Links numbered 0 to  $n$
- Joint  $i$  connects link  $i - 1$  to link  $i$

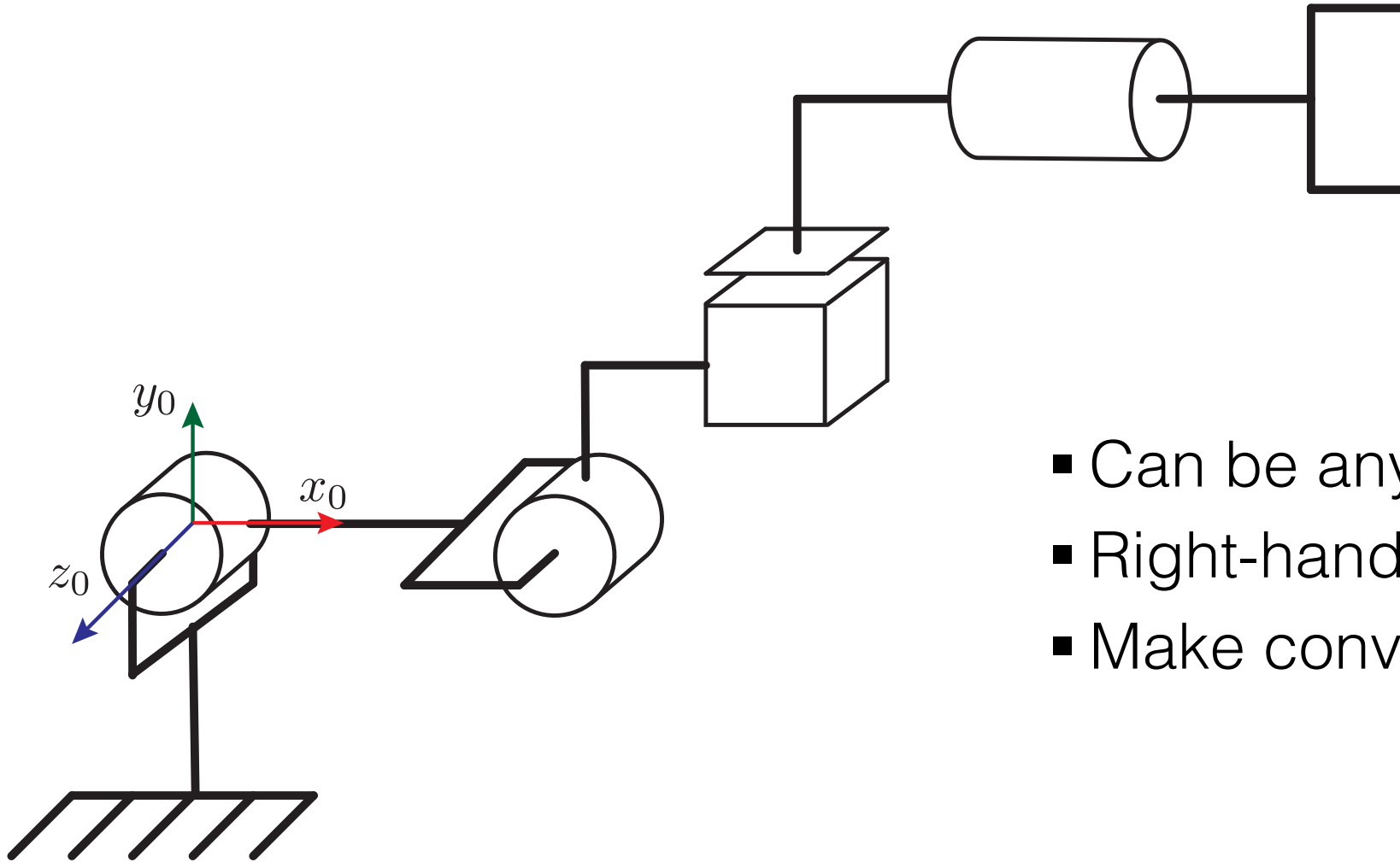


# DH - Find $z$ axes



- Axis  $z_{i-1}$  goes through joint  $i$
- Revolute Joint
  - Along axis of rotation
  - Direction of positive rotation
- Prismatic Joint
  - Along axis of displacement
  - Direction of positive displacement

# DH – Assign Base Frame



- Can be anywhere on axis  $z_0$
- Right-handed
- Make convenient choice

# DH - Assign Other Frames

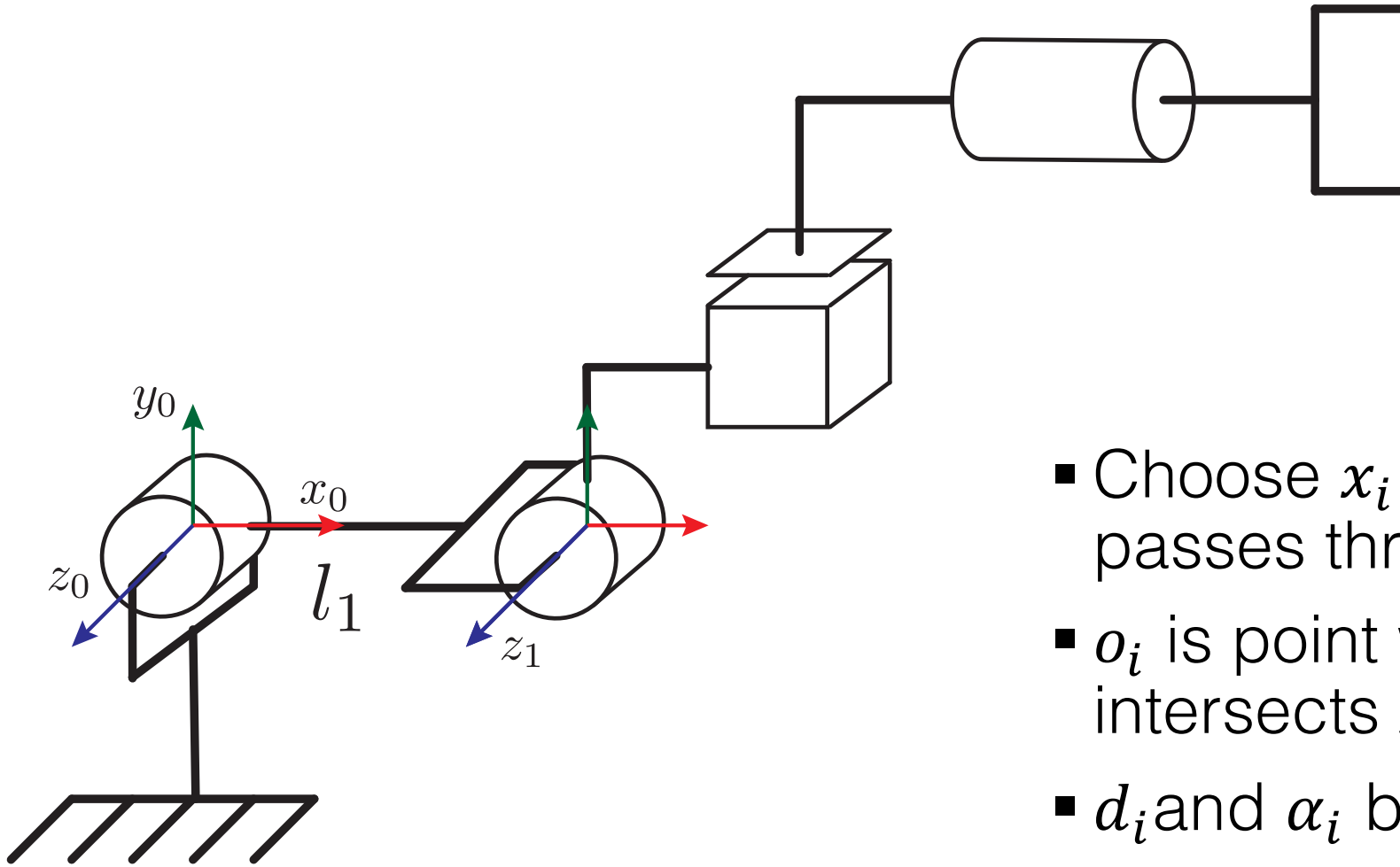
Rules:

