



Robotics 1

Position and orientation of rigid bodies

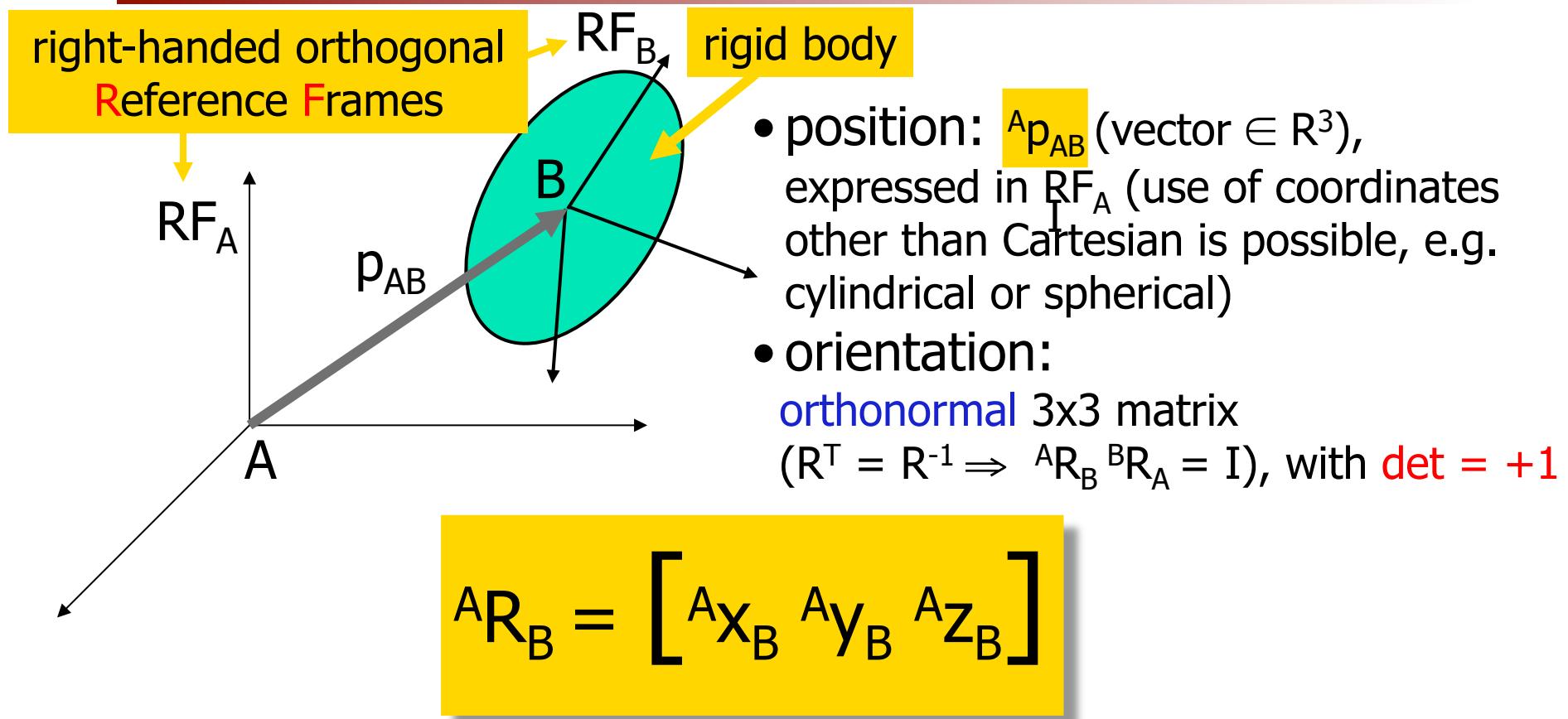
Prof. Alessandro De Luca

DIPARTIMENTO DI INFORMATICA
E SISTEMISTICA ANTONIO RUBERTI





Position and orientation



- $x_A \ y_A \ z_A$ ($x_B \ y_B \ z_B$) are unit vectors (with unitary norm) of frame RF_A (RF_B)
- components in ${}^A R_B$ are the **direction cosines** of the axes of RF_B with respect to (w.r.t.) RF_A



Rotation matrix

orthonormal,
with $\det = +1$

$${}^A R_B = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A x_B & {}^A y_B & {}^A z_B \\ {}^A y_B & {}^A z_B & {}^A x_B \\ {}^A z_B & {}^A x_B & {}^A y_B \end{bmatrix}$$

direction cosine of
 z_B w.r.t. x_A

chain rule property

$${}^k R_i \cdot {}^i R_j = {}^k R_j$$

algebraic structure
of a group $SO(3)$
(neutral element = I ;
inverse element = R^T)

orientation of RF_i
w.r.t. RF_k

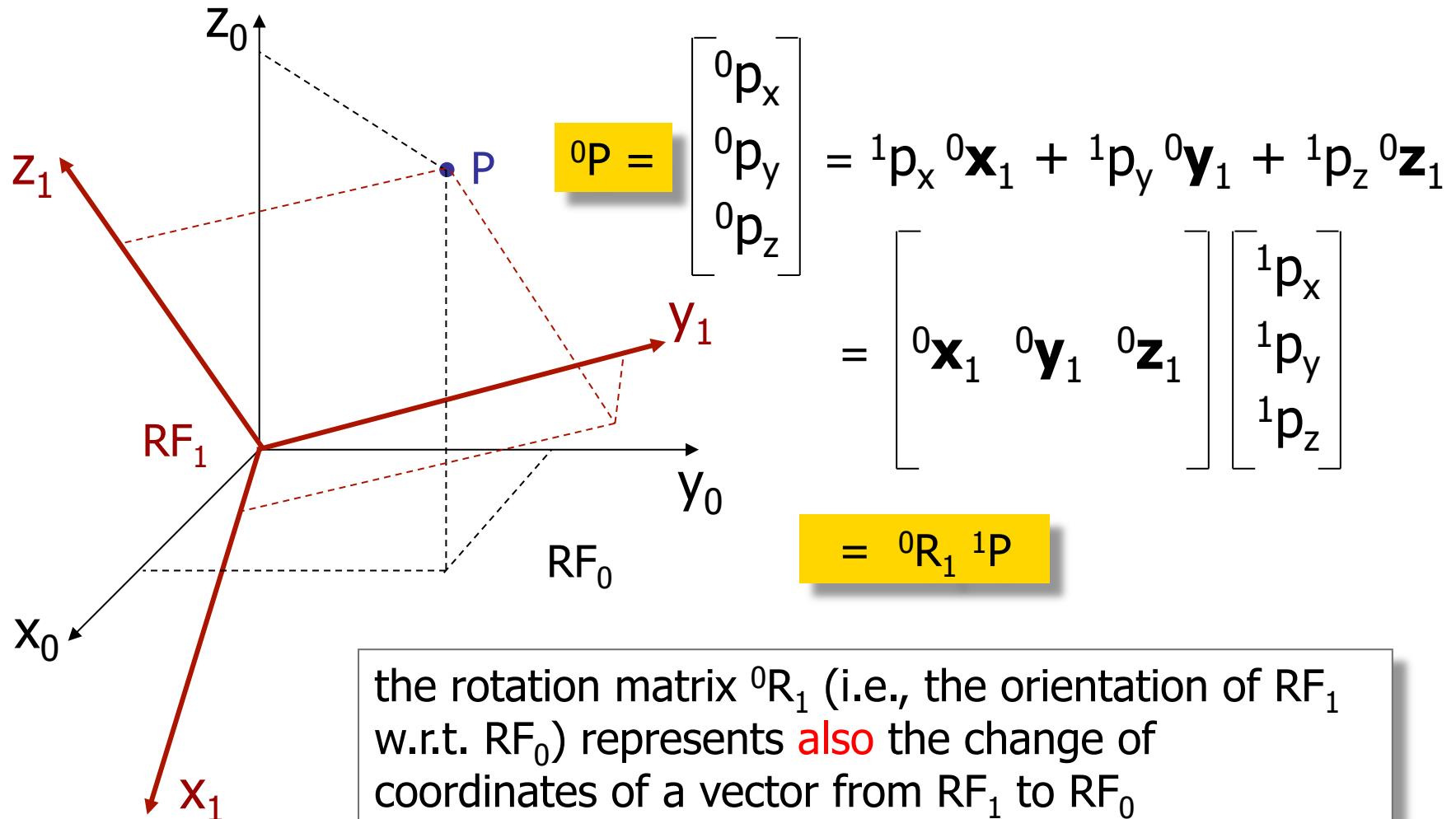
orientation of RF_j
w.r.t. RF_i

orientation of RF_j
w.r.t. RF_k

NOTE: in general, the product of rotation matrices does not commute!



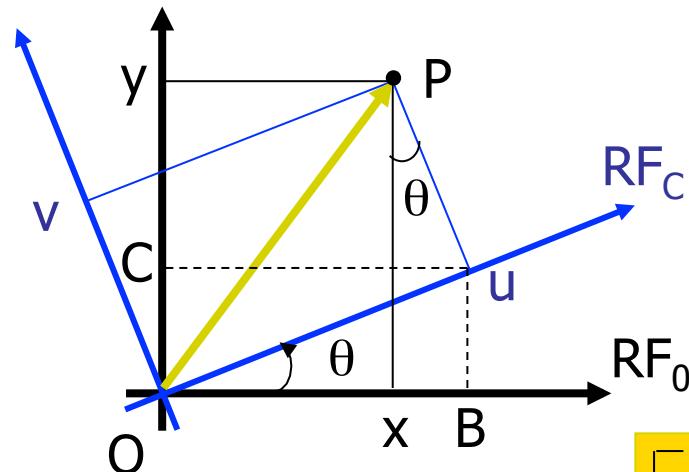
Change of coordinates





Ex: Orientation of frames in a plane

(elementary rotation around z-axis)



$$x = OB - xB = u \cos \theta - v \sin \theta$$

$$y = OC + Cy = u \sin \theta + v \cos \theta$$

$$z = w$$

or...

$${}^0\text{OP} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^0x_C & {}^0y_C & {}^0z_C \\ \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{bmatrix} = R_z(\theta) \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_z(-\theta) = R_z^T(\theta)$$

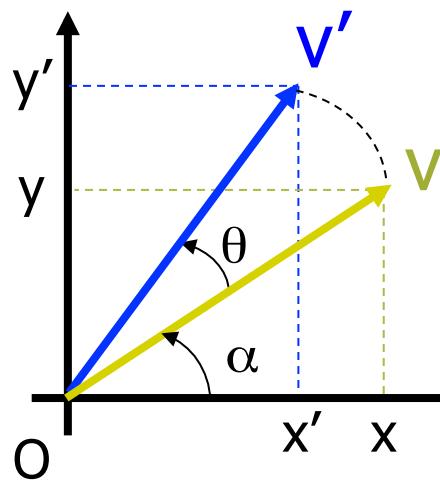
similarly:

$$R_x(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_y(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$



Ex: Rotation of a vector around z



$$\begin{aligned}
 x &= |v| \cos \alpha \\
 y &= |v| \sin \alpha \\
 x' &= |v| \cos (\alpha + \theta) = |v| (\cos \alpha \cos \theta - \sin \alpha \sin \theta) \\
 &= x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta \\
 y' &= |v| \sin (\alpha + \theta) = |v| (\sin \alpha \cos \theta + \cos \alpha \sin \theta) \\
 &= x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$z' = z$$

or...

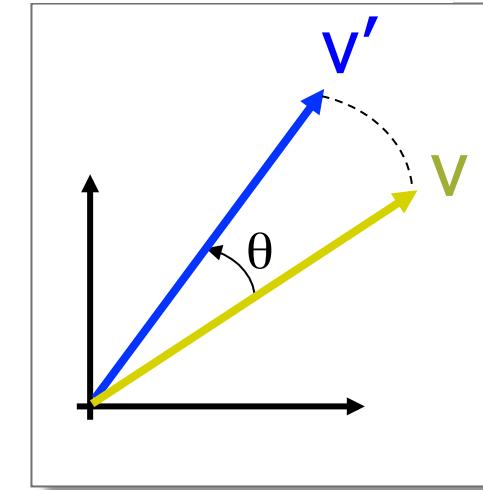
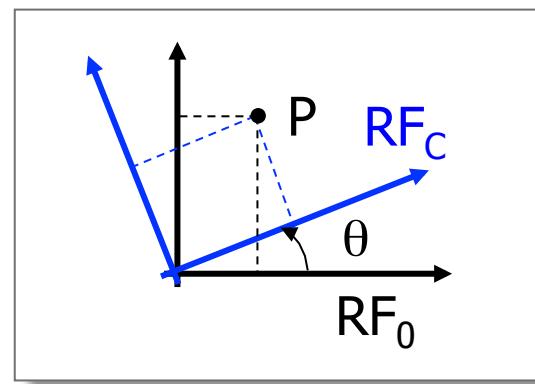
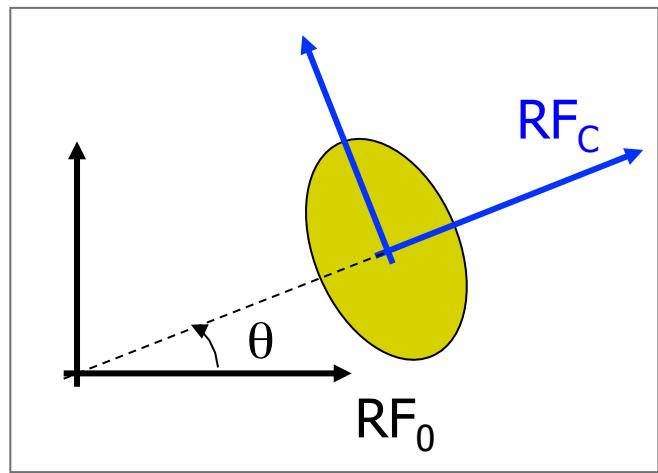
$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = R_z(\theta) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

...as before!



