

Mechatronic Systems Laboratory

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Report

Manipulator Robot – Pick & Place

Submitted by: Group 5

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1. Objective

- The objective of robot manipulator is to complete the sequential task by picking an object from desired location and placing it at respective locations.
- To implement the PID controller at joint angles in program for efficient movement of robot links.

2. Overview of Robot

- A robotic manipulator consists of a sequence of rigid links joined by articulated joints, designed with one end fixed and the other end free to create an arm-like structure. This mechanism enables the manipulation of objects within a specified range of motion, typically dictated by the number of degrees of freedom. In the context of a Pick and Place task, a specific robotic manipulator comprises four links and three motors to execute its functions.

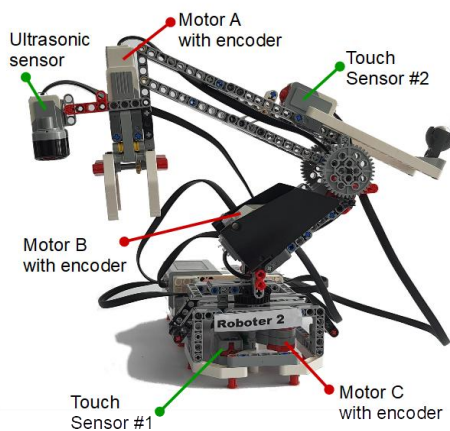


Figure 1: Sensors and Actuators
Source: Task Sheet

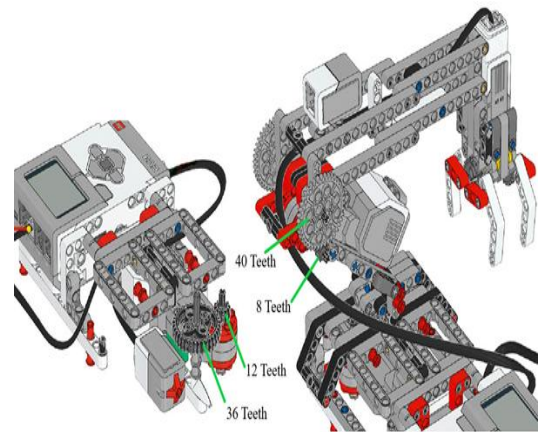


Figure 2: Gear ratio
Source: Task Sheet

2.1 Robot Operating Range

- The operating range of robot is restricted between three stations namely A, B and C by touch sensor indications. Considering B position as homing position, A and C stations are at $+90^\circ$ and -90° respectively.

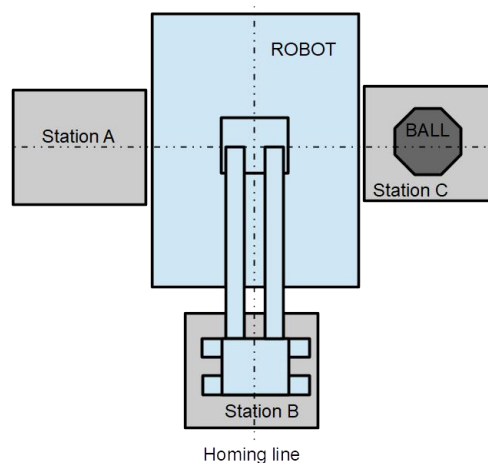


Figure 3: Operating Areas
Source: Task Sheet

3. Robot Inverse Kinematics

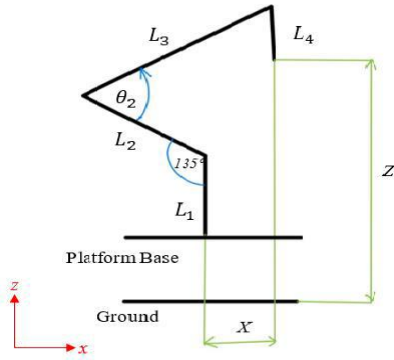


Figure 4: Robot Links Configuration

- As the robot has two motors (i.e B and C) which are mainly involved for movement of robot links. The the two degrees of freedom (i.e angles θ_1 and θ_2) are calculated using inverse kinematics analytical approach.
- θ_1 and θ_2 are obtained in terms of (x,y,z) coordinates of manipulator.

