

# ME446 Lab 1: Kinematic Transformations

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## Abstract

In this report, we present forward and inverse kinematic analysis of a CRS robot arm. The forward kinematic analysis has been performed by first, assigning coordinate frames to each link using the Denavit-Hartenberg (DH) convention, and then computing the end effector position given the input motor angles. The inverse kinematic analysis deals with computing the inverse problem, i.e, calculation of motor angles given the end effector position. We then present equations for the Jacobian, which are computed using Robotica and MATLAB. Finally, we present some of the applications where these derived equations could be used.

## 1 Introduction

The problem of kinematics can be described as finding motion of a kinematic chain conforming to geometric constraints. Specifically, forward kinematics is a problem of finding the end effector position given the joint angles of a serial link. The other problem which is of specific interest is the inverse kinematics problem, which deals with finding the joint angles given the end effector



Figure 1: CAD Drawing of CRS Robot Arm

position. This analysis is very essential to robotics, as the kinematic analysis must be verified to move the robot to a desired position or velocity. In the first lab session of ME 446 "Robotic Dynamics and Controls" course, we conducted forward and inverse kinematic analysis on a real 3-axis robot manipulator.

The manipulator used for the lab is "Catalyst-5 Robot Arm" manufactured by Thermo Electron corporation. Originally it comprises of 5 Degrees of Freedom, however the last two motors at the wrist have been deactivated to restrict the motion to 3-DOF. Figure 1 presents a CAD model of the CRS robot arm. The CAD model is generated from the 2D drawings provided in the lab manual [1], and because of that it has almost identical dimension with the actual robot arm. The robot arm consists of three serial links, one base, and 3 revolute joints. All the link lengths are 254mm.

In this report, we conduct forward and inverse kinematics of the CRS robot arm. In Chapter 2, the DH parameter table is defined and homogeneous transformation matrices are obtained to express the end effector position. Chapter 3 demonstrates the procedure to solve the inverse kinematic problem in a geometric way. We have validated the result of forward and inverse kinematics using Robotica, MATLAB and Hardware implementation. The verification results are shown in Chapter 4.

## 2 Forward Kinematics

In this section, we present the result of the forward kinematic analysis on the CRS Robot arm. By solving the forward kinematics problem, the orientation and position of end effector of the robot arm can be derived from the joint angles. In order to express the relationship between the links of the kinematic chain, Denavit-Hartenberg(DH) convention has been used. DH parameters are the standard methodology for defining reference frames of a spatial kinematic chain and are used to find the homogeneous transformation relation among the frames.

### 2.1 DH Parameter

The DH parameter is the common convention to express the geometric constraint of a spatial kinematic chain. The first step of DH parameter is assigning reference frames to the spatial kinematic chain that represents the robot arm. The reference frames are assigned with the following rules:

1. The  $z_i$  axis is the direction of  $(i + 1)^{th}$  joint axis.
2. The  $x_i$  axis is parallel to the common normal of  $z_i$  and  $z_{i-1}$ .
3. The origin of  $i^{th}$  frame is located at the intersection of the  $i^{th}$  link and the  $(i + 1)^{th}$  link.
4. The  $y_i$  axis is determined by following a right-handed coordinate rule with  $x_i$  and  $z_i$  axis.

In the DH parameters, the homogeneous transformation matrix between  $(i - 1)^{th}$  link and  $i^{th}$  link,  $T_i^{i-1}$  is represented as following [2]:

$$T_i^{i-1} = \text{Rot}_{z,\theta} \cdot \text{Trans}_{z,d} \cdot \text{Trans}_{x,a} \cdot \text{Rot}_{x,\alpha} \quad (1)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c\theta & -s\theta c\alpha & s\theta s\alpha & ac\theta \\ s\theta & c\theta c\alpha & -c\theta s\alpha & as\theta \\ 0 & s\alpha & c\alpha & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

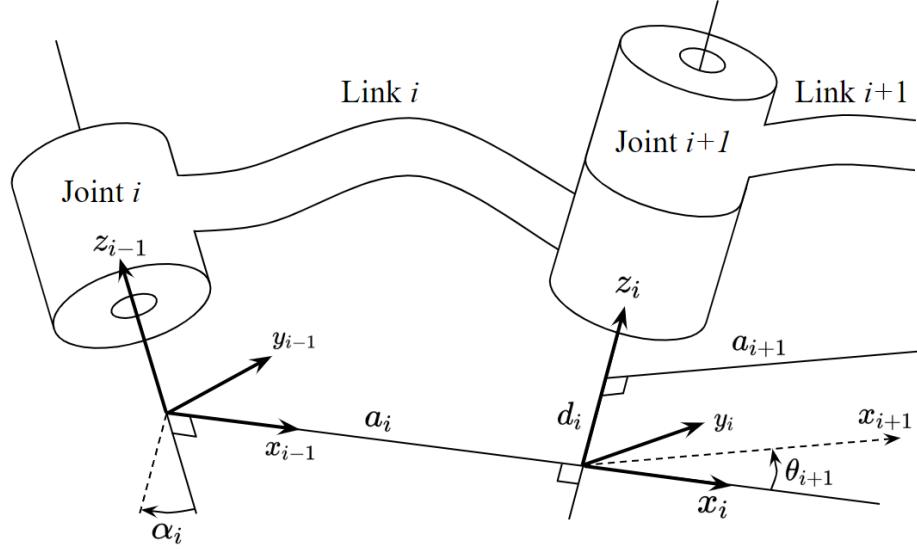


Figure 2: Denavit-Hartenberg frame assignment

Where  $c$  and  $s$  are the abbreviation of  $\cos$  and  $\sin$  and the four quantities  $\theta_i$ ,  $d_i$ ,  $a_i$ ,  $\alpha_i$  are link length, link twist, link offset, and joint angle respectively. Specifically,  $\theta_i$  is the angle difference between  $x_i$  and  $x_{i+1}$  along  $z_i$ ,  $d_i$  is the distance between  $x_i$  and  $x_{i+1}$  along  $z_i$ ,  $a_i$  is the distance between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  along  $x_{i-1}$ , and  $\alpha_i$  is the angle difference between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  along  $x_{i-1}$ . In the case of a revolute joint,  $\theta_i$  become the variable that indicates the joint angle position of the joint, while the other parameters are constant value that are determined by the geometric constraint of the kinematic chain. Figure 2 shows the frame location assignment and parameter identification for the DH parameter.

