

Robotics

Erwin M. Bakker | LIACS Media Lab

18-2 2025



Universiteit
Leiden

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Organization and Overview

Lecturer:

Dr Erwin M. Bakker (erwin@liacs.nl)
Room LIACS Media Lab (LML)
Please email for a meeting.

Period: February 11th - May 13th 2025

Time: Tuesday 11.15 - 13.00

Place (Rooms): Van Steenis F1.04

Exceptions:

Gorlaeus Building BM.1.33 on April 1st

Gorlaeus Building BM.1.23 on May 20th

Teaching assistants:

TBA

Schedule (tentative, visit regularly):

Date	Subject
11-2	Introduction and Overview
18-2	Locomotion and Inverse Kinematics
25-2	Robotics Sensors and Image Processing
4-3	SLAM + Workshop@Home
11-3	Robotics Vision + Introduction Mobile Robot Challenge
18-3	Project Proposals I (by students)
25-3	Project Proposals II (by students)
1-4	Robotics Reinforcement Learning + RL Workshop@Home
8-4	Project Progress Reports I
15-4	Project Progress Reports II
22-4	Mobile Robot Challenge I
29-4	Mobile Robot Challenge II
6-5	TBA
13-5	Project Demos I
20-5	Project Demos II
27-5	Project Deliverables



Grading (6 ECTS):

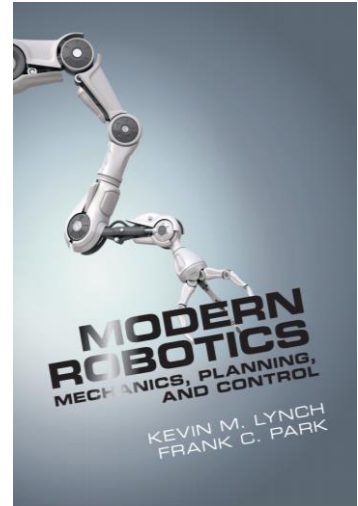
- Presentations and Robotics Project (60% of grade).
- Class discussions, attendance, 2 assignments (pass/no pass)
- 2 Workshops (0-10) (20% of the grade).
- Mobile Robot Challenge (0-10) (20% of the grade)
- ***It is necessary to be at every class and to complete every workshop and assignment.***

Website: <http://liacs.leidenuniv.nl/~bakkerem2/robotics/>

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Overview

- Robotic Actuators
- Degree of Freedom of Robots
- Introduction to:
 - Configuration Space
 - Rigid Body Motion
 - Forward Kinematics
 - Inverse Kinematics
- Link: <http://modernrobotics.org>

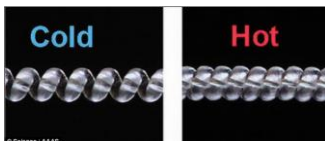
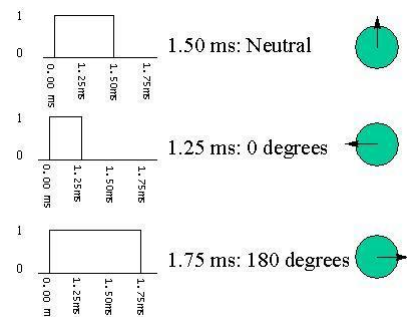


K.M. Lynch, F.C. Park, Modern Robotics: Mechanics, Planning and Control, Cambridge University Press, 2017

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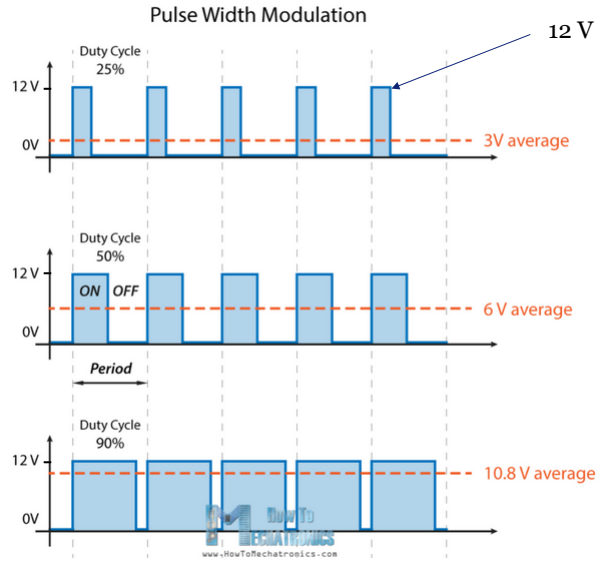
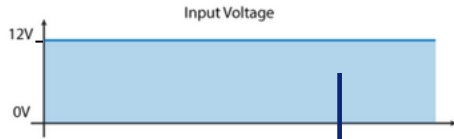
Robotics Actuators

- Electro motors
- Servo's
- Stepper Motors
- Brushless motors
- Solenoids
- Hydraulic, **pneumatic actuator's**
- Magnetic actuators
- Artificial Muscles
- Etc.



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DC Motors



<https://howtomechatronics.com/how-it-works/electronics/how-to-make-pwm-dc-motor-speed-controller-using-555-timer-ic/>

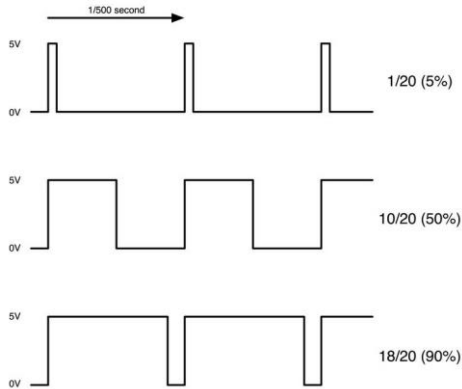
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Direct Current (DC) Electro Motors:

- Duty Cycle

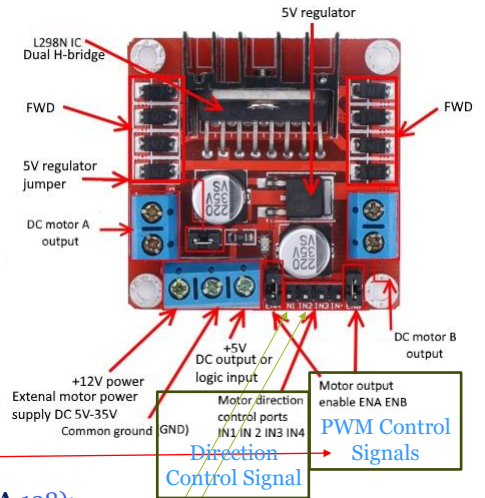


Brushed DC (BDC) motor controller Using L298N



Loop:

```
PWM(ENA,128);
DigitalWrite(IN1, HIGH);
DigitalWrite(IN2, LOW);
PWM(ENB,64);
DigitalWrite(IN3, HIGH);
DigitalWrite(IN4, LOW);
```



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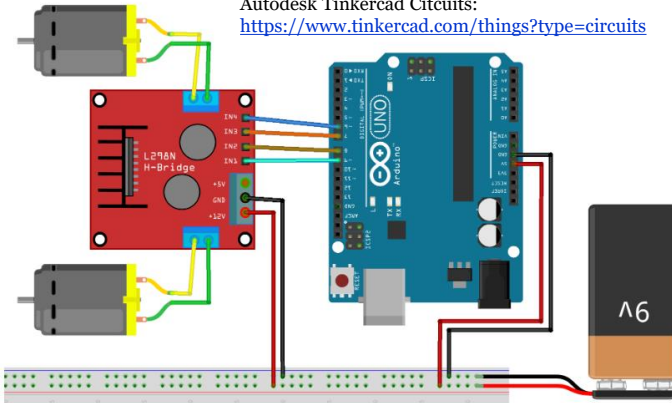
Direct Current (DC) Electro Motors:



Brushed DC (BDC) motor controller Using L298N

MotoDriver 2	Arduino
Input 1	9
Input 2	8
Input 3	7
Input 4	6

Autodesk Tinkercad Circuits: <https://www.tinkercad.com/things?type=circuits>



```
// connect motor controller pins to Arduino digital pins
// motor one
int enA = 10;
int in1 = 9;
int in2 = 8;
// motor two
int enB = 5;
int in3 = 7;
int in4 = 6;

void setup()
{ // set all the motor control pins to
  // outputs
  pinMode(enA, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(enB, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(in1, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(in2, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(in3, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(in4, OUTPUT);
}
```

```
void demoOne()
{
  // run the motors in one direction at a fixed speed
  // Turn on and set forward direction of motor A
  digitalWrite(in1, HIGH);
  digitalWrite(in2, LOW);
  // Set speed to PWM Value 200 (range 0~255)
  analogWrite(enA, 200);
  // Turn on and set backward direction of motor B
  digitalWrite(in3, LOW);
  digitalWrite(in4, HIGH);
  // Set speed to PWM Value 100 (range 0~255)
  analogWrite(enB, 200);
  delay(2000);
}
```










https://cdn.bodanius.com/media/1/d6d1595_img.pdf

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DC Motor Controllers

Pololu Simple Motor Controllers

- USB, TTL Serial, Analog, RC Control, I2C

	Original versions, not recommended for new designs (included for comparison purposes)					G2 versions, released November 2018			
	 SMC 18v7	 SMC 18v15	 SMC 24v12	 SMC 18v25	 SMC 24v23	 SMC G2 18v15	 SMC G2 24v12	 SMC G2 18v25	 SMC G2 24v19
Minimum operating voltage:	5.5 V	5.5 V	5.5 V	5.5 V	5.5 V	6.5 V	6.5 V	6.5 V	6.5 V
Recommended max operating voltage:	24 V(1)	24 V(1)	34 V(2)	24 V(1)	34 V(2)	24 V(1)	34 V(2)	24 V(1)	34 V(2)
Max nominal battery voltage:	18 V	18 V	28 V	18 V	28 V	18 V	28 V	18 V	28 V
Max continuous current (no additional cooling):	7 A	15 A	12 A	25 A	23 A	15 A	12 A	25 A	19 A
USB, TTL serial, Analog, RC control:	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
I2C control:						✓	✓	✓	✓
Hardware current limiting:						✓	✓	✓	✓
Reverse voltage protection:						✓	✓	✓	✓

<https://www.pololu.com/category/94/pololu-simple-motor-controllers>

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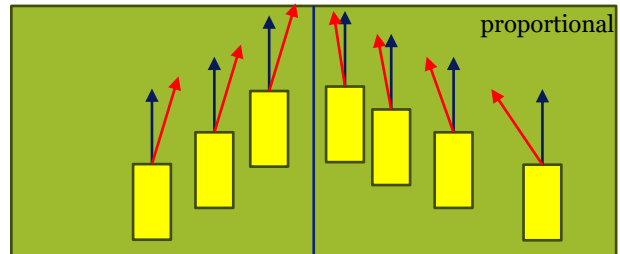
Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) Controller

Process Variable is a system parameter that needs to be controlled, e.g., temperature, speed, gripper location, **trajectory**, etc.