Equivalent interpretations of a rotation matrix

the same rotation matrix, e.g., $R_z(\theta)$, may represent:



the orientation of a rigid body with respect to a reference frame RF_0
ex: $[{}^0x_c \ {}^0y_c \ {}^0z_c] = R_z(\theta)$

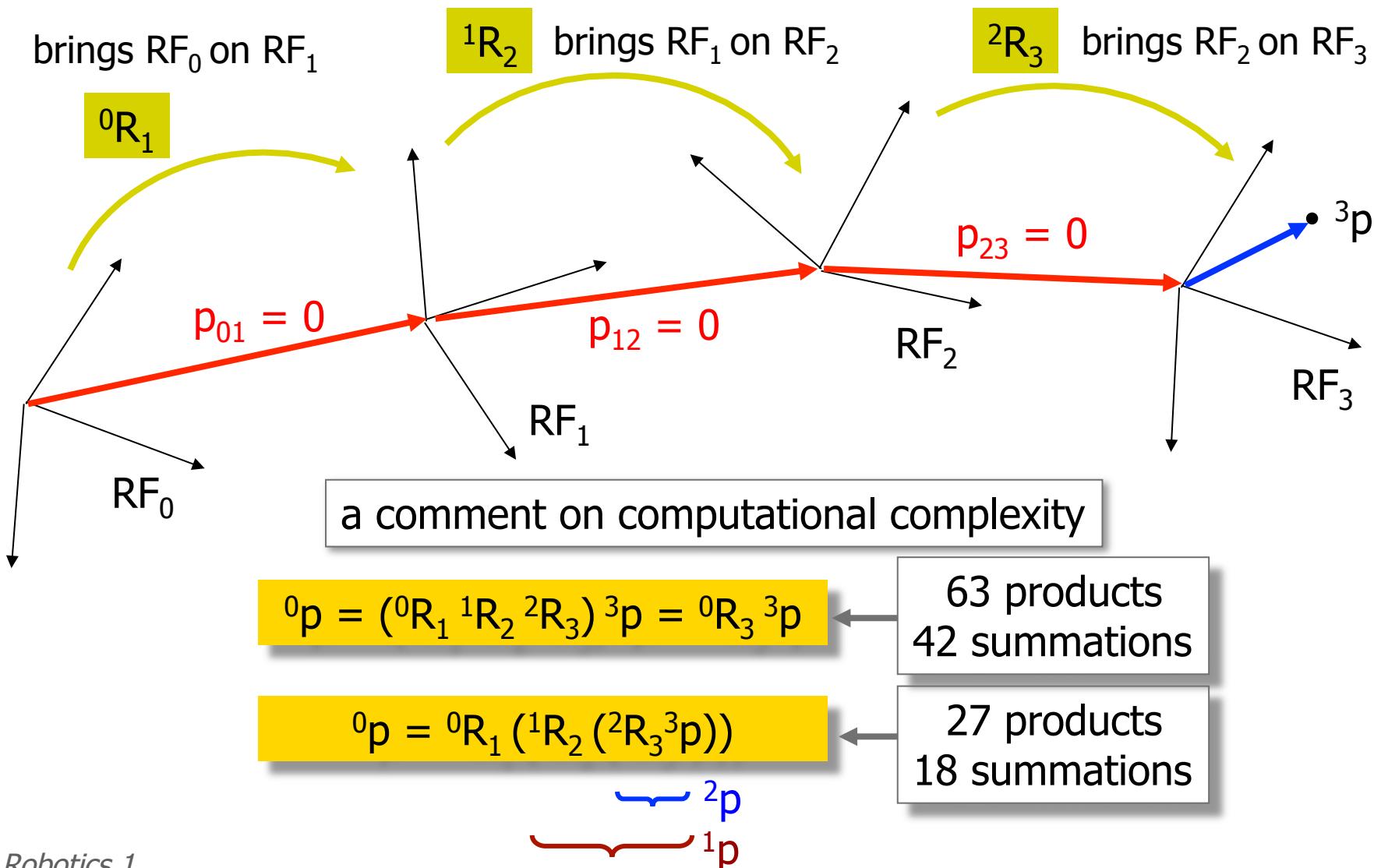
the change of coordinates from RF_C to RF_0
ex: ${}^0P = R_z(\theta) {}^CP$

the vector rotation operator
ex: $v' = R_z(\theta) v$

the rotation matrix 0R_C is an operator superposing frame RF_0 to frame RF_C

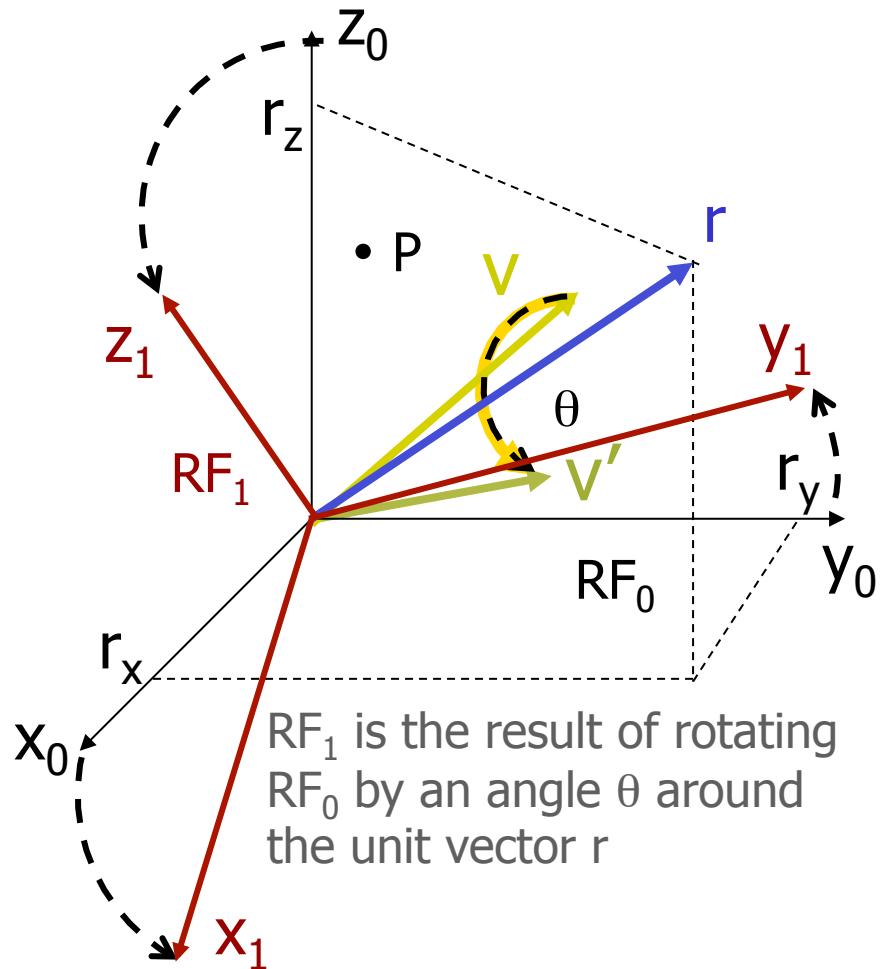


Composition of rotations





Axis/angle representation



DATA

- unit vector r ($\|r\| = 1$)
- θ (positive if **counterclockwise**, as seen from an "observer" placed like r)

DIRECT PROBLEM

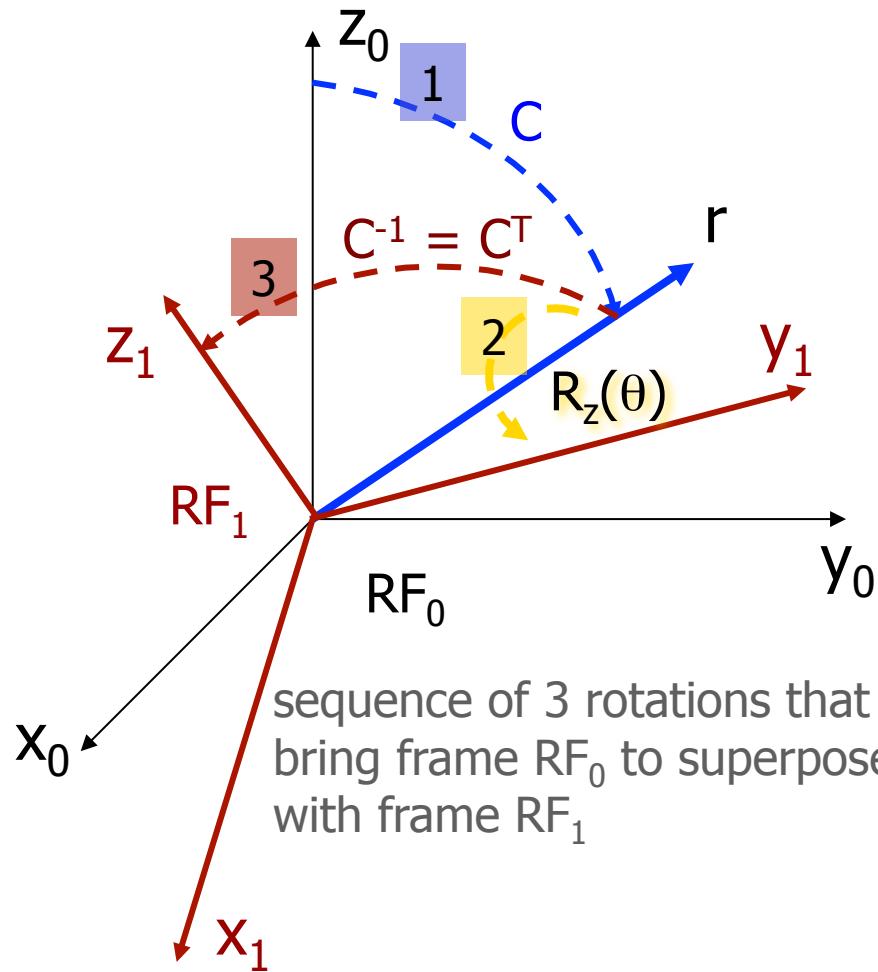
find
 $R(\theta, r) = [{}^0x_1 \ {}^0y_1 \ {}^0z_1]$

such that

$${}^0P = R(\theta, r) {}^1P \quad {}^0v' = R(\theta, r) {}^0v$$



Axis/angle: Direct problem



$$R(\theta, r) = C R_z(\theta) C^T$$

concatenation of **three** rotations

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} n & s & r \end{bmatrix}$$

after the first rotation
the z-axis coincides with r

n and s are orthogonal unit vectors such that
 $n \times s = r$, or

$$n_y s_z - s_y n_z = r_x$$

$$n_z s_x - s_z n_x = r_y$$

$$n_x s_y - s_x n_y = r_z$$



Axis/angle: Direct problem solution

$$R(\theta, r) = C R_z(\theta) C^T$$

$$\begin{aligned} R(\theta, r) &= \begin{bmatrix} n & s & r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c\theta & -s\theta & 0 \\ s\theta & c\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n^T \\ s^T \\ r^T \end{bmatrix} \\ &= rr^T + (nn^T + ss^T)c\theta + (sn^T - ns^T)s\theta \end{aligned}$$

taking into account that

$$CC^T = nn^T + ss^T + rr^T = I, \quad \text{and that}$$

$$sn^T - ns^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -r_z & r_y \\ 0 & 0 & -r_x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = S(r)$$

skew-symm

skew-symmetric(r):
 $r \times v = S(r)v = -S(v)r$

depends only
on r and θ !!

$$R(\theta, r) = rr^T + (I - rr^T)c\theta + S(r)s\theta = R^T(-\theta, r) = R(-\theta, -r)$$



Rodriguez formula

$$\mathbf{v}' = R(\theta, \mathbf{r}) \mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{v}' = \mathbf{v} \cos \theta + (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{v}) \sin \theta + (1 - \cos \theta)(\mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{v}) \mathbf{r}$$

proof:

$$\begin{aligned} R(\theta, \mathbf{r}) \mathbf{v} &= (\mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}^T + (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}^T) \cos \theta + S(\mathbf{r}) \sin \theta) \mathbf{v} \\ &= \mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{v} (1 - \cos \theta) + \mathbf{v} \cos \theta + (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{v}) \sin \theta \end{aligned}$$

q.e.d.



Unit quaternion

- to eliminate undetermined and singular cases arising in the axis/angle representation, one can use the *unit quaternion* representation

$$Q = \{\eta, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\} = \{\cos(\theta/2), \sin(\theta/2) \mathbf{r}\}$$

a scalar 3-dim vector

- $\eta^2 + \|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\|^2 = 1$ (thus, “unit ...”)
- (θ, \mathbf{r}) and $(-\theta, -\mathbf{r})$ gives the same quaternion Q
- the absence of rotation is associated to $Q = \{1, \mathbf{0}\}$
- unit quaternions can be composed with special rules (in a similar way as in the product of rotation matrices)

$$Q_1 * Q_2 = \{\eta_1\eta_2 - \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_1^T \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_2, \eta_1\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_2 + \eta_2\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_1 + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_1 \times \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_2\}$$



Robotics 1

Minimal representations of orientation (Euler and roll-pitch-yaw angles) Homogeneous transformations

Prof. Alessandro De Luca

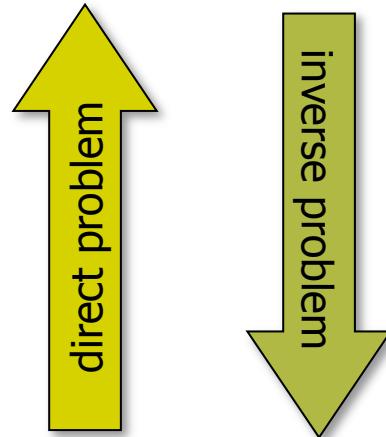
DIPARTIMENTO DI INFORMATICA
E SISTEMISTICA ANTONIO RUBERTI





“Minimal” representations

- rotation matrices:



9 elements

$$\begin{aligned} & - \quad 3 \text{ orthogonality relationships} \\ & - \quad 3 \text{ unitary relationships} \\ = & \quad \underline{\underline{3 \text{ independent variables}}} \end{aligned}$$

- sequence of **3 rotations** around independent axes

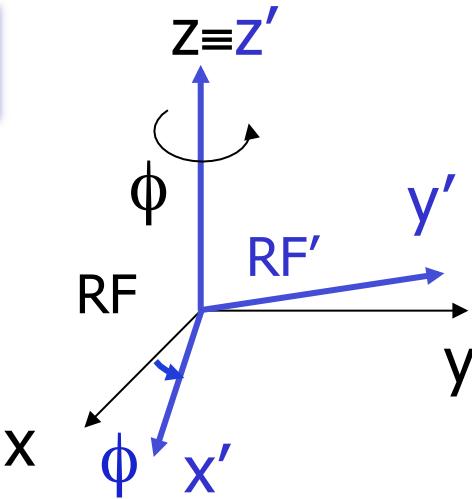
- fixed (a_i) or moving/current (a'_i) axes
- 12 + 12 possible different sequences (e.g., XYX)
- actually, only 12 since

$$\{(a_1 \alpha_1), (a_2 \alpha_2), (a_3 \alpha_3)\} \equiv \{ (a'_3 \alpha_3) , (a'_2 \alpha_2), (a'_1 \alpha_1)\}$$

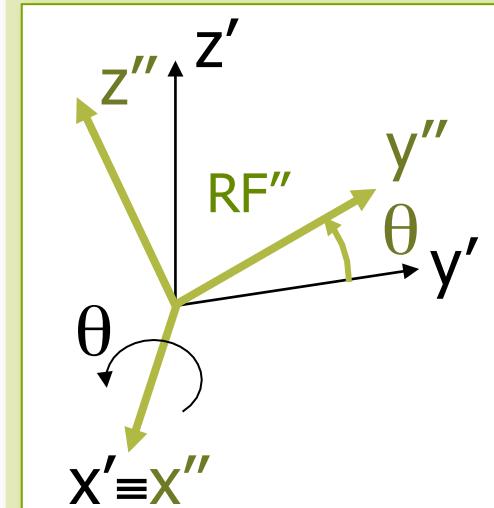


ZX'Z'' Euler angles

1



$$R_z(\phi) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi & 0 \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

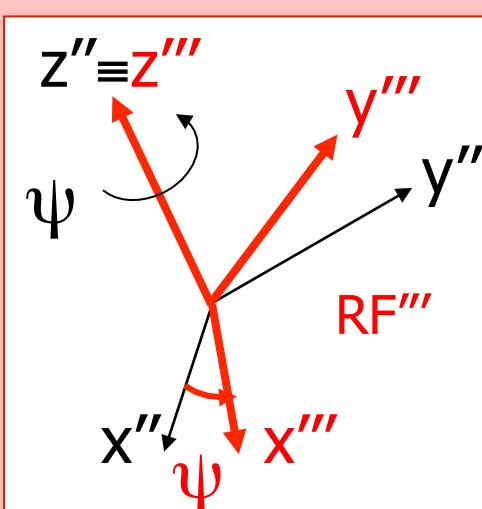


2

$$R_{x'}(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

3

$$R_{z''}(\psi) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi & 0 \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$





ZX'Z" Euler angles

- direct problem: given ϕ, θ, ψ ; find R

$$R_{ZX'Z''}(\phi, \theta, \psi) = R_Z(\phi) R_{X'}(\theta) R_{Z''}(\psi)$$

order of definition
in concatenation

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c\phi c\psi - s\phi c\theta s\psi & -c\phi s\psi - s\phi c\theta c\psi & s\phi s\theta \\ s\phi c\psi + c\phi c\theta s\psi & -s\phi s\psi + c\phi c\theta c\psi & -c\phi s\theta \\ s\theta s\psi & s\theta c\psi & c\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

