#### Homework 2

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# **Problem 1: Explanation**

See below for the code, and then later on, there are answers to the questions in the HW.

```
In [1]: #imports
        %matplotlib notebook
        import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
In [2]: import core as mr
        import numpy as np
        import pandas as pd
        from IPython.core.display import HTML
In [3]: #variables determined from project description
       W1 = 0.109 #changed mm to m
       W2 = 0.082
       L1 = 0.425
        L2 = 0.392
       H1 = 0.089
       H2 = 0.095
        Blist = np.matrix([
           [0, 1, 0, (W1 + W2), 0, (L1 + L2)],
          [0, 0, 1, H2, -(L1 + L2), 
[0, 0, 1, H2, -L2,
                                                  0],
                                                  01,
                                       0,
                                                  0],
                                       0,
                                                  0],
                                       0,
                                                  0]
        ]).T
        Tsd = [
           [-1, 0, 0, -0.2],
           [0, 0, 1, 0.6],
           [0, 1, 0, 0.35],
           [0, 0, 0, 1]
        M = np.matrix([
           [-1, 0, 0, (L1 + L2)],
           [0, 0, 1, (W1 + W2)],
           [ 0, 1, 0, (H1 - H2)],
           [ 0, 0, 0,
                            1]
        1)
        eomg = 0.001 #rad
        ev = 0.0001 \# m
```

```
In [4]: def calculate_V_error(V):
            - inputs: a twist V
            - outputs: [eomg_curr, elin_curr]
            W = V[0:3]
            v = V[3:6]
            mag_w = np.linalg.norm(w)
            mag_v = np.linalg.norm(v)
            return np.array([mag_w, mag_v])
        #######
        V = np.array([2,4,5,6,7,9])
        error = calculate_V_error(V)
        expected = [np.sqrt(45), np.sqrt(166)]
        assert np.allclose(expected, error), f"Observed error: {error}"
In [5]: def convert_theta_to_xyz(M, Blist, csv_filepath):
            - write function to convert a series of joint angles into positions
            in xyz coords of the end effector
                inputs: M, Blist/Slist, csv_filepath
                - opens and iterates through CSV file
                - uses: FKinBody() or FKinSpace(), inputs M, Blist/Slist, thetalist
                - calculate a transformation matrix that results from
                    the joint angles applied
                - take home configuration of robot and pre- or post-multiply
                    transformation from joint angles
                - use [R,p] = TransToRp(T) to get the translation of the end
                    effector rel. to. body frame; extract set x,y,z = p
                - outputs a list of lists, [ [x,y,z], [x,y,z], ...)
            Used for plotting the positions of the end effector over time.
            df = pd.read_csv(csv_filepath, header=None)
            p_list = []
            for ind, row in df.iterrows():
                angles = row.tolist()
                #apply forward kinematics with given angles; extract xyz and R
                Jb = mr.JacobianBody(Blist, angles)
                T = mr.FKinBody(M, Blist, angles)
                [_, p] = mr.TransToRp(T)
                p = p.round(3).tolist()
                p_list.append(p)
            ####
            return p_list
        #######
        expected = [
            [-0.594, -0.167, -0.162],
            [-0.055, 0.100, -0.364],
            [ 0.033, -0.027, 0.184],
            [ 0.817, 0.191, 0.005],
```

```
local_csv = "test_hw2_angles.csv"
        p list = convert theta to xyz(M, Blist, local csv)
        #these tolerances make no sense, but I verified by inspection
        #that observed elements are close to expected elements within 0.001
        #this isn't right - make sure to review in CoppeliaSim and make sure Jacobian
        #methods work right
        assert np.allclose(expected, p_list, atol = 0.02, rtol = 0.02), \
                f"Observed result: {p_list}"
In [6]: def write_csv_line(csv_filename, data):
            with open(csv_filename, 'a') as f:
                data_str = ','.join([str(i) for i in data]) + '\n'
                f.write(data_str)
        ####
        fname = "CSVwrite test.csv"
        data = [0, 22.45, 0.987, 2262]
        write_csv_line(fname, data)
In [7]: # def xyz_over_time_figure(xyz_list):
        def xyz_over_time_figure(ax, xyz_list, target_xyz, color='gray', label=None):
            - write function to display x, y, z posns over time
                - inputs: xyz_list, a list of lists of xyz coords
                - take in the CSV file for this so we don't have to write
                    code for it that depends on prev. outputs in the Jupyter notebook
                - look up a python library that can do 3D plots you can rotate
                - find out how to do line plots
                - have target_posn be an input; calculate initial_posn from array
                    indexing
                - outputs: a figure; display it when ready
            xdata = [posn[0] for posn in xyz_list]
            ydata = [posn[1] for posn in xyz_list]
            zdata = [posn[2] for posn in xyz_list]
            ax.plot(xdata, ydata, zdata, color=color, label=label)
            #Legend handling
            if "Start" not in ax.get_legend_handles_labels()[1]:
                ax.plot(*xyz_list[0], color='black', marker='o', label="Start")
                ax.plot(*xyz_list[0], color='black', marker='o')
            if "End" not in ax.get_legend_handles_labels()[1]:
                ax.plot(*xyz_list[-1], color='black', marker='x', label="End")
            else:
                ax.plot(*xyz_list[-1], color='black', marker='x')
            return ax
        ####
        #sample x, y, z
```

