

SDM5008 Advanced Control for Robotics

Lecture 2: Operator View of Rigid-Body Transformation

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Outline

- Matrix Exponential
- Rotation Operation via Differential Equation
- Rigid-Body Operation via Differential Equation
- Rigid-Body Operation of Screw Axis

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How to Solve Linear Differential Equations?

- Consider a scalar linear system: $z(t) \in \mathbb{R}$ and $a \in \mathbb{R}$ is a constant

$$\dot{z}(t) = az(t), \quad \text{with initial condition } z(0) = z_0 \quad (1)$$

- The above ODE has a unique solution: $z(t) = e^{at} \cdot z_0$

check I.C. $z(0) = z_0$,

check vector $\dot{z}(t) = a \cdot e^{at} \cdot z_0 = a \cdot z(t)$

- What about general linear systems? $\dot{x} = \overset{n \times n}{A}x + \overset{n \times m}{B}u$

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$u \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

What is the "Euler's Number" e ?

- What is the number "e"?

• Defined as the number such that $\underline{(e^x)'} = \underline{e^x}$, $(2^x)' \neq 2^x$

$$(3^x)' \neq 3^x$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x+h} - e^x}{h} = e^x \Rightarrow \frac{e^h - 1}{h} \xrightarrow{h \rightarrow 0} 1$$

$$\Rightarrow e \xrightarrow{h \rightarrow 0} h+1 \Rightarrow e = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (h+1)^{1/h} \Rightarrow 2.71\dots$$

Complex Exponential

- For real variable $x \in \mathbb{R}$, Taylor series expansion for e^x around $x = 0$:

$$e^x \triangleq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!} = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

- This can be extended to complex variables:

$$e^z = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{k!} = 1 + z + \frac{z^2}{2!} + \frac{z^3}{3!} + \dots$$

This power series is well defined for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$

- In particular, we have $e^{j\theta} = 1 + j\theta - \frac{\theta^2}{2} - j\frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \dots$

- Comparing with Taylor expansions for $\cos(\theta)$ and $\sin(\theta)$ leads to the Euler's Formula

$\sin \theta$ Taylor expansion: $\sin \theta = \theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \frac{\theta^7}{7!} \dots$

$\cos \theta$ Taylor expansion: $\cos \theta = 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \frac{\theta^6}{6!} \dots$

$e^{j\theta} = \cos \theta + j \sin \theta \Rightarrow$ Euler identity

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!} \right)' = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x^k}{k!} \right)'$$

(let $z=j\theta$)

Matrix Exponential Definition

- Similar to the real and complex cases, we can define the so-called *matrix exponential*

for square matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

$$e^A \triangleq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k}{k!} = \left(I + A + \frac{A^2}{2!} + \frac{A^3}{3!} + \dots \right) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$e^A = I + A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad e^A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\lambda_1^2}{2!} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\lambda_2^2}{2!} \end{bmatrix} + \dots = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\lambda_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

- This power series is well defined for any finite square matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$.

python scipy expm

Some Important Properties of Matrix Exponential

- $Ae^A = e^A A$ $A \cdot \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{A^i}{i!} = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{A^i}{i!} \cdot A$

$Ae^B \neq e^B A$, $A \neq B$

- $e^A e^B = e^{A+B}$ if $AB = BA$

$A^0 = I$
 $A^2 = PDP^{-1}PDP^{-1} = PD^2P^{-1}$

- If $A = PDP^{-1}$, then $e^A = Pe^D P^{-1}$
similarity transformation

by definition:

$$e^A = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^i}{i!} = I + A + \frac{A^2}{2!} + \dots$$
$$= I + PDP^{-1} + \frac{PD^2P^{-1}}{2!} + \dots$$

- For every $t, \tau \in \mathbb{R}$, $e^{At} e^{A\tau} = e^{A(t+\tau)}$

- $(e^A)^{-1} = e^{-A}$

$$= P \left(I + D + \frac{D^2}{2} + \dots \right) P^{-1}$$
$$= P e^D P^{-1}$$

Autonomous Linear Systems

$$\dot{z} = Az \Rightarrow z(t) = e^{At} \cdot z_0$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t), \quad \text{with initial condition } x(0) = x_0 \quad (2)$$