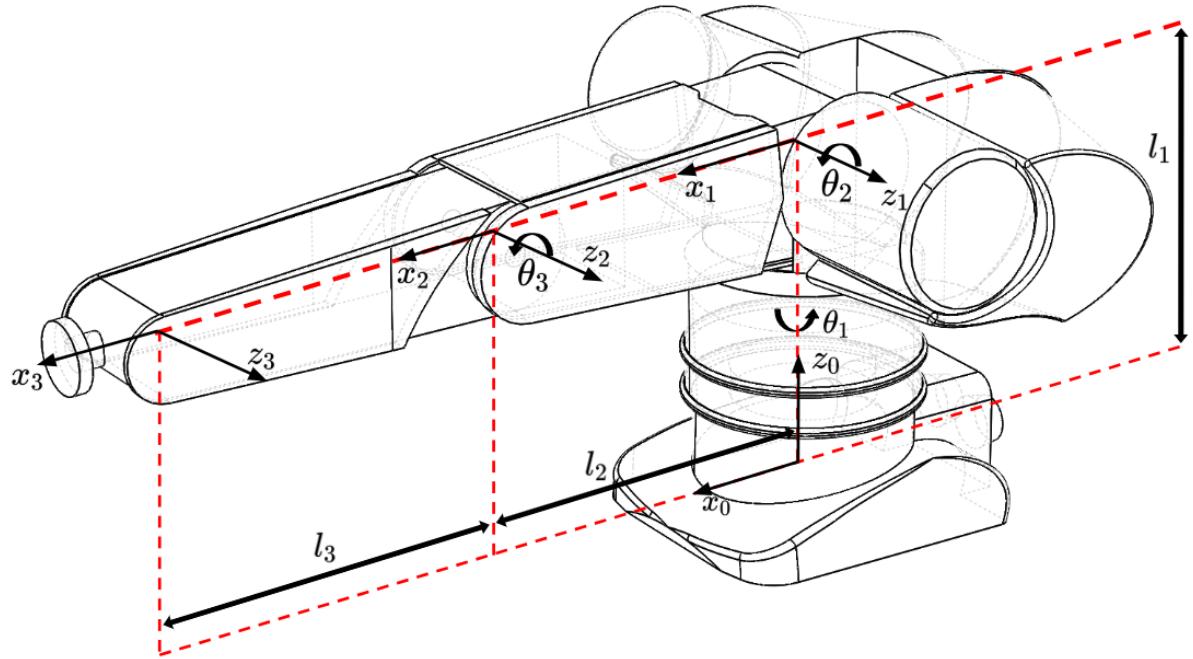


Figure 3: DH Coordinate Frame of the CRS Robot Arm

The assigned DH coordinate frame are presented in Figure 3. All the DH parameter joint angles of the robot arm in this configuration are considered to be zero. This is done in order to simplify the DH parameters although the actual motor angles of the manipulator in this configuration won't be zero. Note that the link length  $l_1$ ,  $l_2$ , and  $l_3$  are each  $254mm$ . In order to find the DH parameters of the robot arm,  $z$  axes of each frame needs to be defined first. The direction of each  $z_i$  axis is assigned to coincide with  $(i+1)^{th}$  joint axis. For instance,  $z_0$  is pointing along the axis of the first joint at the base. Next,  $z_1$  is assigned to coincide with the axis of second joint. Similarly,  $z_2$  lies along with the joint 3 axis and  $z_3$  is attached to the end of the third link while pointing in the same direction as  $z_2$ . Note that the direction of each axis at the joint is assigned to be counter-clockwise by considering the positive torque direction of each motor.

Now,  $x$  axes can be derived using the relationship between  $z$  axes of the frames.  $x_{i-1}$  is assigned to point along the common normal of  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  intersecting  $z_{i-1}$  axis. In general, it is recommended to follow right hand rule to determine the direction of  $x$  axis, however we decided to set  $x_0$  to point in the opposite direction of the outcome of right hand rule. This helps in getting rid of the angle offset between following  $x$  axis, hence simplifying calculations. Since  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  are parallel,  $x_1$  is assigned to point along  $z_3$ . Likewise, the direction of  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  are defined as shown in the figure. As  $x$  and  $z$  axes are determined, the location of the frame can be obtained. The origin of frame 0, the base frame is attached to the point where the rotation axis of the first joint meets the ground base. Then the origin of frame 1 is attached to the point where the joint axis  $z_0$  and  $z_1$  intersect. At last, the origin of frame 2 and 3 lie at the location where  $z_i$  axis coincides with  $x_{i-1}$  axis.

