



Robot Velocity

We have the need for speed



Last update: October 21, 2024

Agenda

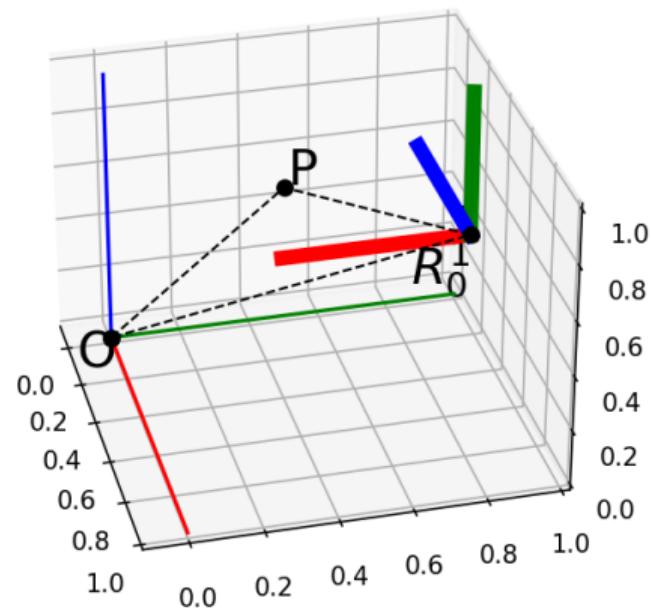
- Background
- Linear and angular velocity
- The Jacobian
- Inverting the Jacobian - Singularities
- Velocity ellipsoid



Recap

What do we know already?

$$P_0 = R_0^1 * P_1$$



Recap

What we know already?

Definition

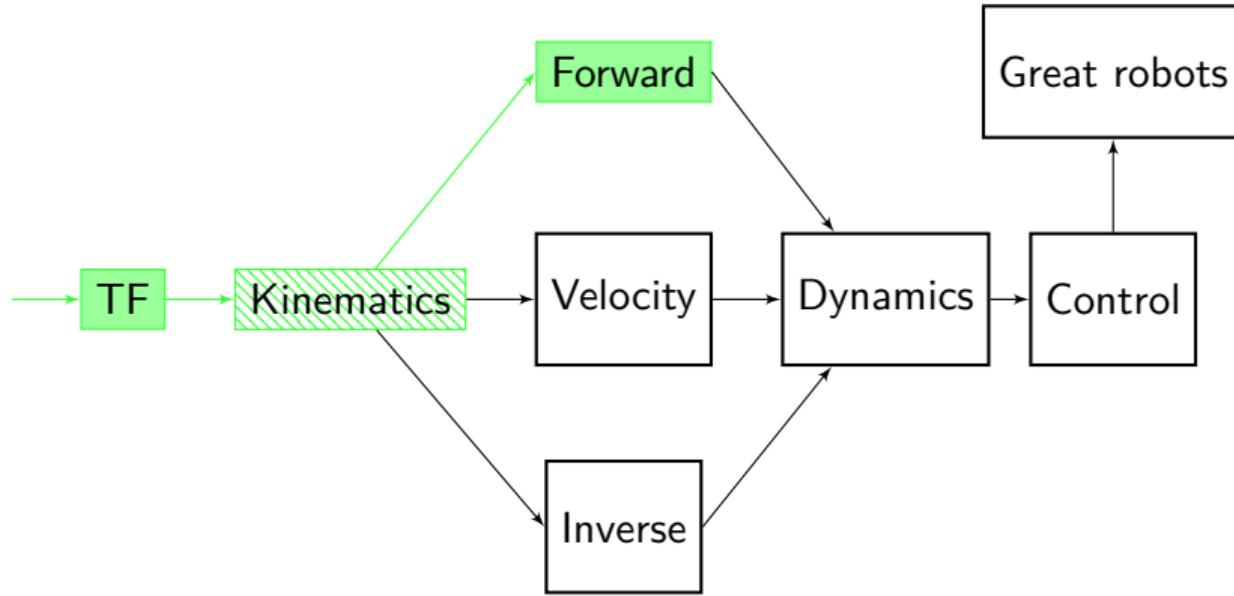
A transformation matrix that calculates the pose of the robot's end effector in terms of the joint coordinates q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} X_X & Y_X & Z_X & P_x \\ X_Y & Y_Y & Z_Y & P_y \\ X_Z & Y_Z & Z_Z & P_z \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$



Grand scheme

The big picture



Robot velocity

Background

A robot is a mechanism which consists of joints and links.



Robot velocity

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By controlling the position of the joints, we can control the position of the end-effector.



Robot velocity

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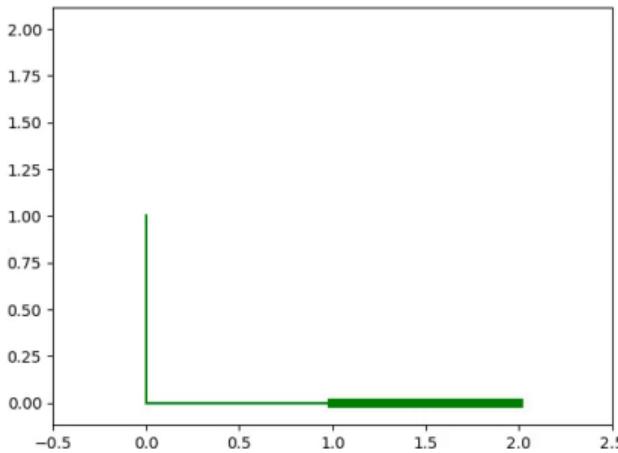
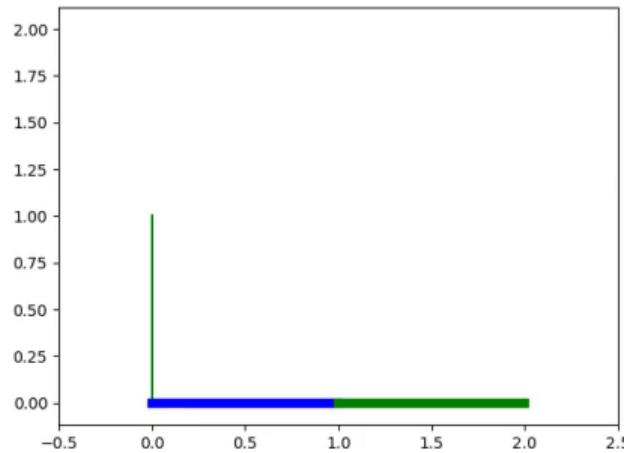


Can we do this for velocities as well?

Linear and angular velocity

What is the difference?

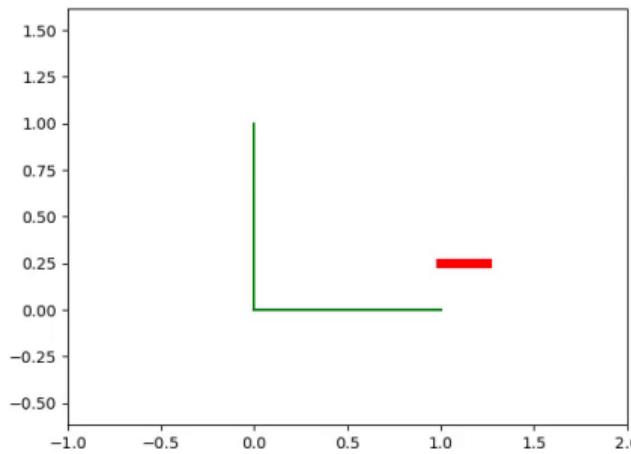
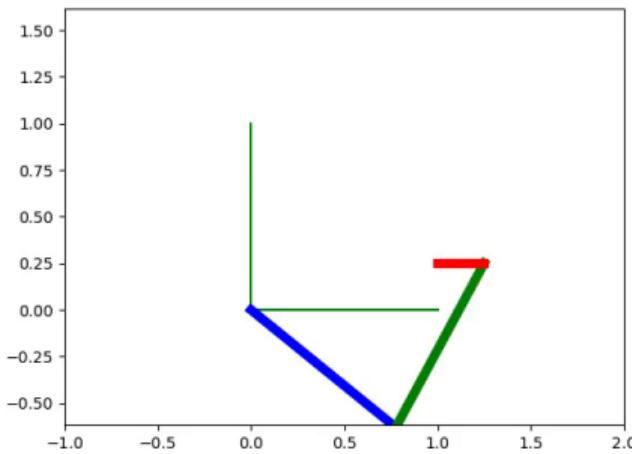
Each of the robot segments can be moving with a linear, angular velocity, or a complex velocity.



Linear and angular velocity

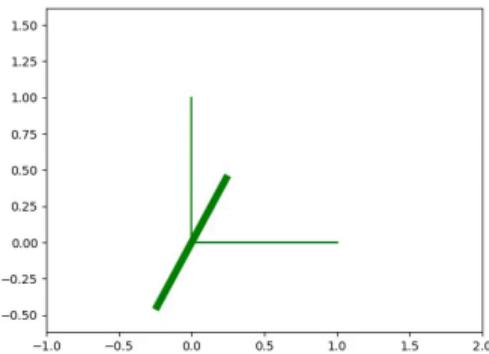
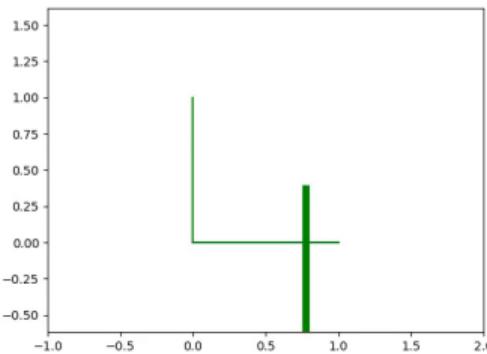
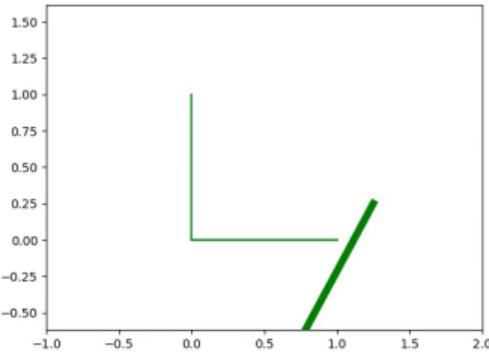
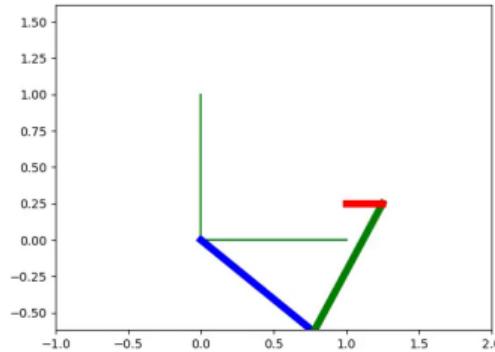
What is the difference?

Each of the robot segments can be moving with a linear, angular or a complex velocity.



Linear and angular velocity

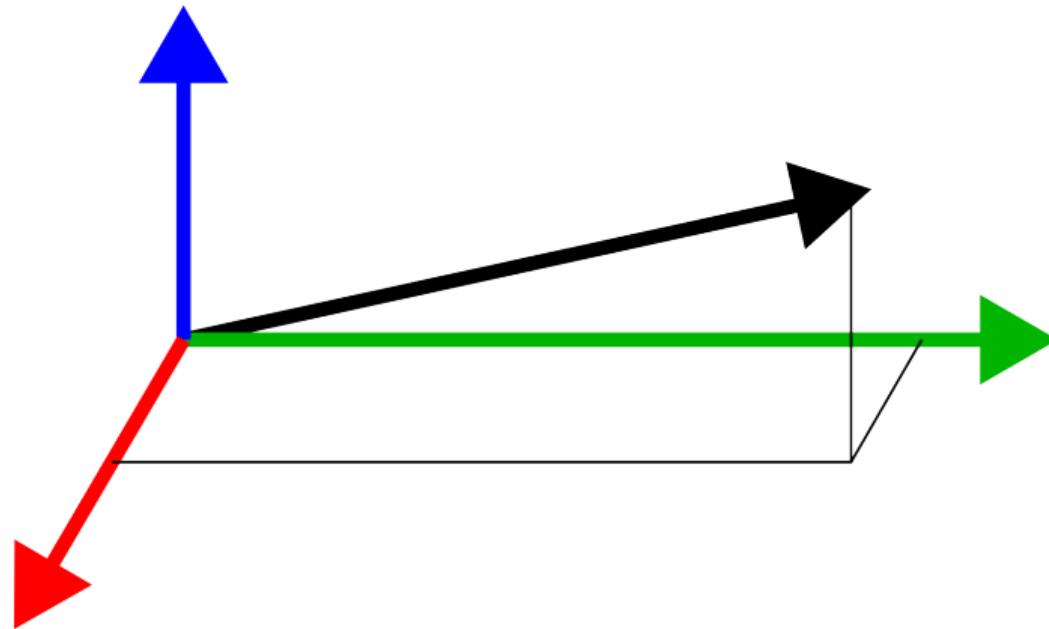
What is the difference?



