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## THESIS

of the student of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the School of  
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Subject

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Robotic surgical tool manipulator - Recognition,  
control and manipulation of laparoscopic tools

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Supervisor

Associate Professor Dr. Evangelos Dermatas

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# ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΣΗ

Πιστοποιείται ότι η διπλωματική εργασία με θέμα

**Robotic surgical tool manipulator - Recognition, control and manipulation of  
laparoscopic tools**

του φοιτητή του Τμήματος Ηλεκτρολόγων Μηχανικών και Τεχνολογίας Υπολογιστών

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παρουσιάστηκε δημόσια και εξετάστηκε στο τμήμα Ηλεκτρολόγων Μηχανικών και Τεχνολογίας  
Υπολογιστών στις

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Ο Επιβλέπων

Ο Διευθυντής του Τομέα

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# 1 Introduction

## 2 Robotic arm Kinematic Analysis

### 2.1 Robotic arm, DH parameters & Forward Kinematics

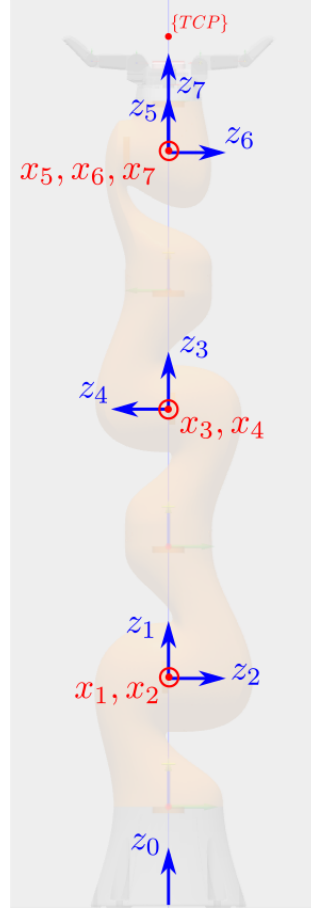


Figure 1: Joint reference frames of the KUKA iiwa14 robot

i	$\theta_i$ (rad)	$L_{i-1}$ (m)	$d_i$ (m)	$\alpha_{i-1}$ (rad)
1	$\theta_1$	0	0.36	0
2	$\theta_2$	0	0	$-\pi/2$
3	$\theta_3$	0	0.36	$\pi/2$
4	$\theta_4$	0	0	$\pi/2$
5	$\theta_5$	0	0.4	$-\pi/2$
6	$\theta_6$	0	0	$-\pi/2$
7	$\theta_7$	0	0	$\pi/2$

$${}^{i-1}T_i = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_i & -s\theta_i & 0 & L_{i-1} \\ s\theta_i c\alpha_{i-1} & c\theta_i c\alpha_{i-1} & -s\alpha_{i-1} & -s\alpha_{i-1}d_i \\ s\theta_i s\alpha_{i-1} & c\theta_i s\alpha_{i-1} & c\alpha_{i-1} & c\alpha_{i-1}d_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## 2.2 Inverse Kinematics

### 2.2.1 Decoupling Technique

In this section the inverse kinematics problem is solved for only the 6 out of the 7 total degrees of freedom. The third joint is not used in this analysis and it's angle is set to zero  $\theta_3 = 0$ . The rest of the joints form a special kind of kinematic chain that can be solved using the decoupling technique. In this technique the Inverse kinematics problem is split to 2 separate subproblems, one for the position and one for the orientation of the end-effector. This technique can be applied in this case because the axes of the 3 last joints intersect at the same point and they form an Euler wrist.