- DH1: Axis  $x_i$  perpendicular to Axis  $z_{i-1}$
- DH2: Axis  $x_i$  intersects Axis  $z_{i-1}$

3 Cases:

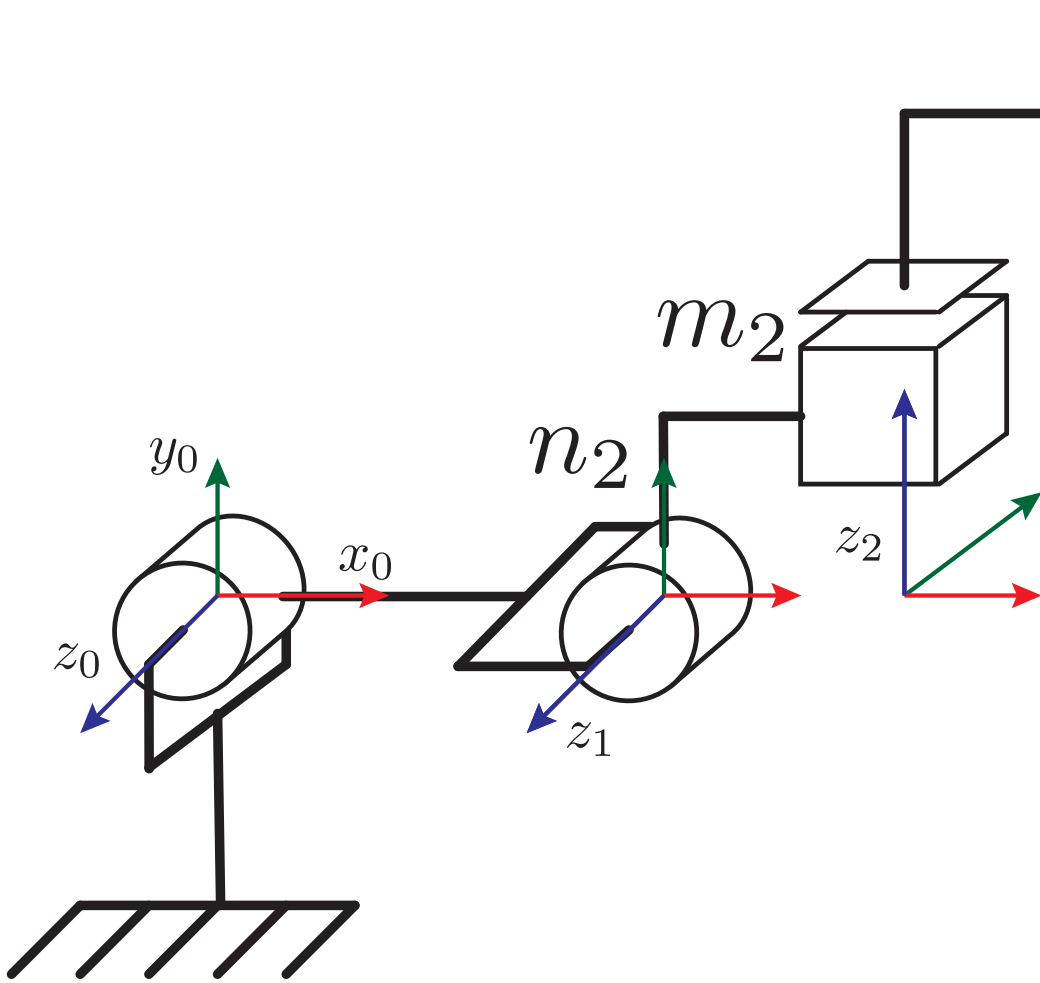
- Axis  $z_i$  and  $z_{i-1}$  parallel
- Axis  $z_i$  and  $z_{i-1}$  not co-planar
- Axis  $z_i$  and  $z_{i-1}$  intersect