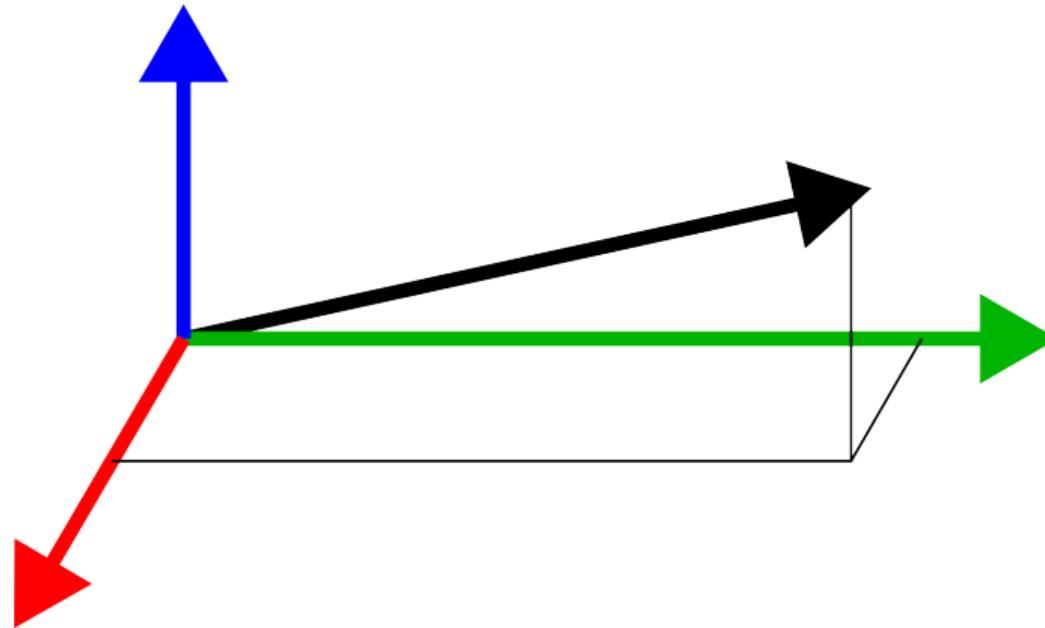
What is linear velocity



What is linear velocity



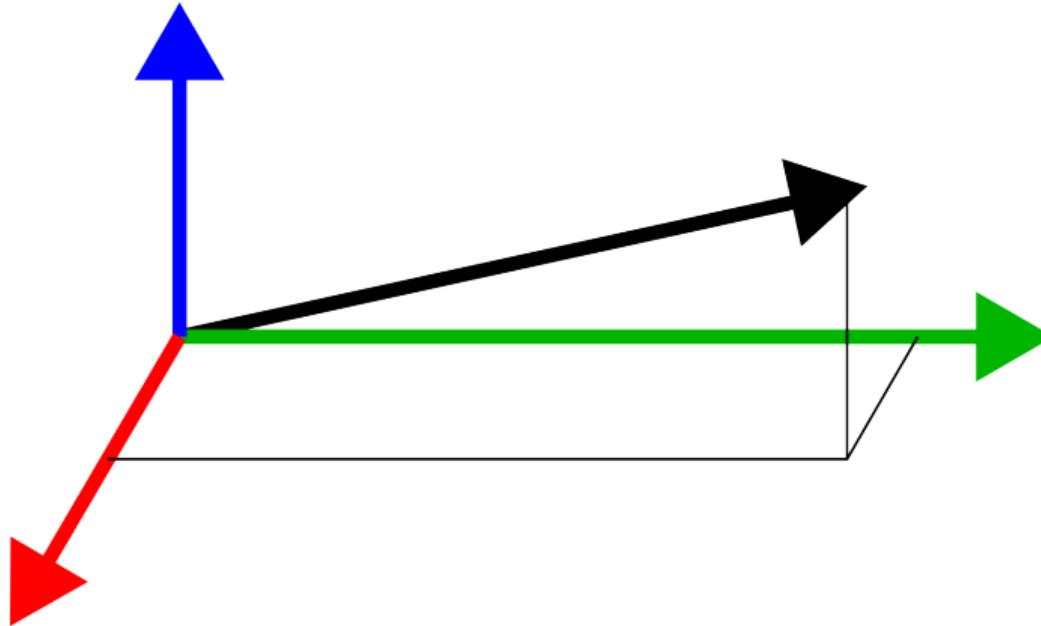
What is linear velocity



$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \end{bmatrix}$$



What is linear velocity

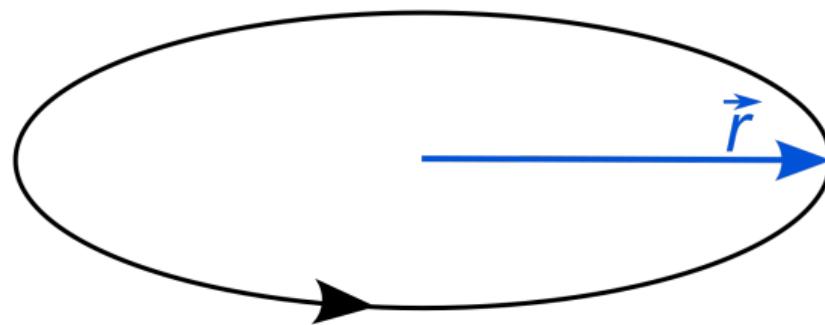


$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \end{bmatrix}$$

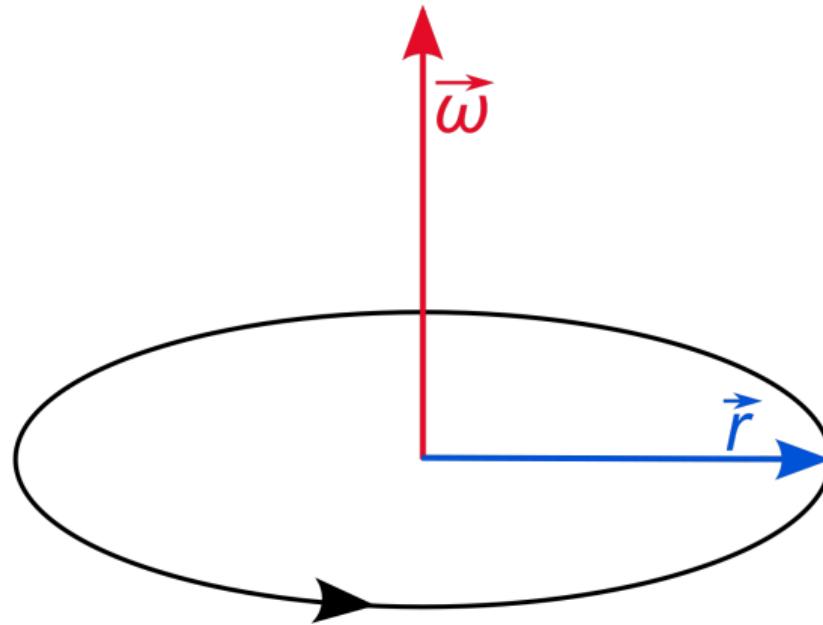
How do we add up linear velocities?



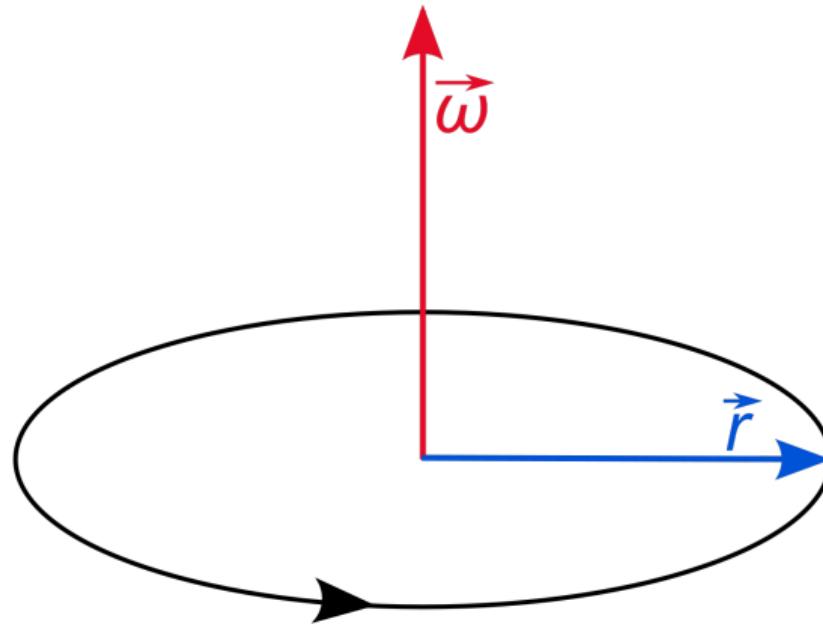
What is angular velocity



What is angular velocity



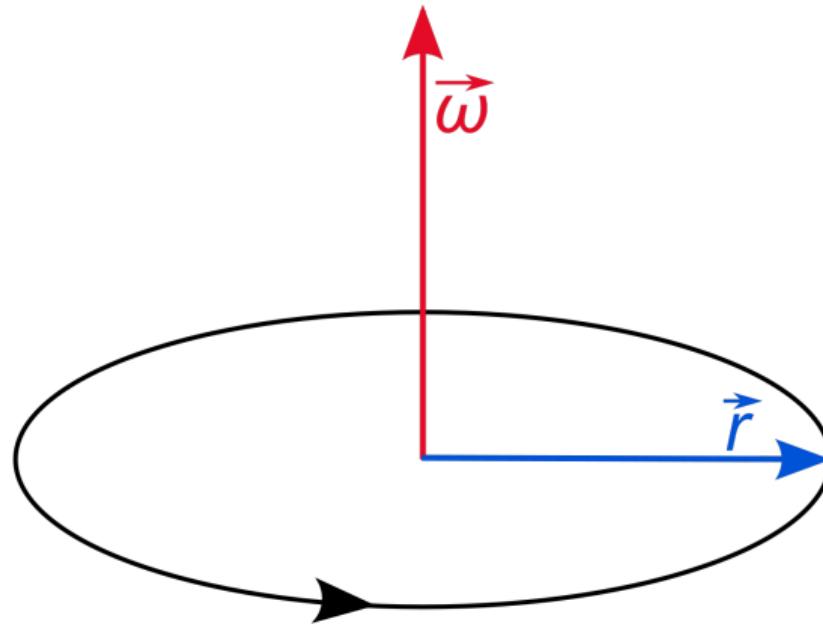
What is angular velocity



$$\vec{\omega} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{bmatrix}$$



What is angular velocity

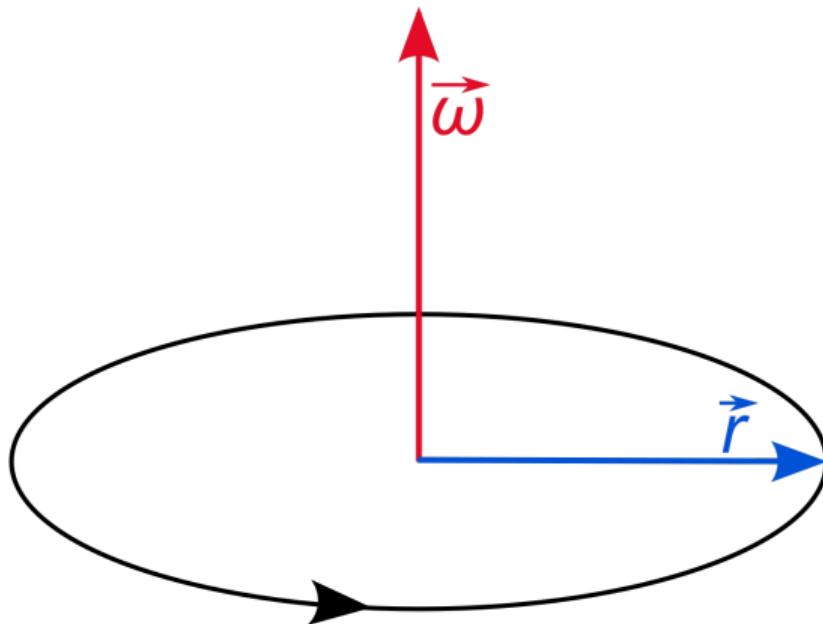


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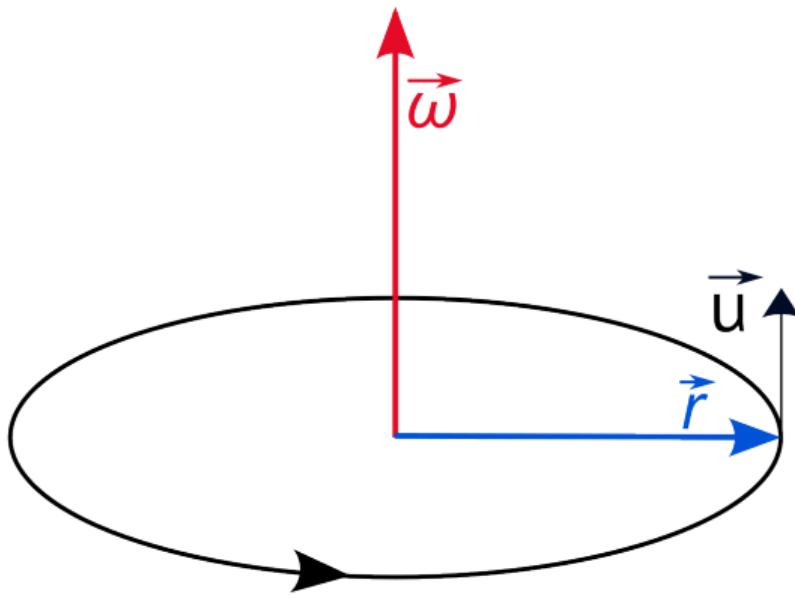
How do we add up angular velocities?