- given a vector $v''' = (x'', y'', z'')$ expressed in RF'' , its expression in the coordinates of RF is

$$v = R_{ZX'Z''}(\phi, \theta, \psi) v'''$$

- the orientation of RF'' is the **same** that would be obtained with the sequence of rotations:

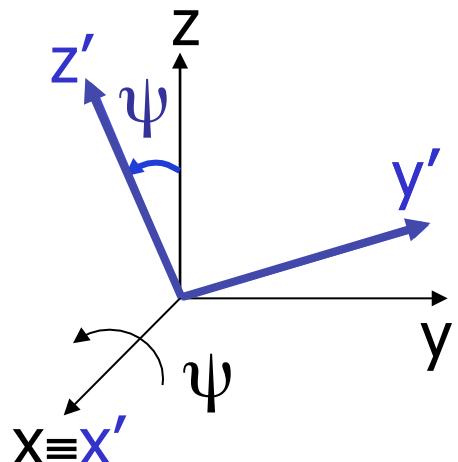
ψ around z , θ around x (**fixed**), ϕ around z (**fixed**)



Roll-Pitch-Yaw angles

1

ROLL



$$R_x(\psi) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \psi & -\sin \psi \\ 0 & \sin \psi & \cos \psi \end{bmatrix}$$

3

YAW

$$C_2 R_z(\phi) C_2^T$$

with $R_z(\phi) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi & 0 \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

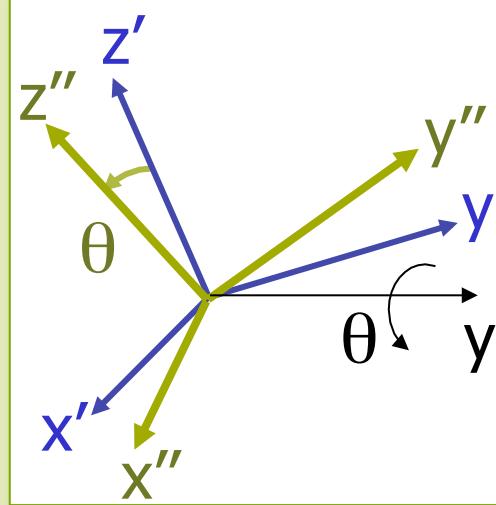
PITCH

$$C_1 R_y(\theta) C_1^T$$

with $R_y(\theta) =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

2





Roll-Pitch-Yaw angles (fixed XYZ)

- direct problem: given ψ, θ, ϕ ; find R

$$R_{RPY}(\psi, \theta, \phi) = R_z(\phi) R_y(\theta) R_x(\psi) \quad \Leftarrow \text{note the order of products!}$$

order of definition

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c\phi c\theta & c\phi s\theta s\psi - s\phi c\psi & c\phi s\theta c\psi + s\phi s\psi \\ s\phi c\theta & s\phi s\theta s\psi + c\phi c\psi & s\phi s\theta c\psi - c\phi s\psi \\ -s\theta & c\theta s\psi & c\theta c\psi \end{bmatrix}$$

- inverse problem: given $R = \{r_{ij}\}$; find ψ, θ, ϕ

- $r_{32}^2 + r_{33}^2 = c^2\theta, r_{31} = -s\theta \Rightarrow \theta = \text{ATAN2}\{-r_{31}, \pm\sqrt{r_{32}^2 + r_{33}^2}\}$

- if $r_{32}^2 + r_{33}^2 \neq 0$ (i.e., $c\theta \neq 0$)

two symmetric values w.r.t. $\pi/2$

$$r_{32}/c\theta = s\psi, \quad r_{33}/c\theta = c\psi \Rightarrow \psi = \text{ATAN2}\{r_{32}/c\theta, r_{33}/c\theta\}$$

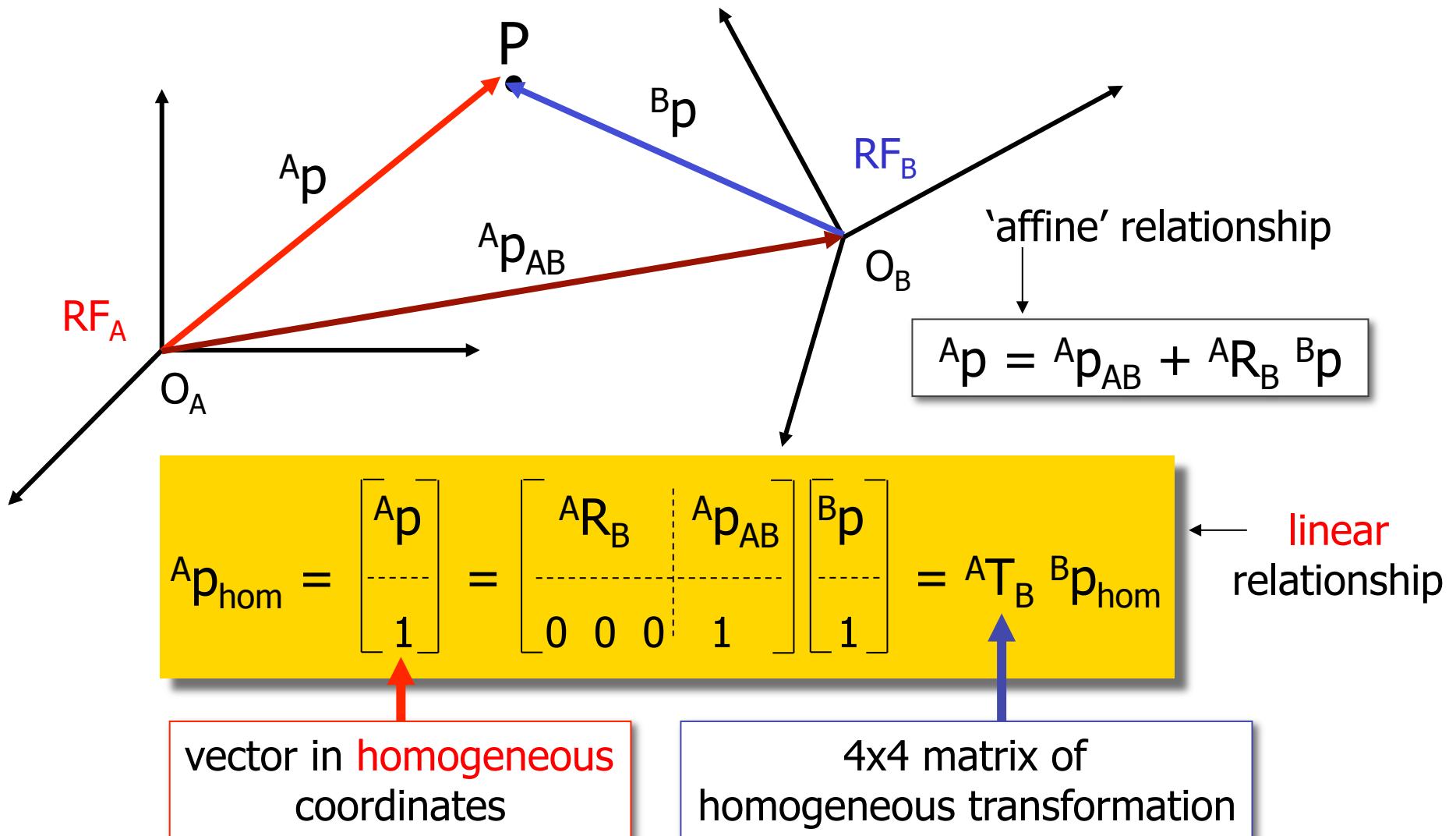
- similarly...

$$\phi = \text{ATAN2}\{r_{21}/c\theta, r_{11}/c\theta\}$$

- singularities** for $\theta = \pm\pi/2$



Homogeneous transformations





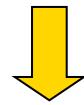
Properties of T matrix

- describes the relation between reference frames
(relative **pose** = position & orientation)
- transforms the representation of a position vector
(**applied** vector from the origin of the frame)
from a given frame to another frame
- it is a roto-translation operator on vectors in the three-dimensional space
- it is always invertible $({}^A T_B)^{-1} = {}^B T_A$
- can be composed, i.e., ${}^A T_C = {}^A T_B {}^B T_C \leftarrow$ note: it does not commute!

Inverse of a homogeneous transformation



$${}^A p = {}^A p_{AB} + {}^A R_B {}^B p$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B & {}^A p_{AB} \\ \hline 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^B p = {}^B p_{BA} + {}^B R_A {}^A p = - {}^A R_B^T {}^A p_{AB} + {}^A R_B^T {}^A p$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^B R_A & {}^B p_{BA} \\ \hline 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B^T & - {}^A R_B^T {}^A p_{AB} \\ \hline 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

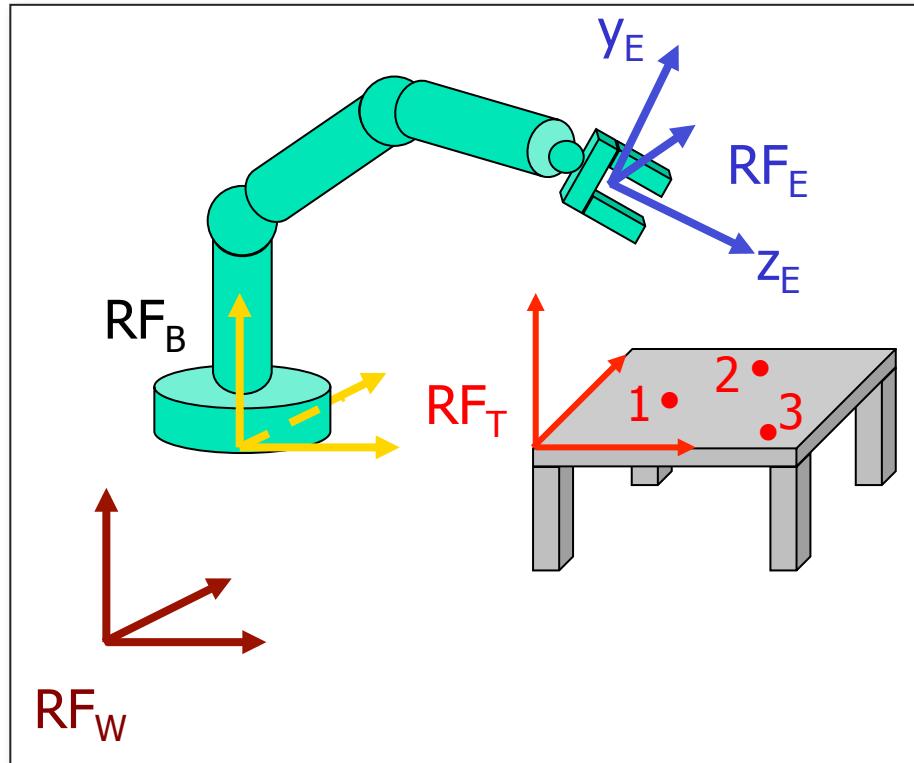
$${}^A T_B$$

$${}^B T_A$$

$$({}^A T_B)^{-1}$$



Defining a robot task



absolute definition
of task

task definition relative
to the robot end-effector

$${}^W\mathbf{T}_T = {}^W\mathbf{T}_B \, {}^B\mathbf{T}_E \, {}^E\mathbf{T}_T$$

known, once
the robot
is placed

direct kinematics of the
robot arm (function of q)

$${}^B\mathbf{T}_E(q) = {}^W\mathbf{T}_B^{-1} \, {}^W\mathbf{T}_T \, {}^E\mathbf{T}_T^{-1} = \text{cost}$$



Final comments on T matrices

- they are the main tool for computing the **direct kinematics** of robot manipulators
- they are used in many application areas (in robotics and beyond)
 - in the positioning of a vision camera (matrix bT_c with the extrinsic parameters of the camera posture)
 - in computer graphics, for the real-time visualization of 3D solid objects when changing the observation point

$${}^A\mathbf{T}_B = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{R}_B & {}^A\mathbf{p}_{AB} \\ \alpha_x & \alpha_y & \alpha_z & \sigma \end{bmatrix}$$

Diagram illustrating the components of a homogeneous transformation matrix ${}^A\mathbf{T}_B$:

- coefficients of perspective deformation**: $\alpha_x, \alpha_y, \alpha_z$ (all zero in robotics)
- scaling coefficient**: σ (always unitary in robotics)



Robotics 1

Direct kinematics

Prof. Alessandro De Luca

DIPARTIMENTO DI INGEGNERIA INFORMATICA
AUTOMATICA E GESTIONALE ANTONIO RUBERTI





Kinematics of robot manipulators

- “study of geometric and time properties of the **motion of robotic structures**, without reference to the causes producing it”

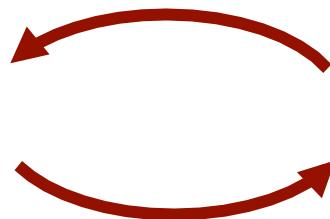
- **robot** seen as
“(open) kinematic chain of rigid bodies interconnected by (revolute or prismatic) joints”



Motivations

- functional aspects
 - definition of robot workspace
 - calibration
- operational aspects

task execution
(actuation by motors)



task definition and
performance

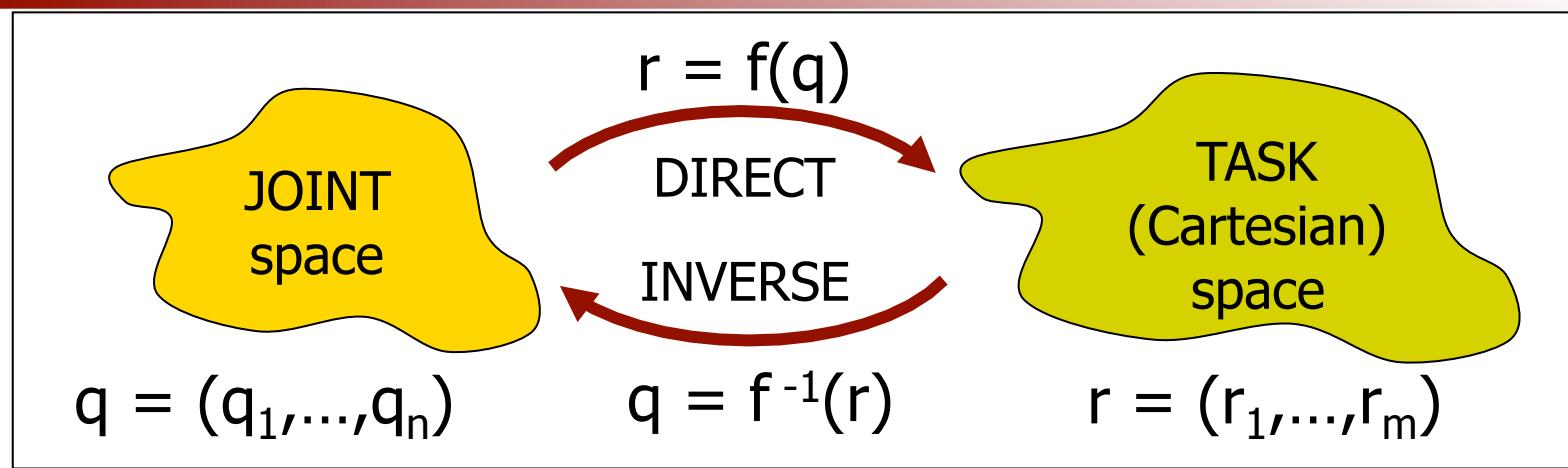
two different “spaces” related by kinematic (and dynamic) maps