# Axis $z_i$ and $z_{i-1}$ parallel



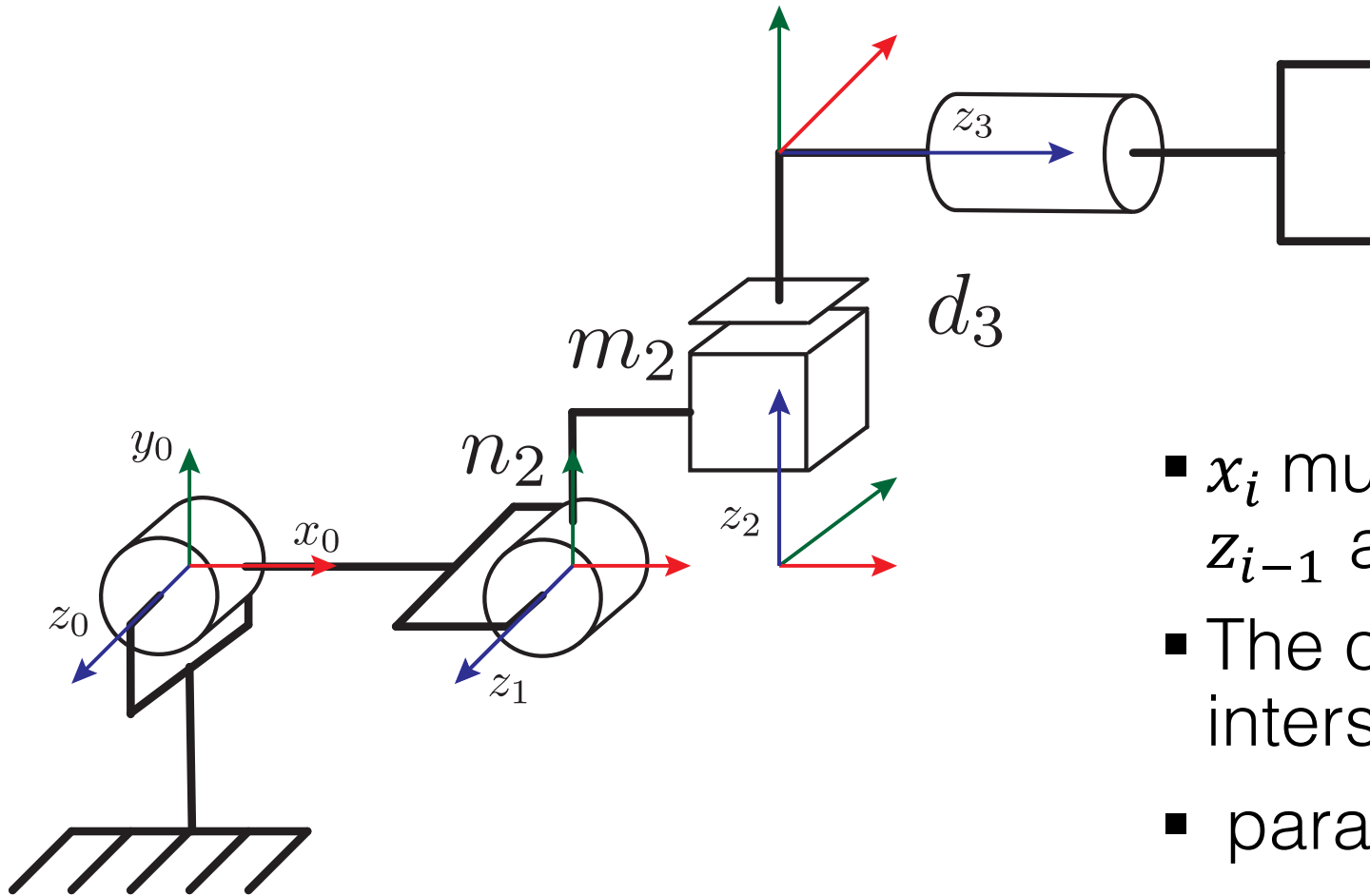
- Choose  $x_i$  along the normal that passes through  $o_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  axis
- $o_i$  is point where normal intersects  $z_i$
- $d_i$  and  $\alpha_i$  become zero
- In this example  $a_i$  becomes  $l_1$

# Axis $z_i$ and $z_{i-1}$ not co-planar



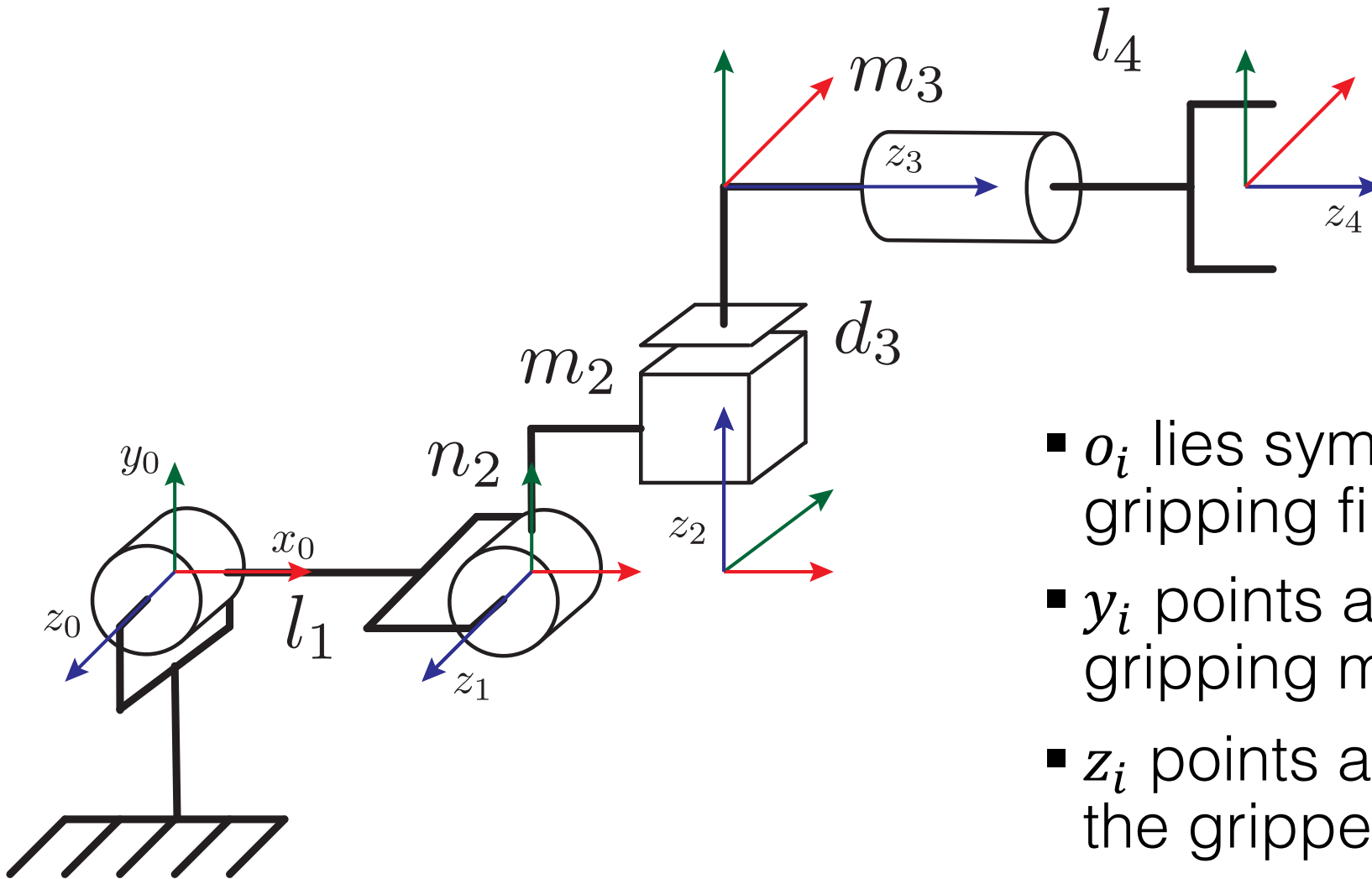
- There exists unique shortest line segment from  $z_{i-1}$  to  $z_i$
- This line defines  $x_i$
- The point where it intersects  $z_i$  is the origin  $o_i$
- parameters?

