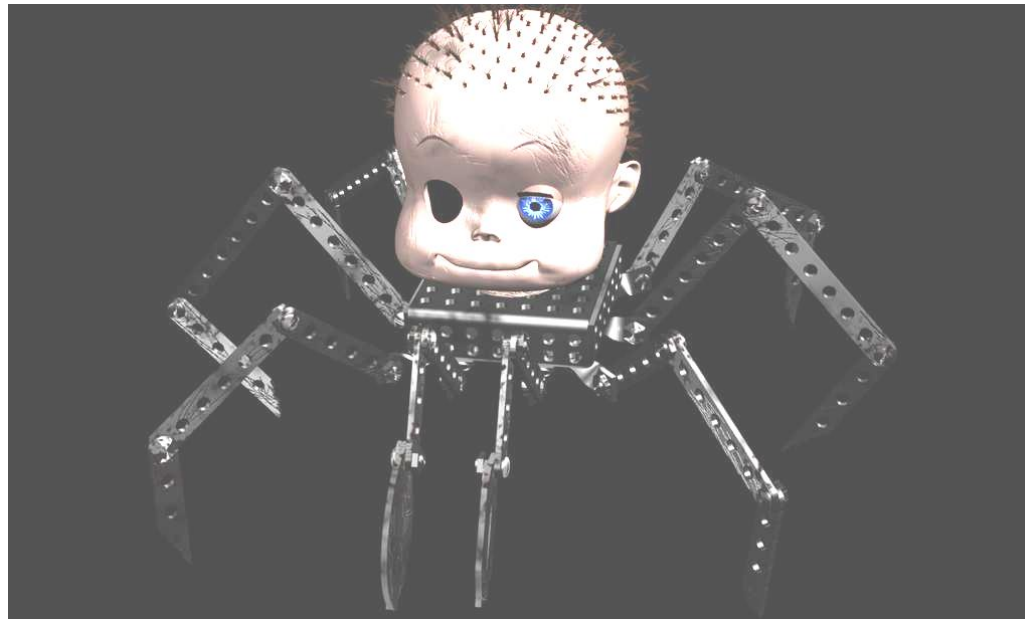


Computer Graphics -Inverse Kinematics

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Spring 2016

<http://jjcao.github.io/ComputerGraphics/>

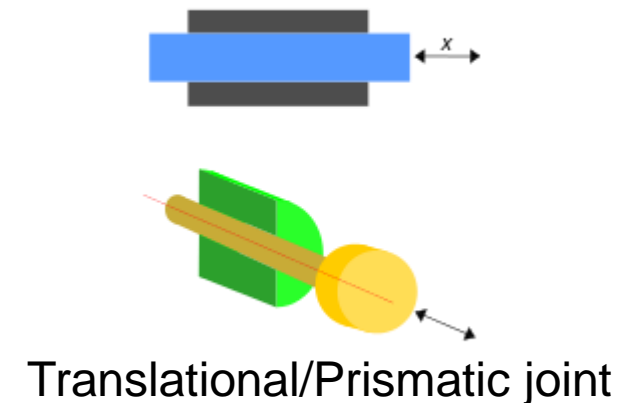
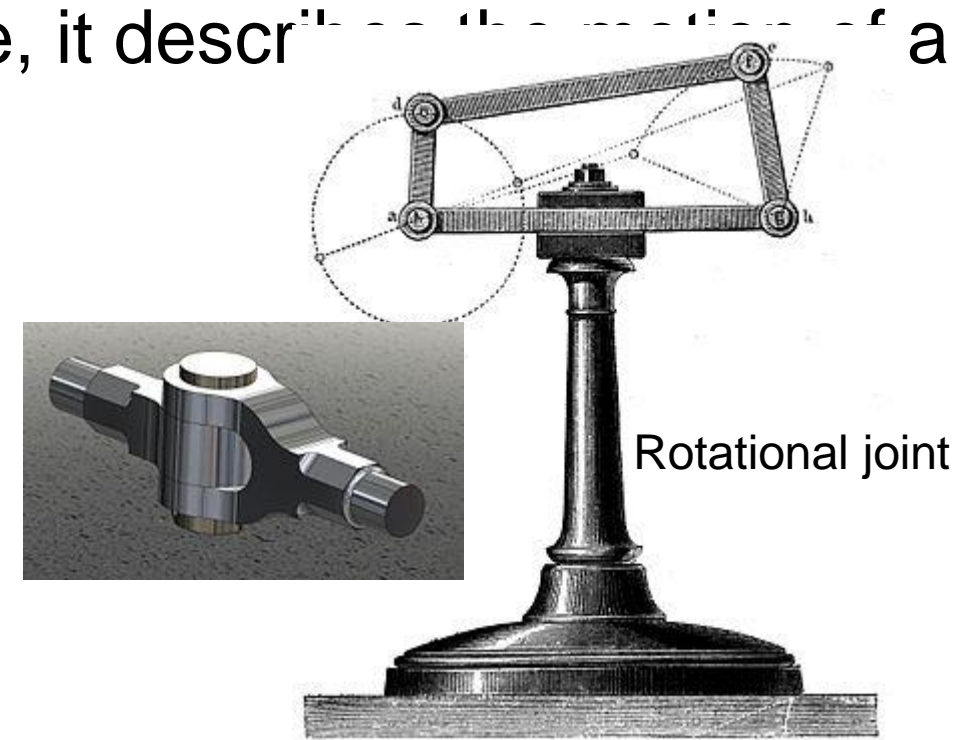
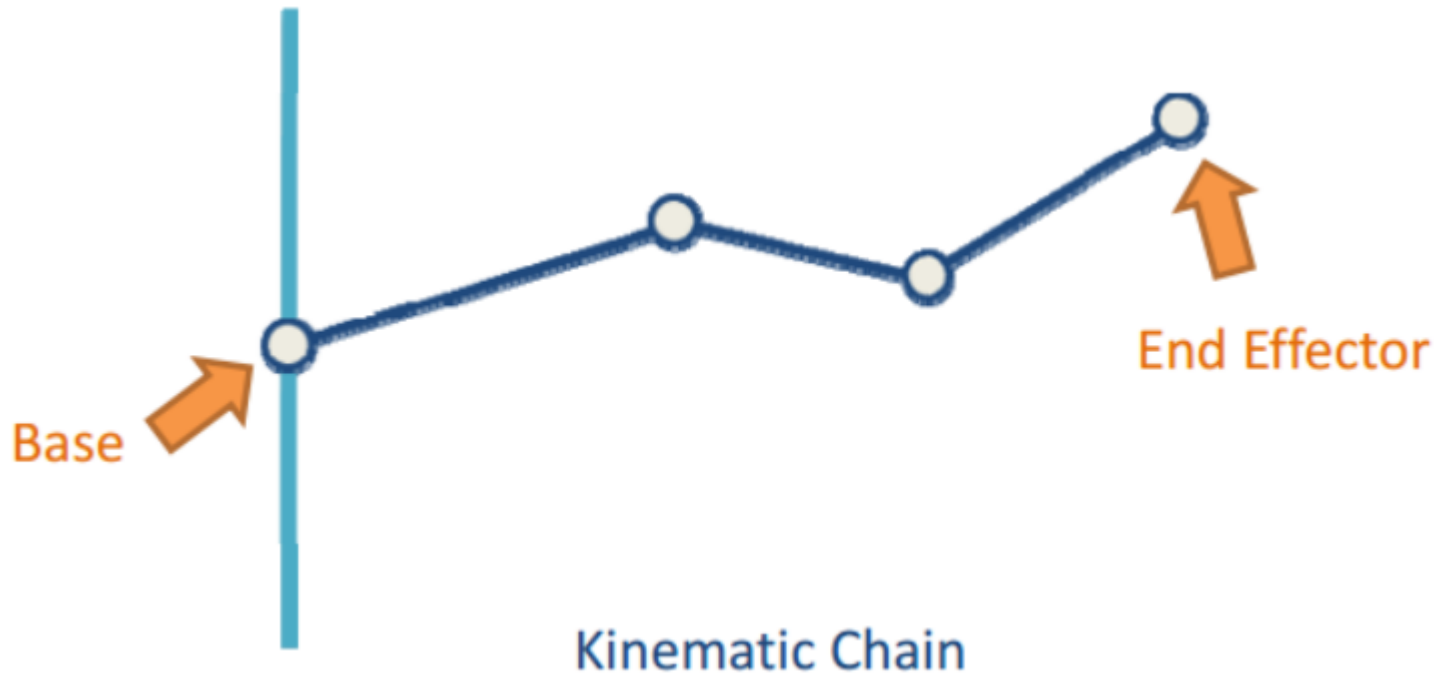


