Robot Dynamics

Introduction to Robotics EECS 106B/206B Andrew Barkan



Dynamics

- Dynamics: relation between accelerations and forces
- Important things to know to solve dynamics...
 - Mass and inertia of all components
 - Relevant forces and torques
 - Actuation, gravity, friction, interaction, etc.
- Lagrangian Dynamics
 - An energy approach to finding equations of motion



Newtonian Dynamics

Newton's Second Law for unconstrained point masses:

$$f = \frac{d}{dt}(m\dot{x}) = m\ddot{x}$$

where $\dot{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is the inertial velocity

We cannot simply write

$$\tau = m\ddot{\theta}$$

- Mechanism is not a point mass
- Configuration space is not Euclidean or inertial



Basic Formulation

- Instead of a single point mass or a set of independent point masses, we are interested in rigid bodies
- **Rigid bodies** are composed of points that are interconnected!
 - Position (*holonomic*) constraints
- Generalized coordinates (q) describe the configuration of a system using fewer variables
 - Manipulator: joint angles (θ)



Dynamics Using Generalized Coordinates

- Dynamics for systems with generalized coordinates (q)
 - Newton's Law does not apply
 - Use the *Euler-Lagrange equations* instead

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} = \Upsilon$$

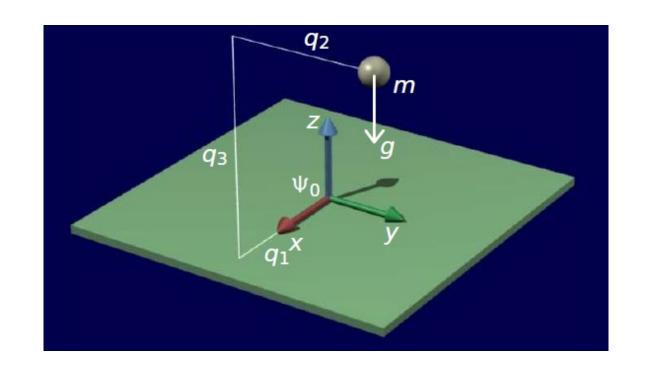
- Where $L(q, \dot{q})$ is the **Lagrangian** given by

$$L(q, \dot{q}) = T(q, \dot{q}) - V(q)$$

– And Υ is the generalized force associated with \dot{q}

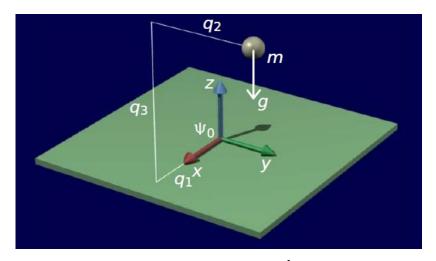


Example: Point Mass





Example: Point Mass



• Kinetic energy:

- $T(q,\dot{q}) = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{q}^T\dot{q}$
- Potential energy: $V(q) = mgq_3$

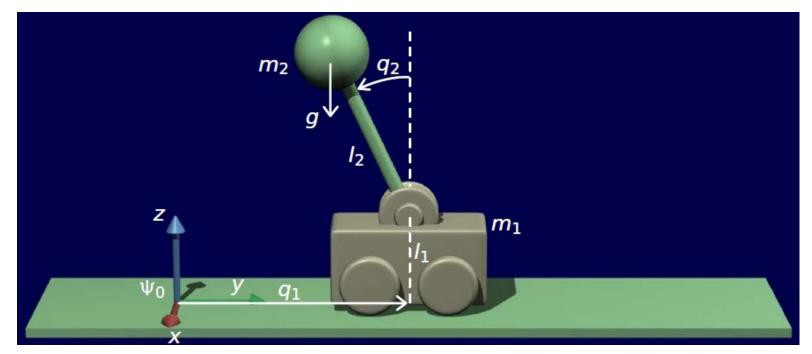
• Lagrangian:

$$L(q, \dot{q}) = T(q, \dot{q}) - V(q)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} = m \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{q}_1 \\ \ddot{q}_2 \\ \ddot{q}_3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ mg \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

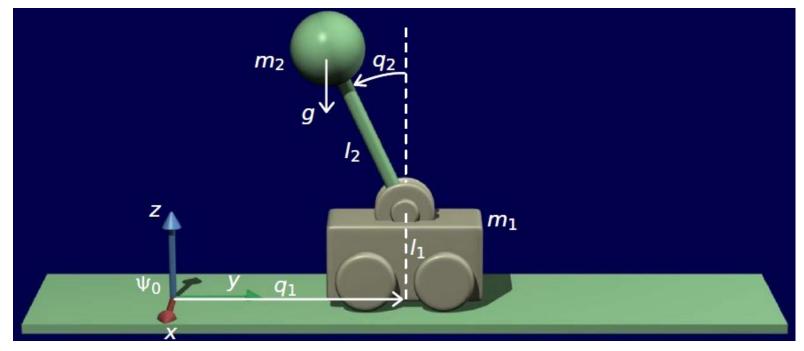


Example: Pendulum Cart





Example: Pendulum Cart



• Kinetic energy:

$$T(q, \dot{q}) = \frac{1}{2}m_1\dot{q_1}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2(\dot{q_1}^2 + l_2^2\dot{q_2}^2 - 2l_2\cos(q_2)\dot{q_1}\dot{q_2})$$

• Potential energy: $V(q) = m_2 g(l_1 + l_2 \cos(q_2))$



Applying to Mechanisms...

