



Kinematic Synthesis of Planar Mechanisms

(Mechanisms Synthesis)

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Analysis vs. Synthesis

Analysis



In Kinematic Analysis one is given a mechanism & the task is to determine the various relative motion that can take place in that mechanism.

Synthesis

- decision –making process
- Innovative or creative process
- process of creating new mechanism
- Selecting optimum/best configuration from no. of existing mechanism
- Determination of optimum dimensions of the elements of the mechanism on the basis of analysis

In Kinematic Synthesis one has to be come up with a design of mechanism to generate prescribed motion characteristic.



Kinematics Synthesis of Plane Mechanisms or Linkages

Aim:

Design or creation of a mechanism to obtain a desired set of motion characteristics.

Objective

- design of mechanisms to satisfy certain kinematic specification.
- In other words, motion characteristics are given & the mechanism is to be found

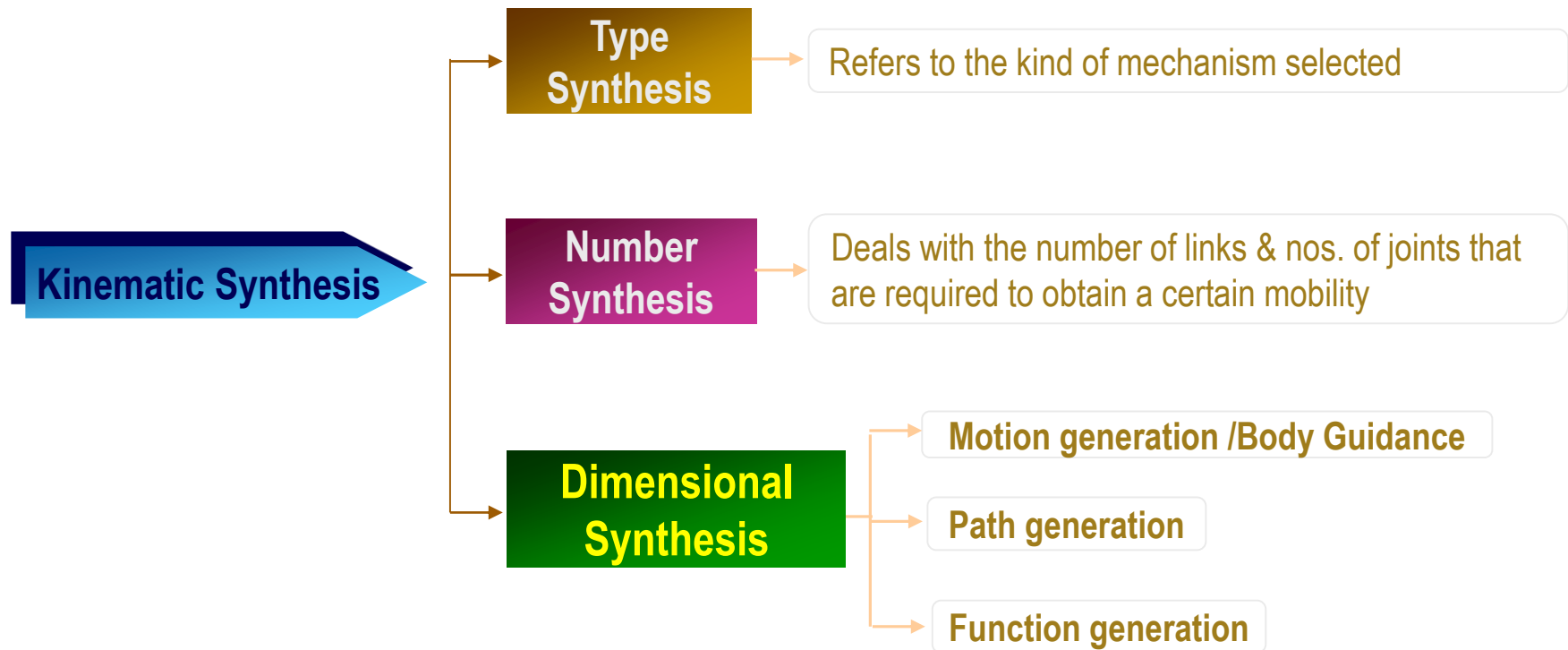
Kinematic Synthesis Problems

- Type Synthesis
- Number Synthesis
- Dimensional Synthesis



Kinematic Synthesis of Mechanisms

Synthesis Problems



By Dimensional Synthesis, we mean the determination of kinematic dimensions of the individual links of a mechanism to satisfy specified motion characteristics or specified tasks.



Classification of Dimensional Synthesis Problems

Depending on the required kinematic characteristics to be satisfied by the designed mechanism or linkage, dimensional synthesis problems can be broadly classified as given below:

Motion generation /Body Guidance

In this general class of synthesis problem, the linkage has to be so designed that a rigid body (i.e., one link of the mechanism, for example the coupler of a 4R linkage) can be guided in a prescribed manner.

The guidance may or may not be coordinated with the input motion

Path generation

If a point on the floating link (i.e. link not connected to the frame , like coupler) of a mechanism has to be guided along a prescribed path, then such a problem is classified as a path- generation problem .

This refers to a problem in which a coupler point is to generate a path having a prescribed shape

The generation of a prescribed path may or may not be coordinated with the input motion

Function generation

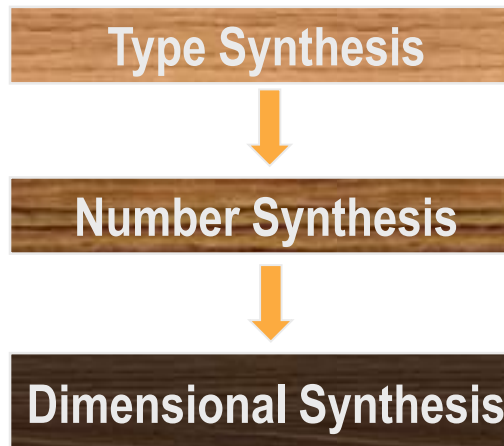
In this class of problem, the motion parameters (displacement, velocity, acceleration etc.) of the output & input links are to be coordinated so as to satisfy a prescribed functional relationship.