Overview

- Kinematics
- Forward Kinematics and Inverse Kinematics
- Jacobian
- Pseudoinverse of the Jacobian

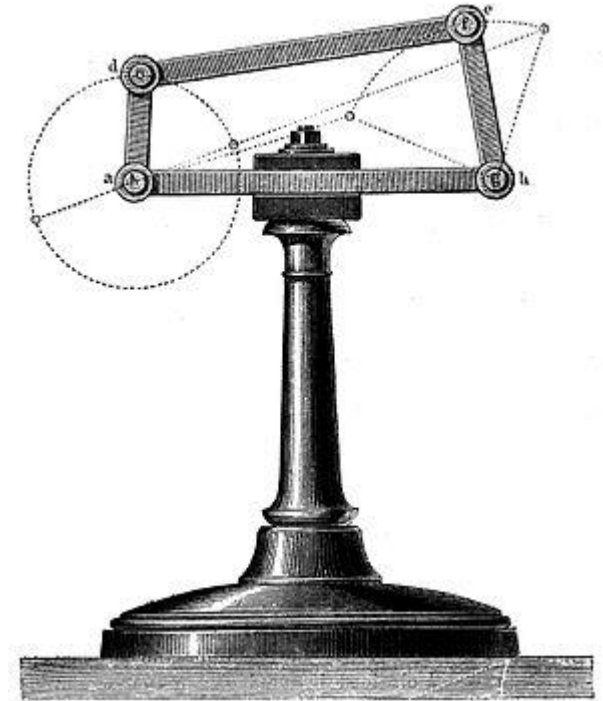
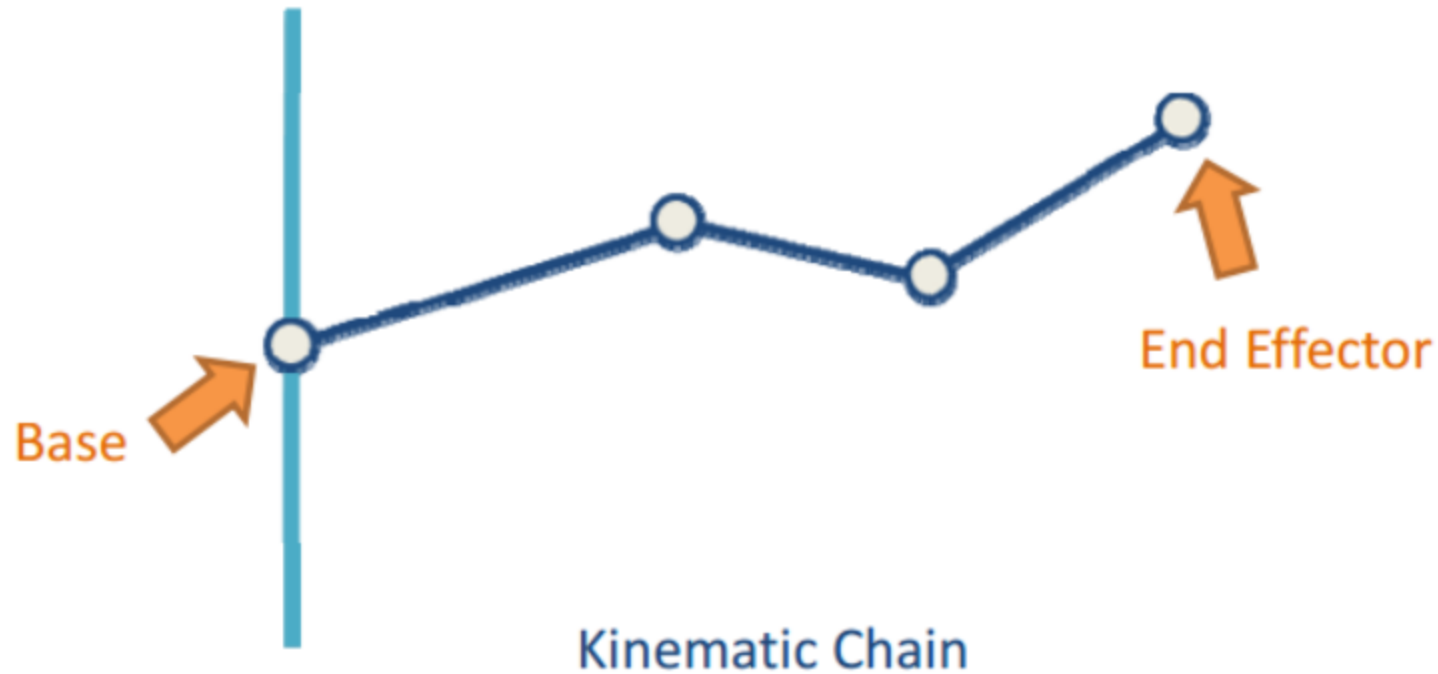
Vocabulary of Kinematics

- Kinematics is the study of how things move, it describes the motion of a hierarchical skeleton structure.
- Base and End Effector.



Kinematic Chains

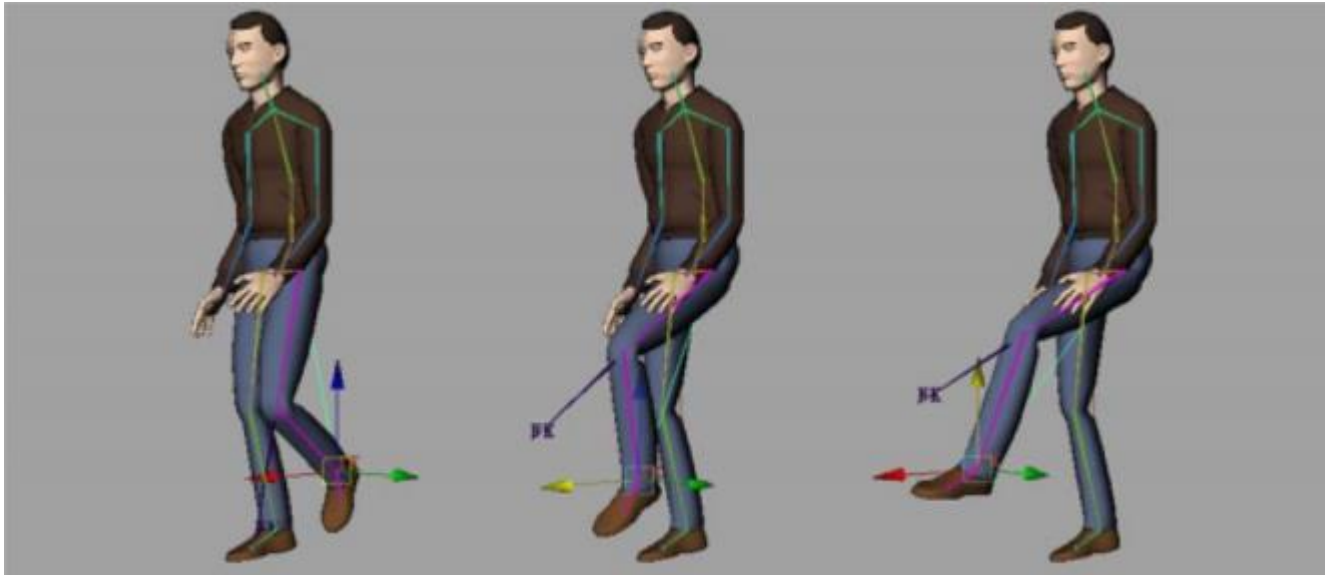
- For today, we will limit our study to linear kinematic chains, rather than the more general hierarchies (i.e., stick with individual arms & legs rather than an entire body with multiple branching chains)