Set Point is the **desired value** (or command value), i.e., temperature = 100 C, speed = 10m/s, arm angle = 27.5 deg., gripper location = (10.2 cm, 3 cm, 12 cm), **desired trajectory**

Error = Set Point - Process Variable

The Control System Algorithm (Compensator) uses the **Error** to determine the **Actuator Output** (e.g. ..., **steering angle**) to drive the system: plant, robot, robot arm, **self-driving car**



Idea:

Set the **Setpoint**

Repeat

- **Process Variable = Read Sensor**
- **Error = Set Point - Process Variable**
 - Calculate a Compensating Response
 - ⇒ actuator output
 - ⇒ System change

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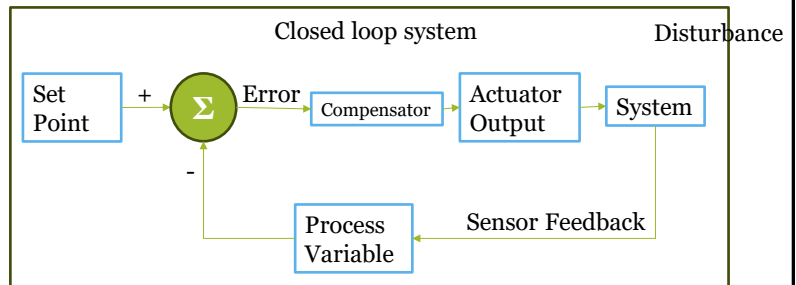
Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) Controller

Idea:

- Read a sensor
- Compute the desired actuator output
 - Calculate proportional response
 - Calculate integral response
 - Calculate derivative response
 - Sum these to compute the desired actuator output

The Error is the difference between the **Process Variable** and the **Set Point**.

This is used as by the Control System Algorithm (Compensator) to determine a desired **Actuator Output** to drive the system (plant, robot, car, arm etc.).



Process Variable is a system parameter that needs to be controlled, e.g., temperature, speed, arm angle, gripper location, **trajectory**

Set Point is the **desired value** (or command value) for the Process Variable, i.e., temperature = 100 C, speed = 10m/s, arm angle = 27.5 deg., gripper location = (10.2cm, 3 cm, 12 cm), **desired trajectory**

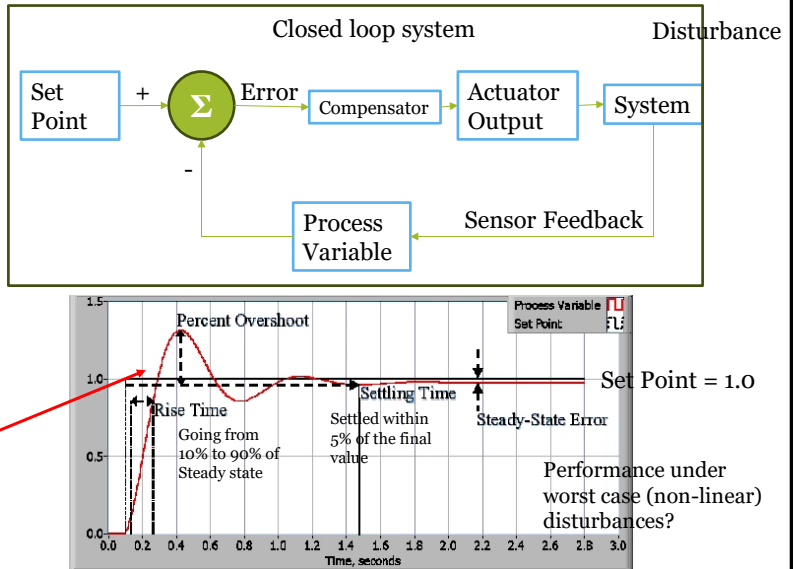
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Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) Controller

- **Process Variable** is a system parameter that needs to be controlled, e.g., temperature, speed, ..., **trajectory**
- **Set Point** is the desired value (or command value) for the Process Variable, i.e., temperature = 100 C, speed = 10m/s, **desired trajectory**
- **The Error** is the difference between the **Process Variable** and the **Set Point**. This is used as by the Control System Algorithm (Compensator) to determine a desired **Actuator Output** to drive the system (cart, robot arm, car etc.), e.g., ... **steering angle**

Example of a response curve of the **Process Variable** of a PID closed loop system:

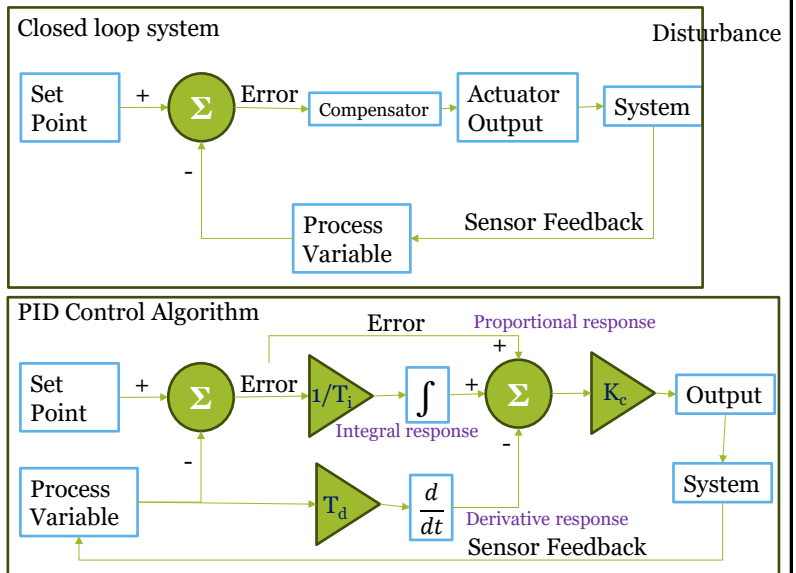
Loop cycle time: interval of time between calls to the control algorithm.
Control scheme depends on the performance requirements.



Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) Controller

$$u(t) = K_c \cdot \left(e(t) + \frac{\int e(t) dt}{T_i} + T_d \cdot \frac{de(t)}{dt} \right)$$

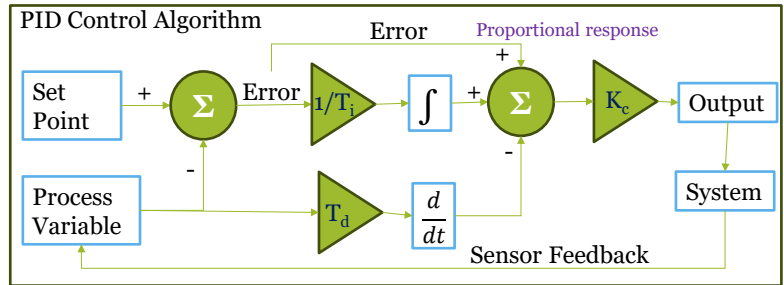
- **Error = Set Point - Process Variable**
- **PID Control System Algorithm** uses the error to determine a desired **Output** to drive the system (plant, car, robot, etc.).
- **Proportional Response** depends on the error term. The ratio of the output response to the error signal is determined by K_c .
- **Derivative Response** is a response on changes in the Process Variable values. Increasing the derivative time T_d will give stronger reactions, therefore often a small T_d .
- **Integral Response** is the integration of the error term over time, i.e., a small positive error will increase the integral component slowly => continuous increase unless error = 0.



Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) Controller

$$u(t) = K_c \cdot \left(e(t) + \frac{\int e(t) dt}{T_i} + T_d \cdot \frac{de(t)}{dt} \right)$$

- **Error = Set Point - Process Variable**
- **PID Control System Algorithm** uses the error to determine a desired **Output** to drive the system (plant, car, robot, etc.).
- **Proportional Response** depends on the error term. The ratio of the output response to the error signal is determined by K_c .
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Tuning: **Ziegler-Nichols** guess and check for optimal gains for P, I and D.

Control	P	T_i	T_d
P	$0.5K_c$	0	0
PI	$0.46K_c$	$P_c/1.2$	0
PID	$0.6K_c$	$0.5P_c$	$P_c/8$

First K_c determined by increasing to point where oscillations with period P_c started.