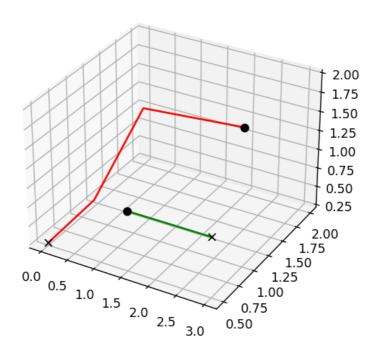
```
xyz_test = [
    [3, 1, 2],
    [0, 2, 1],
    [0.25, 1, 0.5],
    [0, 0.5, 0.25]
]

xyz_test2 = [
    [1.5, 0.5, 1],
    [3, 0.5, 1]
]

target_xyz = [0, 0, 0]

fig = plt.figure()
ax = plt.axes(projection='3d')
ax = xyz_over_time_figure(ax, xyz_test, target_xyz, 'red')
ax = xyz_over_time_figure(ax, xyz_test2, target_xyz, 'green')

plt.show()
```



```
:param ev: A small positive tolerance on the end-effector linear position
           error. The returned joint angles must give an end-effector
           position error less than ev
:return thetalist: Joint angles that achieve T within the specified
                  tolerances,
:return success: A logical value where TRUE means that the function found
                a solution and FALSE means that it ran through the set
                number of maximum iterations without finding a solution
                within the tolerances eomg and ev.
Uses an iterative Newton-Raphson root-finding method.
The maximum number of iterations before the algorithm is terminated has
been hardcoded in as a variable called maxiterations. It is set to 20 at
the start of the function, but can be changed if needed.
Example Input:
    Blist = np.array([[0, 0, -1, 2, 0,
                     [0, 0, 0, 0, 1,
                     [0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0.1]]).T
    M = np.array([[-1, 0, 0, 0],
                 [0, 1, 0, 6],
                 [0, 0, -1, 2],
                  [ 0, 0, 0, 1]])
                               -5],
    T = np.array([[0, 1, 0,
                               4],
                 [1, 0, 0,
                  [0, 0, -1, 1.6858],
                 [0, 0, 0, 1]])
    thetalist0 = np.array([1.5, 2.5, 3])
    eomg = 0.01
    ev = 0.001
Output:
    (np.array([1.57073819, 2.999667, 3.14153913]), True)
thetalist = np.array(thetalist0).copy()
i = 0
maxiterations = max_iter
Vb = mr.se3ToVec(mr.MatrixLog6(np.dot(mr.TransInv(mr.FKinBody(M, Blist, \
                                                 thetalist)), T)))
err = np.linalg.norm([Vb[0], Vb[1], Vb[2]]) > eomg \
      or np.linalg.norm([Vb[3], Vb[4], Vb[5]]) > ev
joint_vectors = []
ang_error_array = []
lin_error_array = []
while i < maxiterations: #edited the loop condition so we could print one more
    T curr = mr.FKinBody(M, Blist, thetalist)
    [mag_w, mag_v] = calculate_V_error(Vb)
    print(f"\nIteration {i}:\n")
    print(f"Joint vector: \n{thetalist.round(3).tolist()}\n")
    print(f"SE(3) end-effector config: \n{T_curr.round(3)}\n")
    print(f" error twist V_b: {Vb.round(3).tolist()}")
    print(f"angular error ||omega_b||: {round(mag_w, 4)}")
    print(f" linear error ||v_b||: {round(mag_v, 4)}")
    joint_vectors.append(thetalist)
    ang error array.append(mag w)
    lin_error_array.append(mag_v)
    #----#
```

