

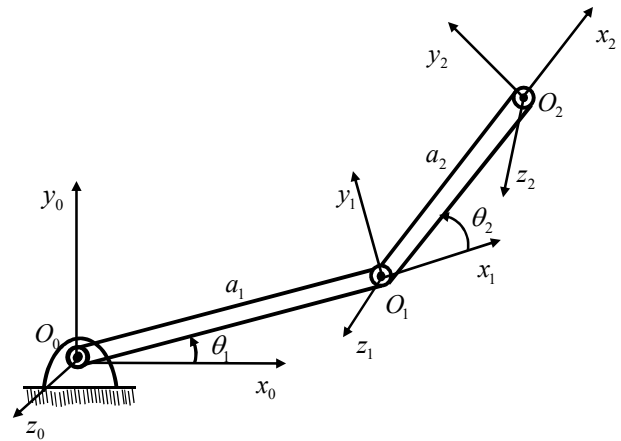
CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

Background

- Definition from Robot Institute of America (RIA)

“A *Robot* is a reprogrammable, multifunctional manipulator designed to move material, parts, tools, or specialized devices through variable programmed motions for the performance of a variety of tasks.”

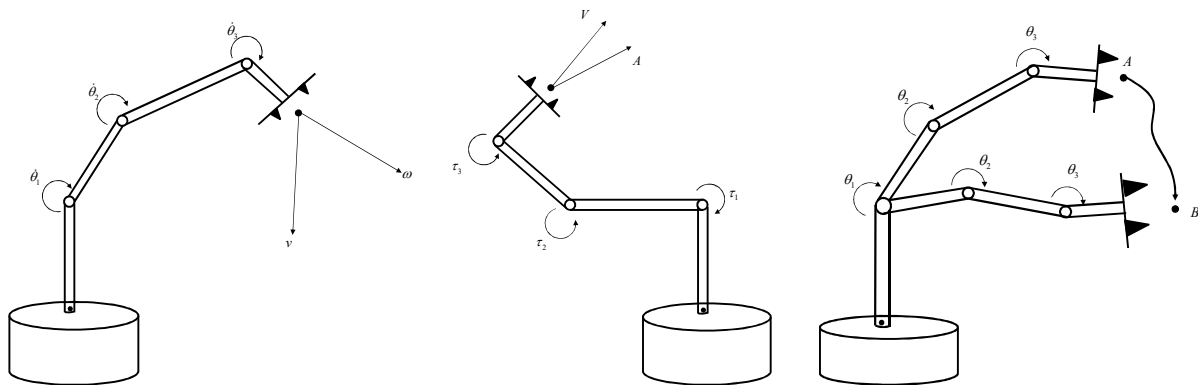
 - Advantage: reduces human labor, increases accuracy, productivity, and flexibility
- The term “robota (= labor)” is originated from Czech play “Rossum’s Universal Robots.”
- History of robots
 - 1954: one degree-of-freedom robot patented in U.S. by G.C. Devol.
 - 1961: first practical industrial robot developed by Unimation.
 - 1968: first Japanese industrial robot from Kawasaki.
 - 1970s: specialized industrial robots.
 - 1980s and 1990s: ↓
 - 21C and future: various applications – service, medical, military, etc.
- Robotics as a multidisciplinary field
 - Statics
 - Kinematics and dynamics
 - Machine/mechanism design
 - Control
 - Sensing
 - Vision
 - Artificial intelligence
 - Mechatronics
 - Computer algorithm and programming



Terminologies and Overview

- Position and orientation
 - Step 1: Attach a coordinate system (“local frame”) rigidly to each single rigid body.
 - Step 2: Describe the position and orientation of each local frame with respect to a reference coordinate system (“global frame” or “base frame”).
- Mechanical manipulator (or manipulator): rigid links connected with joints → allows relative motion of neighboring links
 - Joint displacement or joint variable – relative (position sensor)
 - Revolute joint (model) – joint angle
 - Prismatic joint (model) – translation or joint offset
 (vs. physical joint)
- Degrees of freedom (DOFs): number of independent coordinates required to describe the configuration of a system
 - Particle unconstrained in 3D → 3 DOF (3 translations)
 - Rigid body unconstrained in 3D → 6 DOF (3 translations + 3 rotations)
- End-effector: free end of the chain of links which make up the manipulator

- Forward kinematics: given a set of joint variables, compute the position and orientation of the end-effector's local frame (i.e., tool frame) relative to the global frame
→ Description mapping: joint space → Cartesian space (= operational space, task space)
- Inverse kinematics: given the position and orientation of the end-effector, calculate the joint variables
- Workspace → existence/nonexistence of a kinematic solution
- Jacobian matrix → mapping from joint space velocities to Cartesian space velocities
 - Singularity point → mapping is not invertible
- Joint actuator; actuator torques → manipulator statics (equilibrium) and dynamics (equations of motion)
- Trajectory generation
 - Trajectory: spatial and temporal (function of time)
 - Path: spatial, but not temporal



- Position control system: automatically compensate for errors in knowledge of the parameters of a system, and suppress disturbances which tend to perturb the system from the desired trajectory
 - Position/velocity sensors → control algorithm → actuator torque computation
- Nonlinear position control: nonlinear dynamics of the manipulator
- Force control: addresses the interaction (e.g., contact force) with the environment (e.g., parts, tools, surfaces, etc.)
 - Complementary to position control → hybrid position/force control

Steps of Solving Mechanics Problems

Step 1: Identify and isolate system of interest.

Step 2: Draw free-body diagram (FBD) of the system of interest, its interactions (i.e., external forces and moments) with the environment, and coordinate frame(s).

Step 3: Formulate governing equations.

- Note: In general, a FBD should include all forces/moments exerted “on” the system of interest “by” the environment.