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Controlling Self-Driving Cars



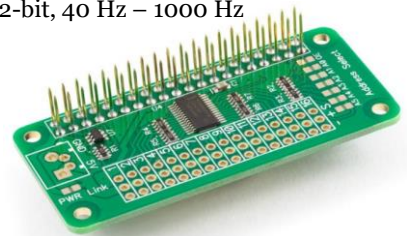
Aerospace Controls Laboratory
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



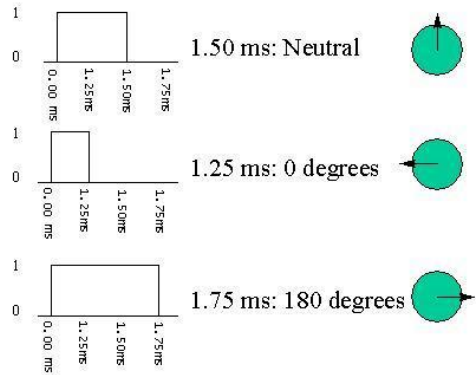
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Y7zG48uHRo>

Servo's



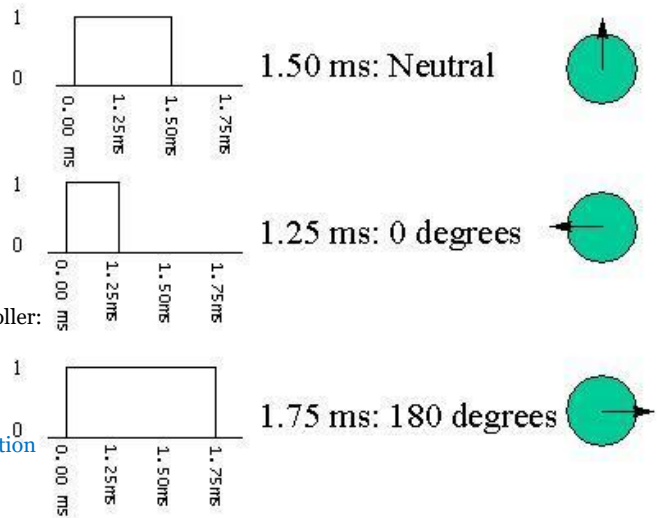
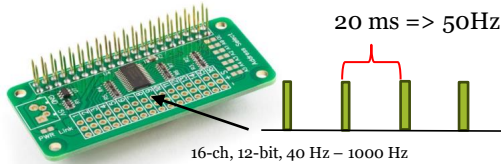
16-ch, 12-bit, 40 Hz – 1000 Hz



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Servo's

Pulse Width Modulated (PWM) Signal: 50 Hz, i.e. 20ms periods



Example usage of maestro.py using Pololu USB Servo Controller:

```
import maestro
servo = maestro.Controller()
servo.setAccel(0,4) #set servo 0 acceleration to 4
servo.setTarget(0,6000) #set servo 0 to move to center position
servo.setSpeed(1,10) #set speed of servo 1
x = servo.getPosition(1) #get the current position of servo 1
servo.close()
```

From: <https://github.com/FRC4564/Maestro>

Note: often trimmed Pulse Width

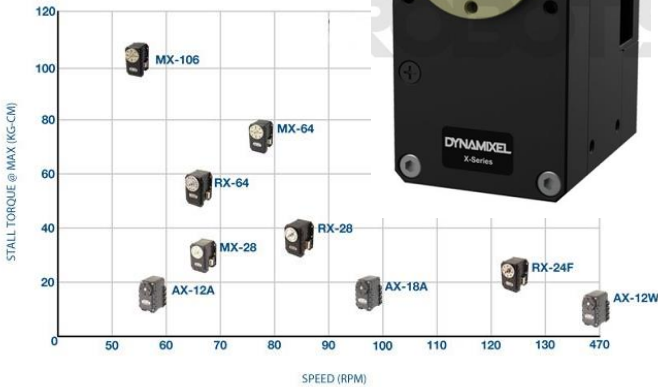
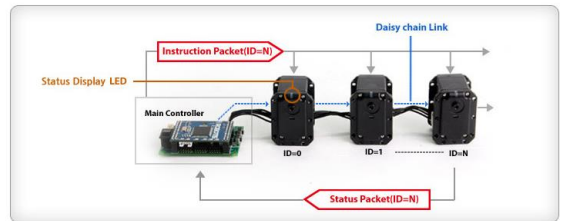
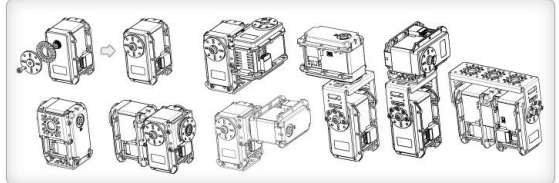
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Dynamixel Servo's



All-in-one structure
 Reduction Gear + Controller + Driver + Network = Dynamixel

Flexible Construction and Modular Structures

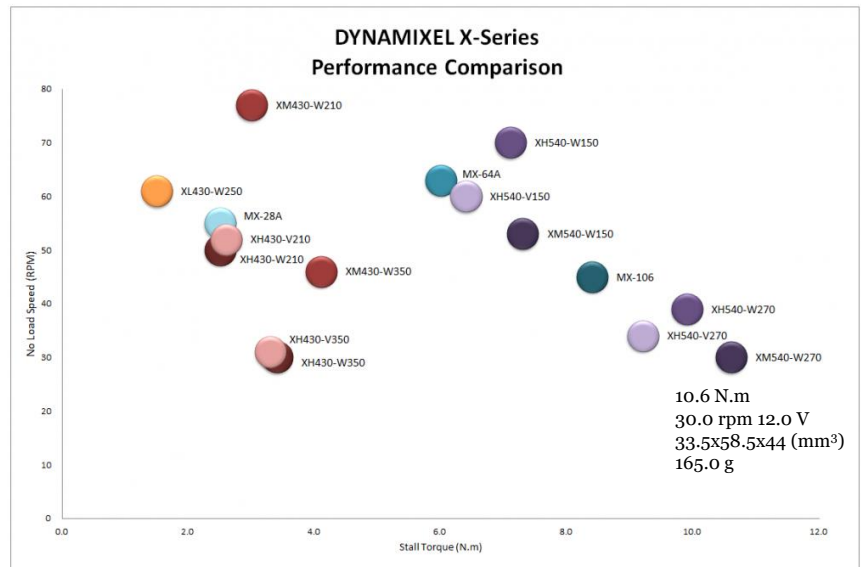


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Servo's



Performance Comparison



10.6 N.m
 30.0 rpm 12.0 V
 33.5x58.5x44 (mm³)
 165.0 g

9.8N.m ~ 1kg.m

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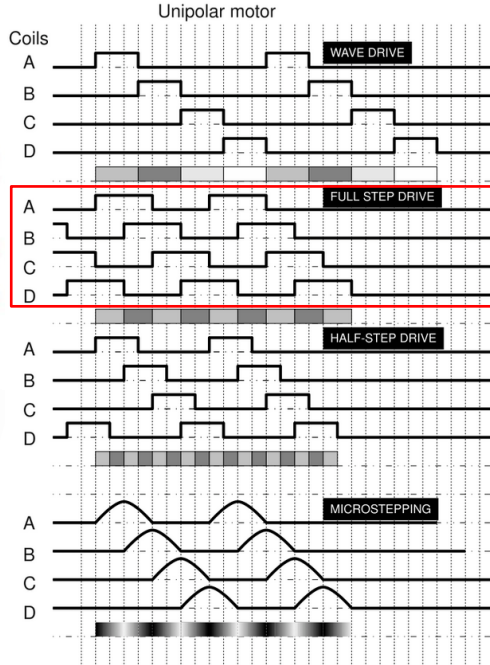
Stepper Motors



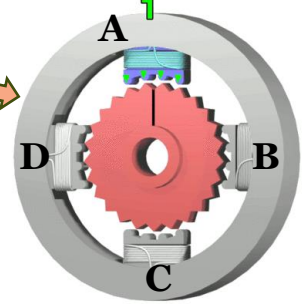
www.pololu.com



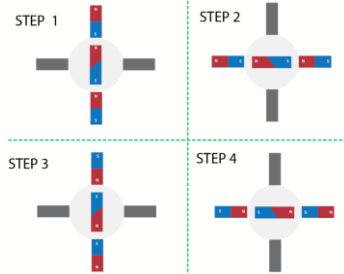
Drivers: low-level, high level



By Wapcaplet; Teravolt. (Wikipedia)

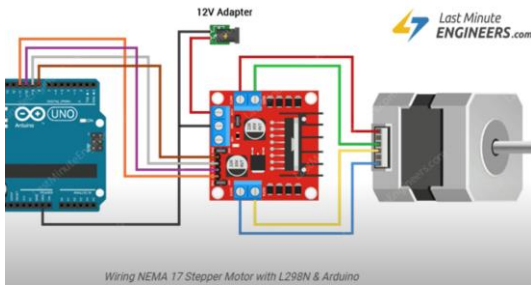


Full step operation

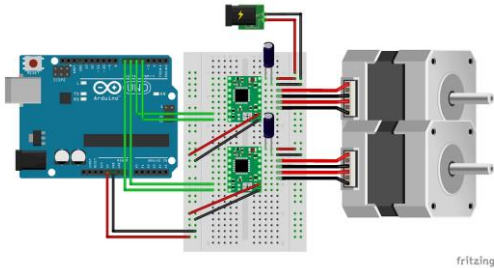


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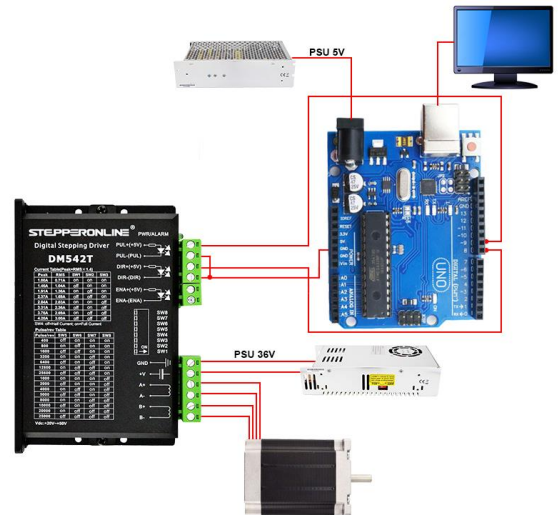
Stepper Motors



