
CS686: Configuration Space I

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Course URL:
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KAIST



Announcements

- **Make a project team of 1 to 3 persons for your project**
 - **Each student needs a clear role**
 - **Declare team members at KLMS by Sep-28; you don't need to define the topic by then**
- **Each student**
 - **Present two papers related to the project; 15 min for each talk**
 - **Declare your papers at KLMS by Oct-12**
- **Each team**
 - **Give a mid-term presentation for the project**
 - **Give the final project presentation**

Tentative schedule

- **Oct. 27, 29: Student Presentation 1 & 2**
 - 2 to 3 talks per each class; 10 students in the class
- **Nov. 3: SP3 (Nov. 5: no class due to interview process)**
- **Nov. 10: SP 4**
- **Nov 12 (Th) , Nov 17 (Tu): Mid-term project presentation**
- **Nov. 19 (Th) : SP 5**
- **Nov. 24, 26: SP 6 & 7**
- **Dec 1, 3: SP 8 & 9**
- **Dec. 8, 10: Final-term project presentation**
- **Dec. 15, 17: reservation for now (exam period, no class for now)**

Class Objectives

- **Configuration space**
 - **Definitions and examples**
 - **Obstacles**
 - **Paths**
 - **Metrics**
- **Last time:**
 - **Classic motion planning approaches including roadmap, cell decomposition and potential field**

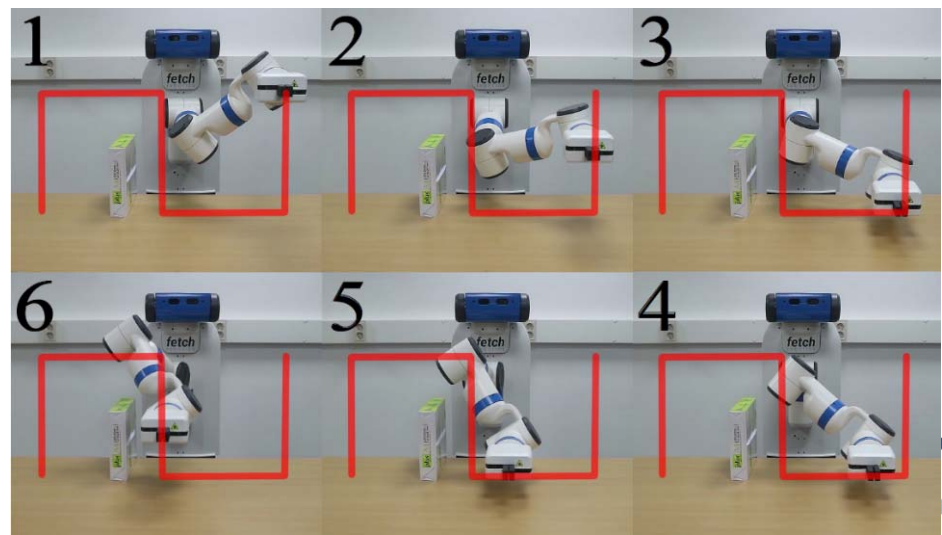
Questions

- Are all path planning problems solved by graph navigation problems?

- Trajectory optimization is also useful

TORM: Fast and Accurate Trajectory Optimization of Redundant Manipulator given an End-Effector Path, by Mincheul Kang, Heechan Shin, Donghyuk Kim, and Sung-Eui Yoon