- trajectory planning
- programming
- motion control



Kinematics

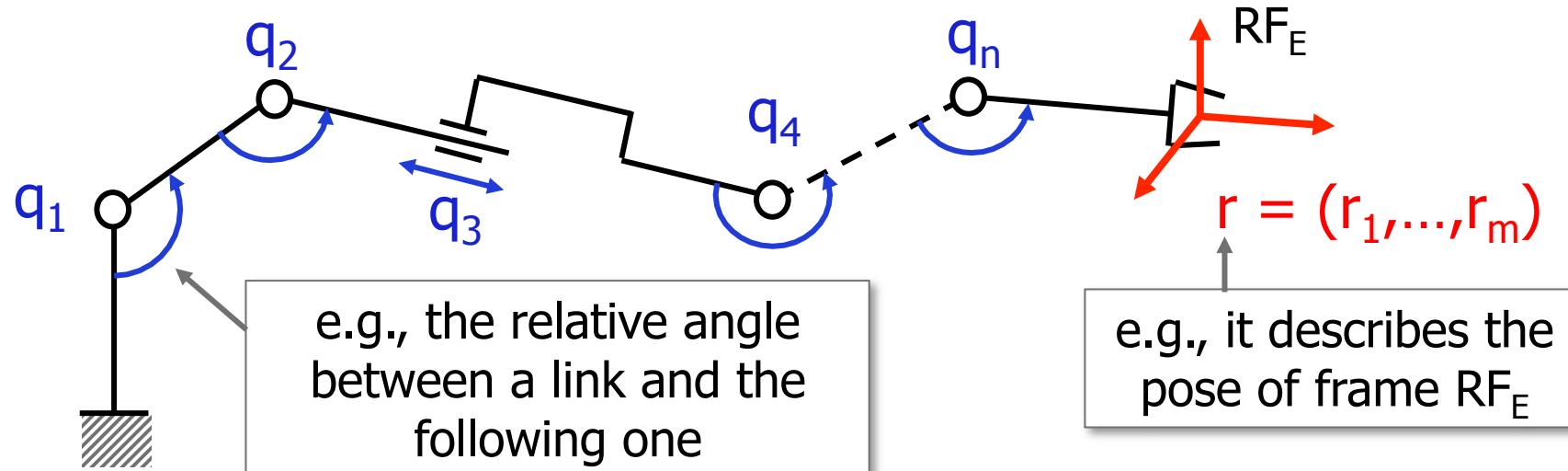
formulation and parameterizations



- choice of parameterization q
 - **unambiguous** and **minimal** characterization of the robot configuration
 - $n = \# \text{ degrees of freedom (dof)} = \# \text{ robot joints}$ (rotational or translational)
- choice of parameterization r
 - compact description of positional and/or orientation (**pose**) components of interest to the required task
 - $m \leq 6$, and usually $m \leq n$ (but this is not strictly needed)

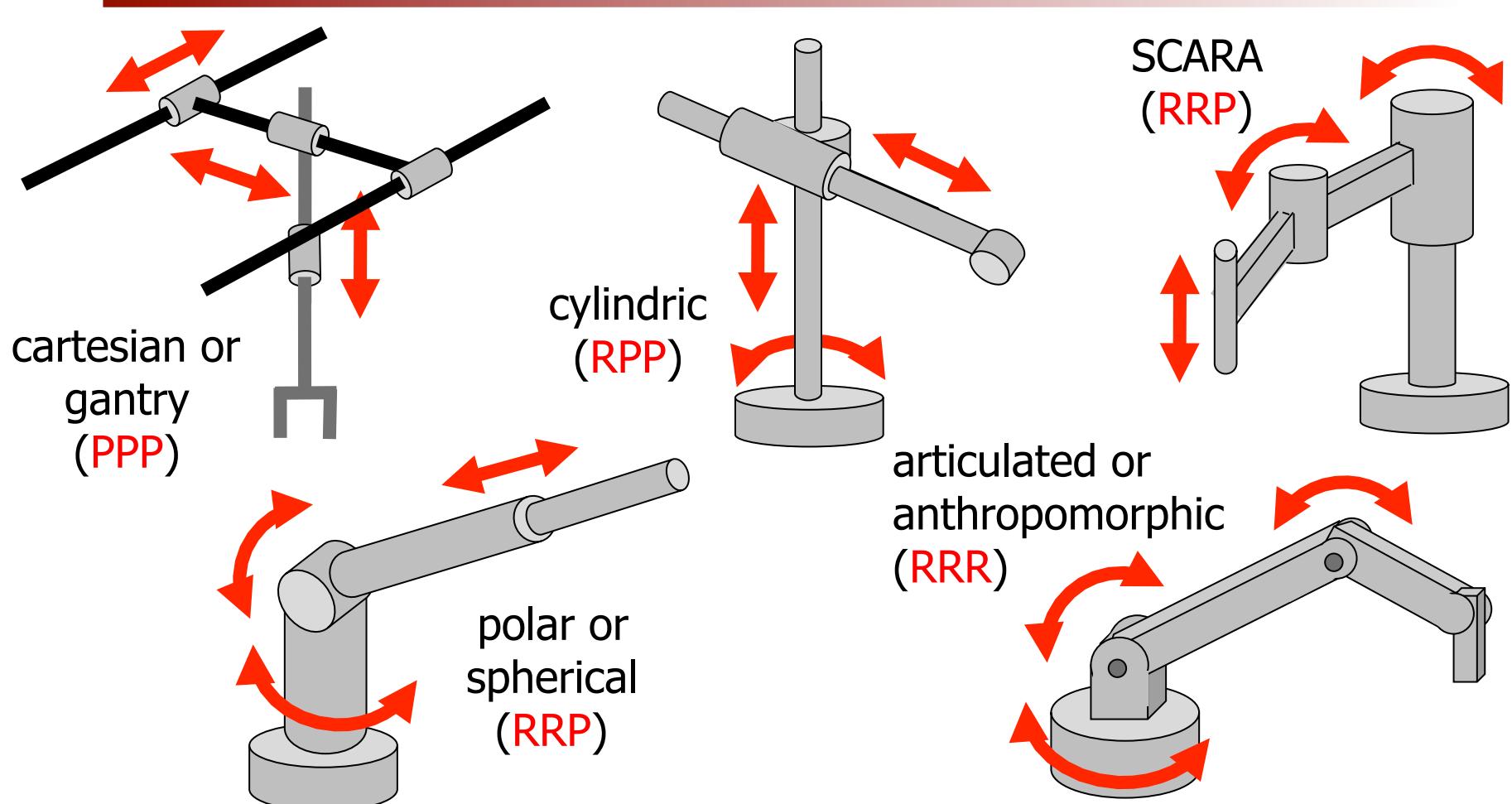


Open kinematic chains



- $m = 2$
 - pointing in space
 - positioning in the plane
- $m = 3$
 - orientation in space
 - positioning and orientation in the plane

Classification by kinematic type (first 3 dofs)



P = 1-dof translational (prismatic) joint
R = 1-dof rotational (revolute) joint



Direct kinematic map

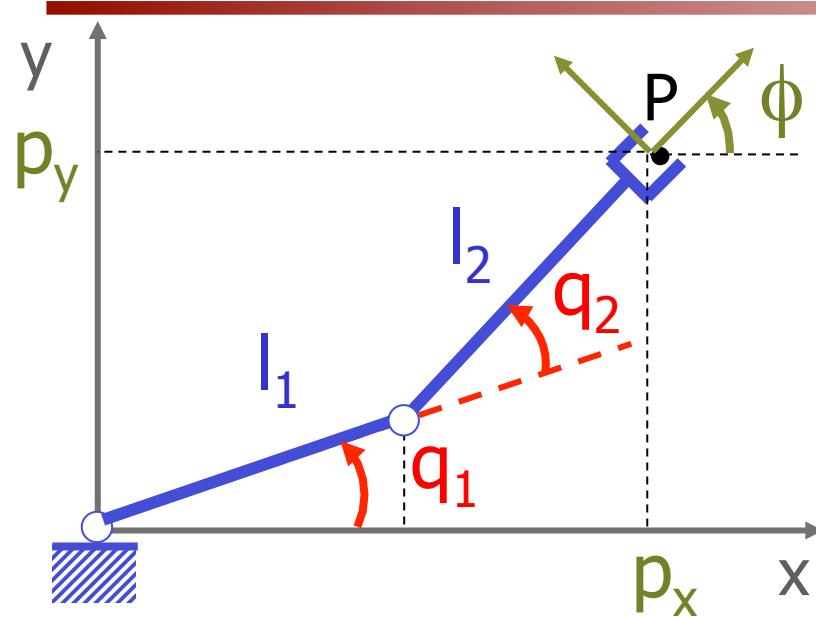
- the structure of the **direct kinematics** function depends from the chosen r

$$r = f_r(q)$$

- methods for computing $f_r(q)$
 - geometric/by inspection
 - systematic: assigning **frames attached to the robot links** and using homogeneous transformation matrices



Example: direct kinematics of 2R arm



$$q = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad n = 2$$

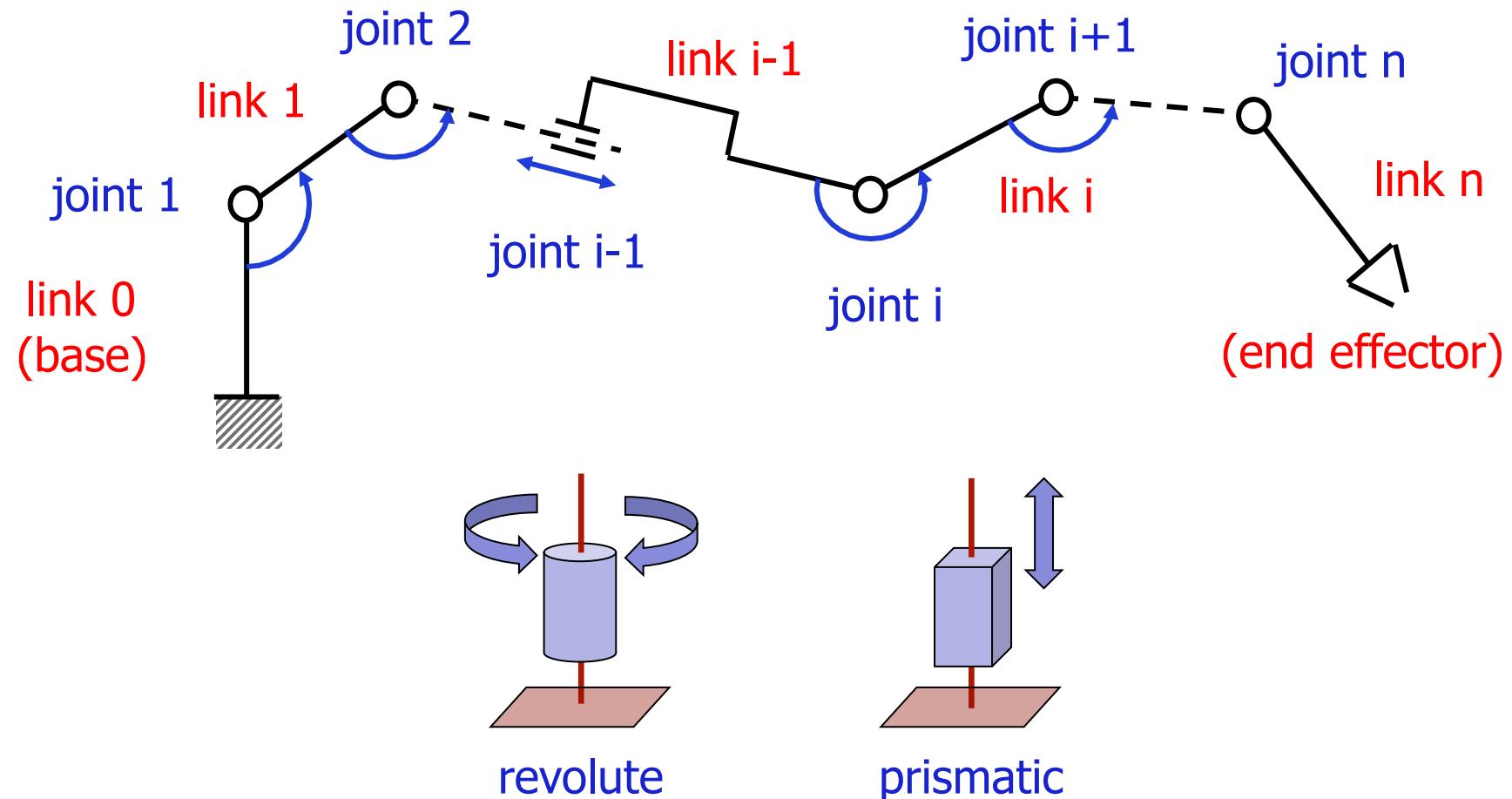
$$r = \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ \phi \end{bmatrix} \quad m = 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_x &= l_1 \cos q_1 + l_2 \cos(q_1+q_2) \\ p_y &= l_1 \sin q_1 + l_2 \sin(q_1+q_2) \\ \phi &= q_1 + q_2 \end{aligned}$$

for more general cases we need a “method”!

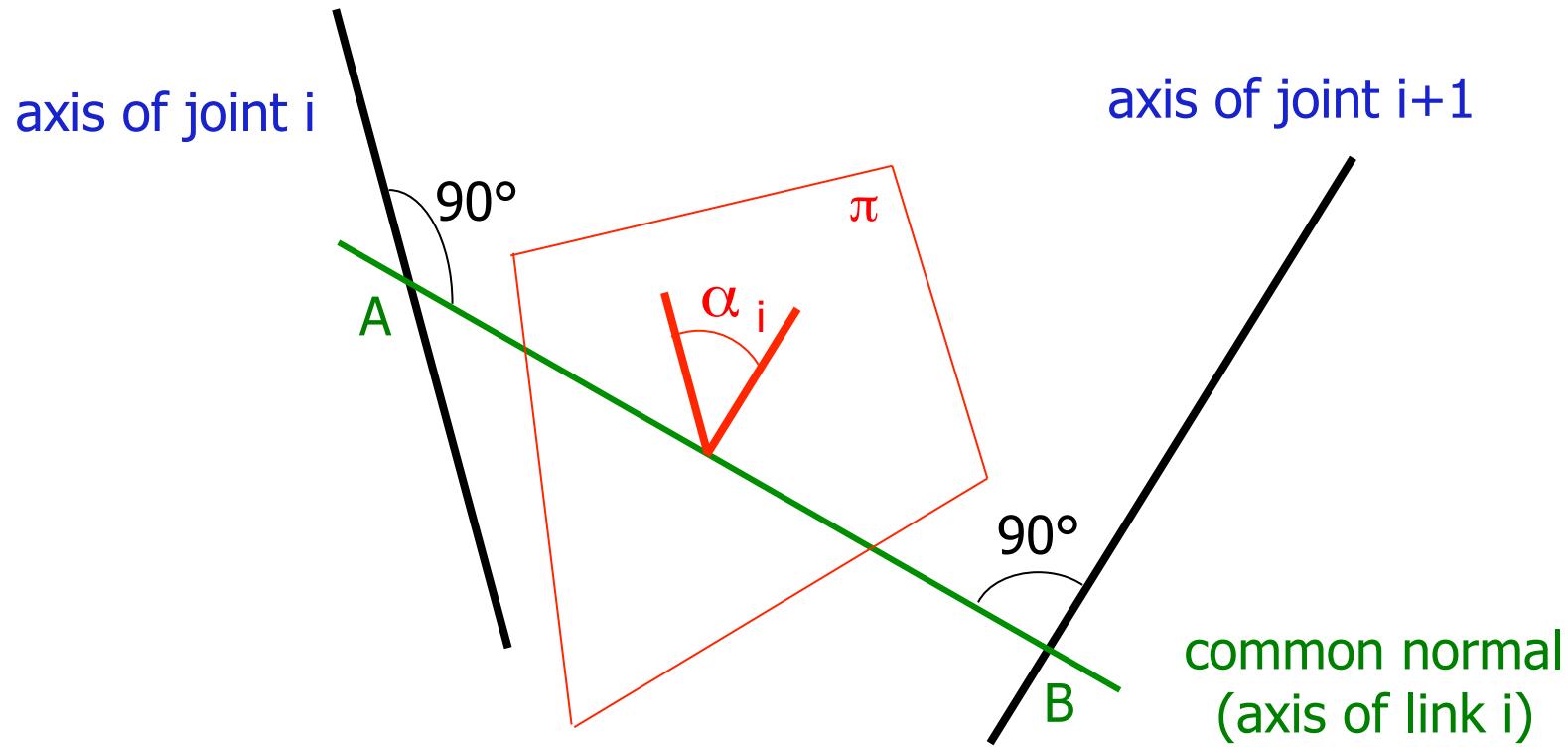


Numbering links and joints





Relation between joint axes



a_i = distance AB between joint axes (always well defined)