FK vs. IK



Forward Kinematics



Inverse Kinematics

Forward Kinematics

- We have joint DOF (Degrees of freedom) values:

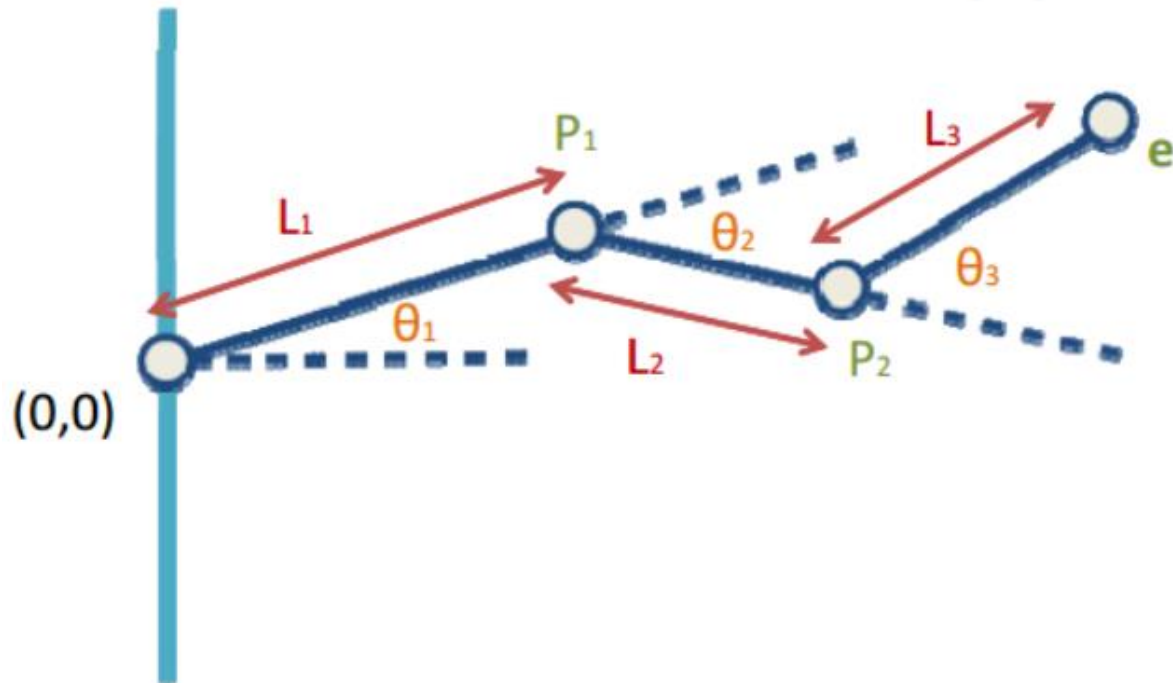
$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = [\theta_1 \ \theta_2 \ \cdots \ \theta_M]$$

- We want the end effector description in world space (N=3 in our case):

$$\mathbf{e} = [e_1 \ e_2 \ \cdots \ e_N]$$

- FK gives us:

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

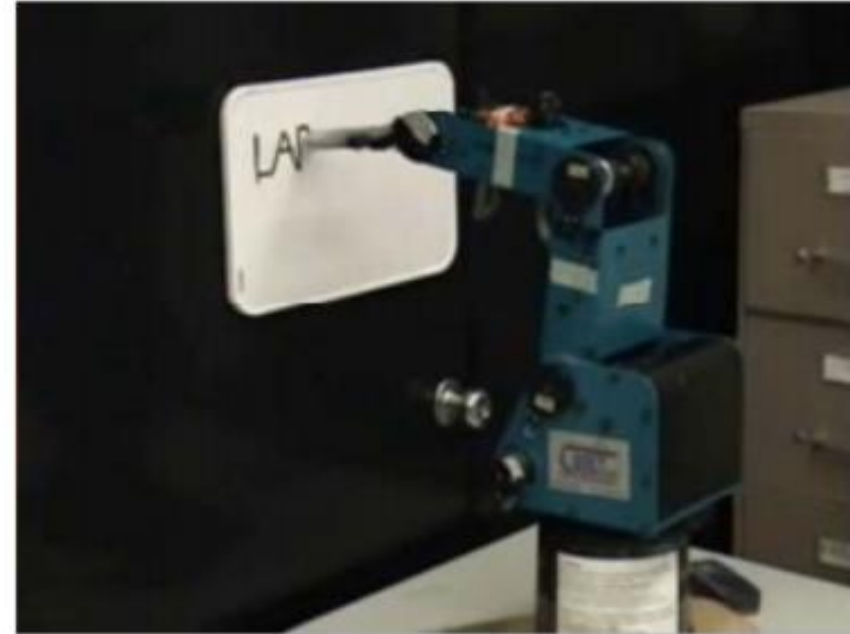


But Sometimes We Want the Opposite

- We want to know how the upper joints of the hierarchy would rotate if we want the end effector to reach some goal.



Animations



Robotics

Inverse Kinematics

- The goal of inverse kinematics is to compute the vector of joint DOFs that will cause the end effector to reach some desired goal state

- We have: $\mathbf{e} = [e_1 \ e_2 \ \dots \ e_N]$

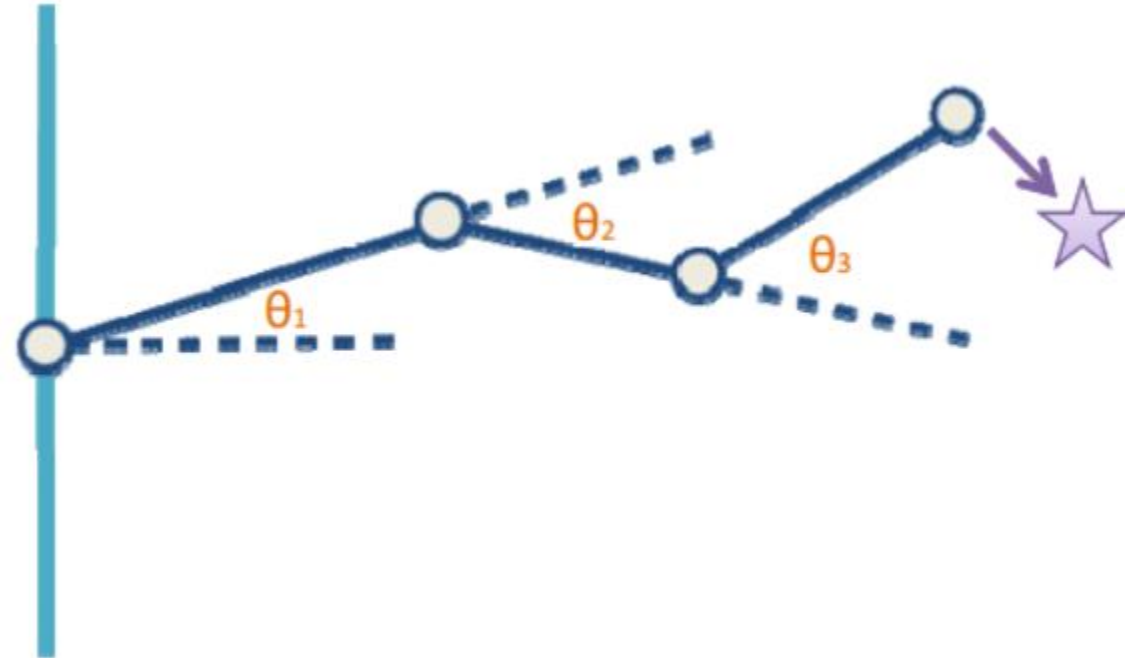
- And we want:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = [\theta_1 \ \theta_2 \ \dots \ \theta_M]$$

- We need:

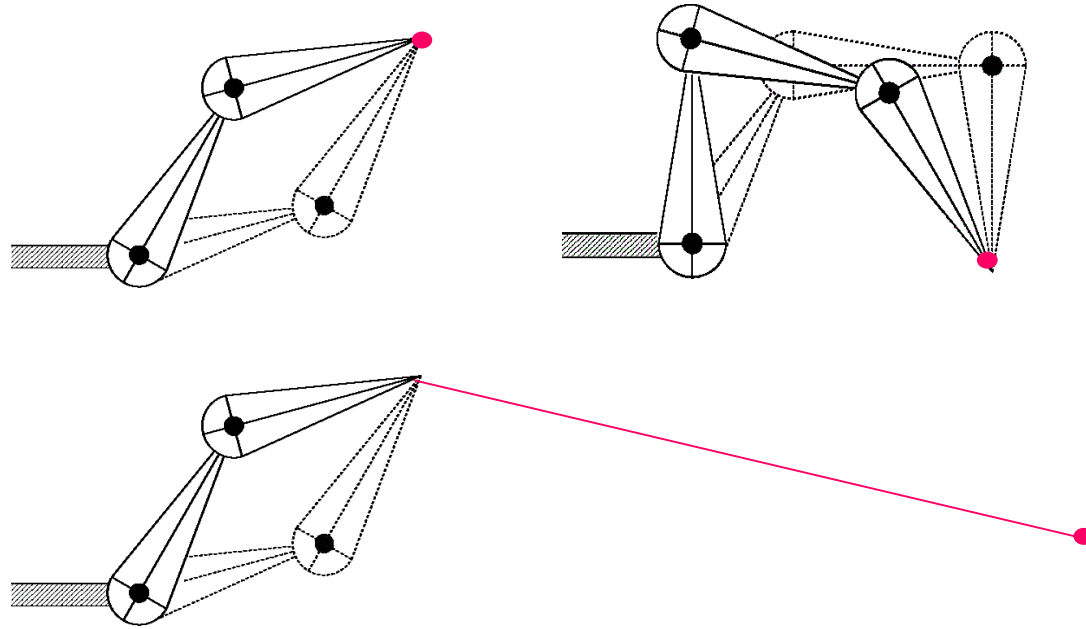
$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = \mathbf{f}^{-1}(\mathbf{e})$$

\mathbf{f} is a Multivariate nonlinear function



Inverse Kinematics Issues

- While FK is relatively easy to evaluate.
- IK is more challenging: several possible solutions, or sometimes maybe no solutions.



- Require Complex and Expensive computations to find a solution.
- As a result, there are many different approaches to solving IK problems

Analytical vs. Numerical Solutions

- One major way to classify IK solutions is into analytical and numerical methods
- Analytical methods attempt to mathematically solve an exact solution by directly inverting the forward kinematics equations. This is only possible on relatively simple chains.
- Numerical methods use approximation and iteration to converge on a solution. They tend to be more expensive, but far more general purpose.
- Today, we will examine a numerical IK technique based on Jacobian matrices

Numerical Solutions of IK

- Jacobian
- Cyclic Coordinate Descent (CCD)

Multivariate nonlinear root finding

- Want to solve $f(\theta) - X = 0$
- Taylor series expansion:
$$f(\theta + \Delta) = f(\theta) + f'(\theta) \Delta + \frac{f''(\theta)}{2} \Delta^2 + \dots$$
- Given: current θ , $f(\theta)$ and target X
- How to find Δ such that $f(\theta + \Delta) = X$
 - Find Δ that gets closer
 - Then $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \Delta$ and repeat

Local Linearization

- Taylor series expansion:

$$f(\theta + \Delta) = f(\theta) + f'(\theta) \Delta + \frac{f''(\theta)}{2} \Delta^2 + \dots$$

- Use first term of Taylor series:

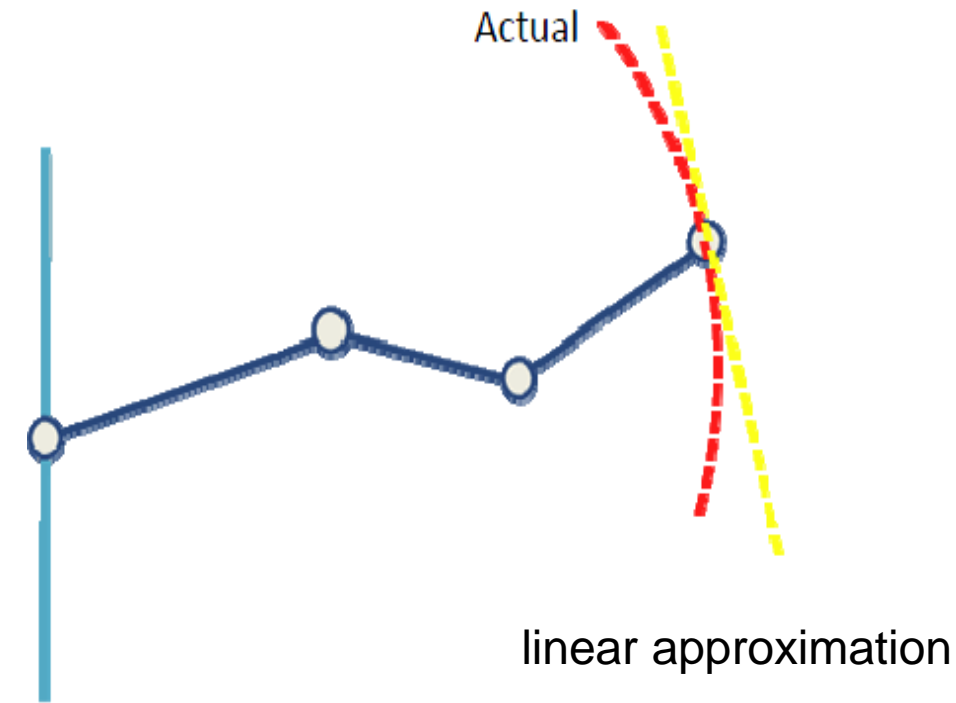
$$f(\theta + \Delta) \approx f(\theta) + J(\theta) \Delta$$

- Jacobian matrix:

$$J(\mathbf{f}, \theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \theta_1} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \theta_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \theta_N} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \theta_1} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \theta_2} & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \frac{\partial f_M}{\partial \theta_1} & \dots & \dots & \frac{\partial f_M}{\partial \theta_N} \end{bmatrix}$$

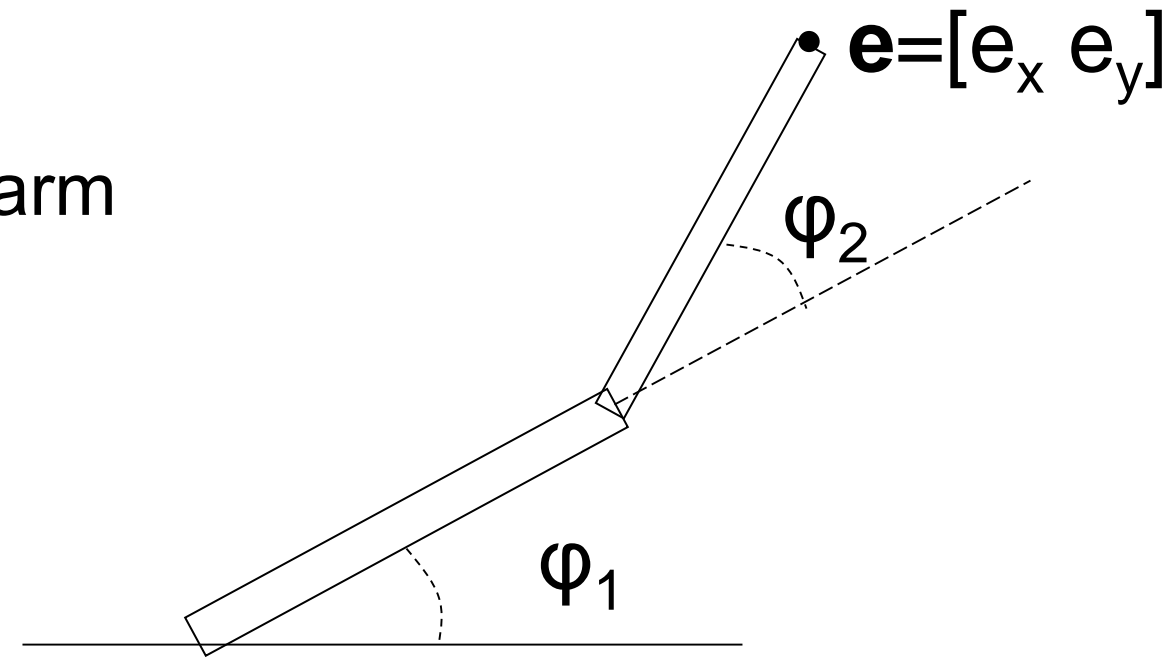
- Matrix of partial derivatives of entire system.

