# Forward and Inverse Kinematics

#### Kinematics =

Study of movement, motion independent of the underlying forces that cause them

# Today's Lecture: Forward and Inverse Kinematics

## Forward and Inverse Kinematics

Preliminaries: On transformation matrices





#### **Kinematics of Interesting Systems**

Scharminkage in a 2D workspace (obstacles in gray)

# **Kinematics of Complex Systems** Serial linkage with many links (many dofs) serpentine robots protein backbone chains









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#### Homogeneous Coordinate Matrix in 2D



The rotation and translation can be combined together in a homogeneous coordinate matrix

What is a homogeneous coordinate matrix?

Is translation a linear transformation?

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#### Homogeneous Coordinate Matrix in 3D





#### Homogeneous Coordinate Matrix in 3D



with:  

$$i_1^2 + i_2^2 + i_3^2 = 1$$
 Why?  
 $i_1j_1 + i_2j_2 + i_3j_3 = 0$  Why?  
 $det(R) = +1$  Why?  
 $R^{-1} = R^T$  Why?

#### Rotations around Axes Plus <u>Translation in 3D</u>

Rotation by  $\theta$  around y axis:



#### Rotation Around Arbitrary Vector v in 3D

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

- Step 1. Translate v to origin to obtain vector k
- Step 2. Rotate around centered vector  $k \neq k$
- Step 3. Translate back





#### Rotation Around Centered Vector k in 3D



#### Rotation Around Centered Vector k in 3D

#### How is $R(\mathbf{k}, \theta)$ obtained?

- 1. Rotate k so that the rotation axis is aligned with one of the principle x, y, z coordinate axes
- 2. Perform rotation of object about coordinate axis
- 3. Perform inverse rotation of 1

#### Details at

http://www.siggraph.org/education/materials/HyperGr aph/modeling/mod\_tran/3drota.htm

#### Homogeneous Coordinate Matrix in 3D



Composition of two transforms represented by matrices  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ :  $T_2 \times T_1$ 

Which one is applied first ?

# A Serial Linkage Model





- Rotating around  $a_i$  by angle  $\theta$  affects positions of following joints  $a_{i+2}$ ,  $a_{i+3}$ , and others down the chain
- Rotation is about arbitrary vector b<sub>i</sub> (rotational axis shown) by specified/desired angle θ





- Anchor: First joint placed at origin of coordinate system
  - Link b<sub>i</sub> defined from joint a<sub>i</sub> to a<sub>i+1</sub>
  - Rotating around  $a_i$  by angle  $\theta$  affects positions of following joints  $a_{i+2}$ ,  $a_{i+3}$ , and others down the chain



•  $R(b_i, \theta) = Translate(a_i) * R(axis, \theta) * Translate(-a_i)$ 



Joints between bonds 3 to 5 updated by:  $[x', y', z', 1]^T = R(\mathbf{bond}_3, 30) \cdot [x, y, z, 1]^T$ 

But the joints after bond 5 are updated by:

 $[x', y', z', 1]^T = R(\mathbf{bond}_7, 15) \cdot R(\mathbf{bond}_3, 30) \cdot [x, y, z, 1]^T$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i1 \ j1 \ k1 \ tx \\ i2 \ j2 \ k2 \ ty \\ i3 \ j3 \ k3 \ tz \\ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

→ Accumulation of computing errors along a serial linkage and repeated computation

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i1 \ j1 \ k1 \ tx \\ i2 \ j2 \ k2 \ ty \\ i3 \ j3 \ k3 \ tz \\ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $\rightarrow$  Rotation representation in rotation matrices is redundant
- $\rightarrow$  Only 3 parameters are actually needed

Why 3-parameters for representing rotations?

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i1 & j1 & k1 & tx \\ i2 & j2 & k2 & ty \\ i3 & j3 & k3 & tz \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

A **rotation representation** expresses the orientation of a rigid body (or coordinate frame) relative to a reference frame.

Rotation representation in homogeneous coordinate matrix is the matrix consisting of new axes i,j,k in the rotated coordinate frame.

Rotation matrix is often called the Direction Cosine Matrix (DCM), as the new axes can be described in terms of their coordinates relative to the reference axes (recall our derivation of the rotation in 2D).