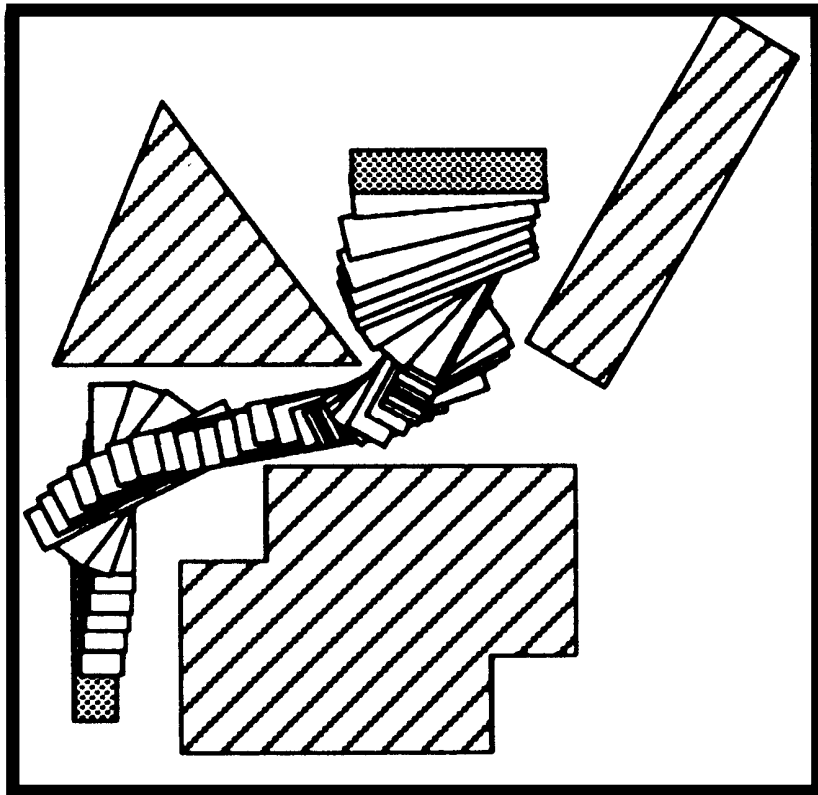
<http://sglab.kaist.ac.kr/TORM/>



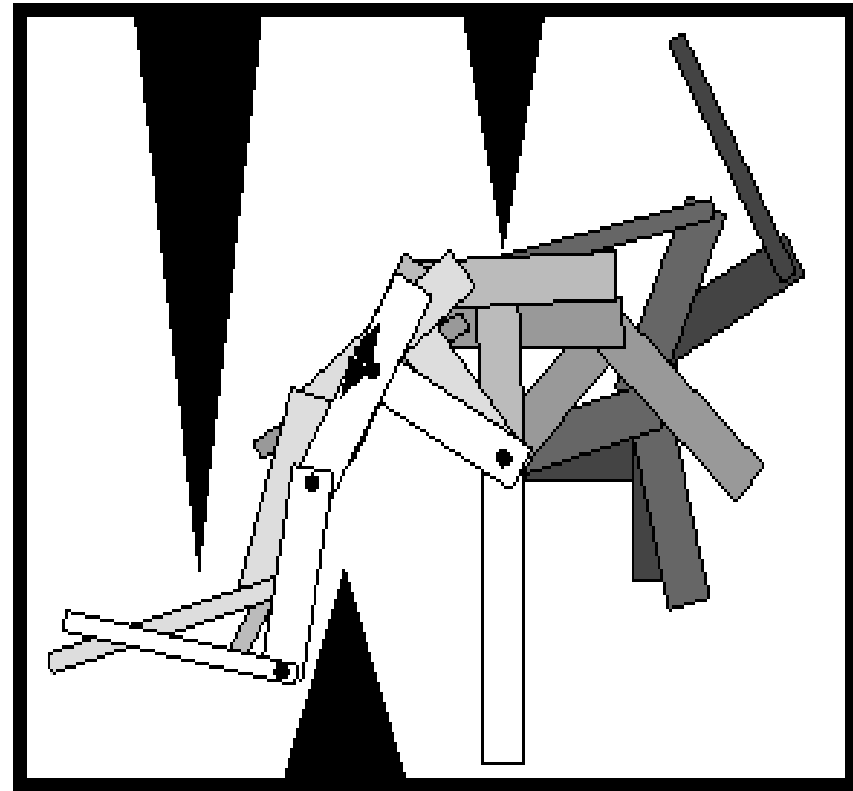
Paper Summary

- **Submodular Trajectory Optimization for Aerial 3D Scanning, Conference name: ICCV, 2017**
- **Applying Asynchronous Deep Classification Networks and Gaming Reinforcement Learning-Based Motion Planners to Mobile Robots, ICRA 2018**
- **RL-RRT: Kinodynamic Motion Planning via Learning Reachability Estimators from RL Policies**
- **Learning Patch Reconstructability for Accelerating Multi-View Stereo, Conference name: CVPR, 2018**
 - **Relation to robotics should be clearly mentioned in the summary**

What is a Path?



