

# Kinematics & Dynamics of Machinery (ME 3320)

Recitation - 2

GTA: Shishir Khanal, [khanshis@isu.edu](mailto:khanshis@isu.edu)

---

## 1. Agenda:

- Revision(Linkage, Mobility)
- Problems(Mobility)

## 2. Revision:

- **What is the mobility of a 4-bar Linkage?**

1

- **If the mobility is equal to “2”, that means we need to control 2 variables for a given mechanism.**
- **What are the 6 steps that are essential in the derivation of the vector equation for the position analysis of a 4-bar linkage?**

Step-1: Define the reference frame

Step-2: Define variables and parameters

Step-3: Link length: a, b, h, g

Step-4: Angular/joint variables  $\theta$  (input angle),  $\phi$  (coupler angle),  $\psi$  (output angle)

Step-5: Pivots: O, A, B, C

Step-6: Vector coordinates of points

- **What are the two ways of finding the dependent variables in a 4-bar linkage problem?**

1. Distance Constraints
2. Loop Equations

- **What idea is the ‘distance constraint’ method based on?**

The distance between two points in a link is fixed.

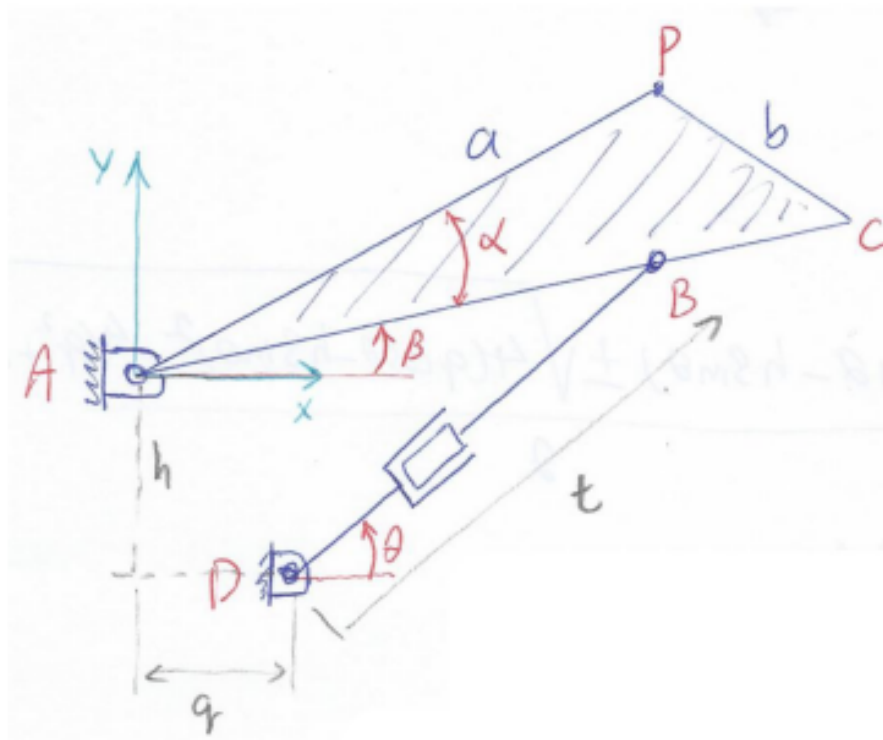
- **What idea is the ‘loop equations’ based on?**

We can express the vector coordinates of the point using different paths along the

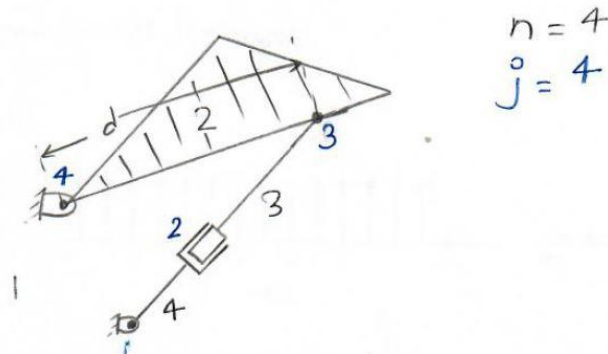
linkage.

### 3. Problems:

- The linkage shown below is a kinematic sketch of a closing door mechanism with given dimensions. The acceptable value of the prismatic joint is:  $5 < t < 15$ .