- .



Jacobians

- Let's say we have a simple 2D robot arm with two 1-DOF rotational joints:

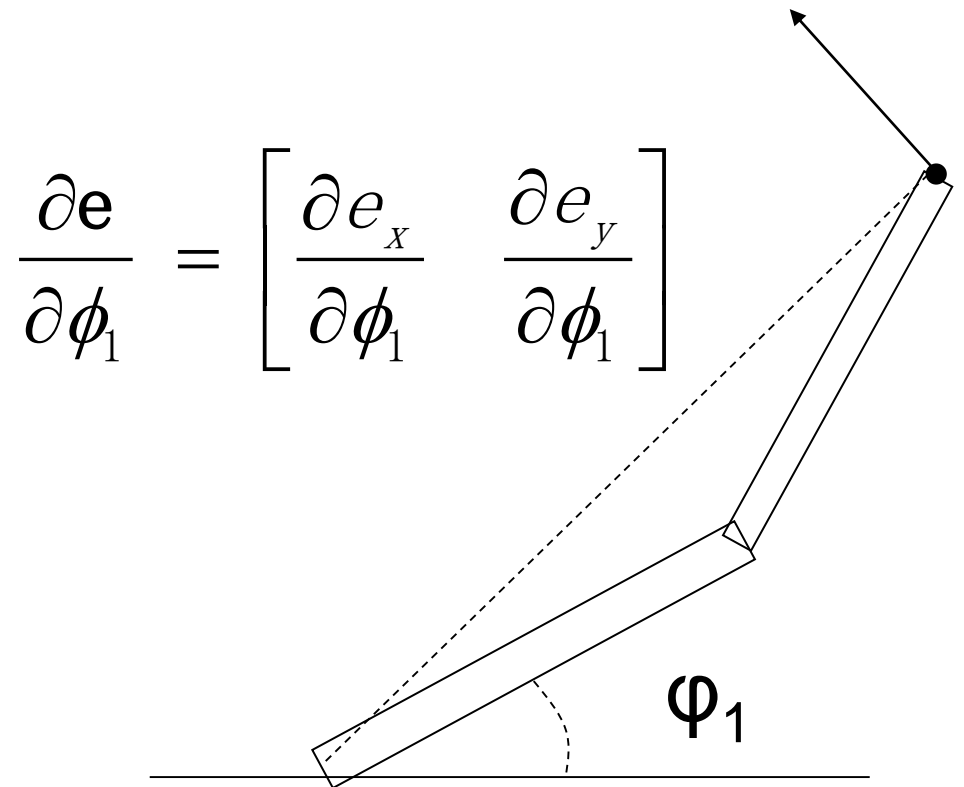
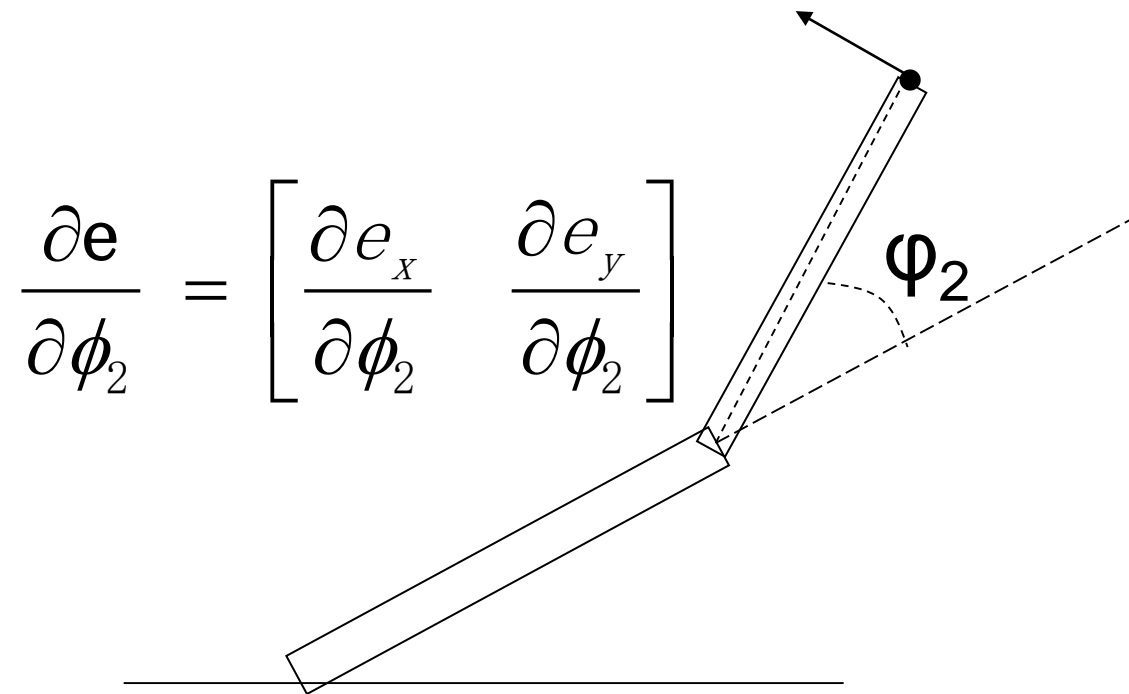


- The Jacobian matrix $J(\mathbf{e}, \Phi)$ shows how each component of \mathbf{e} varies with respect to each joint angle

$$J(\mathbf{e}, \Phi) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial \phi_1} & \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial \phi_2} \\ \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial \phi_1} & \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial \phi_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Jacobians

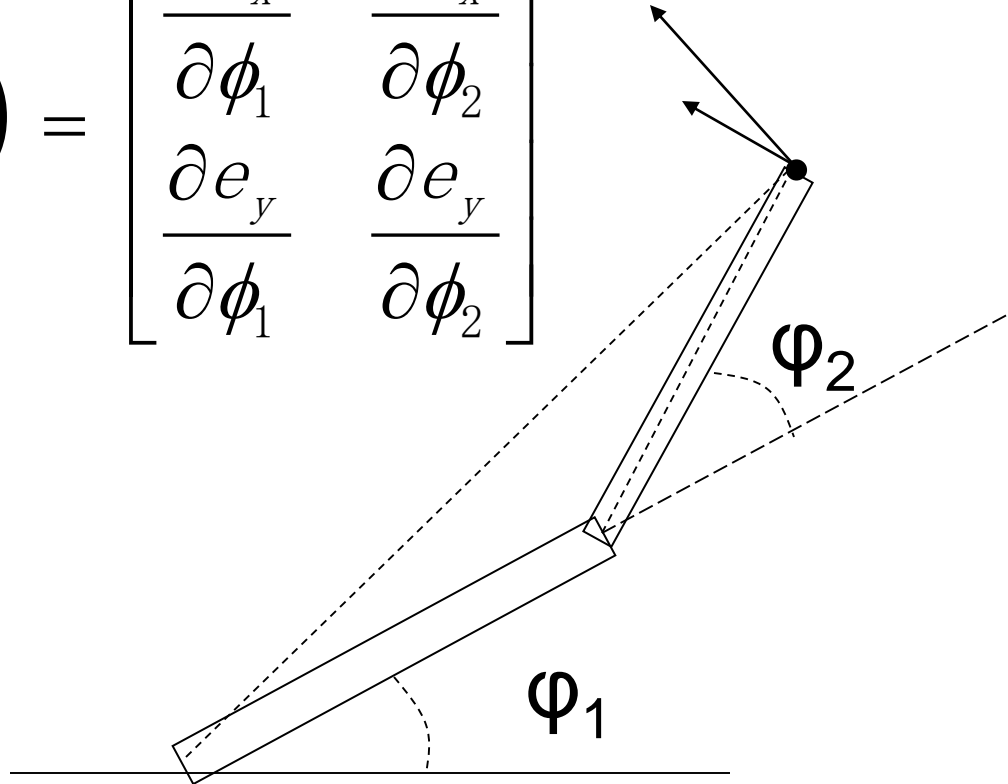
- Consider what would happen if we increased ϕ_2 by a small amount?
What would happen to \mathbf{e} ?
- What if we increased ϕ_1 by a small amount?