The output & input motion characteristics have to maintain a specified functional relationship

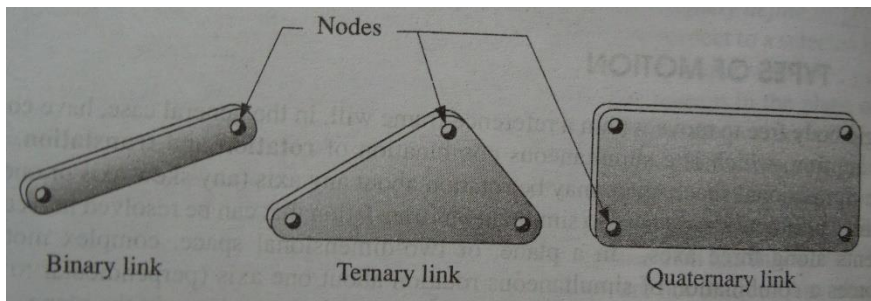




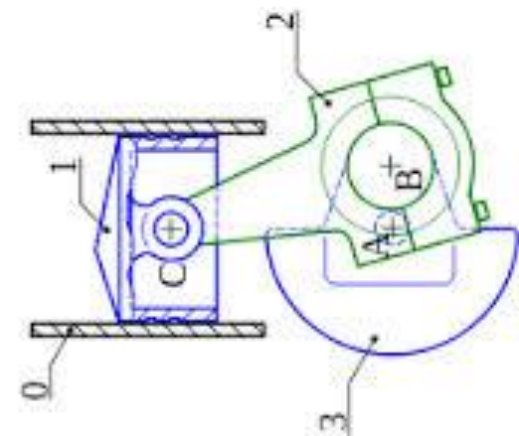
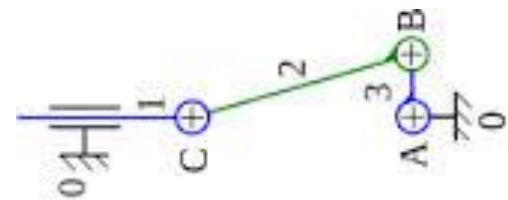
Steps in Kinematics Synthesis of Plane Mechanisms

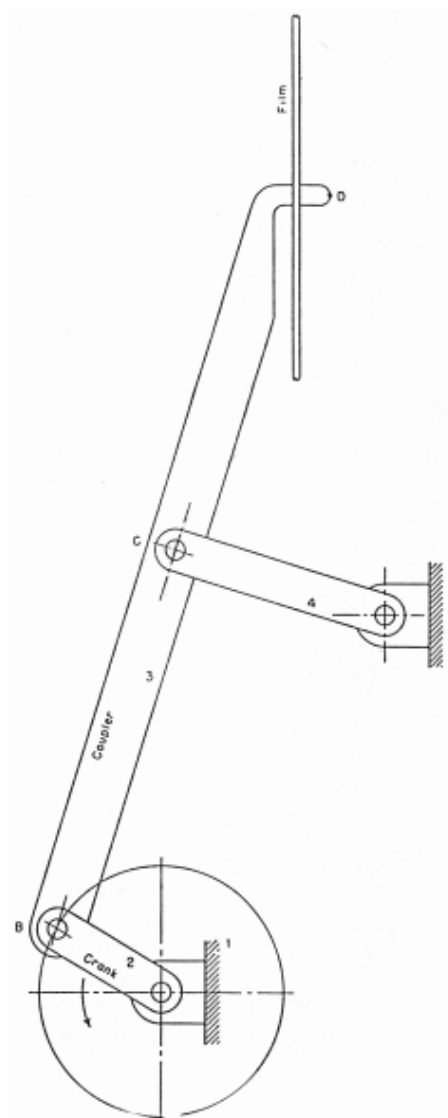


What is Kinematic dimensions?



Node-node distance
or
joint centre to
centre
distance etc.





Path generation

Function generation problem

In function generation, rotation (or translation) motion of input and output links must be correlated. The kinematic synthesis task may be to design a linkage to correlate input and output such that as the input moves by x' , the output makes by $y = f(x)$ for the range $x_0 \leq x \leq x_{ut}$.

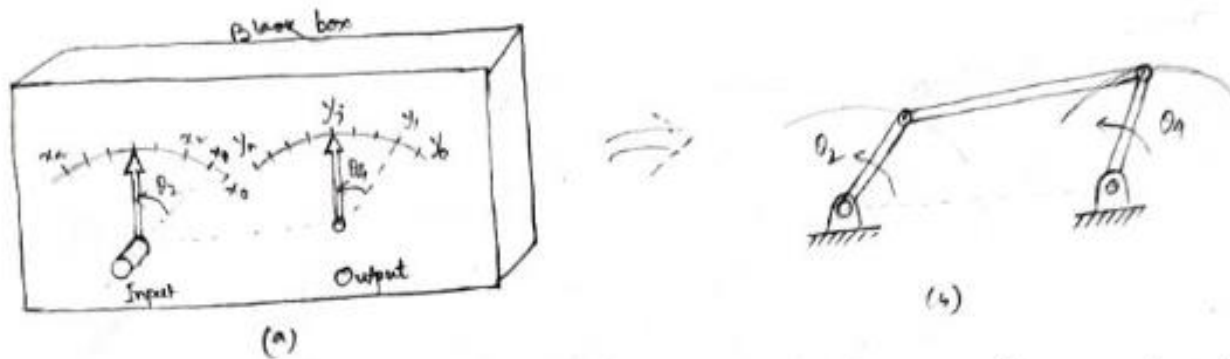
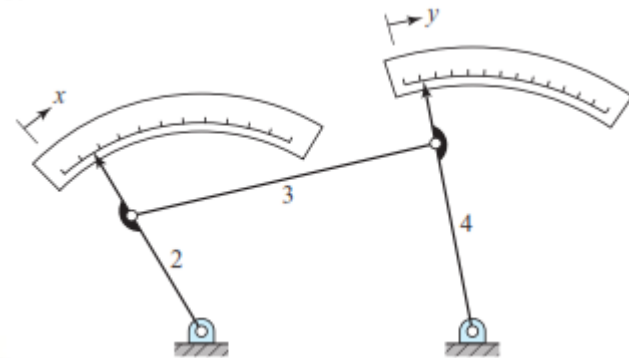


Fig.1 Function-generator mechanism (a) exterior view, (b) Schematic of the mechanism inside. (i.e four-bar linkage function generator)

In the case of rotary input and output, the angles of rotation $\theta_2 + \theta_4$ are the linear analogs of x and y respectively.

When the input is rotated to a value of the independent parameter x' , the mechanism in the 'black box' causes the output link to turn to the corresponding value of the dependent variable $y = f(x)$. This may be regarded as a simple case of a mechanical analog computer.





