



University of  
British Columbia

# Inverse Kinematics

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# What is IK?



[Fanuc]



[Ronan Boulic]

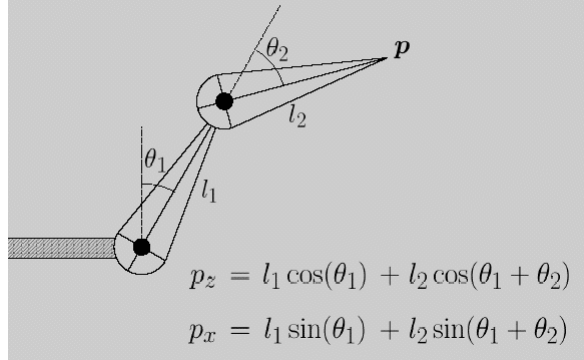
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# A Simple Example

## Two link robot

### Simple System: A Two Segment Arm



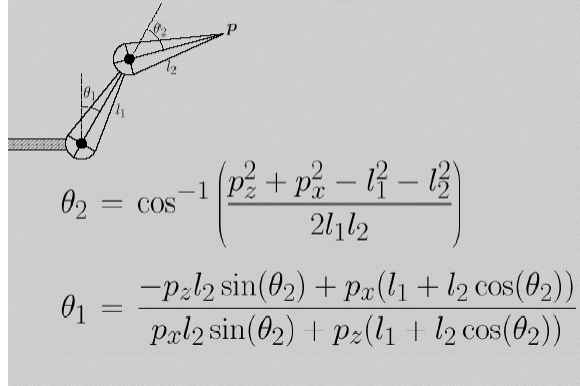
[James O'Brien]



# A Simple Example

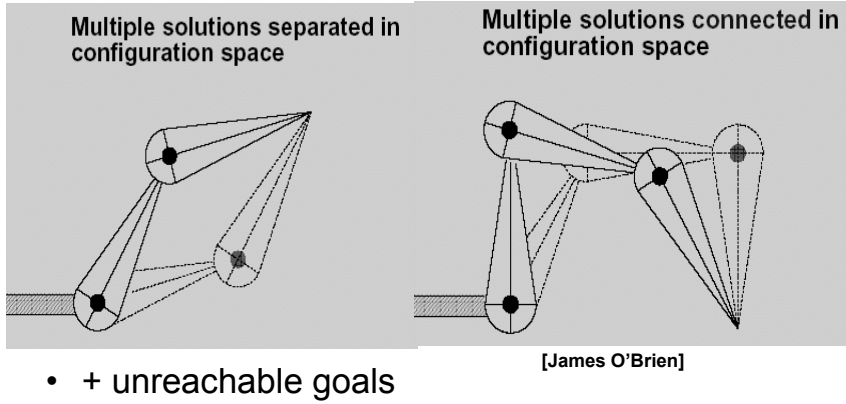
## Direct IK Solution

### Direct IK: Solve for $\theta_1$ and $\theta_2$

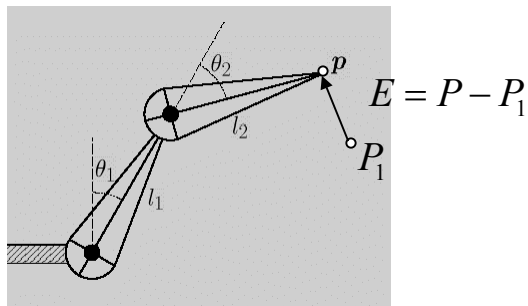


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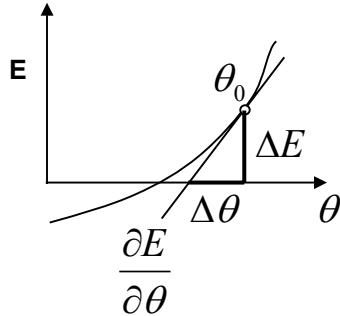
# Problems



# Solving for Constraints



# Newton's Method



$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta \theta}$$

$$\Delta \theta = \left( \frac{\partial E}{\partial \theta} \right)^{-1} \Delta E$$

$$\theta' = \theta - \Delta \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \theta}$$

# Jacobian

$$\Delta \theta = \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial \theta} \right)^{-1} \Delta P \quad \Delta \theta = J^{-1} \Delta P$$

Jacobian is given by  $J = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \theta} \approx \frac{\Delta P}{\Delta \theta}$

$$J \cdot \Delta \theta = \Delta P$$

velocities:  $J \cdot \frac{\Delta \theta}{\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta P}{\Delta t}$

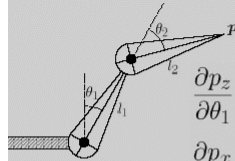
$$J \cdot \dot{q} = \dot{x}$$

# Jacobian Example

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

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

## Simple System: A Two Segment Arm



$$\frac{\partial p_z}{\partial \theta_1} = -l_1 \sin(\theta_1) - l_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

$$\frac{\partial p_x}{\partial \theta_1} = l_1 \cos(\theta_1) + l_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

$$\frac{\partial p_z}{\partial \theta_2} = -l_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

$$\frac{\partial p_x}{\partial \theta_2} = l_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

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# Jacobian Example

## Example for two segment arm

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial p_z}{\partial \theta_1} & \frac{\partial p_z}{\partial \theta_2} \\ \frac{\partial p_x}{\partial \theta_1} & \frac{\partial p_x}{\partial \theta_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