$\swarrow \searrow$
 $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ $n \times n$

- $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is constant matrix, $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is given.
- With the definition of matrix exponential, we can show that the solution to (2) is given by

$$x(t) = e^{At} x_0 \quad \leftarrow \text{function of } t \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n$$

proof:
 { check I.C. (Initial condition)
 check vector field
 $\rightarrow x(0) = e^{A \cdot 0} \cdot x_0 = I \cdot x_0 = x_0$

$$e^{[\cdot]} = I + A + \frac{A^2}{2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x(t) = \frac{d}{dt} (e^{At} x_0) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(I + At + \frac{A^2 t^2}{2!} + \frac{A^3 t^3}{3!} + \dots \right) x_0$$

$$= \left(A + \frac{A^2}{2!} 2t + \frac{A^3 \cdot 3 \cdot t^2}{3!} + \dots \right) x_0 = \left(A + A^2 t + \frac{A^3 t^2}{2!} + \dots \right) x_0$$

Computation of Matrix Exponential $= A \cdot \left(I + At + \frac{A^2 t^2}{2!} + \dots \right) x_0$

- Directly from definition

$$= A \cdot e^{At} x_0$$

- For diagonalizable matrix:

python / by definition

- Using Padé approximation

Outline

All rigid body motion
can be described as
 $\dot{x} = Ax$

- Matrix Exponential
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- Rigid-Body Operation via Differential Equation
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Skew Symmetric Matrices

- Recall that cross product is a special linear transformation.
- For any $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^n$, there is a matrix $[\omega] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ such that $\omega \times p = [\omega]p$

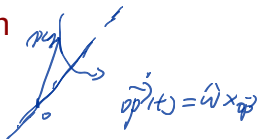
$$\omega = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow [\omega] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$SO(3)$: rotation matrices

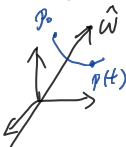
- Note that $[\omega] = -[\omega]^T \leftarrow$ skew symmetric
- $[\omega]$ is called a skew-symmetric matrix representation of the vector ω
- The set of skew-symmetric matrices in: $\underbrace{so(n)}_{\text{like } so(3)} \triangleq \{S \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} : S^T = -S\}$
- We are interested in case $n = 2, 3$

Rotation Operation via Differential Equation

- Consider a point initially located at p_0 at time $t = 0$



- Rotate the point with unit angular velocity $\hat{\omega}$. Assuming the rotation axis passing through the origin, the motion is described by



$$\dot{p}(t) = \hat{\omega} \times p(t) = [\hat{\omega}]p(t), \text{ with } p(0) = p_0 \quad (3)$$

$\hat{\omega} \times p(t)$ → "A" matrix
 $[\hat{\omega}]$ → Linear ODE: $\dot{x} = Ax$
 $x(t) = e^{At} \cdot x_0$
 $p(t) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]t} \cdot p_0$
 linear velocity

- This is a linear ODE with solution: $p(t) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]t} p_0$
- After $t = \theta$, the point has been rotated by θ degree. Note $p(\theta) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} p_0$

- $\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) \triangleq e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta}$ can be viewed as a rotation operator that rotates a point about $\hat{\omega}$ through θ degree
 coordinate free

Rotation Matrix as a Rotation Operator (1/3)

$$R^T R = I$$

Theorem

- Every rotation matrix R can be written as $R = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) \triangleq e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta}$, i.e., it represents a rotation operation about $\hat{\omega}$ by θ .

Fact: any matrix of the form $e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta}$ belongs to $SO(3)$

Proof: $(e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta})^T (e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta}) = I$ (v.f.t.)

$$R = [\hat{x}_3, \hat{y}_3, \hat{z}_3]$$

→ is this a rotation matrix in $SO(3)$?