$i$	$a_i$	$\alpha_i$	$d_i$	$\theta_i$
1	0	$-\pi/2$	$l_1$	$\theta_{1DH}$
2	$l_2$	0	0	$\theta_{2DH}$
3	$l_3$	0	0	$\theta_{3DH}$

Table 1: DH Parameter table of the CRS Robot arm

After defining the coordinate frames,  $\theta_i$ ,  $d_i$ ,  $a_i$ ,  $\alpha_i$  needs to be defined to complete the DH parameter table. As  $a_i$  is the distance between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  along  $x_{i-1}$ ,  $a_i$  can be easily obtained as  $a_1$  becomes 0 and  $a_2$ ,  $a_3$  are  $l_2$  and  $l_3$  respectively. Similarly, as  $d_i$  is the offset between  $x_{i-1}$  and  $x_i$  along  $z_i$ , only  $d_1$  has non-zero value of  $l_1$ .  $\alpha_i$  is the angle offset between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  along  $x_{i-1}$  axis and since  $z_1$ ,  $z_2$ , and  $z_3$  are parallel,  $a_2$  and  $a_3$  are all 0 and only  $a_1$  is  $-\pi/2$ . Lastly, since all the  $x_i$  are pointing in the same direction,  $\theta_i$  becomes  $\theta_{iDH}$  where  $\theta_i$  denotes the angular position of the  $i^{th}$  joint. The DH parameter table is shown in Table 1. Note that  $\theta_i$  has subscribe  $DH$  to distinguish the DH parameter joint angle from the actual motor encoder readings. As shown in figure 4, by applying equation 2, the homogeneous transformation matrix of each link can be obtained as follows:

$$T_1^0 = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_{1DH} & 0 & s\theta_{1DH} & 0 \\ s\theta_{1DH} & 0 & -c\theta_{1DH} & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & l_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T_2^1 = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_{2_{DH}} & -s\theta_{2_{DH}} & 0 & l_2 & c\theta_{2_{DH}} \\ s\theta_{2_{DH}} & c\theta_{2_{DH}} & 0 & l_2 & s\theta_{2_{DH}} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T_3^2 = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_{3_{DH}} & -s\theta_{3_{DH}} & 0 & l_3 & c\theta_{3_{DH}} \\ s\theta_{3_{DH}} & c\theta_{3_{DH}} & 0 & l_3 & s\theta_{3_{DH}} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Lastly, by multiplying the three transformation matrices, the complete transformation matrix for the forward kinematics is obtained as follows:

$$T_3^0 = \begin{bmatrix} c_1c_{23} & -c_1s_{23} & -s_1 & c_1(l_2c_2 + l_3c_{23}) \\ s_1c_{23} & -s_1s_{23} & c_1 & s_1(l_2c_2 + l_3c_{23}) \\ -s_{23} & -c_{23} & 0 & l_1 - l_3s_{23} - l_2s_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

Where  $c_{ij}$  and  $s_{ij}$  are abbreviation of  $\cos(i + j)$  and  $\sin(i + j)$  respectively.



Figure 4: Three Configuration for finding DH-Motor Angle Relationship

Next, we find the relation between the DH motor angles and the actual motor angles which are measured by encoders. The DH parameter joint angles  $\theta_{i_{DH}}$  needs to be converted to the motor angles in order to apply the derived transformation matrix for manipulating the robot arm. Since there are three variables for motor angle  $\theta_{1M}$ ,  $\theta_{2M}$ , and  $\theta_{3M}$ , it is required to have three different configurations to find the relation between the DH parameter angle and the actual motor angle. Moreover, due to the chain-driven mechanism of the robot arm, we need to define the effect of  $\theta_{2M}$  to  $\theta_{3M}$ . We measured the motor position angles of the three configurations shown in Figure 4 using encoders and derived the following equations:

$$\theta_{1_{DH}} = \theta_{1_M} \quad (4)$$

$$\theta_{2_{DH}} = \theta_{2_M} - \frac{\pi}{2} \quad (5)$$

$$\theta_{3_{DH}} = \theta_{3_M} - \theta_{2_M} + \frac{\pi}{2} \quad (6)$$

It is obvious that  $\theta_{1_{DH}}$  and  $\theta_{1_M}$  are identical. Meanwhile,  $\theta_{2_{DH}}$  and  $\theta_{2_M}$  have an offset of  $-\frac{\pi}{2}$ . Equation 5 shows that  $\theta_{3_{DH}}$  is combination of second motor and third motor which movements are oppose to each other.

$i$	$a_i$	$\alpha_i$	$d_i$	$\theta_i$
1	0	$-\pi/2$	$l_1$	$\theta_{1_M}$
2	$l_2$	0	0	$\theta_{2_M} - \pi/2$
3	$l_3$	0	0	$\theta_{3_M} - \theta_{2_M} + \pi/2$

Table 2: DH Parameter table of the CRS Robot arm with Motor angle

Finally, Table 2 shows the final representation of the DH parameter table.

### 3 Inverse Kinematics

In this section, we analyze the problem of finding the motor input angles from a given end effector position. In the following diagram, the position of the end effector is marked as  $(x, y, z)$  and joint angle relations are computed based on geometry. Note that the angles mentioned on the figures are all DH angles.

After assigning the coordinate frames, we calculate the inverse kinematic relations (i.e the DH motor angles) using geometry. Figure 3 is used as a reference to derive these relations. In order to