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i1 & j1 & k1 & tx \\ i2 & j2 & k2 & ty \\ i3 & j3 & k3 & tz \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

A **rotation representation** expresses the orientation of a rigid body (or coordinate frame) relative to a reference frame.

Euler's rotation theorem:

(1) The displacement of a rigid body (or coordinate frame) with one point fixed is described by a rotation about some axis.

(2) Such a rotation may be uniquely described by a minimum of 3 dofs.

Rotation matrix has a total of 9 parameters that are not independent Orthonormality specifies 6 constraints (3 for normality, 3 for orthogonality) A total of 9-6 = 3 independent parameters represent the rotation

# **Goal: Less Redundant Rotation Representations**

Rotation representations: Rotation matrix, Euler angles, Axis-angle, Unit Quaternions

- $\rightarrow$  Rotation representation in rotation matrices is redundant
- → Euler angles are an example of non-redundant 3-parameters representations of rotations
- → Non-redundant 3-parameter representations of rotations like Euler angles have many problems: No simple algebra: composing rotations is not straightforward Singularities: many points map to same point in another representations
- → The unit quaternion is a less redundant rotation representation that uses four parameters
# **Representations of Rotations**

#### A brief summary of rotation representations:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rotation\_representation\_(mathematics)#Rotation \_matrix\_.28or\_direction\_cosine\_matrix.2C\_DCM.29 Unit Quaternion (for Rotations in 3D)

Quaternion: p = (a, bi, cj, dk) - 4 parameters

Extensions of complex numbers

 $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = jk = -1$  ij = k; jk = i; ki = j ji = -k; kj = -i; ik = -j

Convenient to describe them as scalar plus vector: p = a + v, or p = (a, v)where vector  $v = \langle b c d \rangle$ 

Unit quaternion: p<sup>2</sup> = 1 a,b,c,d can be defined so that p represents rotation around unit vector by a certain angle

# Unit Quaternion (for Rotations in 3D)

Allows compact representation of rotation  $R(\mathbf{r}, \theta)$  around vector r by angle  $\theta$ 

 $R(\mathbf{r},\theta) = (\cos \theta/2, r_1 \sin \theta/2, r_2 \sin \theta/2, r_3 \sin \theta/2)$  $= (\cos \theta/2, \mathbf{r} \sin \theta/2)$ 

Same rotation can be encoded in two ways



( $\cos \theta/2$ , **r**  $\sin \theta/2$ ) or ( $\cos (\pi - \theta/2)$ , -**r**  $\sin (\pi - \theta/2)$ ) Space of unit quaternions: Unit 3-sphere in 4-D space with antipodal points identified

# **Operations on Quaternions**

$$P = p_0 + p$$
 (scalar part is  $p_0$ , vector part is  $p$ )

 $Q = q_0 + q$  (different operations can be defined)

Product PQ is more interesting - it can be represented as another quaternion  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{r} = PQ$ where  $\mathbf{r}_0 = \mathbf{p}_0 \mathbf{q}_0 - \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q}$  ("." denotes inner product) and  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{p}_0 \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{q}_0 \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$  ("×" denotes outer product)

Conjugate of P is another quaternion  $P^* = p_0 - p$ 

#### Rotation of a Vector u Using Unit Quaternions

Vector  $\mathbf{u} = (x,y,z)$  can be represented as a quaternion  $0 + \mathbf{x}$ 

We want to rotate **u** around unit centered vector **n** by angle  $\theta$ 

Let rotation  $R(\mathbf{n}, \theta)$  be represented by a quaternion  $P_{R(\mathbf{n}, \theta)}$ 

Let P\* be the conjugate of P

Rotation of **X** yields **X'**:  $0 + \mathbf{X'} = P_{R(\mathbf{n},\theta)} (0 + \mathbf{X}) P_{R(\mathbf{n},\theta)}^{*}$ 

Forward and Inverse Kinematics

# Some more examples: Forward Kinematics on manipulators

 $\theta_2$ 

 $I_1$ 

 $\theta_1$ 

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## FK for Two-Linkage Chain

l<sub>2</sub>

(x,y)

 $\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{I}_1 \cos \theta_1 + \mathbf{I}_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{I}_1 \sin \theta_1 + \mathbf{I}_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \end{aligned}$ 