- We have seen how to use R to represent frame orientation and change of coordinate between different frames. They are quite different from the operator interpretation of R .

- To apply the rotation operation, all the vectors/matrices have to be expressed in the **same reference frame** (this is clear from Eq (3))

Rotation Matrix as a Rotation Operator (2/3)

- For example, assume $R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \text{Rot}(\hat{x}; \pi/2) = e^{[\hat{x}] \frac{\pi}{2}}$
- Consider a relation $q = Rp$:
 - Change reference frame interpretation**: two frames $\{A\}$, $\{B\}$, one physical point a
 - R : orientation of $\{B\}$ relative to $\{A\}$, i.e. $R = {}^A R_B$

$$p = {}^B a, \quad q = {}^A a \quad q = Rp \Leftrightarrow {}^A a = {}^A R_B {}^B a$$

- Rotation operator interpretation**:

Have one frame $\{A\}$, two points $a \xrightarrow{\text{Rot}(\cdot)} a'$, $p = {}^A a$, $q = {}^A a'$

$${}^A a' = R {}^A a$$

↑
action/operator.

Rotation Matrix as a Rotation Operator (3/3)

- Consider the frame operation:

- Change of reference frame: $\hat{R}_A = R R_A$

• Have "one frame object"

• two reference frames

• Frame $\{A\}$ • orientation in $\{0\}$ •

• • • • $\{A\}$ • • • • in $\{B\}$

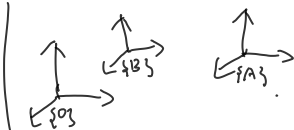
- Rotating a frame: $R'_A = R R_A$

• two frame objects

• one reference frame $\{0\}$

$${}^0R_{A'} = R {}^0R_A$$

orientation of A



$${}^0R_A = [{}^0x_A \quad {}^0y_A \quad {}^0z_A]$$

$${}^B R_A$$

$${}^0R_A = {}^0R_B {}^B R_A$$

Rotation Matrix Properties

- $R^T R = I$ \leftarrow definition.

- $R_1 R_2 \in SO(3)$, if $R_1, R_2 \in SO(3)$.

- $\|R p - R q\| = \|p - q\|$ \leftarrow rotation operation preserves distance
 \leftarrow D.V.F.T.

- $R(v \times w) = (Rv) \times (Rw)$ \leftarrow rotation preserves orientation

~~\times~~ • $R[w]R^T = [Rw]$ ~~\times~~

$$[w] \in so(3)$$

$$R \in SO(3)$$

$$[w] = \begin{bmatrix} -w_3 & w_2 \\ w_3 & -w_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotation Operator in Different Frames (1/2)

- Consider two frames $\{A\}$ and $\{B\}$, the actual numerical values of the operator $\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta)$ depend on both the reference frame to represent $\hat{\omega}$ and the reference frame to represent the operator itself.
- Consider a rotation axis $\hat{\omega}$ (coordinate free vector), with $\{A\}$ -frame coordinate ${}^A\hat{\omega}$ and $\{B\}$ -frame coordinate ${}^B\hat{\omega}$. We know

$$\underline{{}^A\hat{\omega} = {}^A R_B {}^B\hat{\omega}}$$

- Let ${}^B\text{Rot}({}^B\hat{\omega}, \theta)$ and ${}^A\text{Rot}({}^A\hat{\omega}, \theta)$ be the two rotation matrices, representing the same rotation operation $\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta)$ in frames $\{A\}$ and $\{B\}$.