3.1 Equation for θ_1

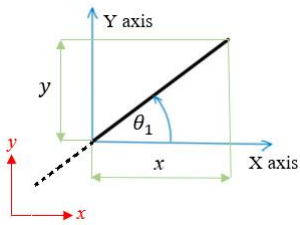


Figure 5: Top View

- In the top view of the manipulator robot, the angle θ_1 represents the rotation of link L_1 about the z-axis.
- This angle, calculated using the arctangent function of the ratio (y/x), determines the orientation of the first link relative to the Cartesian coordinates (x,y).
- $\theta_1 = \tan^{-1}(y/x)$

3.2 Equation for θ_2

Case 0:

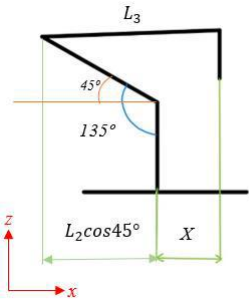


Figure 6: Side View of robot

- Consider a position where L_3 is parallel to the ground and $\theta_1 = 0^\circ$.
- Considering X from the diagram

$$X = L_3 - L_2 \cos 45^\circ$$

$$X = 117.9 \text{ mm}$$

Case 1: Considering Link 3 (L_3) to be above the horizontal axis of joint 2.

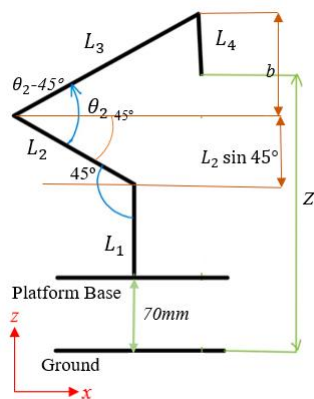


Figure 7: Side View case 1

From Fig 7, equations can be obtained:

$$L_4 + Z = b + L_2 \sin 45^\circ + L_1 + 70$$

$$b = L_4 + Z - (L_2/\sqrt{2}) - L_1 - 70 \quad \text{..... 1}$$

$$\sin(\theta_2 - 45^\circ) = b/L_3 \quad \text{..... 2}$$

From equation 1 & 2:

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1}((L_4 + Z - (L_2/\sqrt{2}) - L_1 - 70)/L_3) + 45^\circ$$

Case 2: Considering Link 3 (L_3) to be below the horizontal axis of joint 2.

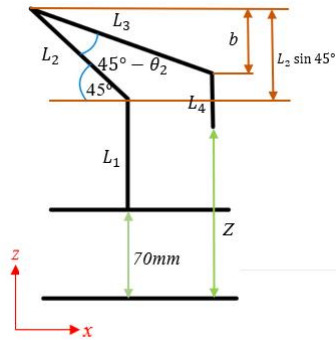


Figure 8: Side View case 2

From Fig 8, equations can be obtained:

$$L_4 + Z + b = L_2 \sin 45^\circ + L_1 + 70$$

$$b = (L_2/\sqrt{2}) + L_1 + 70 - L_4 - Z \quad \text{----- 1}$$

$$\sin(45^\circ - \theta_2) = b/L_3 \quad \text{----- 2}$$

From equation 1 & 2:

$$\theta_2 = 45^\circ - \sin^{-1}((L_2/\sqrt{2}) + L_1 + 70 - L_4 - Z)/L_3)$$

4. PI Controller for Joints

- PI controller is implemented in operations of robot while the robot is moving from one station to other station and while picking placing of object at respective stations.
- The controller is designed as function in MATLAB script (**Function name: PIController**) which called in other MATLAB functions namely, **position**, **pick** and **place**. (refer MATLAB code file: Group5.m)
- The **PIController** function is designed in such a way that it will take error and total error as arguments and provide controlled value (Motor speed):

$$\text{Controlled value} = K_p * \text{error} + K_i * \text{total error}$$

$$K_p = 0.05 \quad K_i = 10$$

- An if-else statments are used to make sure controlled value (motor speed) will not go beyond certain limit to ensure the robot resitance from wirings.
- If $0 < \text{controlled value} < 20$ then function returns 20, if $-20 < \text{controlled value} < 0$ then function returns -20 as speed.
- The error is difference between the desired position(encoder value) and current position (encoder value).
 $\text{error} = \text{Desired encoder vaue} - \text{Current encoder value}$
- The total error is calculated from accumulation of error till the operation is changed to other.
 $\text{total error} = \text{total error} + \text{error}$

5. Robot pick and place process

- The task for picking an object from one station and placing it at other station is accomplished by sequential tasks performed.
- Initially the robot determine the height of the each station and store the data in variables. (Function name: **initial_height**)
- An function **home_posi** is defined in code to position the manipulator at certain position, considered as initially position. A combination of motor B and motor C will lead motor to be in home position from any other position.
- Further function namely **position** is defined for positioning of robot arm at desired station using base motor C.
- Functions like **pick** and **place** are used to actuate motor B for arm movement and motor A for endeffector opening and closing.
- **Station_A**, **Station_B**, **Station_C** functions are defined to perform set of operations like picking object and placing object at there respective stations.

5.1 Flow chart for pick and place