### Problem 2

Below, this set of initial joint angles converges within  $3 \le i \le 5$  iterations.

```
Iteration 0:
Joint vector:
[1.646, -0.974, 1.175, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[ 0.074 -0.015 -0.997 -0.236]
[-0.977 0.199 -0.075 0.588]
         0.98 0.
[ 0.2
                       0.269]
 [ 0.
          0.
                0.
                       1.
                           11
          error twist V_b: [-0.165, -1.64, -0.153, -0.029, 0.084, -0.025]
angular error ||omega_b||: 1.6553
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.092
Iteration 1:
Joint vector:
[1.527, -1.284, 1.413, 0.036, 1.523, -0.117]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.994 -0.11 -0.004 -0.088]
[-0.022 0.162 0.986 0.579]
[-0.108 0.981 -0.164 0.339]
 [ 0.
         0.
                0.
                       1.
                          ]]
          error twist V b: [-0.164, -0.013, 0.109, 0.112, 0.019, 0.021]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.1977
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.1151
Iteration 2:
Joint vector:
[1.757, -1.226, 1.357, -0.133, 1.744, 0.038]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.999 0.038 -0.013 -0.207]
[-0.013 -0.001 1. 0.585]
[ 0.038 0.999 0.002 0.343]
 [ 0.
                0.
                       1.
                           11
         error twist V_b: [0.002, -0.013, -0.038, -0.007, 0.007, 0.015]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.0402
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.0176
Iteration 3:
Joint vector:
[1.741, -1.199, 1.302, -0.103, 1.741, 0.0]
SE(3) end-effector config:
            -0.
[[-1.
      0.
                  -0.2 ]
             1.
                   0.6 ]
Γ-0.
        0.
[ 0.
        1.
             -0.
                    0.35]
 [ 0.
        0.
            0.
                    1. ]]
         error twist V_b: [-0.0, -0.0, -0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0]
angular error ||omega b||: 0.0002
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.0004
```

Iteration 4:

```
Joint vector:
[1.742, -1.199, 1.301, -0.102, 1.742, 0.0]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-1. -0.
           0. -0.2]
           1.
                0.6]
[ 0.
     0.
[-0.
     1. -0. 0.35]
[ 0.
      0. 0.
                1. ]]
         error twist V_b: [-0.0, 0.0, 0.0, -0.0, 0.0, 0.0]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.0
    linear error ||v_b||: 0.0
```

Below, this set of initial joint angles converges in 10 < i < 20 iterations. I thought it wouldn't converge, but it found a solution with very high values of theta.

```
Joint vector:
[1.1, -2.0, 1.4, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.374 -0.256 -0.891 -0.079]
[-0.736 -0.503 0.454 0.265]
[-0.565 0.825 0.
                        0.618]
 [ 0.
         0.
                       1.
                           11
                 0.
          error twist V_b: [0.33, -1.065, 0.538, 0.013, -0.302, 0.334]
angular error ||omega_b||: 1.238
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.4507
Iteration 1:
Joint vector:
[0.768, -2.14, 2.246, 0.045, 0.791, -0.212]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.994 -0.104 0.018 0.031]
[ 0.006 0.107 0.994 0.262]
[-0.106 0.989 -0.106 0.303]
 [ 0.
         0.
                 0.
                        1.
                           ]]
          error twist V b: [-0.107, 0.012, 0.106, 0.23, 0.077, 0.334]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.151
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.4128
Iteration 2:
Joint vector:
[3.528, -1.183, 1.811, -1.029, 3.487, 0.574]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.585  0.808  -0.067  -0.441]
[ 0.068 0.131 0.989 -0.214]
[ 0.808  0.574 -0.132  0.154]
 [ 0.
                 0.
                       1.
                           11
         error twist V_b: [-0.154, 0.001, -0.947, -0.12, 0.358, 0.795]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.9596
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.8795
Iteration 3:
Joint vector:
[2.266, -2.711, 4.24, -2.917, 2.407, -1.47]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.687 -0.534 0.492 0.134]
[ 0.719 -0.401 0.568 -0.235]
[-0.106 0.744 0.659 -0.088]
[ 0.
         0.
                 0.
                       1. ]]
          error twist V_b: [0.641, 0.732, 0.387, 0.57, 0.248, 0.804]
angular error ||omega b||: 1.0473
     linear error ||v_b||: 1.0165
```