To solve for the joints' angles, the transformation matrix  ${}^0T_7$  of the end-effector with respect to the robot's base is required. Usually the transformation  ${}^UT_{tcp}$  is known, which is the pose of Tool's center point (TCP) with respect to the Universal Coordinate Frame  $\{U\}$  from which the required  ${}^0T_7$  can be calculated

$$\begin{aligned} {}^UT_{tcp} &= {}^UT_0 {}^0T_7 {}^7T_{tcp} \\ {}^0T_7 &= {}^UT_0^{-1} {}^UT_{tcp} {}^7T_{tcp}^{-1} \\ {}^0T_7 &= \begin{bmatrix} R_t & \mathbf{p}_t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

where  ${}^UT_0$ ,  ${}^7T_{tcp}$  are translation transformations by a constant distance and  $R_t$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_t$  are the target's orientation and position respectively.

$$\begin{aligned} {}^0\mathbf{p}_5 &= {}^0T_4 {}^4\mathbf{p}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{bmatrix} \\ \theta_1 &= \begin{cases} \text{atan2}(p_y, p_x) \\ \pi - \text{atan2}(p_y, p_x) \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (2.2.1)$$

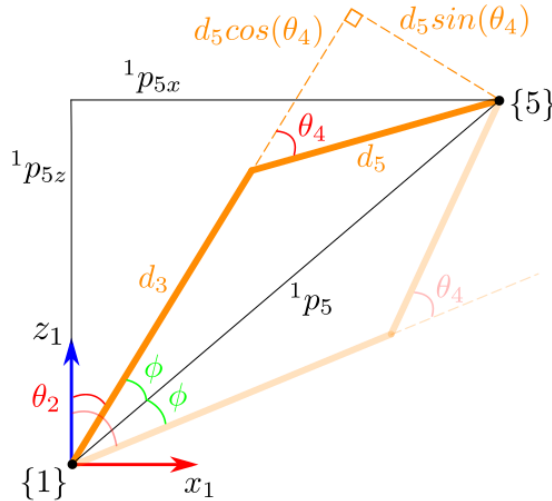


Figure 2: Calculation of angles  $\theta_2, \theta_4$

$$\varphi = \text{acos} \left( \frac{d_3^2 + \|{}^1p_5\|^2 - d_5^2}{2d_3\|{}^1p_5\|} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = \text{atan2} \left( \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}, {}^1p_{5z} \right) \pm \varphi \quad (2.2.2)$$

$$c_4 = \frac{\|{}^1p_5\|^2 - d_3^2 - d_5^2}{2d_3d_5}$$

$$\theta_4 = \text{atan2} \left( \pm \sqrt{1 - c_4^2}, c_4 \right) \quad (2.2.3)$$

Once  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4$  are known, the orientation matrix of the wrist can be calculated as following

$$R_{\text{target}} = \begin{bmatrix} i_x & j_x & k_x \\ i_y & j_y & k_y \\ i_z & j_z & k_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\theta_6 = \text{atan2} \left( \pm \sqrt{1 - k_y^2}, k_y \right) \quad (2.2.4)$$

$$\theta_7 = \text{atan2} (-j_y, i_y)$$

$$\theta_5 = \text{atan2} (-k_z, k_x)$$

### 2.2.2 Workspace constraints & Singularity points

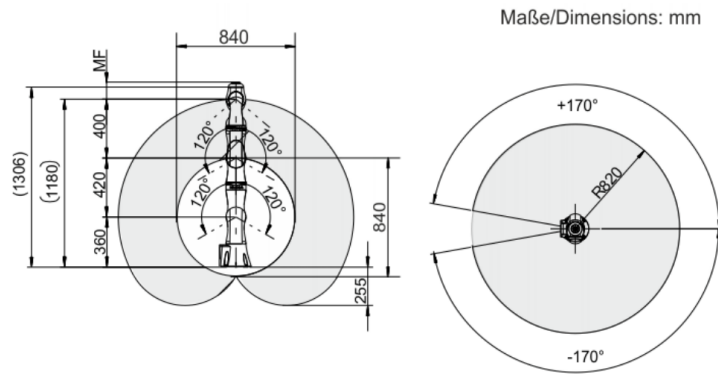


Figure 3: KUKA iiwa LBR14 workspace dimensions

Singularity points:

- When  $p_x^2 + p_y^2 = 0$  then the end-effector lies on the z-axis and  $\theta_1$  is not defined
- When  $\sin(\theta_6) = 0$  then the angles  $\theta_5, \theta_7$  are not defined