Function generation problem

Fig. 2 shows a six-link function generator mechanism in which two four-link mechanisms are joined in a series. The objective in this linkage is to provide a measure of flow discharging rate (i.e. y) through the weir where the input is the vertical translation ' x ' of the water level.

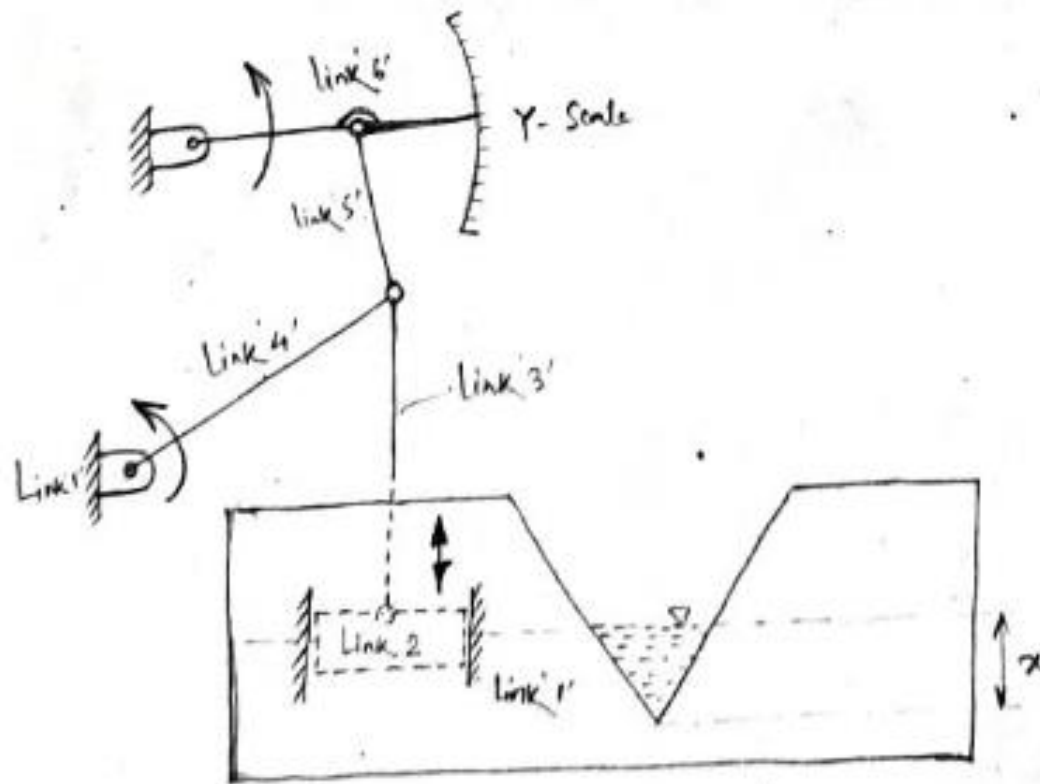
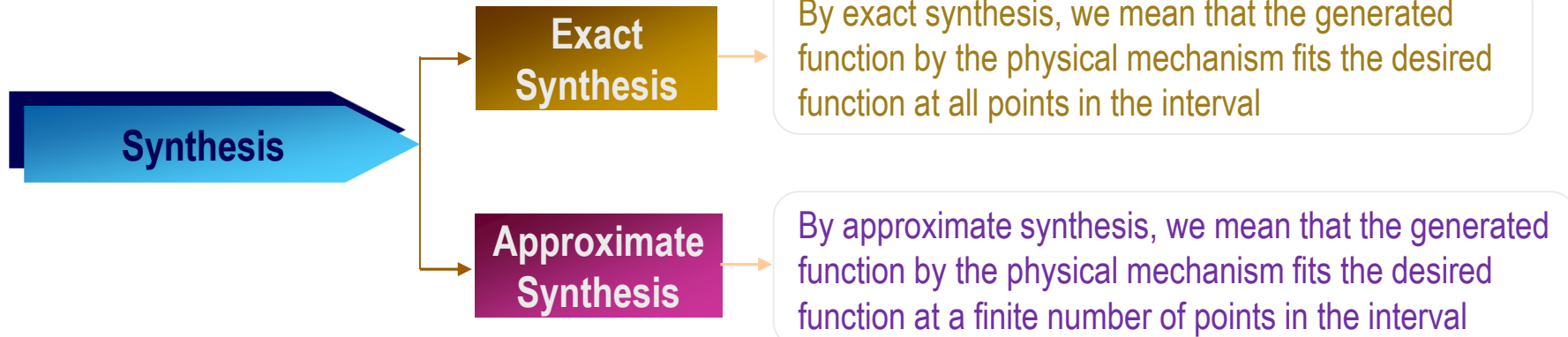


Fig. 2: Flow rate indicator mechanism, $y = f(x)$

Dimensional Synthesis Problems

Function generation problem

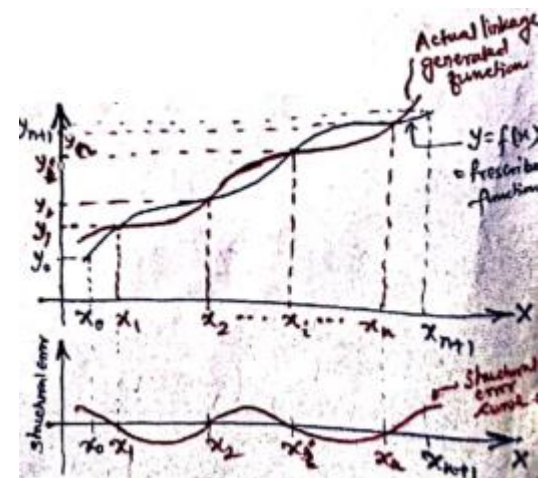


Accuracy points / Precision points

The points at which the generated and desired functions agree

Structural Error

It is defined as the theoretical difference between the function generated by the synthesized linkage & the function originally prescribed



Structural error is inherent in approximate synthesis



Chebyshev's Spacing of Accuracy Points

Let $y=f(x)$ be the function desired to be generated in an interval $x_0 \leq x \leq x_{n+1}$:

Let the mechanism generated function be $F(x, R_1, R_2, \dots, R_k)$ where R_1, R_2, \dots, R_k are design parameters

Structural Error

$$E(x) = f(x) - F(x, R_1, R_2, \dots, R_k)$$

The best choice for the spacing of accuracy points will be that which gives the min. value of $E(x)$ between any two adjacent points:

However, Chebyshev's spacing of accuracy points can always be taken as a first approximation

A very good trial for the spacing of these precision positions is called Chebyshev Spacing