Iteration 0:

Iteration 4:

```
Joint vector:
[3.576, -1.008, 1.386, -2.01, 3.208, -2.126]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.784 -0.454 -0.423 -0.611]
[-0.402 -0.149 0.904 -0.313]
[-0.473 0.878 -0.066 0.304]
[ 0.
         0.
                0.
                     1.
                           11
          error twist V_b: [0.045, -0.445, 0.501, -0.609, -0.095, 0.806]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.6714
     linear error ||v_b||: 1.0143
Iteration 5:
Joint vector:
[2.382, -1.475, 4.869, -16.943, 3.084, -13.596]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.744 -0.067 0.664 0.168]
[ 0.666 -0.005 0.746 -0.197]
[-0.047 0.998 0.048 0.561]
[ 0.
         0.
                0.
                      1.
                           ]]
          error twist V_b: [0.029, 0.728, 0.063, 0.648, -0.207, 0.624]
angular error ||omega b||: 0.7317
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.9229
Iteration 6:
Joint vector:
[4.747, -1.084, -0.77, -34.538, 4.045, -36.452]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.216 0.749 -0.626 0.058]
[-0.975 -0.128 0.183 0.021]
[ 0.057 0.65 0.758 0.878]
[ 0.
         0.
                0.
                       1.
                           ]]
          error twist V_b: [0.685, -1.238, -0.624, -0.291, -0.748, 0.411]
angular error ||omega_b||: 1.5466
     linear error ||v_b||: 0.9018
Iteration 7:
Joint vector:
[297.857, -42.965, 151.999, -370.317, 80.221, -398.524]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.244 0.587 -0.772 -0.073]
[-0.912 0.133 0.389 -0.093]
[ 0.331 0.798 0.503 -0.462]
 [ 0.
         0.
                0.
                           - 11
                       1.
          error twist V_b: [0.256, -1.167, -0.637, -0.069, 0.691, 0.836]
angular error ||omega_b||: 1.3537
     linear error ||v_b||: 1.0865
```

Iteration 8:

```
Joint vector:
[301.047, -45.926, 156.188, -370.616, 76.536, -400.868]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.067 -0.865 -0.497 -0.404]
[ 0.37 -0.484 0.793 0.413]
[-0.927 -0.13 0.352 0.72 ]
 [ 0.
         0.
                0.
                     1. ]]
          error twist V_b: [0.72, -0.11, 1.543, 0.134, -0.502, 0.019]
angular error ||omega_b||: 1.7064
    linear error ||v_b||: 0.5199
Iteration 9:
Joint vector:
[300.171, -45.723, 155.739, -370.166, 76.692, -399.102]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.988 -0.034 0.153 0.06]
[ 0.146 -0.547 0.825 0.489]
[ 0.056 0.837 0.545 0.654]
 [ 0.
         0.
               0.
                     1. ]]
          error twist V_b: [0.58, 0.159, -0.012, 0.264, -0.328, -0.001]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.6015
    linear error ||v_b||: 0.4206
Iteration 10:
Joint vector:
[300.678, -45.988, 155.414, -370.113, 76.363, -399.243]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-0.975 -0.219 -0.049 -0.229]
 [-0.036 -0.063 0.997 0.553]
[-0.221 0.974 0.054 0.376]
 [ 0.
         0.
                0.
                       1. ]]
          error twist V_b: [0.059, -0.043, 0.222, -0.027, -0.03, 0.045]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.2334
    linear error ||v_b||: 0.0609
Iteration 11:
Joint vector:
[300.58, -46.063, 155.477, -370.162, 76.404, -398.981]
SE(3) end-effector config:
[[-1. 0.004 0.007 -0.194]
[ 0.007 -0.004 1.
                       0.6 ]
[ 0.004 1.
                0.004 0.353]
         0.
[ 0.
                0.
                     1. ]]
          error twist V_b: [0.004, 0.007, -0.004, 0.006, -0.003, -0.0]
angular error ||omega_b||: 0.0087
    linear error ||v_b||: 0.0066
Iteration 12:
Joint vector:
```

```
[300.588, -46.069, 155.478, -370.161, 76.403, -398.982]
         SE(3) end-effector config:
         [[-1. -0. -0. -0.2]
          [-0.
               -0. 1. 0.6
                1.
          [-0.
                     0.
                             0.35]
          [ 0.
                 0.
                      0.
                             1. ]]
                   error twist V b: [0.0, -0.0, 0.0, -0.0, -0.0, 0.0]
         angular error ||omega b||: 0.0
              linear error ||v_b||: 0.0
In [12]: #save data to csv so we can access it later.
         csv_long = "long_iterates.csv"
         f = open(csv_long, 'w') #clear out prev. results
         f.close()
         for vec in joint_vectors_long:
             write_csv_line(csv_long, vec)
         csv_short = "short_iterates.csv"
         f = open(csv_short, 'w') #clear out prev. results
         f.close()
         for vec in joint_vectors_short:
             write_csv_line(csv_short, vec)
```