### 2.2.3 Solutions for 7DoF numerically

### 2.2.4 Comparison of Inverse Kinematics Techniques

## 3 Grasping

### 3.1 Gripper & Forward Kinematics

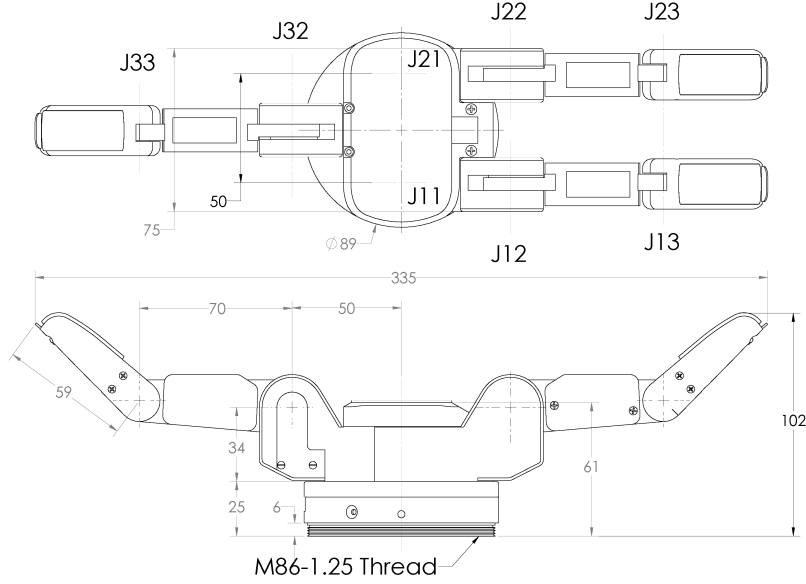


Figure 4: Barrett Hand gripper (model BH8-282) dimensions

### 3.2 Gripper Inverse Kinematics

The following Inverse Kinematics analysis refers to one finger of the Barrett Hand gripper, which has 3 revolute joints. Finger 3 has only 2 revolute joints for which the angle solutions are the same with the solutions of the last 2 joints of the other fingers. Let

$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{bmatrix}$$

be the position of the grasp point for one finger. The first angle can easily be calculated as

$$\varphi_1 = \text{atan2}(p_y, p_x) \quad (3.2.1)$$

Next, we calculate the third angle based on the law of cosines (see fig.)

$$\begin{aligned} \cos\left(\pi - \varphi_3 - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) &= \frac{L_2^2 + L_3^2 - p^2}{2L_2L_3} \\ \cos\left(\varphi_3 + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) &= \frac{p^2 - L_2^2 - L_3^2}{2L_2L_3} \\ \varphi_3 &= \text{atan2}\left[\pm\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{p^2 - L_2^2 - L_3^2}{2L_2L_3}\right)^2}, \frac{p^2 - L_2^2 - L_3^2}{2L_2L_3}\right] - \frac{\pi}{4} \end{aligned} \quad (3.2.2)$$

In a more general case, the first argument of the  $\text{atan2}$  function in the expression of  $\varphi_3$  could also be negative, but in this case this second solution is rejected, because due to mechanical constraints, this angle can't be negative. After having calculated  $\varphi_3$  we can calculate  $\varphi_2$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tan(\psi + \varphi_2) &= \frac{p_z}{\sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}} \\
 \tan(\psi) &= \frac{L_3 \sin(\varphi_3 + \frac{\pi}{4})}{L_2 + L_3 \cos(\varphi_3 + \frac{\pi}{4})} \\
 \varphi_2 &= \text{atan2}\left(p_z, \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}\right) - \text{atan2}\left[L_3 \sin\left(\varphi_3 + \frac{\pi}{4}\right), L_2 + L_3 \cos\left(\varphi_3 + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)\right]
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.2.3}$$

### 3.3 Force closure

The planar case, the spatial case & convex hull test.