Chebyshev's Spacing of Accuracy Points

For 'n' precision positions in the range $x_0 \leq x \leq x_{n+1}$, the Chebyshev's spacing is

$$x_j = \left(\frac{x_{n+1} + x_0}{2} \right) - \frac{(x_{n+1} - x_0)}{2} \cos \left\{ \frac{(2j-1)\pi}{2n} \right\} \quad \text{when } j=1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Determine the three accuracy points with Chebyshev's spacing for a 4 bar linkage to generate the function $y=x^{0.8}$ in the interval $1 \leq x \leq 3$,

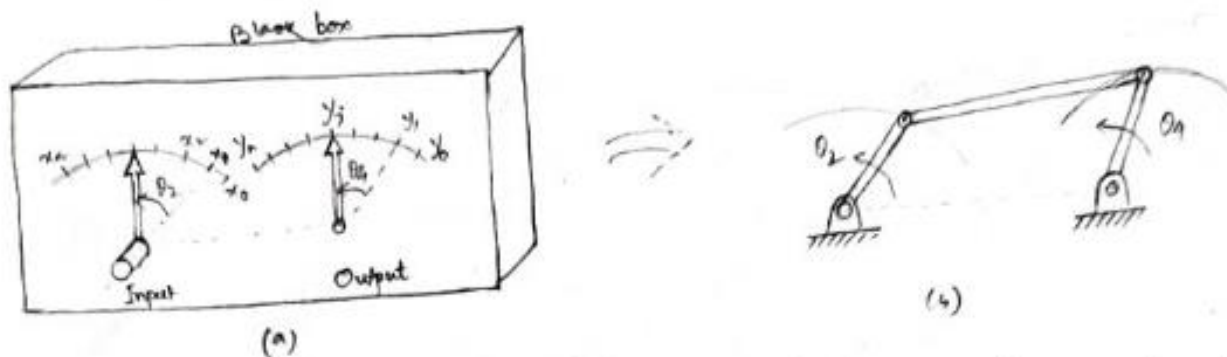


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(i.e four-bar linkage function generator)



Determine the three accuracy points with Chebyshev's spacing for a 4 bar linkage to generate the function $y=x^{0.8}$ in the interval $1 \leq x \leq 3$,

$$\text{Here } n=3; x_0 = 1; \quad x_{n+1} = x_4 = 3$$

$$x_j = \left(\frac{x_{n+1} + x_0}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{x_{n+1} - x_0}{2} \right) \cos \left\{ \frac{(2j-1)\pi}{2n} \right\} \quad \text{where } j=1,2,3$$

$$x_j = \left(\frac{x_4 + x_0}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{x_4 - x_0}{2} \right) \cos \left\{ \frac{(2j-1)\pi}{2n} \right\}$$

$$x_1 = \left(\frac{3+1}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{3-1}{2} \right) \cos \left\{ \frac{(2-1)\pi}{2 \times 3} \right\} = 2 - \cos \pi/6 = 1.134$$

$$x_2 = \left(\frac{3+1}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{3-1}{2} \right) \cos \left\{ \frac{(4-1)\pi}{2 \times 3} \right\} = 2 - \cos \pi/2 = 2$$

$$x_3 = \left(\frac{3+1}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{3-1}{2} \right) \cos \left\{ \frac{(6-1)\pi}{6} \right\} = 2 - \cos 5\pi/6 = 2.866$$

} Accuracy pts.

The corresponding values of 'y' to be

$$y_1 = x^{0.8} = (1.134)^{0.8} = 1.106$$

$$y_2 = (2)^{0.8} = 1.741$$

$$y_3 = (2.866)^{0.8} = 2.322$$

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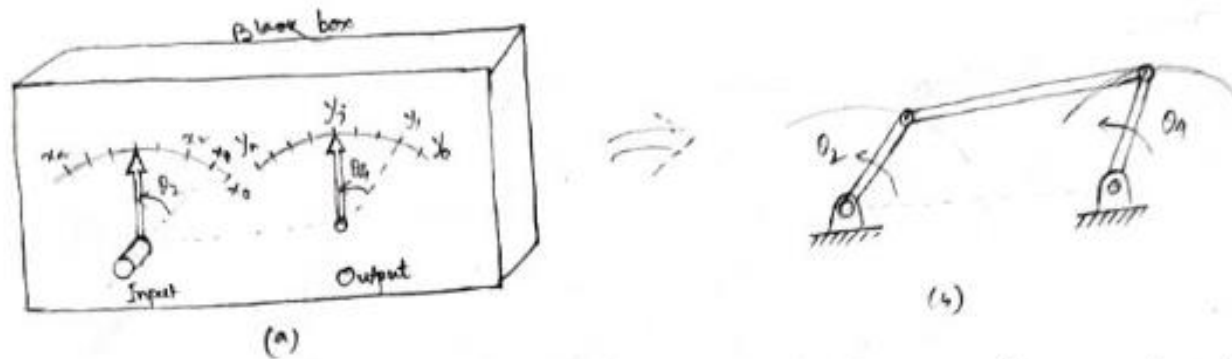
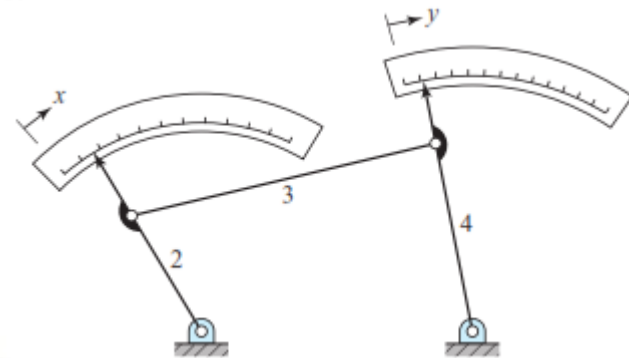