# Axis $z_i$ and $z_{i-1}$ intersect



- $x_i$  must be orthogonal to both  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$
- The origin  $o_i$  goes on the intersection of  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$
- parameters?

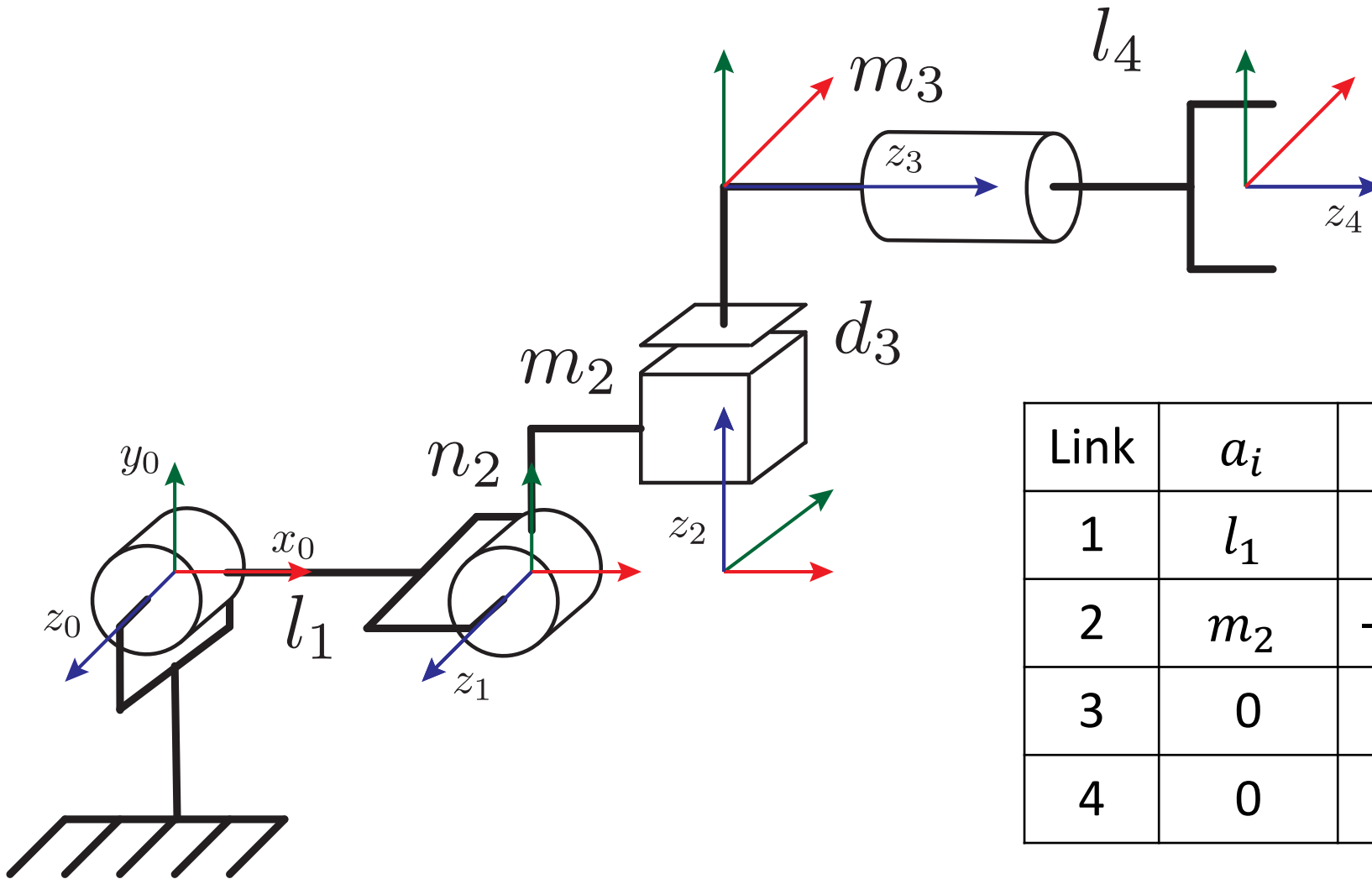
# End Effector



- $o_i$  lies symmetrically between gripping fingers
- $y_i$  points along direction of gripping motion
- $z_i$  points along the reach of the gripper



# DH Table



Link	$a_i$	$\alpha_i$	$d_i$	$\theta_i$
1	$l_1$	0	0	$\theta_1^*$
2	$m_2$	$-\pi/2$	0	$\theta_3^*$
3	0	$\pi/2$	$n_2 + d_3^*$	$\pi/2$
4	0	0	$m_3 + l_4$	$\theta_4^*$

# Constructing FK equation

- Each row in the DH table represents a homogeneous transformation matrix which is constructed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} A_i &= \text{Rot}_{z,\theta_i} \text{Trans}_{z,d_i} \text{Trans}_{x,a_i} \text{Rot}_{x,\alpha_i} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} c_{\theta_i} & -s_{\theta_i} & 0 & 0 \\ s_{\theta_i} & c_{\theta_i} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & a_i \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{\alpha_i} & -s_{\alpha_i} & 0 \\ 0 & s_{\alpha_i} & c_{\alpha_i} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} c_{\theta_i} & -s_{\theta_i} c_{\alpha_i} & s_{\theta_i} s_{\alpha_i} & a_i c_{\theta_i} \\ s_{\theta_i} & c_{\theta_i} c_{\alpha_i} & -c_{\theta_i} s_{\alpha_i} & a_i s_{\theta_i} \\ 0 & s_{\alpha_i} & c_{\alpha_i} & d_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Forward Kinematics solution

- The complete FK equation is assembled from the individual homogeneous transformations

$$H = A_1(q_1) \dots A_n(q_n) = \begin{bmatrix} R_n^0 & o_n^0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- $R_n^0$  represents orientation of the end effector
- $o_n^0$  represents location of end effector in frame 0