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#### FK for Two-Linkage Chain $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{I}_1 \cos \theta_1 + \mathbf{I}_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$ $y = I_1 / \sin \theta_1 + I_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$ $\theta_2$ l<sub>2</sub> $\theta_2 - \pi$ **y**<sub>2</sub> (x,y) θ α $\mathbf{y}_1$ **X**<sub>2</sub> $\theta_1$ $X_1$ $X_2$

$$x = x_1 + x_2$$
  

$$x_1 = I_1 \cos \theta_1$$
  

$$x_2 = I_2 \cos(\alpha) = I_2 \cos(-\alpha)$$

$$\alpha = \pi - \theta_1 - (\theta_2 - \pi) =$$
$$-(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$
$$-\alpha = \theta_1 + \theta_2$$

$$\rightarrow x_2 = I_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

$$y = y_1 - y_2$$
  

$$y_1 = I_1 \sin \theta_1$$
  

$$y_2 = I_2 \sin(\alpha) = -I_2 \sin(-\alpha)$$
  

$$= I_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$
  

$$\Rightarrow y = I_1 \sin \theta_1 + I2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$





#### **Relative Position of Two Joints**



#### **Relative Position of Two Joints**



Update in a Serial Linkage

$$\mathbf{T}_{k}^{(i)} = \mathbf{T}_{k} \dots \mathbf{T}_{i+2} \mathbf{T}_{i+1}$$

Joint j between i and k

A parameter between j and j+1 is changed

← Why is this important ?

■  $T_{j+1} \rightarrow T_{j+1}$ ■  $T_{k}^{(i)} \rightarrow T_{k}^{(i)} = T_{j}^{(i)} T_{j+1} T_{k}^{(j+1)}$ 

#### **Optional Reading (youtube video explains in detail):**

Denavit-Hartenberg Model derivation based on J.J. Craig. Introduction to Robotics. Addison Wesley, reading, MA, 1989.

Research article : Zhang, M. and Kavraki, L. E.. A New Method for Fast and Accurate Derivation of Molecular Conformations. Journal of Chemical Information and Computer Sciences, 42(1):64–70, 2002.

http://www.cs.rice.edu/CS/Robotics/papers/zhang2002fast-compmole-conform.pdf

# Forward and Inverse Kinematics

**Inverse Kinematics** 

# **IK In Robotics**

Solve for the dofs in order to satisfy spatial constraints on end

effectors



# **IK In Robotics**



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# IK In Computer Graphics, Games, Virtual Reality



Real-Time Joint Coupling of the Spine for Inverse Kinematics Raunhardt, Boulic JVRB 2008

# **IK In Computational Biology**

Filling gaps in structure determination by X-ray crystallography



Lotan, Bedem, Latombe 2004-2005

# **IK In Computational Biology**

Computing conformational ensembles of loops in proteins



Shehu, Proteins 2006

### Solving the IK Problem for Two-Linkage Chain



#### Two solutions

# Solving the IK Problem for Two-Linkage Chain



$$x = l_1 cos(\theta_1) + l_2 cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$
  

$$y = l_1 sin(\theta_1) + l_2 sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$
  

$$x^2 + y^2 = l_1^2 + l_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2 cos(\theta_2)$$

$$cos(\theta_2) = \frac{x^2 + y^2 - l_1^2 - l_2^2}{2l_1l_2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= l_1 \cos(\theta_1) + l_2 (\cos(\theta_1) \cos(\theta_2) - \sin(\theta_1) \sin(\theta_2)) \\ x &= \cos(\theta_1) (l_1 + l_2 \cos(\theta_2)) - \sin(\theta_1) (l_2 \sin(\theta_2)) \\ y &= \cos(\theta_1) (l_2 \sin(\theta_2)) + \sin(\theta_1) (l_1 + l_2 \cos(\theta_2)) \\ \cos(\theta_1) &= \frac{x + \sin(\theta_1) l_2 \sin(\theta_2)}{l_1 + l_2 \cos(\theta_2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$sin(\theta_1) = \frac{(l_1 + l_2 cos(\theta_2))y - l_2 sin(\theta_2)x}{l_1^2 + l_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2 cos(\theta_2)}$$

#### A More Complicated Example



General Results for the IK Problem

# 6-joint chain in 3-D space:

- N<sub>DOF</sub>=0 Why?
- At most 16 distinct IK solutions

![](_page_58_Figure_6.jpeg)