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# Inverting the Jacobian

- $m$  constraints,  $n$  DOF

## Inversion of the Jacobian matrix

- If  $J_{(m,n)}$  is not square, use the pseudoinverse
  - full rank matrices:

$$m > n: \mathbf{J}^+ = (\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T$$

overconstrained, minimizes

$$\| \mathbf{J} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}} - \dot{\mathbf{x}} \|^2$$

$$m < n: \mathbf{J}^+ = \mathbf{J}^T (\mathbf{J} \mathbf{J}^T)^{-1}$$

underconstrained, minimizes

$$\| \dot{\mathbf{q}} \|^2$$

- rank deficient matrices: use SVD or other methods



# Pseudoinverse

## Least-Squares Inverse

$$A A^+ A = A$$

$$(A A^+)^T = A A^+$$

$$A^+ A A^+ = A^+$$

$$(A^+ A)^T = A^+ A$$

$$(A^+)^+ = A$$

$$(A^+)^T = (A^T)^+$$

derived

but...

$$(AB)^+ \neq B^+ A^+$$



## Iterative IK solution

```

repeat
  E = P - Ptarget
  dX = k*error; // k<1
  compute J
  compute J*(J)
  compute dQ = J* dX
  Q = Q + dQ // update joint angles
until |error| < epsilon

```



## Pseudoinverse Discussion

- instable around singularities
- can weight the joint movement

Cost function with a weighting matrix:  $C(dQ) = dQ^T W dQ$   
 $dQ = W^{-1} J^T (J W^{-1} J^T)^{-1} dX$   
*↳ n x n weighting matrix positive definite*

- damped least squares solution helps avoid singularities

$$(A^+)^{\lambda} = A^T (A A^T + \lambda^2 I)^{-1}$$

$$\text{minimizes } \|A\dot{q} - \dot{x}\|^2 + \lambda^2 \|\dot{q}\|^2$$

# Pseudoinverse Discussion



## *secondary task*

- obstacle avoidance
- joint limit avoidance
- singularity avoidance

$$\dot{q} = J^+ \dot{x} + (I - J^+ J)z$$

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# Jacobian Transpose Method



- Jacobian transpose method uses the transpose of the Jacobian matrix rather than the p-inverse

Find  $\Delta q$  by:

$$\Delta q = J^T \Delta x$$

rather than:

$$\Delta q = J^+ \Delta x$$

- ♦ Avoids expensive inversion
- ♦ Avoids singularity problems

But why is this a reasonable thing to do? ....

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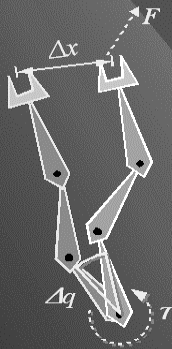




# Jacobian Transpose Method

## Principal of Virtual Work

- "Virtual" because amount is infinitesimal
- Work = force  $\times$  distance. Work = torque  $\times$  angle



$$F \cdot \Delta x = \tau \cdot \Delta q \quad (\text{energy equal in any coordinates})$$

$$F^T \Delta x = \tau^T \Delta q$$

$$\Delta x = J \Delta q \quad (\text{forward kinematics})$$

$$F^T J \Delta q = \tau^T \Delta q \quad (\text{substitution})$$

$$F^T J = \tau^T \quad (\text{transpose both sides})$$

$$\tau = J^T F$$

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# Jacobian Transpose Method

## Good and Bad of $J^T$

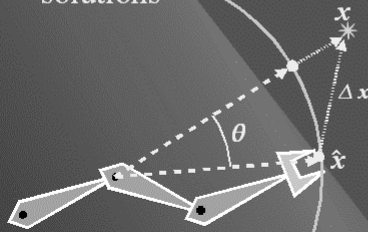
- + Cheaper evaluation step than pseudoinverse
- + No singularities
- Scaling problems
  - ◆  $J^+$  has nice property that solution has minimal norm at every step.
  - ◆  $J^T$  doesn't have this property. Joints far from end effector experience larger torques, hence take disproportionately large steps.
  - ◆ Can throw in a constant diagonal scaling matrix to counteract some scaling probs
 
$$\dot{q} = K J^T F(q) \quad \text{where each } K_{ii} \text{ set appropriately}$$
- Slower to converge than  $J^+$ 
  - ◆ (2x slower according to Das, Slotine & Sheridan)

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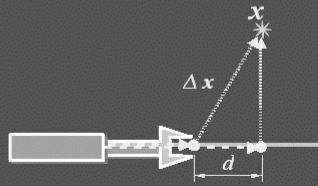
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# Cyclic Coordinate Descent

- Actually a much simpler idea
  - ♦ Just solve 1 DOF IK problems repeatedly up chain
- 1-DOF problems are simple and have analytical solutions



Find  $\theta$  that minimizes  $\Delta x$  for joint  $i$



Find  $d$  that minimizes  $\Delta x$

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# Cyclic Coordinate Descent

## Good and Bad of CCD

- + Simple to implement
  - + Often effective
  - + Stable around singular configuration
  - + Computationally cheap
  - + Can combine with other more accurate optimization method like BFS when close enough
- BUT
- Can lead to odd solutions if per step deltas not limited, making method slower
  - Doesn't necessarily lead to smooth motion

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# Machine Learning



$$f : \vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{q}$$

problem: one-to-many mapping

$$f : \vec{x}, \vec{q}_0 \rightarrow \vec{q}$$

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# Human Motion



- hands typically travel in straight-line paths
- strength influences trajectory of some motions
- course project ?

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