Rotation Operator in Different Frames (2/2)

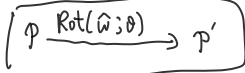
- We have the relation:

$${}^B R_A = ({}^A R_B)^{-1}$$

$${}^A \text{Rot}({}^A \hat{w}, \theta) = {}^A R_B {}^B \text{Rot}({}^B \hat{w}, \theta) {}^B R_A$$



Approach 1:



use $\{A\}$

to express
physics

$${}^A p' = {}^A \text{Rot} {}^A p$$

Approach 2: Recall $[R a] = R [a] R^T$

A-frame rotation.

$$\begin{aligned} {}^A \text{Rot} &= e^{[{}^A \hat{w}] \theta} = e^{[{}^A R_B {}^B \hat{w}] \theta} \\ &= e^{R_B^A [{}^B \hat{w}] (R_B)^{-1} \theta} \\ &= {}^A R_B e^{[{}^B \hat{w}] \theta} {}^B R_A \\ &= {}^A R_B {}^B \text{Rot} {}^B R_A \end{aligned}$$

$\{B\}$ frame

$${}^B p' = {}^B \text{Rot} {}^B p$$

$${}^A R_B {}^B p' = {}^A R_B {}^B \text{Rot} {}^B p$$

$${}^A p' = {}^A R_B {}^B \text{Rot} {}^B R_A {}^A p$$

Outline

• $\{A\}$ frame $\text{Rot}(\hat{x}; \theta)$

$$A \xrightarrow{\text{about } \{x_0\}} A'$$

choose
"0" frame

$${}^0R_{A'} = \text{Rot}(\hat{x}; \theta) {}^0R_A$$

$e^{[\hat{x}_0] \frac{\theta}{2}}$

$\{0\} \rightarrow x_0$

$$e^{[\hat{x}_0] \frac{\theta}{2}} \quad {}^0x_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



• Matrix Exponential

$$A \xrightarrow{\text{about } \{x_A\}} A'' \Rightarrow {}^0R_{A''} = e^{[\hat{x}_A] \frac{\theta}{2}} {}^0R_A$$

$$= e^{[{}^0R_A \hat{x}_A] \frac{\theta}{2}} {}^0R_A$$

the same
R

• Rigid-Body Operation via Differential Equation

$$= {}^0R_A e^{[\hat{x}_A] \frac{\theta}{2}} {}^A R_A$$

$$= {}^0R_A e^{[\hat{x}_A] \frac{\theta}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Rigid-Body Operation of Screw Axis

$$\Rightarrow {}^0R_{A'} = R {}^0R_A$$

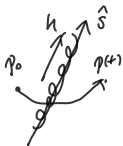
$${}^0R_{A''} = {}^0R_A R$$

Rigid-Body Operation via Differential Equation (1/3)

- Recall: Every $R \in SO(3)$ can be viewed as the state transition matrix associated with the rotation ODE(3). It maps the initial position to the current position (after the rotation motion)
 - $p(\theta) = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta)p_0$ viewed as a solution to $\dot{p}(t) = [\hat{\omega}]p(t)$ with $p(0) = p_0$ at $t = \theta$.
 - The above relation requires that the rotation axis passes through the origin.
- We can obtain similar ODE characterization for $T \in SE(3)$, which will lead to exponential coordinate of $SE(3)$

Rigid-Body Operation via Differential Equation (2/3)

- Recall: Theorem (Chasles): Every rigid body motion can be realized by a screw motion
- Consider a point p undergoes a screw motion with screw axis \mathcal{S} and unit speed ($\dot{\theta} = 1$). Let the corresponding twist be $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S} = (\omega, v)$. The motion can be described by the following ODE.



$$\dot{p}(t) = \omega \times p(t) + v_r \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}(t) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} [\omega] & v_{3 \times 1} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p(t) \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$\dot{\hat{p}}(t) = \omega \times \hat{p}(t) + v_r$$

$$\hat{p}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} p(t) \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \dot{\hat{p}}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}(t) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} [\omega] & v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_A \hat{p}(t)$$

- Solution to (4) in homogeneous coordinate is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} p(t) \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \exp \left(\begin{bmatrix} [\omega] & v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} t \right) \begin{bmatrix} p(0) \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{p}(t) = e^{[V]t} \hat{p}(0)$$

matrix representation of $\mathcal{V} = (\omega, v)$, denoted by $[V]$

Rigid-Body Operation via Differential Equation (3/3)