Last Minute ENGINEERS.com



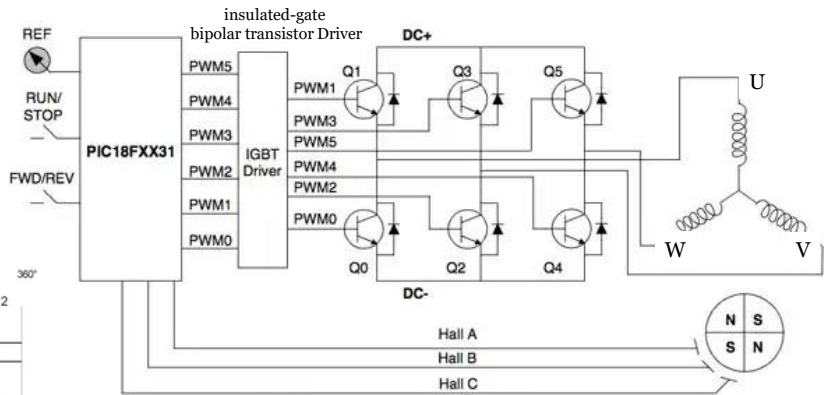
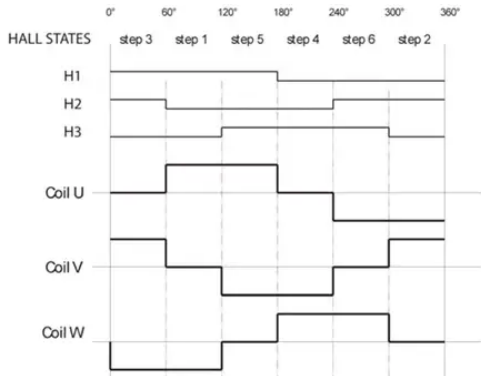
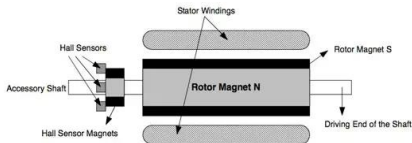
<https://forum.arduino.cc>



<https://www.ome-stepperonline.com/support/can-you-send-me-a-schematic-that-how-to-wire-the-stepper-driver-to-an-arduino>

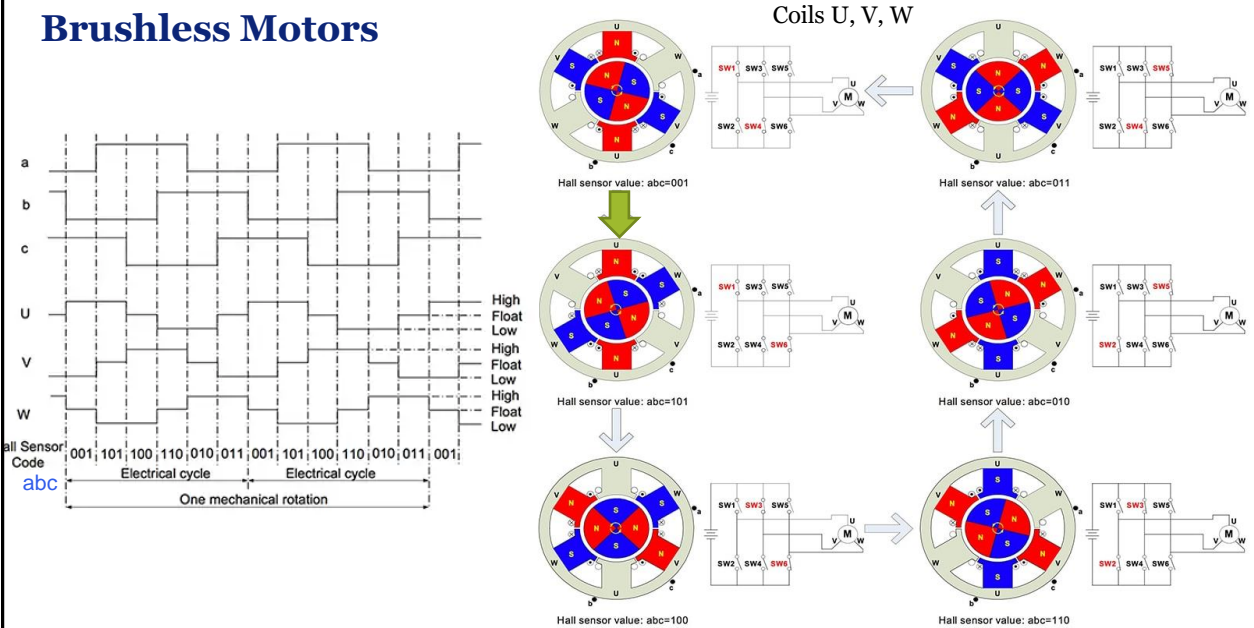
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Brushless Motors



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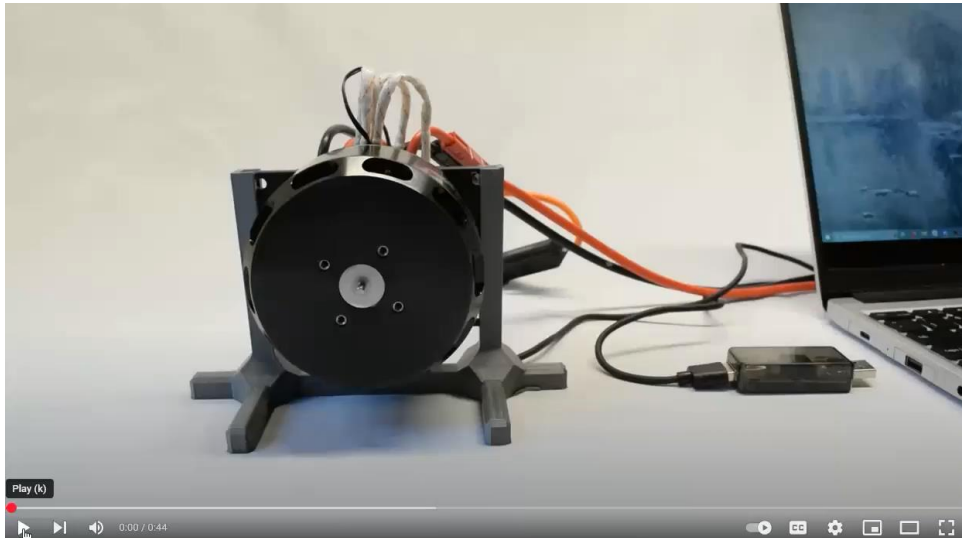
Brushless Motors



<https://www.digikey.com/en/articles/techzone/2016/dec/how-to-power-and-control-brushless-dc-motors>

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Odrive Brushless Motor Controller



Odrive Installation

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Stanford Doggo: An Open-Source, Quasi-Direct-Drive Quadruped

Nathan Kau, Aaron Schultz,
Natalie Ferrante, and Patrick Slade

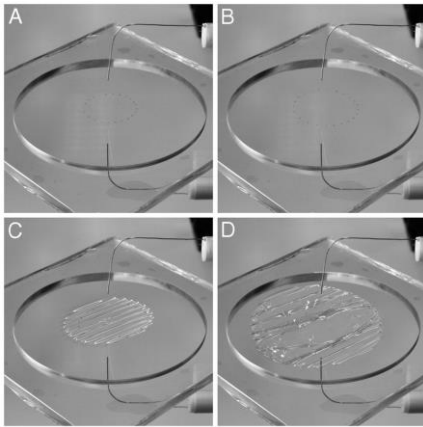
Stanford University



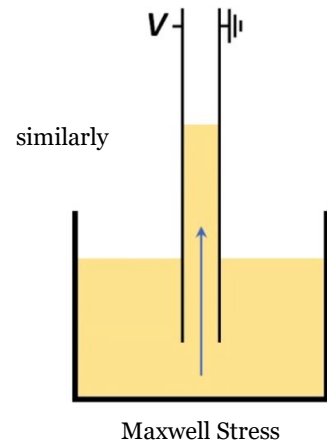
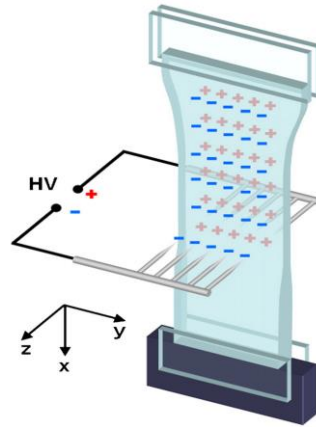
- <https://github.com/Nate711/StanfordDoggoProject> (2019) (EOL)
- <https://pupper-v3-documentation.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html> (Custom motor driver)

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Artificial Muscles



0 – 25 kV

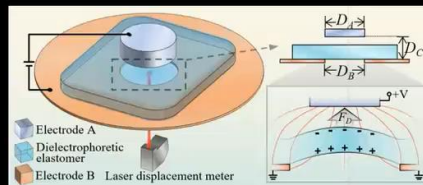


Röntgen's electrode-free elastomer actuators without electromechanical pull-in instability by C. Keplinger, et al. PNAS March 9, 2010 107 (10) 4505-4510; <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.0913461107>

Röntgen WC (1880) Ueber die durch Electricität bewirkten Form- und Volumenänderungen von dielectricischen Körpern. Ann Phys Chem 11:771-786.