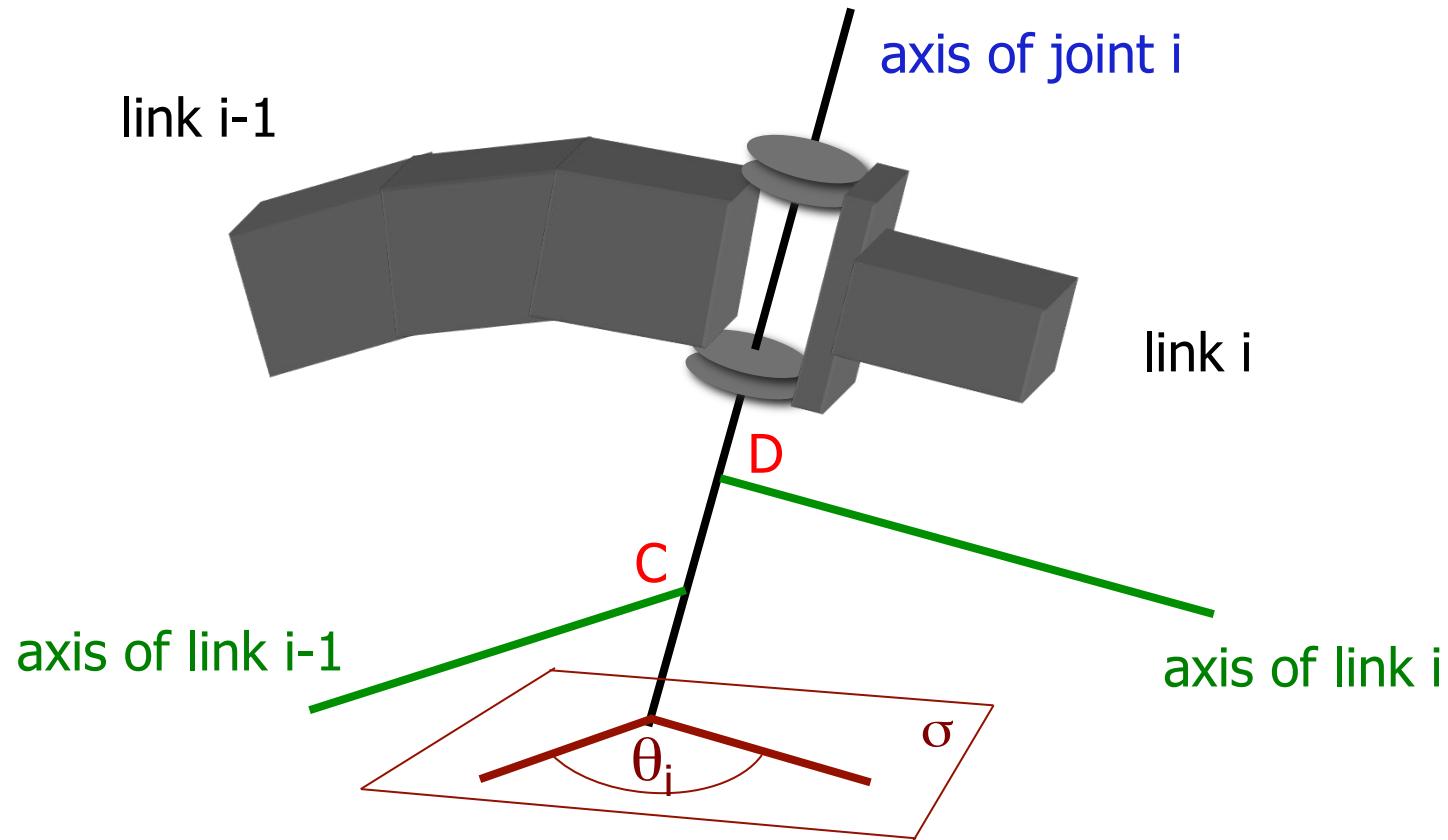
α_i = twist angle between joint axes

[projected on a plane π orthogonal to the link axis]

} with sign
(pos/neg)!



Relation between link axes

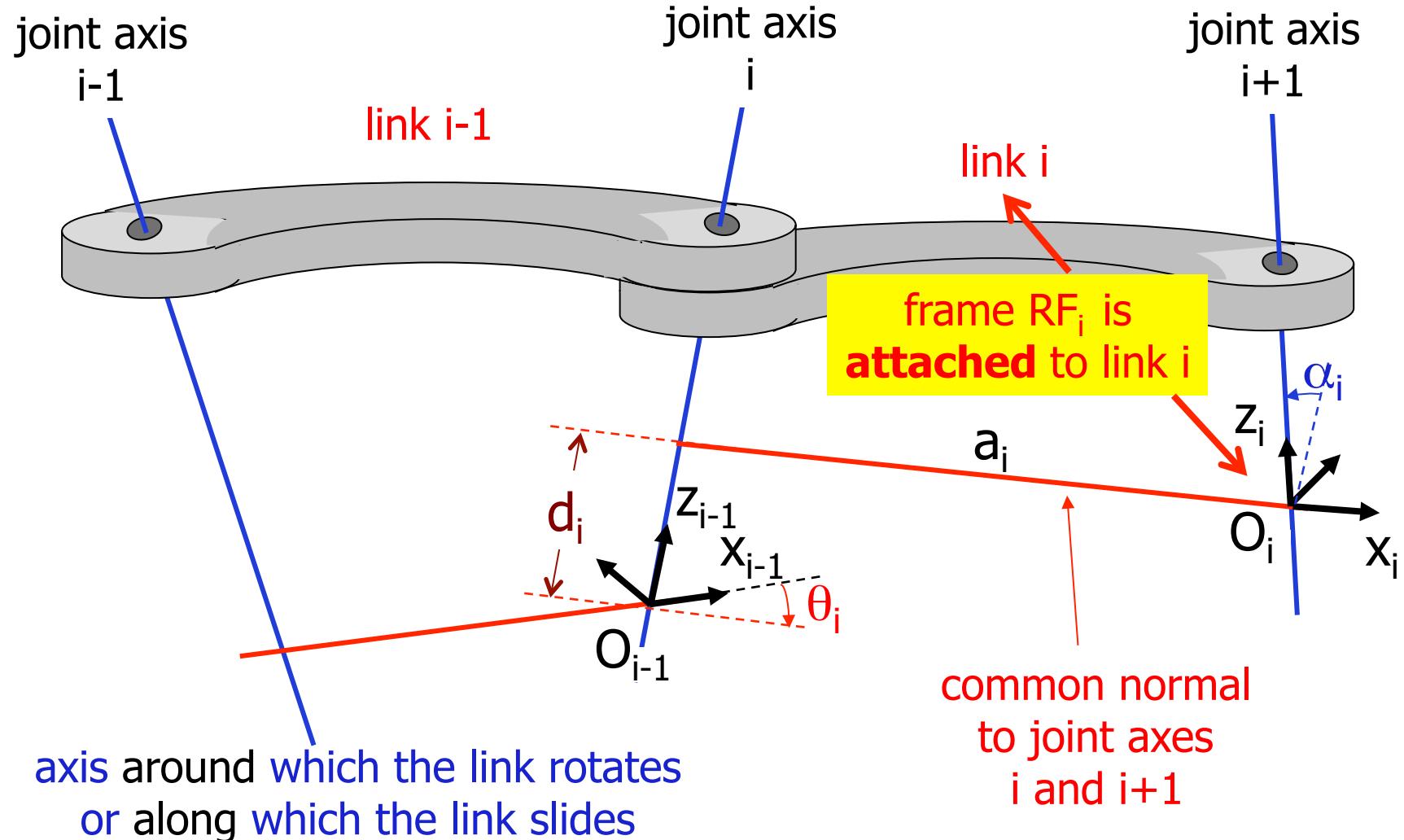


d_i = distance CD (a variable if joint i is prismatic)

θ_i = angle (a variable if joint i is revolute) between link axes
[projected on a plane σ orthogonal to the joint axis]

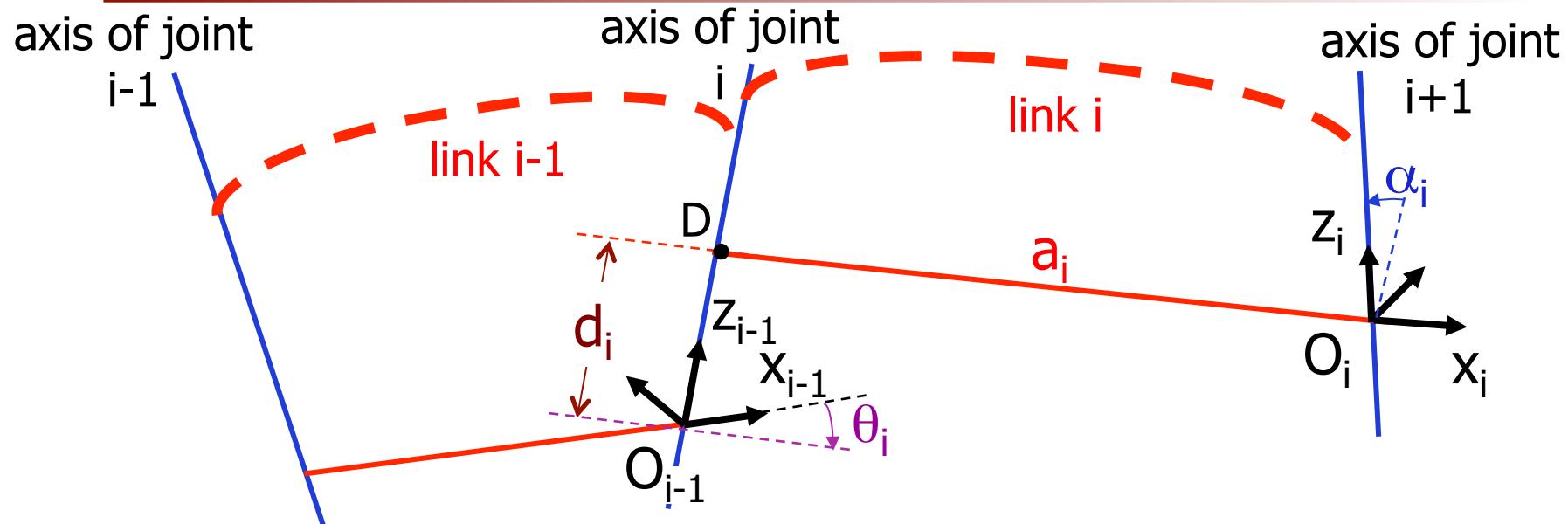
} with sign
(pos/neg)!

Frame assignment by Denavit-Hartenberg (DH)





Denavit-Hartenberg parameters



- unit vector z_i along axis of joint $i+1$
- unit vector x_i along the common normal to joint i and $i+1$ axes ($i \rightarrow i+1$)
- a_i = distance DO_i – positive if oriented as x_i (constant = “length” of link i)
- d_i = distance $O_{i-1}D$ – positive if oriented as z_{i-1} (**variable** if joint i is **PRISMATIC**)
- α_i = **twist** angle between z_{i-1} and z_i around x_i (constant)
- θ_i = angle between x_{i-1} and x_i around z_{i-1} (**variable** if joint i is **REVOLUTE**)



Homogeneous transformation between DH frames (from frame_{i-1} to frame_i)

- roto-translation around and along z_{i-1}

$${}^{i-1}A_i(q_i) = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_i & -s\theta_i & 0 & 0 \\ s\theta_i & c\theta_i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_i \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_i & -s\theta_i & 0 & 0 \\ s\theta_i & c\theta_i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_i \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

rotational joint $\Rightarrow q_i = \theta_i$

prismatic joint $\Rightarrow q_i = d_i$

- roto-translation around and along x_i

$${}^iA_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & a_i \\ 0 & c\alpha_i & -s\alpha_i & 0 \\ 0 & s\alpha_i & c\alpha_i & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{always a constant matrix}$$



Denavit-Hartenberg matrix

$${}^{i-1}A_i(q_i) = {}^{i-1}A_{i'}(q_i) {}^{i'}A_i = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_i & -c\alpha_i s\theta_i & s\alpha_i s\theta_i & a_i c\theta_i \\ s\theta_i & c\alpha_i c\theta_i & -s\alpha_i c\theta_i & a_i s\theta_i \\ 0 & s\alpha_i & c\alpha_i & d_i \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

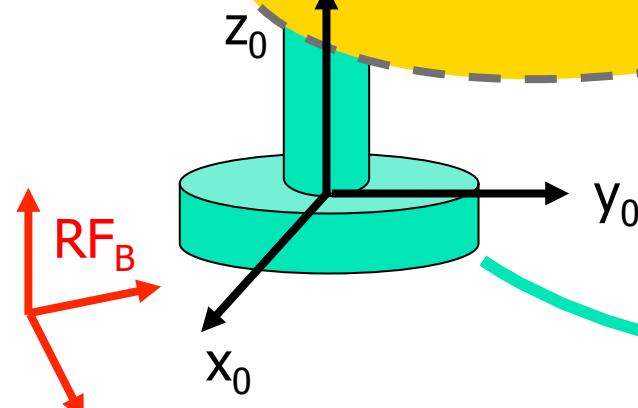
compact notation: $c = \cos, s = \sin$



Direct kinematics of manipulators

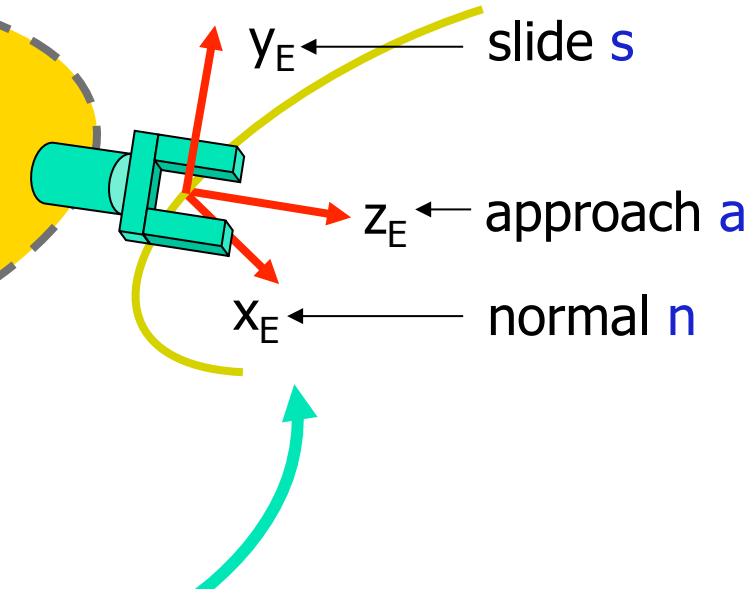
description "internal"
to the robot

- using:
- product ${}^0A_1(q_1) {}^1A_2(q_2) \dots {}^{n-1}A_n(q_n)$
 - $q = (q_1, \dots, q_n)$



