

Problem 27 (Understanding Jacobians)

- (a) In order to interpret the entries of the Jacobian, we can fix all generalized coordinates but one and understand how the end-effector would move if the remaining coordinate is varied. Let's fix q_2 and q_3 and vary q_1 . In this case, the end-effector would move along a circle around the fixed pivot point of the mechanism, as shown in Figure 5. Positive rate of change of q_1 corresponds to the direction of motion of the end-effector shown by the blue arrow in the figure: negative in the x direction, positive in the y direction, and such that the rate of change along y is larger in magnitude than along x. This vector of virtual displacement corresponds to the entries J_{11} (displacement along x) and J_{12} (along y). Hence, we have that $J_{11} < 0$, $J_{21} > 0$, and $|J_{11}| < J_{21}$. This corresponds to the matrix (4).

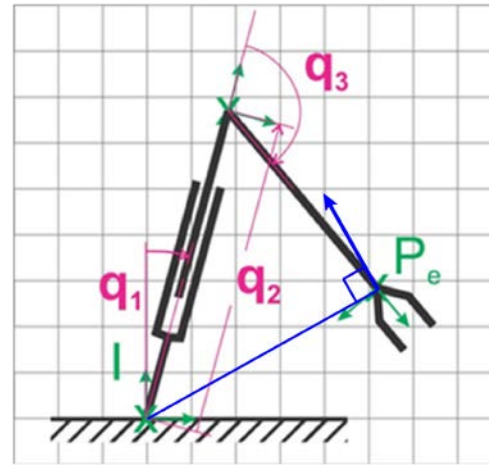


Figure 5

- (b) Recall that ${}_I \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{df}{dt}$ and ${}_I \mathbf{J} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{q}}$. Equation (2)

is not correct because it uses the full derivative of f with respect to time, not a partial derivative. The same holds for 4, which additionally is expressed in a moving coordinate frame, which makes the derivative ill-defined. Formula (3) also cannot be used because, for non-holonomic constraints, the constraint function f does not exist. Hence, ${}_I \dot{\mathbf{x}}$ has to include the term $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \dot{\mathbf{q}}} \ddot{\mathbf{q}}$. Thus, only the formula (1) is correct.

- (c) Differentiating the constraint ${}_I \mathbf{x} = f_c(\mathbf{q}, t)$ twice, we get

$${}_I \dot{\mathbf{x}} = {}_I \mathbf{J}_c \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}} + \frac{\partial f_c}{\partial t},$$

$${}_I \ddot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{d}{dt} \left({}_I \mathbf{J}_c \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}} + \frac{\partial f_c}{\partial t} \right) = {}_I \dot{\mathbf{J}}_c \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}} + {}_I \mathbf{J}_c \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial f_c}{\partial t} \right)$$

The bias acceleration corresponds to the case $\ddot{\mathbf{q}} = 0$, and so we get

$${}_I \sigma_c = {}_I \dot{\mathbf{J}}_c \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}} + \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial f_c}{\partial t} \right)$$

which is exactly the statement (3). Next, we can write the expression for ${}_I \ddot{\mathbf{x}}$ above as

$${}_I \ddot{\mathbf{x}} = {}_I \sigma_c + {}_I \mathbf{J}_c \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{q}}$$

This proves the statement (2) correct. Finally, since ${}_I \mathbf{x} = f_c(\mathbf{q}, t)$, the statement (4) is equivalent to the statement (2) and is thus also correct.

Thus, the statement (1) is the only one that is not correct.

- (d) Similar to the question (a), we estimate the Jacobian entries by fixing one generalized coordinate and perturbing the other. Let's fix φ and vary γ . As we can see from the picture in the 1- and 2-axis plane, if γ increases, the ball on the right moves away from the 2-axis; its positions along both the 1-axis and the 2-axis increase and the 3-axis position stays unchanged. Therefore, the Jacobian entries J_{12} and J_{22} must be positive, while J_{32} must be zero. This corresponds to the answer (3).
- (e) The statement (2) is not correct, as both the position and acceleration are given in the inertial coordinate frame and thus there should be no cross-product term.