

# MEAM 520

## Rotation Matrices

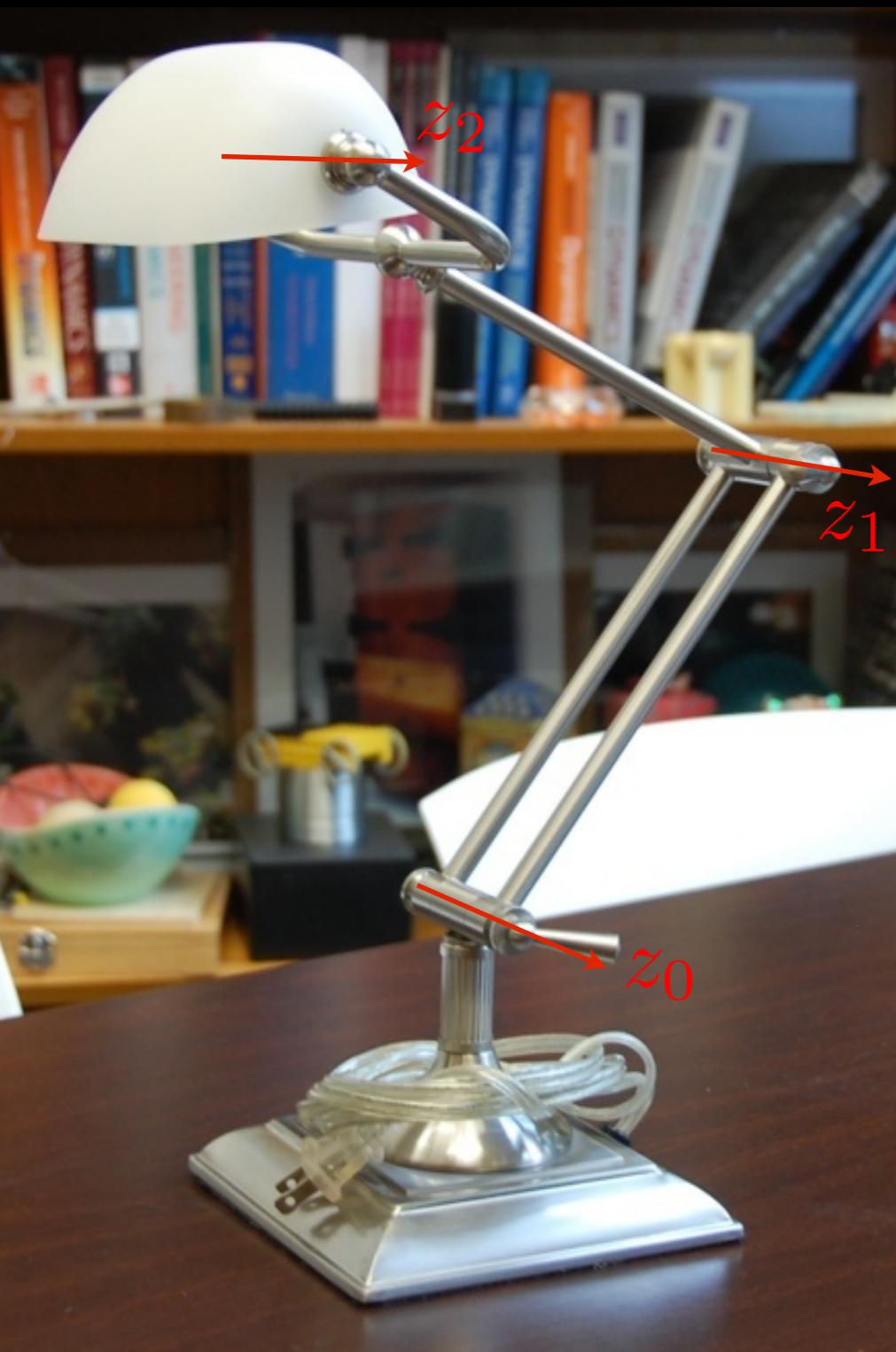
Katherine J. Kuchenbecker, Ph.D.

General Robotics, Automation, Sensing, and Perception Lab (GRASP)  
MEAM Department, SEAS, University of Pennsylvania

GRASP  
LABORATORY

Lecture 3: September 5, 2013





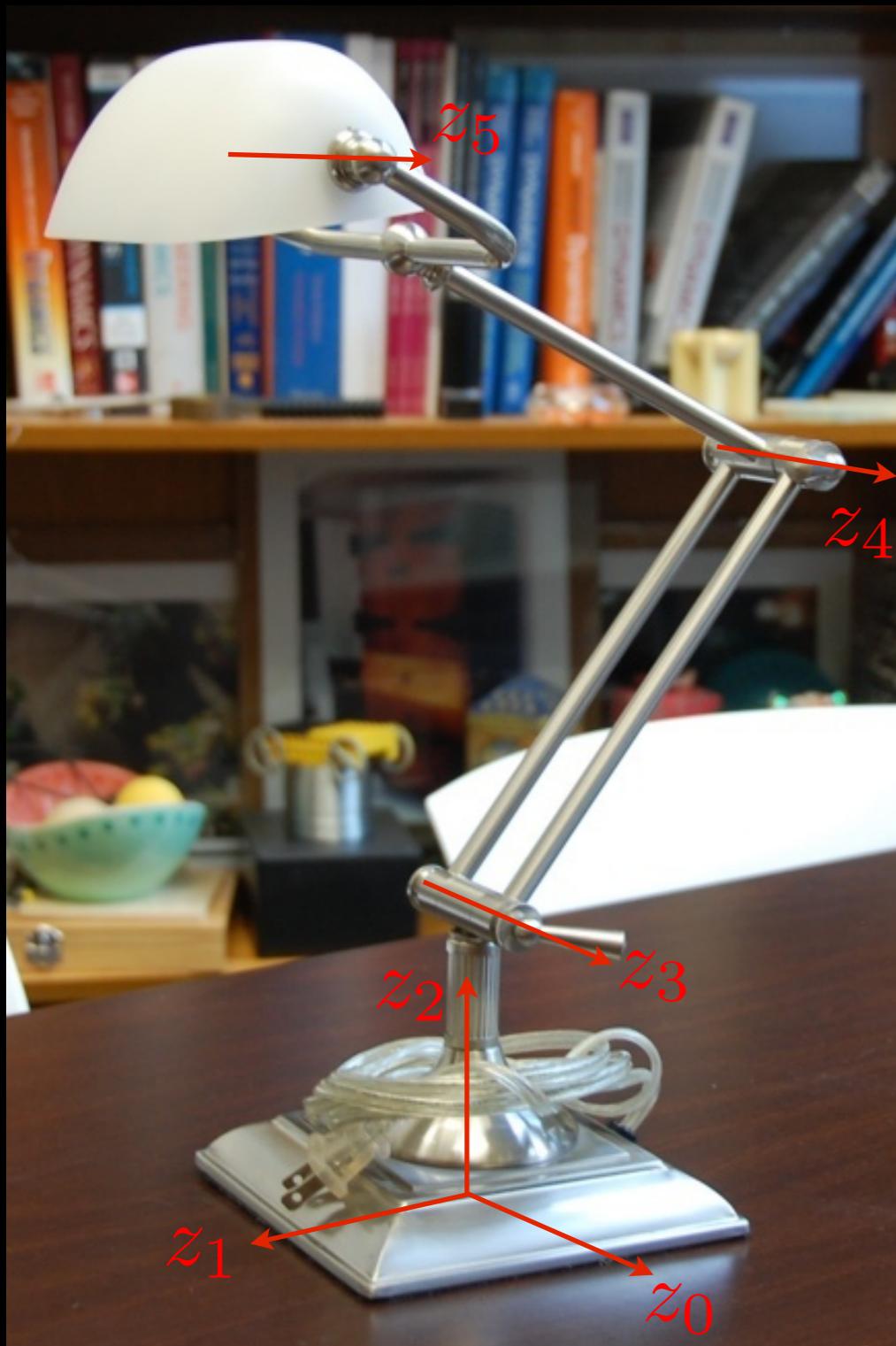
Define a point on the shade along the final axis ( $z_2$ ) as the end-effector location.

What is the **reachable workspace** of the lamp?

- Everywhere the point can go when joints are rotated.
- This is a two-dimensional shape.

What is the **dexterous workspace** of the lamp?

- If we consider motion only in 2D, dexterous is the same as reachable workspace.
- Considering 3D, there is none!



What if we let the **base move and rotate** on the table. What type of robot is the lamp now?

- PPRRRR manipulator
- Not all rotational axes are parallel
- Spatial mechanism

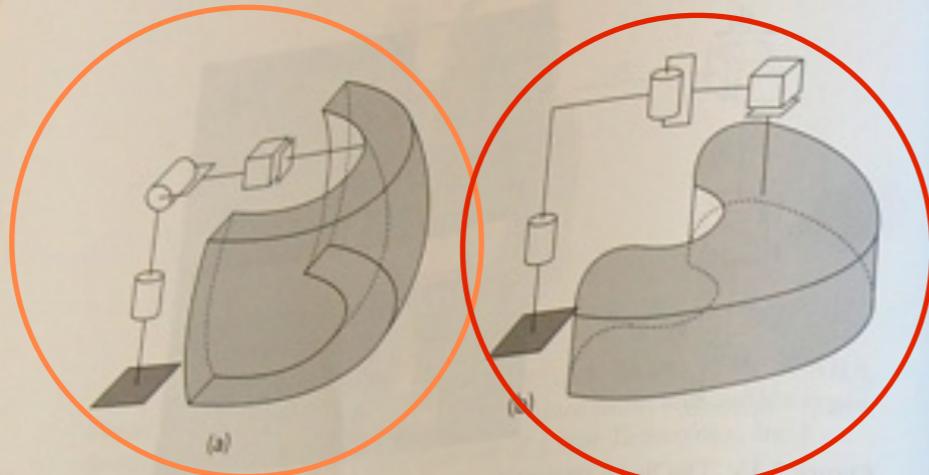
What is the **reachable workspace** of the lamp?

- Everywhere the shade can go when joints rotate, base slides.

What is the **dexterous workspace** of the lamp?

- There is none! The shade can't tilt left/right;  $z_5$  always horizontal.

Kay  
2  
K  
workspace too low!



workspace too far out,  
shape badly drawn!