- For any twist $\mathcal{V} = (\omega, v)$, let $[\mathcal{V}]$ be its matrix representation

$$[\mathcal{V}] = \begin{bmatrix} [\omega] & v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The above definition also applies to a screw axis $\mathcal{S} = (\omega, v)$
- With this notation, the solution to (4) is $\tilde{p}(t) = e^{[\mathcal{S}]t}\tilde{p}(0)$
- Fact: $e^{[\mathcal{S}]t} \in SE(3)$ is always a valid homogeneous transformation matrix.
- Fact: Any $T \in SE(3)$ can be written as $T = e^{[\mathcal{S}]t}$, i.e., it can be viewed as an operator that moves a point/frame along the screw axis at unit speed for time t



$se(3)$

- Similar to $so(3)$, we can define $se(3)$:

$$se(3) = \{([\omega], v) : [\omega] \in so(3), v \in \mathbb{R}^3\}$$

\mathcal{V}

- $se(3)$ contains all matrix representation of twists or equivalently all twists.

- In some references, \mathcal{V} is called a twist.

- Sometimes, we may abuse notation by writing $\mathcal{V} \in se(3)$.

$\rightarrow [\mathcal{V}]$

Homogeneous Transformation as Rigid-Body Operator

- ODE for rigid motion under $\mathcal{V} = (\omega, v)$

$$\dot{p} = v + \omega \times p \Rightarrow \dot{\tilde{p}}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} [\omega] & v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \tilde{p}(t) \Rightarrow \tilde{p}(t) = e^{[\mathcal{V}]t} \tilde{p}(0)$$

- Consider “unit velocity” $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S}$, then time t means degree

if \mathcal{V} is not unit speed, $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S} \cdot \dot{\theta} \Leftrightarrow \omega = \hat{\omega} \dot{\theta}$

- $\tilde{p}' = T\tilde{p}$: “rotate” p about screw axis \mathcal{S} by θ degree

$\tilde{p}' = e^{[\mathcal{S}]\theta} \tilde{p}$ \Rightarrow use the same reference frame
choose to: $\tilde{p}' = e^{[\mathcal{S}]\theta} \tilde{p}$

- $T(T_A)$: “rotate” $\{A\}$ -frame about \mathcal{S} by θ degree

$e^{[\mathcal{S}]\theta} \cdot (T_A) \rightarrow [\tilde{x}_A \ \tilde{y}_A \ \tilde{z}_A \ \tilde{p}_A]$

Rigid-Body Operator in Different Frames

- Expression of T in another frame (other than $\{O\}$):

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T & \leftrightarrow & T_B^{-1} T T_B \\ \text{operation in } \{O\} & & \text{operation in } \{B\} \end{array}$$

$${}^B(R_{Ot}) \supseteq {}^B R_C {}^C(R_{Ot}) {}^C R_B$$

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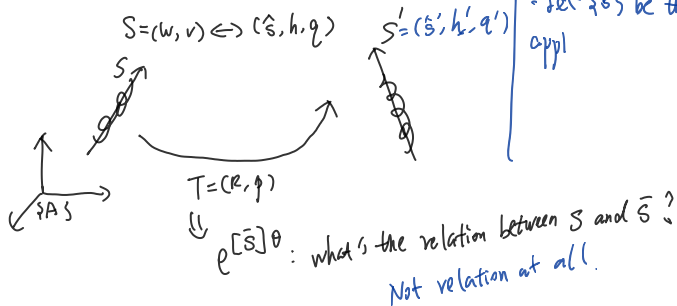
Rigid Operation on Screw Axis

- Consider an arbitrary screw axis \mathcal{S} , suppose the axis has gone through a rigid transformation $T = (R, p)$ and the resulting new screw axis is \mathcal{S}' , then

$$\mathcal{S}' = [\text{Ad}_T] \mathcal{S}$$

let's work with an arbitrary frame $\{A\}$ rigidly attached to screw axis \mathcal{S}

proof:



More Space