$${}^B T_E = {}^B T_0 {}^0 A_1(q_1) {}^1 A_2(q_2) \dots {}^{n-1} A_n(q_n) {}^n T_E$$

$$r = f_r(q)$$



"external" description using

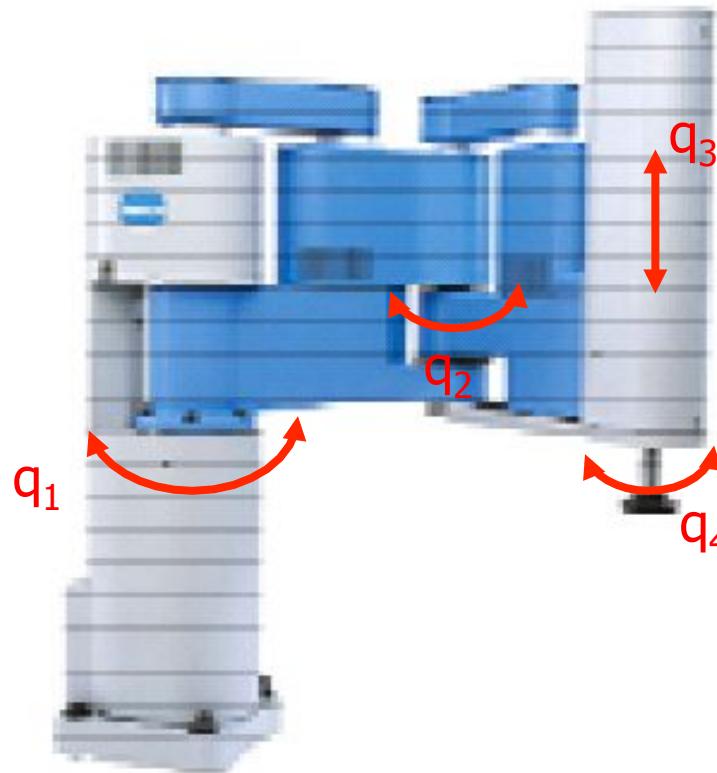
- $r = (r_1, \dots, r_m)$

- $${}^B T_E = \begin{bmatrix} R & p \\ 000 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} n & s & a & p \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

alternative descriptions of robot direct kinematics



Example: SCARA robot



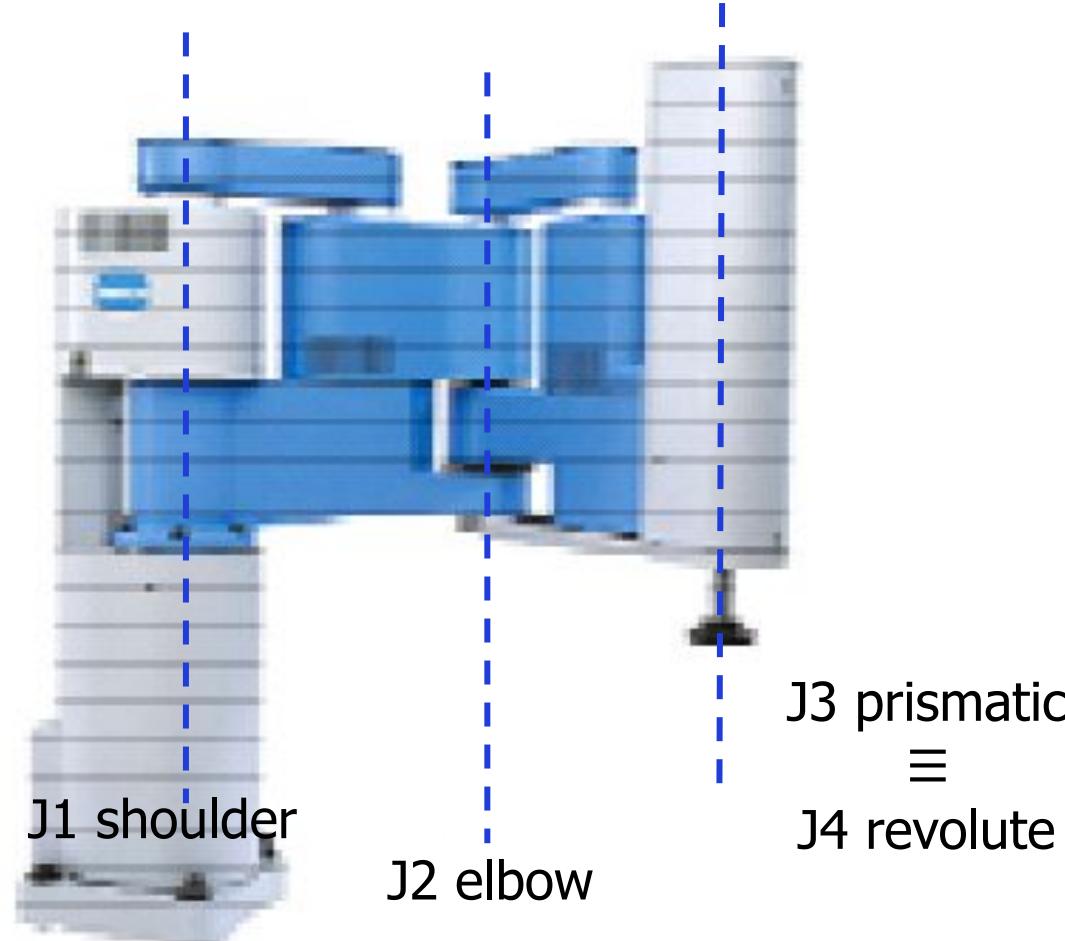


Step 1: joint axes

all parallel
(or coincident)



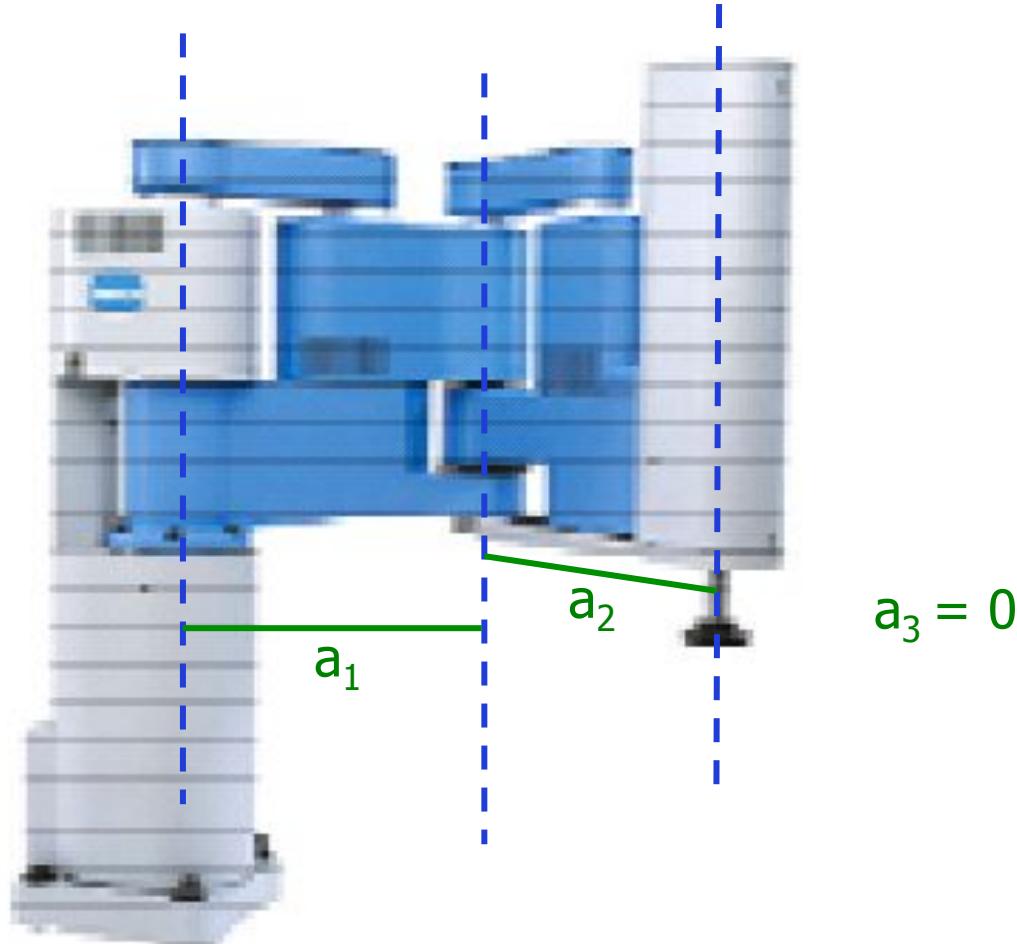
twists $\alpha_i = 0$
or π





Step 2: link axes

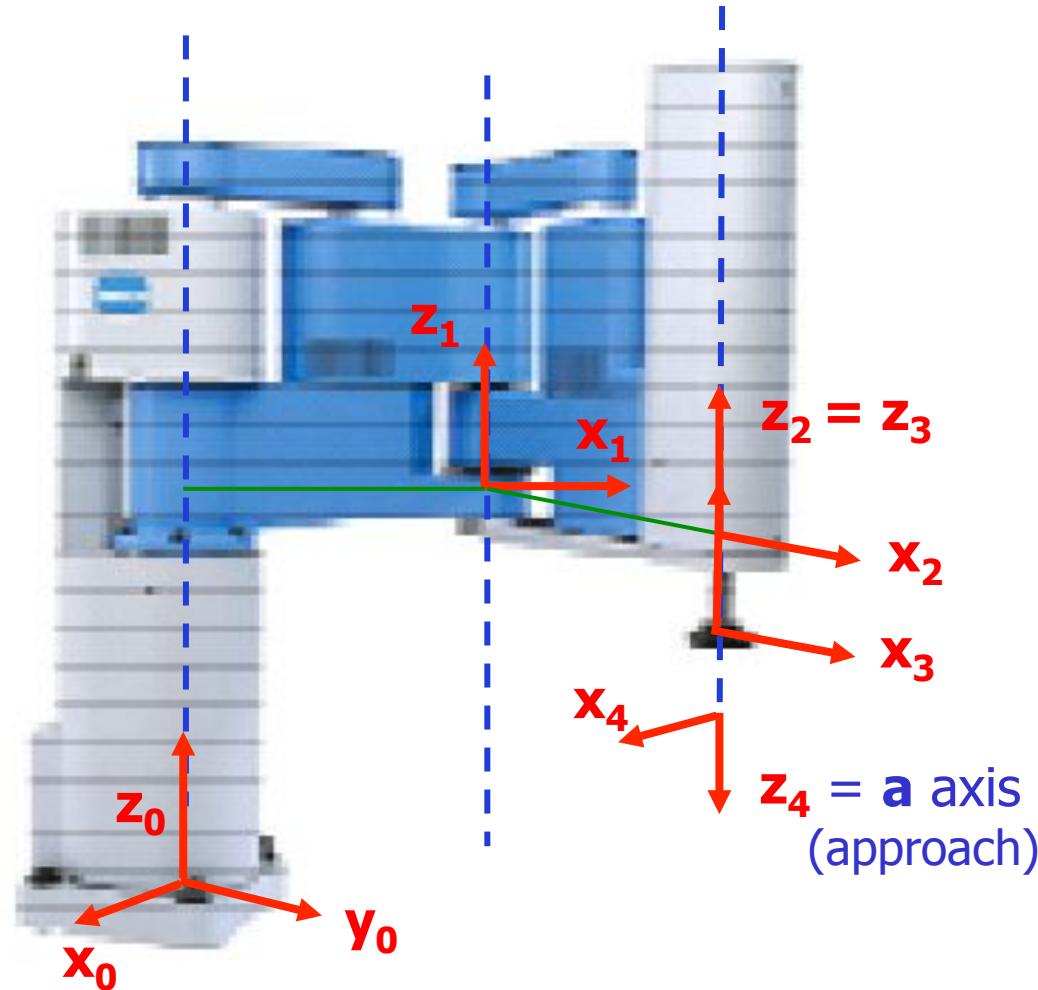
the vertical "heights"
of the link axes
are arbitrary
(for the time being)





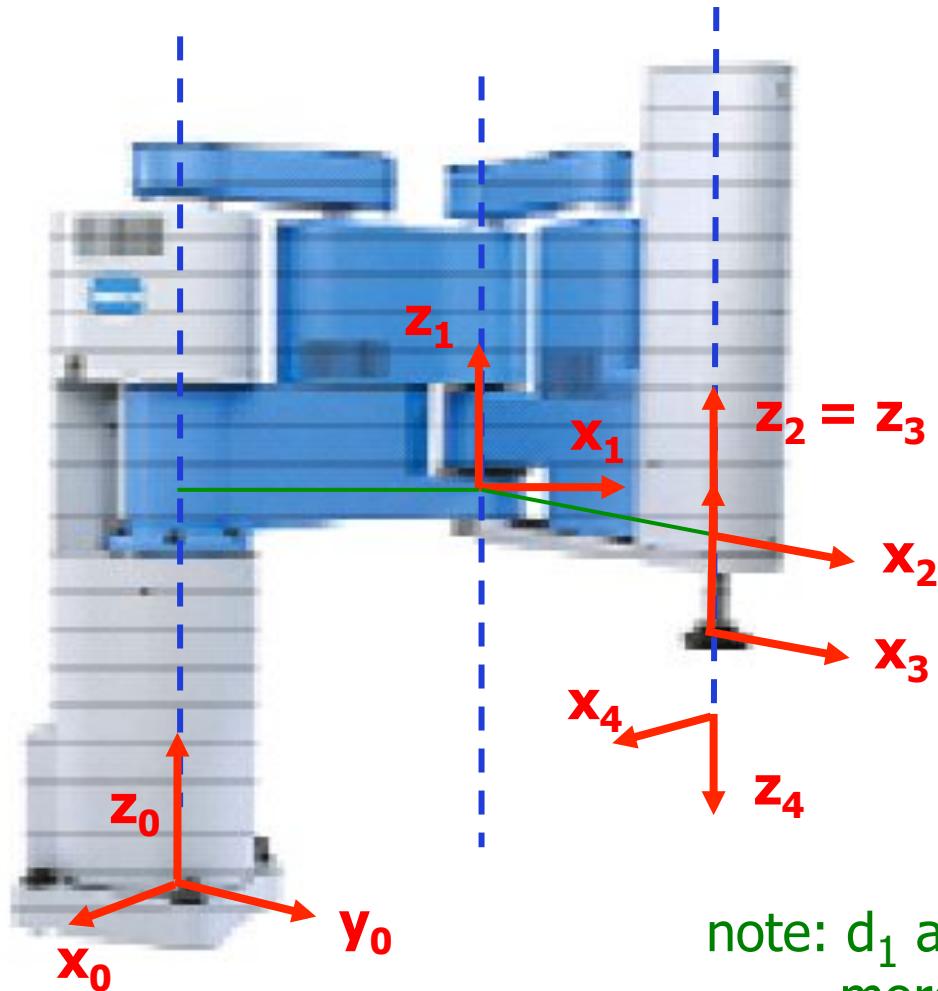
Step 3: frames

y_i axes for $i > 0$
are not shown
(and not needed;
they form
right-handed frames)





Step 4: DH parameters table



i	α_i	a_i	d_i	θ_i
1	0	a_1	d_1	q_1
2	0	a_2	0	q_2
3	0	0	q_3	0
4	π	0	d_4	q_4

note: d_1 and d_4 could have been chosen = 0 !
moreover, here it is $d_4 < 0$!!