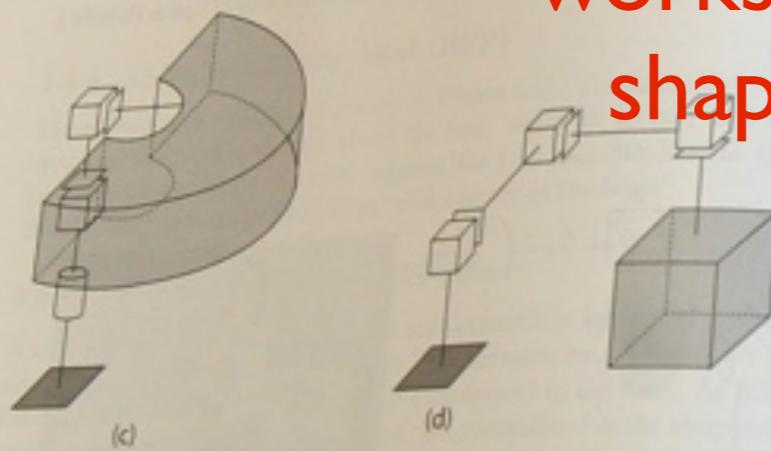


Figure 1.17: Comparison of the workspaces of the (a) spherical, (b) SCARA, (c) cylindrical, and (d) Cartesian robots. The nature of the workspace dictates the types of application for which each design can be used.

#### 1.4. OUTLINE OF THE TEXT

19

##### 1.3.6 Parallel Manipulator

A **parallel manipulator** is one in which some subset of the links form a closed chain. More specifically, a parallel manipulator has two or more kinematic chains connecting the base to the end effector. Figure 1.18 shows the ABB IRB940 Tricept robot, which is a parallel manipulator. The closed-chain kinematics of parallel robots can result in greater structural rigidity, and hence greater accuracy, than open chain robots. The kinematic description of parallel robots is fundamentally different from that of serial link robots and therefore requires different methods of analysis.



Figure 1.18: The ABB IRB940 Tricept parallel robot. Parallel robots generally have much higher structural rigidity than serial link robots. (Photo courtesy of ABB.)

#### 1.4. OUTLINE OF THE TEXT

A typical application involving an industrial manipulator is shown in Figure 1.19. The manipulator is shown with a grinding tool that it must use to remove a certain amount of metal from a surface. In the present text we are concerned with the following question: What are the basic issues to be resolved and what must we learn in order to be able to program a robot to perform such tasks? The ability to answer this question for a full six degree-of-freedom manipulator represents the goal of the present text. The answer is too complicated to be presented at this point. We can, however,

# Homework 1:

## MATLAB Programming and Reachable Workspace

MEAM 520, University of Pennsylvania  
Katherine J. Kuchenbecker, Ph.D.

September 4, 2013

This assignment is due on Tuesday, September 10, by midnight (11:59:59 p.m.) Your code should be submitted via email according to the instructions at the end of this document. Late submissions will be accepted until Thursday, September 12, by noon (11:59:59 a.m.), but they will be penalized by 10% for each partial or full day late, up to 20%. After the late deadline, no further assignments may be submitted.

You may talk with other students about this assignment, ask the teaching team questions, use a calculator and other tools, and consult outside sources such as the Internet. To help you actually learn the material, what you write down should be your own work, not copied from any other individual or team. Any submissions suspected of violating Penn's Code of Academic Integrity will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. If you get stuck, post a question on Piazza or go to office hours!

### Individual vs. Pair Programming

This class will use the programming language MATLAB to analyze and simulate robotic systems and also to control real robots. Some students in the class have never used MATLAB before, and others are quite familiar with it. The goal of this assignment is to get everyone starting to use MATLAB to improve their understanding of robotic systems.

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- Stay focused and on-task the whole time you are working together.

MEAM 520

<https://piazza.com/class/hf935b0sz1m5r3?cid=5>

**PIAZZA** MEAM 520 Q & A Course Page Manage Class Katherine J. Kuchenbecker

hw1 final\_exam lecture1 lecture2 midterm\_exam logistics other office\_hours

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New Post Search or add a post...

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Search for Teammates! 4/7/13 • 2 Open Teammate Searches

YESTERDAY

Instr Homework 1 is Posted 8:28PM I just posted the first MEAM 520 assignment. Assignment Document: hw01.pdf [http://www.piazza.com/class\\_pro...](http://www.piazza.com/class_pro...)

THIS WEEK

Textbook PDF Link Tue Could you please post a link to the draft textbook PDF you mentioned in lecture. The bookstore won't have our textb

Instr Clarifications About Dextero... Tue A couple of you asked really good questions after lecture and in my office hours today. One important clarifying point

Midterm Exam Tue Has a date been set for the Midterm Exam?

Matlab License Tue Is there any guidance on obtaining a Matlab license?

Private Scheduling Conflict with the ... Tue I will likely have a conflict with the final exam. The DARPA Robotics Challenge is going to be held in Miami on December

LAST WEEK

Instr MEAM 520 Final Exam is 12:... Fri The MEAM 520 Final Exam will be from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18. This timing is set by the Pen

Instr KJK Office Hours are Tuesd... Thu Students, My office hours this semester will be held in Towne 224: Tuesdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Thursdays from 3:00 to 4

Instr Lecture Slides added to clas... Thu I just posted a pdf of the lecture slides from today's class. Title: robotics01introduction.pdf

Instr First Lecture Wed

Need to form teams? Create a post below to initiate a search and we'll notify you via email when others respond.

**add new post:**

I'm one student looking for more people to work with.  
 I'm from a group looking for more students.

\*Name Katherine J. Kuchenbeck \*Email kuchenbe@seas.upenn.edu

\*About Me Introduce yourself. What kind of teammate(s) are you looking for  
*(Things you could include: your location, grad/undergrad, when you're available... help people get to know you!)*

Submit

**2 open searches:**

# students	about
one student	Alex McCraw (amccraw@seas.upenn.edu) I am a part-time Robo Master's student, I got my Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering from Virginia Tech. I work full time and live in Drexel Hill, so I am looking for someone to work with that can get together primarily in the evenings and on weekends. I have some prior experience with Matlab, but it was during undergraduate and I graduated in 2009, so I will be relearning most of it.
one student	Zhao Liang (zliang@seas.upenn.edu) I am a Chinese international graduate student in MEAM, and I finished my bachelor degree in US. I try to find a partner to work on the first homework assignment and later ones. I have a little experience on MATLAB, so I am not so confident about it. Hopefully I can find a nice partner, then we can figure it out together.

Average Response Time: N/A Special Mentions: Katherine J. Kuchenbecker answered Midterm Exam in 41 min. 1 day ago

Online Now | This Week: 3 | 98

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- If you notice a bug in the code your partner is typing, wait until they finish the line to correct them.
- Stay focused and on-task the whole time you are working together.

- Recognize that pair programming usually takes more effort than programming alone, but it produces better code, deeper learning, and a more positive experience for the participants.
- Take a break periodically to refresh your perspective.
- Share responsibility for your project; avoid blaming either partner for challenges you run into.

## MATLAB

Completing this assignment requires access to a computer that has MATLAB installed. All of the computers in the SEAS computer labs will work, or you can remotely connect to a SEAS computer lab PC by following these instructions: <http://www.seas.upenn.edu/cets/answers/virtualLab.html>

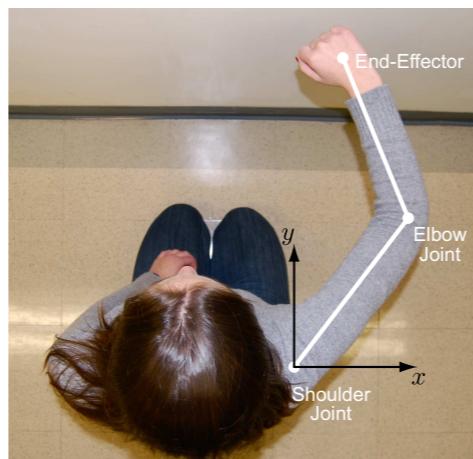
SEAS is still planning to pay for MATLAB licenses for all students in this class, but the software distribution system has not yet been set up. It will be announced on Piazza as soon as it's available.

If you haven't used MATLAB much before, you should consider attending one of the MATLAB workshops that were announced in lecture. We'll announce any additional ones once they are organized.

If you're not yet confident in your MATLAB skills, you might also want to complete the *Interactive MATLAB Tutorial* provided online by The MathWorks:  
[http://www.mathworks.com/academia/student\\_center/tutorials/mltutorial.launchpad.html](http://www.mathworks.com/academia/student_center/tutorials/mltutorial.launchpad.html)

### Plotting the Horizontal Human Arm's Reachable Workspace

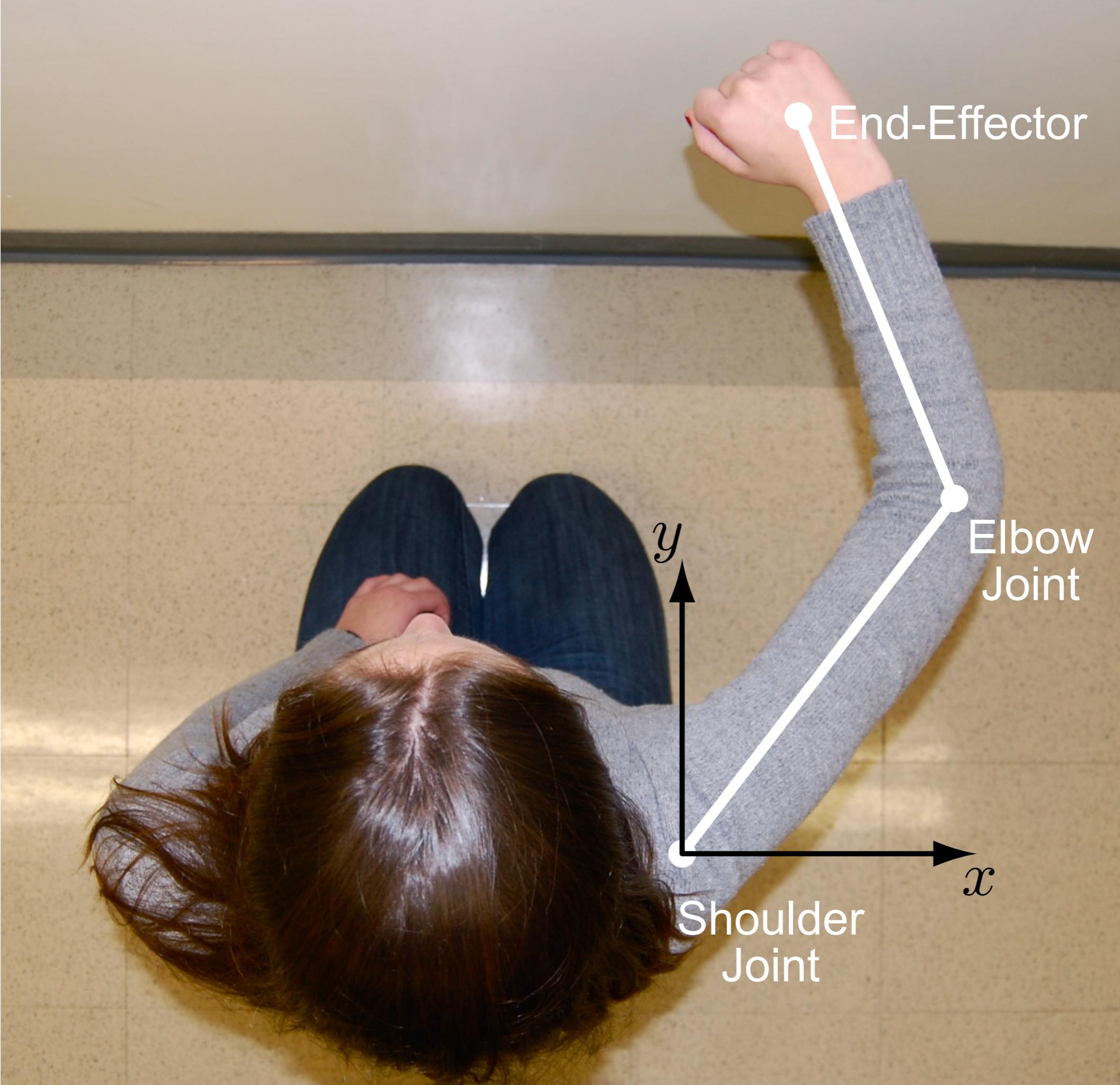
Your task for this homework is to write a MATLAB script that plots the **reachable workspace of your right arm**, as seen from overhead. Recall that the reachable workspace is the entire set of points that a manipulator's end-effector can reach.