Jacobian for a 2D Robot Arm

- Defines how the end effector **e** changes relative to instantaneous changes of each joint angle

$$J(\mathbf{e}, \Phi) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial \phi_1} & \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial \phi_2} \\ \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial \phi_1} & \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial \phi_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

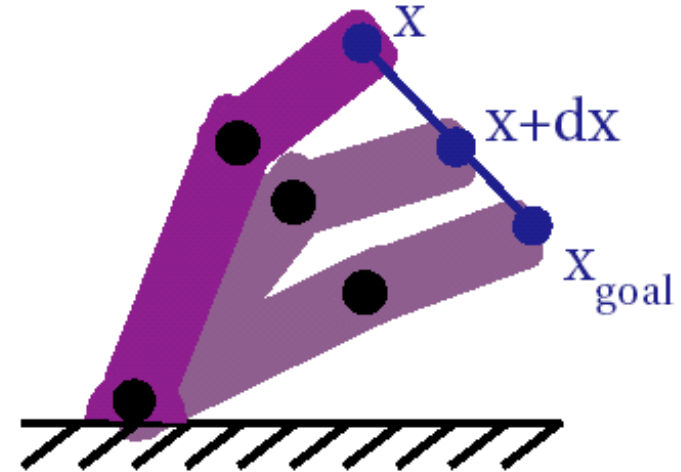


Solving IK—Incremental Changes

- θ : current set of joint DOFs;
- e : current end effector DOFs;
- g : goal DOFs that we want the end effector to reach
- Let $E(\theta) = g - e(\theta)$, error in the current pose:

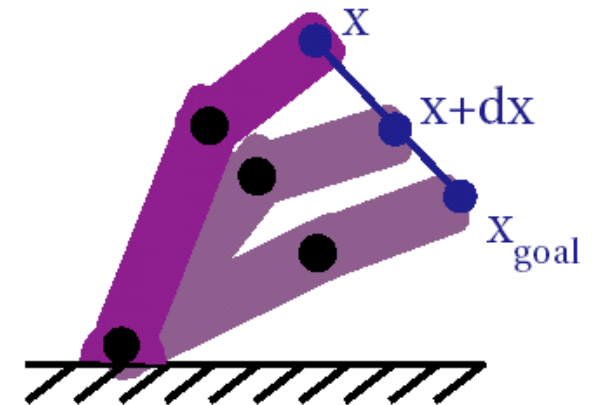
$$J \Delta = E$$

- solve for Δ
- Δ moves end towards g
 - Only valid for small Δ
 - Take series of small steps
 - Recompute $J(\theta)$ and $E(\theta)$ at each step
- How to determine length of step?
 - Could try to find optimum size
 - know we're doing rotations:
 - keep less than ~ 2 degrees



Algorithm

```
solve()  
{  
    start with previous  $\theta$ ;  
     $E = \text{target} - \text{computeEndPoint}()$ ;  
    for( $k=0$ ;  $k < \text{max}$  &&  $|E| > \text{eps}$ ;  $k++$ ) {  
         $J = \text{computeJacobian}()$ ;  
        solve  $J \Delta = E$ ;  
        if ( $\max(\Delta) > 2$ )  $\Delta = 2\Delta / \max(\Delta)$ ;  
         $\theta = \theta + \Delta$ ;  
         $E = \text{target} - \text{computeEndPoint}()$ ;  
    }  
}
```



Problems

- How to invert J ?
 - Pseudoinverse of Jacobian (Required)
 - Cheat by using transpose (Too easy, we don't do that)
- How to compute J ?
 - Numerically (Required)
 - Analytically (Extra Credit)

Inverting the Jacobian

- No guarantee it is invertible
 - Typically not a square matrix, in our case, 2 x N

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_x}{\partial \theta_0} & \frac{\partial f_x}{\partial \theta_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_x}{\partial \theta_N} \\ \frac{\partial f_y}{\partial \theta_0} & \frac{\partial f_y}{\partial \theta_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_y}{\partial \theta_N} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{D}_0 \\ \mathbf{D}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{D}_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E}_x \\ \mathbf{E}_y \end{bmatrix}$$

- Singularities.
- Even it's invertible, as the pose vector changes, the properties of the matrix will change.

Solving $\mathbf{J} \Delta = \mathbf{E}$: pseudo inverse

- Trick: $\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}$ is square. So:

$$\mathbf{J} \Delta = \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \Delta = \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Delta = (\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Delta = \mathbf{J}^+ \mathbf{E}$$

- $\mathbf{J}^+ = (\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T$ is the *pseudoinverse* of \mathbf{J}
 - Properties: $\mathbf{J} \mathbf{J}^+ \mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}$, $\mathbf{J}^+ \mathbf{J} \mathbf{J}^+ = \mathbf{J}^+$
 - same as \mathbf{J}^{-1} when \mathbf{J} is square and invertible
 - \mathbf{J} is $m \times n \Rightarrow \mathbf{J}^+$ is $n \times m$
- How to compute pseudoinverse?
 - What if $(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1}$ is singular?

Singular Value Decomposition

- Any $m \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} can be expressed by **SVD**

- $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{V}^T$

- \mathbf{U} is $m \times \min(m, n)$, columns are orthogonal
- \mathbf{V} is $n \times \min(m, n)$, columns are orthogonal
- \mathbf{S} is $\min(m, n) \times \min(m, n)$, diagonal: **singular values**

$$A = (\vec{h}_1 \mid \vec{h}_2 \mid \cdots \mid \vec{h}_n) \begin{pmatrix} s_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & s_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{a}_1 \\ \vec{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \vec{a}_n \end{pmatrix}$$

- unique up to sign and order of s_i values
 - canonical: positive, sorted largest to smallest
 - other properties: rank is # of non-zero values; determinant is product of all values, ...