Step 5: transformation matrices

$${}^0A_1(q_1) = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_1 & -s\theta_1 & 0 & a_1c\theta_1 \\ s\theta_1 & c\theta_1 & 0 & a_1s\theta_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^1A_2(q_2) = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_2 & -s\theta_2 & 0 & a_2c\theta_2 \\ s\theta_2 & c\theta_2 & 0 & a_2s\theta_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} q &= (q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4) \\ &= (\theta_1, \theta_2, d_3, \theta_4) \end{aligned}$$

$${}^2A_3(q_3) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^3A_4(q_4) = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta_4 & s\theta_4 & 0 & 0 \\ s\theta_4 & -c\theta_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & d_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Step 6: direct kinematics

$${}^0A_3(q_1, q_2, q_3) = \begin{bmatrix} c_{12} & -s_{12} & 0 & a_1c_1 + a_2c_{12} \\ s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 & a_1s_1 + a_2s_{12} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_1 + q_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^3A_4(q_4) = \begin{bmatrix} c_4 & s_4 & 0 & 0 \\ s_4 & -c_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & d_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R(q_1, q_2, q_4) = [n \ s \ a]$$

$${}^0A_4(q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4) =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_{124} & s_{124} & 0 & a_1c_1 + a_2c_{12} \\ s_{124} & -c_{124} & 0 & a_1s_1 + a_2s_{12} \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & d_1 + q_3 + d_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p = p(q_1, q_2, q_3)$$



Robotics 1

Differential kinematics

Prof. Alessandro De Luca

DIPARTIMENTO DI INGEGNERIA INFORMATICA
AUTOMATICA E GESTIONALE ANTONIO RUBERTI



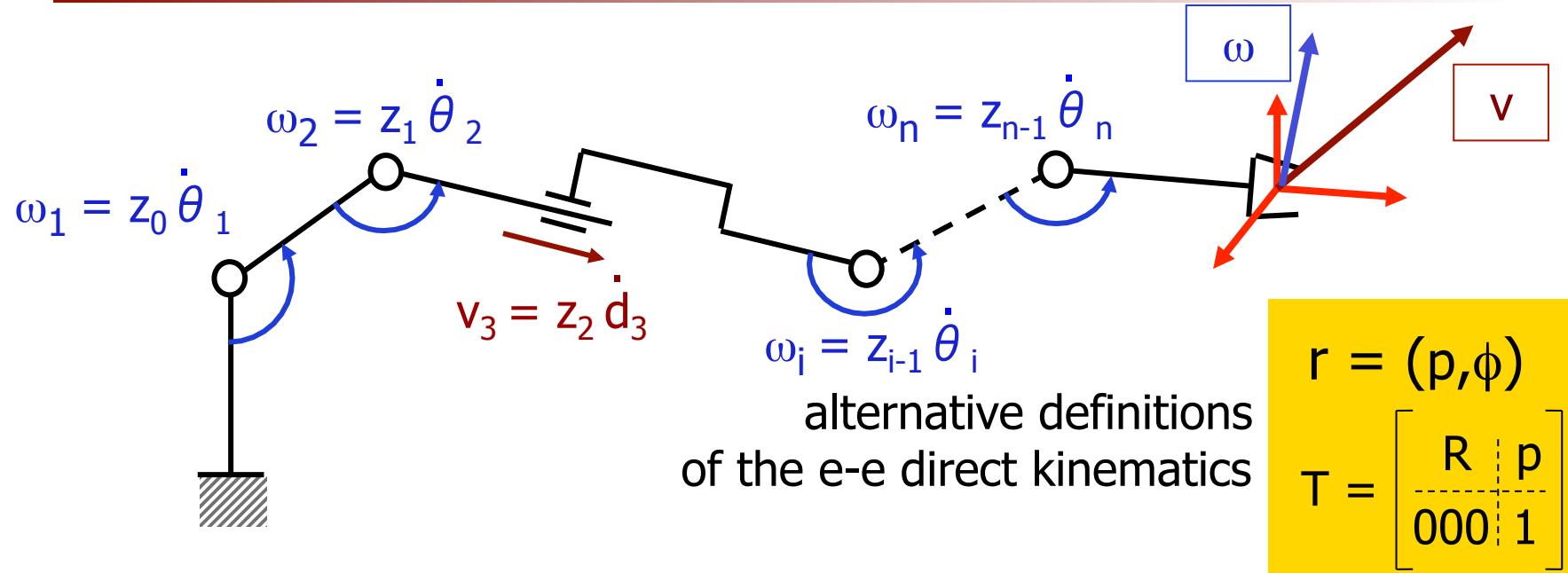


Differential kinematics

- “relationship between motion (velocity) in the joint space and motion (linear and angular velocity) in the task (Cartesian) space”
- instantaneous velocity mappings can be obtained through time derivation of the direct kinematics function or geometrically at the differential level
 - different treatments arise for rotational quantities
 - establish the link between angular velocity and
 - time derivative of a rotation matrix
 - time derivative of the angles in a minimal representation of orientation



Linear and angular velocity of the robot end-effector



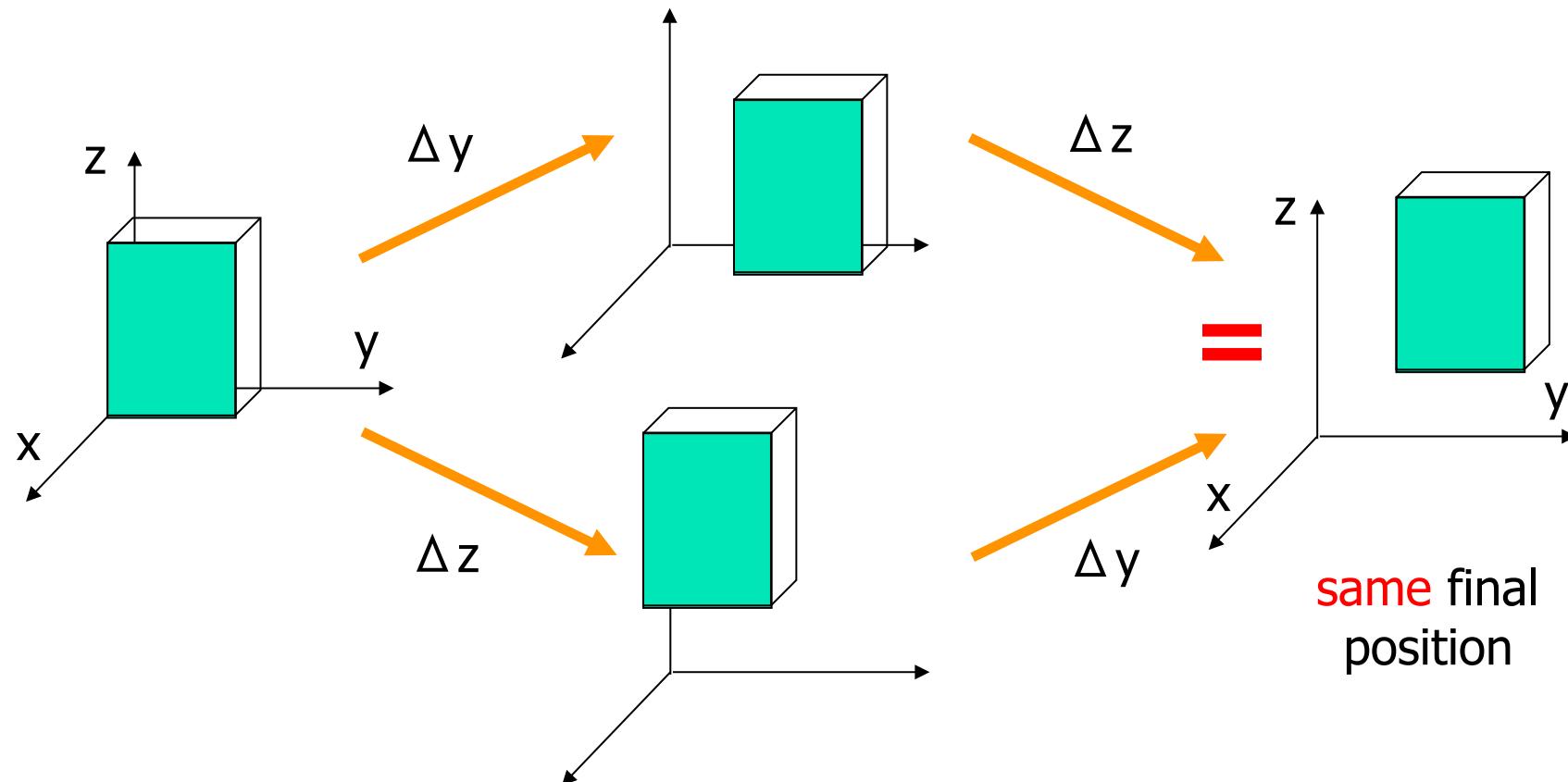
- v and ω are “vectors”, namely **elements of vector spaces**: they can be obtained as the sum of contributions of the joint velocities (in any order)
- on the other hand, ϕ (and $d\phi/dt$) is **not** an element of a vector space: a minimal representation of a **sequence** of rotations is **not** obtained by summing the corresponding minimal representations (angles ϕ)

in general, $\omega \neq d\phi/dt$



Finite and infinitesimal translations

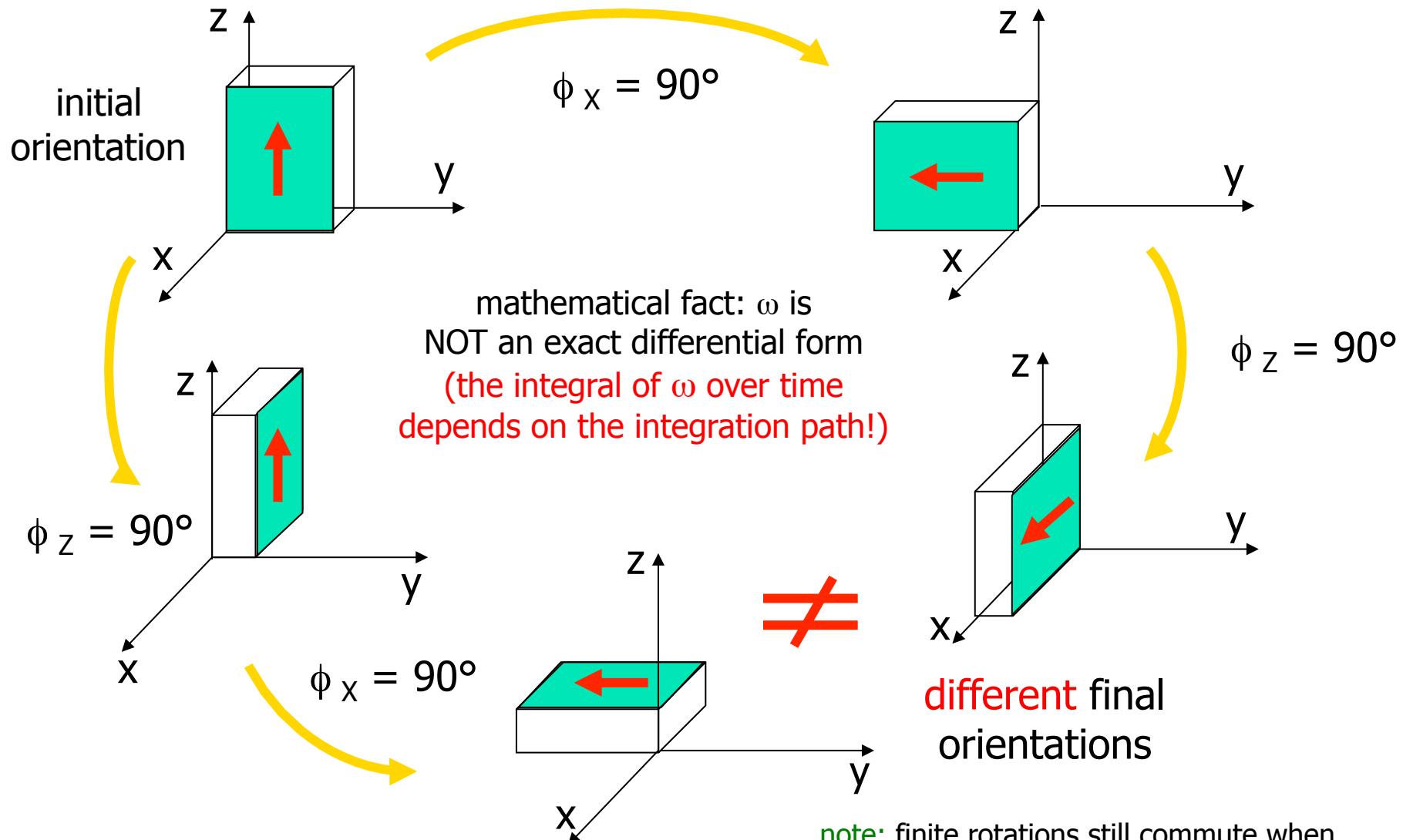
- finite Δx , Δy , Δz or infinitesimal dx , dy , dz translations (linear displacements) always commute





Finite rotations do not commute

example





Infinitesimal rotations commute!

- infinitesimal **rotations** $d\phi_x, d\phi_y, d\phi_z$ around x,y,z axes

$$R_x(\phi_x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \phi_x & -\sin \phi_x \\ 0 & \sin \phi_x & \cos \phi_x \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow R_x(d\phi_x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -d\phi_x \\ 0 & d\phi_x & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_y(\phi_y) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi_y & 0 & \sin \phi_y \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \phi_y & 0 & \cos \phi_y \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow R_y(d\phi_y) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & d\phi_y \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -d\phi_y & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_z(\phi_z) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi_z & -\sin \phi_z & 0 \\ \sin \phi_z & \cos \phi_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow R_z(d\phi_z) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -d\phi_z & 0 \\ d\phi_z & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R(d\phi) = R(d\phi_x, d\phi_y, d\phi_z) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -d\phi_z & d\phi_y \\ d\phi_z & 1 & -d\phi_x \\ -d\phi_y & d\phi_x & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑
in **any** sequence

← **neglecting second- and third-order (infinitesimal) terms**

$$= I + S(d\phi)$$



Time derivative of a rotation matrix

- let $R = R(t)$ be a rotation matrix, given as a function of time
- since $I = R(t)R^T(t)$, taking the time derivative of both sides yields

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= d[R(t)R^T(t)]/dt = dR(t)/dt R^T(t) + R(t) dR^T(t)/dt \\ &= dR(t)/dt R^T(t) + [dR(t)/dt R^T(t)]^T \end{aligned}$$

thus $dR(t)/dt R^T(t) = S(t)$ is a **skew-symmetric** matrix

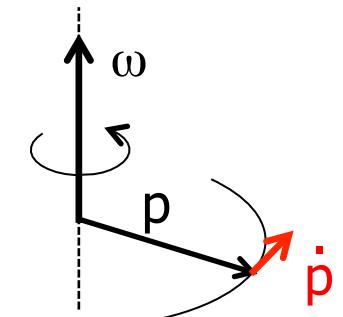
- let $p(t) = R(t)p'$ a vector (with constant norm) rotated over time
- comparing

$$dp(t)/dt = dR(t)/dt p' = S(t)R(t) p' = S(t) p(t)$$

$$dp(t)/dt = \omega(t) \times p(t) = S(\omega(t)) p(t)$$

we get $S = S(\omega)$

$$\boxed{\dot{R} = S(\omega) R} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \boxed{S(\omega) = \dot{R} R^T}$$





Robot Jacobian matrices

- analytical Jacobian (obtained by time differentiation)

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ \phi \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{f}_r(\mathbf{q}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \dot{\mathbf{r}} = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{p} \\ \dot{\phi} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_r(\mathbf{q})}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{J}_r(\mathbf{q}) \dot{\mathbf{q}}$$

- geometric Jacobian (no derivatives)

$$\begin{pmatrix} v \\ \omega \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{p} \\ \omega \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{J}_L(\mathbf{q}) \\ \mathbf{J}_A(\mathbf{q}) \end{pmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}) \dot{\mathbf{q}}$$