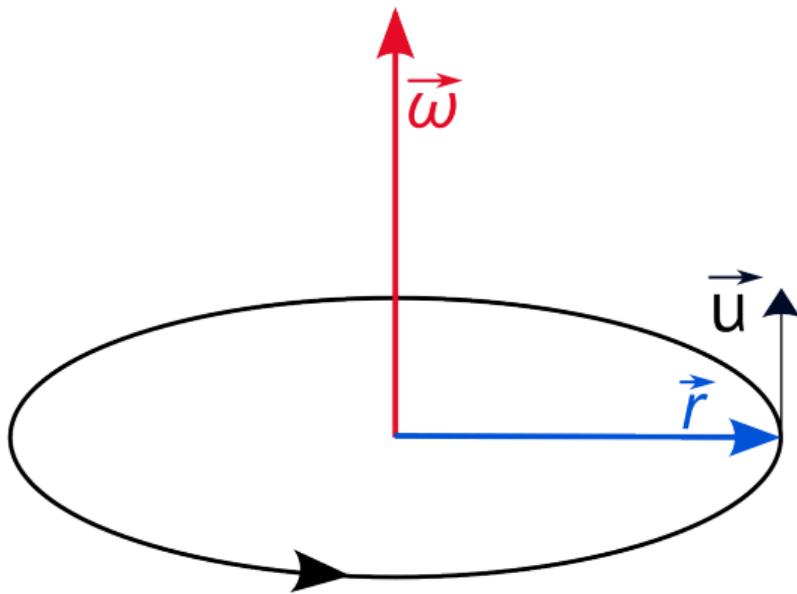
Linear velocity due to rotation



Linear velocity due to rotation



Linear velocity due to rotation

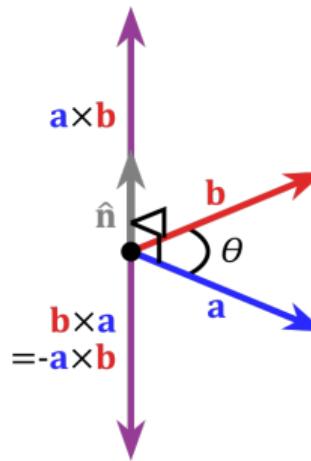


$$\vec{u} = \vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}$$



Defining the Jacobian

What is the cross product?



If we have two vectors a and b with coordinates $[a_1, a_2, a_3]$ and $[b_1, b_2, b_3]$ respectively then, the cross product is defined as:

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = (a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) \mathbf{i} + (a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3) \mathbf{j} + (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) \mathbf{k}$$



Robot velocity

End-effector velocity

$$u = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \end{bmatrix}$$

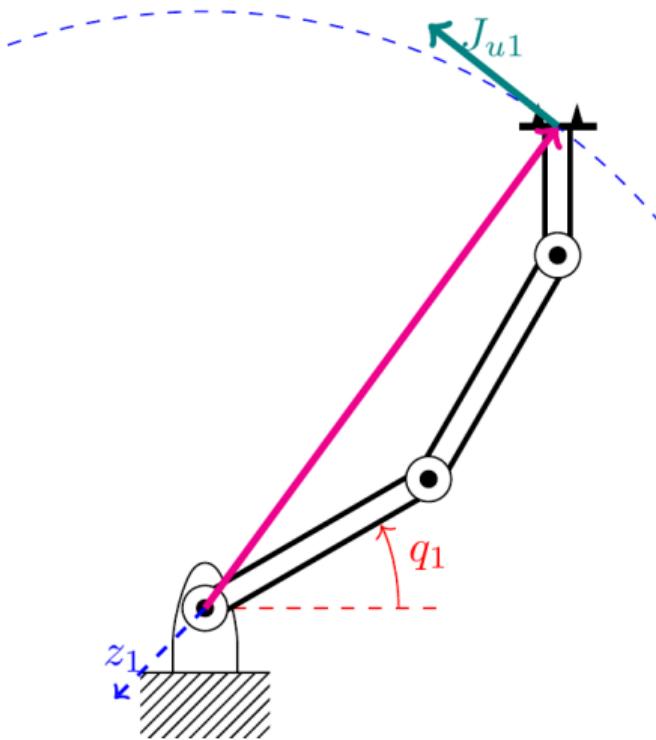
$$\omega = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xi = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ \omega \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \\ \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{bmatrix}$$



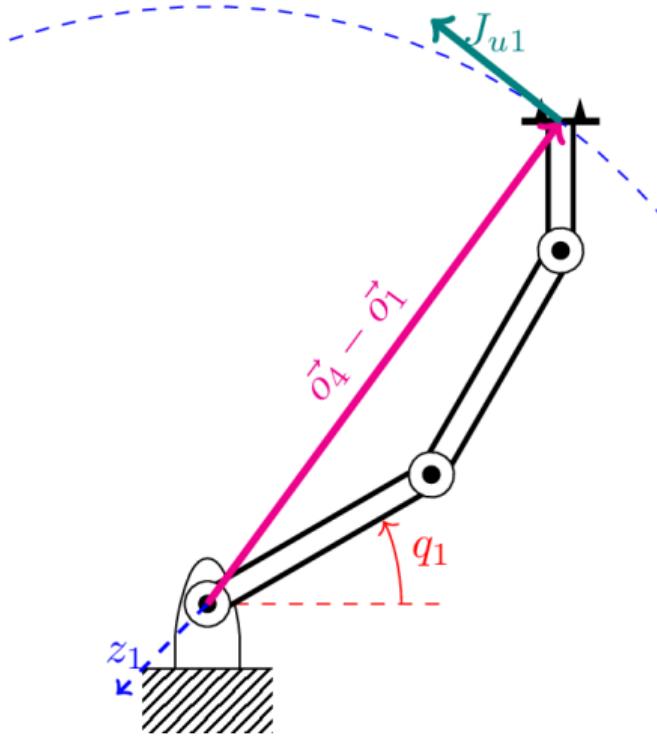
Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to rotation



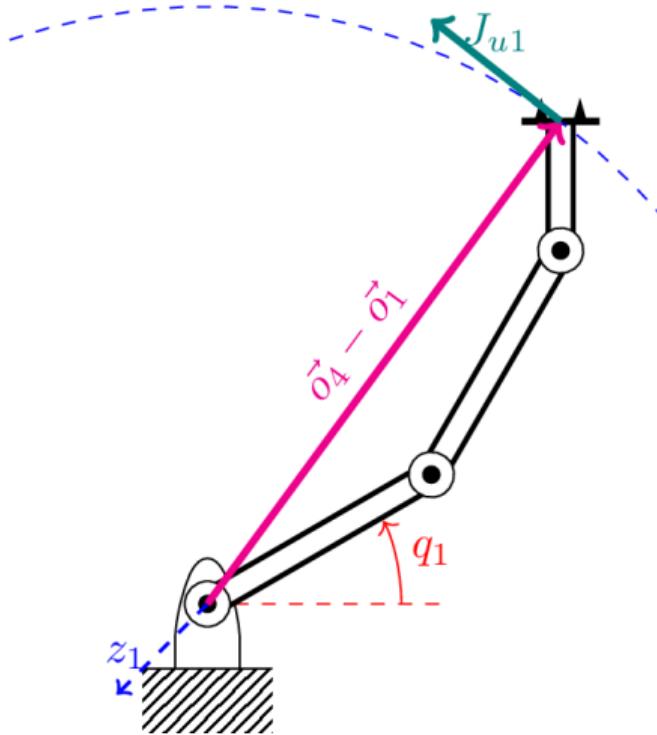
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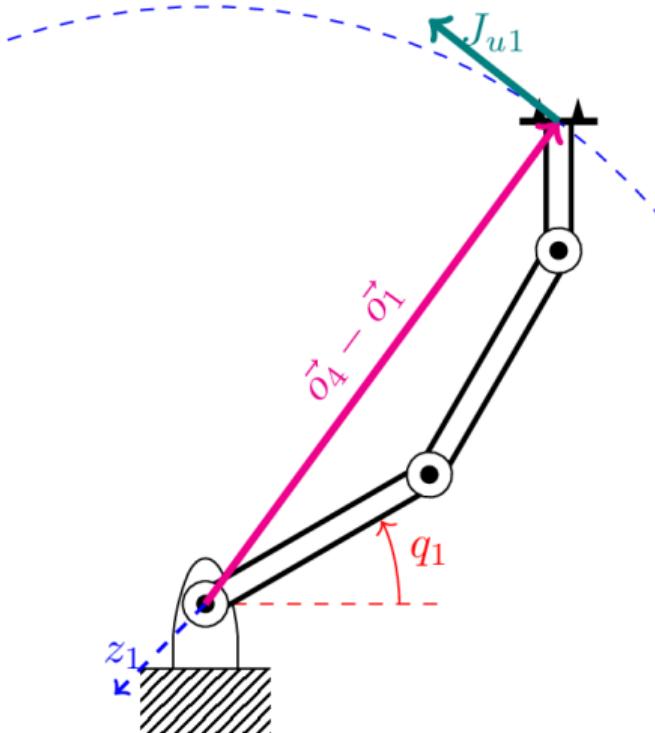


$$\vec{u}_1 = \dot{q}_1 \times \vec{o}_4 - \vec{o}_1$$



Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to rotation



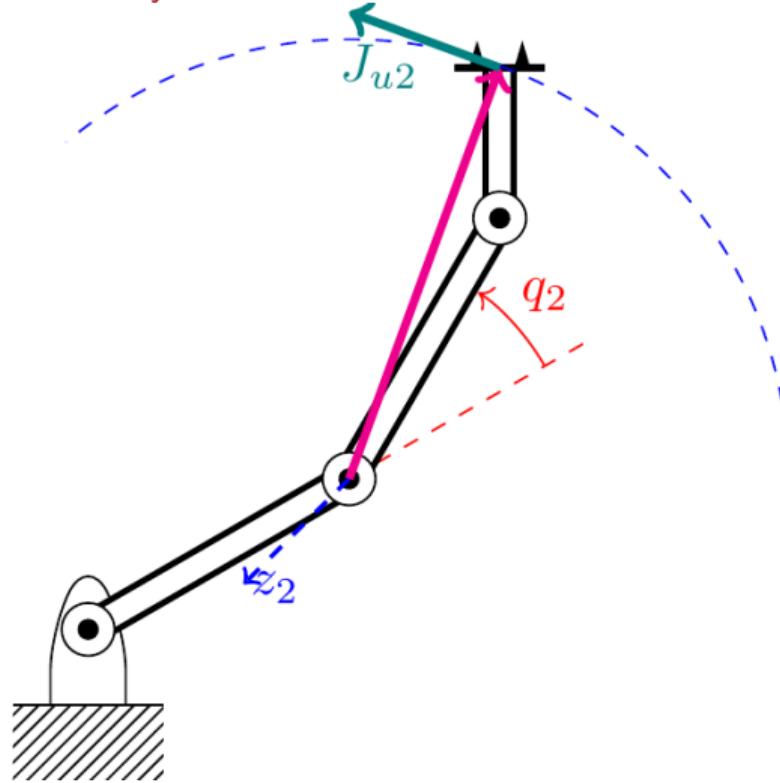
$$\vec{u}_1 = \dot{\vec{q}}_1 \times o_4 - o_1$$

