## Links and Joints



- n joints, n + 1 links
- link 0 is fixed (the base)
- joint *i* connects link i 1 to link *i* 
  - link i moves when joint i is actuated

given the joint variables and dimensions of the links what is the position and orientation of the end effector?



• because the base frame and frame 1 have the same orientation, we can sum the coordinates to find the position of the end effector in the base frame  $(a_1 \cos \theta_1 + a_2 \cos (\theta_1 + \theta_2),$ 



#### from earlier in the course



#### Frames



using transformation matrices

$$T_{1}^{0} = R_{z,\theta_{1}} D_{x,a_{1}}$$
$$T_{2}^{1} = R_{z,\theta_{2}} D_{x,a_{2}}$$

$$T_{2}^{0} = T_{1}^{0} T_{2}^{1}$$

## Links and Joints



- n joints, n + 1 links
- link 0 is fixed (the base)
- joint *i* connects link i 1 to link *i* 
  - link i moves when joint i is actuated

- attach a frame  $\{i\}$  to link i
  - all points on link *i* are constant when expressed in  $\{i\}$
  - if joint *i* is actuated then frame  $\{i\}$  moves relative to frame  $\{i 1\}$ 
    - motion is described by the rigid transformation

$$T_i^{i-1}$$

• the state of joint *i* is a function of its joint variable  $q_i$  (i.e., is a function of  $q_i$ )

$$T_i^{i-1} = T_i^{i-1}(q_i)$$

this makes it easy to find the last frame with respect to the base frame

$$T_{n}^{0} = T_{1}^{0} T_{2}^{1} T_{3}^{2} \cdots T_{n}^{n-1}$$

more generally

$$T_{j}^{i} = \begin{cases} T_{i+1}^{i} T_{j+2}^{i+1} \dots T_{j}^{j-1} & \text{if } i < j \\ I & \text{if } i = j \\ (T_{j}^{i})^{-1} & \text{if } i > j \end{cases}$$

the forward kinematics problem has been reduced to matrix multiplication

- Denavit J and Hartenberg RS, "A kinematic notation for lowerpair mechanisms based on matrices." *Trans ASME J. Appl. Mech*, 23:215–221, 1955
  - described a convention for standardizing the attachment of frames on links of a serial linkage
- common convention for attaching reference frames on links of a serial manipulator and computing the transformations between frames

$$T_{i}^{i-1} = R_{z,\theta_{i}}T_{z,d_{i}}T_{x,a_{i}}R_{x,\alpha_{i}}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c_{\theta_{i}} & -s_{\theta_{i}}c_{\alpha_{i}} & s_{\theta_{i}}s_{\alpha_{i}} & a_{i}c_{\theta_{i}} \\ s_{\theta_{i}} & c_{\theta_{i}}c_{\alpha_{i}} & -c_{\theta_{i}}s_{\alpha_{i}} & a_{i}s_{\theta_{i}} \\ 0 & s_{\alpha_{i}} & c_{\alpha_{i}} & d_{i} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- $a_i$  link length
- $\alpha_i$  link twist
- $d_i$  link offset
- $\theta_i$  joint angle



Figure 3.2: Coordinate frames satisfying assumptions DH1 and DH2.

notice the form of the rotation component

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_{\theta_i} & -s_{\theta_i}c_{\alpha_i} & s_{\theta_i}s_{\alpha_i} \\ s_{\theta_i} & c_{\theta_i}c_{\alpha_i} & -c_{\theta_i}s_{\alpha_i} \\ 0 & s_{\alpha_i} & c_{\alpha_i} \end{bmatrix}$$

this does not look like it can represent arbitrary rotations
can the DH convention actually describe every physically possible link configuration?

- yes, but we must choose the orientation and position of the frames in a certain way
  - (DHI)  $\hat{x}_i \perp \hat{z}_{i-1}$
  - (DH2)  $\hat{x}_i$  intersects  $\hat{z}_{i-1}$
- claim: if DH1 and DH2 are true then there exists unique numbers

$$a, d, \theta, \alpha$$
 such that  $T_1^0 = R_{z,\theta} D_{z,d} D_{x,a} R_{x,\alpha}$ 

proof: on blackboard in class

## **DH** Parameters

- $a_i$ : link length
  - distance between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  measured along  $x_i$
- $\alpha_i$  : link twist
  - angle between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  measured about  $x_i$
- $d_i$  : link offset
  - distance between o<sub>i-1</sub> to the intersection of x<sub>i</sub> and z<sub>i-1</sub> measured along z<sub>i-1</sub>
- $\theta_i$  : joint angle
  - angle between  $x_{i-1}$  and  $x_i$  measured about  $z_{i-1}$

#### Example with Frames Already Placed



Figure 3.7: Three-link cylindrical manipulator.

