

ROBOTS AND ROBOTIC ARM





ROBOT????

What is a Robot???

- A system that works or operates under human's command.
- It is a system that contains sensors, control systems, manipulators, power supplies and software all working together to perform a specific task depicted by the user.

Why do we call it a Robot???

• The word '*Robot*' was rooted from Czech word '*Robota*' which means '*forced labourer*' or simply a '*Worker*'.





Classification of Robots

Based on their task:

Playback Robot: A robot which performs operations by reading off the memorized information for an operating sequence.

Manipulator: A robot which can move objects spatially.

Intelligent Robot: A robot that can determine its own behavior within its limits and perform operations without interference of user.





ROBOTIC ARM

- A robotic arm is a mechanical arm having functions similar to that of human arm programmed and designed for specific tasks.
- Robotic arm is a basic form of a manipulator designed to move objects or to perform specific functions like drilling or welding in industries





Parts of a Robotic Arm

• Kinematic Chain

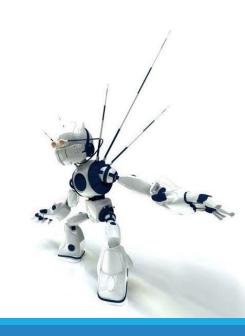
• End Effector





Kinematic Chain

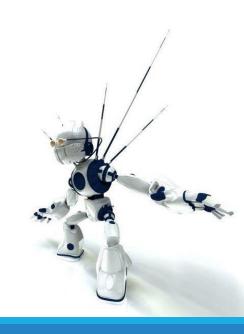
- A Kinematic Chain constitutes number of rigid bodies connected in chain such that their motion is constrained.
- Motion of each independent body or link would alter the motion of the chain.
- Thus number of degrees of freedom of each link would constitute the degrees of freedom of the kinematic chain.
- End effector is not a part of kinematic chain as it is not responsible for the motion of the manipulator.





Joints used in a robotic arm

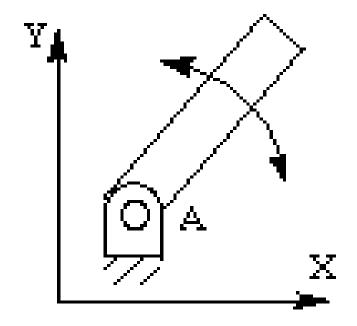
- As the arm is a replica of an actual human arm which has either a linear joint or a rotary joint but not both.
- Thus the types of joints are restricted to only two.
- They are:
 - Revolute Joint (R)
 - Prismatic Joint (P)





Revolute Joint

 If the link in a link-joint pair rotates along the axis of the joint then it is a revolute joint

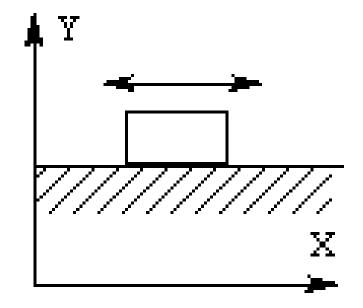






Prismatic Joint

• If the link traverses back and forth from the joint then it is said to be a Prismatic Joint.



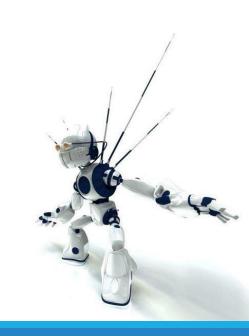




End Effector

- Defines the work output of the manipulator.
- Usually connected to the wrist.
- Does not have any effect on DOF of the robot.
- Classified into *two* types
 - *Gripper*: To move objects spatially.
 - *Tools* : To perform specific tasks

eg: for welding, a welding torch is used as an end effector of the manipulator





Workspace of a Robotic Arm

- The region where the manipulator can provide an output is called a workspace.
- An object can be moved only if it is present in the workspace of the arm
- Workspace is determined by two parameters :
 - Work Volume: volume swept by the end effector of the arm.
 - Work Envelope: the enveloped surface of the workspace.