As shown in the illustration above, you should treat the human arm as a planar RR manipulator. This decision models the shoulder and the elbow both as revolute joints whose rotational axes are vertical. Treat the center of the hand as the end-effector location.

Put the origin of the coordinate frame at the shoulder joint. The  $x$  axis points out to your right, and the  $y$  axis points straight forward.

How far can your elbow flex and extend? What about your shoulder's range of motion in the horizontal plane? Examine your own arm to estimate the mechanical limits of each joint's movement. Also measure your arm to obtain the appropriate link lengths in centimeters. If you're in a team, you may use either partner's arm for this step. Write down the values you find; you'll need them in your code.



Look on pages 20 to 21 of the textbook to find equations for the  $x$  and  $y$  coordinates of the end-effector of a two-link planar RR robot as functions of the joint angles  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ . Specifically, you should be looking at equations (1.1) and (1.2) and the associated diagram in Figure 1.20.

Combine all of these pieces to write a MATLAB script to plot the reachable workspace of your right arm. Here are a few additional tips and requirements:

- Start by downloading the **starter code** from Piazza. The filename is `arm_workspace_starter.m`
- Rename your file `arm_workspace_yourpennkey.m` or `arm_workspace_pennkey1.pennkey2.m` (if you're working with a partner). Your PennKey is the first part of your SEAS email address. Naming your file in this way ensures that the submissions all have unique, identifiable file names.
- Inside your script, create **sensibly named variables** to hold the values you measured above, instead of typing the numbers directly into equations. For example, the variable `elbowmin_deg` could hold the minimum angle your elbow can reach in degrees, and the variable `forearmlength_cm` could hold the length of your forearm in centimeters. Then use the name of the variable every time you need that value. This practice makes your code easier to read, debug, and update later.
- Plot a **black circle** at the location of the shoulder joint. This is already done in the starter code.
- Instead of plotting continuous regions, we recommend that you just plot a **finite set of points** to show the reachable workspace of the human arm. The starter code plots a simple set of points to show you how to do this.
- Make the plot marker **green** at locations where the end-effector can physically go and **red** at locations where the end-effector encounters a collision with your body. Use reasonable measurements for the location of your body in the workspace.
- Use units of **centimeters** in both directions.
- Note that the MATLAB functions `sin` and `cos` expect arguments in **radians**. If you want to use **degrees**, try the functions `sind` and `cosd`.
- Ensure that the view of the workspace is not distorted by calling the MATLAB function `axis equal` after you've plotted at least one thing in the figure window; this step is already done in the starter code. This function makes one unit in the x-direction be displayed at the same visual scale as one unit in the y-direction.
- For the **title** of your plot, use "Reachable Workspace by Your Name" or "Reachable Workspace by Teammate 1 and Teammate 2", inserting your full given name(s).

#### Submitting Your Code

Follow these instructions to submit your code:

1. Start an email to `meam520@seas.upenn.edu`
2. Make the subject *Homework 1: Your Name* or *Homework 1: Your Name and Your Teammate's Name*, replacing *Your Name* and *Your Teammate's Name* with the appropriate full names.
3. Attach your correctly named MATLAB script to the email. Please do not put it in a zip file or include any other attachments.
4. Optionally include any comments you have about this assignment and the experience of pair programming if you worked with a teammate.
5. Send the email.

Editor - /Users/kuchenbe/Documents/teaching/meam 520/assignments/01 workspace/matlab/arm\_workspace\_starter.m

EDITOR PUBLISH VIEW

New Open Save Find Files Compare Print Insert Comment Indent Go To Breakpoints Run Run and Time Run and Advance Run Section Advance

FILE EDIT NAVIGATE BREAKPOINTS RUN

arm\_workspace\_starter.m

```
1 % MEAM 520 Homework 1
2 %
3 % Starter code written by Professor Katherine J. Kuchenbecker
4 % University of Pennsylvania
5 %
6 % The goal of this assignment is to plot the reachable workspace of the
7 % human arm in the horizontal plane, treating it like an RR manipulator.
8 %
9 % Clear all of the existing variables.
10 clear
11
12
13 %% Define Variables
14 % Add your own variables here.
15
16 variable1_deg = 5;
17 variable2_cm = 10;
18
19
20 %% Set Up Plot
21
22 figure(1)
23 clf
24
25 % Plot the shoulder as a black circle at the origin.
26 plot(0,0, 'ko')
27
28 % Turn hold on so that we can plot additional things on this figure.
29 hold on
30
31 % Force the axes to be displayed as the same scale.
32 axis equal
33
34 % Label the axes, with units.
35 xlabel('X Position of Hand (cm)')
36 ylabel('Y Position of Hand (cm)')
37
38 % Set the title of the plot.
39 title('Reachable Workspace by YOUR NAME and YOUR PARTNER''S NAME')
40
```

script Ln 6 Col 72

Editor - /Users/kuchenbe/Documents/teaching/meam 520/assignments/01 workspace/matlab/arm\_workspace\_starter.m

EDITOR PUBLISH VIEW

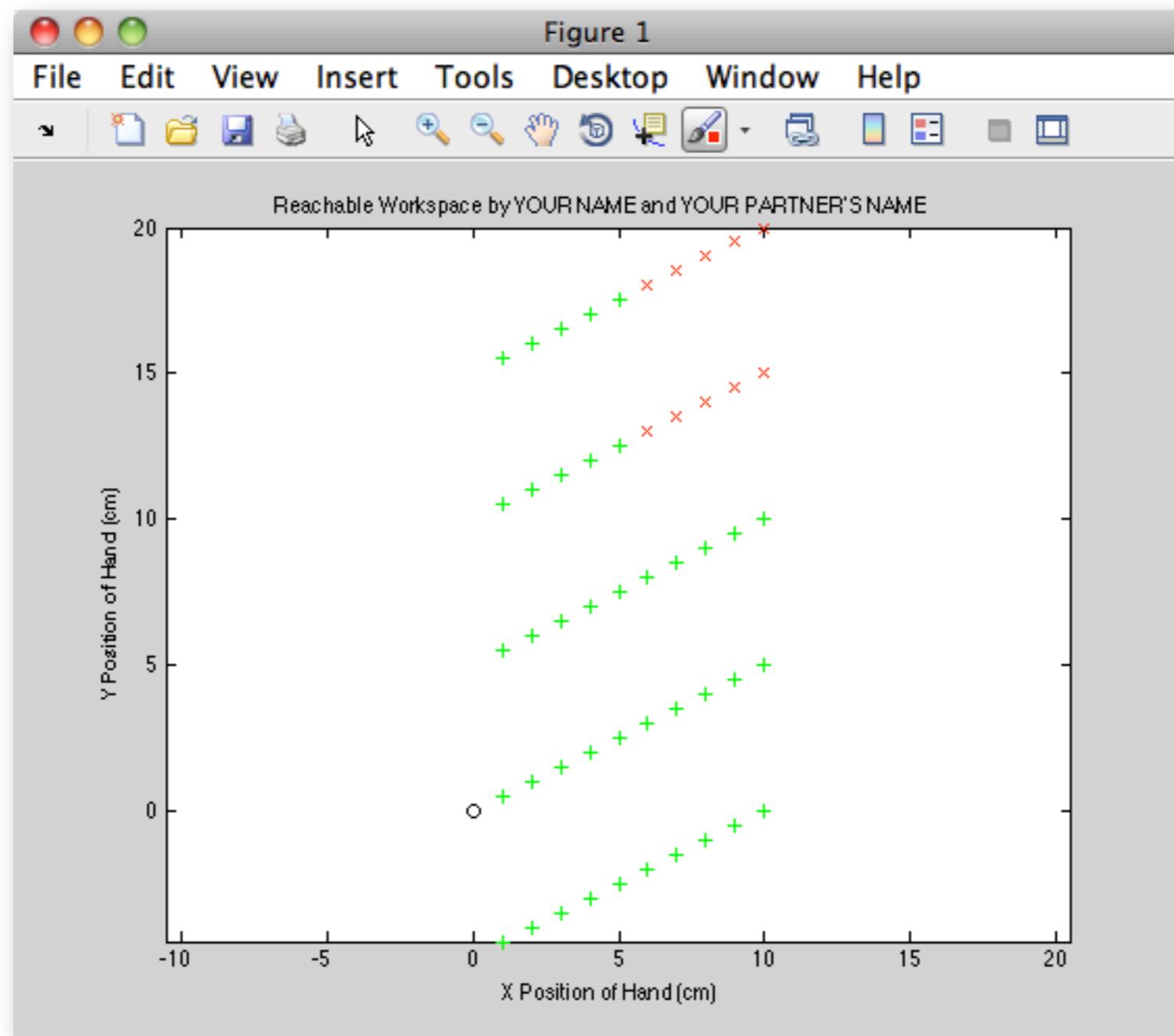
New Open Save Find Files Compare Print Insert Comment Indent Go To Breakpoints Run Run and Time Run and Advance Run Section Advance