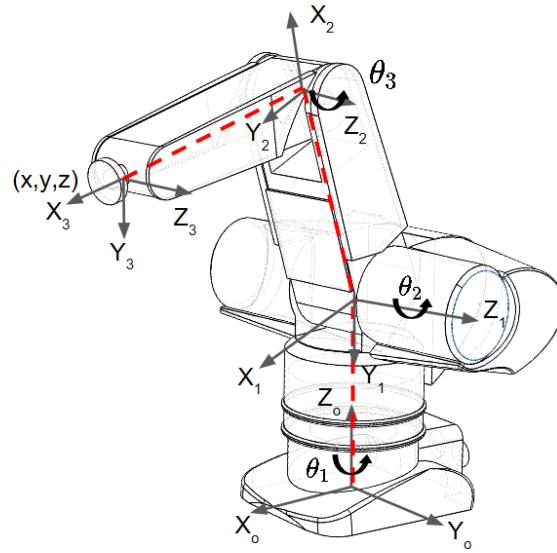


Figure 5: Coordinate Frame assignment for each link

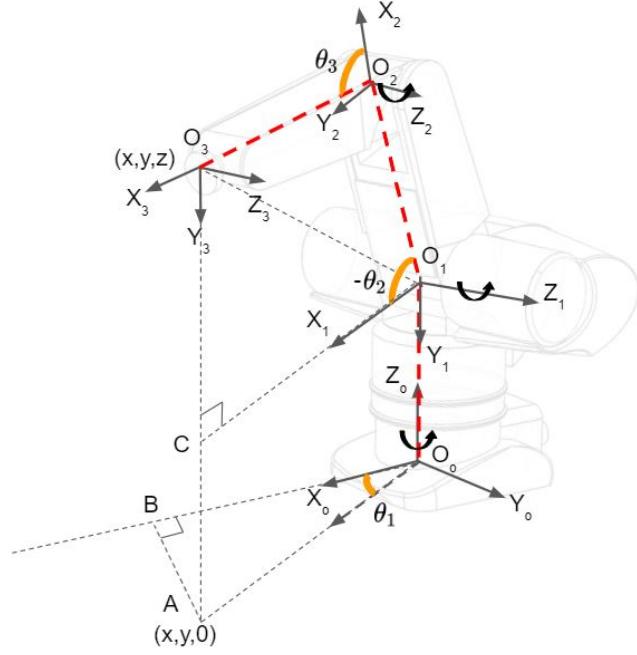


Figure 6: Motor angle relations derived using Geometry

derive  $\theta_1$ , we will first focus on  $\Delta O_oAB$ . Using simple geometry we can easily obtain the following relation:

$$\theta_1 = \text{atan2}\left[\frac{y}{x}\right] \quad (7)$$

Next, we derive  $\theta_3$ . We first calculate distance  $\overline{O_1O_3}$  which can be computed by using Pythagoras theorem in  $\Delta O_1O_3C$ .

$$\overline{O_1O_3}^2 = \overline{O_3C}^2 + \overline{O_1C}^2 \quad (8)$$

Here  $\overline{O_3C}$  is given simply as  $(z - \overline{O_1O_5})$  where  $\overline{O_1O_5}$  indicates length of link 1. Also, since  $\overline{O_1C} = \overline{O_1A}$ , we can compute  $\overline{O_1A}$  by applying Pythagoras theorem to  $\Delta O_oAB$ .

$$\overline{O_oA}^2 = x^2 + y^2 = \overline{O_1C}^2 \quad (9)$$

Hence rewriting the relation for  $\overline{O_1O_3}$  gives us:

$$\overline{O_1O_3}^2 = x^2 + y^2 + (z - \overline{O_1O_5})^2 \quad (10)$$

From the above relation, we can easily compute  $O_1O_3$  given the end effector position. We now compute  $\theta_3$  by applying cosine rule to  $\Delta O_1O_2O_3$ . Since the link lengths are already known, we already have lengths of  $O_1O_2$  &  $O_2O_3$ . Hence  $\theta_3$  is given by:

$$\theta_3 = \pi - \text{acos}\left(\frac{\overline{O_1O_2}^2 + \overline{O_2O_3}^2 - \overline{O_1O_3}^2}{2\overline{O_1O_2} \cdot \overline{O_2O_3}}\right) \quad (11)$$

Lastly,  $\theta_2$  is derived by adding  $\angle O_3O_1O_2$  and  $\angle O_3O_1C$ . However, an important thing to note is that the sign of  $\theta_2$  will be negative according to sign convention. Hence  $\theta_2$  is given by

$$\theta_2 = -(\angle O_3O_1O_2 + \angle O_3O_1C) \quad (12)$$

where  $\angle O_3O_1O_2$  and  $\angle O_3O_1C$  is given as follows

$$\angle O_3O_1O_2 = \frac{\theta_3}{2} \quad (13)$$

$$\angle O_3O_1C = \arcsin\left(\frac{z - \overline{O_1O_5}}{\overline{O_1O_3}}\right) \quad (14)$$

## 4 Result

This section demonstrates the results for validating both the forward and inverse kinematics through software and hardware implementation. In order to verify the forward kinematics result, the DH table derived earlier is plugged into Robotica and a formula for end effector position is computed with given motor angles. This computed formula is used in our main C program to print the end effector positions which are then compared with the actual end effector position. The actual end effector positions were measured using scale. The inverse kinematics part was verified by comparing the computed motor angles, given an end effector position, with the encoder values.

### 4.1 Robotica

Robotica is a useful tool package for solving robotics problems in Mathematica. Mathematica has numerous advantages when using symbolic expressions to handle complex calculations. Robotica can produce the forward kinematic solution by taking the DH parameter table as an input. We have validated the result of Section 2 by comparing it with the output from Robotica.

Joint	Type	r	$\alpha$	d	$\theta$
1	revolute	0	$-\frac{\pi}{2}$	254	$\theta_1$
2	revolute	254	0	0	$\theta_2$
3	revolute	254	0	0	$\theta_3$

Figure 7: The DH parameters Table Input to Robotica

Figure 7 shows the input table to Robotica and Figure 8 presents the output of executing Robotica, the transformation matrices. Since  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  is 254mm, The forward kinematics solution in equation 3 is identical with  $T(0, 3)$  as seen in Figure 8. In addition, the Jacobian matrix of the robot arm computed by Robotica is shown in Figure 9.

```
In[85]:= TPrint[] (*Run to show all the T matrices*)
T[0,1]=

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1 & 0 & -s_1 & 0 \\ s_1 & 0 & c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 254 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

T[0,2]=

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1 c_2 & -c_1 s_2 & -s_1 & 254 c_1 c_2 \\ c_2 s_1 & -s_1 s_2 & c_1 & 254 c_2 s_1 \\ -s_2 & -c_2 & 0 & 508 \sin\left[\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{q_2}{2}\right]^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

T[0,3]=

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1 c_{23} & -c_1 s_{23} & -s_1 & 508 c_1 \cos\left[q_2 + \frac{q_3}{2}\right] \cos\left[\frac{q_3}{2}\right] \\ c_{23} s_1 & -s_1 s_{23} & c_1 & 508 \cos\left[q_2 + \frac{q_3}{2}\right] \cos\left[\frac{q_3}{2}\right] s_1 \\ -s_{23} & -c_{23} & 0 & -254 (-1 + s_2 + s_{23}) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

T[1,2]=

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_2 & -s_2 & 0 & 254 c_2 \\ s_2 & c_2 & 0 & 254 s_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

T[1,3]=

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{23} & -s_{23} & 0 & 508 \cos\left[q_2 + \frac{q_3}{2}\right] \cos\left[\frac{q_3}{2}\right] \\ s_{23} & c_{23} & 0 & 508 \cos\left[\frac{q_3}{2}\right] \sin\left[q_2 + \frac{q_3}{2}\right] \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

T[2,3]=

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_3 & -s_3 & 0 & 254 c_3 \\ s_3 & c_3 & 0 & 254 s_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