Configuration of Robotic Arm

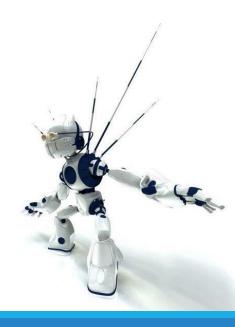
- Based on types of joints and workspace, configuration of Robotic Arm can be classified into many types.
- Most commonly used configurations are :
 - Cartesian (PPP) Configuration
 - Polar (RRP) Configuration
 - Cylindrical (RPP) Configuration





Cartesian Configuration

- This type of configuration is formed by three prismatic joints P,P,P.
- This promotes translation motion in all the axes.
- However this type of arm is not configured for rotational type of motion.
- The workspace of this configuration is a Cuboid.
- The work volume of cuboid is determined by the lengths of all the maximum lengths of prismatic joints.





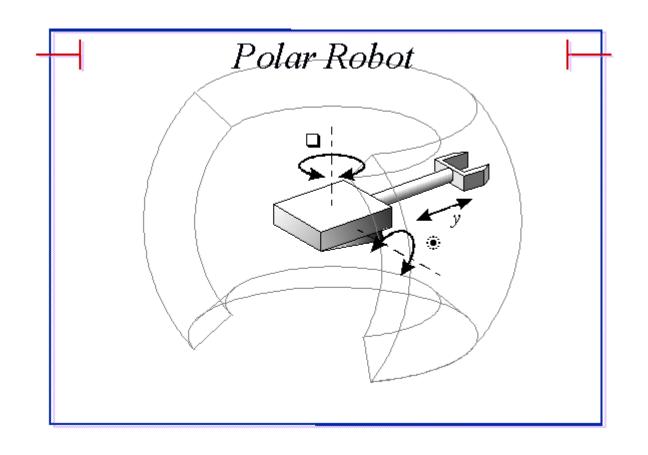
Polar or Spherical Configuration

- This type of configuration consists of two revolute joints and a prismatic joint.
- The order of placements of these joints is R,R,P.
- This type of configuration has a hollow sphere as its workspace.
- Radius of this sphere is equal to the maximum length of prismatic joint.





Polar or Spherical Configuration

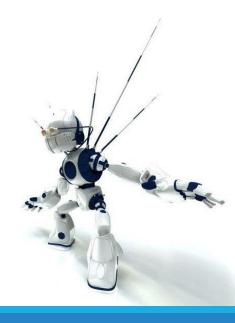






Cylindrical Configuration

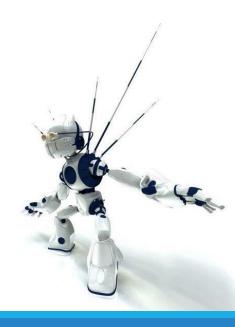
- This type of configuration consists of two prismatic joints and a revolute joint.
- Order of placements of these joints is R,P,P.
- This type of configuration has hollow cylinder as its workspace.
- Inner and Outer radii of this workspace are maximum and minimum lengths of prismatic joints.





Manipulation and Control

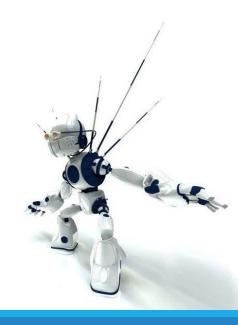
- Control and manipulation of a robotic arm can be done by programming the arm or by 'teaching' to perform tasks.
- This can be done for an arm that is controlled by the user.
- However the arm can be programmed such a way that it responds to the changes in environment.
- This can be done using various kinds of sensors.





Robot Sensing and Vision

- A Robot can interact with the user or perform the task with ease without user's interference by sensing various kinds of sensors for the arm.
- Also, the robot can visualize the environment and perform tasks if it is provided with vision.
- This can be done using image processing





Is programming necessary.....??

- Programming is heart of a ROBOT, though there are robots completely based on mechanical but a perfect robot needs both.
- However, a robotic arm need not be necessarily controlled by programming.
- It can be manually controlled using force as a parameter
- This force can be completely mechanical.



Mechanical Robotic Arm

- Control of Robotic arm alone can be done using force i.e fluid pressure as a parameter.
- Based on type of fluid a robotic arm is classified into two types: a) Pneumatic Robotic Arm: Fluid: Air or Gas
 b) Hydraulic Robotic Arm: Fluid: Liquid
- Different types of fluid are used in different applications.