### 3.4 Firm grasping algorithm & Force control

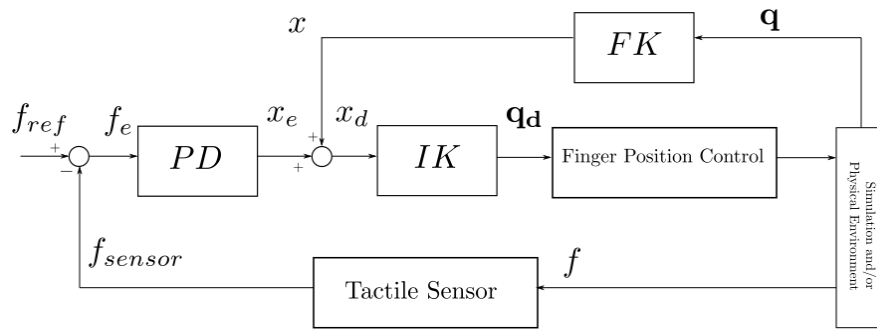


Figure 5: Force control on a Barrett Hand gripper finger

## 4 Scene and object recognition with Computer Vision

### 4.1 Laparoscopic tool detection

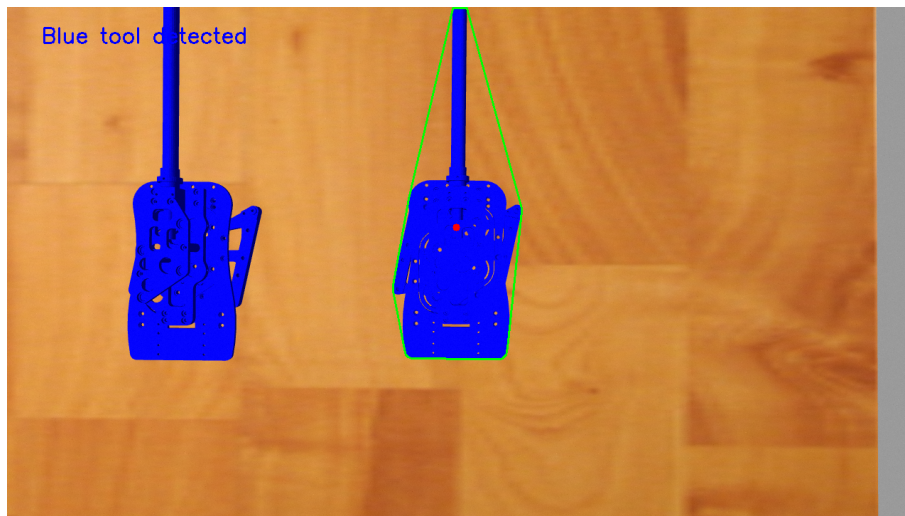


Figure 6: Simple tool detection in simulation based on color, using OpenCV. The green polygon is the convex hull, and the red point is the estimated center of mass



## 4.2 Calculation of tool position and orientation

In order for the gripper to grasp correctly the laparoscopic tool, it is required to calculate the tool's position and orientation in the pixel space which must then be converted with respect to the robot's workspace. From all the pixels that have been classified as part of the laparoscopic tool, one can estimate the center of mass and two perpendicular vectors attached to that point that define the orientation. The center of mass is simply the average of the  $(x, y)$  coordinates of all the tool's pixels

$$(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \right)$$

The two orientation vectors are the eigenvectors of the covariance matrix of the above pixels. Let  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}$  be the orientation vectors, then  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}$  are solutions of the equation

$$C\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$$

where  $C$  is the covariance matrix given by

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma(x, x) & \sigma(x, y) \\ \sigma(y, x) & \sigma(y, y) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sigma(x, y) = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})$$