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We designed prototype dielectrophoretic elastomer actuators using the parameterized electrode structure



<https://www.youtube.com/@softlabbristol4788> (2023)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cTvSycRh-Ik>

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ScienceRobotics

AAAS

Hexagonal electrohydraulic modules for rapidly reconfigurable high-speed robots

Zachary Yoder[†], Ellen H. Rumley[†], Ingemar Schmidt, Philipp Rothemund, Christoph Keplinger*

[†] Equal contribution

*Corresponding author

DOI: 10.1126/scirobotics.adl3546



Play (k)
MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS

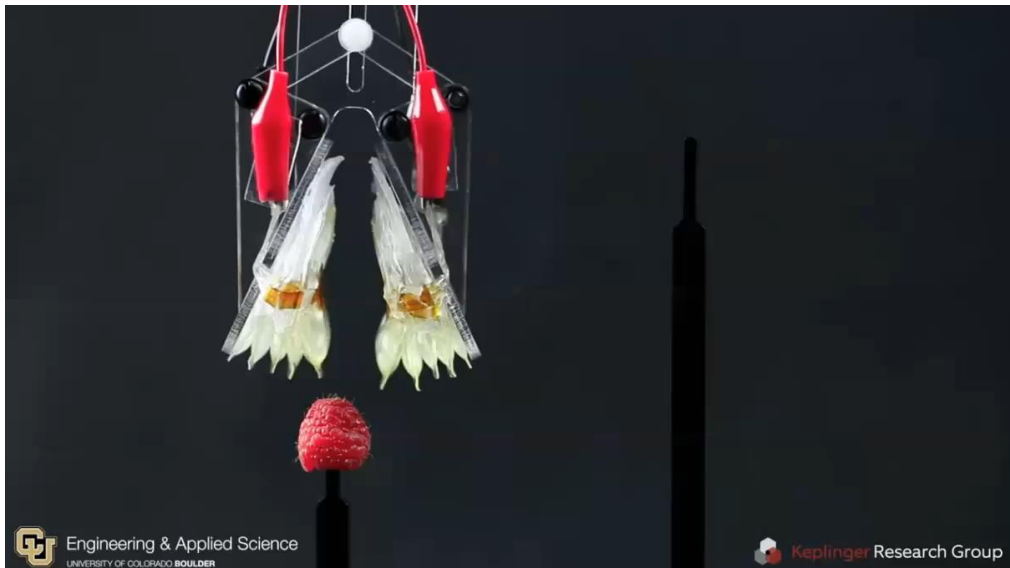


University of Colorado
Boulder



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<https://techxplore.com/news/2024-09-combining-soft-artificial-muscles-rigid.html>



See also TED Talk **The artificial muscles that will power robots of the future by Christoph Keplinger** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ER15KmrB8h8>

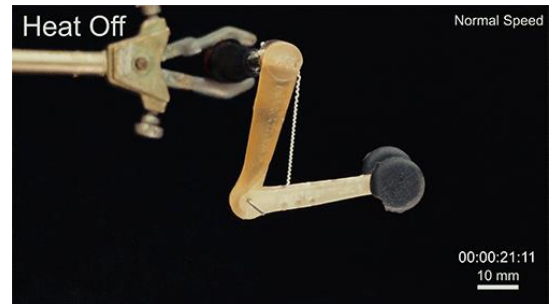
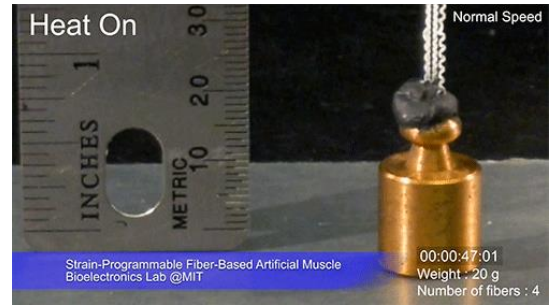
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MIT Artificial Muscles

- Combination of two dissimilar polymers into a single fiber
- The polymers have very different thermal expansion coefficients (as in bimetal)
- Developed by Mehmet Kanik, Sirma Örgüç, working with Polina Anikeeva, Yoel Fink, Anantha Chandrakasan, and C. Cem Taşan, and five others

<http://news.mit.edu/2019/artificial-fiber-muscles-0711>



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Spanish Dancer by Micha Heilman and Stella Tsilia



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Artificial Muscle

S. Raadscheiders, Marton Menyhert, Yven Lommen, Raffi Mirzoyan



Max. Vacuum:
≤ -420 mmHg



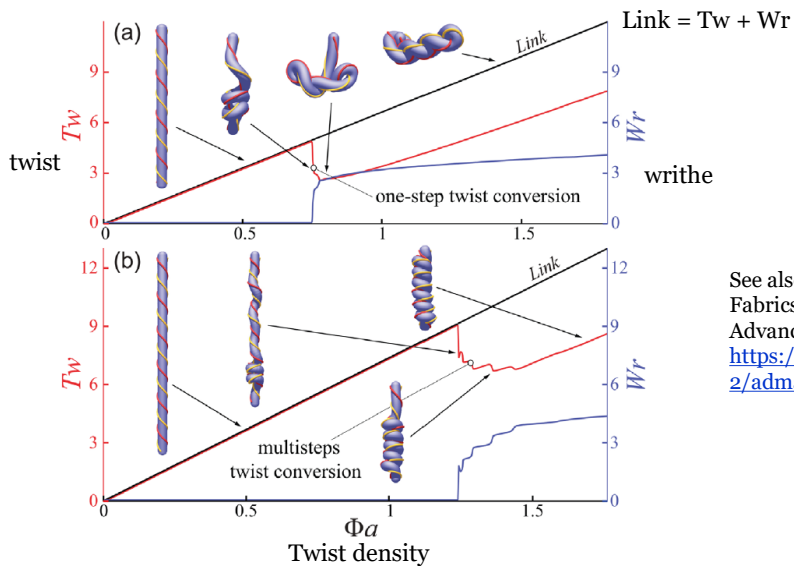
Fluid-driven origami-inspired
artificial muscles



Shuguang Li et al. "Fluid-driven origami-inspired artificial muscles". In: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 114.50 (2017), pp. 13132–13137.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YK6giJglqJE>

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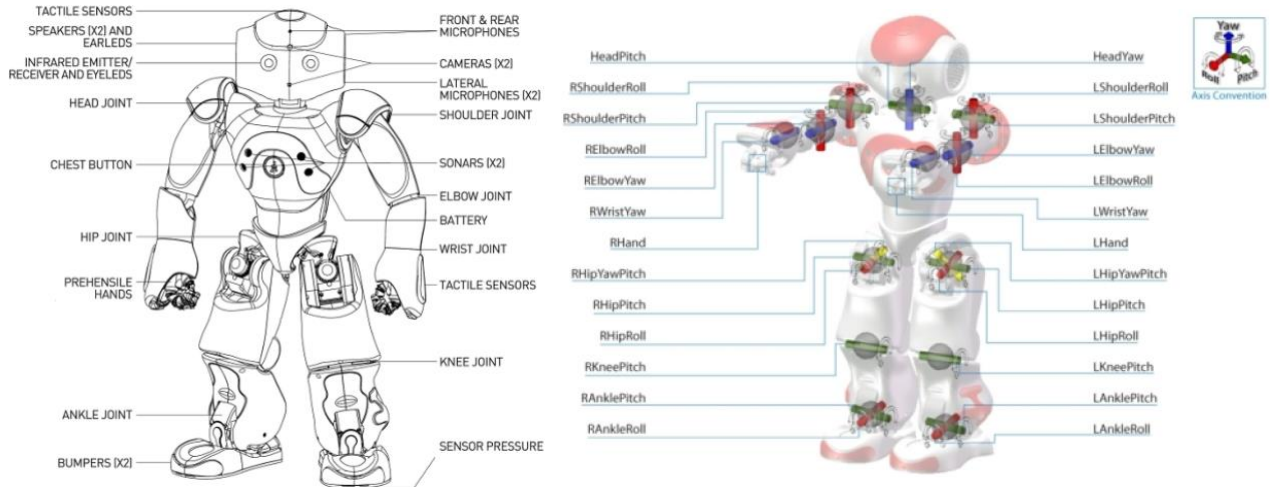
N. Charles, M. Gazzola, and L. Mahadevan, **Topology, Geometry, and Mechanics of Strongly Stretched and Twisted Filaments: Solenoids, Pletonemes, and Artificial Muscle Fibers** PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 123, 208003 (2019)



See also: J. Xiong et al. Functional Fiber and Fabrics for Soft Robotics, Wearables, and HRI. Advanced Materials, Wiley, May 2021.
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/adma.202002640>

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NAO



http://doc.aldebaran.com/2-1/family/nao_dcm/actuator_sensor_names.html

Hexapod: S.P.I.N. by M. Huijben, M. Swenne, R. Voeter, S. Alvarez Rodriguez.

S.P.I.N. - Spider Python INator

Marcel Huijben (s1780107)
 Martijn Swenne (s1923889)
 Sebastiaan Alvarez Rodriguez (s1810979)
 Robin Voetter (s1835130)

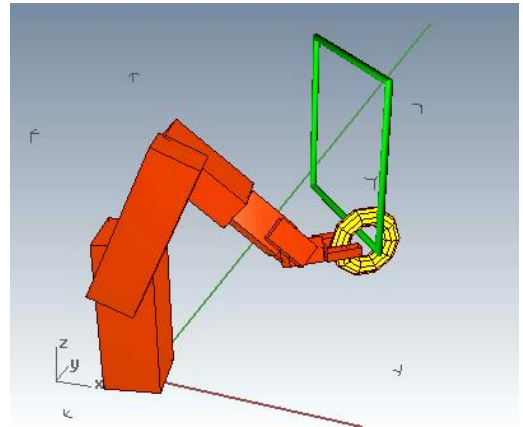
How to move to a goal?

Problem: How to move to a goal?

- Grasp, Walk, Stand, Dance, Follow, etc.

Solution:

1. *Program step by step*
 - Computer Numerical Control (CNC), Automation.
2. *Inverse kinematics*
 - take end-points and move them to designated points.
3. *Record and Replay movements*
 - by specialist, human, etc.
4. *Learn the right movements*
 - **Reinforcement Learning**, give a reward when the movement resembles the designated movement.



<https://pybullet.org/wordpress/>

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Configuration Space

Robot Question: Where am I?

Answer:

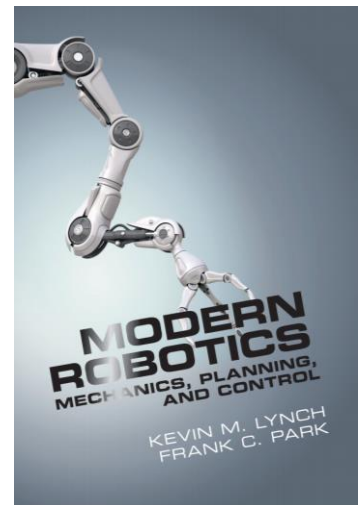
The robot's configuration: a specification of the positions of all points of a robot.

Here we assume:

Robot links and bodies are rigid and of known shape

=>

only a few variables needed to describe it's configuration.