$$\vec{u}_1 = (\vec{z}_1 \times o_4 - o_1) \dot{q}_1 = J_{u1} \dot{q}_1$$



Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to rotation



$$\vec{u}_1 = \vec{q}_1 \times \vec{o}_4 - \vec{o}_1$$

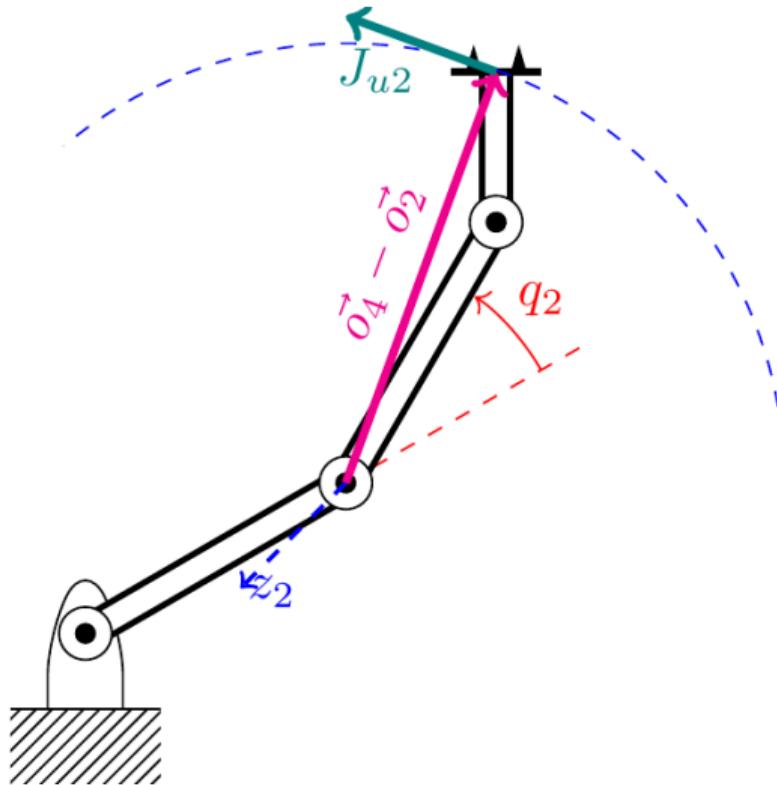
$$\vec{u}_1 = (\vec{z}_1 \times \vec{o}_4 - \vec{o}_1) \dot{q}_1 = \vec{J}_{u1} \dot{q}_1$$

$$\vec{u}_2 = \vec{q}_2 \times \vec{o}_4 - \vec{o}_2$$



Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to rotation



$$\vec{u}_1 = \dot{\vec{q}}_1 \times o_4 - o_1$$

$$\vec{u}_1 = (\vec{z}_1 \times o_4 - o_1) \dot{q}_1 = \vec{J}_{u1} \dot{q}_1$$

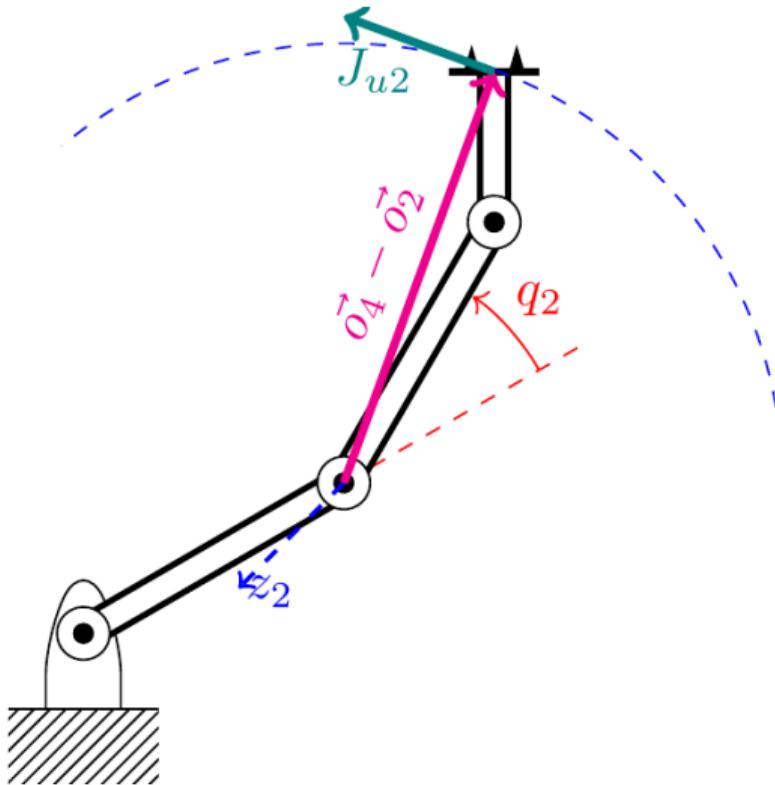
$$\vec{u}_2 = \dot{\vec{q}}_2 \times o_4 - o_2$$

$$\vec{u}_2 = (\vec{z}_2 \times o_4 - o_2) \dot{q}_2 = \vec{J}_{u2} \dot{q}_2$$



Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to rotation



$$\vec{u}_1 = \vec{q}_1 \times \vec{o}_4 - \vec{o}_1$$

$$\vec{u}_1 = (\vec{z}_1 \times \vec{o}_4 - \vec{o}_1) \dot{q}_1 = \vec{J}_{u1} \dot{q}_1$$

$$\vec{u}_2 = \vec{q}_2 \times \vec{o}_4 - \vec{o}_2$$

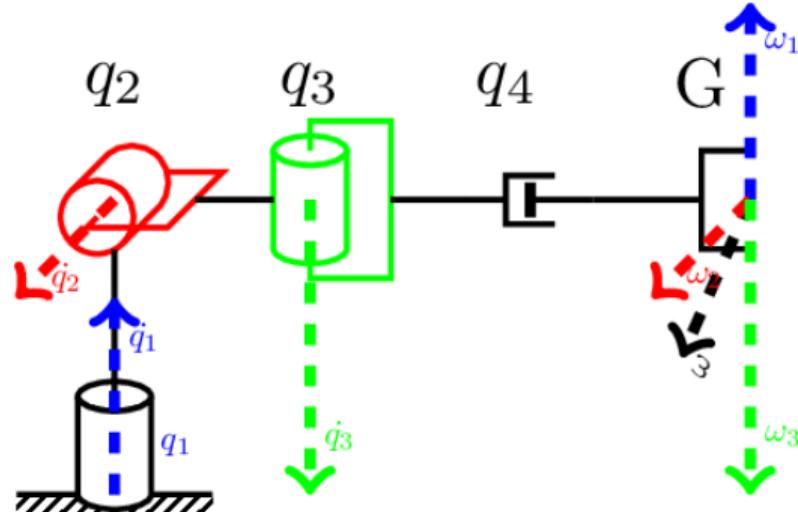
$$\vec{u}_2 = (\vec{z}_2 \times \vec{o}_4 - \vec{o}_2) \dot{q}_2 = \vec{J}_{u2} \dot{q}_2$$

$$\vec{u}_i = (\vec{z}_i \times \vec{o}_n - \vec{o}_i) \dot{q}_i = \vec{J}_{ui} \dot{q}_i$$



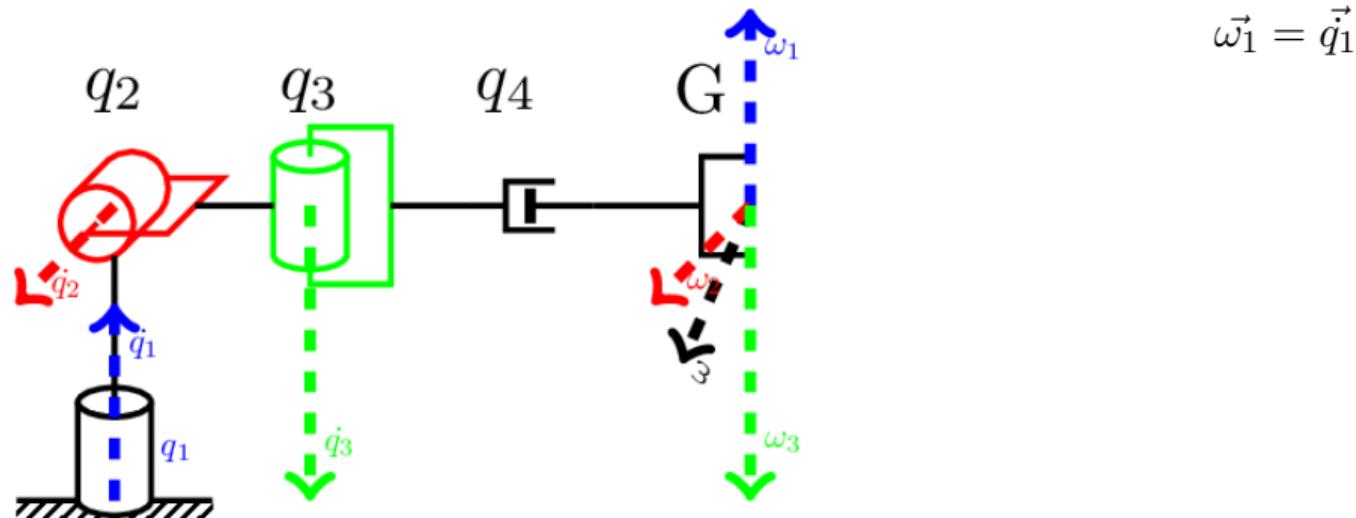
Joint velocity contribution

Angular velocity due to rotation



Joint velocity contribution

Angular velocity due to rotation

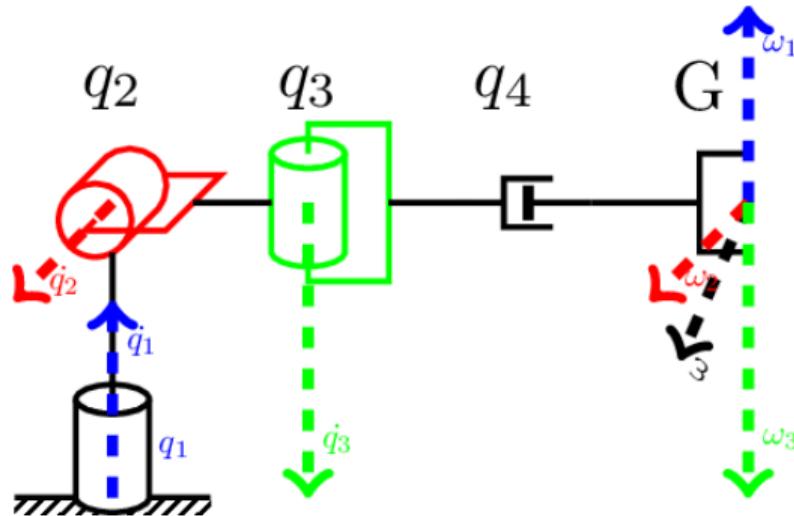


$$\vec{\omega}_1 = \dot{q}_1$$



Joint velocity contribution

Angular velocity due to rotation



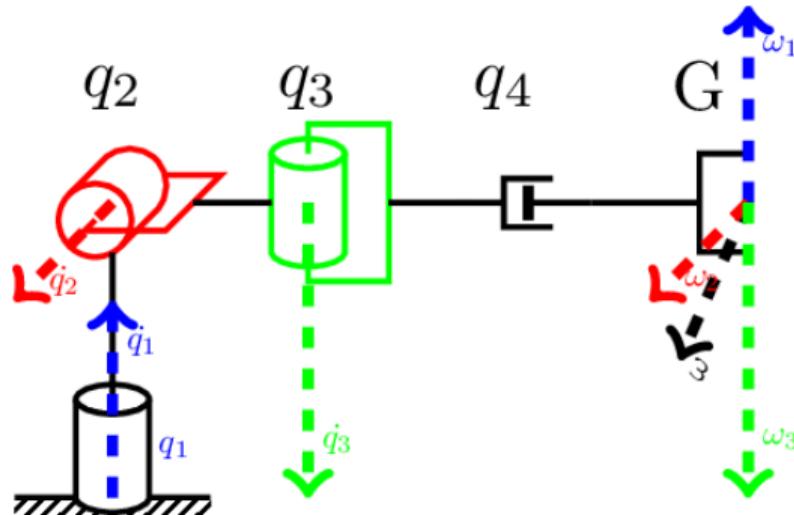
$$\vec{\omega}_1 = \vec{q}_1$$

$$\vec{\omega}_1 = \vec{z}_1 \dot{q}_1 = \vec{J}_{\omega_1} \dot{q}_1$$



Joint velocity contribution

Angular velocity due to rotation



$$\vec{\omega}_1 = \vec{q}_1$$

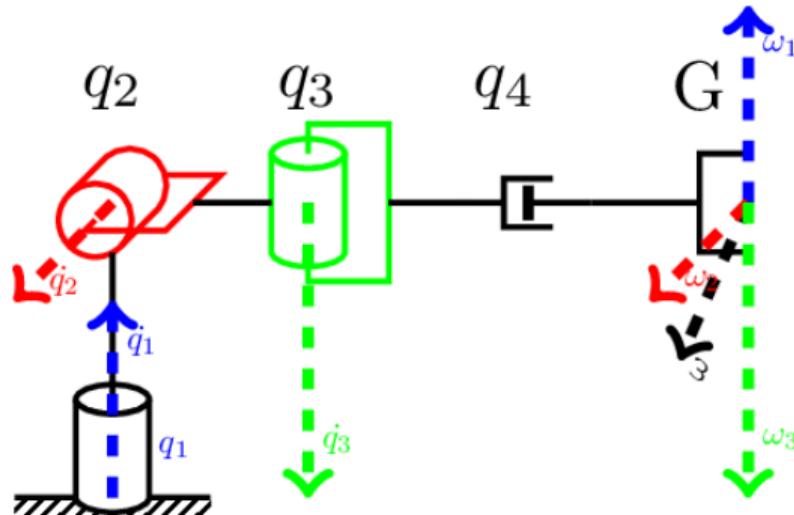
$$\vec{\omega}_1 = \vec{z}_1 \dot{q}_1 = J_{\omega_1} \dot{q}_1$$