## 4.3 Calculation of grasping points

## 4.4 Trocar detection & Estimation of fulcrum point

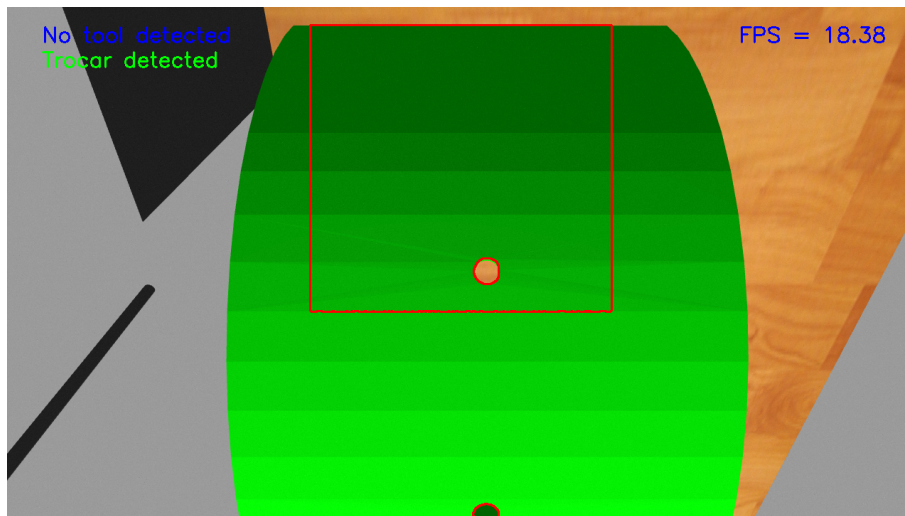


Figure 7: Simple trocar detection in simulation based on color, using OpenCV. In simulation, the trocar is simply considered to be a small cylindrical hole and its center is the fulcrum point

## 5 Laparoscopic tool manipulation

### 5.1 Tool pose

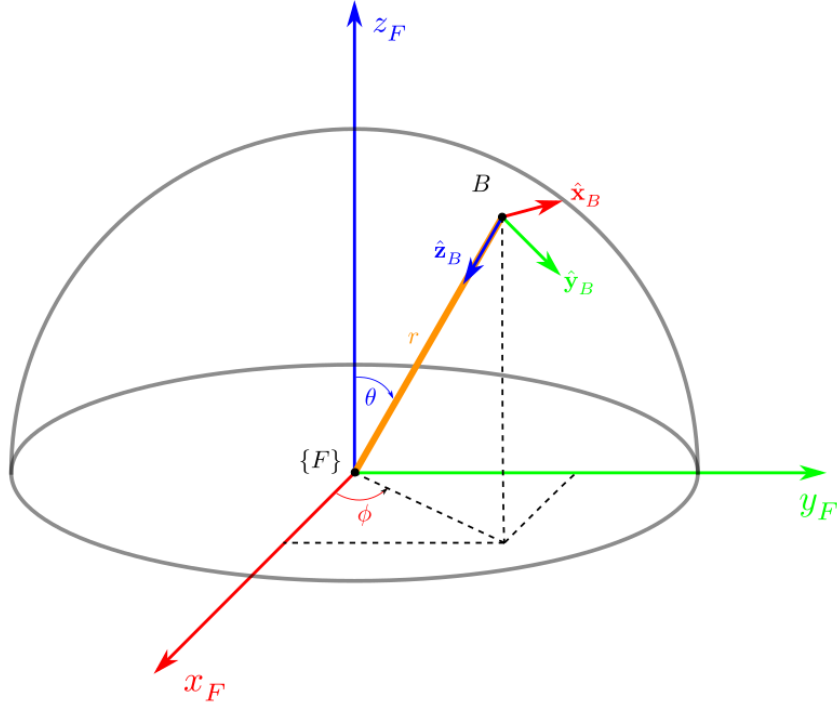


Figure 8: Tool pose at target point  $B$  calculated with respect to Fulcrum's reference frame  $\{F\}$

The laparoscopic tool pose is given by the position and orientation vectors at target point  $B$  with respect to the coordinate frame  $\{F\}$ . The pose is given by the following transformation matrix

$${}^F T_B = \begin{bmatrix} {}^F R_B & {}^F \mathbf{p}_B \\ \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where } {}^F R_B = [\hat{\mathbf{x}}_B \quad \hat{\mathbf{y}}_B \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}}_B]$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_B = \hat{\theta} = \cos(\theta)\cos(\varphi)\hat{\mathbf{x}}_F + \cos(\theta)\sin(\varphi)\hat{\mathbf{y}}_F - \sin(\theta)\hat{\mathbf{z}}_F = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta)\cos(\varphi) \\ \cos(\theta)\sin(\varphi) \\ -\sin(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}}_B = \hat{\varphi} = -\sin(\varphi)\hat{\mathbf{x}}_F + \cos(\varphi)\hat{\mathbf{y}}_F = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\varphi) \\ \cos(\varphi) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{z}}_B = -\hat{\mathbf{r}} = -(\sin(\theta)\cos(\varphi)\hat{\mathbf{x}}_F + \sin(\theta)\sin(\varphi)\hat{\mathbf{y}}_F + \cos(\theta)\hat{\mathbf{z}}_F) = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(\theta)\cos(\varphi) \\ -\sin(\theta)\sin(\varphi) \\ -\cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