# Exponential Representation of Rotation

Lecture 14.1

Fall 2022

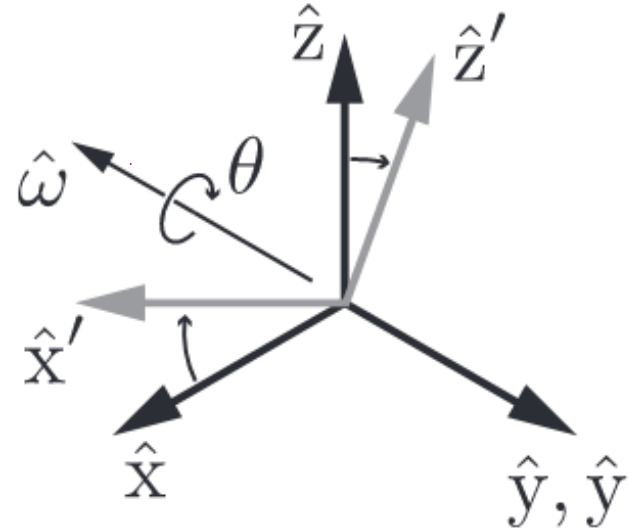
# 3D Rotation

Rotation around any single axis:

$$R_{z,\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_{x,\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_{y,\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$



Rotation around arbitrary axis:

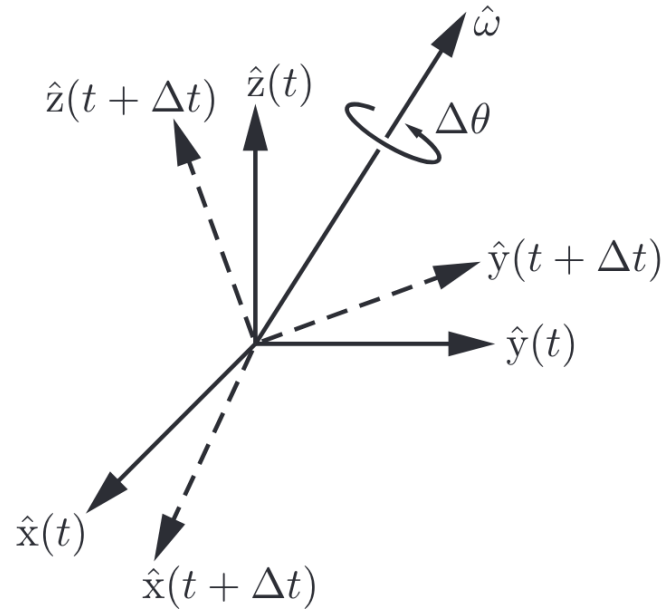
$$\hat{\omega} = (\hat{\omega}_1, \hat{\omega}_2, \hat{\omega}_3)$$

$\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_1^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_2^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_3^2(1 - c_\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

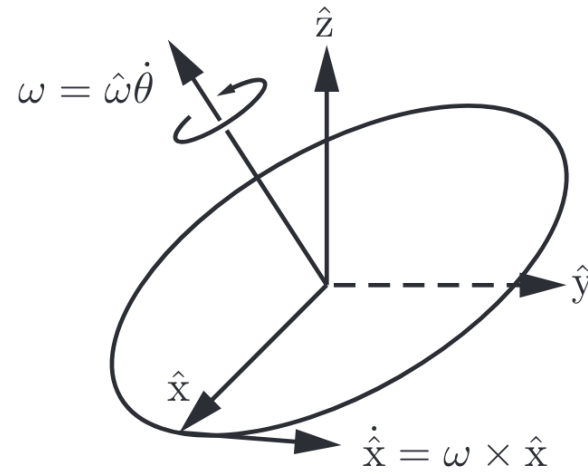
# Angular Velocity

Consider instantaneous angular velocity about an axis



Angular velocity:

$$\omega = \hat{\omega}\dot{\theta}$$



$$\dot{\hat{x}} = \omega \times \hat{x}$$

$$\dot{\hat{y}} = \omega \times \hat{y}$$

$$\dot{\hat{z}} = \omega \times \hat{z}$$

# Angular Velocity – Rotation Matrix

- Must choose reference frame to describe  $\omega$
- Let  $\{s\}$  be the fixed “world” or “space” frame and  $\{b\}$  be the “body” frame
- Let  $R(t)$  be the rotation matrix describing orientation of the body frame  $\{b\}$  in the space frame  $\{s\}$

$$R(t) = \begin{bmatrix} r_1(t) & r_2(t) & r_3(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Where  $r_1(t), r_2(t), r_3(t)$  describe  $\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z}$  in fixed-frame coordinates

# Angular Velocity – Rotation Matrix

- Given the rotation  $R$  at time  $t$ :

$$R(t) = \begin{bmatrix} r_1(t) & r_2(t) & r_3(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

- The time rate of change of  $R$  is:

$$\dot{R} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_s \times r_1 & \omega_s \times r_2 & \omega_s \times r_3 \end{bmatrix} = \omega_s \times R$$



# Skew Symmetric Matrix

- Instead of using cross product...

$$\dot{R} = [\omega_s \times r_1 \quad \omega_s \times r_2 \quad \omega_s \times r_3] = \omega_s \times R$$

- We can define a **skew symmetric matrix** to produce the same result

Given a vector  $x = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , define

$$[x] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -x_3 & x_2 \\ x_3 & 0 & -x_1 \\ -x_2 & x_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

# Matrix Exponential

Now consider the vector linear differential equation

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t), \tag{3.40}$$

where  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is constant, and the initial condition  $x(0) = x_0$  is given. From the above scalar result one can conjecture a solution of the form

$$x(t) = e^{At}x_0 \tag{3.41}$$

where the **matrix exponential**  $e^{At}$  now needs to be defined in a meaningful way. Again mimicking the scalar case, we define the matrix exponential to be

