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# Robótica Móvel

Exercises with Generic  
Kinematics of Wheeled Robots

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# Main purpose

- Simulate wheeled robot locomotion after their kinematics equations
- Robots to use as examples
  - Differential drive
  - Tricycle
  - Omnidirectional

# Principle

- Use the robot kinematics expression in the world (global) frame, whatever they may be in each case.
- Simulate time by discrete iteration (e.g.  $\Delta t=1$  or any convenient factor, like  $\Delta t=0.01$  for much finer control! )
- Calculate each new position during the simulation:

$$x(n+1) = x(n) + \dot{x}\Delta t$$

$$y(n+1) = y(n) + \dot{y}\Delta t$$

$$\theta(n+1) = \theta(n) + \dot{\theta}\Delta t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}(t) \\ \dot{y}(t) \\ \dot{\theta}(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Reference frames

- To convert local robot velocities into global frame velocities you need to apply the Orthogonal Rotation Matrix :  $R(\theta)$

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

- $V_X, V_Y, \omega$  - are the robot local velocity parameters
- To calculate the global velocities, apply the following:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}(t) \\ \dot{y}(t) \\ \dot{\theta}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta(t) & -\sin \theta(t) & 0 \\ \sin \theta(t) & \cos \theta(t) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_X(t) \\ V_Y(t) \\ \omega(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Differential Drive Robot Specification

- $r$  - Wheel radius
- $L$  - Wheel separation
- $\omega_L$  - left wheel angular velocity
- $\omega_R$  - right wheel angular velocity

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_X(t) \\ V_Y(t) \\ \omega(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r/2 & r/2 \\ 0 & 0 \\ -r/L & r/L \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_L(t) \\ \omega_R(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Tricycle Robot Specification

- $r$  - radius of steering wheel
- $\omega_s$  - steering wheel angular velocity
  - $V_s = \omega_s r$  - linear velocity of steering wheel (front wheel)
- $L$  - Distance from steering wheel to back wheels
- $\alpha$  - Steering angle of front wheel

$$V_X(t) = V_S(t) \cos \alpha(t)$$

$$V_Y(t) = 0$$

$$\omega(t) = \frac{V_S(t)}{L} \sin \alpha(t)$$

# Omnidirectional Drive Robot Specification

- $r$  - wheel radius
- $L$  - distance of wheels to robot center
- $\omega_i$  - angular velocity of wheel number  $i$  ( $i=1,2,3$ )

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_x \\ V_y \\ \omega \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{r}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{r}{\sqrt{3}} \\ -\frac{2r}{3} & \frac{r}{3} & \frac{r}{3} \\ \frac{r}{3L} & \frac{r}{3L} & \frac{r}{3L} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# 1a - Create basic functions in Matlab - orm()

**function R=orm(theta)**

Returns the orthogonal rotation matrix for angle theta

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



## 1b-Create basic functions in Matlab - localvels()

```
function [Vx,Vy,w]=localvels(t,r,L,w1,aw2,w3)
% Vx, Vy, w - velocities in local frame
% t - type of robot:
%     1 - DD
%     2 - TRI
%     3 - OMNI
% r - traction wheel radius
% L - meaning depending on type (wheel sep/1, wheel dist/2, wheel dist/3)
% w1 - angular vel of wheel 1 (Right wheel/1, steering/2)
% aw2- angular vel of wheel 2 (left/1) or alpha/2
% w3 - angular vel of wheel 3 (OMNI)
```

Valid for all three types of kinematics, where the parameter **t** determines what type of robot is asked and parameter 5 (**aw2**) will mean an angular velocity **w2** or a steering value **a** , and also determine the precise meaning of **r** and **L** in each case.

Returns the 3 velocities of the robot in its local frame.