General Results for the IK Problem

# 6-joint chain in 3-D space:

- N<sub>DOF</sub>=0 Why?
- At most 16 distinct IK solutions

![](_page_59_Figure_6.jpeg)

### Analytical or Exact IK Methods

# Can solve only for 6 joints

• Write forward kinematics in the form of polynomial equations (use  $t = tan(\theta/2)$ 

![](_page_60_Picture_5.jpeg)

# **IK Methods/Solvers**

#### **Computer Science**

- Exact IK solvers
   [Manocha, Canny '94]
   [Manocha et al. '95] [Zhang, Kavraki '02]
   [Zhang, White, Wang, Goldman, Kavraki '04]
- Optimization IK solvers
   [Wang, Chen '91]
- Applications for protein loops
  - [Han, Amato '00]
  - [Xie, Amato '03]
  - [Cortes, Simeon, Laumond '02]
  - [Cortes et al. '04]
  - [Shehu et al. '06-'07]

#### Biology/Crystallography

- Exact IK solvers
   [Go, Scheraga '70]
   [Wedemeyer, Scheraga '99]
   [Coutsias et al. '04]
- Optimization IK solvers
   [Fine et al. '86] [Shenkin et al. '87]
   Cyclic Coordinate Descent:
   [Canutescu, Dunbrack '03]

#### **Basic Idea of Iterative IK Methods**

- Can solve only for arbitrary number of joints
  - 1. Compute error e = target pose current pose
  - 2. Find changes  $\Delta \theta$  to joint values  $\theta$  that minimize  $|\mathbf{e}|^2$
  - 3. Apply  $\Delta \theta$  through forward kinematics
  - 4. Repeat 1. 3. until |e|<sup>2</sup> is below a threshold or we run out of patience for more iterations

# IK as an Optimization (Minimization) Problem

- $Q = (q_1 q_2 \dots q_n)$ : n-vector of dofs
- $\theta = (\theta_1 \ \theta_2 \ \dots \ \theta_n)$ : n-vector of values to dofs
- k end effectors with current poses denoted s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>k</sub>
- Target poses for end effectors:  $t_1 \dots t_k$
- Two fundamental observations:
  - $s_1 \dots s_k$  depend on  $(\theta_1 \ \theta_2 \dots \ \theta_n)$  through forward kinematics function: written as:  $s = s(\theta)$
  - IK problem is to find values for  $\theta_1 \theta_2 \dots \theta_n$  so that  $t_i = \mathbf{s}_i(\theta)$  for all i

- IK as an Optimization (Minimization) Problem
- There may be no closed-form solution to  $t_i = s_i(\theta)$
- Iterative methods approximate a good solution
- A solution is sought only for the first-order approximation to the Taylor expansion of t<sub>i</sub> = s<sub>i</sub>(θ)
- That is, we try to solve  $t = s(0 + \theta) + ds(\theta)/dt$
- Using chain rule:  $ds(\theta)/dt = \partial s/\partial(\theta) * d\theta/dt$

## IK as an Optimization (Minimization) Problem

 Let J(θ) = ∂s/∂(θ) -- J is called the Jacobian matrix Note that J can be viewed as a kxn mxn matrix (m = 3k)
 Then: ds(θ)/dt = J(θ) \* dθ/dt

# IK as an Optimization (Minimization) Problem

- So:  $ds(\theta)/dt = J(\theta) * d\theta/dt$
- $J(\theta) = \partial s / \partial(\theta)$  leads to an iterative way of solving  $t_i = s_i(\theta)$ :
  - Given current values for  $\theta$ , s, t, compute J( $\theta$ )
  - Find an update  $d\theta$  s.t. the change  $ds = J(\theta) d\theta$  updates s to reach t In other words, find  $d\theta$  s.t.  $0 = \mathbf{e}(\theta + d\theta) = \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{s}(\theta + d\theta) = J(\theta) d\theta$
- Iterative methods fall in two categories:
  - (all in one): find values  $d\theta$  by which to update all angles
  - (one at a time). find  $d\theta_i$  to increment  $\theta_i$ , update s, then continue to  $\theta_{i+1}$