1) Calculate the Mobility of this linkage



$$M = 3(n-1) - \sum_{i=1}^J (3-f_i)$$

$$= 3(4-1) - 4(3-1)$$

$$\boxed{M = 1}$$

2) What are the coordinates of points A, B & D?

$$\vec{A} = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{B} = \langle q + t \cos \theta, t \sin \theta - h \rangle$$

$$\vec{D} = \langle q, -h \rangle$$

$$\vec{B} = \langle d \cos \beta, d \sin \beta \rangle$$

3) For the defined reference frame and given  $\theta$ , perform the position analysis:

3. a) Using the distance constraint method, compute the dependent variable  $t(\theta)$  analytically as an explicit function of the input angle  $\theta$ . Consider the length of  $\overline{AB}$  as the fixed distance.

3. a Distance Constraint,

$$\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{AB} = d^2$$

$$(\vec{B} - \vec{A}) \cdot (\vec{B} - \vec{A}) = d^2$$

$$\left( \begin{Bmatrix} q+t \cos \theta \\ t \sin \theta - h \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \right) \cdot \left( \begin{Bmatrix} q+t \cos \theta \\ t \sin \theta - h \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \right) = d^2$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} q+t \cos \theta \\ t \sin \theta - h \end{Bmatrix} \cdot \begin{Bmatrix} q+t \cos \theta \\ t \sin \theta - h \end{Bmatrix} = d^2$$

$$(q+t \cos \theta)^2 + (t \sin \theta - h)^2 = d^2$$

$$q^2 + t^2 \cos^2 \theta + 2qt \cos \theta + t^2 \sin^2 \theta + h^2 - 2ht \sin \theta = d^2$$

$$t^2 \cos^2 \theta + t^2 \sin^2 \theta + 2(qt \cos \theta - ht \sin \theta) + q^2 + h^2 - d^2 = 0$$

$$t^2 + 2(q \cos \theta - h \sin \theta)t + q^2 + h^2 - d^2 = 0$$

$$\therefore t^2 - B(\theta)t + C = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad t = \frac{-B(\theta) \pm \sqrt{(B(\theta))^2 - 4C}}{2}$$

$$\therefore t(\theta) = \frac{-2(q \cos \theta - h \sin \theta) \pm \sqrt{4(q \cos \theta - h \sin \theta)^2 - 4(q^2 + h^2 - d^2)}}{2}$$

Correction:  $t^2 + B(\theta)t + C = 0$

3. b) Formulate the loop equation and solve it to find the explicit equation for dependent variable  $\beta(\theta)$

3. b Consider Loop ABDA,

$$\vec{AB} + \vec{BD} + \vec{DA} = 0$$

$$\vec{AB} = -\vec{BD} - \vec{DA}$$

$$\boxed{\therefore \vec{AB} = \vec{OB} + \vec{AO}} \quad \text{--- (I)}$$

$$\vec{AB} = \vec{B} - \vec{A} = \begin{Bmatrix} d \cos \beta \\ d \sin \beta \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{OB} = \vec{B} - \vec{O} = \begin{Bmatrix} q + t \cos \theta \\ t \sin \theta - h \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} q \\ -h \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} t \cos \theta \\ t \sin \theta \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{AO} = \vec{O} - \vec{A} = \begin{Bmatrix} q \\ -h \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} q \\ -h \end{Bmatrix}$$

(I) becomes,

$$\begin{Bmatrix} d \cos \beta \\ d \sin \beta \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} t \cos \theta \\ t \sin \theta \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} q \\ -h \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \begin{Bmatrix} d \cos \beta \\ d \sin \beta \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} q + t \cos \theta \\ -h + t \sin \theta \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$d \cos \beta = q + t \cos \theta \quad \text{--- (A)}$$