$$\vec{\omega}_2 = \vec{z}_2 \dot{q}_2 = J_{\omega_2} \dot{q}_2$$



Joint velocity contribution

Angular velocity due to rotation



$$\vec{\omega}_1 = \vec{q}_1$$

$$\vec{\omega}_1 = \vec{z}_1 \dot{q}_1 = \vec{J}_{\omega 1} \dot{q}_1$$

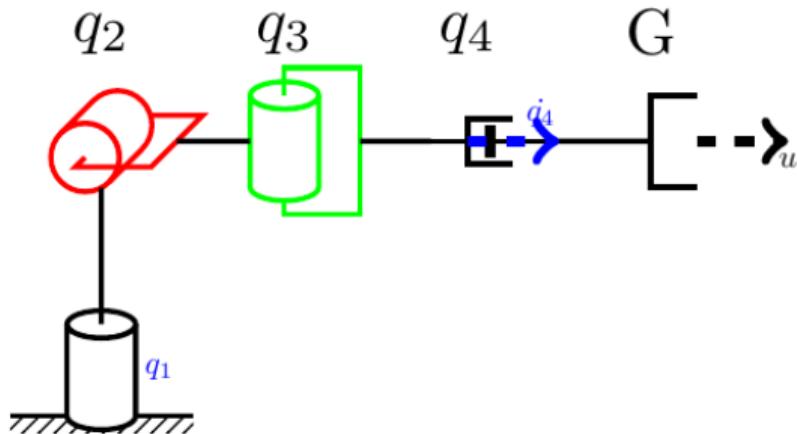
$$\vec{\omega}_2 = \vec{z}_2 \dot{q}_2 = \vec{J}_{\omega 2} \dot{q}_2$$

$$\vec{\omega}_i = \vec{z}_i \dot{q}_i = \vec{J}_{\omega i} \dot{q}_i$$



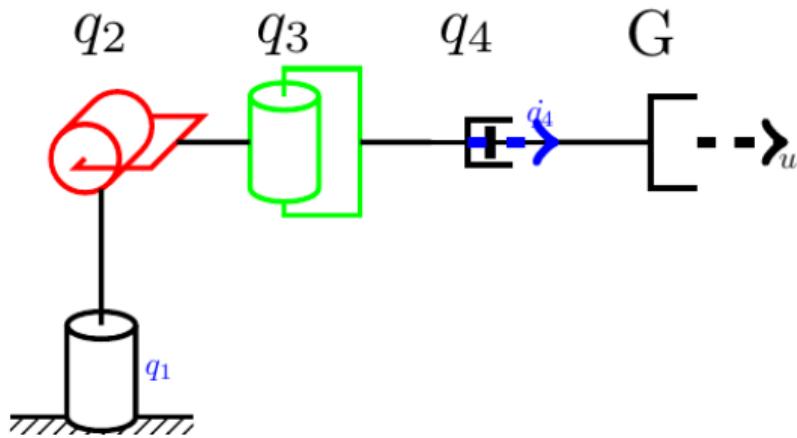
Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to translation



Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to translation

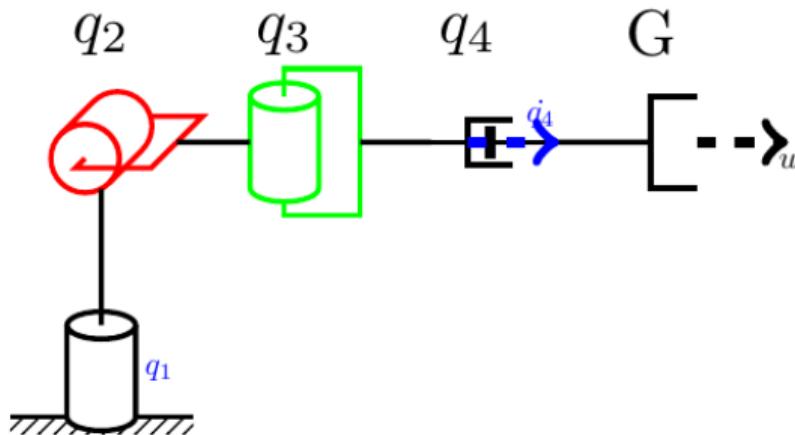


$$\vec{u}_1 = \vec{\dot{q}}_4$$



Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to translation



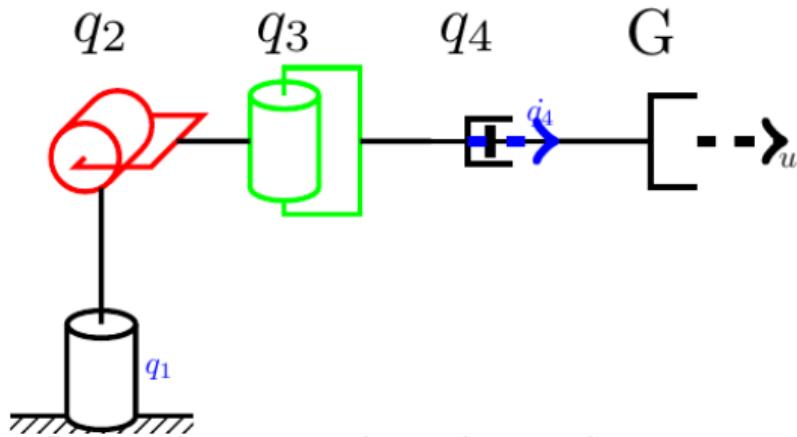
$$\vec{u}_1 = \vec{\dot{q}}_4$$

$$\vec{u}_1 = \vec{z}_4 \dot{q}_4 = \vec{J}_{u4} \dot{q}_4$$



Joint velocity contribution

Linear velocity due to translation



Do we have angular velocity due to translation?