# Computing the Jacobian

- Jacobian entries  $\partial s/\partial(\theta)$  are usually not hard to calculate
- For rotational joints (see Buss review for other types of dofs)
  - $\partial s_i / \partial (\theta_j) = v_j \times (s_i p_j)$ where  $v_j$  is unit vector along the rotational axis for  $\theta_j$ and  $p_j$  is the position of the joint
  - Intuition: s<sub>i</sub> p<sub>j</sub> , v<sub>j</sub> form a plane perpendicular to circle followed by link i in rotation around v<sub>j</sub> (forms basis of cyclic coordinate descent method)

## How to Compute Inverse of Jacobian

- We want inverse of J, not J itself, because we want to find  $d\theta$ 
  - $ds/dt = J(\theta) d\theta \rightarrow J^{-1}(\theta) ds/dt = J^{-1}(\theta) J(\theta) d\theta = d\theta$
  - So, by finding  $J^{-1}(\theta)$ , we find  $d\theta$

#### Finding Inverse of Jacobian is Not Trival

- J is an  $6 \times n$  matrix. Assume rank(J) = 6
- Find  $d\theta$  s.t.  $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{J}(\theta) d\theta$  would mean  $d\theta = \mathbf{J}^{-1} \mathbf{e}$
- May not have rank 6, which means inverse may not exist
- Transpose or pseudo inverse are often used for J<sup>-1</sup>
  - Transpose of J approaches (easiest to implement)
  - Pseudo inverse of J approaches (allows introducing null space of J)
  - Damped least squares (see Buss review, most stable but slow)

## Jacobian Transpose Approach

- Find  $d\theta$  s.t.  $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{J}(\theta) d\theta$  would mean  $d\theta = \mathbf{J}^{-1} \mathbf{e}$
- Transpose  $J^T$  :  $d\theta = \alpha J^T e$ 
  - scalar  $\alpha$  needs to be small to reduce magnitude of error **e**
  - Transpose always exists, but often produces poor quality solutions

#### Jacobian Pseudo Inverse Approach

- Find  $d\theta$  s.t.  $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{J}(\theta) d\theta$  would mean  $d\theta = \mathbf{J}^{-1} \mathbf{e}$
- Pseudo inverse  $J^+$ :  $d\theta = J^+ e$ 
  - J<sup>+</sup> also called Moore-Penrose inverse
  - Gives best solution to  $J d\theta = e$  in sense of least squares
  - Has instability issues near singularities
- A singular value decomposition (SVD) of J gives an easy way to compute J<sup>+</sup>
#### Jacobian Pseudo Inverse Approach

- J<sup>+</sup> has an additional property: I J J<sup>+</sup> performs a projection onto the null space of J (self-motion manifold)
- Null space is space of vectors  $\theta$  such that ds = 0
- {  $d\theta \mid J d\theta = 0$ } has dim = n 6
- Any vector φ of values to joint dofs that minimizes some other objective function (e.g. potential energy of a protein chain) can be projected onto the null space and obtain a vector that minimizes energy and keeps the end effectors in their place

### Computation of J<sup>+</sup> from SVD of J

- **1**. SVD decomposition  $\rightarrow$  J = U  $\Sigma$  V<sup>T</sup> where:
  - U in an  $6 \times 6$  square orthonormal matrix
  - V is an  $n \times 6$  square orthonormal matrix
  - $\Sigma$  is of the form diag[ $\sigma_i$ ]:



1.  $J^+ = V \Sigma^+ U^T$  where  $\Sigma^+ = diag[1/\sigma_i]$ Can verify that  $JJ^+ = (U \Sigma V^T) (V \Sigma^+ U^T) = I$ 

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# SVD of J Yields Null Space of J



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## SVD of J Yields Null Space of J



Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization

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#### SVD of J Yields Null Space of J



## Minimization of Objective Function with Closure

# **Input:** Chain with ends at target poses Repeat

- 1. Compute Jacobian matrix J at current q
- 2. Compute null-space basis N using SVD of J
- 3. Compute gradient  $\nabla T(\theta)$  and  $y=-\nabla T(\theta)$
- Move along projection NN<sup>T</sup>y until minimum of T is reached or closure is broken

I. Lotan, H. van den Bedem, A.M. Deacon and J.-C Latombe. Computing Protein Structures from Electron Density Maps: The M issing Loop Problem

Proc. 6th Workshop on Algorithmic Foundations of Robotics (WAFR 04)