RBE 500 Group Assignment #3

Joshua Gross, Arjan Gupta, Melissa Kelly

Velocity Kinematics

Calculations

Solving for both the forward and inverse velocity kinematics are centered around solving the Jacobian matrix. In order to solve for the Jacobian, we first need to establish the linear and angular velocity components in all directions for each of the joints. These expressions will vary dependent upon whether the joint is revolute or prismatic. Once these determinations are made, a matrix of the form seem in the figure below is created, where, each of the elements is a 3×1 matrix. This matrix comes from the lecture slides.

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} z_0 \times (o_3 - o_0) & z_1 \times (o_3 - o_1) & z_2 \\ z_0 & z_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

As clearly seen in the above figure, the following elements are needed in order to solve the Jacobian in its entirety: $z_0, z_1, z_2, o_0, o_1, o_3$. These values are found by using elements of the individual transformation matrices found when solving the forward position kinematics. The image below shows what elements of the transformation matrix are extracted in order to solve for Jacobian.



ROS Code

Programmatically, the elements $z_0, z_1, z_2, o_0, o_1, o_3$ mentioned in the Calculations subsection above are extracted and plugged into the Jacobian framework as seen below from the velocity_kinematics.py file (which is submitted as part of the velocity_kin package).

```
# Get z's and o's for Jacobian
2
           z0 = np.array([[0], [0], [1]])
           z1 = A1[:3, 2:3]
3
           z2 = A2[:3, 2:3]
           00 = np.array([[0], [0], [0]])
           01 = A1[:3, 3:4]
6
           03 = A3[:3, 3:4]
           # Write columns of Jacobian
           E11 = np.cross(z0, (03-00), axis=0)
           E12 = np.cross(z1, (03-01), axis=0)
10
           E13 = z2
11
           E21 = z0
12
           E22 = z1
13
           E23 = np.array([[0], [0], [0]])
14
           # Build up the Jacobian
15
           Jacobian = np.zeros((6,3), dtype=float)
16
           Jacobian[:3, :1] = E11
17
           Jacobian[:3, 1:2] = E12
18
19
           Jacobian[:3, 2:3] = E13
           Jacobian[3:6, :1] = E21
20
21
           Jacobian[3:6, 1:2] = E22
           Jacobian[3:6, 2:3] = E23
```

At this point, we have the ability to solve for the forward or inverse velocity kinematics. By multiplying the Jacobian by the joint's velocities matrix, we can solve for the velocity of the end effector. Likewise, if the inverse of the Jacobian is multiplied by the end effector velocity matrix, the velocity of each of the joints can be found. It should be noted that since this particular Jacobian is not square, the inverse cannot simply be taken and therefore the pseudo-inverse numpy function is used in order to take the inverse. Having the Jacobian solved and regularly available allows us to calculate the forward and inverse velocity kinematics and therefore create a controller for the robot so achieve the desired movement and speed.

Velocity Controller

Mathematical Modeling

The process of creating a controller for this application stems from the previous position controller as well as other controllers created throughout the course. The goal velocity of each joint, V_r is is received through a service response. The name of the service is velocity_inv_kin_service. Suppose our current velocity is given as V. The error for each joint is then calculated as follows:

$$E = V_r - V$$

When paired with the proportional gain value, we now have one of the terms of the controller. In order to get the other term, the derivative of the error is also needed, and is calculated as shown:

$$\dot{E} = \frac{V - V_{prev}}{\Delta time}$$

This derivative of the error is paired with the derivate gain and now completes the controller. Our controller takers on the form:

$$F = K_p E + K_d \dot{E}$$

Where F is the effort that will be applied in Gazebo and will cause the joints to move.

Creating the Controller in ROS

Creating the velocity controller also followed a similar process to the position controller.

In the scaralvelocity_controller.py node, we first initialize many different variables that will be used throughout the various functions. This is where the reference velocities are set based on the Jacobian and input end effector velocity. Additionally, this is where we set the proportional and derivative gain values to be used by the velocity controller later. Once these variables are set, we initialize member variables for the clients. Next, the empty arrays to be filled with velocity data are created to be later be filled in and then plotted in the graphing section of the code. At this point, we create the client that will activate the required controller. Another client is created that will get the joint velocity references from the other ROS node and the service that receives the reference velocity is also created. Then subscribers are made that call the joint state callbacks.

Once the run_controller function is called, the PD controller us activated therefore controlling the speed of each joint and ideally achieving the desired behavior of the robot. This function takes all of the velocities

of the individual joints, applies the proportional and derivate gain values, and computes the output efforts to be sent back to Gazebo therefore causing movement. In order to implement the controller, we begin by finding the errors, or the difference between the reference velocity and the true velocity value from the simulation. From here, the acceleration is approximated by using the derivative approximation technique as shown in lectures. These steps can be seen in the code below.

```
# ---- Implement controller -----

# Find errors

err.v1 = self.ref.v1 - v1

err.v2 = (self.ref.v2 * -1) - v2

err.v3 = self.ref.v3 - v3

# Approximate the acceleration by using the derivative

# approximation technique shown in Week 8 lecture

accel1 = (v1 - self.last.v1)/(time.time() - self.accel.approx.last.time)

accel2 = (v2 - self.last.v2)/(time.time() - self.accel.approx.last.time)

accel3 = (v3 - self.last.v3)/(time.time() - self.accel.approx.last.time)
```

The next step is to tune our controller.