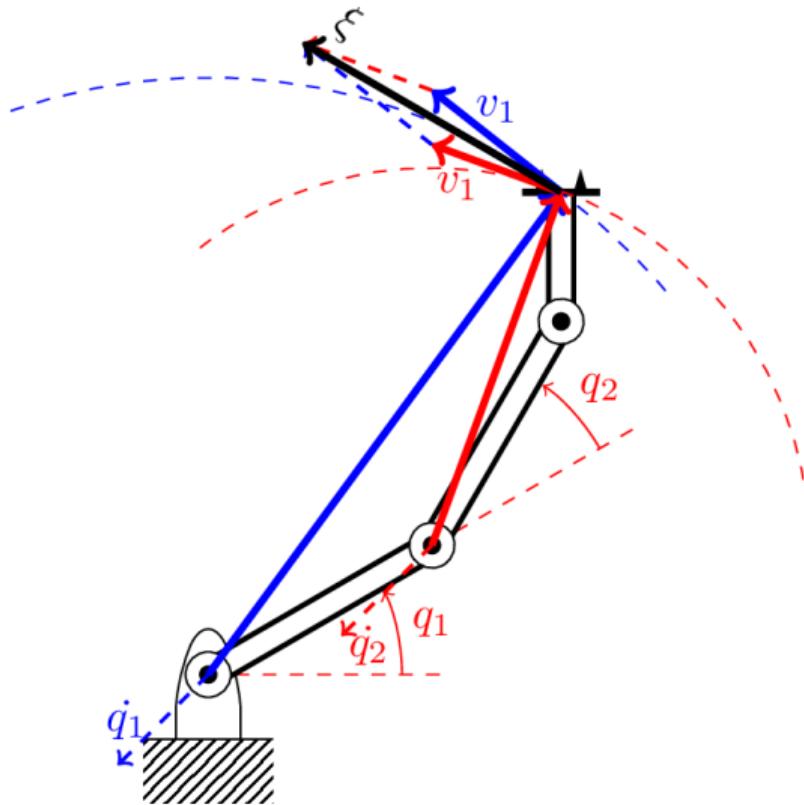
$$\vec{u}_1 = \vec{q}_4$$

$$\vec{u}_1 = \vec{z}_4 \dot{q}_4 = \vec{J}_{u4} \dot{q}_4$$



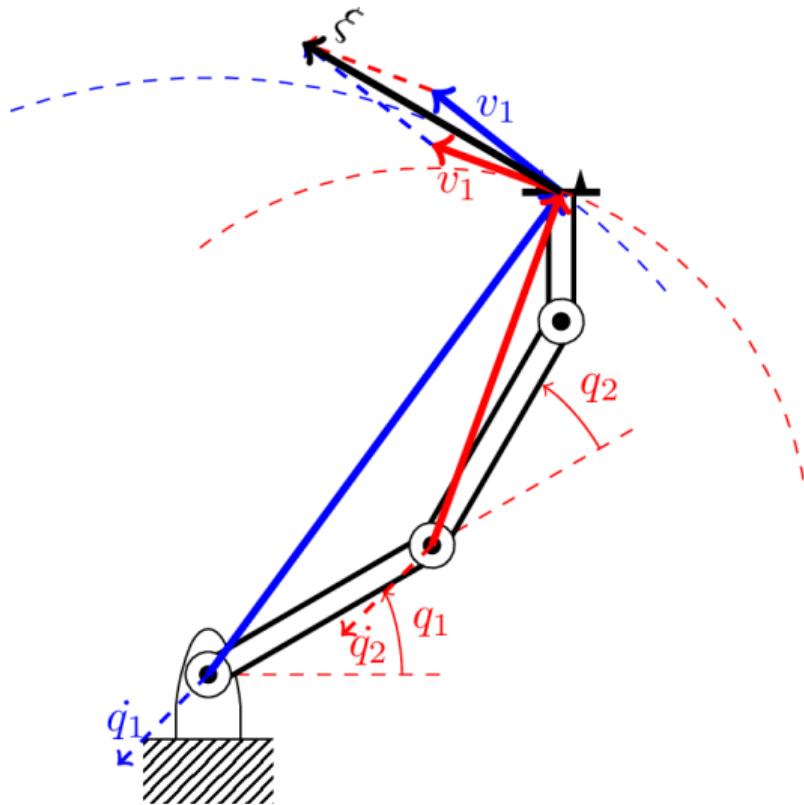
Robot velocity

Velocity addition



Robot velocity

Velocity addition

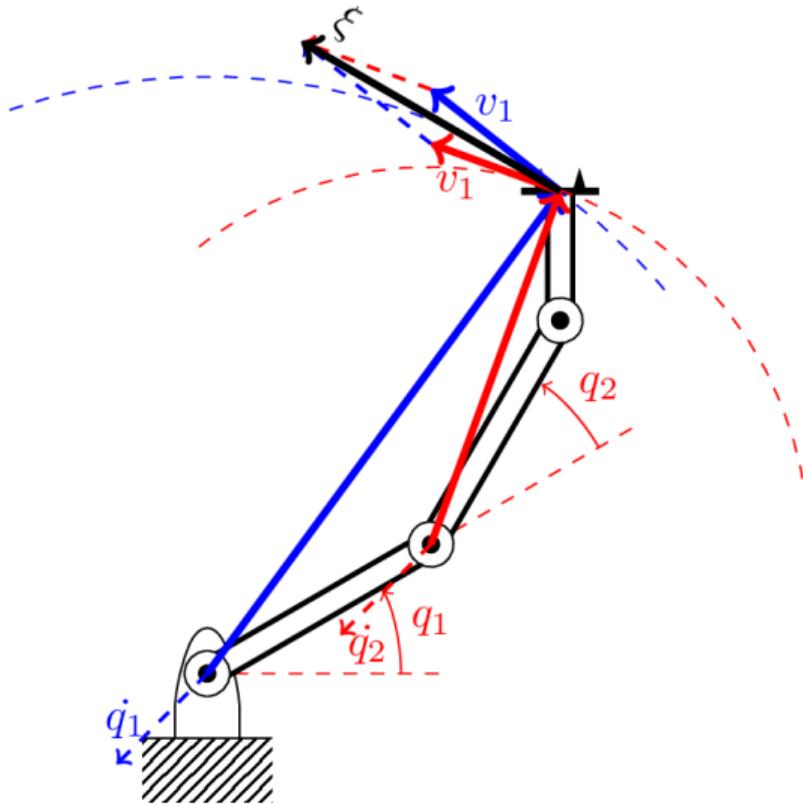


$$\vec{u} = \vec{u}_1 + \vec{u}_2 + \cdots + \vec{u}_n$$



Robot velocity

Velocity addition



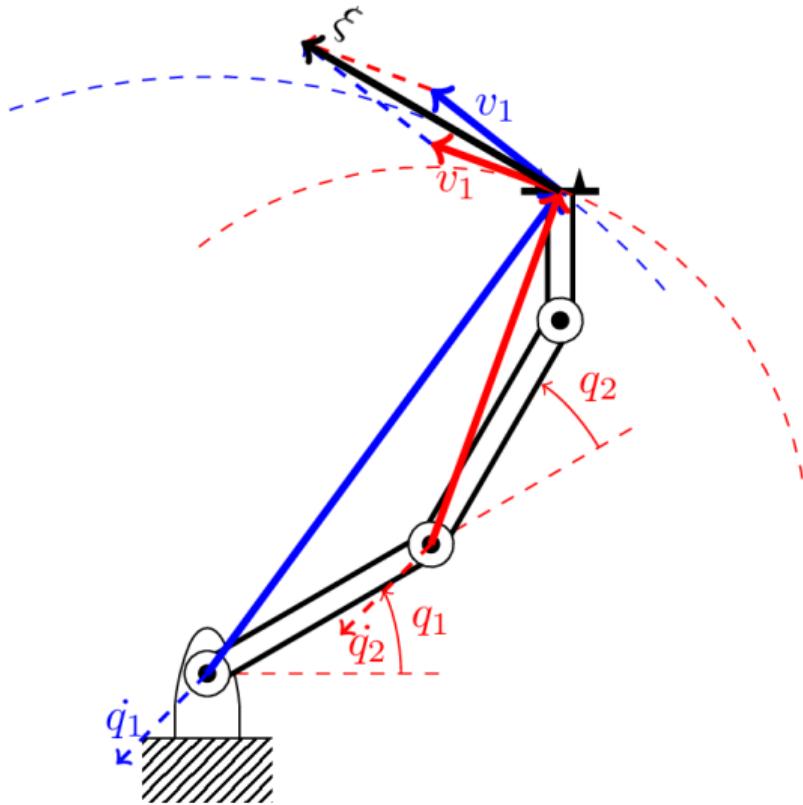
$$\vec{u} = \vec{u}_1 + \vec{u}_2 + \cdots + \vec{u}_n$$

$$\vec{u} = \vec{J}_{u1}\dot{q}_1 + \vec{J}_{u2}\dot{q}_2 + \cdots + \vec{J}_{un}\dot{q}_n$$



Robot velocity

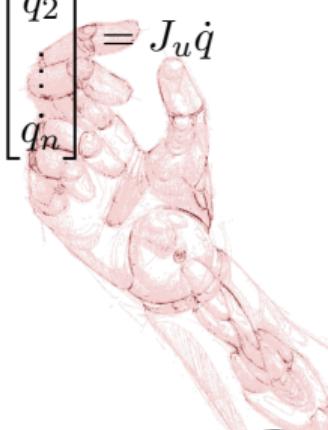
Velocity addition



$$\vec{u} = \vec{u}_1 + \vec{u}_2 + \cdots + \vec{u}_n$$

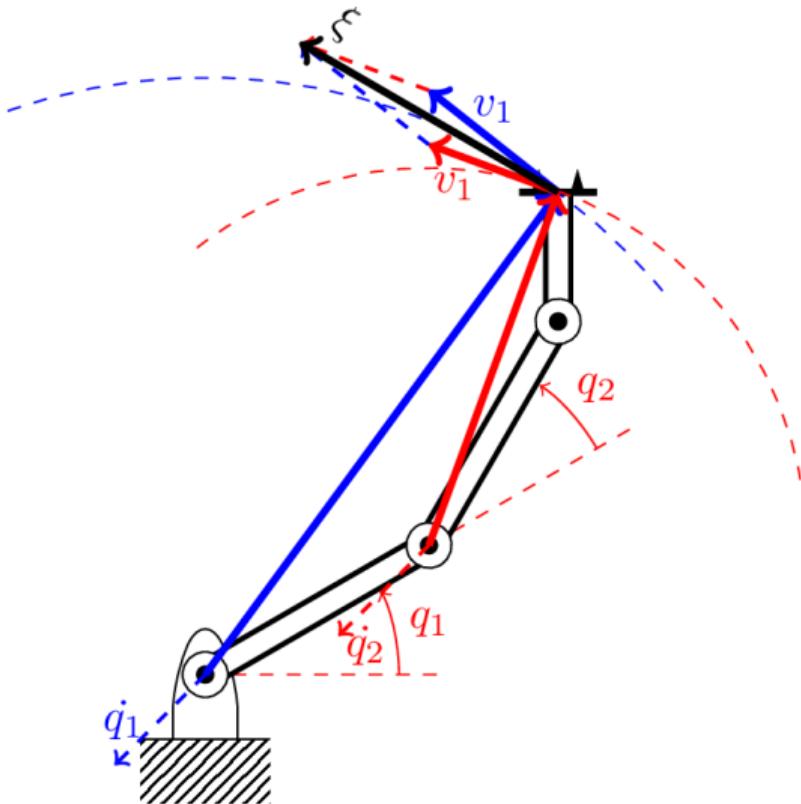
$$\vec{u} = \vec{J}_{u1}\dot{q}_1 + \vec{J}_{u2}\dot{q}_2 + \cdots + \vec{J}_{un}\dot{q}_n$$

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{J}_{u1} & \vec{J}_{u2} & \dots & \vec{J}_{un} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{bmatrix} = \vec{J}_u \dot{\vec{q}}$$



Robot velocity

Velocity addition

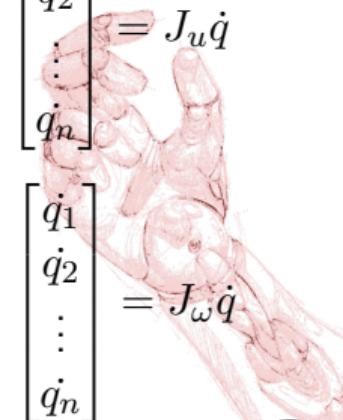


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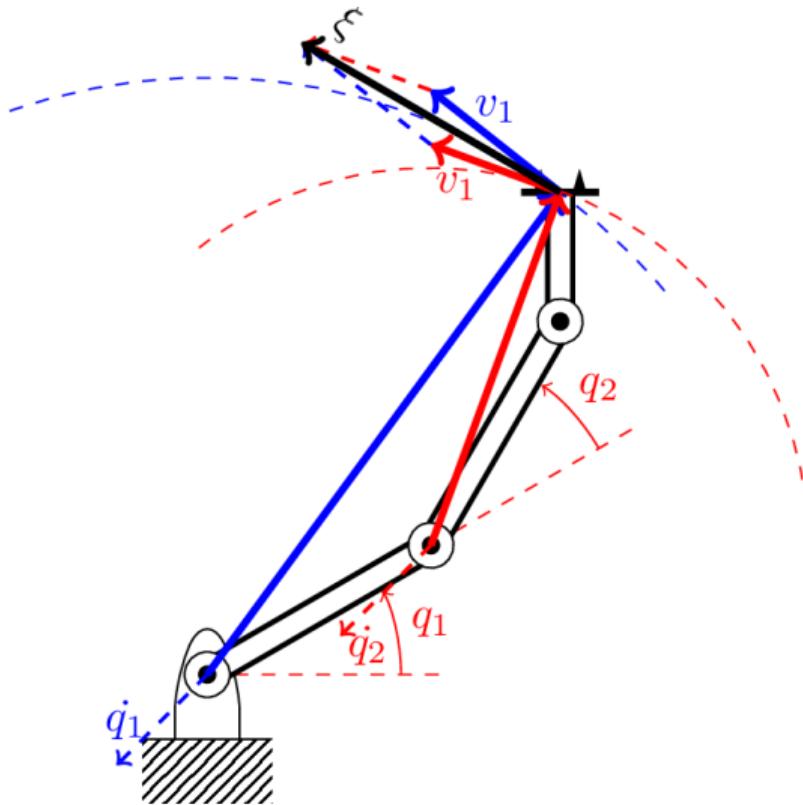
$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{J}_{u1} & \vec{J}_{u2} & \dots & \vec{J}_{un} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{bmatrix} = J_u \dot{q}$$

$$\vec{\omega} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{J}_{\omega 1} & \vec{J}_{\omega 2} & \dots & \vec{J}_{\omega n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{bmatrix} = J_{\omega} \dot{q}$$

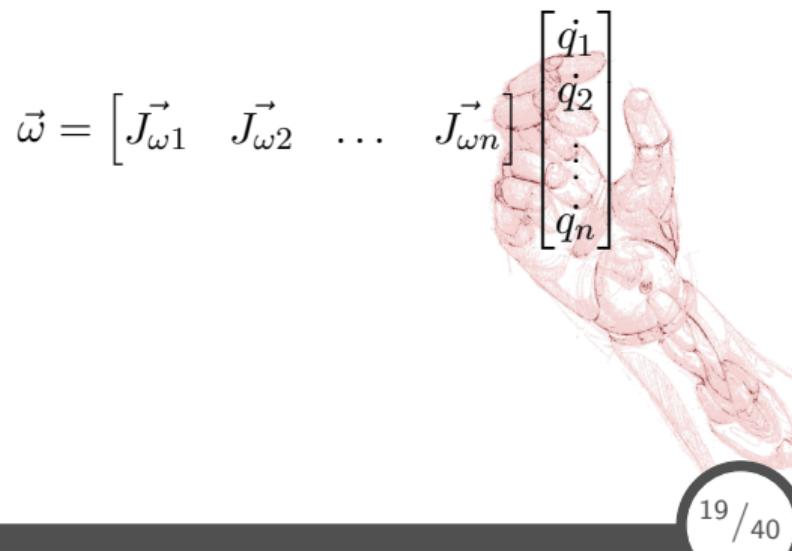


Robot velocity

Velocity addition

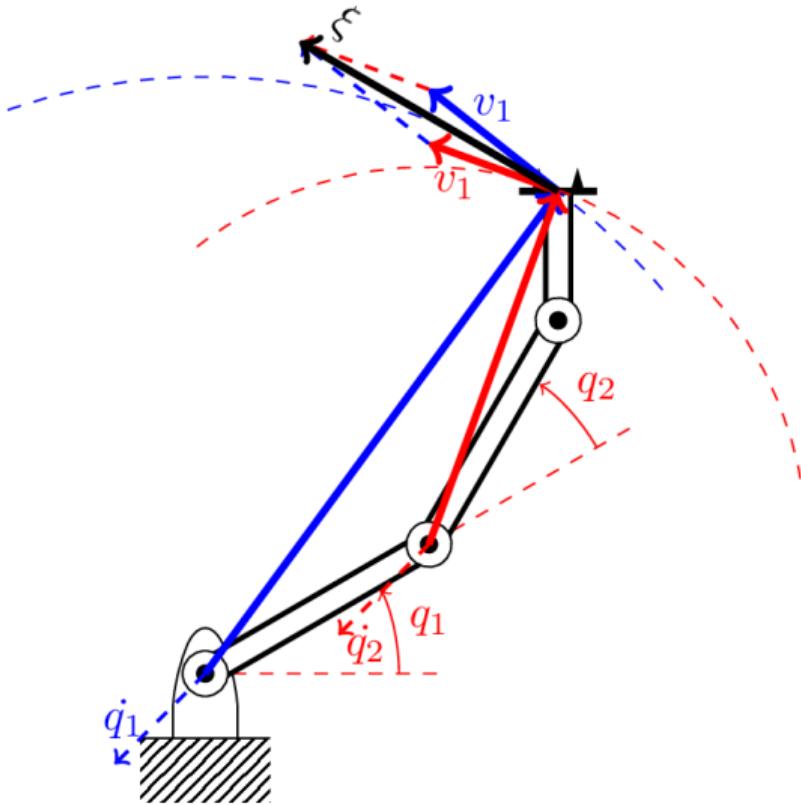


$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{J}_{u1} & \vec{J}_{u2} & \dots & \vec{J}_{un} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{bmatrix}$$



Robot velocity

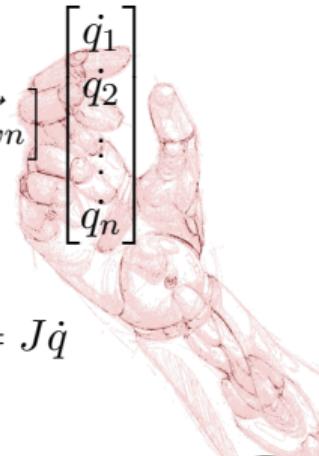
Velocity addition



$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{J}_{u1} & \vec{J}_{u2} & \dots & \vec{J}_{un} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{\omega} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{J}_{\omega 1} & \vec{J}_{\omega 2} & \dots & \vec{J}_{\omega n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xi = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{u} \\ \vec{\omega} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{J}_u \\ \vec{J}_\omega \end{bmatrix} \dot{q} = J \dot{q}$$



Robot velocity

Defining the Jacobian

We define a matrix called the 'Jacobian' that shows us how we can calculate the end-effector velocity if we know the joint velocities

$$\xi = J\dot{q}$$



Robot velocity

The Jacobian

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \\ \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{bmatrix} = \xi = J\dot{q} = J \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

By vector ξ we denote a vector that contains 6 velocities, 3 linear and 3 angular. By vector \dot{q} we denote a vector containing all the n joint velocities.