$$e^{At} = I + At + \frac{(At)^2}{2!} + \frac{(At)^3}{3!} + \dots \tag{3.42}$$

# Exponential Representation of Rotation

- Consider the angular velocity of a point

$$\dot{p} = [\hat{\omega}]p$$

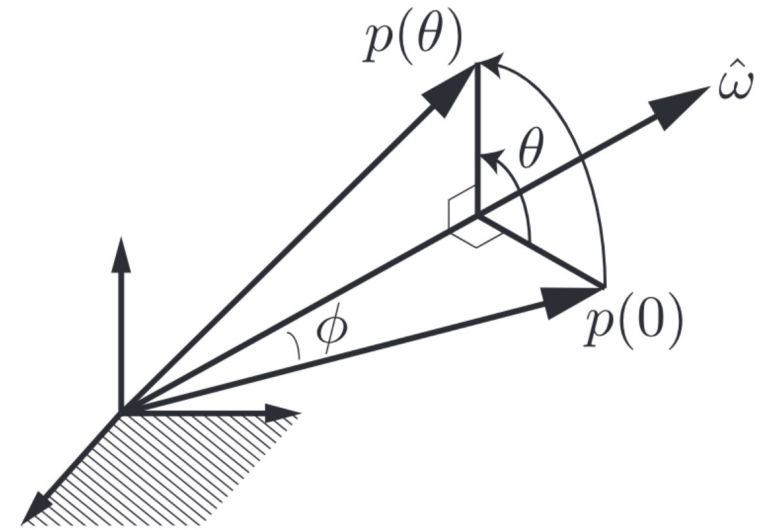
- A solution to this differential equation is

$$p(t) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]t}p(0)$$

- If we normalize velocity (e.g. 1 rad/s)

$$p(\theta) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta}p(0)$$

- Interpret as rotation from  $t = 0$  to  $t = \theta$  at 1 rad/s



# Rodrigues' Formula

$$\begin{aligned} e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} &= I + [\hat{\omega}]\theta + [\hat{\omega}]^2 \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + [\hat{\omega}]^3 \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \dots \\ &= I + \left( \theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots \right) [\hat{\omega}] + \left( \frac{\theta^2}{2!} - \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \frac{\theta^6}{6!} - \dots \right) [\hat{\omega}]^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sin \theta = \theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots$$

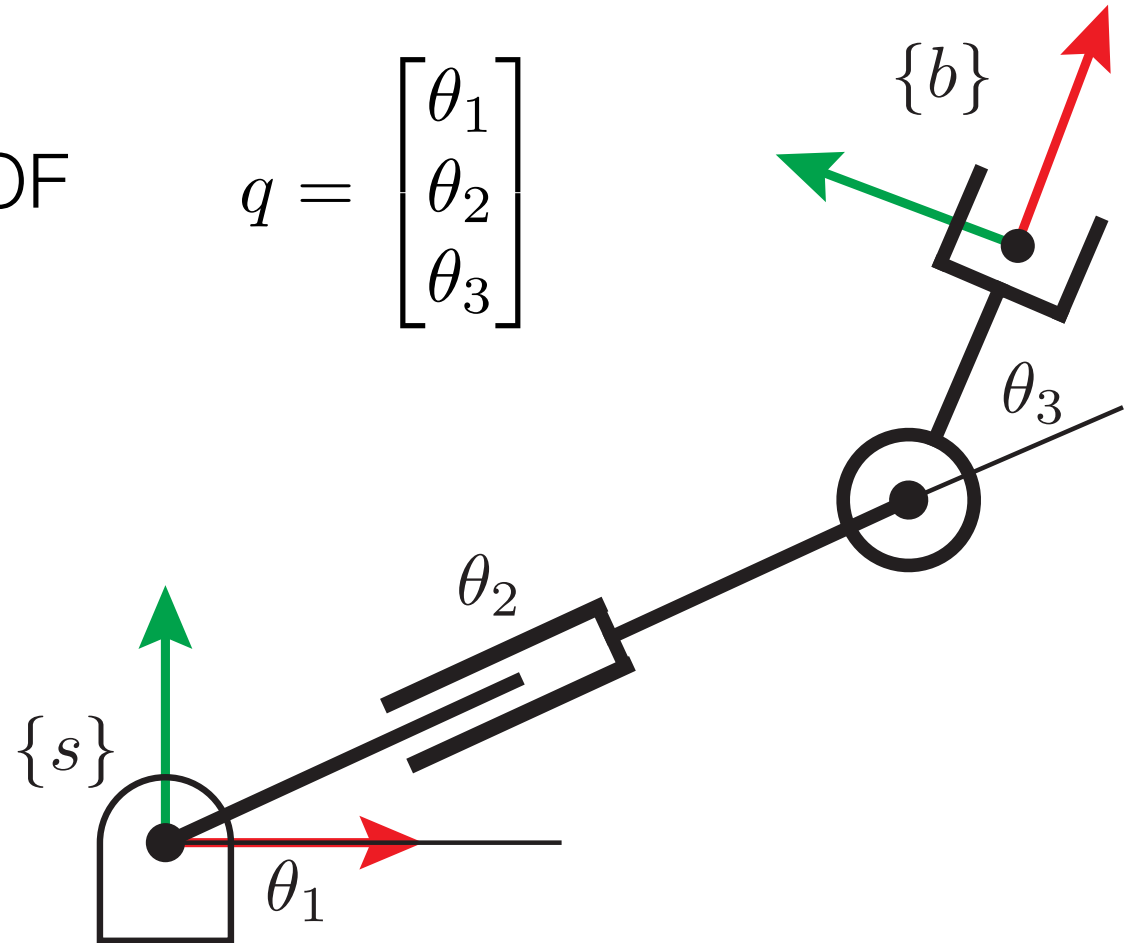
$$\cos \theta = 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \dots$$

$$\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} = I + \sin \theta [\hat{\omega}] + (1 - \cos \theta) [\hat{\omega}]^2 \in SO(3)$$

# Forward Kinematics with PoX

- Define home position
- Find screw vector for each DOF
- Use PoX formula to find pose

$$q = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \\ \theta_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



