



# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI GENOVA

## DIBRIS

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS,  
BIOENGINEERING, ROBOTICS AND SYSTEM ENGINEERING

### MODELLING AND CONTROL OF MANIPULATORS

---

## Second Assignment

### Manipulator Geometry and Direct Kinematics

---

*Author:*

Surname Name

*Professors:*

Enrico Simetti  
Giorgio Cannata

*Student ID:*

s0000000

*Tutors:*

Simone Borelli  
Luca Tarasi

December 1, 2025

## Contents

<b>1 Assignment description</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 Exercise 1 . . . . .	3
<b>2 Exercise 1</b>	<b>5</b>

Mathematical expression	Definition	MATLAB expression
$\langle w \rangle$	World Coordinate Frame	w
${}_b^a R$	Rotation matrix of frame $\langle b \rangle$ with respect to frame $\langle a \rangle$	aRb
${}_b^a T$	Transformation matrix of frame $\langle b \rangle$ with respect to frame $\langle a \rangle$	aTb

Table 1: Nomenclature Table

# 1 Assignment description

The second assignment of Modelling and Control of Manipulators focuses on manipulators' geometry and direct kinematics.

- Download the .zip file from the Aulaweb page of this course.
- Implement the code to solve the exercises on MATLAB by filling the template classes called *geometricModel* and *kinematicModel*
- Write a report motivating your answers, following the predefined format on this document.

## 1.1 Exercise 1

Given the following CAD model of an industrial 7 DoF manipulator:

**Q1.1** Define all the model transformation matrices, by filling the structures in the *BuildTree()* function. Be careful to define the z-axis coinciding with the joint rotation axis, such that the positive rotation is the same as showed in the CAD model you received; and the x-axis, when possible, pointing to the next link. Draw on the CAD model the reference frames for each link and insert it into the report.

**Q1.2** Implement the method of *geometricModel* called *updateDirectGeometry()* which computes the model transformation matrices as a function of the joint position  $q$ . Explain the method used and comment on the results obtained.

**Q1.3** Implement the method of *geometricModel* called *getTransformWrtBase()* which computes the transformation matrix from the base to a given frame. Using this method, compute the following transformation matrices:  ${}_e^b T$ ,  ${}_2^6 T$ . Explain the method used and comment on the results obtained.

**Q1.4** Run the MATLAB section Q1.4 in the given script *main.m*, which computes the configurations of the manipulators moving from an initial joint position  $q_i = [\frac{\pi}{4}, -\frac{\pi}{4}, 0, -\frac{\pi}{4}, 0, 0.15, \frac{\pi}{4}]^\top$  to  $q_f = [\frac{5\pi}{12}, -\frac{\pi}{4}, 0, -\frac{\pi}{4}, 0, 0.18, \frac{\pi}{5}]^\top$ . The script generates plots using methods from the given class *plotManipulators*, which must not be modified. Check that it behaves reasonably and show the obtained plots in the report.

**Q1.5** Implement the method of *kinematicModel* called *getJacobianOfLinkWrtBase()* which takes as argument the link number, and returns the Jacobian of the corresponding link with respect to the base. Compute the Jacobian of **link 6** with respect to base for the final configuration  $q_f$  given in Q1.4. Explain the method used and comment on the result obtained.

**Q1.6** Implement the method of *kinematicModel* called *updateJacobian()* which updates the Jacobian matrix of the manipulator for the end-effector. Compute the Jacobian for the final configuration  $q_f$  given in Q1.4. Explain the method used and comment on the results obtained.

**Q1.7** Given the following joint position,  $q = [0.7, -0.1, 1, -1, 0, 0.03, 1.3]^\top$  expressed in radians and meters, and the following joint velocities  $\dot{q} = [0.9, 0.1, -0.2, 0.3, -0.8, 0.5, 0]^\top$  expressed in rad/s and m/s, compute the velocities of the end effector with respect to the base projected on the end effector frame,  ${}^e v_{e/b}$  and  ${}^e \omega_{e/b}$ , using **forward kinematics**.