Step 5: Find the DH parameters



Link	$a_i$	$lpha_i$	$d_i$	$ heta_i$
1	0	0	$d_1$	$ heta_1^*$
2	0	-90	$d_2^*$	0
3	0	0	$d_3^*$	0

Figure 3.7: Three-link cylindrical manipulator.

## Denavit-Hartenberg Forward Kinematics

#### RPP cylindrical manipulator

http://strobotics.com/cylindrical-format-robot.htm

### Denavit-Hartenberg Forward Kinematics



How do we place the frames?

Figure 3.7: Three-link cylindrical manipulator.

### Step 1: Choose the z-axis for each frame

recall the DH transformation matrix

$$T_{i}^{i-1} = R_{z,\theta_{i}} T_{z,d_{i}} T_{x,a_{i}} R_{x,\alpha_{i}}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} c_{\theta_{i}} & -s_{\theta_{i}} c_{\alpha_{i}} \\ s_{\theta_{i}} & c_{\theta_{i}} c_{\alpha_{i}} \\ 0 & s_{\alpha_{i}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_{\theta_{i}} s_{\alpha_{i}} & a_{i} c_{\theta_{i}} \\ -c_{\theta_{i}} s_{\alpha_{i}} & a_{i} s_{\theta_{i}} \\ c_{\alpha_{i}} & d_{i} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\chi}_{i}^{i-1} \quad \hat{\chi}_{i}^{i-1} \quad \hat{\chi}_{i}^{i-1} \quad \hat{\chi}_{i}^{i-1}$$

Step 1: Choose the *z*-axis for each frame  $\hat{z}_i \equiv axis \text{ of actuation for joint } i+1$ 



Step 1: Choose the z-axis for each frame



• Warning: the picture is deceiving. We do not yet know the origin of the frames; all we know at this point is that each  $z_i$  points along a joint axis

## Step 2: Establish frame {0}

- place the origin  $o_0$  anywhere on  $z_0$ 
  - often the choice of location is obvious
- choose  $x_0$  and  $y_0$  so that  $\{0\}$  is right-handed
  - often the choice of directions is obvious

## Step 2: Establish frame {0}



- using frame {i-1} construct frame {i}
  - **DHI:**  $x_i$  is perpendicular to  $z_{i-1}$
  - **DH2:**  $x_i$  intersects  $z_{i-1}$
- 3 cases to consider depending on the relationship between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$

Case I

•  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  are not coplanar (skew)



•  $\alpha_i$  angle from  $z_{i-1}$  to  $z_i$  measured about  $x_i$ 

Case 2

▶  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  are parallel (  $\alpha_i = 0$  )



• notice that this choice results in  $d_i = 0$ 

Case 3

▶  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  intersect (  $a_i = 0$  )







Step 4: Place the end effector frame



Step 4: Place the end effector frame



Figure 3.7: Three-link cylindrical manipulator.

## Step 5: Find the DH parameters

- $a_i$ : distance between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  measured along  $x_i$
- $\alpha_i$  : angle between  $z_{i-1}$  and  $z_i$  measured about  $x_i$
- d<sub>i</sub>: distance between o<sub>i-1</sub> to the intersection of x<sub>i</sub> and z<sub>i-1</sub> measured along z<sub>i-1</sub>
- $\theta_i$  : angle between  $x_{i-1}$  and  $x_i$  measured about  $z_{i-1}$

Step 5: Find the DH parameters



Link	$a_i$	$lpha_i$	$d_i$	$ heta_i$
1	0	0	$d_1$	$ heta_1^*$
2	0	-90	$d_2^*$	0
3	0	0	$d_3^*$	0

Figure 3.7: Three-link cylindrical manipulator.