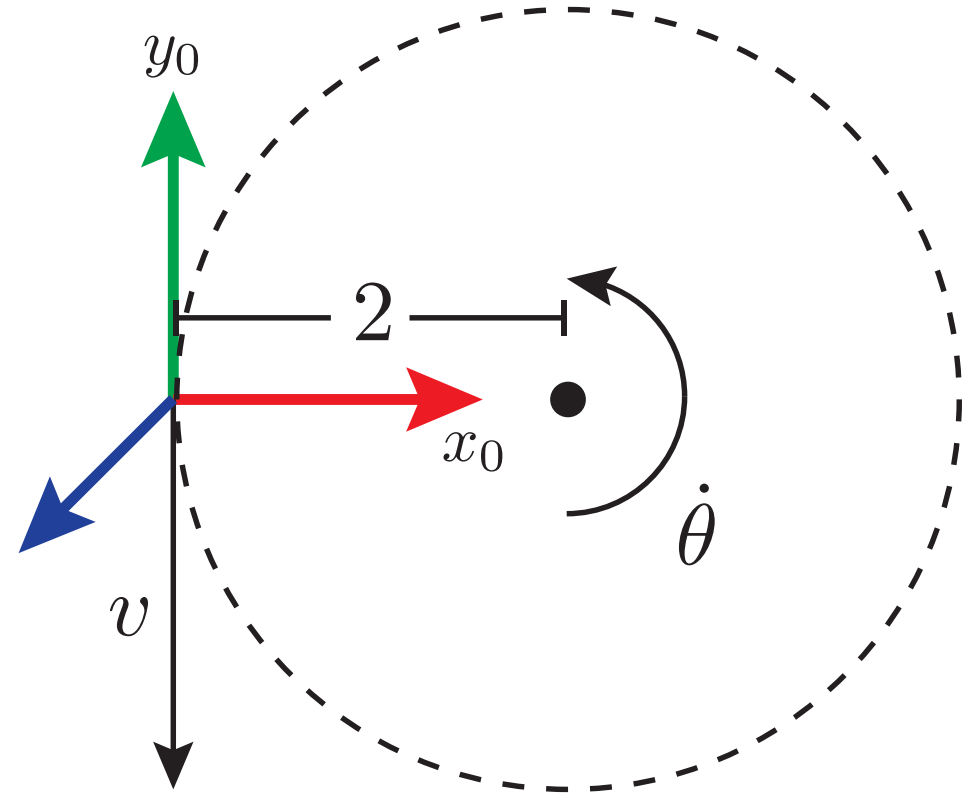
# Screws

- $\omega$  is angular velocity about axis of rotation
- $v$  is linear velocity of origin

$$\mathcal{V} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{S}\dot{\theta}$$

- Screw is normalized twist

$$\mathcal{S} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{S}_\omega \\ \mathcal{S}_v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{angular velocity when } \dot{\theta} = 1 \\ \text{linear velocity of origin when } \dot{\theta} = 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Constructing Rigid Body Transformations

$$[\mathcal{S}] = \begin{bmatrix} [\omega] & v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in se(3) \qquad [\omega] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in so(3)$$

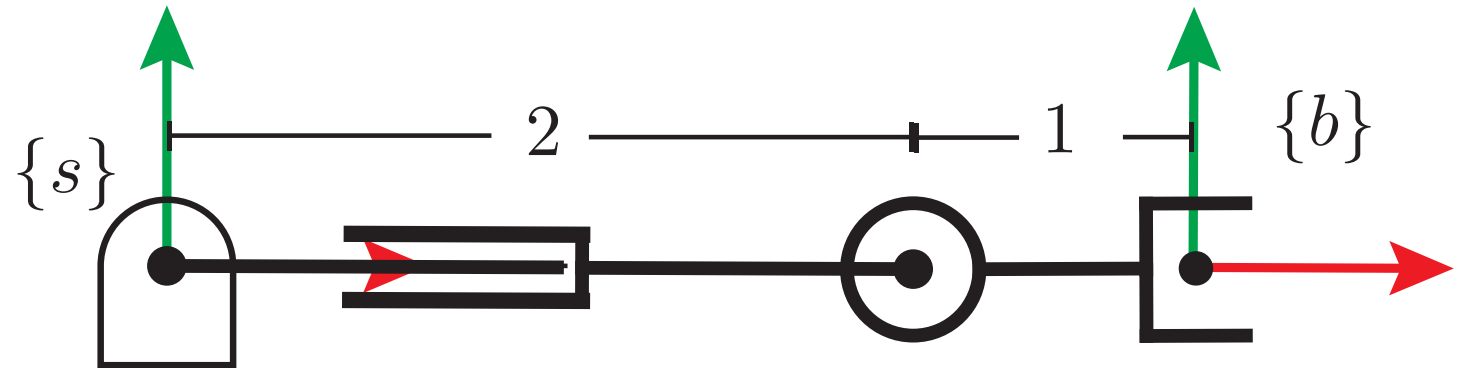
$$e^{[\mathcal{S}]\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{[\omega]\theta} & \left( I\theta + (1 - \cos \theta)[\omega] + (\theta - \sin \theta)[\omega]^2 \right) v \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$e^{[\mathcal{S}]\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} R & p \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Home Position

- $M$  is home position, where all joint variables are 0

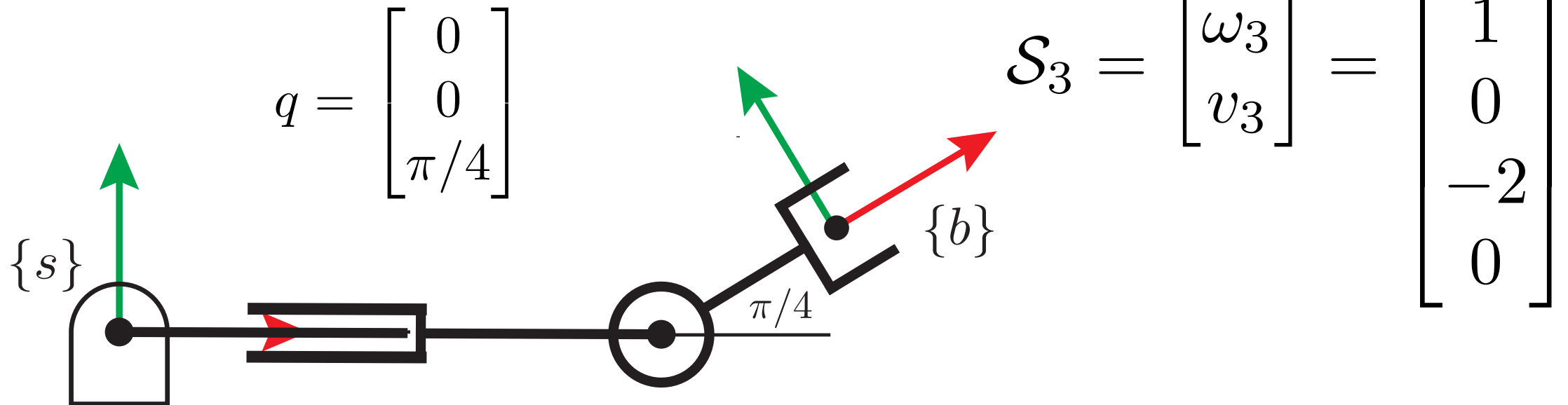
$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$