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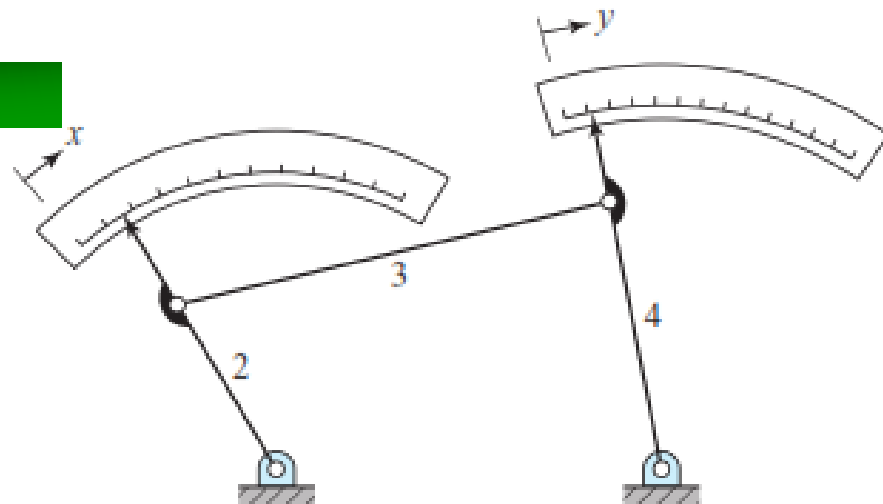
Scale Factor for Input & Output motion

Mechanized variables:

$\theta_2 \text{ \& } \theta_4$

Functional variables:

$'x' \text{ \& } 'y'$



The orientation of the driver link (θ_2) represents the independent variable 'x'.
 The orientation of the driven link (θ_4) represents the dependent variable 'y'.
 The mechanized variables $\theta_2 \text{ \& } \theta_4$ are proportional to the functional variables 'x' \& 'y'.
 The relation betⁿ Δx and $\Delta \theta_2$ \& that betⁿ Δy and $\Delta \theta_4$ is usually assumed to be linear.

With the mappings betⁿ function variable space (x, y) and mechanism joint space (θ_2, θ_4) known, we can map the three function precision points to corresponding precision joint angles.



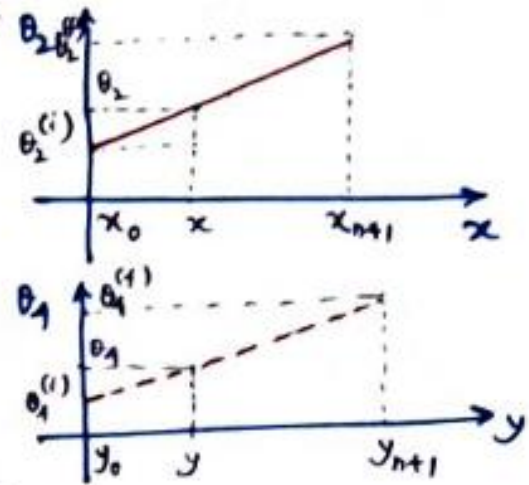
Let $\theta_2^{(i)}$ be the initial value of θ_2 representing x_0

$\theta_4^{(i)}$ be " " " of θ_4 " " $y_0 = f(x_0)$

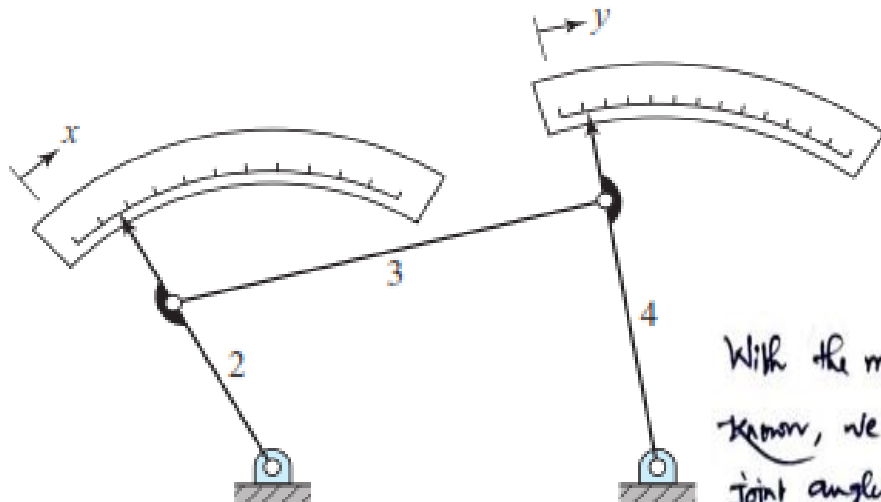
The input & output scale factors m_x & m_y resp. are defined as;

$$\therefore \text{Scale factor } m_x = \frac{\Delta \theta_2}{\Delta x} = \frac{\theta_2^{(f)} - \theta_2^{(i)}}{x_{n+1} - x_0} = \frac{\theta_2 - \theta_2^{(i)}}{x - x_0}$$

$$m_y = \frac{\Delta \theta_4}{\Delta y} = \frac{\theta_4^{(f)} - \theta_4^{(i)}}{y_{n+1} - y_0} = \frac{\theta_4 - \theta_4^{(i)}}{y - y_0}$$



The superscripts 'i' & 'f' denote the initial & final values of θ_2 & θ_4 .



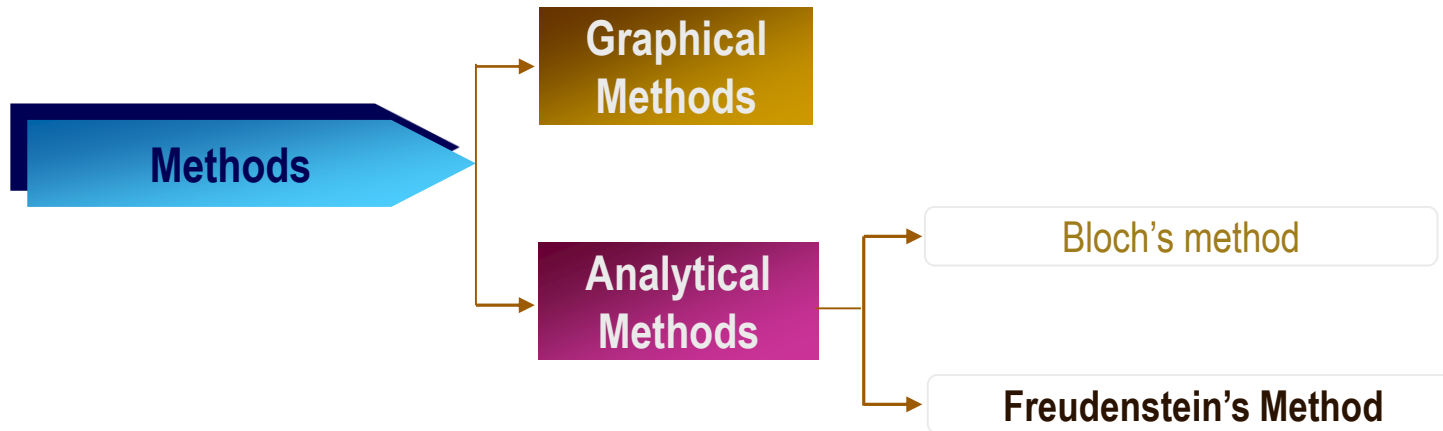
$$\theta_2 - \theta_2^{(i)} = m_x(x - x_0) \Rightarrow \theta_2 = \theta_2^{(i)} + m_x(x - x_0) \text{ where } m_x = \frac{\theta_2^{(f)} - \theta_2^{(i)}}{x_{n+1} - x_0}$$

$$\theta_4 - \theta_4^{(i)} = m_y(y - y_0) \Rightarrow \theta_4 = \theta_4^{(i)} + m_y(y - y_0) \text{ where } m_y = \frac{\theta_4^{(f)} - \theta_4^{(i)}}{y_{n+1} - y_0}$$