```

Figure 8: The Transformation Matrix Computed by Robotica

```
In[88]:= Mprint[J, "Jacobian="]

Out[88]= Mprint[{{{-508 Cos[q2 + q3/2] Cos[q3/2] s1, c1 (-254 - 254 (-1 + s2 + s23)), c1 (-508 Sin[q2 + q3/2]^2 - 254 (-1 + s2 + s23))}, {508 c1 Cos[q2 + q3/2] Cos[q3/2], s1 (-254 - 254 (-1 + s2 + s23)), s1 (-508 Sin[q2 + q3/2]^2 - 254 (-1 + s2 + s23))}, {0, -508 c1^2 Cos[q2 + q3/2] Cos[q3/2] - 508 Cos[q2 + q3/2] Cos[q3/2] s1^2, -c1 (-254 c1 c2 + 508 c1 Cos[q2 + q3/2] Cos[q3/2]) - s1 (-254 c2 s1 + 508 Cos[q2 + q3/2] Cos[q3/2] s1)}, {0, -s1, -s1}, {0, c1, c1}, {1, 0, 0}}, Jacobian=]
```

Figure 9: The Jacobian Matrix Computed by Robotica

## 4.2 MATLAB

Additional verification has been conducted by using MATLAB's Robotics Toolbox. Robotics Toolbox [3] made by Peter Corke provides useful functions to deal with kinematics and dynamics problems related to robotics. Similar to Robotica, Robotic Toolbox also takes DH parameters as input to define geometric constraint of each link. Figure 10 shows the result of calculating the transformation matrix with MATLAB. In addition, Figure 11 presents the jacobian matrix as well. The MATLAB code and more detailed results are presented in Appendix.

```

Robot = 

noname:: 3 axis, RRR, stdDH, fastRNE, Symbolic
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| j | theta | d | a | alpha | offset |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1 | q1 | 11 | 0 | -pi/2 | 0 |
| 2 | q2 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | q3 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+


[ cos(q2 + q3)*cos(q1), -sin(q2 + q3)*cos(q1), -sin(q1), cos(q1)*(13*cos(q2 + q3) + 12*cos(q2)) ]
[ cos(q2 + q3)*sin(q1), -sin(q2 + q3)*sin(q1), cos(q1), sin(q1)*(13*cos(q2 + q3) + 12*cos(q2)) ]
[ -sin(q2 + q3), -cos(q2 + q3), 0, 11 - 13*sin(q2 + q3) - 12*sin(q2) ]
[ 0, 0, 0, 1 ]

```

Figure 10: The transformation matrix computed by MATLAB script

```

J =
[ -sin(q1)*(13*cos(q2 + q3) + 12*cos(q2)), 12*cos(q2 + q3)*cos(q1)*sin(q3) - sin(q2 + q3)*cos(q1)*(13 + 12*cos(q3)), -13*sin(q2 + q3)*cos(q1) ]
[ cos(q1)*(13*cos(q2 + q3) + 12*cos(q2)), 12*cos(q2 + q3)*sin(q1)*sin(q3) - sin(q2 + q3)*sin(q1)*(13 + 12*cos(q3)), -13*sin(q2 + q3)*sin(q1) ]
[ 0, -cos(q2 + q3)*(13 + 12*cos(q3)) - 12*sin(q2 + q3)*sin(q3), -13*cos(q2 + q3) ]
[ cos(conj(q2) + conj(q3))*sin(q2 + q3)*cos(q1) - sin(conj(q2) + conj(q3))*cos(q2 + q3)*cos(q1),
  cos(conj(q2) + conj(q3))*sin(q2 + q3)*sin(q1) - sin(conj(q2) + conj(q3))*cos(q2 + q3)*sin(q1),
  cos(conj(q2) + conj(q3))*cos(q2 + q3) + sin(conj(q2) + conj(q3))*sin(q2 + q3) ]

```

Figure 11: The Jacobian matrix computed by MATLAB script

### 4.3 Hardware Validation

The forward and inverse kinematics results are also validated using the robot arm hardware. The end effector position is computed in C code using the equation we derived in the forward kinematics analysis. By comparing the computed values with actual measurement, the solution can be verified. The C code used for hardware implementation and serial monitor results are attached to Appendix.

Figure 12 shows one configuration where we verified our results for the forward kinematics part. In this case, all the DH joint angles are 0, and the robotic arm is straight along the  $x$  axis. In this configuration, measuring the end effector positions with a scale is straightforward, and is about (508mm, 0mm, 254mm). The computed end-effector position is displayed by the serial monitor presented in Figure 12 which shows nearly an exact match for the measured end effector position. Note that the DH joint angles were computed from the motor angles by the relation specified earlier.

Figure 13 shows the second case which we used to confirm the forward kinematics part. In this configuration, the first motor angle is kept at 0, and the other two arms are rotated each by  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ . The end effector position in this configuration is easy to measure using scale and is about (254mm, 0mm, 508mm). Figure 13 also shows our computed result for the tested configuration. The end effector position again comes out to be an exact match to values we measured using scale.