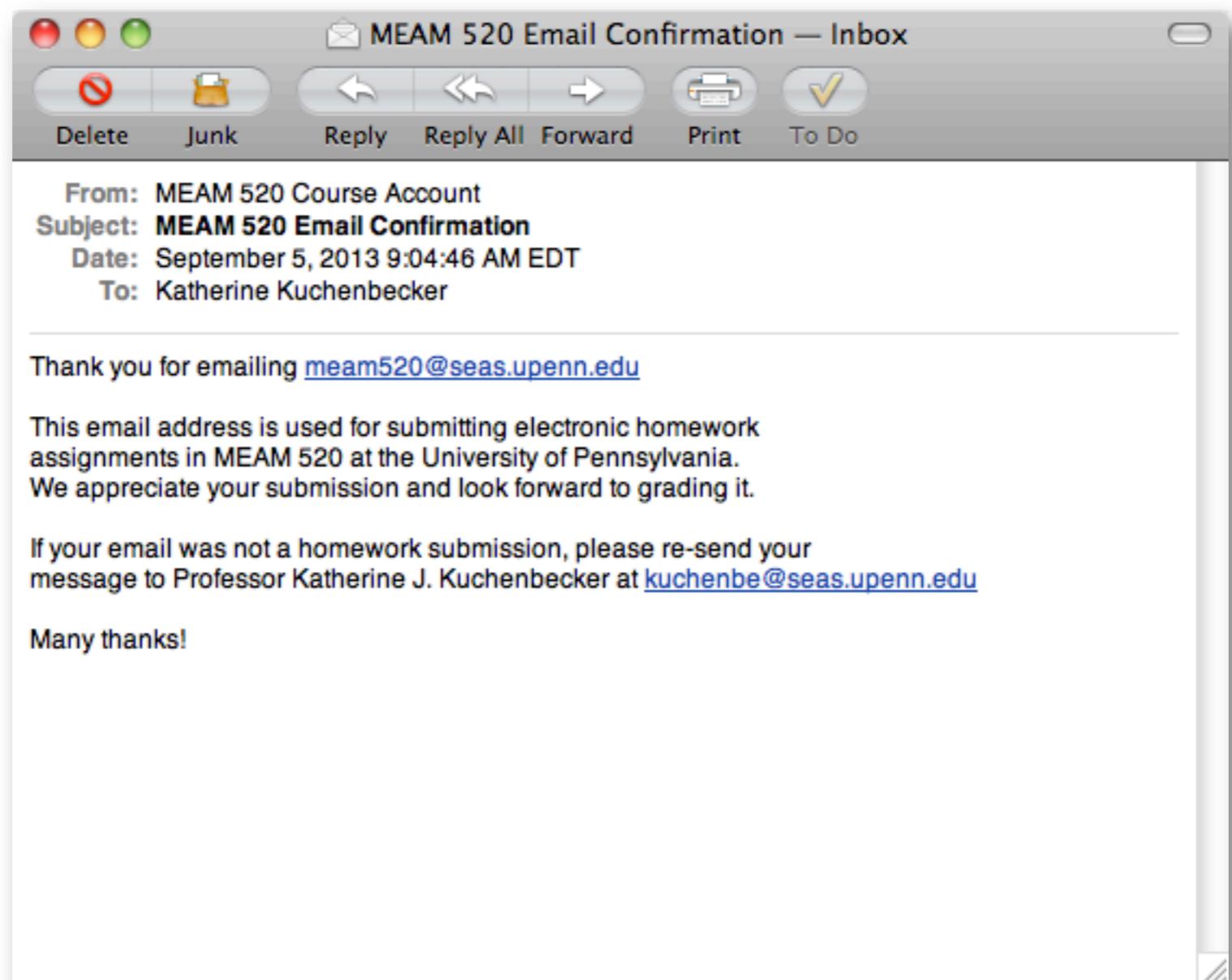
FILE EDIT NAVIGATE BREAKPOINTS RUN

arm\_workspace\_starter.m

```
22 -     figure(1)
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33
34 -     % Label the axes, with units.
35 -     xlabel('X Position of Hand (cm)')
36 -     ylabel('Y Position of Hand (cm)')
37
38 -     % Set the title of the plot.
39 -     title('Reachable Workspace by YOUR NAME and YOUR PARTNER''S NAME')
40
41
42 -     %% Plot the Reachable Workspace
43 -     % Update this code.
44
45 -     for i = 1:10
46 -         for j = -5:5:15
47
48 -             % Calculate x and y locations.
49 -             x = i;
50 -             y = j + 0.5*i;
51
52 -             % Plot this position on the graph, setting the color based on the location.
53 -             if ((y > 12) && (x > 5))
54 -                 plot(x,y,'rx')
55 -             else
56 -                 plot(x,y,'g+')
57 -             end
58
59 -         end
60 -     end
61
```

script Ln 11 Col 1





- Naomi will run my office hours today, still from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. in Towne 224
- Our teaching team will hold other office hours this weekend to help you with Homework I.
- OH times and locations will be announced on Piazza.