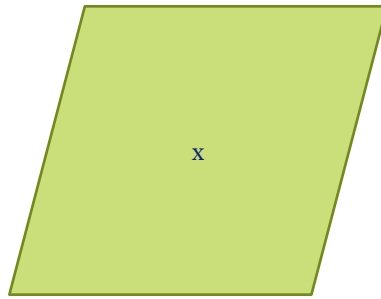
K.M. Lynch, F.C. Park, Modern Robotics: Mechanics, Planning and Control, Cambridge University Press, 2017
http://hades.mech.northwestern.edu/index.php/Modern_Robotics

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Configuration Space



Door in 3D Space.



Point in a plane.



Coin on a table.

Degrees of Freedom of a Rigid Body:

the smallest number of real-valued coordinates needed to represent its configuration

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Configuration Space

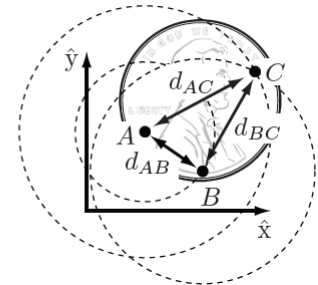
In the plane:

Assume a coin (heads) with 3 points A, B, C on it.

In the plane A,B,C have 6 degrees of freedom: $(x_A, y_A), (x_B, y_B), (x_C, y_C)$ (6 variables)

A coin is rigid => 3 extra constraints on distances: d_{AB}, d_{AC}, d_{BC} (3 constraints)

These are fixed, wherever the location of the coin.



1. The coin and hence **A** can be placed everywhere => (x_A, y_A) free to choose.
2. **B** can only be placed under the constraint that its distance to **A** would be equal to d_{AB} . (1 constraint)
=> freedom to turn the coin around A with angle φ_{AB} => (x_A, y_A, φ_{AB}) are free to choose.
3. **C** should be placed at distance d_{AC}, d_{BC} from **A** and **B**, respectively (2 constraints)
=> only 1 possibility, hence no degree of freedom added.

Degrees of Freedom (DOF) of a Coin

= sum of freedoms of the points – number of independent constraints

= number of variables – number of independent equations

$$= 6 - 3 = 3$$

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Configuration Space

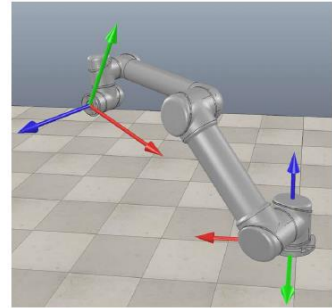
[1] Definition 2.1.

The **configuration** of a robot is a complete specification of the position of every point of the robot.

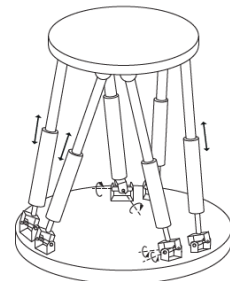
The minimum number n of real-valued coordinates needed to represent the configuration is the number of **degrees of freedom (dof)** of the robot.

The n -dimensional space containing all possible configurations of the robot is called the **Configuration Space (C-space)**.

The configuration of a robot is represented by a point in its **C-space**.



Open-chain robot: Manipulator (in V-REP). [1]



Closed-chain robot: Stewart-Gough platform. [1]

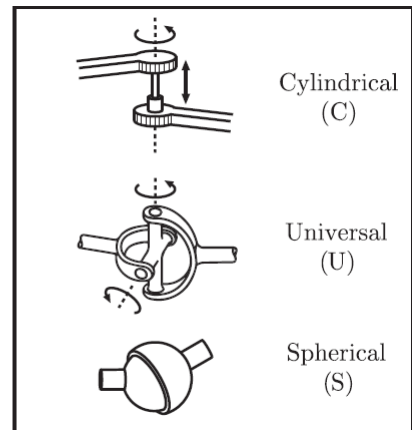
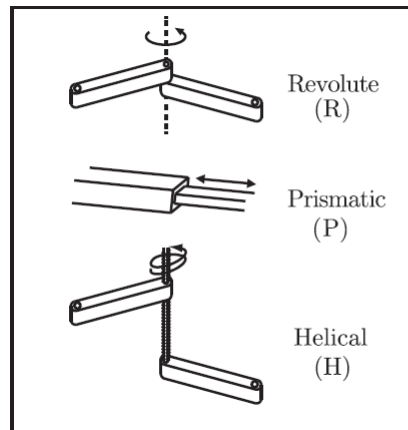
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Degrees of Freedom of a Robot

- A rigid body in 3D Space has **6 DOF**



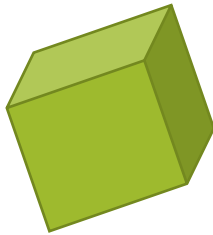
- A joint can be seen to put constraints on the rigid bodies it connects
- It also allows freedom to move relative to the body it is attached to.



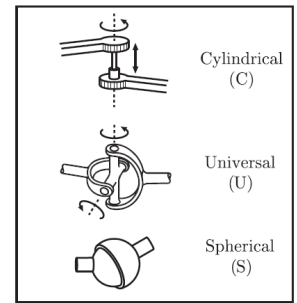
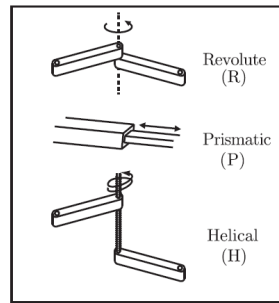
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Degrees of Freedom of a Robot

- A **rigid body** in 2D Space has 3 DOF
- A **rigid body** in 3D Space has 6 DOF



- A **joint** can be seen to put constraints on the rigid bodies it connects
- It also allows freedom to move relative to the body it is attached to.



Joint type	dof f	Constraints c between two planar 2D rigid bodies	Constraints c between two spatial 3D rigid bodies
Revolute (R)	1	2	5
Prismatic (P)	1	2	5
Helical (H)	1	N/A	5
Cylindrical (C)	2	N/A	4
Universal (U)	2	N/A	4
Spherical (S)	3	N/A	3

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Degrees of Freedom of a Robot

Planar Mechanism DOF = 4

Proposition (Grübler's formula)

Consider a mechanism consisting of

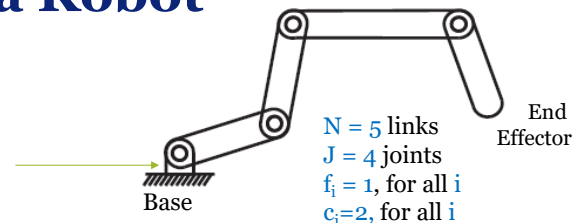
- N links, where ground (!) is also regarded as a link
- J number of joints
- m number of degrees of freedom of a rigid body
($m = 3$ for planar (2D) mechanisms and $m = 6$ for spatial (3D) mechanisms)
- f_i the number of freedoms provided by joint i
- c_i the number of constraints provided by joint i , where $f_i + c_i = m$ for all i .

Then *Grübler's formula* for the number of degrees of freedom of the robot is

$$dof = m(N - 1) - \sum_{i=1}^J c_i = m(N - 1 - J) + \sum_{i=1}^J f_i$$

This formula holds only if all joint constraints are **independent**.

If they are not independent then the formula provides a lower bound on the number of degrees of freedom.



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Joint reactions in rigid body mechanisms with dependent constraints

Marek Wojtyra *

Elsevier, Mechanism and Machine Theory, Vol. 44, 2009

Warsaw University of Technology, Institute of Aeronautics and Applied Mechanics, ul. Nowowiejska 24, 00-665 Warsaw, Poland

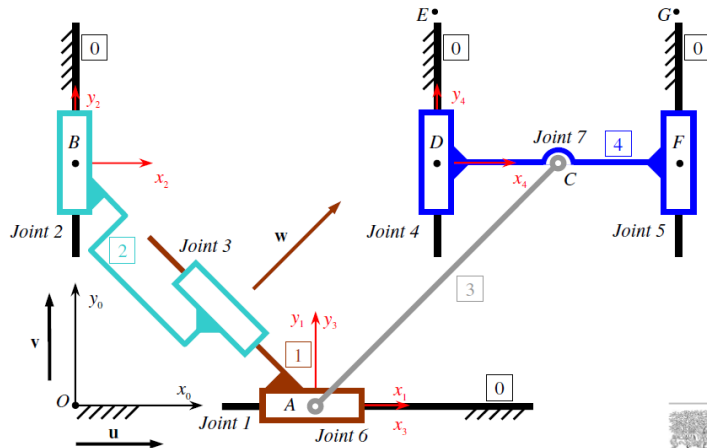


Fig. 1. Planar mechanism.

$$dof = m(N - 1) - \sum_{i=1}^J c_i = m(N - 1 - J) + \sum_{i=1}^J f_i$$

See also: A. Mueller, Dynamics of parallel manipulators with hybrid complex limbs – Modular modeling and parallel computing, [Mechanism and Machine Theory, Vol. 167, Jan. 2022.](#)

Mechanism and Machine Theory 44 (2009) 2265–2278

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Mechanism and Machine Theory

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/mechmt



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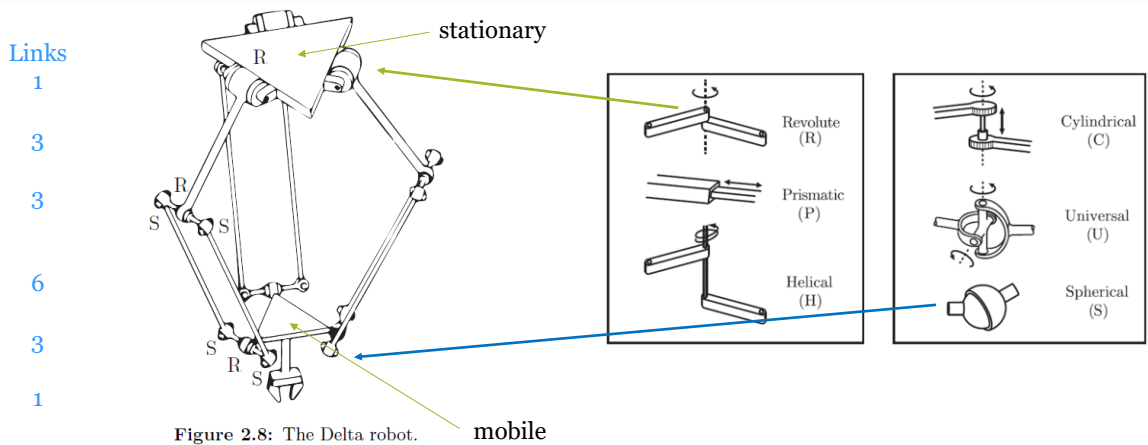


Figure 2.8: The Delta robot.