At last, we conduct the validation for the case where only the first joint is moved to  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  as presented in Figure 14. The result in the serial monitor verifies that the calculated position is matches well the actual measured position as well. In conclusion, the hardware validation clearly demonstrates that our forward kinematics solution works well for all three joints.

Next, we validate our inverse kinematics solution. We did this by comparing our calculated motor angles from inverse kinematics equation with the actual motor angles measured by the encoders. Figure 15 shows the results for the home configuration. It is apparent that there is a clear match between the computed angles and measured angles. Another configuration is tested to verify the angles computed by the inverse kinematics solution. Figure 16 demonstrates when the motor angles are set to zero. The angles match fairly, however, there is a slight difference observed for  $\theta_2$  and  $\theta_3$ . The reason for this is primarily due to a specific range in which trigonometric inverses are valid and here, we are exceeding those ranges for  $\theta_2$  slightly. Hence, values for  $\theta_2$  become marginally incorrect which in turn causes impact on  $\theta_3$ .

## 5 Conclusion

From the above results, we can conclude that the forward and inverse kinematic relations are computed correctly and these relations can be further used for other applications like in dynamics, control etc.

## References

- [1] ME 446 Laboratory 1 Kinematic Transformations [http://coecsl.ece.illinois.edu/me446/ME446Lab\\_1.pdf](http://coecsl.ece.illinois.edu/me446/ME446Lab_1.pdf)
- [2] Spong, M.W., Hutchinson, S. and Vidyasagar, M., Robot Modeling and Control.
- [3] Peter Corke, Robotics Toolbox, <http://petercorke.com/wordpress/toolboxes/robotics-toolbox>

## 6 Appendix

Kinematics Analysis Matlab Script

```
1 startup_rvc
2
3 %%
4
5 % Define Sympolic letters
6 syms l1 l2 l3 q1 q2 q3 t1 t2 t3
7
8 % Making DH Parameter Table
9 % a ahpfa d theta
10 DH = [0, -pi/2, l1, q1;
11     l2, 0, 0, q2;
12     l3, 0, 0, q3];
13
14 % Generate Link structure to define each link
15 for i= 1:size(DH,1)
16     a = DH(i,1);
17     al = DH(i,2);
18     d = DH(i,3);
19     th = DH(i,4);
20
21     L(i) = Link([th, d, a, al], 'standard'); % Define link using the DH parameters
22                                     % Link structure can also
23                                     % contains additional
24                                     % information about link such
25                                     % as inertia, mass, geometry,
26                                     % which is useful features to
27                                     % calculate robot dynamics.
28
29 end
30
31 % Define Robot by using SerialLink function. L
32 Robot = SerialLink(L)
33
34 % Transfer Function
35 T = Robot.fkine([q1; q2; q3])
36
37 % Jacobian Matrix
38 J = Robot.jacob0([q1; q2; q3])
39
40 % Symbolic Inverse Kinematics
41 sol = Robot.ikine_sym(3)
42 q1_sol = simplify(sol{1})
43 q2_sol = simplify(sol{2})
44 q3_sol = simplify(sol{3})
```

## Kinematics Analysis C code

```
1 // ME446 Robot Dynamics and Controls
2 // Lab 1: Kinematic Transformation
3 // Kevin Gim & Jasvir Virdi
4
5
6 #include <tistdtdtypes.h>
7 #include <coecsl.h>
8 #include <user_includes.h>
9 #include <math.h>
10
11 // These two offset angles are adjusted for our robot arm.
12 float offset_Enc2_rad = -0.36;
13 float offset_Enc3_rad = 0.27;
14
15 // Your global variables.
16
17 long mycount = 0;
18
19 float whattoprint = 0.0;
20
21 float theta1array[100];
22
23 long arrayindex = 0;
24
25 float printtheta1motor = 0;
26 float printtheta2motor = 0;
27 float printtheta3motor = 0;
28
29 float DHtheta1 = 0;
30 float DHtheta2 = 0;
31 float DHtheta3 = 0;
32
33 float x = 0;
34 float y = 0;
35 float z = 0;
36
37 float IKtheta1DH = 0;
38 float IKtheta2DH = 0;
39 float IKtheta3DH = 0;
40
41 float IKthetam1 = 0;
42 float IKthetam2 = 0;
43 float IKthetam3 = 0;
44
45 float r1 = 0;
46 float r2 = 0;
47
48 float l1 = 254;
49 float l2 = 254;
50 float l3 = 254;
51
52 // Assign these float to the values you would like to plot in Simulink
53 float Simulink_PlotVar1 = 0;
54 float Simulink_PlotVar2 = 0;
55 float Simulink_PlotVar3 = 0;
56 float Simulink_PlotVar4 = 0;
```

```

57
58
59 // This function is called every 1 ms
60 void lab(float theta1motor, float theta2motor, float theta3motor, float *tau1,
61   float *tau2, float *tau3, int error) {
62
63   *tau1 = 1;
64   *tau2 = 0;
65   *tau3 = 0;
66
67   //Motor torque limitation (Max: 5 Min: -5)
68
69   // save past states
70   if ((mycount%50)==0) {
71
72     theta1array[arrayindex] = theta1motor;
73
74     if (arrayindex >= 100) {
75       arrayindex = 0;
76     } else {
77       arrayindex++;
78     }
79
80   }
81
82   if ((mycount%500)==0) {
83     if (whattoprint > 0.5) {
84       serial_printf(&SerialA, I love robotics);
85     } else {
86       printtheta1motor = theta1motor;
87       printtheta2motor = theta2motor;
88       printtheta3motor = theta3motor;
89
90       // Converts Motor angle to DH joint angles
91       DHtheta1 = theta1motor;
92       DHtheta2 = theta2motor-PI*0.5;
93       DHtheta3 = theta3motor-theta2motor+PI*0.5;
94       SWI_post(&SWI_printf); //Using a SWI to fix SPI issue
95       from sending too many floats.
96     }
97     GpioDataRegs.GPBToggle.bit.GPIO34 = 1; // Blink LED on Control
98     Card
99     GpioDataRegs.GPBToggle.bit.GPIO60 = 1; // Blink LED on
100    Emergency Stop Box
101
102
103 // Which value to plot with Simulink
104   Simulink_PlotVar1 = theta1motor;
105   Simulink_PlotVar2 = theta2motor;
106   Simulink_PlotVar3 = theta3motor;
107   Simulink_PlotVar4 = 0;
108
109 //Forward Kinematics
110
111   x = 508*cos(DHtheta1)*cos(DHtheta2+DHtheta3/2)*cos(DHtheta3/2);