## 2-Generate and plot paths for some local velocities laws

- Try several wheel angular velocities combinations as suggested ahead
- To build a path you must create a core loop for all simulation steps (ST)
- Inside this loop, you must perform some operations:
  - Calculate local velocities (Local Kinematics) - use the **localvels()** function
  - Convert local velocities to global Frame - using the **orm()** function
  - Successive global positions of path are the accumulation of previous positions with the product of instantaneous velocities by the time interval ( $Dt$ )
- Before entering the loop, you must define:
  - The number of simulation steps (ST) and the simulation time interval ( $Dt$ )
  - A starting point and orientation ( $x_0, y_0, \theta_0$ )
  - The robot parameters ( $r, L$ , type of robot)
  - The wheel velocity laws ( $w_1, w_2, w_3$ ) that can be fixed or change with time

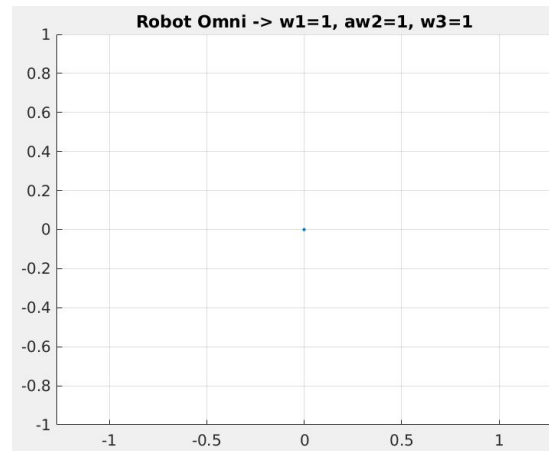
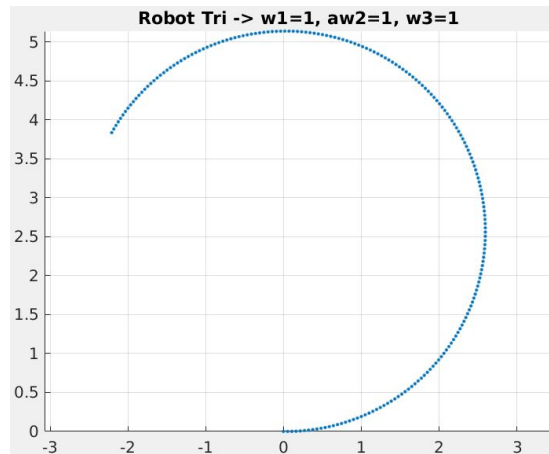
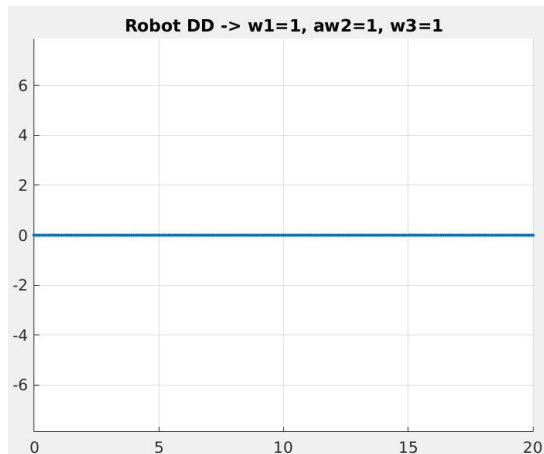
## 2a) - Path example 1 - similar wheel parameters

```
ST=200;  
r=1;  
L=4;  
P0=[0;0];  
th0=0;  
Dt=0.1;
```

All wheel “velocities” are constant for the three robot models:

$w_1=1; aw_2=1; w_3=1$

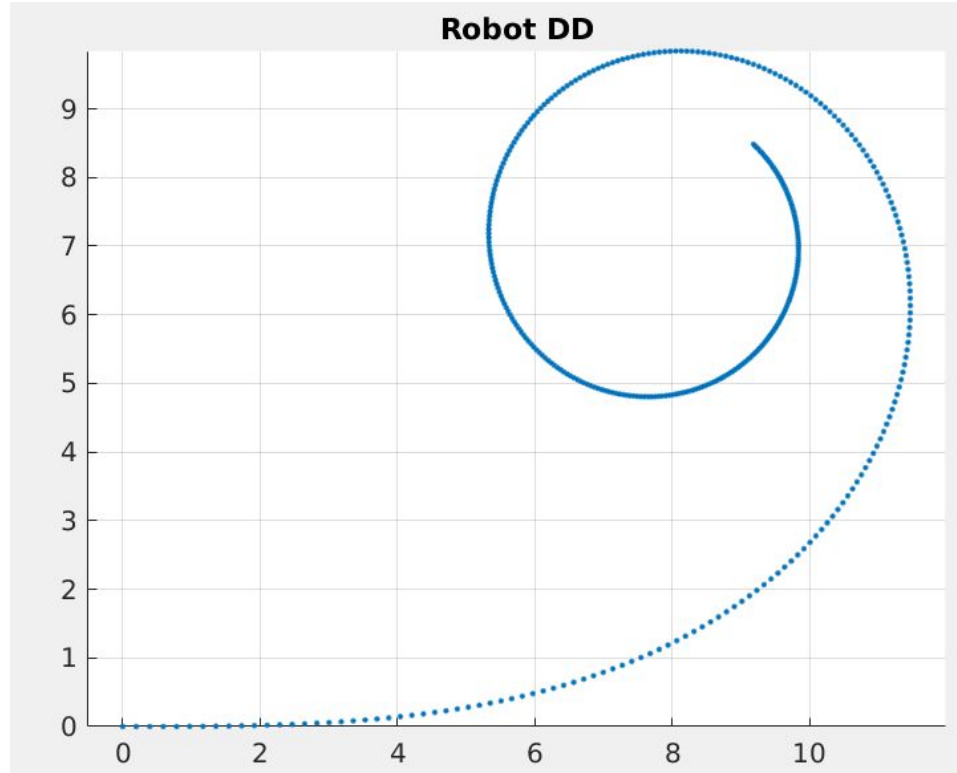
Remind the meaning of  $aw_2$  for the tricycle!



## 2b) - Path example 2 - DD with exponential decaying

```
ST=400;  
r=1;  
L=4;  
P0=[0;0];  
th0=0;  
Dt=0.1;
```

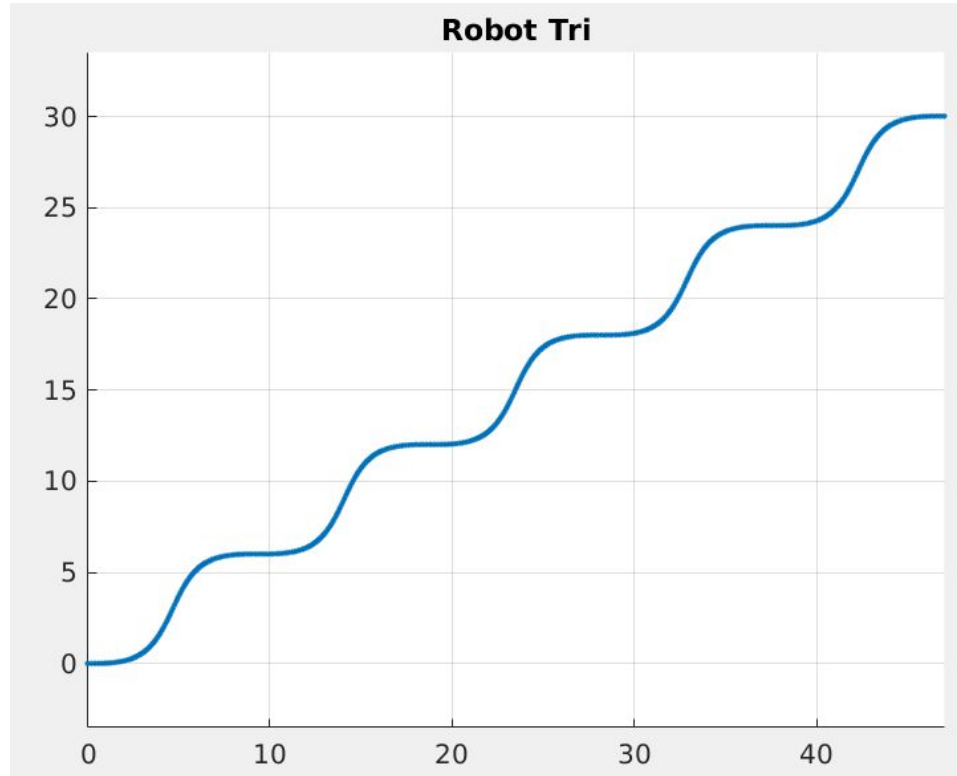
```
w1 =2*exp(-n/ST);  
aw2=2*exp(-5*n/ST);
```