With the mappings betⁿ function variable space (x, y) and mechanism joint space (θ_2, θ_4) known, we can map the three function precision points to corresponding precision joint angles.

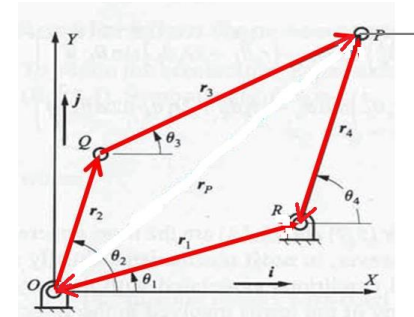
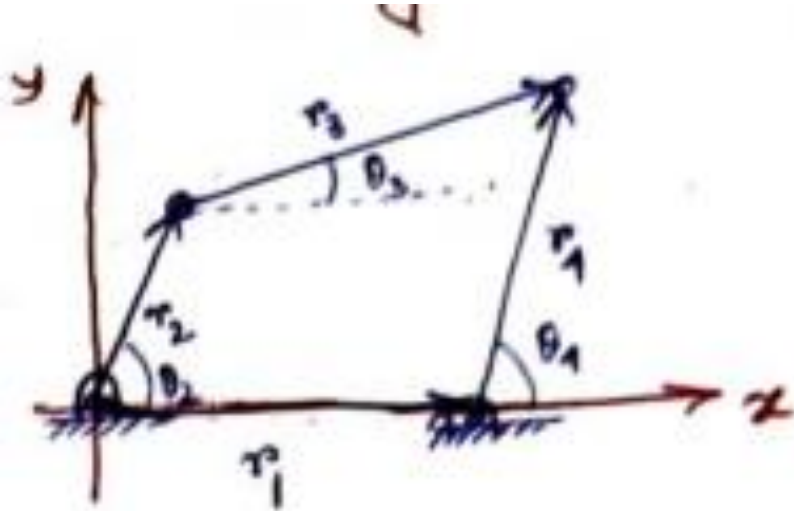


Dimensional Synthesis for Function generation problem



Displacement Analysis of 4R linkage

Freudenstein's Method



Two scalar eqns.

$$r_2 \cos \theta_2 + r_3 \cos \theta_3 = r_1 \cos \theta_1 + r_4 \cos \theta_4 \Rightarrow r_2 \cos \theta_2 + r_3 \cos \theta_3 = r_1 + r_4 \cos \theta_4$$

$$r_2 \sin \theta_2 + r_3 \sin \theta_3 = r_1 \sin \theta_1 + r_4 \sin \theta_4 \Rightarrow r_2 \sin \theta_2 + r_3 \sin \theta_3 = r_4 \sin \theta_4$$

$$\theta_1 = 0^\circ$$

$$r_3 \cos \theta_3 = r_1 + r_4 \cos \theta_4 - r_2 \cos \theta_2$$

$$r_3 \sin \theta_3 = r_4 \sin \theta_4 - r_2 \sin \theta_2$$



$$r_3 \cos \theta_3 = r_1 + r_4 \cos \theta_4 - r_2 \cos \theta_2$$

$$r_3 \sin \theta_3 = r_4 \sin \theta_4 - r_2 \sin \theta_2$$

$$r_3^2 = (r_1 + r_4 \cos \theta_4 - r_2 \cos \theta_2)^2 + (r_4 \sin \theta_4 - r_2 \sin \theta_2)^2$$

$$r_3^2 = r_1^2 + r_2^2 + r_4^2 - 2r_1 r_2 \cos \theta_2 + 2r_1 r_4 \cos \theta_4 - 2r_2 r_4 \cos \theta_2 \cos \theta_4 - 2r_2 r_4 \sin \theta_2 \sin \theta_4$$

$$r_3^2 = r_1^2 + r_2^2 + r_4^2 - 2r_1 r_2 \cos \theta_2 + 2r_1 r_4 \cos \theta_4 - 2r_2 r_4 \cos(\theta_2 - \theta_4)$$

$$2r_1 r_4 \cos \theta_4 - 2r_1 r_2 \cos \theta_2 + (r_1^2 + r_2^2 + r_4^2 - r_3^2) = 2r_2 r_4 \cos(\theta_2 - \theta_4)$$

$$\frac{r_1}{r_2} \cos \theta_4 - \frac{r_1}{r_4} \cos \theta_2 + \frac{r_1^2 + r_2^2 + r_4^2 - r_3^2}{2r_2 r_4} = \cos(\theta_2 - \theta_4)$$

$$K_1 \cos \theta_4 - K_2 \cos \theta_2 + K_3 = \cos(\theta_2 - \theta_4) \quad \text{----- (A) } F$$

FREUDENSTEIN'S



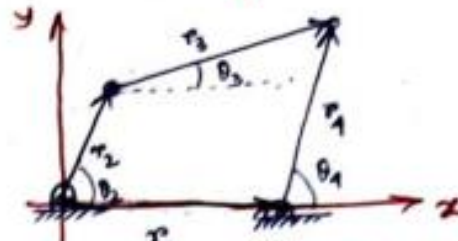
FREUDENSTEIN'S METHOD: Function Generation with Three Accuracy Points.



With three accuracy points, the number of design parameters that can be determined is three.