```

```

110     y = 508*sin(DHtheta1)*cos(DHtheta2+DHtheta3/2)*cos(DHtheta3/2);
111     z = -254*(-1+sin(DHtheta2)+sin(DHtheta2+DHtheta3));
112
113
114 //Inverse Kinematics
115
116 IKtheta1DH = atan2(y,x);
117 r1 = z-11;
118 r2 = sqrt(r1*r1 + x*x + y*y);
119 IKtheta3DH = PI - acos((l2*l2+l3*l3-r2*r2)/(2*l2*l3));
120 IKtheta2DH = -(IKtheta3DH)/2 - asin((r1/r2));
121
122 IKthetam1= IKtheta1DH;           //Joint 1 DH Angle
123 IKthetam2=IKtheta2DH +(PI/2);    //Joint 2 DH Angle
124 IKthetam3=IKtheta3DH + IKtheta2DH; //Joint 3 DH Angle
125
126 mycount++;
127 }
128
129 // Display computed value through a serial monitor
130 void printing(void){
131
132 //serial_printf(&SerialA, (.%2f
133 //                %.2f,%.2f,%.2f), DHtheta1, DHtheta2, DHtheta3,x,y,z);
134 //serial_printf(&SerialA, (.%2f,%.2f,%.2f), IKtheta1DH,IKtheta2DH,IKtheta3DH);
135 serial_printf(&SerialA, (.%2f,%.2f,%.2f),(.%2f,%.2f,%.2f),printtheta1motor*180/
136 PI,printtheta2motor*180/PI,printtheta3motor*180/PI, IKthetam1*180/PI,
137 IKthetam2*180/PI, IKthetam3*180/PI );}

```



COM4 - Tera Term VT

```

File Edit Setup Control Window Help
DH Joint Angle: <0.09 1.34,1.31>,EE Position<507.65,0.81,236.26>
DH Joint Angle: <0.09 1.20,1.49>,EE Position<507.66,0.81,236.67>
DH Joint Angle: <0.11 0.91,1.78>,EE Position<507.68,1.01,237.98>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 0.88,1.80>,EE Position<507.68,1.30,238.10>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 0.89,1.80>,EE Position<507.68,1.30,238.09>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 0.89,1.80>,EE Position<507.68,1.30,238.09>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 0.88,1.80>,EE Position<507.68,1.30,238.10>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 0.88,1.81>,EE Position<507.68,1.30,238.10>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 0.90,1.79>,EE Position<507.68,1.29,238.03>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.09,1.71>,EE Position<507.64,1.27,236.69>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.39,1.50>,EE Position<507.59,1.27,234.92>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.71,1.29>,EE Position<507.53,1.26,233.08>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.71,1.29>,EE Position<507.53,1.27,233.08>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.71,1.29>,EE Position<507.53,1.27,233.07>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.71,1.29>,EE Position<507.53,1.27,233.07>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.71,1.28>,EE Position<507.53,1.27,233.06>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.71,1.28>,EE Position<507.53,1.27,233.05>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.72,1.27>,EE Position<507.53,1.26,233.01>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.78,1.22>,EE Position<507.52,1.26,232.75>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.79,1.20>,EE Position<507.52,1.26,232.70>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.85,1.15>,EE Position<507.51,1.26,232.46>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.94,1.06>,EE Position<507.50,1.26,232.05>
DH Joint Angle: <0.14 1.98,1.02>,EE Position<507.49,1.26,231.86>