## 2c) - Path example 3 - tricycle with shaking steering

```
ST=400;  
r=1;  
L=4;  
P0=[0;0];  
th0=0;  
Dt=0.1;
```

```
w1=2;  
aw2=sin(10*n*pi/ST)
```



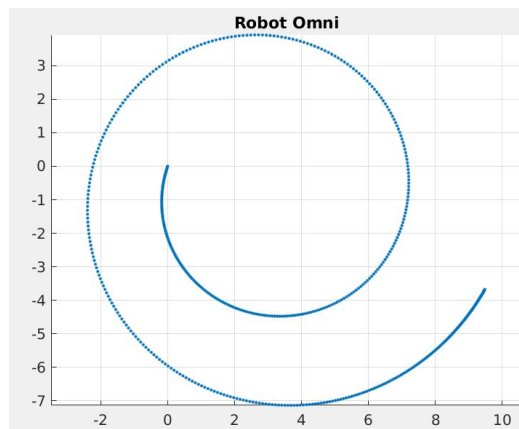
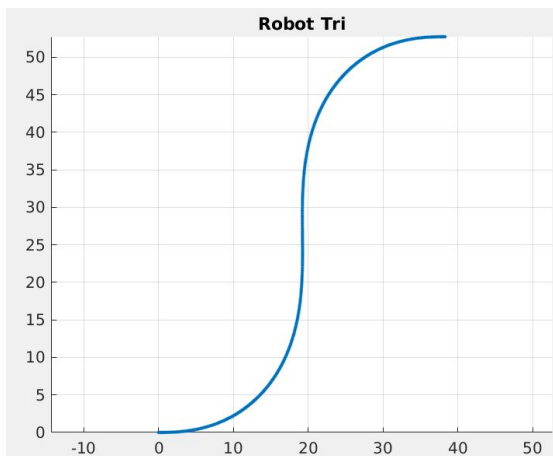
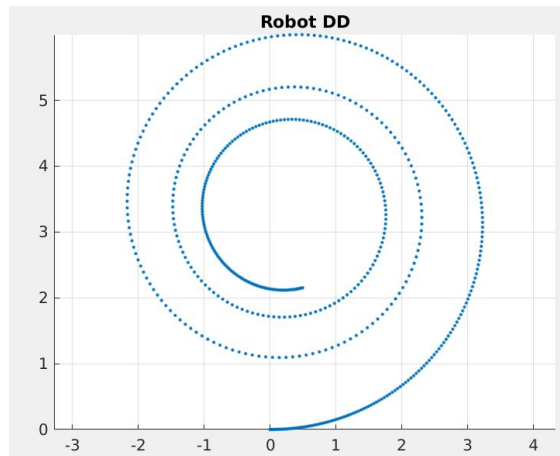
## 2d) - Paths example 4 - sinusoidal wheel velocities

```
ST=600;  
r=1;  
L=4;  
P0=[0;0];  
th0=0;  
Dt=0.1;
```