Pseudoinverse using SVD

- Given SVD, $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{V}^T$
- pseudoinverse is easy: $\mathbf{A}^+ = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{S}^{-1} \mathbf{U}^T$

$$\begin{pmatrix} s_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s_N \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{s_1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{s_N} \end{pmatrix}$$

- *singular*: some $s_i = 0$,
ill-conditioned: some $s_i \ll s_0$
 - use 0 instead of $1/s_i$ for those (“truncated”)
 - choose small threshold ε , test $s_i < \varepsilon s_0$

Solving $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{B}$ using SVD

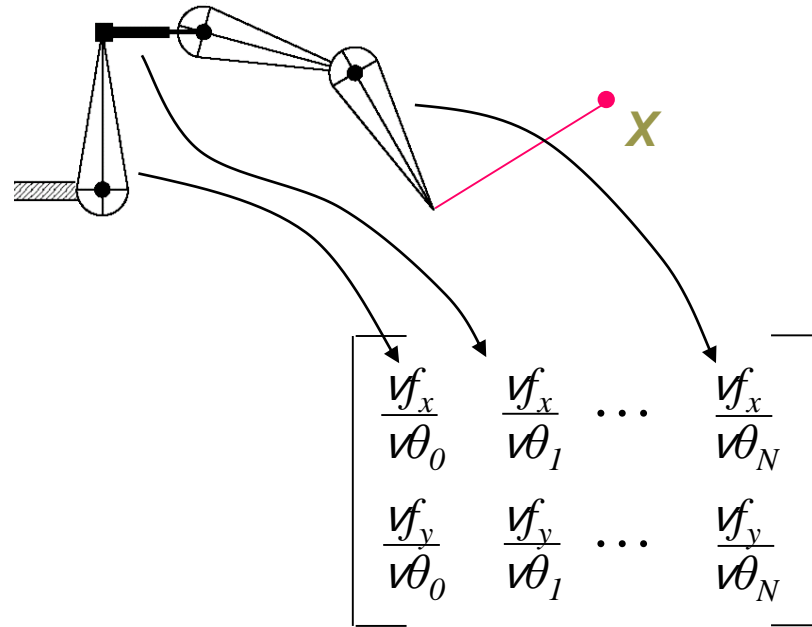
- Using truncated $\mathbf{A}^+ \mathbf{B}$ gives *least-squares solution*:
 - If no solution, gives \mathbf{X} that minimizes $\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}-\mathbf{B}\|^2$
 - If many solutions, minimizes $\|\mathbf{X}\|^2$ such that $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{B}$
 - Numerically stable for ill-conditioned matrices
- SVD has many other properties.
 - rank of \mathbf{A} is # non-zero singular values, determinant is product of all singular values, ...
 - known algorithm to compute it
- SVD is a powerful hammer!
 - slow $O(n^3)$; there are faster algorithms.
 - but SVD always works, is fast enough for us
 - hard to implement. some libraries have bugs (Java3D)

Back to IK

- Reminder: Let $\mathbf{E}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{g} - \mathbf{e}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$, error in the current pose

$$\mathbf{J}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \Delta = \mathbf{E}$$

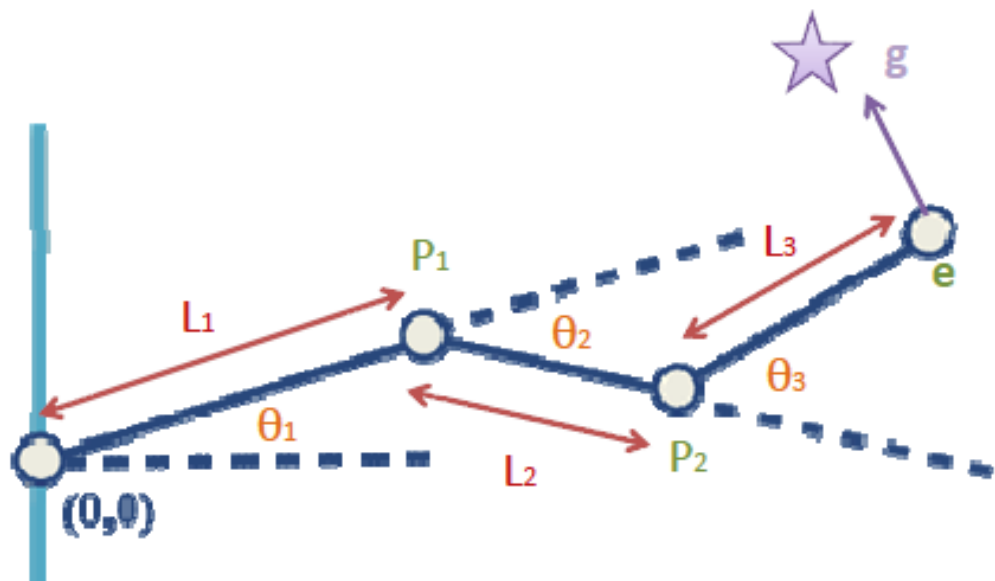
- solve for Δ
 - i^{th} column of \mathbf{J} comes from link i



Computing the Jacobian columns

- For a rotational joint, the linear change in the end effector is the cross product of the axis of revolution and a vector from the joint to the end effector.

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{e}}{\partial \theta_1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial \theta_1} & \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial \theta_1} & \frac{\partial e_z}{\partial \theta_1} \end{bmatrix}^T = (\mathbf{a}_1' \times (\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{r}_1'))$$



$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} ((0,0,1) \times \mathbf{e})_x & ((0,0,1) \times (\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{P}_1))_x & ((0,0,1) \times (\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{P}_2))_x \\ ((0,0,1) \times \mathbf{e})_y & ((0,0,1) \times (\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{P}_1))_y & ((0,0,1) \times (\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{P}_2))_y \\ ((0,0,1) \times \mathbf{e})_z & ((0,0,1) \times (\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{P}_1))_z & ((0,0,1) \times (\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{P}_2))_z \end{bmatrix}$$

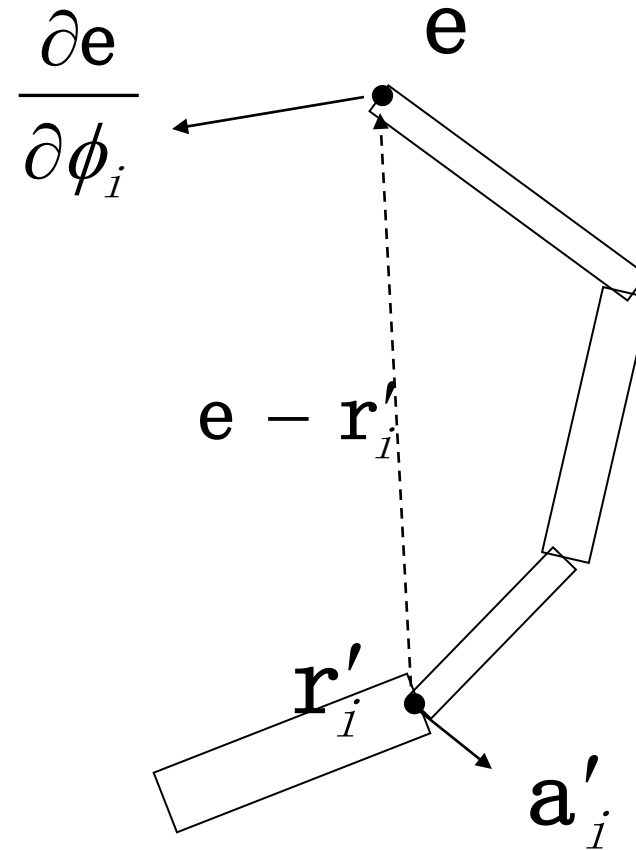
Rotational DOFs

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{e}}{\partial \phi_i} = \mathbf{a}'_i \times (\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{r}'_i)$$