Example 2.7 (Delta robot). The Delta robot of Figure 2.8 consists of two platforms – the lower one mobile, the upper one stationary – connected by three legs. Each leg contains a parallelogram closed chain and consists of three revolute joints, four spherical joints, and five links. Adding the two platforms, there are $N = 17$ links and $J = 21$ joints (nine revolute and 12 spherical). By Grübler's formula,

$$dof = 6(17 - 1 - 21) + 9(1) + 12(3) = 15.$$

- Links: $1 + 3 + 3 + 6 + 3 + 1 = 17$
- Joints: $21: 9 \times R(1 \text{ dof})$ and $12 \times S(3 \text{ dof})$
- $m = 6$

$$dof = m(N - 1) - \sum_{i=1}^J c_i = m(N - 1 - J) + \sum_{i=1}^J f_i$$

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Systems and their Topologies

Note: $S^1 \times S^1 = T^2$ (not S^2)

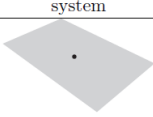
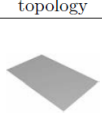
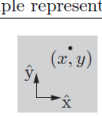
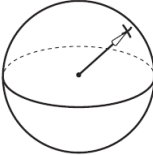

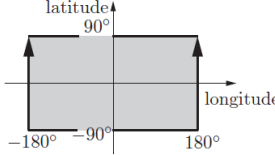
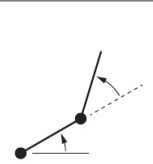

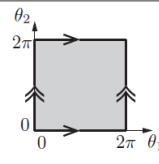
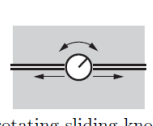

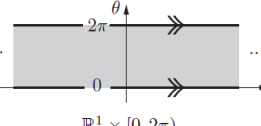
Coordinates can be:

Explicit Coordinates

- Euclidean (x,y)
- Polar (r,φ)
- Combined $(x,y) \times (r,\varphi)$

Implicit Coordinates

- $\{(x,y,z) \mid x^2+y^2+z^2=1\}$

system	topology	sample representation
 point on a plane	 \mathbb{E}^2	 \mathbb{R}^2
 spherical pendulum	 S^2	 latitude 90° -180° -90° 180° longitude $[-180^\circ, 180^\circ] \times [-90^\circ, 90^\circ]$
 2R robot arm	 $T^2 = S^1 \times S^1$	 θ_2 2π 0 0 2π θ_1 $[0, 2\pi] \times [0, 2\pi]$
 rotating sliding knob	 $\mathbb{E}^1 \times S^1$	 θ 2π 0 x $\mathbb{R}^1 \times [0, 2\pi]$

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C-Space (Configuration Space)

How to describe a rigid body's position and orientation in C-Space?

Fixed reference frame $\{s\}$

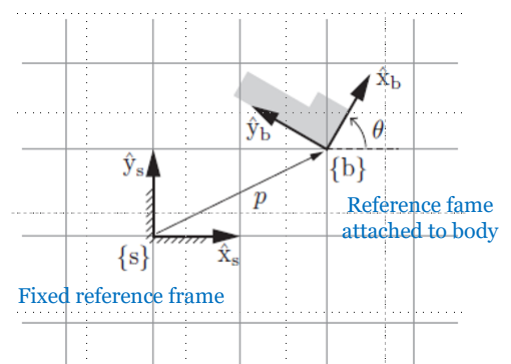
Reference frame attached to body $\{b\}$

In \mathbb{R}^3 described by a 4×4 matrix with 10 constraints (constraints, e.g.: unit-length, orthogonal)

Note: a point in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times S^2 \times S^1$

Matrix can be used to:

1. Translate or rotate a vector or a frame
2. Change the representation of a vector or a frame
 - for example from relative to $\{s\}$ to relative to $\{b\}$

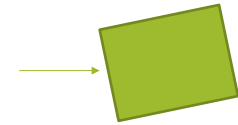


in the plane $\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1$

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C-Spaces

C-space of a rigid body in the plane = $\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1$ as configuration can be denoted as (x,y,θ) , i.e., location (x,y) in \mathbb{R}^2 and angle θ in S^1



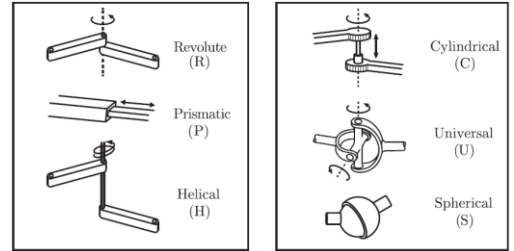
C-space of a Prismatic-Revolute (PR) robot arm is equal to $\mathbb{R}^1 \times S^1$

C-space of a 2R robot arm is $S^1 \times S^1 = T^2$

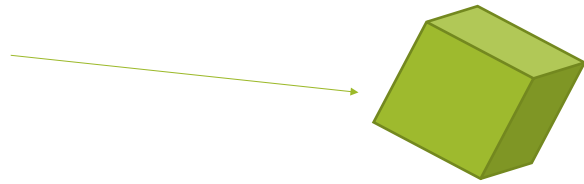
C-space of a 3R robot arm is $S^1 \times S^1 \times S^1 = T^3$

C-space of a planar mobile robot with a 2R robot arm is

is $\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1 \times T^2 = \mathbb{R}^2 \times T^3$



C-space of a rigid body in space is $\mathbb{R}^3 \times S^2 \times S^1$



Task Space and Work Space

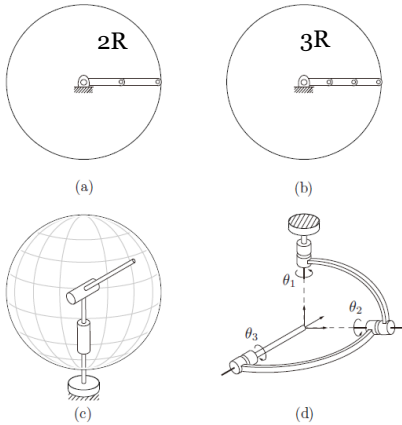
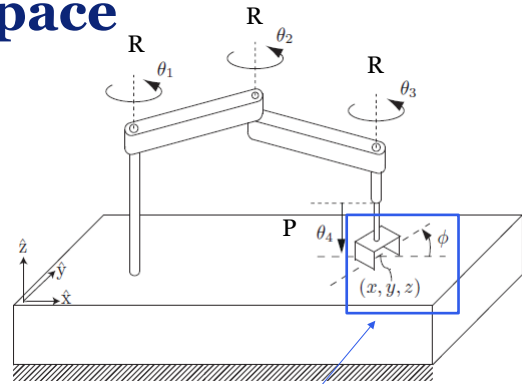


Figure 2.12: Examples of workspaces for various robots: (a) a planar 2R open chain; (b) a planar 3R open chain; (c) a spherical 2R open chain; (d) a 3R orienting mechanism.

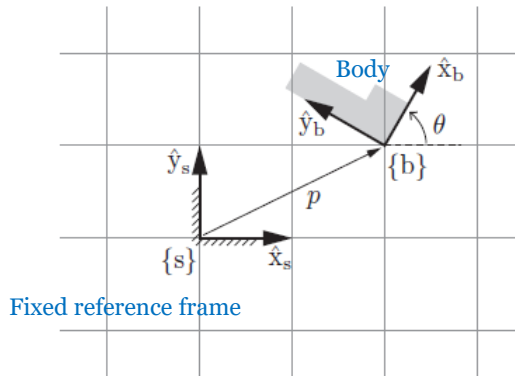


The SCARA robot is an RRRP open chain that is widely used for tabletop pick-and-place tasks. The end-effector configuration is completely described by (x, y, z, ϕ)

The **workspace** is a specification of the configurations that the end-effector of the robot can reach.

\Rightarrow **task space** $R^3 \times S^1$ and
 \Rightarrow **workspace** as the reachable points in (x, y, z) , since all orientations ϕ can be achieved at all reachable points.

Rigid Body Motions in the Plane



Translation

$$p = p_x \hat{x}_s + p_y \hat{y}_s.$$

Rotation

$$\hat{x}_b = \cos \theta \hat{x}_s + \sin \theta \hat{y}_s,$$

$$\hat{y}_b = -\sin \theta \hat{x}_s + \cos \theta \hat{y}_s.$$

Figure 3.3: The body frame $\{b\}$ is expressed in the fixed-frame coordinates $\{s\}$ by the vector p and the directions of the unit axes \hat{x}_b and \hat{y}_b . In this example, $p = (2, 1)$ and $\theta = 60^\circ$, so $\hat{x}_b = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) = (0.5, 1/\sqrt{2})$ and $\hat{y}_b = (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta) = (-1/\sqrt{2}, 0.5)$.