Wheel “velocities” are variable like sinus curves :

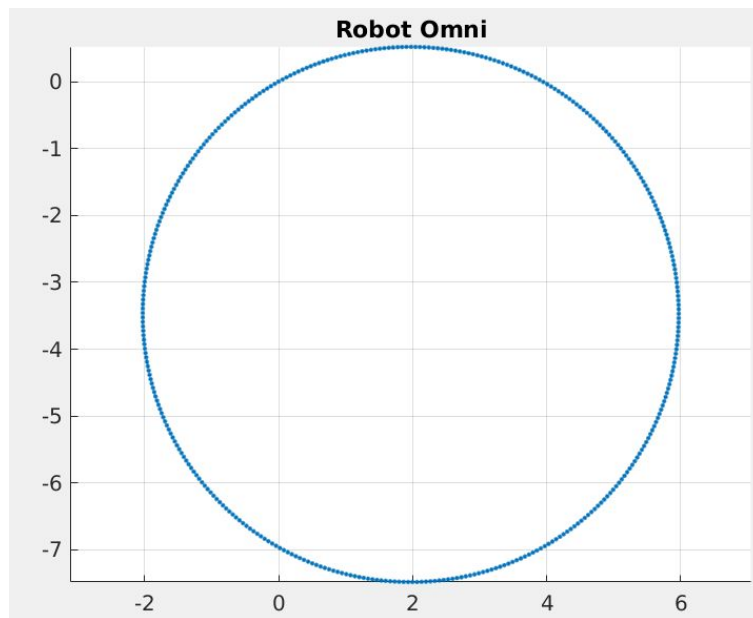
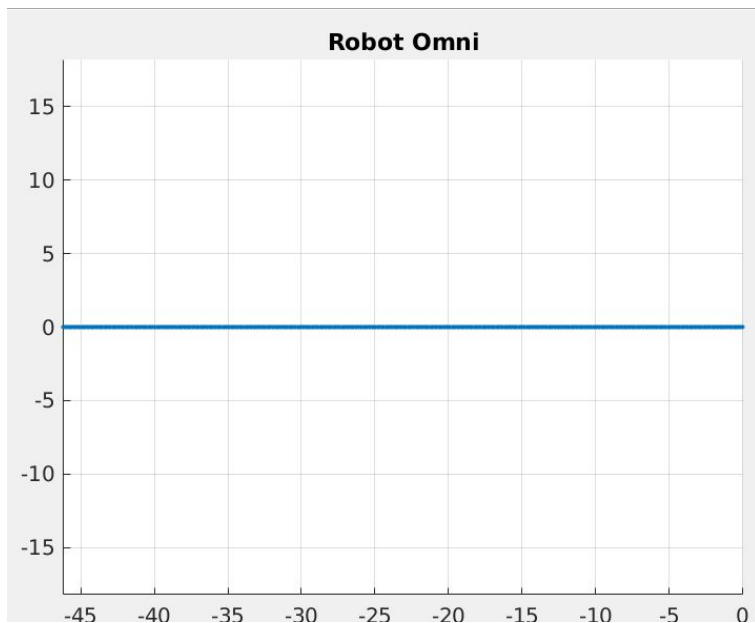
- $w1 = 2 \cdot \sin(n \cdot \pi / ST);$
- $aw2 = 0.25 \cdot \sin(2 \cdot n \cdot \pi / ST);$
- $w3 = \sin(n \cdot \pi / ST);$

Remind the meaning of aw2 for the tricycle!



### 3) - Challenge with Omni kinematics

Which combinations of the 3 wheels velocities of the Omni robot can produce the paths below?