Geometric Jacobian

always a **$6 \times n$** matrix

end-effector instantaneous velocity

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_E \\ \omega_E \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} J_L(q) \\ J_A(q) \end{pmatrix} \dot{q} = \begin{pmatrix} J_{L1}(q) & \dots & J_{Ln}(q) \\ J_{A1}(q) & \dots & J_{An}(q) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{pmatrix}$$

superposition of effects

$$v_E = J_{L1}(q) \dot{q}_1 + \dots + J_{Ln}(q) \dot{q}_n$$

contribution to the linear e-e velocity due to \dot{q}_1

$$\omega_E = J_{A1}(q) \dot{q}_1 + \dots + J_{An}(q) \dot{q}_n$$

contribution to the angular e-e velocity due to \dot{q}_1

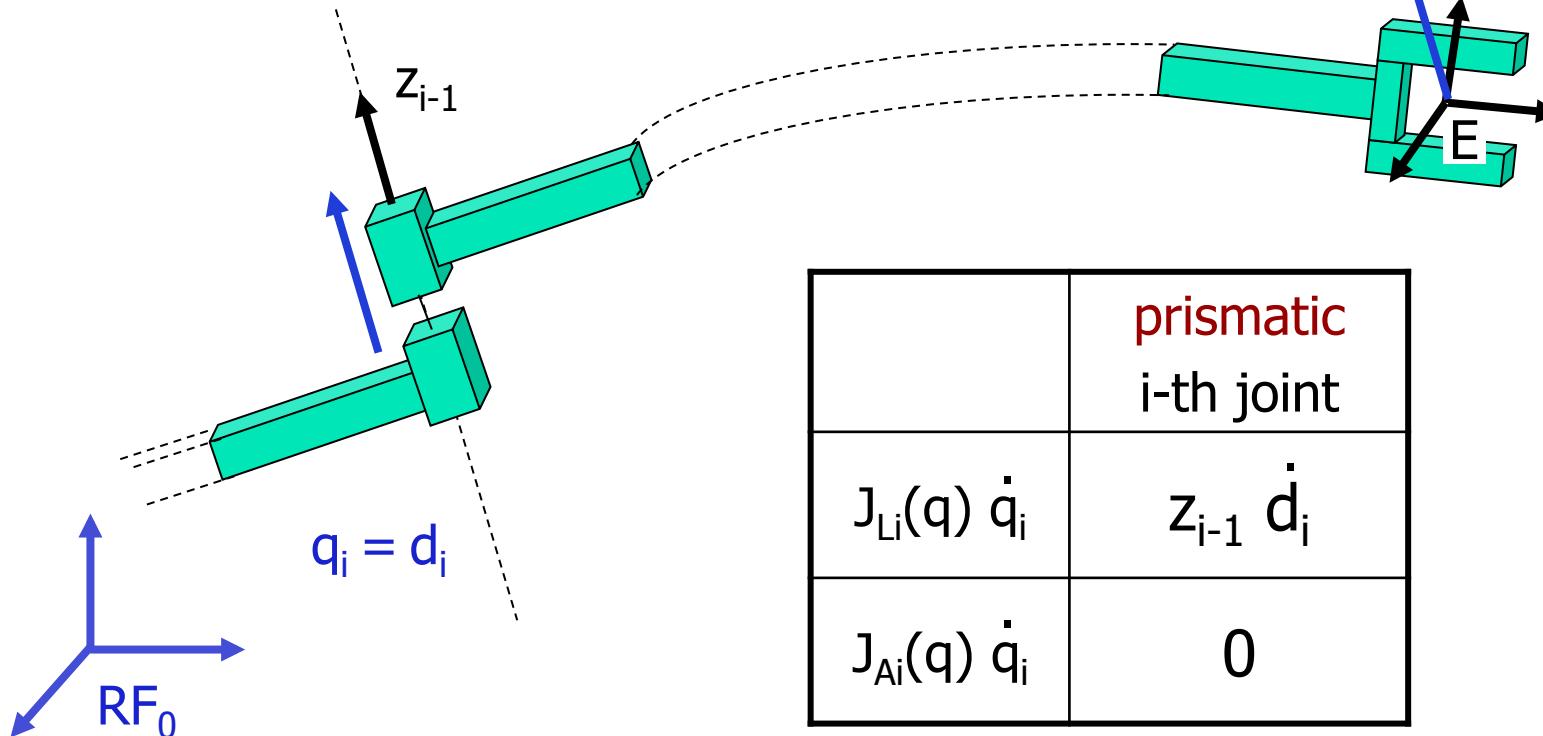
linear and angular velocity belong to (linear) vector spaces in R^3



Contribution of a prismatic joint

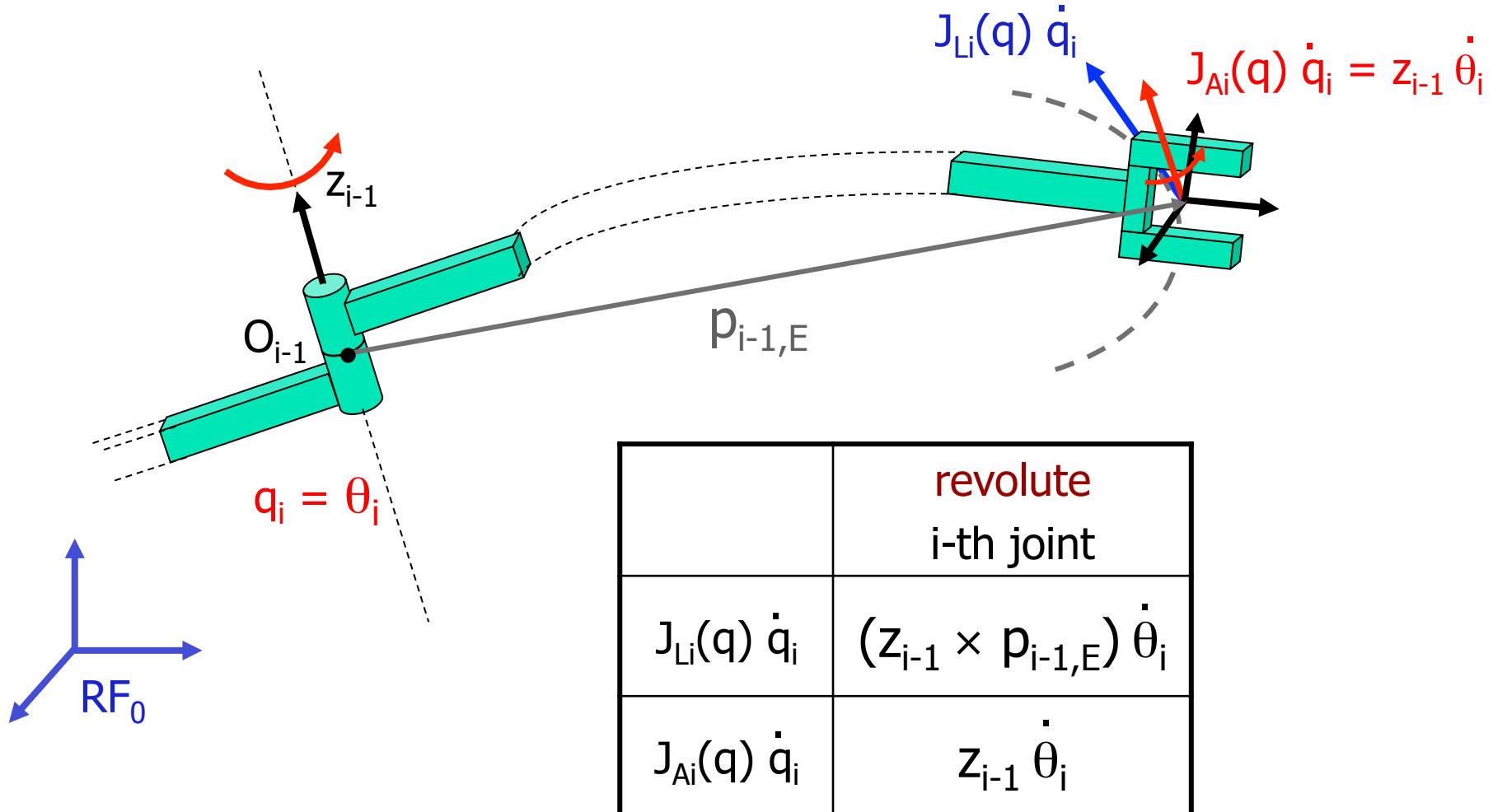
Note: joints beyond the i -th one are considered to be “frozen”, so that the distal part of the robot is a **single rigid body**

$$J_{Li}(q) \dot{q}_i = z_{i-1} \dot{d}_i$$





Contribution of a revolute joint





Expression of geometric Jacobian

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \dot{p}_{0,E} \\ \omega_E \end{array} \right) = \left(\begin{array}{c} v_E \\ \omega_E \end{array} \right) = \left(\begin{array}{c} J_L(q) \\ J_A(q) \end{array} \right) \dot{q} = \left(\begin{array}{cc} J_{L1}(q) & \dots & J_{Ln}(q) \\ J_{A1}(q) & \dots & J_{An}(q) \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} \dot{q}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{array} \right)$$

	prismatic i-th joint	revolute i-th joint
$J_{Li}(q)$	z_{i-1}	$z_{i-1} \times p_{i-1,E}$
$J_{Ai}(q)$	0	z_{i-1}

this can be also computed as

$$= \frac{\partial p_{0,E}}{\partial q_i}$$

$$z_{i-1} = {}^0R_1(q_1) \dots {}^{i-2}R_{i-1}(q_{i-1}) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

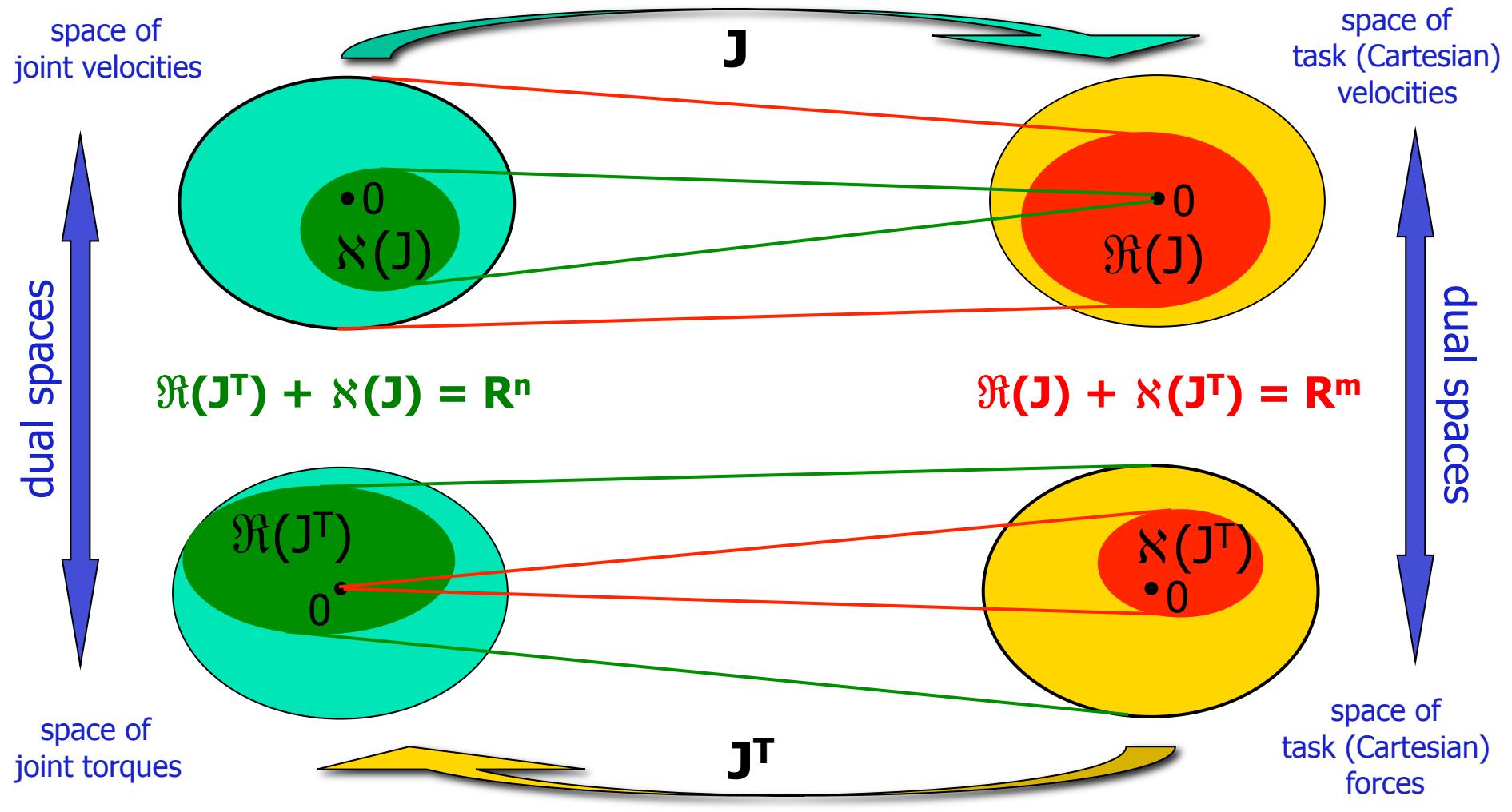
$$p_{i-1,E} = p_{0,E}(q_1, \dots, q_n) - p_{0,i-1}(q_1, \dots, q_{i-1})$$

all vectors should be expressed in the same reference frame
(here, the **base frame RF₀**)



Robot Jacobian

decomposition in linear subspaces and duality





Mobility analysis

- $\rho(J) = \rho(J(q))$, $\mathfrak{R}(J) = \mathfrak{R}(J(q))$, $\mathfrak{x}(J^T) = \mathfrak{x}(J^T(q))$ are **locally** defined, i.e., they depend on the **current configuration** q
- $\mathfrak{R}(J(q))$ = subspace of all “generalized” velocities (with linear and/or angular components) that can be **instantaneously** realized by the robot end-effector when varying the joint velocities in the configuration q
- if $J(q)$ has **max rank** (typically = m) in the configuration q , the robot end-effector can be moved in any direction of the task space R^m
- if $\rho(J(q)) < m$, there exist directions in R^m along which the robot end-effector **cannot** instantaneously move
 - these directions lie in $\mathfrak{x}(J^T(q))$, namely the complement of $\mathfrak{R}(J(q))$ to the task space R^m , which is of dimension $m - \rho(J(q))$
- when $\mathfrak{x}(J(q)) \neq \{0\}$ (this is **always** the case if $m < n$, i.e., in robots that are redundant for the task), there exist **non-zero** joint velocities that produce **zero** end-effector velocity (“**self motions**”)



Kinematic singularities

- **configurations where the Jacobian loses rank**
 \Leftrightarrow loss of instantaneous mobility of the robot end-effector
- for $m=n$, they correspond in general to Cartesian poses that lead to a number of inverse kinematic solutions that **differs from the “generic” case**
- “in” a singular configuration, one **cannot** find a joint velocity that realizes a desired end-effector velocity in an **arbitrary** direction of the task space
- “close” to a singularity, **large joint velocities** may be needed to realize some (even small) velocity of the end-effector
- finding and analyzing in advance all singularities of a robot helps in **avoiding** them during **trajectory planning** and **motion control**
 - when $m = n$: find the configurations q such that $\det J(q) = 0$
 - when $m < n$: find the configurations q such that **all** $m \times m$ minors of J are singular (or, equivalently, such that $\det [J(q) \ J^T(q)] = 0$)
- finding all singular configurations of a robot with a **large** number of joints, or the actual “distance” from a singularity, is a **hard computational** task