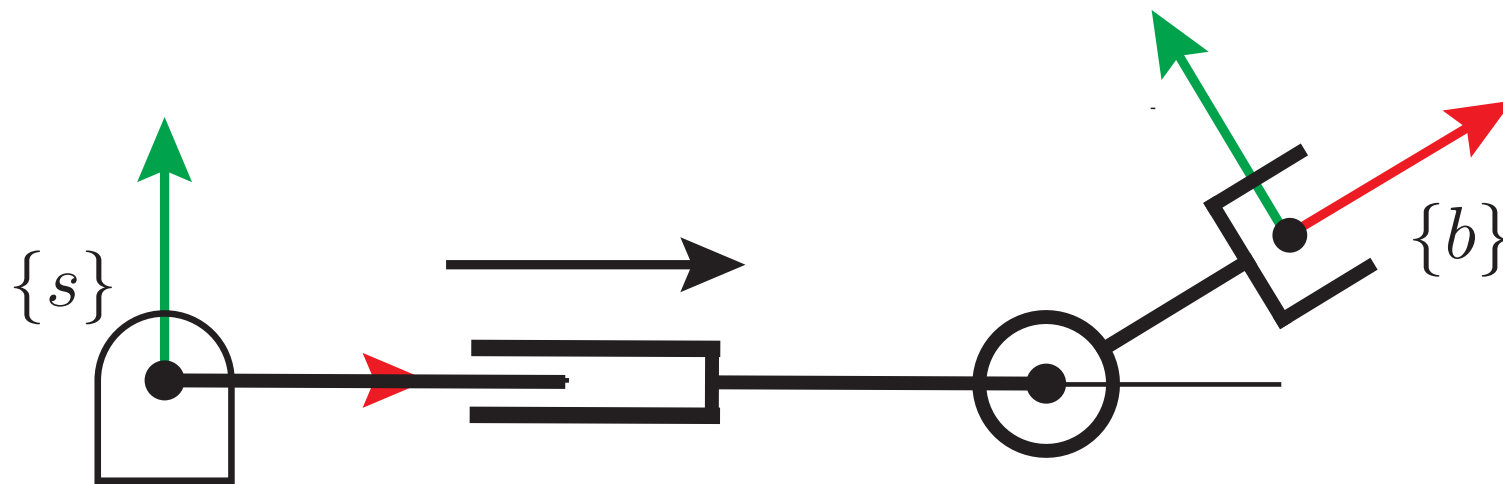
# Screw Vector – Joint 3

- How does the joint motion move the  $\{s\}$  frame?



# Screw Vector – Joint 2

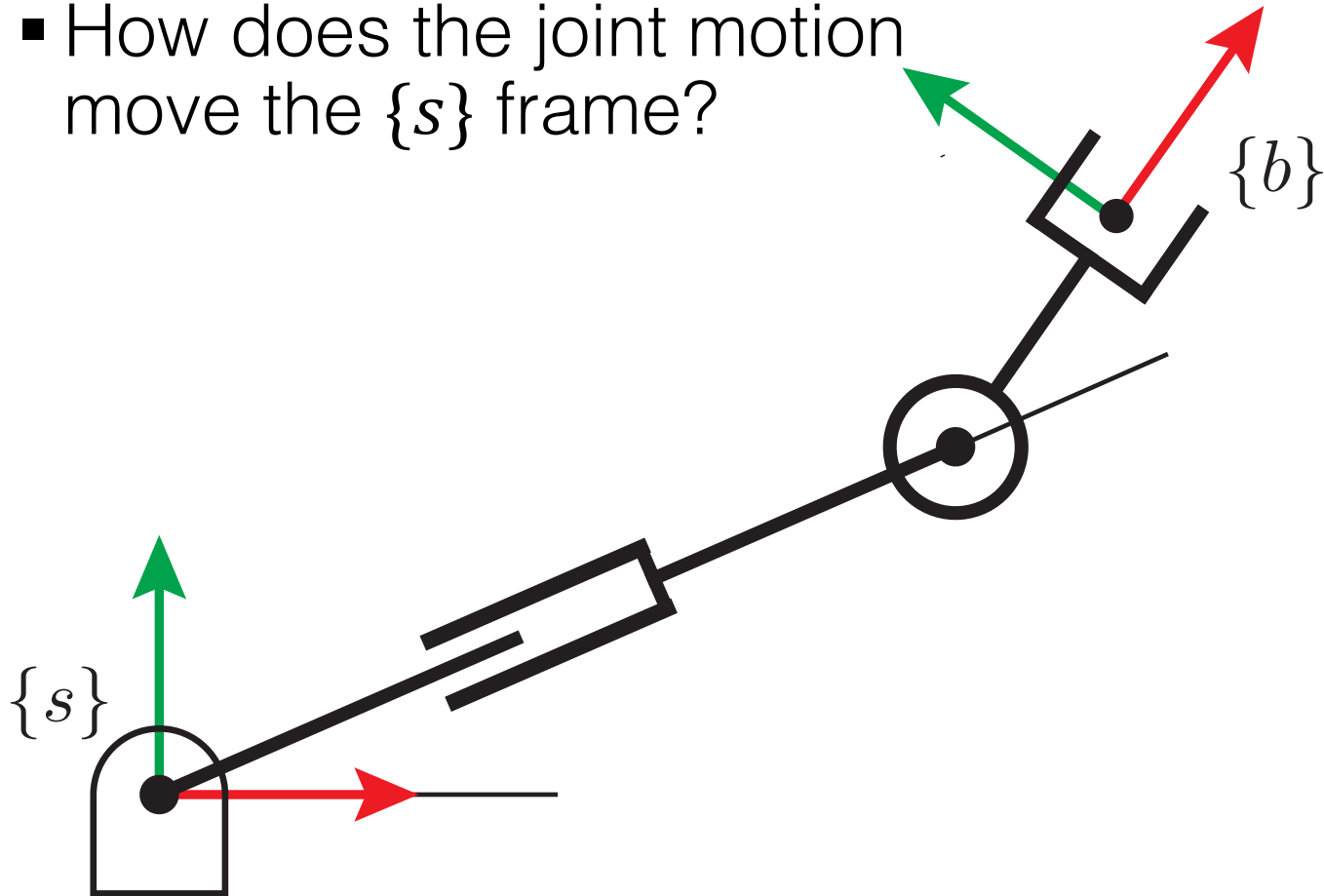
- How does the joint motion move the  $\{s\}$  frame?



$$\mathcal{S}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_2 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Screw Vector – Joint 1

- How does the joint motion move the  $\{s\}$  frame?



$$\mathcal{S}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ v_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Forward Kinematic Map

$$[\mathcal{S}] = \begin{bmatrix} [\omega] & v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in se(3) \qquad q = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \\ \theta_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T(q) = e^{[\mathcal{S}_1]\theta_1} e^{[\mathcal{S}_2]\theta_2} e^{[\mathcal{S}_3]\theta_3} M$$