## More Denavit-Hartenberg Examples

Step 5: Find the DH parameters



Link	$a_i$	$lpha_i$	$d_i$	$ heta_i$
1	0	0	$d_1$	$ heta_1^*$
2	0	-90	$d_2^*$	0
3	0	0	$d_3^*$	0

Figure 3.7: Three-link cylindrical manipulator.

 once the DH parameters are known, it is easy to construct the overall transformation

Link	$a_i$	$lpha_i$	$d_i$	$ heta_i$
1	0	0	$d_1$	$ heta_1^*$
2	0	-90	$d_2^*$	0
3	0	0	$d_{3}^{*}$	0

$$T_{1}^{0} = R_{z,\theta_{1}}T_{z,d_{1}}T_{x,a_{1}}R_{x,\alpha_{1}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_{1} & -s_{1} & 0 & 0\\ s_{1} & c_{1} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_{1}\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Link	$a_i$	$lpha_i$	$d_i$	$ heta_i$
1	0	0	$d_1$	$ heta_1^*$
2	0	-90	$d_2^*$	0
3	0	0	$d_{3}^{*}$	0

$$T_{2}^{1} = R_{z,\theta_{2}}T_{z,d_{2}}T_{x,a_{2}}R_{x,\alpha_{2}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & d_{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Link	$a_i$	$lpha_i$	$d_i$	$ heta_i$
1	0	0	$d_1$	$ heta_1^*$
2	0	-90	$d_2^*$	0
3	0	0	$d_3^*$	0

$$T_{3}^{2} = R_{z,\theta_{3}}T_{z,d_{3}}T_{x,a_{3}}R_{x,\alpha_{3}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T_{3}^{0} = T_{1}^{0}T_{2}^{1}T_{3}^{2} = \begin{bmatrix} c_{1} & 0 & -s_{1} & -s_{1}d_{3} \\ s_{1} & 0 & c_{1} & c_{1}d_{3} \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & d_{1}+d_{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Spherical Wrist



Figure 1.6: The spherical wrist. The axes of rotation of the spherical wrist are typically denoted roll, pitch, and yaw and intersect at a point called the wrist center point.

Spherical Wrist



Spherical Wrist: Step 1



Spherical Wrist: Step 2



Spherical Wrist: Step 2



Spherical Wrist: Step 4



## Step 5: DH Parameters



$$T_{6}^{3} = T_{4}^{3}T_{5}^{4}T_{6}^{5} = \begin{bmatrix} c_{4}c_{5}c_{6} - s_{4}s_{6} & -c_{4}c_{5}s_{6} - s_{4}c_{6} & c_{4}s_{5} & c_{4}s_{5}d_{6} \\ s_{4}c_{5}c_{6} + c_{4}s_{6} & -s_{4}c_{5}s_{6} + c_{4}c_{6} & s_{4}s_{5} & s_{4}s_{5}d_{6} \\ -s_{5}c_{6} & s_{5}s_{6} & c_{5} & c_{5}d_{6} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## RPP + Spherical Wrist



Figure 3.9: Cylindrical robot with spherical wrist.

# RPP + Spherical Wrist

$$T_{6}^{0} = T_{3}^{0}T_{6}^{3} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} & d_{x} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} & d_{y} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} & d_{z} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$r_{11} = c_1 c_4 c_5 c_6 - c_1 s_4 s_6 + s_1 s_5 c_6$$
  
$$\vdots$$
  
$$d_z = -s_4 s_5 d_6 + d_1 + d_2$$

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## Stanford Manipulator + Spherical Wrist



Link	$a_i$	$lpha_i$	$d_i$	$ heta_i$
1	0	-90	0	$ heta_1^*$
2	0	90	$d_2$	$\theta_2^*$
3	0	0	$d_3^*$	0
4	0	-90	0	$ heta_4^*$
5	0	90	0	$\theta_5^*$
6	0	0	$d_6$	$\theta_6^*$

#### SCARA + 1DOF Wrist



Link	$a_i$	$lpha_i$	$d_i$	$ heta_i$
1	$a_1$	0	$d_1$	$ heta_1^*$
2	<i>a</i> <sub>2</sub>	180	0	$\theta_2^*$
3	0	0	$d_3^*$	0
4	0	0	$d_4$	$ heta_4^*$