- In order to apply these techniques to robotic mechanisms, we need:
 - Generalized coordinates q: choose joint angles θ
 - Kinetic energy: energies due to motion of the links
 - Potential energy: e.g. gravity on links



Center of Mass (CoM)

- Center of mass
 - Balancing point on a rigid body
 - If suspended from that point, body will tend to not rotate
- Compute CoM position as a weighted average

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{CoM} \\ y_{CoM} \\ z_{CoM} \end{bmatrix} = \int_{V} \rho(r) r \, dV = \frac{1}{m} \iiint_{x,y,z} \rho(x,y,z) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} dx dy dz$$



Mass vs. Inertia

- Translation energy vs. rotation energy
 - Point mass m with $\dot{x} = v$: $T = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$
 - Point mass m with $\dot{x} = \omega r$: $T = \frac{1}{2}m(\omega r)^2 = \frac{1}{2}(mr^2)\omega^2$
- Both energies are the same kinetic energy, just expressed in different coordinates!
- Inertia
 - *Inertia J* of a mass m: 'angular weight' s.t. $T = \frac{1}{2}J\omega^2$
 - $-\omega \in \mathbb{R}$: angular velocity around a specific axis
 - Inertia depends on axis direction and location



Kinetic Energy of Rigid Body

Velocity of a point (CoM) in an inertial frame given by

$$\dot{p} + \dot{R}r$$

where $r \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is the point coordinates in body frame

 Then we can express the kinetic energy using a volume integral in the following form

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V} \rho(r) \|\dot{p} + \dot{R}r\|^{2} dV$$



Kinetic Energy of Rigid Body

Expanding the product and simplifying (see MLS 4.2)

$$T = \frac{1}{2}m||\dot{p}||^2 + \frac{1}{2}\omega^T I\omega$$
translational rotational

where *I* is the *inertia tensor* expressed in the body frame such that

$$m{I} = egin{bmatrix} I_{\chi\chi} & I_{\chi\chi} & I_{\chi Z} \ I_{\chi\chi} & I_{\chi\chi} & I_{\chi\chi} \ I_{\chi\chi} & I_{\chi\chi} & I_{\chi\chi} \end{bmatrix}$$



Kinetic Energy of Rigid Body

• Represented in terms of a body velocity V^b we have the following equation

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} V^b \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} mI & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} V^b = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} V^b \end{pmatrix}^T \mathcal{M} V^b$$

where ${\cal M}$ is the **generalized inertia matrix** expressed in the body frame



Newton-Euler Equation

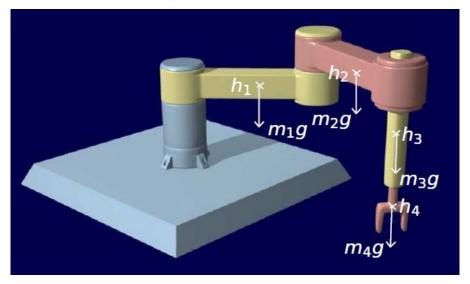
- A Lagrangian approach to dynamics can be limited by the *local* parametrization of a given configuration
 - E.g. Euler angles representing orientation
- Newton-Euler Equations globally characterize the dynamics of a rigid body subject to external forces and torques (derivation in MLS 4.2)

$$\begin{bmatrix} mI & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{v}_b \\ \dot{\omega}_b \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \omega_b \times mv_b \\ \omega_b \times I\omega_b \end{bmatrix} = F^b$$



Potential Energy of a Manipulator

Consider the following manipulator



 The potential energy can be summed for each link using the center of mass of each link

$$V(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} m_i g h_i(\theta)$$



Kinetic Energy of a Manipulator

Let's first look at the kinetic energy of a body

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \left(V^b \right)^T \mathcal{M} V^b$$

• This can be expressed in terms of joint velocities $\dot{\theta}$ using what we know about Jacobians

$$V^{b} = J^{b}(\theta)\dot{\theta}$$
$$T(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}\dot{\theta}^{T}J^{b}(\theta)^{T}\mathcal{M}J^{b}(\theta)\dot{\theta}$$



Kinetic Energy of a Manipulator

The kinetic energy of all bodies summed is now

$$T = \frac{1}{2}\dot{\theta}^T M(\theta)\dot{\theta}$$

where is the *manipulator inertia matrix* defined as

$$M(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} J_i^b(\theta)^T \mathcal{M}_i J_i^b(\theta)$$

 $-M(\theta) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is symmetric, positive definite



Equations of Motion for an Open-Chain Manipulator

We can now put things together into the Lagrangian

$$L(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^T M(\theta) \dot{\theta} - V(\theta)$$

 When substituted into the Euler-Lagrange equation and simplified, we get the following form

$$M(\theta)\ddot{\theta} + C(\theta,\dot{\theta})\dot{\theta} + N(\theta) = \tau$$

$$N(\theta) = \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \qquad C_{ij}(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \Gamma_{ijk} \dot{\theta}_{k} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left(\frac{\partial M_{ij}}{\partial \theta_{k}} + \frac{\partial M_{ki}}{\partial \theta_{j}} - \frac{\partial M_{jk}}{\partial \theta_{i}} \right) \dot{\theta}_{k}$$



Equations of Motion for an Open-Chain Manipulator

$$M(\theta)\ddot{\theta} + C(\theta,\dot{\theta})\dot{\theta} + N(\theta) = \tau$$

• Multiply by M^{-1} to find $\ddot{\theta}$ as a function of τ

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \theta \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\theta} \\ -M^{-1}C\dot{\theta} - M^{-1}N \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ M^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \tau$$

We now have a first order ODE in the form

$$\dot{x} = f(x) + g(x)u$$