Robot velocity

The Jacobian

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \\ \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{bmatrix} = \xi = J\dot{q} = J \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

By vector ξ we denote a vector that contains 6 velocities, 3 linear and 3 angular. By vector \dot{q} we denote a vector containing all the n joint velocities.



What is the size of the Jacobian matrix J ?

Defining the Jacobian

Combining angular and linear velocities

We can calculate each column of the Jacobian matrix individually. Each column represents one joint. If joint i is revolute, then:

$$J_{ir} = \begin{bmatrix} z_i \times (o_{n+1} - o_i) \\ z_i \end{bmatrix}$$

If joint i is prismatic, then:

$$J_{ip} = \begin{bmatrix} z_i \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



Defining the Jacobian

Combining angular and linear velocities

$$J_{ir} = \begin{bmatrix} z_i \times (o_{n+1} - o_i) \\ z_i \end{bmatrix}, J_{ip} = \begin{bmatrix} z_i \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

What is z_i ?



Defining the Jacobian

Combining angular and linear velocities

$$J_{ir} = \begin{bmatrix} z_i \times (o_{n+1} - o_i) \\ z_i \end{bmatrix}, J_{ip} = \begin{bmatrix} z_i \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

What is z_i ?

$$R_0^i = \begin{bmatrix} X_x & Y_x & Z_x & P_x \\ X_y & Y_y & Z_y & P_y \\ X_z & Y_z & Z_z & P_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Defining the Jacobian

Combining angular and linear velocities

$$J_{ir} = \begin{bmatrix} z_i \times (o_{n+1} - o_i) \\ z_i \end{bmatrix}, J_{ip} = \begin{bmatrix} z_i \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

What is z_i ?

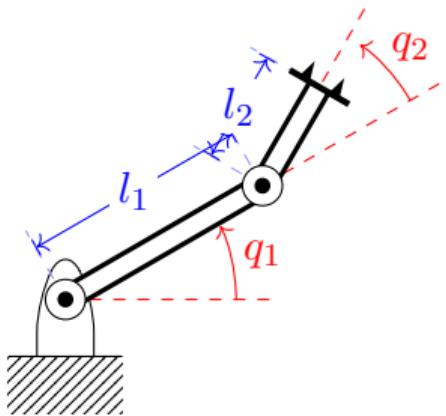
What is o_i

$$R_0^i = \begin{bmatrix} X_x & Y_x & Z_x & P_x \\ X_y & Y_y & Z_y & P_y \\ X_z & Y_z & Z_z & P_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Defining the Jacobian

Example in \mathbb{R}^2

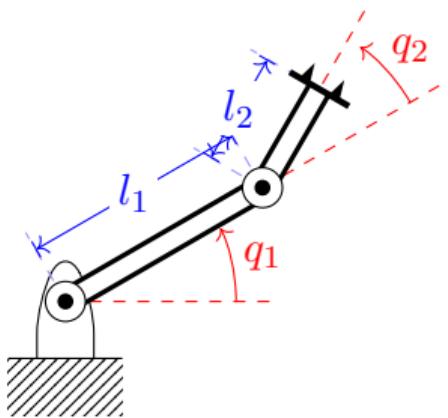


$$R_0^1 = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & -s_1 & 0 & 0 \\ s_1 & c_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Defining the Jacobian

Example in \mathbb{R}^2

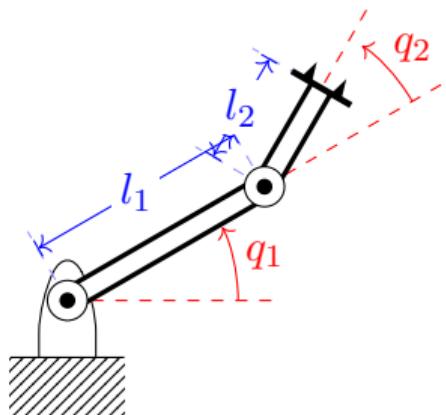


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Defining the Jacobian

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Defining the Jacobian

2 link planar manipulator

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2 link planar manipulator

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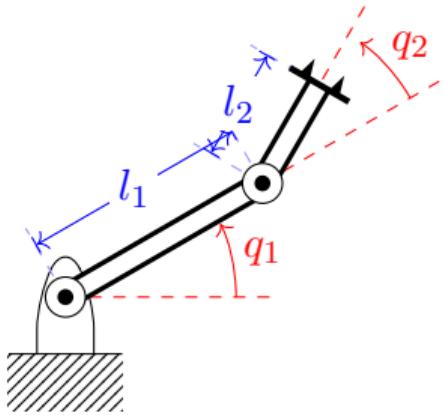
where:

$$o_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, o_2 = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 c_1 \\ l_1 s_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, o_3 = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{1,2} \\ l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_{1,2} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, z_1 = z_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Defining the Jacobian

2 link planar manipulator

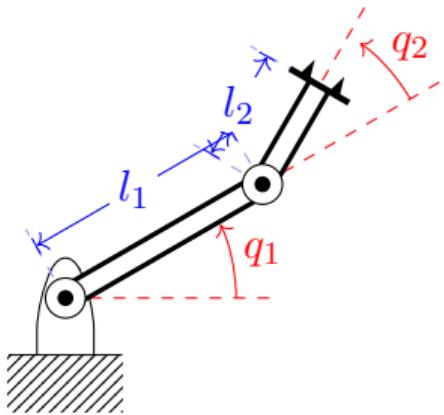


$$J = \begin{bmatrix} -l_1 s_1 - l_2 s_{1,2} & -l_2 s_{1,2} \\ l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{1,2} & l_2 c_{1,2} \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Defining the Jacobian

2 link planar manipulator



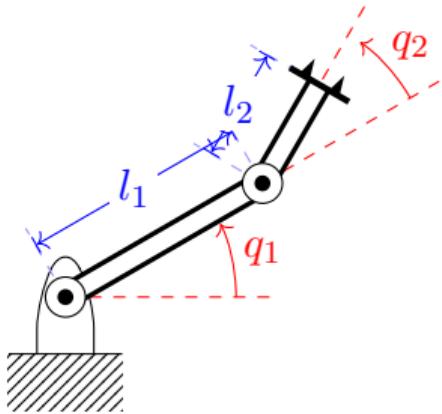
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The Jacobian is a function of joint coordinates!



Defining the Jacobian

2 link planar manipulator



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How do we 'use' the Jacobian?

Jacobian

Inverse velocity

We now have a method to define the end-effector velocity (angular and linear) based on the joint velocities

$$\xi = J\dot{q}$$



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Jacobian

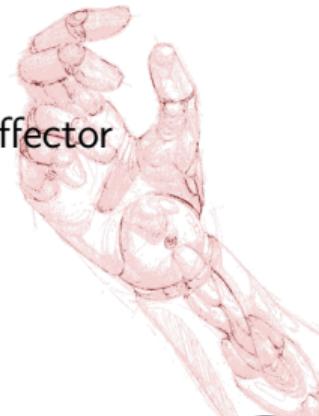
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$$J^{-1}\xi = \dot{q}$$

Jacobian

Inverting the velocity

Is J always invertible?



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Conditions for Jacobian invertibility

- The Jacobian must be square
- The rank of the Jacobian must be equal to its size



Jacobian

Inverting the velocity

Is J always invertible?

Conditions for Jacobian invertibility

- The Jacobian must be square
- The rank of the Jacobian must be equal to its size

For achieving any velocity in \mathbb{R}^3 , the Jacobian must be 6×6 . What do we need for such a Jacobian?



Jacobian

The pseudoinverse

In the cases we cannot invert the Jacobian (e.g. we don't have 6 joints), we can calculate the *pseudoinverse*.



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$$\begin{aligned}(JJ^T)(JJ^T)^{-1} &= I \\ J[J^T(JJ^T)^{-1}] &= I \\ JJ^+ &= I\end{aligned}$$

where:

$$J^+ = J^T(JJ^T)^{-1}$$



Jacobian

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therefore:

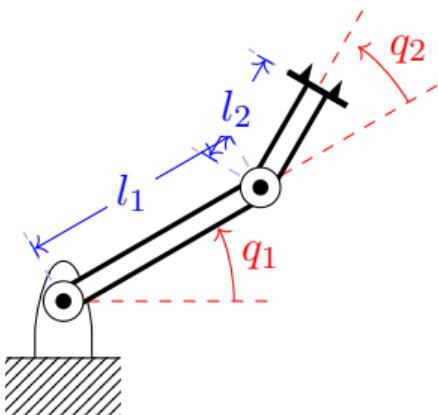
$$\dot{q} = J^+ \xi$$



Jacobian

Controlling specific velocities

When we have less than 6 joints, we can also choose to control only specific velocities of the end-effector



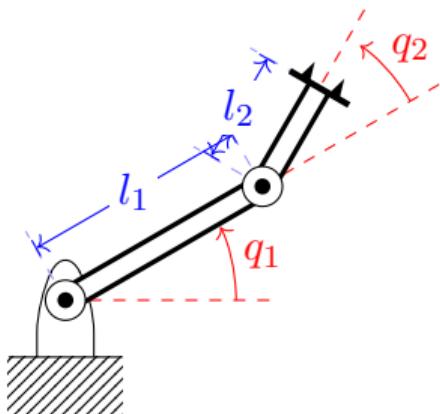
$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \end{bmatrix} = J_u \dot{q} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -l_1 s_1 - l_2 s_{1,2} & -l_2 s_{1,2} \\ l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{1,2} & l_2 c_{1,2} \end{bmatrix} \dot{q}$$



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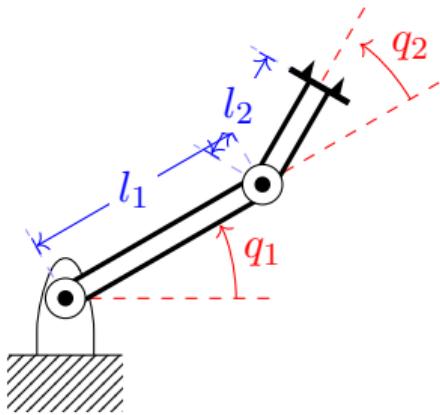


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Jacobian inverse

2 link planar manipulator



$$J_u = \begin{bmatrix} -l_1 s_1 - l_2 s_{1,2} & -l_2 s_{1,2} \\ l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_{1,2} & l_2 c_{1,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

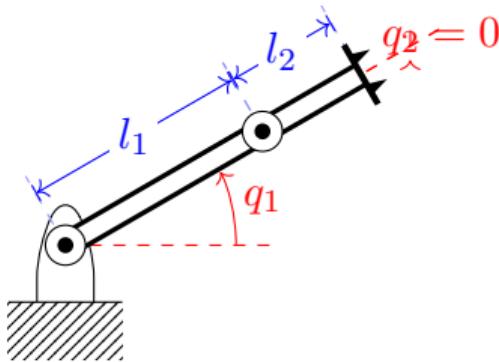
$$J_u^{-1} = \frac{1}{l_1 l_2 s_2} \begin{bmatrix} l_2 c_{1,2} & l_2 s_{1,2} \\ -l_1 c_1 - l_2 c_{1,2} & -l_1 s_1 - l_2 s_{1,2} \end{bmatrix}$$



Jacobian inverse

2 link planar manipulator

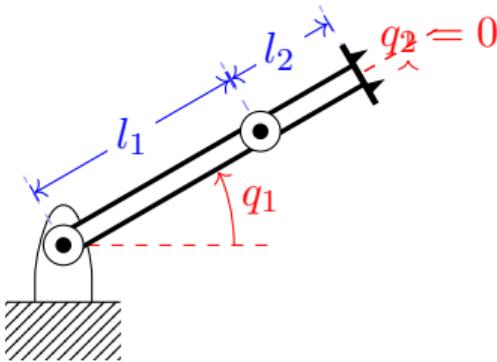
What happens when $q_2 = 0$?