**Naomi Fitter**



**Tyler Barkin**



**Samarth Brahmbhatt**



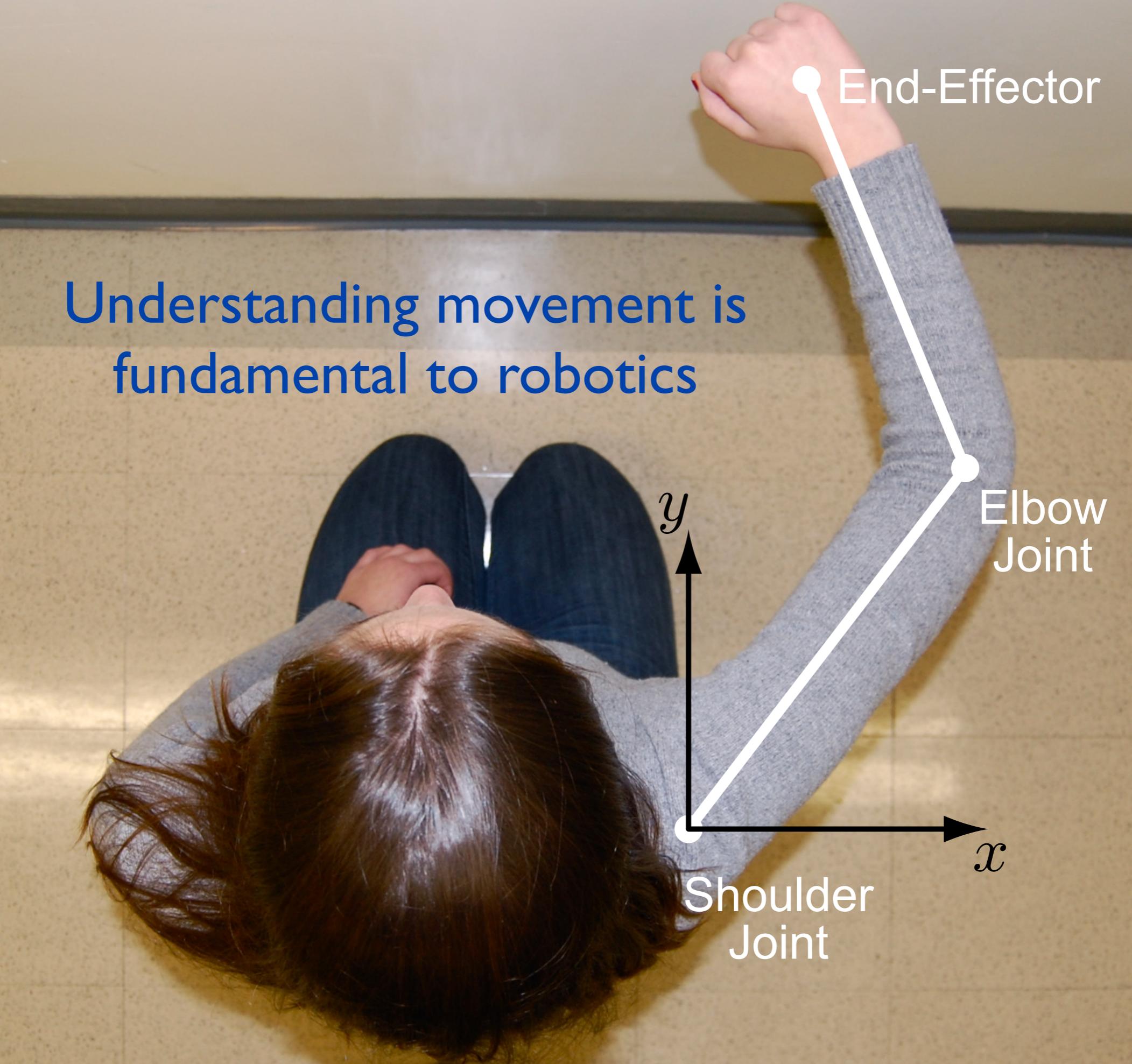
**Chaitanya Bhargava**



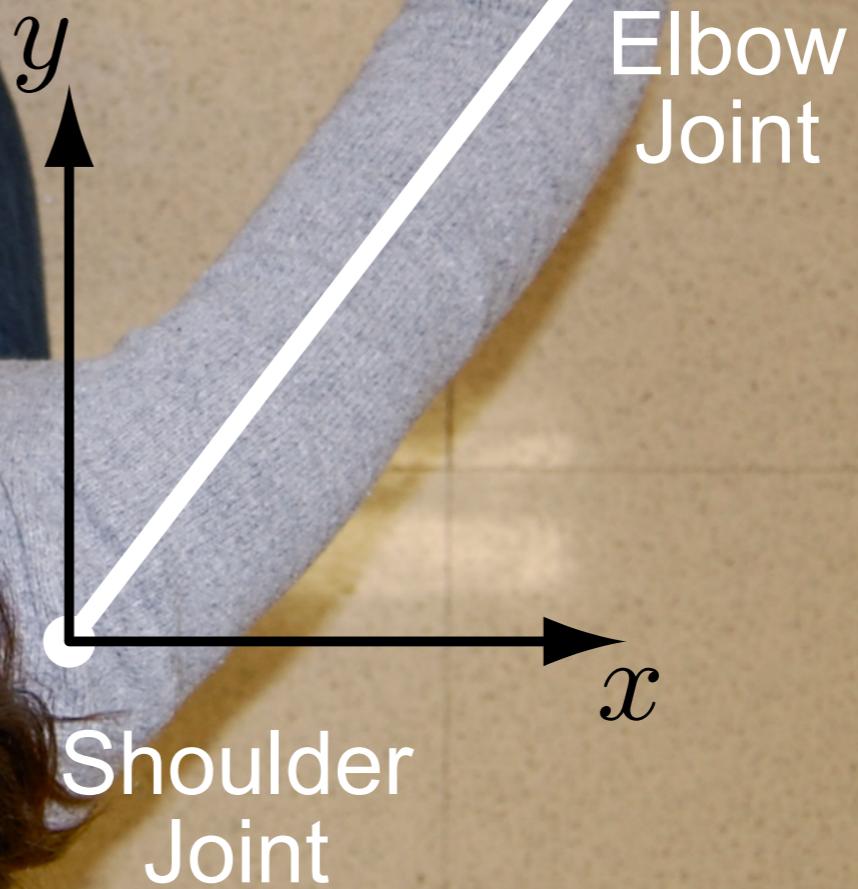
**Edward (Yunkai) Cui**



**Annie Mroz**



Understanding movement is fundamental to robotics



# Points & Frames



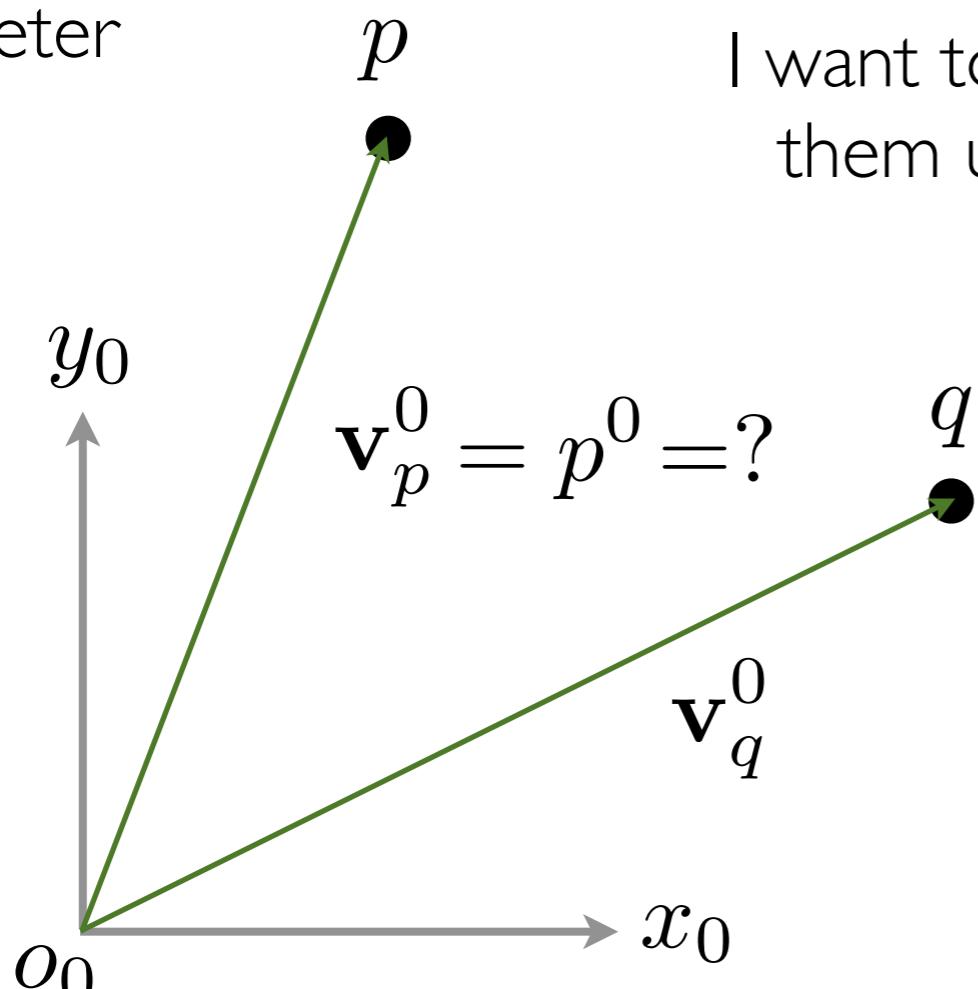
These slides are adapted from ones created by Jonathan Fiene for MEAM 520 in Spring 2012.



# Representing positions

A **point** exists in space as a geometric entity

—  
1 meter



## Coordinate Frame

Needs an origin (a single point in space)  
and two or three orthogonal coordinate axes

I can reason directly about these points, but if I want to **analyze** them, I must represent them using coordinates or equations.

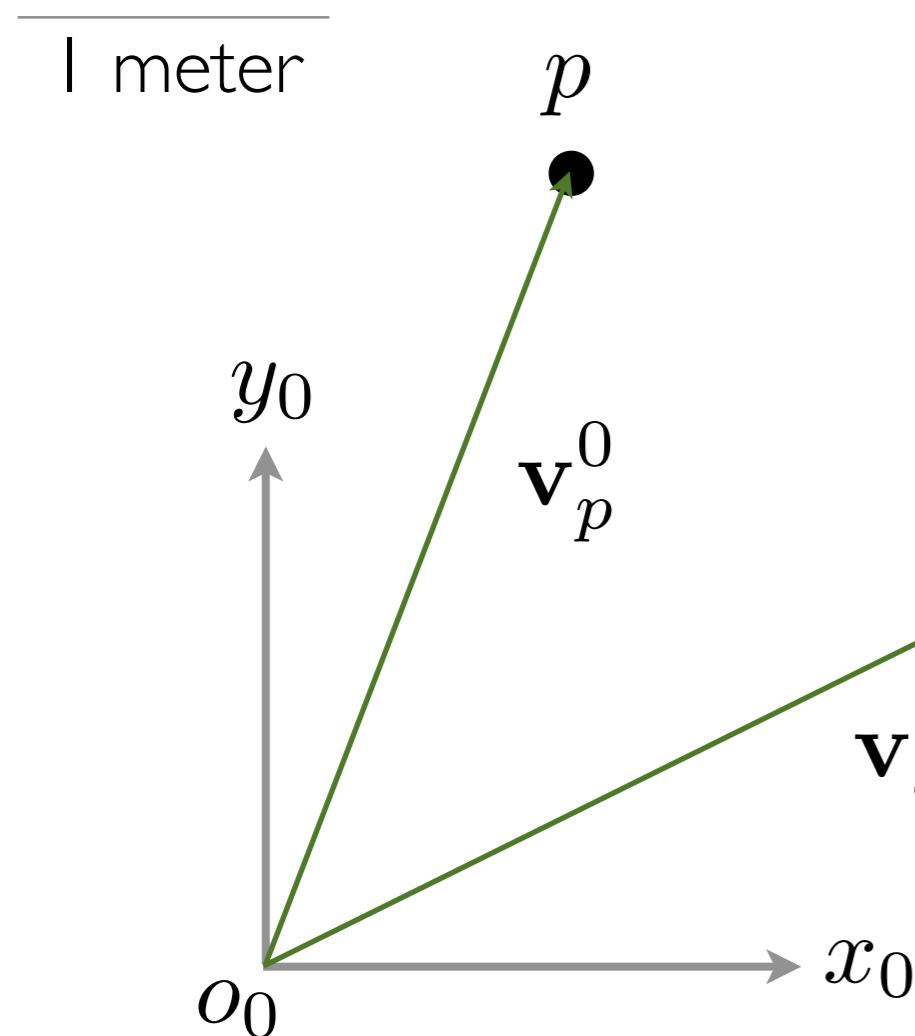
The coordinate frame being used is designated using **superscript** notation

*“It’s super to specify the frame!”*

What if we were doing this in **3D**.  
How would the coordinate frame change?  
How would the coordinates change?

$r$   
●

How do I find the **magnitude** or **length** or **norm** of a vector?



$$\mathbf{v}_p^0 = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{v}_p^0 = [x, y, z]^T$$

$$\|\mathbf{v}_p^0\| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

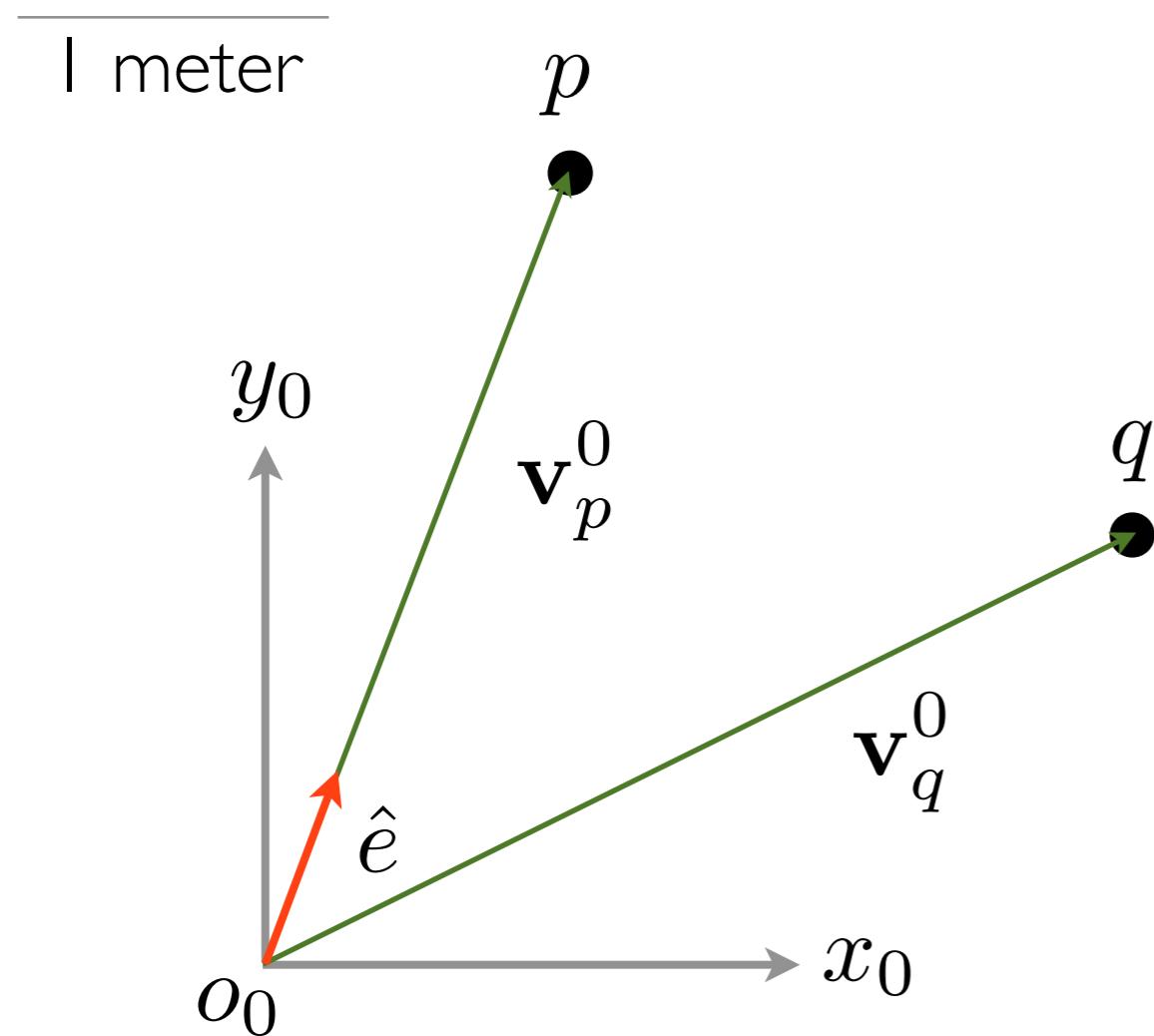
$$\|\mathbf{v}_p^0\| = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\|\mathbf{v}_p^0\| = ((\mathbf{v}_p^0)^T \mathbf{v}_p^0)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\|\mathbf{v}_p^0\| = \langle \mathbf{v}_p^0, \mathbf{v}_p^0 \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

In MATLAB?