#### **Problem 3**

Although it isn't part of the problem, I wanted to test the end-effector configuration in CoppeliaSim for not just short-iterates, but also long-iterates. Because CoppeliaSim UR5 scene 1 can only take in angles between (-2pi, 2pi), we can't put the angles from long\_iterates.csv directly into the scene. I found equivalent angles by adding n\*(2pi) to the angles in long\_iterates[end].

```
In [17]: #convert angles to be within [-2pi, 2pi]
    final_angles_new = np.array([(i % (2*np.pi)) for i in joint_vectors_long[-1]])
    print("\nLast joint vector in long_iterates, original:")
    print(np.array(joint_vectors_long[-1]).round(3).tolist())
    print("\nBounded by (-2pi, 2pi):")
    print(final_angles_new.round(3).tolist())

Last joint vector in long_iterates, original:
    [300.588, -46.069, 155.478, -370.161, 76.403, -398.982]

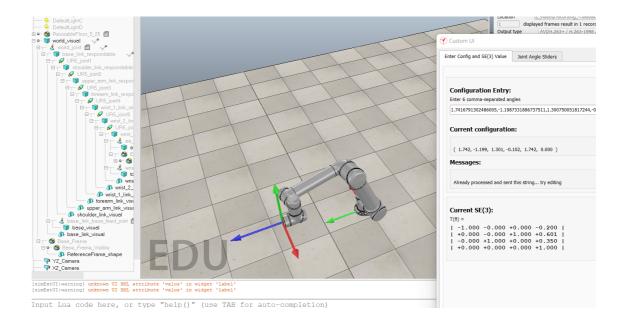
Bounded by (-2pi, 2pi):
    [5.278, 4.197, 4.681, 0.547, 1.005, 3.142]

In [18]: print(f"Last joint vector in short_iterates: \n{joint_vectors_short[-1].round(3).tolist()}

Last joint vector in short_iterates:
    [1.742, -1.199, 1.301, -0.102, 1.742, 0.0]
```

#### UR5 at final position generated by short\_iterates:

```
In [19]: display(HTML("<img src='https://i.imgur.com/FQi7gf7.png' width=1000'</pre>
```



## **Problem 4**

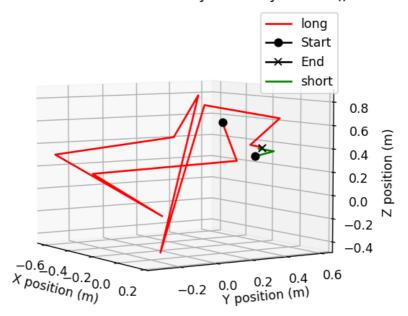
```
In [20]: #plot our data
    xyz_long = convert_theta_to_xyz(M, Blist,csv_long)
    xyz_short = convert_theta_to_xyz(M, Blist,csv_short)
    target_xyz = mr.TransToRp(Tsd)[1]

fig = plt.figure()
    ax = plt.axes(projection='3d')
    ax = xyz_over_time_figure(ax, xyz_long, target_xyz, 'red', label='long')
    ax = xyz_over_time_figure(ax, xyz_short, target_xyz, 'green', label='short')

ax.set_title("3D Positions Generated by IKinBodyIterates()")
    ax.set_xlabel("X position (m)")
    ax.set_ylabel("Y position (m)")
    ax.set_zlabel("Z position (m)")
    ax.legend()

plt.show()
```