```

Figure 12: Configuration with  $\theta_{1_{DH}} = 0$ ,  $\theta_{2_{DH}} = 0$ ,  $\theta_{3_{DH}} = 0$



```

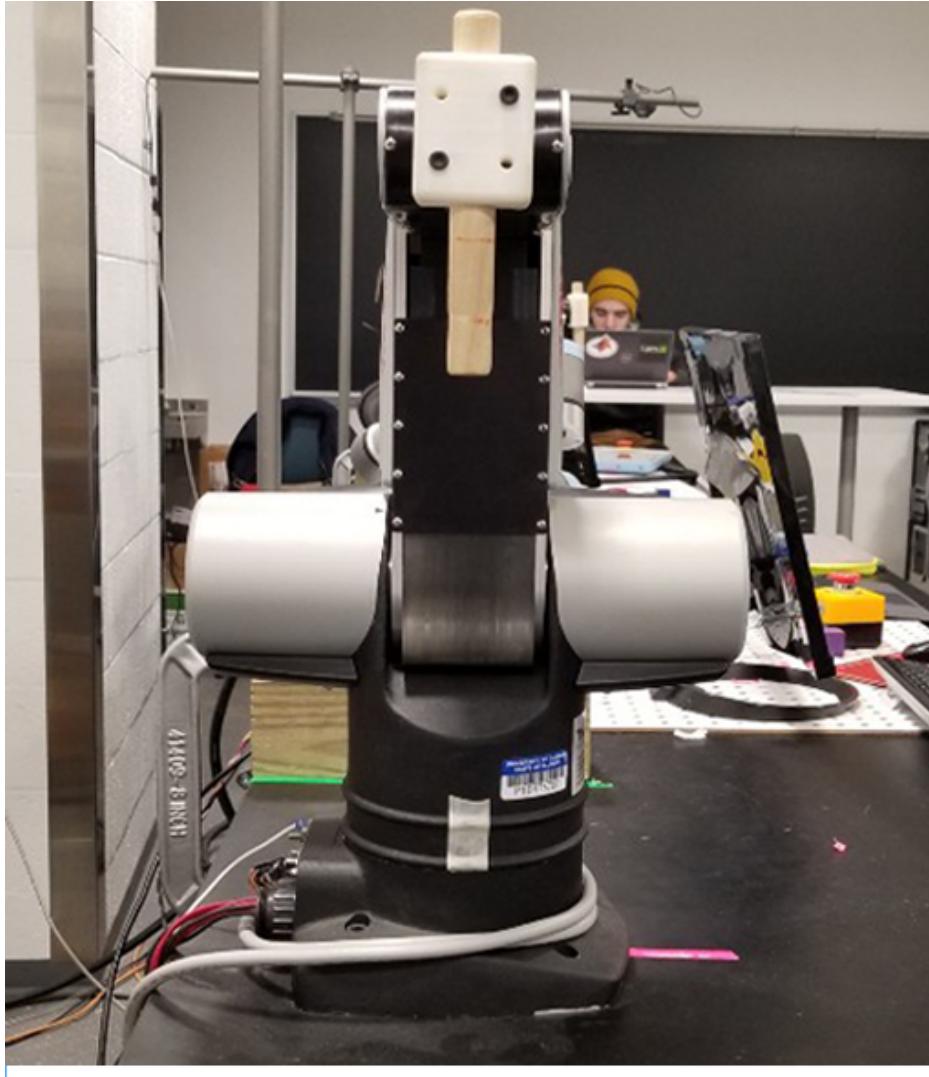
COM4 - Tera Term VT

File Edit Setup Control Window Help

DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -89.55,88.06>,EE Position<255.88,0.08,514.60>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.46,88.99>,EE Position<251.84,0.08,514.60>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.48,88.99>,EE Position<251.74,0.08,514.59>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.48,89.00>,EE Position<251.77,0.08,514.52>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.20>,EE Position<251.81,0.08,513.62>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.69>,EE Position<251.85,0.08,511.44>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.42,89.26>,EE Position<251.85,0.08,511.15>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.78>,EE Position<251.85,0.08,511.08>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.79>,EE Position<251.85,0.08,511.03>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.80>,EE Position<251.85,0.08,510.96>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.83>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.85>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.84>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.79>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.85>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.76>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.86>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.72>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.86>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.70>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.87>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.68>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.87>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.67>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.42,89.87>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.62>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.87>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.66>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.87>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.66>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.87>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.65>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.88>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.63>
DH Joint Angle: <0.01 -90.47,89.89>,EE Position<251.86,0.08,510.60>

```

Figure 13: Configuration with  $\theta_{1_{DH}} = 0$ ,  $\theta_{2_{DH}} = -\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $\theta_{3_{DH}} = \frac{\pi}{2}$



COM4 - Tera Term VT

```

File Edit Setup Control Window Help
DH Joint Angle: <-89.67 -90.33.89.62>,EE Position<1.42,-252.47,511.14>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.63>,EE Position<1.32,-252.47,511.13>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.63>,EE Position<1.32,-252.48,511.11>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.63>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.10>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.63>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.09>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.64>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.08>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.64>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.08>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.64>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.08>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.64>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.06>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.65>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.03>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.65>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.03>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.65>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.02>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.65>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.02>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.65>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.01>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.65>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,511.00>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.66>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.98>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.66>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.96>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.67>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.93>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.68>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.91>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.68>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.87>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.69>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.85>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.69>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.84>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.69>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.83>
DH Joint Angle: <-89.69 -90.33.89.69>,EE Position<1.33,-252.48,510.83>

```

Figure 14: Configuration with  $\theta_{1_{DH}} = -\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $\theta_{2_{DH}} = -\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $\theta_{3_{DH}} = \frac{\pi}{2}$

Figure 15: Actual motor angles vs computed motor angles for the first configuration

```
VT COM4 - Tera Term VT
File Edit Setup Control Window Help
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.07,0.01>, Calculated: <0.12,90.00,0.08>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.07,0.00>, Calculated: <0.12,90.00,0.08>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.07,-0.00>, Calculated: <0.12,89.99,0.07>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.07,-0.02>, Calculated: <0.12,89.97,0.06>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.07,-0.04>, Calculated: <0.12,89.95,0.06>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.06,-0.08>, Calculated: <0.12,89.91,0.06>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.06,-0.14>, Calculated: <0.12,89.85,0.06>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.06,-0.19>, Calculated: <0.12,89.80,0.06>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.06,-0.28>, Calculated: <0.12,89.71,0.06>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.06,-0.37>, Calculated: <0.12,89.62,0.06>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.05,-0.50>, Calculated: <0.12,89.49,0.05>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.05,-0.61>, Calculated: <0.12,89.38,0.05>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.04,-0.69>, Calculated: <0.12,89.30,0.04>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.03,-0.74>, Calculated: <0.12,89.25,0.03>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.02,-0.80>, Calculated: <0.12,89.19,0.02>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.02,-0.84>, Calculated: <0.12,89.15,0.02>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.01,-0.88>, Calculated: <0.12,89.11,0.01>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.01,-0.89>, Calculated: <0.12,89.10,0.01>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.00,-0.91>, Calculated: <0.12,89.08,0.00>
Motor Reading: <0.12,90.00,-0.92>, Calculated: <0.12,89.07,0.00>
Motor Reading: <0.12,89.99,-0.93>, Calculated: <0.12,89.06,-0.00>
Motor Reading: <0.12,89.98,-0.95>, Calculated: <0.12,89.04,-0.01>
Motor Reading: <0.12,89.98,-0.96>, Calculated: <0.12,89.03,-0.01>
```

Figure 16: Actual motor angles vs computed motor angles for the second configuration