How do I represent the **direction** of a vector?



$$\mathbf{v}_p^0 = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{v}_p^0 = [x, y, z]^T$$

Create a **unit vector**.

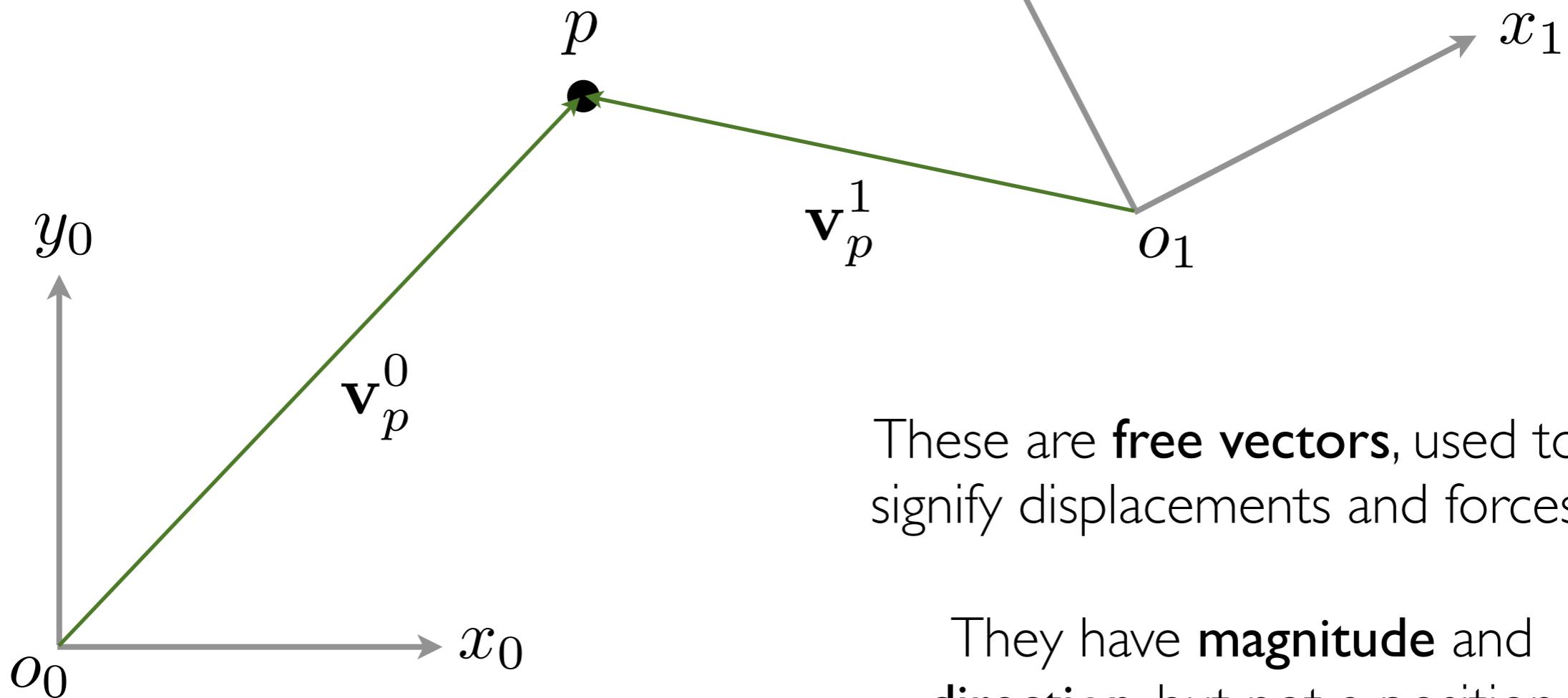
$$\hat{e} = \frac{\mathbf{v}_p^0}{\|\mathbf{v}_p^0\|}$$

In MATLAB?

## Multiple coordinate frames

The **superscript** should make you turn your head to consider world from the orientation of the coordinate frame.

We can define infinitely many coordinate frames.

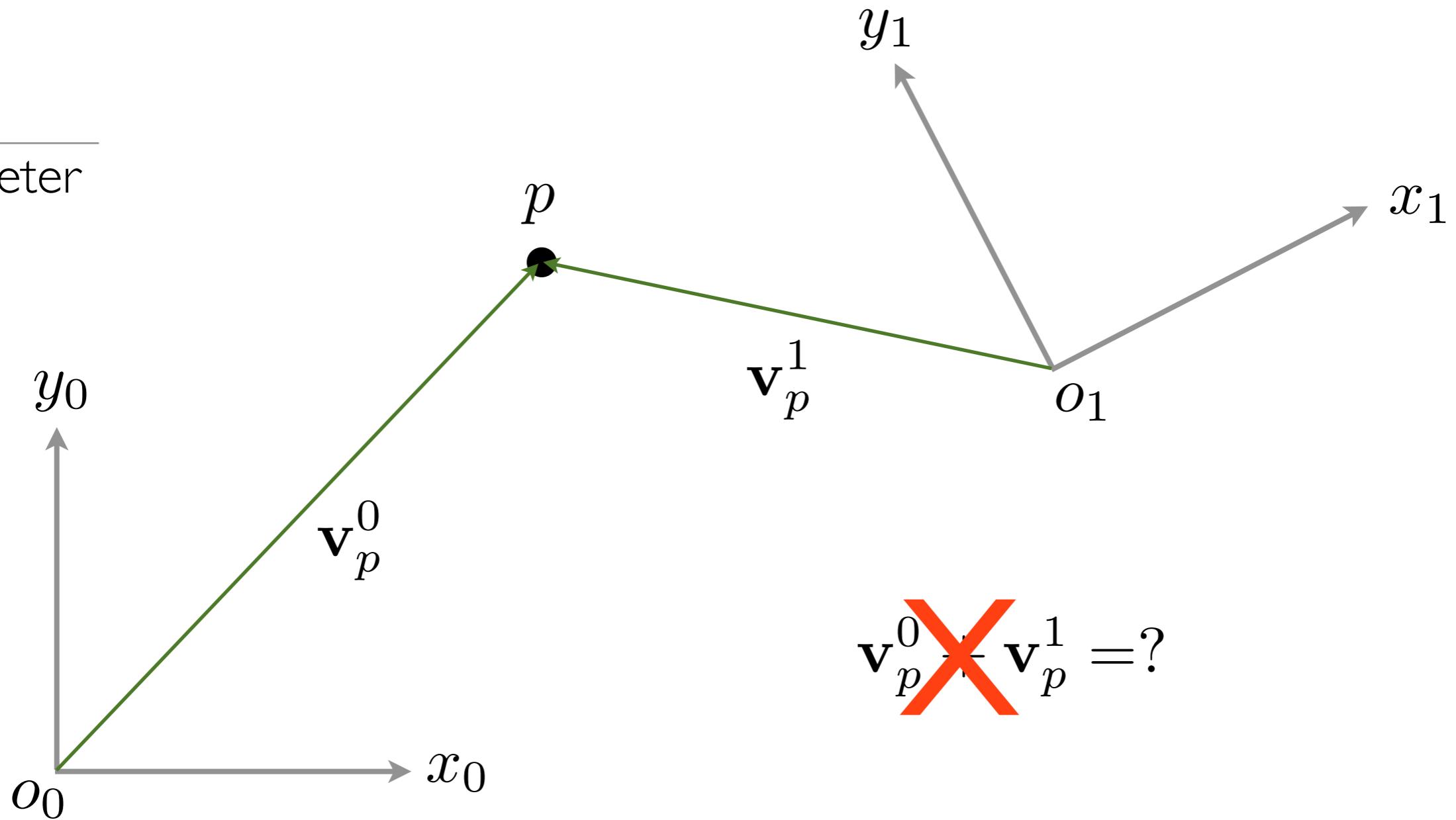


These are **free vectors**, used to signify displacements and forces.

They have **magnitude** and **direction**, but not a position from which they start.

We draw them at different locations for convenience.

## Multiple coordinate frames

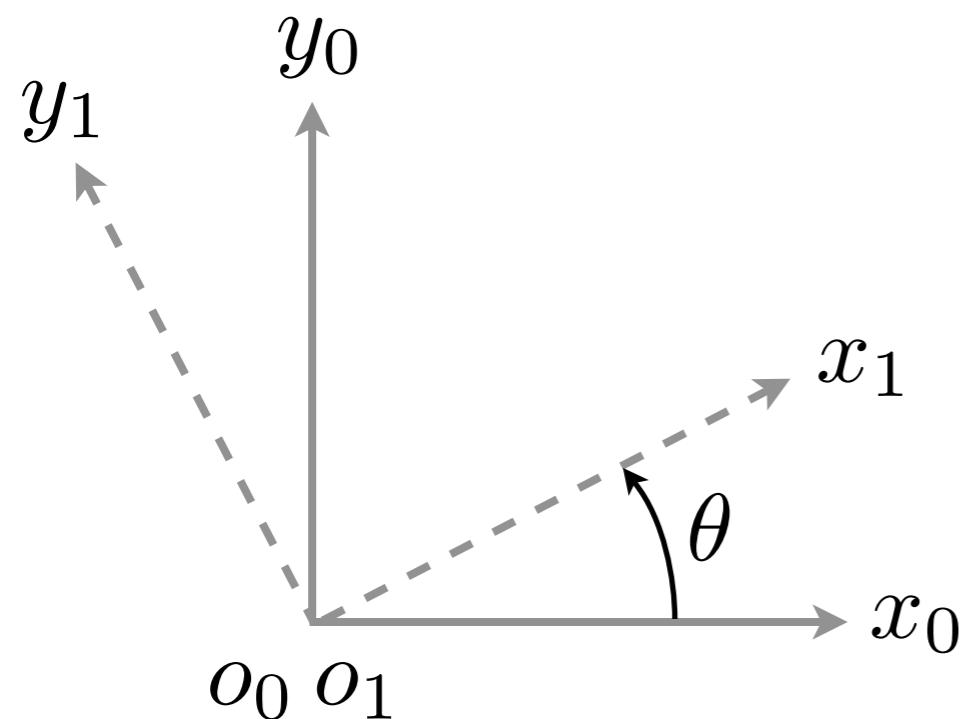


To perform algebraic manipulation, you must express vectors in the **same frame** or in **parallel frames**

# Rotation Matrices



# Planar Coordinate Rotations



project frame 1 into frame 0

$$\mathbf{x}_1^0 = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \cdot x_0 \\ x_1 \cdot y_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_1^0 = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \cdot x_0 \\ y_1 \cdot y_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