Example: Four-bar Function Generators with Three Accuracy Points

Loop-closure eqⁿ or vector loop eqⁿ
 $\vec{r}_2 + \vec{r}_3 = \vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_4$



$$K_1 \cos \theta_4 - K_2 \cos \theta_2 + K_3 = \cos(\theta_2 - \theta_4) \quad \text{--- (A) Freudenstein's eqⁿ}$$

Substituting the three related pairs $(\theta_2^{(1)} + \theta_4^{(1)})$, $(\theta_2^{(2)} + \theta_4^{(2)})$ and $(\theta_2^{(3)} + \theta_4^{(3)})$ successively in eqⁿ (A), we obtain three linear simultaneous eq^s in K_1 , K_2 & K_3 .

$$K_1 \cos \theta_4^{(1)} - K_2 \cos \theta_2^{(1)} + K_3 = \cos(\theta_2^{(1)} - \theta_4^{(1)}) \quad \text{--- (I)}$$

$$K_1 \cos \theta_4^{(2)} - K_2 \cos \theta_2^{(2)} + K_3 = \cos(\theta_2^{(2)} - \theta_4^{(2)}) \quad \text{--- (II)}$$

$$K_1 \cos \theta_4^{(3)} - K_2 \cos \theta_2^{(3)} + K_3 = \cos(\theta_2^{(3)} - \theta_4^{(3)}) \quad \text{--- (III)}$$

Solving above linear eq^s, we get the K_1 , K_2 , & K_3 i.e. link length ratios (design parameters)

Moment Method: (II) - (I) : $K_1 [\cos \theta_4^{(2)} - \cos \theta_4^{(1)}] - K_2 [\cos \theta_2^{(2)} - \cos \theta_2^{(1)}] = \cos(\theta_2^{(2)} - \theta_4^{(2)}) - \cos(\theta_2^{(1)} - \theta_4^{(1)})$

(III) - (I) : $K_1 [\cos \theta_4^{(3)} - \cos \theta_4^{(1)}] - K_2 [\cos \theta_2^{(3)} - \cos \theta_2^{(1)}] = \cos(\theta_2^{(3)} - \theta_4^{(3)}) - \cos(\theta_2^{(1)} - \theta_4^{(1)})$

Solve two eq^s for two unknowns



Example # 2

Determine the lengths of the links of a 4bar linkage to generate $y = \log_{10} x$ in the interval $1 \leq x \leq 10$. The length of the smallest link is 5 cm. Use three accuracy points with Chebyshev's spacing. Given $\theta_2^{(1)} = 45^\circ$, $\theta_2^{(f)} = 105^\circ$, $\theta_4^{(i)} = 135^\circ$ & $\theta_4^{(f)} = 225^\circ$
 $45^\circ \leq \theta_2 \leq 105^\circ$; $135^\circ \leq \theta_4 \leq 225^\circ$

Given data: $n = 3$
 $x_0 = 1$
 $x_4 = 10$

$$x_j = \left(\frac{x_{n+1} + x_0}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{x_{n+1} - x_0}{2} \right) \cos \left\{ \frac{(2j-1)\pi}{2n} \right\}$$

$$\text{i.e. } x_j = \left(\frac{x_4 + x_0}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{x_4 - x_0}{2} \right) \cos \left\{ \frac{(2j-1)\pi}{6} \right\}$$

$$x_j = \frac{11}{2} - 4.5 \cos \frac{(2j-1)\pi}{6}$$

$$x_1 = 5.5 - 4.5 \cos \pi/6 = 1.6$$

$$\Rightarrow y_1 = \log_{10}(1.6) = 0.204$$

$$x_2 = 5.5 - 4.5 \cos \pi/2 = 5.5$$

$$\Rightarrow y_2 = \log_{10}(5.5) = 0.741$$

$$x_3 = 5.5 - 4.5 \cos 5\pi/6 = 9.4$$

$$\Rightarrow y_3 = \log_{10}(9.4) = 0.974$$

$$x_0 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow y_0 = \log_{10}(1) = 0$$

$$x_4 = 10$$

$$\Rightarrow y_4 = \log_{10}(10) = 1$$



Scale Factor for Input & Output motion

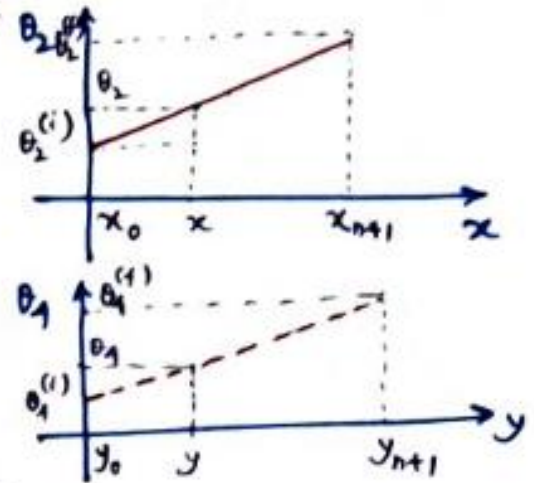
Let $\theta_2^{(i)}$ be the initial value of θ_2 representing x_0

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$$m_y = \frac{\Delta \theta_1}{\Delta y} = \frac{\theta_1^{(f)} - \theta_1^{(i)}}{y_{n+1} - y_0} = \frac{\theta_1 - \theta_1^{(i)}}{y - y_0}$$



The superscripts 'i' & 'f' denote the initial & final values of θ_2 & θ_1 .

$$m_x = \frac{105 - 45^\circ}{10 - 1} = \frac{\theta_2 - 45^\circ}{x - 1}$$

$$; \quad m_y = \frac{225 - 135}{1 - 0} = \frac{\theta_1 - 135}{y - 0}$$

$$\theta_2 = \left(\frac{60}{9}\right)(x-1) + 45$$

$$; \quad \theta_1 = 90(y-0) + 135$$



$$\theta_2 = \left(\frac{60}{9}\right)(x-1) + 45 \quad ; \quad \theta_1 = 90(y-0) + 135$$

Accuracy Points or Precision Point

Position	x_j	$\theta_2^{(j)}$	y_j	θ_1	$\theta_1^{(j)}$
1	1.6	49°	0.209	68.36	153.36
2	5.5	75°	0.741	111.89	201.69
3	9.4	101°	0.974	192.66	222.66