$$d \sin \beta = -h + t \sin \theta \quad \text{--- (B)}$$

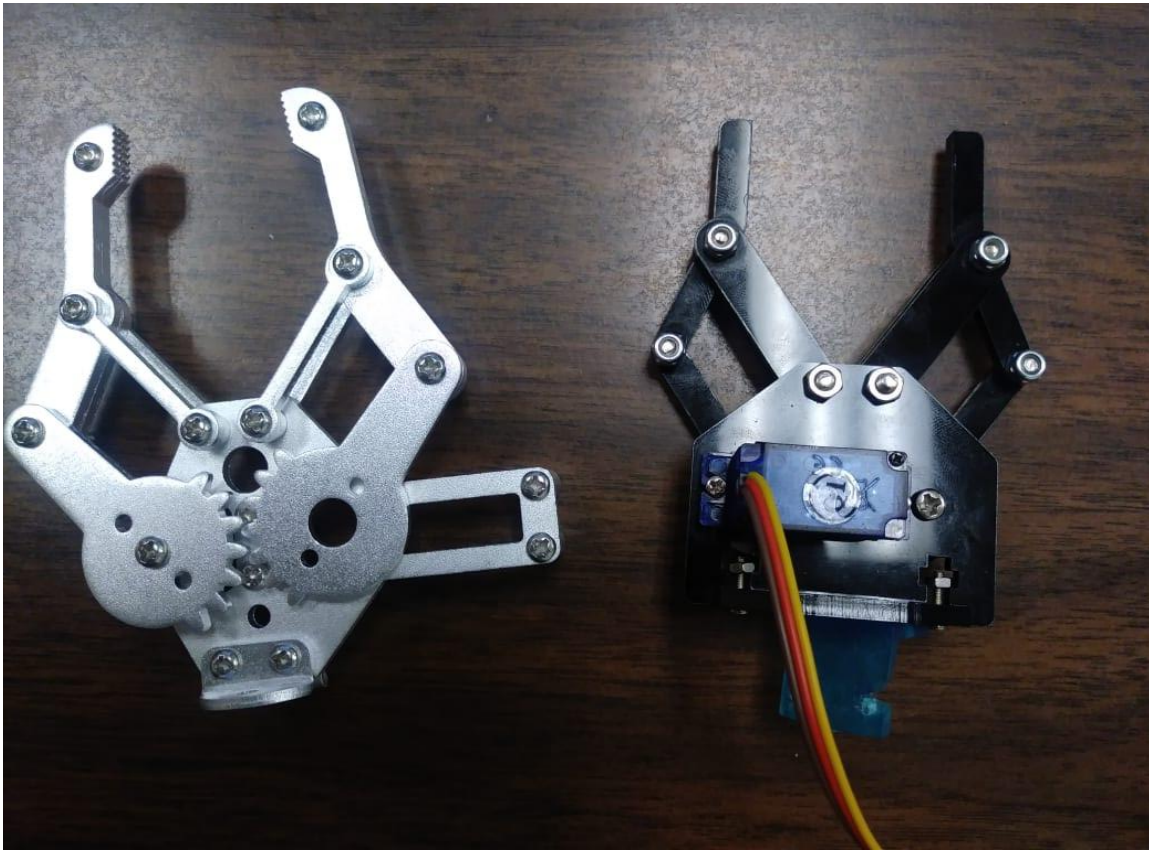
Perform (B)/A,

$$\frac{\sin \beta}{\cos \beta} = \frac{-h + t \sin \theta}{q + t \cos \theta}$$

$$\boxed{\therefore \beta(\theta) = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{-h + t \sin \theta}{q + t \cos \theta} \right)}$$

(This problem will return in Recitation-3)

- **Demo:**  
There are several applications of Linkage design around us. One common application is given below:



1. **What is this part called?**  
A Gripper
2. **What is its relevance in the Kinematics class?**  
It is composed of two 4-bar linkages.
3. **Can you suggest any approaches to use this to balance between holding and squeezing?**
  - a. For same size objects, it is possible to manually calibrate a grasper
  - b. It is possible for a human to operate a grasper (eg, surgical robots)
  - c. For advanced grasping, the approach is to identify the objects and then compute the grasping points which is used to grasp the object.

**(Demo: Run the system using a potentiometer)**

**Bibliography:**

- **Dr. Hedari's HW 2**
- **Dr. Deemyad's Notes**

## Miscellaneous:

- For avid googlers like me:
  - Watts Linkage
  - Pantograph
  - Ornithopter
  - Compliant Mechanism
- If you like 3D models:
  - Thangs.com
  - Thingiverse.com
- [Even Ironman uses 4-bar Linkage!](#)