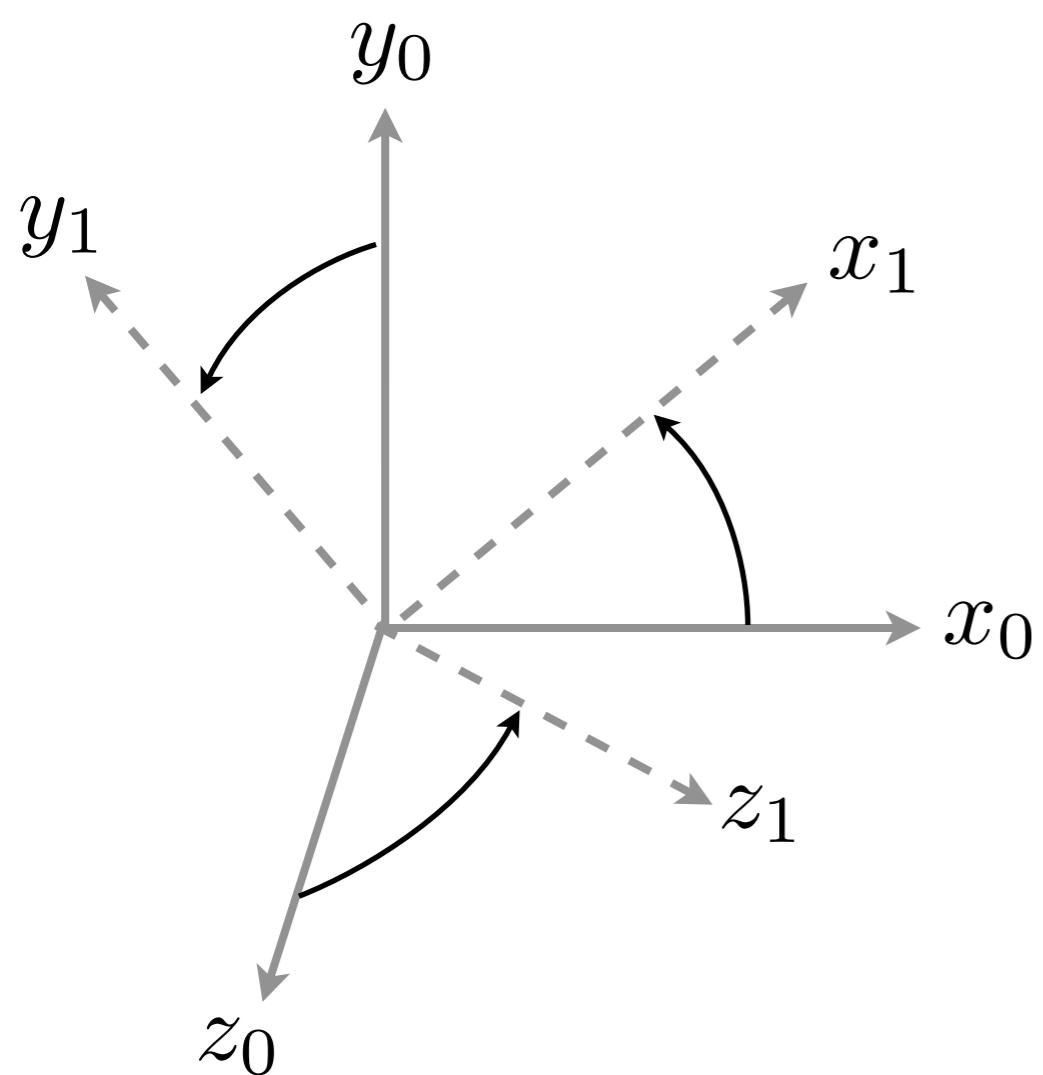
which can be expressed as a **rotation matrix**


$$\mathbf{R}_1^0 = [ \mathbf{x}_1^0 \quad \mathbf{y}_1^0 ] = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

the inverse of which is the matrix transpose

$$\mathbf{R}_0^1 = (\mathbf{R}_1^0)^\top = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

# Three-Dimensional Coordinate Rotations



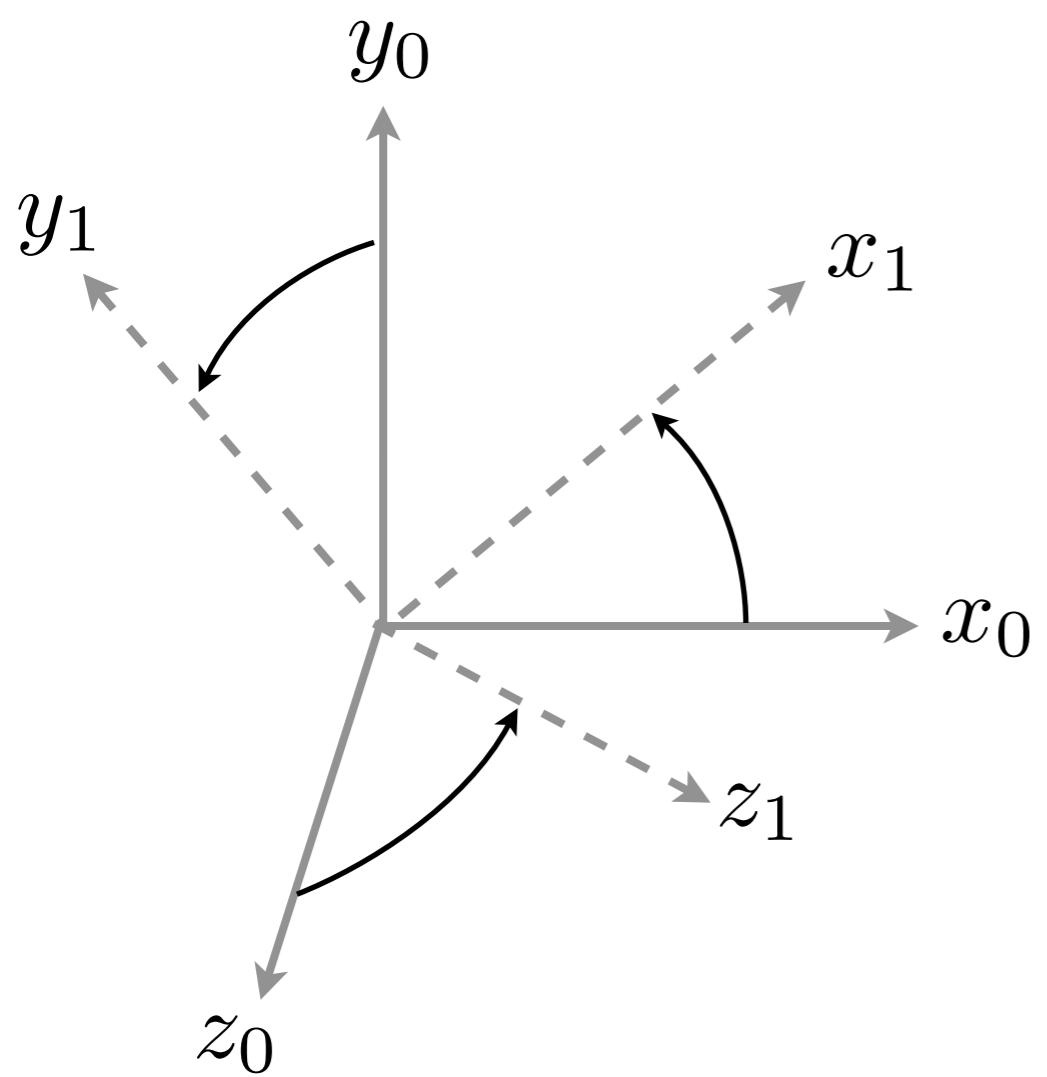
Represent orientation of one frame  
with respect to another frame

$$\mathbf{R}_1^0 = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \cdot x_0 & y_1 \cdot x_0 & z_1 \cdot x_0 \\ x_1 \cdot y_0 & y_1 \cdot y_0 & z_1 \cdot y_0 \\ x_1 \cdot z_0 & y_1 \cdot z_0 & z_1 \cdot z_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{SO}(3)$   
Special Orthogonal  
group of order 3

# Three-Dimensional Coordinate Rotations



The **basic rotation matrices** define rotations about the three coordinate axes

Represent orientation of one frame with respect to another frame

$$\mathbf{R}_1^0 = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \cdot x_0 & y_1 \cdot x_0 & z_1 \cdot x_0 \\ x_1 \cdot y_0 & y_1 \cdot y_0 & z_1 \cdot y_0 \\ x_1 \cdot z_0 & y_1 \cdot z_0 & z_1 \cdot z_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

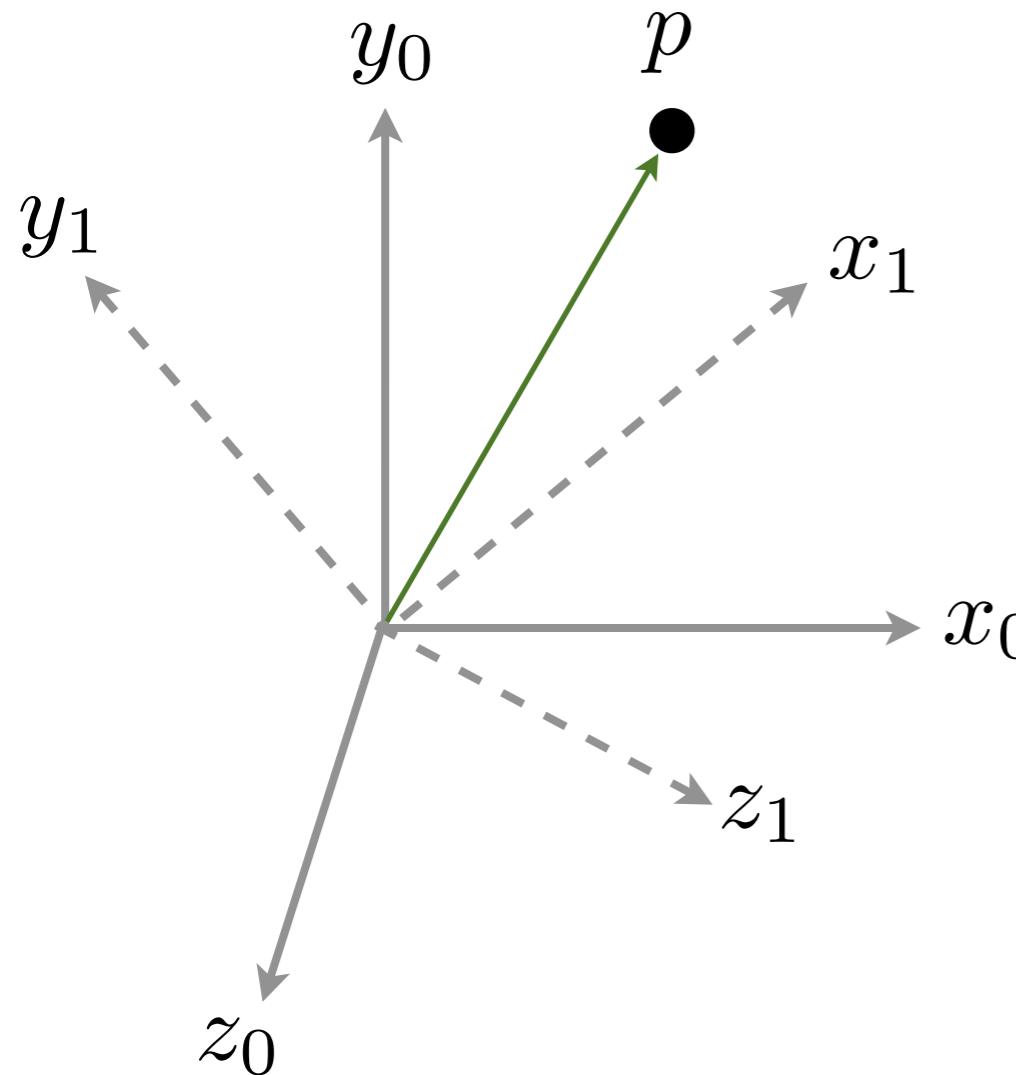
$$\mathbf{R}_{x,\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{y,\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{z,\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Rotational Transformations