Freudenstein's eqⁿ

$$K_1 \cos \theta_1 - K_2 \cos \theta_2 + K_3 = \cos(\theta_2 - \theta_1)$$

$$K_1 \cos 153.36 - K_2 \cos 49^\circ + K_3 = \cos(49 - 153.36)$$

$$K_1 \cos 201.69 - K_2 \cos 75^\circ + K_3 = \cos(75 - 201.69)$$

$$K_1 \cos 222.66 - K_2 \cos 101^\circ + K_3 = \cos(101 - 222.66)$$

Solving

$$K_1 = 2.0 \quad ; \quad K_2 = -0.7015 \quad ; \quad K_3 = 1.081$$



$$K_1 = 2.0 ; K_2 = -0.7015 ; K_3 = 1.081$$

$$K_1 = \frac{r_1}{r_2} = 2.0 ; K_2 = \frac{r_1}{r_4} = -0.7015$$

$$r_2 = r_1/2 ; r_4 = -\frac{r_1}{0.7015}$$

$$K_3 = \frac{r_1^2 + r_2^2 + r_4^2 - r_3^2}{2r_2r_4} = 1.081$$

$$\frac{r_1^2 + \frac{r_1^2}{4} + \left(\frac{r_1}{0.7015}\right)^2 - r_3^2}{2r_1/2 \cdot \left(-\frac{r_1}{0.7015}\right)} = 1.081$$

$$+ \left[\frac{r_1^2 + r_1^2/4 + \left(\frac{r_1}{0.7015}\right)^2 - r_3^2}{r_1^2} \right] = -\frac{1.081}{0.7015}$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{4} + \left(\frac{1}{0.7015}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{r_3}{r_1}\right)^2 = -\frac{1.081}{0.7015}$$

$$\left(\frac{r_3}{r_1}\right)^2 = (2.1962)^2 \quad \therefore \frac{r_3}{r_1} = 2.1962$$

$$\frac{r_1}{r_3} = 0.462$$



$$\left| \frac{r_1}{r_2} \right| = 2 ; \left| \frac{r_1}{r_4} \right| = 10.2015, \quad \left| \frac{r_1}{r_3} \right| = 0.462$$

from above it is clear that

$$r_2 < r_1$$

$$< r_4 \quad \text{as } r_1 < r_4$$

$$< r_3 \quad \text{as } r_1 < r_3$$



$$[r_2 < r_1 < r_4 < r_3]$$

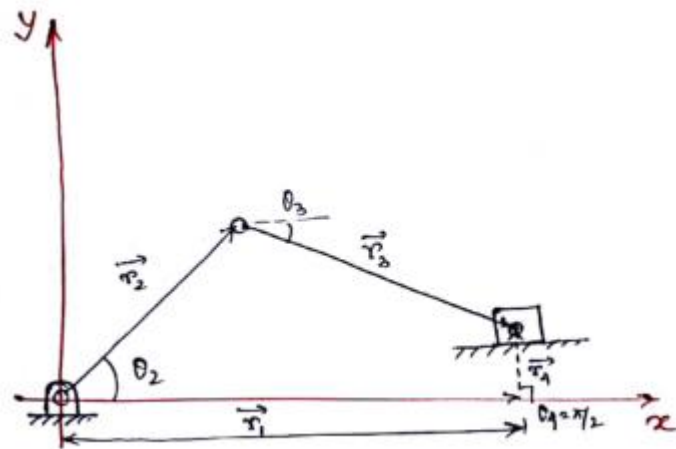
$\therefore r_2$ is the smallest link

$$r_2 = 5 \text{ cm}$$

$$r_1 = 10 \text{ cm} ; r_4 = 14.2 \text{ cm}, r_3 = 21.85 \text{ cm}$$



Synthesis of the Slider-Crank Mechanism with three accuracy points



Loop-closure eqn

$$\vec{r}_2 + \vec{r}_3 = \vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_4$$

Scalar component of the eqn.

$$r_2 \cos \theta_2 + r_3 \cos \theta_3 = r_1 \cos \theta_1 + r_4 \cos \theta_4$$

$$r_2 \sin \theta_2 + r_3 \sin \theta_3 = r_1 \sin \theta_1 + r_4 \sin \theta_4$$

$$r_3 \cos \theta_3 = r_1 + 0 - r_2 \cos \theta_2$$

$$r_3 \sin \theta_3 = 0 + r_4 - r_2 \sin \theta_2$$

Squaring & adding

$$r_3^2 = (r_1 - r_2 \cos \theta_2)^2 + (r_4 - r_2 \sin \theta_2)^2$$

where $\theta = 0^\circ$, $\theta_4 = \pi/2$
 r_1 is variable



$$r_3 \cos \theta_3 = r_1 + 0 - r_2 \cos \theta_2$$

$$r_3 \sin \theta_3 = 0 + r_4 - r_2 \sin \theta_2$$

Squaring & adding

$$r_3^2 = (r_1 - r_2 \cos \theta_2)^2 + (r_4 - r_2 \sin \theta_2)^2$$

$$r_3^2 = r_1^2 + r_2^2 + r_4^2 - 2r_1 r_2 \cos \theta_2 - 2r_2 r_4 \sin \theta_2$$

$$2r_1 r_2 \cos \theta_2 + 2r_2 r_4 \sin \theta_2 = (r_2^2 - r_3^2 + r_4^2) = r_1^2$$

$$K_1 \cos \theta_2 + K_2 \sin \theta_2 - K_3 = S^2, \text{ where } K_1 = 2r_1 r_2$$

$$K_2 = 2r_2 r_4$$

$$K_3 = r_2^2 - r_3^2 + r_4^2$$

Substituting the three related pairs

$$[\theta_2^{(1)}, S^{(1)}], [\theta_2^{(2)}, S^{(2)}] \text{ \& \& } [\theta_2^{(3)}, S^{(3)}]$$

Variable $r_1 = S$ (Sliding)



$$K_1 \cos \theta_2 + K_2 \sin \theta_2 - K_3 = S^2$$

Successively in above eqⁿ, we obtain three linear simultaneous eq. in K_1, K_2 & K_3 .

$$\left. \begin{aligned} K_1 S^{(1)} \cos \theta_2^{(1)} + K_2 \sin \theta_2^{(1)} - K_3 &= \{S^{(1)}\}^2 \\ K_1 S^{(2)} \cos \theta_2^{(2)} + K_2 \sin \theta_2^{(2)} - K_3 &= \{S^{(2)}\}^2 \\ K_1 S^{(3)} \cos \theta_2^{(3)} + K_2 \sin \theta_2^{(3)} - K_3 &= \{S^{(3)}\}^2 \end{aligned} \right\} \dots \dots \dots (I)$$



Example

Design a slider-crank mechanism in which the slider displacement is proportional to the square of the crank ^{angular displacement} ~~rotation~~ in the interval $45^\circ \leq \theta_2 \leq 135^\circ$, ^{from ref. frame} the initial and final value of slider ~~displacement~~ position are 10 cm & 30 cm, respectively. Use the three-point Chebyshev spacing. The direction of slider motion is parallel to x-axis.

