

# Homework 8: Massless Dynamics

24-760 Robot Dynamics & Analysis  
Fall 2024

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Submission Details:

1. Compose everything in a single Matlab script (except helper functions).
2. Include all reasoning in the main script (either typed or a picture of handwritten results).
3. Include calculations and required output, maintaining the exact variable names given in the problem statements.
4. Fill in all the TODO sections.
5. Clearly label sections according to which part they correspond to.
6. Use precise variable names defined in the template without overwriting them in later sections.
7. If helper functions are used, place them together with the main script in a **Matlab Drive folder**. (create a account/login on Matlab Drive only though your andrewID)
8. Name the folder as ***andrewID\_24760\_HW8***, where andrewID is your Andrew ID.
9. **Share the link** of the above Matlab drive folder in the writeup and submit this writeup to *Gradescope*.

Please make sure to use the predefined symbolic variables in the code template, especially the differential state, for example, we defined **q1** and its first and second derivative **dq1** and **ddq1** there. You should be able to complete the homework without defining any new symbolic variables.

## Problem 1) Massless Fingers

Consider a planar two link manipulation robot, as shown in Figure 1. Each link has length  $l$ , mass  $m_l$ , and inertia  $I_l$ , while the object is a square with width  $w$ , mass  $m_o$ , and inertia  $I_o$ . The combined state in local coordinates is  $q = [\theta_1, \theta_2, x_o, y_o, \phi_o]^T$  (where the object position  $o$  is in local coordinates relative to the  $P$  frame). Each joint  $i$  of the robot is actuated with some torque  $\tau_i$ . The object is balanced centered on the finger tip with frictional contact. The gravity vector points in the  $-y$  direction in the world frame. The  $S$  frame is coincident with the  $P$  frame. You may use Matlab and the results of prior homework or book/lecture examples to help with the calculations.

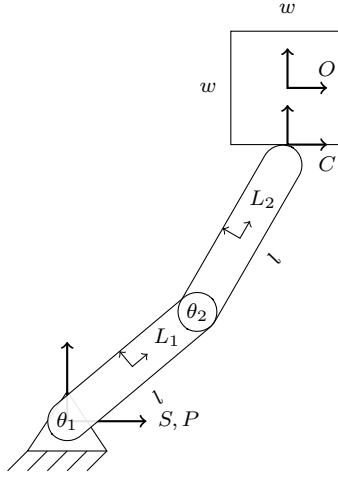


Figure 1: Two joint manipulation robot. For each frame, the label indicates the  $x$ -axis.

1.1) What are the  $M, C, N, A, \Upsilon$ , and  $\dot{A}$  matrices in the equations of motion,

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + N(q, \dot{q}) + A(q)^T \lambda = \Upsilon$$

$$A\ddot{q} + \dot{A}\dot{q} = 0$$

Please compute and save them in the symbolic variables **M**, **C**, **N**, **Y**, **A**, **dA**, and **EOM** respectively in the script. **EOM** should be a 5 by 1 symbolic matrix that is equal to  $[0; 0; 0; 0; 0]$ . It is obtained by subtracting  $\Upsilon$  on both sides of the equations.

(Hint: Start by writing down the definition of each quantity and develop a list of what kinematic quantities (what rigid transforms  $g_{ab}$  and Jacobians  $J_{ab}^b$ ) are needed. Then, fill in the details for this problem. Remember to use  $\bar{G}^T = G^T J_{po}^b$  when multiplying  $\dot{x}$ .)

1.2) What is the expression of the instantaneous acceleration ( $\ddot{q}$ ) of the object and joints and what is the numerical value of it if we apply torque of  $\tau_1 = 200$  Nm and  $\tau_2 = 0$  Nm? Assume  $l = 0.1$  m,  $m_l = 1$  kg,  $I_l = 8.33 \times 10^{-4}$  kg·m<sup>2</sup>,  $w = 0.2$  m,  $m_o = 24$  kg,  $I_o = 0.16$  kg·m<sup>2</sup>,  $g = -9.81$  m/s<sup>2</sup>, with initial conditions  $q = [\pi/2, -\pi/2, 0.1, 0.2, 0]^T$  and  $\dot{q} = 0$ ?

Please compute and save them in the symbolic variable **ddq\_massive** and numerical variable **ddq\_eval\_massive**.

(Hint: substitute these values in before inverting any matrices.)

1.3) If we assume that both links are massless, so  $m_l = I_l = 0$ , what are the new equations of motion?

Please compute and save it in the symbolic variable **EOM\_massless**. **EOM\_massless** should be a 5 by 1 symbolic matrix that is equal to  $[0; 0; 0; 0; 0]$ . It is obtained by subtracting  $\Upsilon$  on both sides of the equations.

1.4) What is the instantaneous acceleration ( $\ddot{q}$ ) of the object and joints if we take the links to be massless ( $m_l = I_l = 0$ )? Use the same values as in Problem 1.2 for all other quantities. What is the percent error ( $\frac{\text{abs}(\ddot{q} - \ddot{q}_{\text{massless}})}{\ddot{q}} \times 100$ ) in each acceleration term from this massless assumption?

Please compute and save them in the symbolic variable **ddq\_massive** and numerical variables **ddq\_eval\_massless** and **error\_from\_massless**.

**1.5)** If instead the contact was taken as frictionless (e.g. after a stick-slip transition), what are the new  $A$ ,  $\dot{A}$ , and equations of motion? (Take mass into consideration for this problem)

Please compute and save them in the symbolic variables `A_frictionless`, `dA_frictionless`, and `EOM_frictionless` respectively in the script. `EOM_frictionless` should be a 5 by 1 symbolic matrix that is equal to  $[0; 0; 0; 0; 0]$ . It is obtained by subtracting  $\Upsilon$  on both sides of the equations.

**1.6)** In the frictionless case with massless links, what's the new EOM? What's the rank of the block matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{M} & A^T \\ A & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Explain why we cannot compute the instantaneous acceleration. What could be taken as massless that would still allow us to compute the instantaneous acceleration?

Please compute and save them in the symbolic variable `EOM_massless_frictionless` and numerical variable `rank_block` respectively in the script. `EOM_massless_frictionless` should be a 5 by 1 symbolic matrix that is equal to  $[0; 0; 0; 0; 0]$ . It is obtained by subtracting  $\Upsilon$  on both sides of the equations.