*Remark:* All the methods must be implemented for a generic serial manipulator. For instance, joint types, and the number of joints should be parameters.

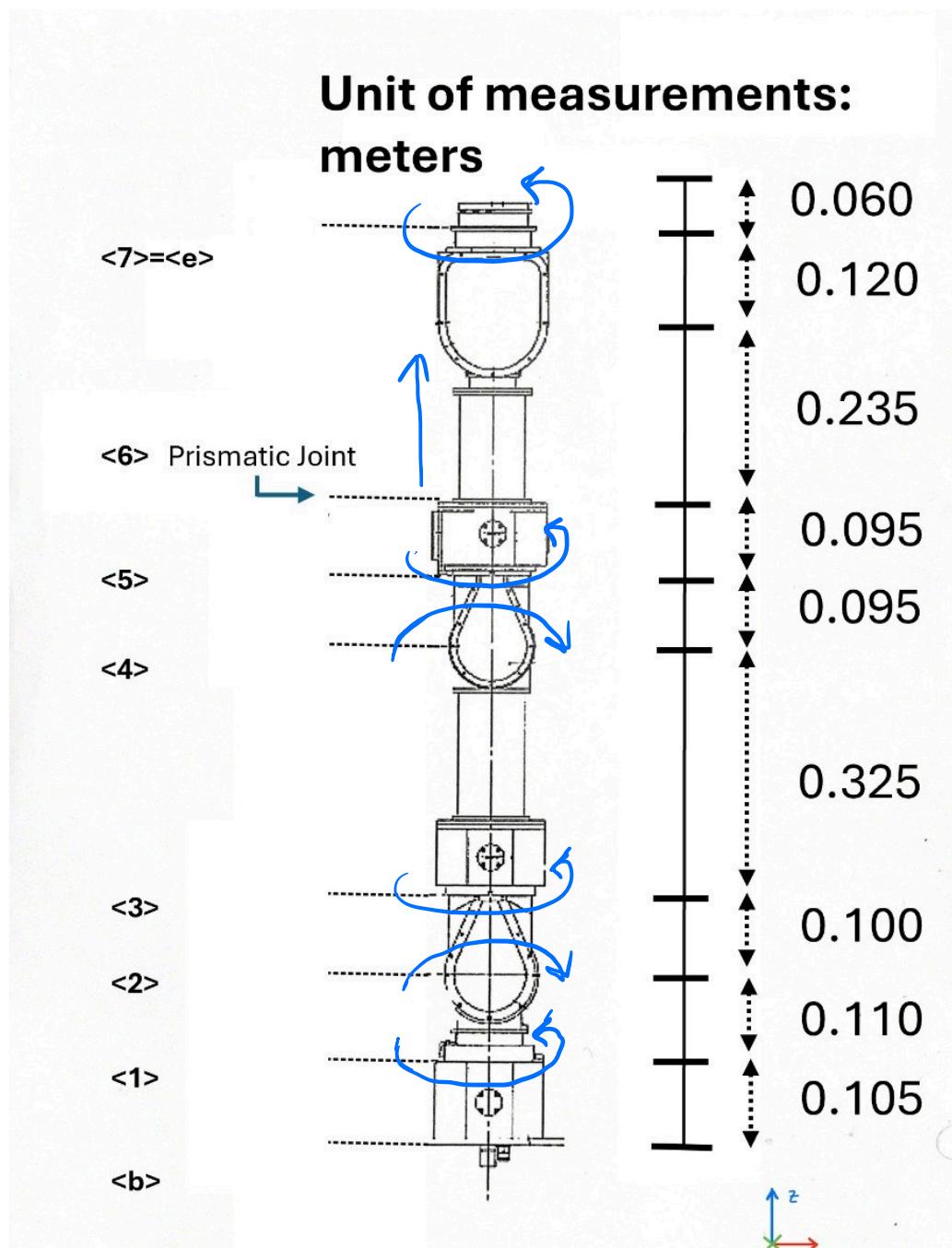


Figure 1: CAD model of the robot. The directions of motion of each joint are indicated by the blue arrows.

## 2 Exercise 1