Jacobian inverse

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Jacobian

Singularities

The Jacobian is a function of the joint coordinates q , and therefore it varies for different robot configurations.



Jacobian

Singularities

The Jacobian is a function of the joint coordinates q , and therefore it varies for different robot configurations.

In some cases, the Jacobian might lose rank, or might become non-invertible, (i.e. determinant equal to zero)

In such cases, the robot loses dexterity, or even a degree of freedom.



Robot manipulability

Why does this all matter?

The Jacobian allows us to map joint velocities to end-effector velocities. We have seen that at different configurations, we have a different map (since J depends on q).



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hint: yes!



Robot manipulability

Velocity ellipse

We model our robot as an input-output system (input is joint velocities, output is end-effector velocities). If we consider unit inputs, then we have:

$$q^T q = 1$$

which we can write as:

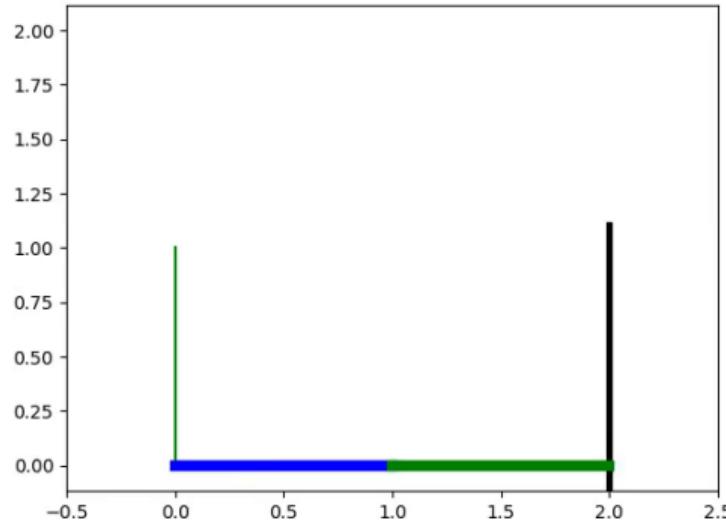
$$\xi^T (JJ^T)^{-1} \xi = 1$$

which is the equation of an $m -$ dimensional ellipsoid.



Robot manipulability

Velocity ellipse

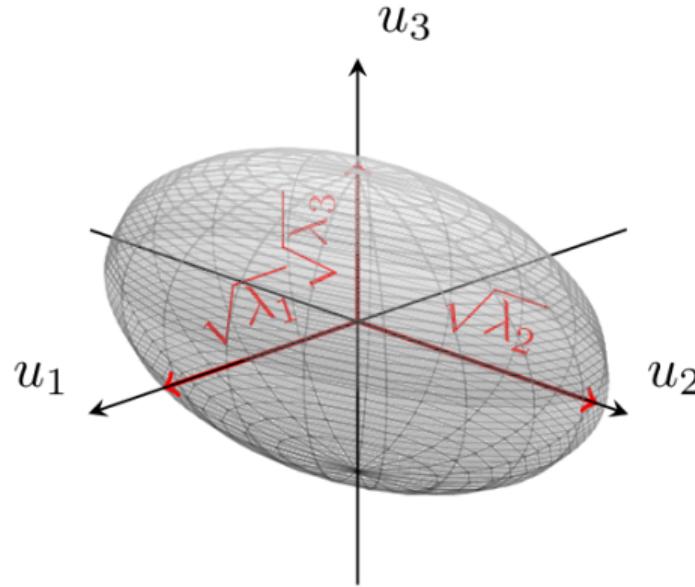


In 2D, we have a 2-dimensional ellipsoid, i.e. an ellipse.

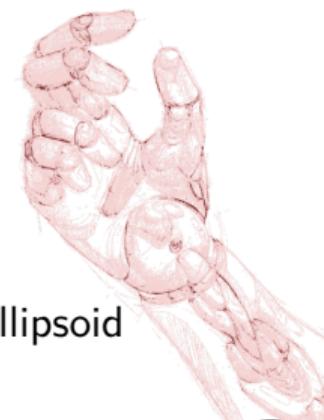


Robot manipulability

Velocity ellipse

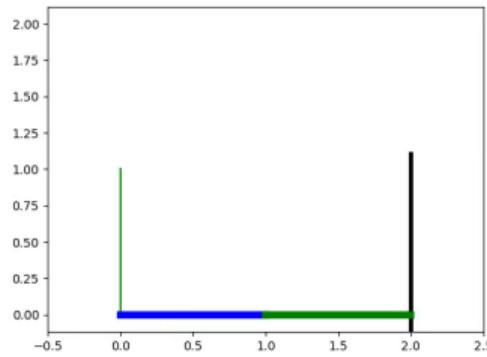


In 3D, we have a 3-dimensional ellipsoid



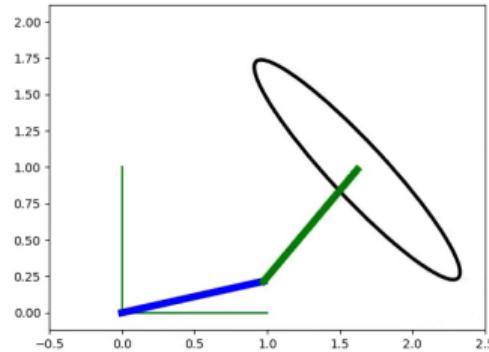
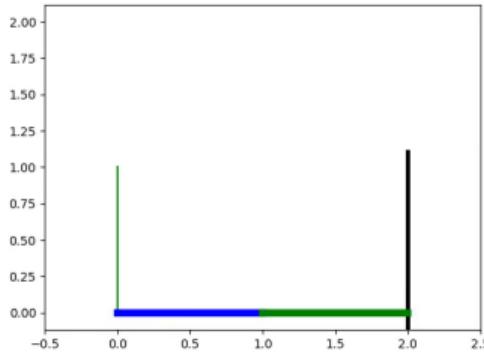
Robot manipulability

Velocity ellipse



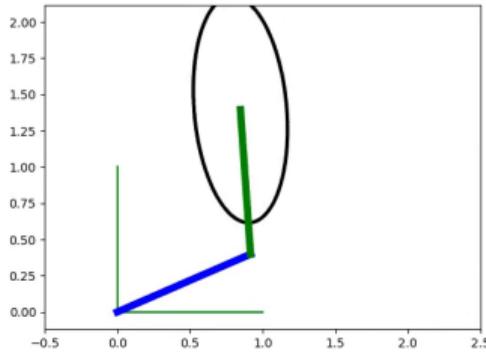
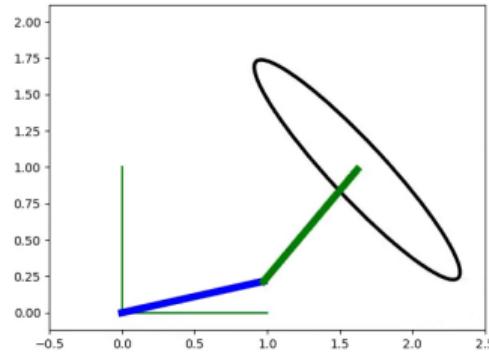
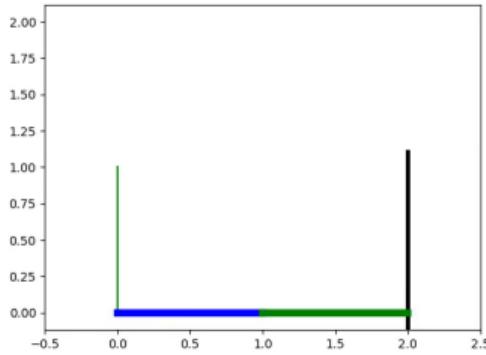
Robot manipulability

Velocity ellipse



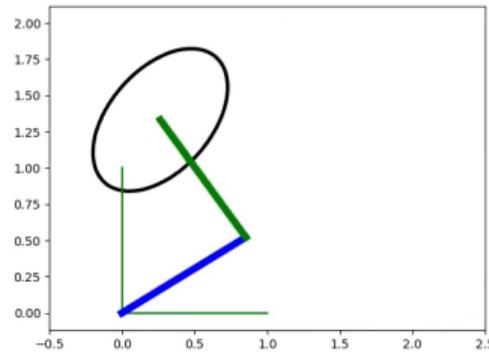
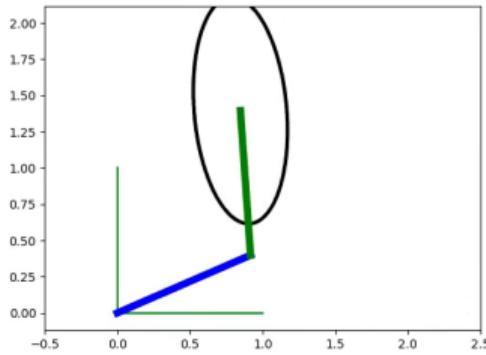
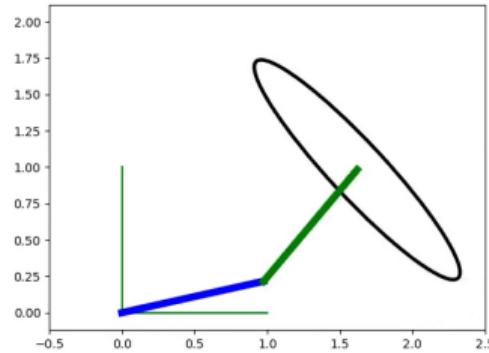
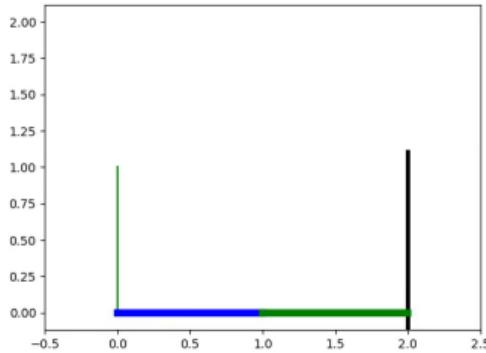
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Velocity ellipse



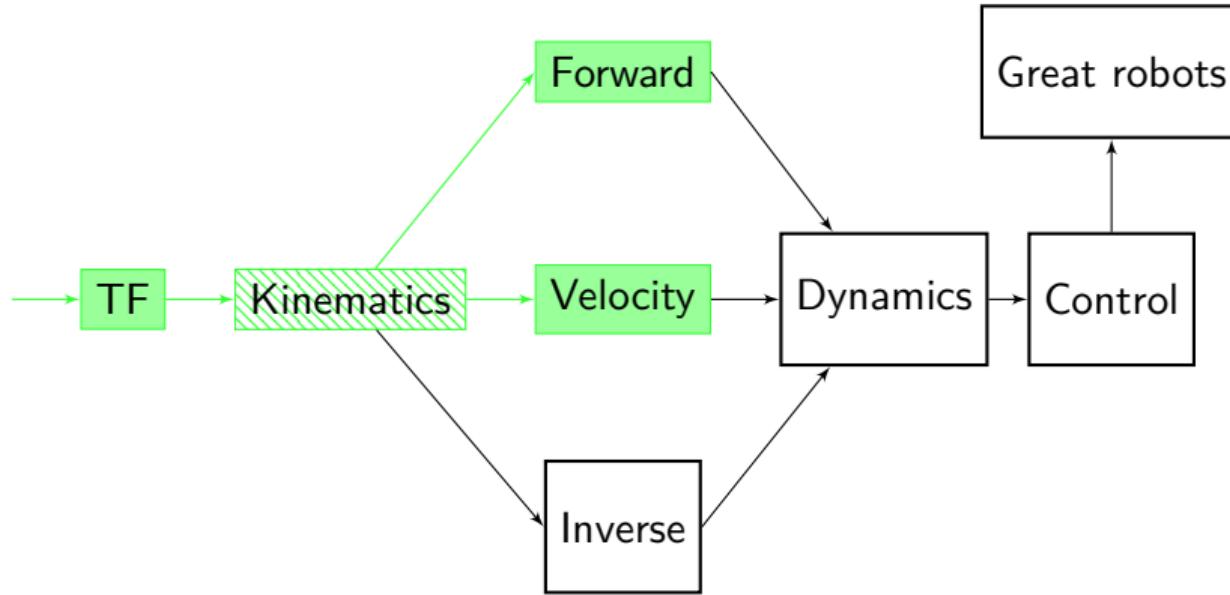
Robot manipulability

Velocity ellipse



Grand scheme

The big picture





Questions?