The position of the point  $B$  is given in spherical coordinates by:

- $r = \rho$  : outside penetration of laparoscopic tool
- $\theta = \beta$  : altitude angle
- $\varphi = \alpha$  : orientation angle

thus the position with respect to the coordinate frame  $\{F\}$  is given by

$${}^F\mathbf{p}_B = \begin{bmatrix} \rho \sin(\beta) \cos(\alpha) \\ \rho \sin(\beta) \sin(\alpha) \\ \rho \cos(\beta) \end{bmatrix}$$

The above goal point must be the same as the  $TCP$  point of the robot's end-effector. This means, that this pose must be converted with respect to the robot's reference frames.

$$\begin{aligned} {}^U T_{TCP} &= {}^U T_B \\ {}^U T_0 {}^0 T_7 {}^7 T_{TCP} &= {}^U T_F {}^F T_B \\ {}^0 T_7 &= {}^U T_0^{-1} {}^U T_F {}^F T_B {}^7 T_{TCP}^{-1} \end{aligned} \tag{5.1.1}$$

## 5.2 Pivoting motion with respect to Fulcrum Point

# 6 Path Planning

## 6.1 Path searching

Find path points (position and orientation) by avoiding collisions, asserting that path points is within robot's workspace and by avoiding singularity points.

## 6.2 Pick and place algorithm

# 7 Trajectory Planning

## 7.1 Trajectory planning in cartesian coordinates

Connect the points from path planning with line segments and add more points if needed

## 7.2 Trajectory planning in joint angles space

# 8 Simulation with the ROS framework

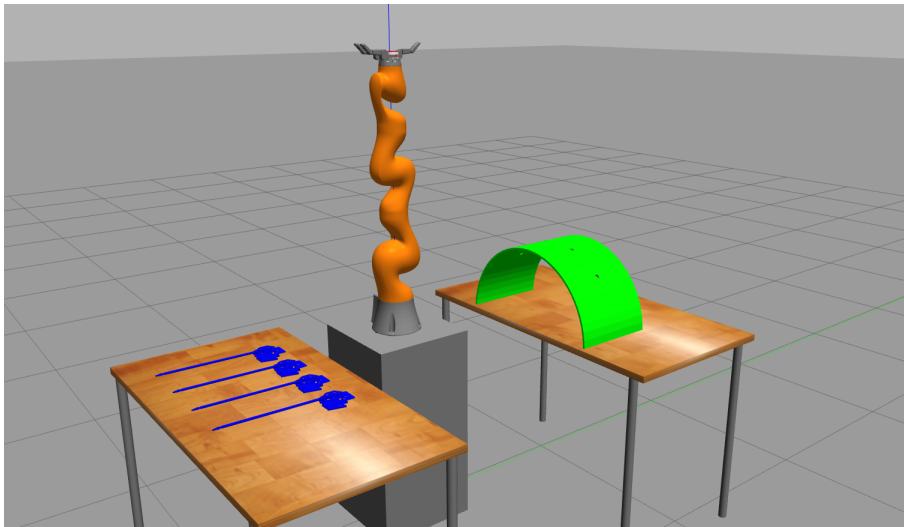


Figure 9: Simulation environment in Gazebo

## Nomenclature

${}^{i-1}\mathbf{p}_{iO}$	Position vector from the origin of the coordinate frame $\{i\}$ to the origin of the coordinate frame $\{i-1\}$
${}^{i-1}R_i$	Rotation matrix from coordinate frame $\{i\}$ to coordinate frame $\{i-1\}$
${}^{i-1}T_i$	Transformation matrix from coordinate frame $\{i\}$ to coordinate frame $\{i-1\}$
$c_i$	Shorthand notation for $\cos\theta_i$
$J^\dagger$	Geometric Jacobian or the Pseudoinverse of the Jacobian
$s_i$	Shorthand notation for $\sin\theta_i$

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## List of programs

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