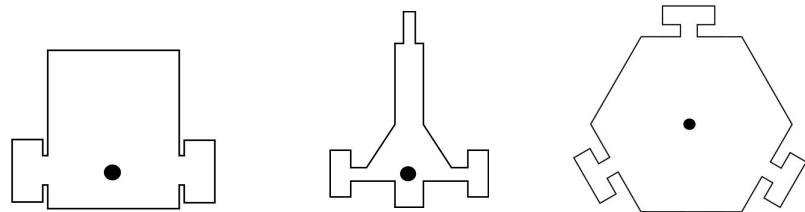
## 4 - Create graphic representations of robots

To better illustrate the simulated motion, suggestive representations of each of the 3 types of robots can be done.

- DD - Differential Drive
- TRI - Tricycle
- OMNI - Omnidirectional

A set of points to form a polygon is enough for each case.

Suggestions are given for the 3 illustrated polygons where the robot center is always at point (0,0):



```
20 20 20 22 22 33 33 33 22 22 20 20 -20 -20 -22 -22 -33 -33 -22 -22 -22 -20 -20
40 40 7 7 11 11 11 -7 -7 -3 -3 -10 -10 -3 -3 -7 -7 11 11 11 7 7 40
```

```
2 2 5 5 15 20 20 27 27 20 20 5 5 -5 -5 -20 -20 -27 -27 -20 -20 -14 -5 -5 -2 -2
54 44 44 16 2 2 8 8 -8 -8 -3 -3 -12 -12 -3 -3 -8 -8 8 8 2 2 16 44 44 54
```

```
12 12 4 4 21 44 35 40 44 51 39 32 36 31 21 -24 -33 -37 -34 -41 -52 -45 -41 -36 -46 -24 -4 -4 -12 -12
52 44 44 39 39 0 -15 -18 -11 -15 -35 -31 -24 -21 -39 -39 -23 -26 -33 -37 -17 -13 -20 -17 0 39 39 44 44 52
```



## 4a) - Create function to draw robot - suggestion

```
function [P,h]=DrawRobot(t,scale)
% P - points of robot to calculate its new coordinate
% h - graphic handle of robot
% t - type of robot
% scale - of robot to draw- (default 0.01)
if nargin < 2
    scale = 0.01;
end
switch t
    case 1 % DD
        P=[
20 20 20 22 22 33 33 33 22 22 20 20 -20 -20 -22 -22 -33 -33 -22 -22 -22 -20 -20
40 40 7 7 11 11 11 -7 -7 -3 -3 -10 -10 -3 -3 -7 -7 11 11 11 7 7 40
];
    case 2 % tri
        P=[
2 2 5 5 15 20 20 27 27 20 20 5 5 -5 -5 -20 -20 -27 -27 -20 -20 -14 -5 -5 -2 -2
54 44 44 16 2 2 8 8 -8 -8 -3 -3 -12 -12 -3 -3 -8 -8 8 8 2 2 16 44 44 54
];
    case 3 %omni
        P=[
12 12 4 4 21 44 35 40 44 51 39 32 36 31 21 -24 -33 -37 -34 -41 -52 -45 -41 -36 -46 -24 -4 -4 -12 -12
52 44 44 39 39 0 -15 -18 -11 -15 -35 -31 -24 -21 -39 -39 -23 -26 -33 -37 -17 -13 -20 -17 0 39 39 44 44 52
];
end
P=scale*P;
h=fill(P(1,:), P(2,:), 'y');
```

## 4b) - Animate robot along plotted path (partial code)

```
[Rob,h]=DrawRobot(t);  
Robh=[Rob; ones(1,size(Rob,2))];  
...% Correct initial orientation of robot  
for i=1:size(P,2)-1  
    dr=P(:,i+1)-P(:,i);  
    th=... % obtain correct orientation  
    T=... %define the geometric transf.  
    nRob=... %obtain current robot position  
    h.XData=nRob(1,:);  
    h.YData=nRob(2,:);  
    pause(1/ST/Dt);  
end
```