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Rigid Body Motions in the Plane

$\{b\}$ relative to $\{s\}$

$$p = \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$\{c\}$ relative to $\{b\}$

$$q = \begin{bmatrix} q_x \\ q_y \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi \end{bmatrix}$$



$\{c\}$ relative to $\{s\}$

$$r = \begin{bmatrix} r_x \\ r_y \end{bmatrix}, \quad R = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}$$

Note and verify:

$R = PQ$, convert Q to $\{s\}$ -frame
 $r = Pq + p$, convert q to $\{s\}$ -frame
 and add p

Previously:

$$p = p_x \hat{x}_s + p_y \hat{y}_s.$$

$$\hat{x}_b = \cos \theta \hat{x}_s + \sin \theta \hat{y}_s,$$

$$\hat{y}_b = -\sin \theta \hat{x}_s + \cos \theta \hat{y}_s.$$

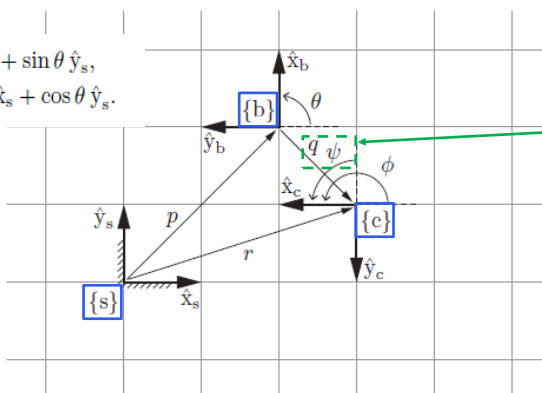


Figure 3.4: The frame $\{b\}$ in $\{s\}$ is given by (P, p) , and the frame $\{c\}$ in $\{b\}$ is given by (Q, q) . From these we can derive the frame $\{c\}$ in $\{s\}$, described by (R, r) . The numerical values of the vectors p , q , and r and the coordinate-axis directions of the three frames are evident from the grid of unit squares.

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Forward Kinematics

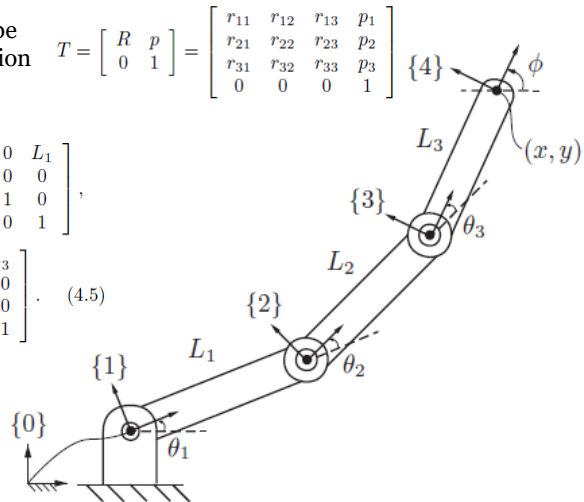
The forward kinematics of 3R Planar Open Chain can be written as a product of four homogeneous transformation matrices: $T_{04} = T_{01}T_{12}T_{23}T_{34}$, where

$$T_{01} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_1 & -\sin \theta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \theta_1 & \cos \theta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_2 & -\sin \theta_2 & 0 & L_1 \\ \sin \theta_2 & \cos \theta_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$T_{23} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_3 & -\sin \theta_3 & 0 & L_2 \\ \sin \theta_3 & \cos \theta_3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T_{34} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & L_3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (4.5)$$

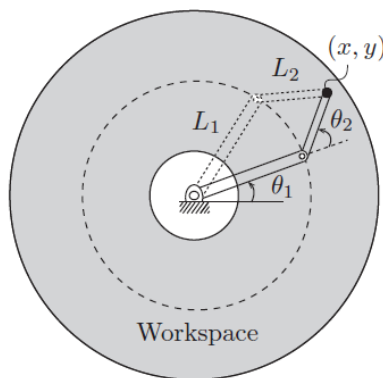
Home position M:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & L_1 + L_2 + L_3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

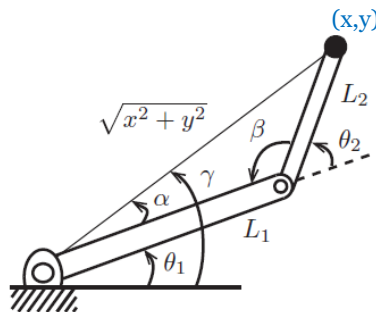


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Inverse Kinematics Which angles θ_1 , and θ_2 will lead to location (x,y) ?



(a) A workspace, and lefty and righty configurations.



(b) Geometric solution.

Law of cosines gives:

$$L_1^2 + L_2^2 - 2L_1L_2 \cos \beta = x^2 + y^2$$

, hence

$$\beta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{L_1^2 + L_2^2 - x^2 - y^2}{2L_1L_2} \right)$$

,and similarly

$$\alpha = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{x^2 + y^2 + L_1^2 - L_2^2}{2L_1\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \right)$$

$$\gamma = \text{atan2}(y,x)$$

Answer:

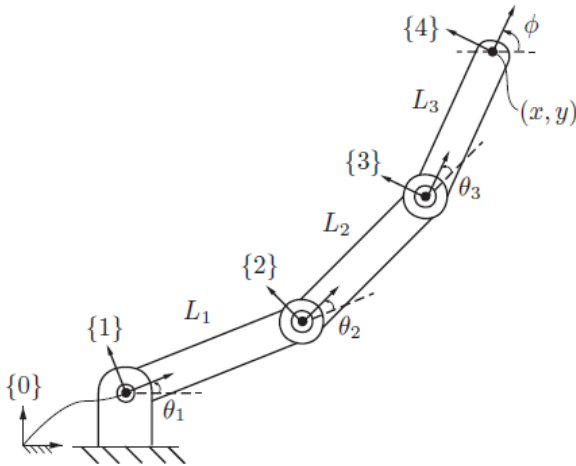
$$\theta_1 = \gamma - \alpha, \quad \theta_2 = \pi - \beta$$

Figure 6.1: Inverse kinematics of a 2R planar open chain.

In general: IK-Solvers, Newton-Raphson, etc.

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Inverse Kinematics



How would you solve this?

Which angles θ_1 , θ_2 , and θ_3 will lead to location (x, y) ?

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Real Time Physics Modelling

<https://pybullet.org/wordpress/>

CoppeliaSim
(SLAM Workshop@Home)
<https://www.coppeliarobotics.com/>

pybullet KUKA
grasp training

Using Tensorflow
OpenAI gym
Baselines
DeepQNetworks (DQNs)

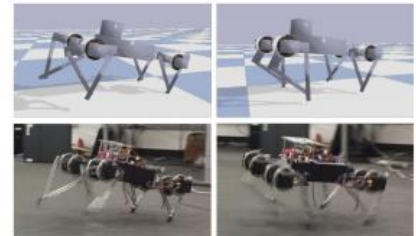
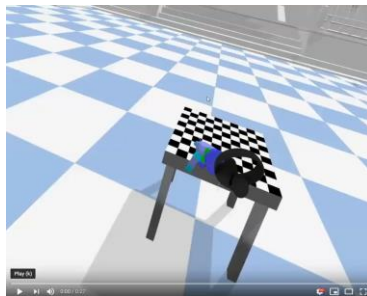
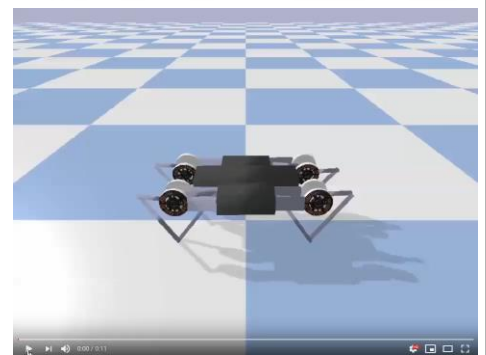
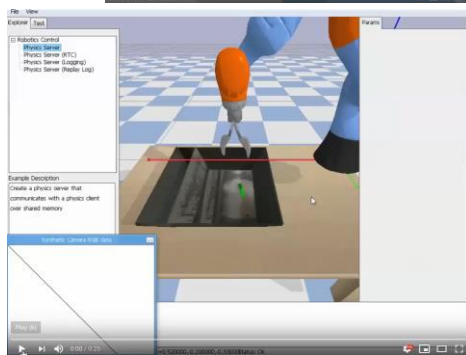


Fig. 1: The simulated and the real Minitaurs learned to gallop using deep reinforcement learning.



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Organization and Overview

Lecturer:

Dr Erwin M. Bakker (erwin@liacs.nl)
Room LIACS Media Lab (LML)
Please email for a meeting.

Period: February 11th - May 13th 2025

Time: Tuesday 11.15 - 13.00

Place (Rooms): Van Steenis F1.04

Exceptions:

Gorlaeus Building BM.1.33 on April 1st

Gorlaeus Building BM.1.23 on May 20th

Teaching assistants:

TBA

Schedule (tentative, visit regularly):

Date	Subject
11-2	Introduction and Overview
18-2	Locomotion and Inverse Kinematics
25-2	Robotics Sensors and Image Processing
4-3	SLAM + Workshop@Home
11-3	Robotics Vision + Introduction Mobile Robot Challenge
18-3	Project Proposals I (by students)
25-3	Project Proposals II (by students)
1-4	Robotics Reinforcement Learning + RL Workshop@Home
8-4	Project Progress Reports I
15-4	Project Progress Reports II
22-4	Mobile Robot Challenge I
29-4	Mobile Robot Challenge II
6-5	TBA
13-5	Project Demos I
20-5	Project Demos II
27-5	Project Deliverables



Grading (6 ECTS):

- Presentations and Robotics Project (60% of grade).
- Class discussions, attendance, 2 assignments (pass/no pass)
- 2 Workshops (0-10) (20% of the grade).
- Mobile Robot Challenge (0-10) (20% of the grade)
- ***It is necessary to be at every class and to complete every workshop and assignment.***

Website: <http://liacs.leidenuniv.nl/~bakkerem2/robotics/>

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Robotics Homework II

Visit <http://modernrobotics.org> and obtain the pdf of the [book](#).

Read Chapters 1 and 2.

Note: also the videos are highly recommended!

The exercises of Homework II (due Friday February 28th)
will be available on BrightSpace (Thursday February 20th).

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References

1. K.M. Lynch, F.C. Park, Modern Robotics: Mechanics, Planning and Control, Cambridge University Press, 2017. (DOI: 10.1017/9781316661239)
2. <https://pybullet.org/wordpress/>
3. <https://www.coppeliarobotics.com/>