#### 3D Positions Generated by IKinBodylterates()



### Problems 5+6

```
In [21]: fig, (ax1, ax2) = plt.subplots(1,2)
        #----#
        ax1.plot(ang_error_short, color='orange', label='short')
        ax1.plot(ang_error_long, color='blue', label='long')
        ax1.set_xlabel("Number of iterations")
        ax1.set_ylabel("Magnitude of error (rad)")
        ax1.set_title("Angular Error")
        ax1.legend()
        #----#
        ax2.plot(lin_error_short, color='orange', label='short')
        ax2.plot(lin_error_long, color='blue', label='long')
        ax2.set_xlabel("Number of iterations")
        ax2.set_ylabel("Magnitude of error (m)")
        ax2.set_title("Linear Error")
        ax2.legend()
        #----#
        fig.set_size_inches(9,4.5)
        plt.suptitle("Error over iterations of IKinBodyIterates()")
```

#### Error over iterations of IKinBodylterates() **Angular Error** Linear Error 1.75 short short long 1.0 lona 1.50 Magnitude of error (rad) 0.8 1.25 Magnitude of error (m) 1.00 0.6 0.75 0.4 0.50 0.2 0.25 0.00 0.0 0 2 10 12 10 12 4 6 8 2 4 6 8 Number of iterations Number of iterations

Out[21]: Text(0.5, 0.98, 'Error over iterations of IKinBodyIterates()')

#### Problem 7

If an initial guess for  $\theta_i$  is far away from the desired end effector joint angle  $\theta_d$ , the slope of the curve representing  $x-f(\theta)$  - where  $f(\theta)$  is the xyz position of the end effector at joint vector  $\theta$  - may be of any magnitude. The calculated value of J pseudo-inverse may not yield a next guess  $\theta_{i+1}$  that is close to the desired end effector configuration. If the "slope"  $J(\theta)$  is close to 0 at a far-away value of  $\theta$ , then  $J^+$  becomes large, and the value of  $\Delta\theta=J^+(\theta)V_b$  for the next iteration of Newton-Raphson will be high. This causes the system to get farther away from converging on a solution.

```
In [22]:
    print("\nJoint vectors from short-iterates:")
    short_list = [i.round(3).tolist() for i in joint_vectors_short]
    for ind, val in enumerate(short_list):
        print(f"{ind} {val}", end='\n')

    print("\nJoint vectors from long-iterates:")
    long_list = [i.round(3).tolist() for i in joint_vectors_long]
    for ind, val in enumerate(long_list):
        print(f"{ind} {val}", end='\n')
```

```
Joint vectors from short-iterates:
0 [1.646, -0.974, 1.175, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0]
1 [1.527, -1.284, 1.413, 0.036, 1.523, -0.117]
2 [1.757, -1.226, 1.357, -0.133, 1.744, 0.038]
3 [1.741, -1.199, 1.302, -0.103, 1.741, 0.0]
4 [1.742, -1.199, 1.301, -0.102, 1.742, 0.0]
Joint vectors from long-iterates:
0 [1.1, -2.0, 1.4, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0]
1 [0.768, -2.14, 2.246, 0.045, 0.791, -0.212]
2 [3.528, -1.183, 1.811, -1.029, 3.487, 0.574]
3 [2.266, -2.711, 4.24, -2.917, 2.407, -1.47]
4 [3.576, -1.008, 1.386, -2.01, 3.208, -2.126]
5 [2.382, -1.475, 4.869, -16.943, 3.084, -13.596]
6 [4.747, -1.084, -0.77, -34.538, 4.045, -36.452]
7 [297.857, -42.965, 151.999, -370.317, 80.221, -398.524]
8 [301.047, -45.926, 156.188, -370.616, 76.536, -400.868]
9 [300.171, -45.723, 155.739, -370.166, 76.692, -399.102]
10 [300.678, -45.988, 155.414, -370.113, 76.363, -399.243]
11 [300.58, -46.063, 155.477, -370.162, 76.404, -398.981]
12 [300.588, -46.069, 155.478, -370.161, 76.403, -398.982]
```

What seems strange to me about the joint vectors is the disparity in the scale of how much theta can change from one iteration of Newton-Raphson to the next. In long-iterates, changes in each joint angle are relatively small (<2pi radians) between iterations 0-6 and 7-12 (except for joints 4 and 6 in iterations 5-6). There's a massive leap in joint angles calculated between iterations 7-8, but after that there are no more large changes in theta. This tells me that Newton-Raphson root finding is volatile, and that initial joint angle guesses have to be close to the desired configuration in order for numerical IK to work.