\mathbf{a}'_i : unit length rotation axis in world space

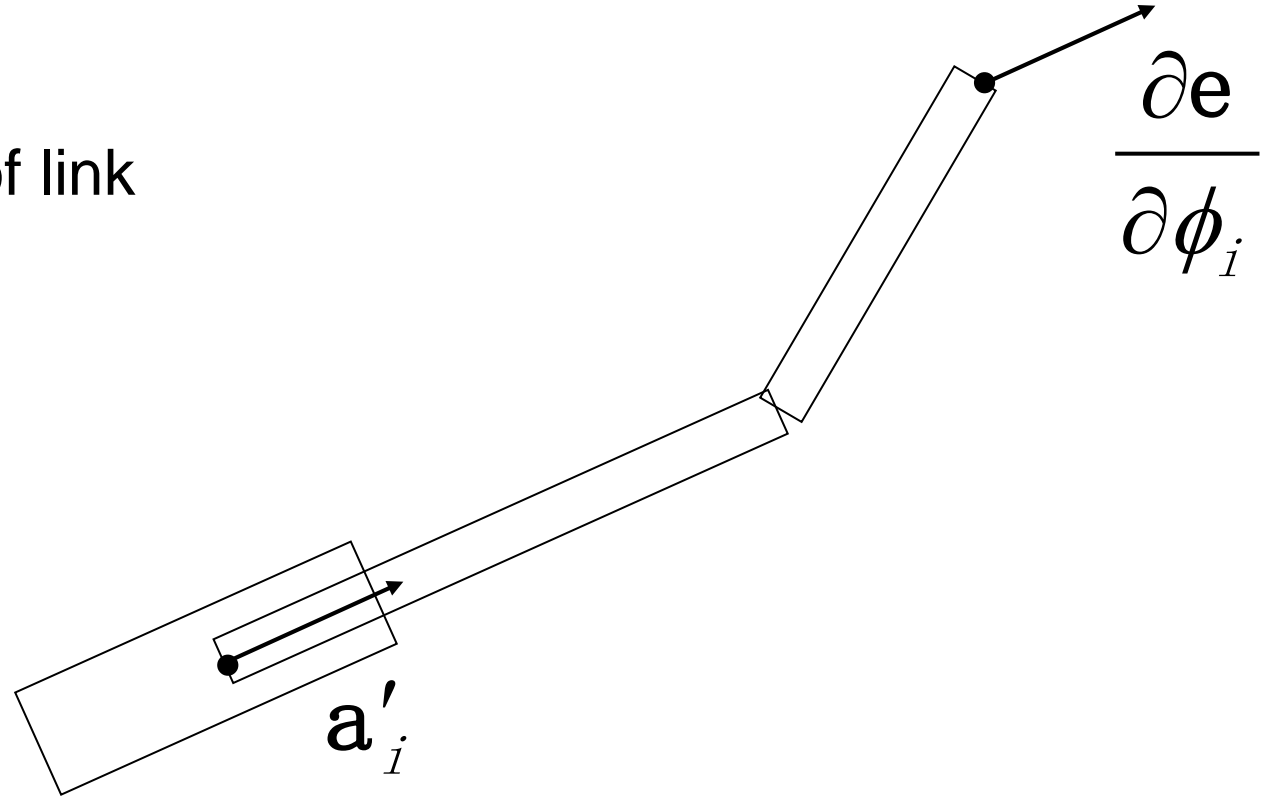
\mathbf{r}'_i : position of joint pivot in world space

\mathbf{e} : end effector position in world space



Computing the Jacobian columns

- For a translational joint:
 - $\partial f(\boldsymbol{\theta}) / \partial \theta_j =$ vector in direction of link



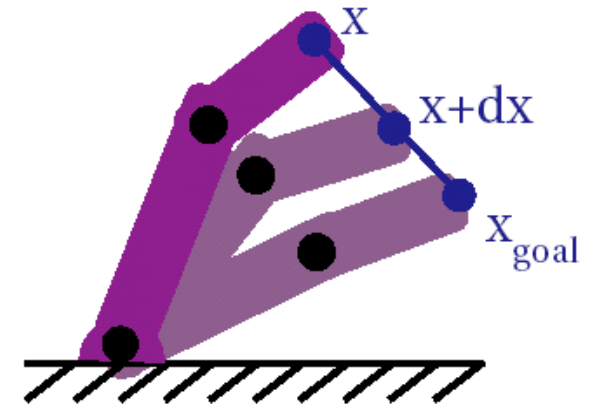
- Notes:
 - Remember to compute in world space!
 - I've assumed one degree of freedom per joint
 - If there are multiple DOFs per joint, refer to CSE169_12.ppt of CSE 169: Computer Animation @ UCSD winter 2004

Building the Jacobian

- To build the entire Jacobian matrix, we just loop through each DOF and compute a corresponding column in the matrix
- If we wanted, we could use more elaborate joint types (scaling, translation along a path, shearing...) and still compute an appropriate derivative
- If absolutely necessary, we could always resort to computing a numerical approximation to the derivative

IK Algorithm

```
solve()  
{  
    Vector  $\theta$  = getLinkParameters();  
    Vector E = target - computeEndPoint();  
    for(k=0; k<max && E.norm() > eps; k++){  
        Matrix J = computeJacobian();  
        Matrix  $J^+$  = J.pseudoinverse();  
        Vector  $\Delta$  =  $J^+$  E;  
        if (max( $\Delta$ ) > 2)  $\Delta$  *= 2/max( $\Delta$ );  
         $\theta$  =  $\theta$  +  $\Delta$ ;  
        putLinkParameters( $\theta$ );  
        E = target - computeEndPoint();  
    }  
}
```



What's left for IK?

- Joint limits
- Choosing desired configuration
- When to stop the iterations

Joint limits

- Each joint may have limited range.
- Modify algorithm:
 - After finding Δ , test each joint:
$$\theta_{min_i} < (\theta + \Delta)_i < \theta_{max_i}$$
 - If it would go out of range
 - set column i of J to 0
 - claims “this parameter has no effect”
 - Recompute J^+
 - Least-squares solution will make $\Delta_i \neq 0$
 - For robustness, you may want to force $\Delta_i = 0$
 - Find Δ , repeat

Choosing configuration

- Suppose you have a *homogeneous solution* δ :

$$\mathbf{J} \delta = 0$$

If Δ solves $\mathbf{J} \Delta = E$, then $(\Delta + \delta)$ does also:

$$\mathbf{J} (\Delta + \delta) = \mathbf{J} \Delta + \mathbf{J} \delta = E + 0 = E$$

- Given a desired change C to θ ,
 - project into *null space* of \mathbf{J} using $(\mathbf{J}^+ \mathbf{J} - I) C$:
$$\mathbf{J} [(\mathbf{J}^+ \mathbf{J} - I) C] = [\mathbf{J} (\mathbf{J}^+ \mathbf{J} - I)] C = (\mathbf{J} \mathbf{J}^+ \mathbf{J} - \mathbf{J}) C = (\mathbf{J} - \mathbf{J}) C = 0$$

Choosing configuration

- Given preferred values θ_{pref}
 - construct desired change \mathbf{C} :
$$C_i = \alpha_i (\theta - \theta_{pref})_i$$
 - weights α_i give relative strengths
- Modify algorithm:
 - Construct \mathbf{C}
 - Use $\Delta = \mathbf{J}\mathbf{E} + (\mathbf{J} + \mathbf{J} - \mathbf{I})\mathbf{C}$
- Null-space projection of \mathbf{C} won't harm solution
- Solution will bias towards θ_{pref}

Note on numerical algorithms

- Various algorithms for non-linear multidimensional root-finding...this one works for us
- Root-finding is related to *optimization*:
 - $F(\boldsymbol{\theta})=X \Leftrightarrow \text{minimize } ||F(\boldsymbol{\theta})-X||^2$
- Many computer animation problems are optimization problems
- Many algorithms have solving $AX = B$ at their core.

When to Stop

- There are three main stopping conditions we should account for
 - Finding a successful solution (or close enough)
 - Getting stuck in a condition where we can't improve (local minimum)
 - Taking too long (for interactive systems)
- All three of these are fairly easy to identify by monitoring the progress of Φ
- These rules are just coded into the while() statement for the controlling loop

Finding a Successful Solution

- We really just want to get close enough within some tolerance
- If we're not in a big hurry, we can just iterate until we get within some floating point error range
- Alternately, we could choose to stop when we get within some tolerance measurable in pixels
- For example, we could position an end effector to 0.1 pixel accuracy
- This gives us a scheme that should look good and automatically adapt to spend more time when we are looking at the end effector up close (level-of-detail)

Local Minima

- If we get stuck in a local minimum, we have several options
 - Don't worry about it and just accept it as the best we can do
 - Switch to a different algorithm (CCD...)
 - Randomize the pose vector slightly (or a lot) and try again
 - Send an error to whatever is controlling the end effector and tell it to try something else
- Basically, there are few options that are truly appealing, as they are likely to cause either an error in the solution or a possible discontinuity in the motion

Taking Too Long

- In a time critical situation, we might just limit the iteration to a maximum number of steps
- Alternately, we could use internal timers to limit it to an actual time in seconds

Iteration Stepping

- Step size
- Stability
- Performance

Thank you

Translational DOFs