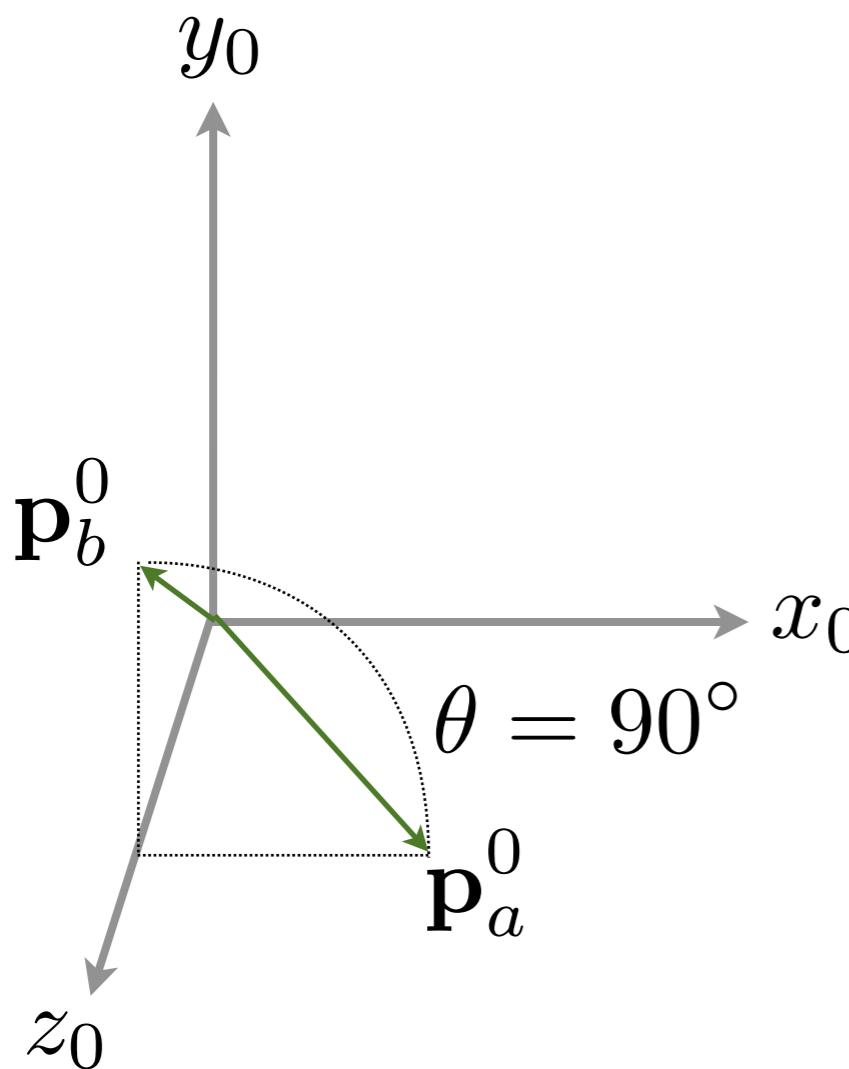
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For pure coordinate rotation, a point in frame 1 can be expressed in frame 0 using the rotation matrix

$$\mathbf{v}_p^0 = \mathbf{R}_1^0 \mathbf{v}_p^1$$

# Rotational Transformations



The rotation matrix can also be used to perform rotations on vectors

$$\mathbf{p}_b^0 = \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_a^0$$

$$\mathbf{p}_a^0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{z,90^\circ} = ?$$

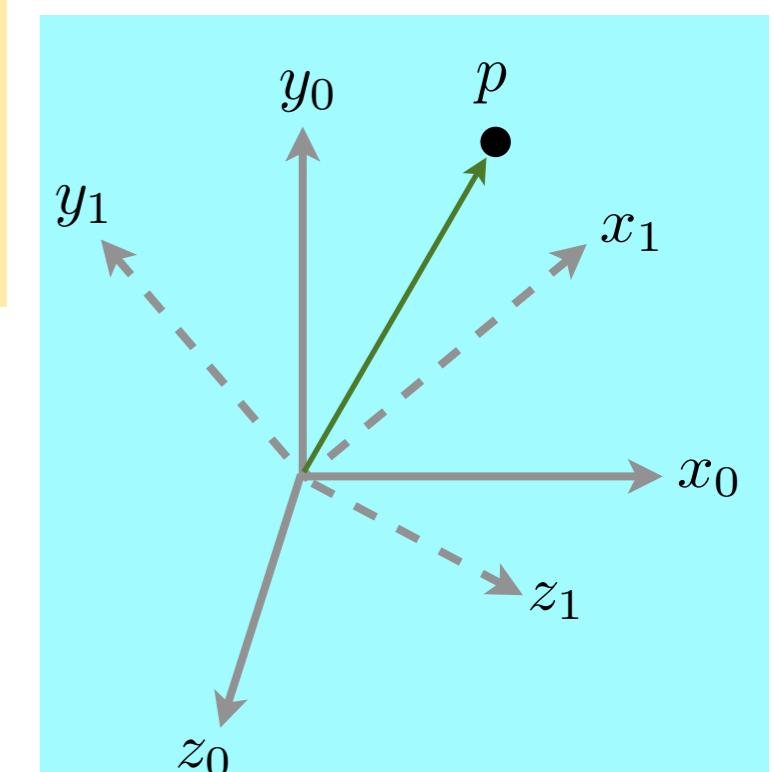
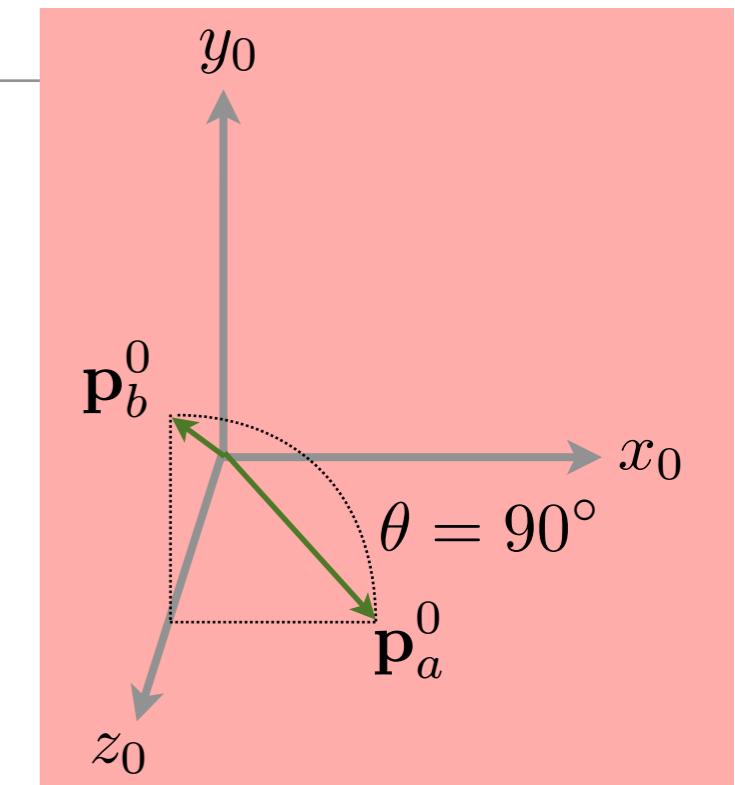
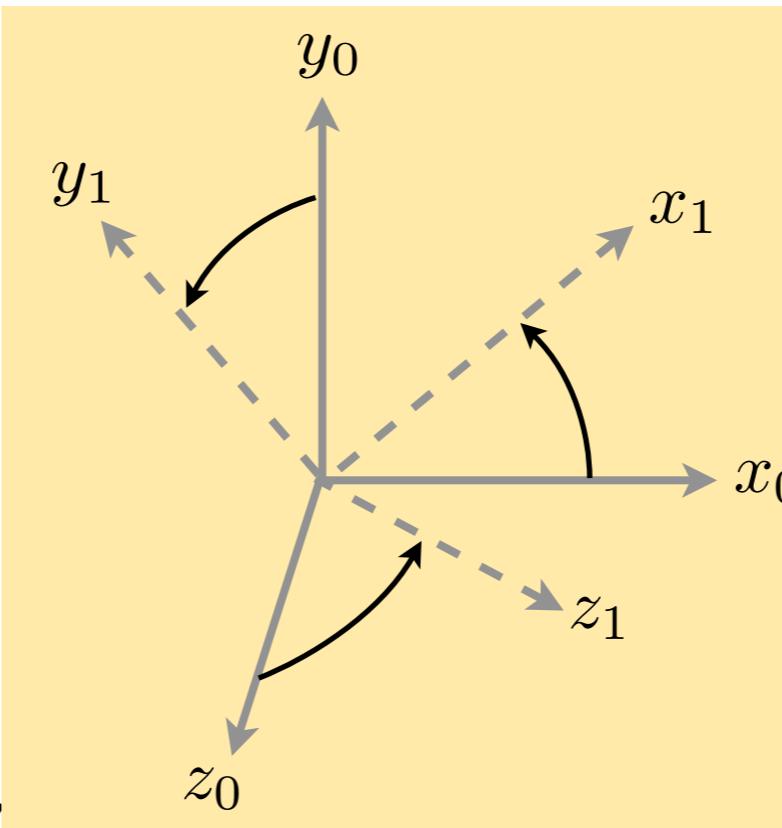
$$\mathbf{p}_b^0 = \mathbf{R}_{z,\theta} \mathbf{p}_a^0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

In MATLAB?

# Rotation Matrices

Rotation matrices serve three purposes (p. 47 in SHV):

1. Coordinate transformation relating the coordinates of a point  $p$  in two different frames
2. Orientation of a transformed coordinate frame with respect to a fixed frame
3. Operator taking a vector and rotating it to yield a new vector in the same coordinate frame



Questions ?