A box robot



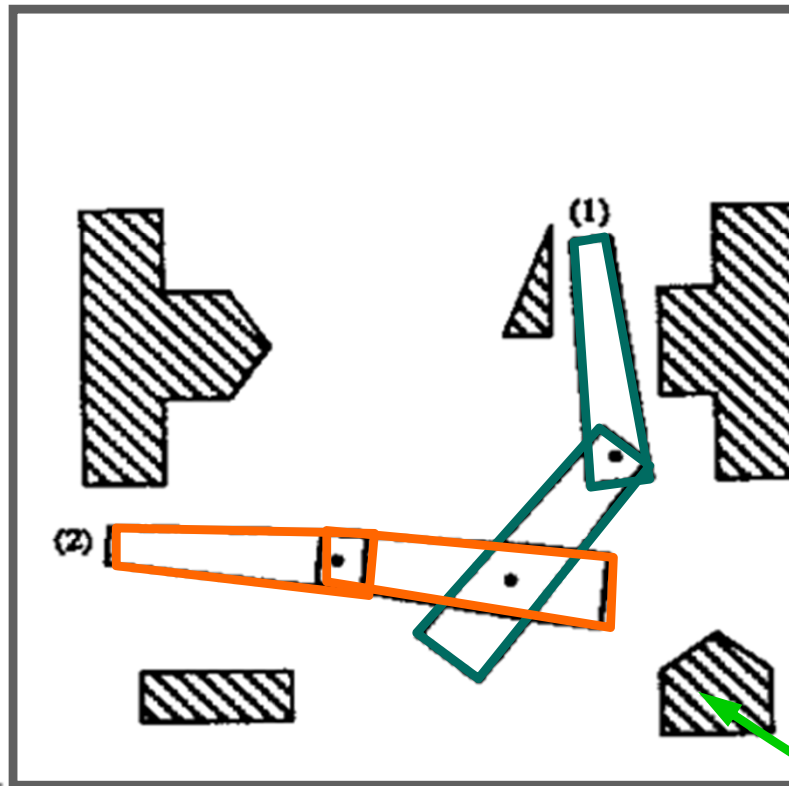
Linked robot

Rough Idea of C-Space

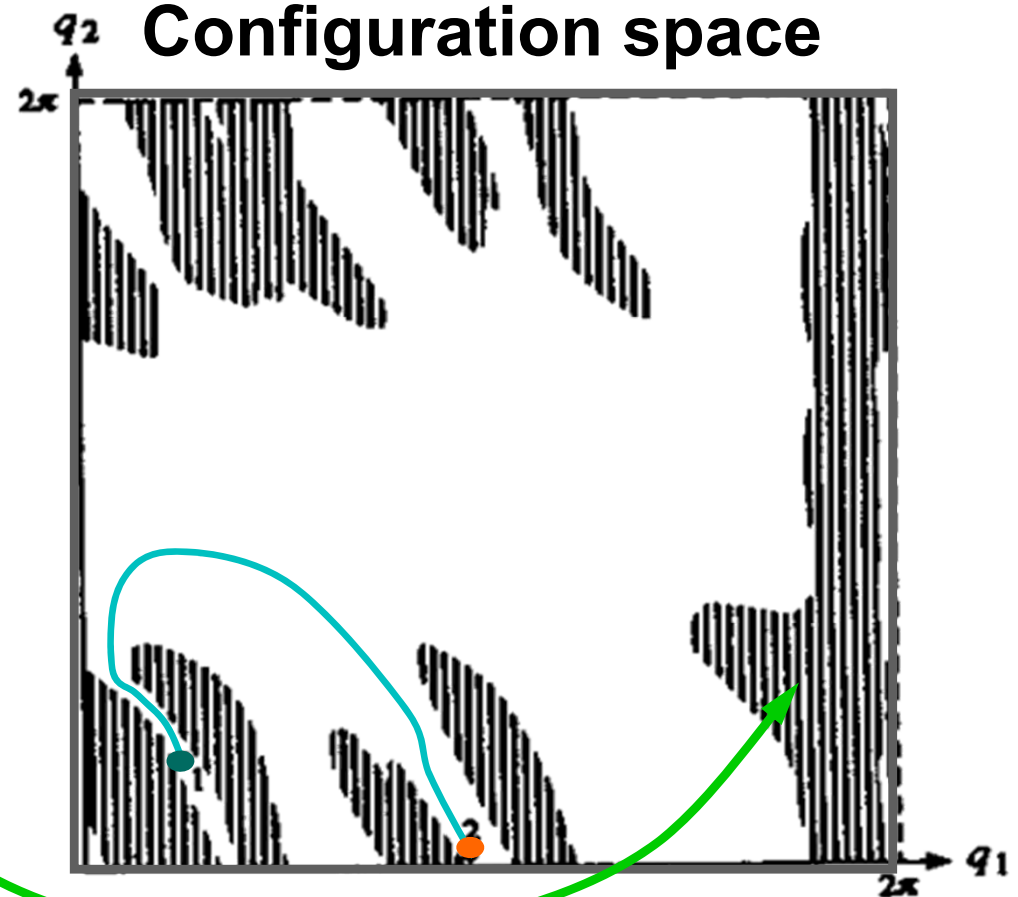
- **Represent degrees-of-freedom (DoFs) of rigid robots, articulated robots, *etc.* into points**
- **Apply algorithms in that space, in addition to the workspace**

Mapping from the Workspace to the Configuration Space

Workspace



Configuration space



Configuration Space

- **Definitions and examples**
- **Obstacles**
- **Paths**
- **Metrics**

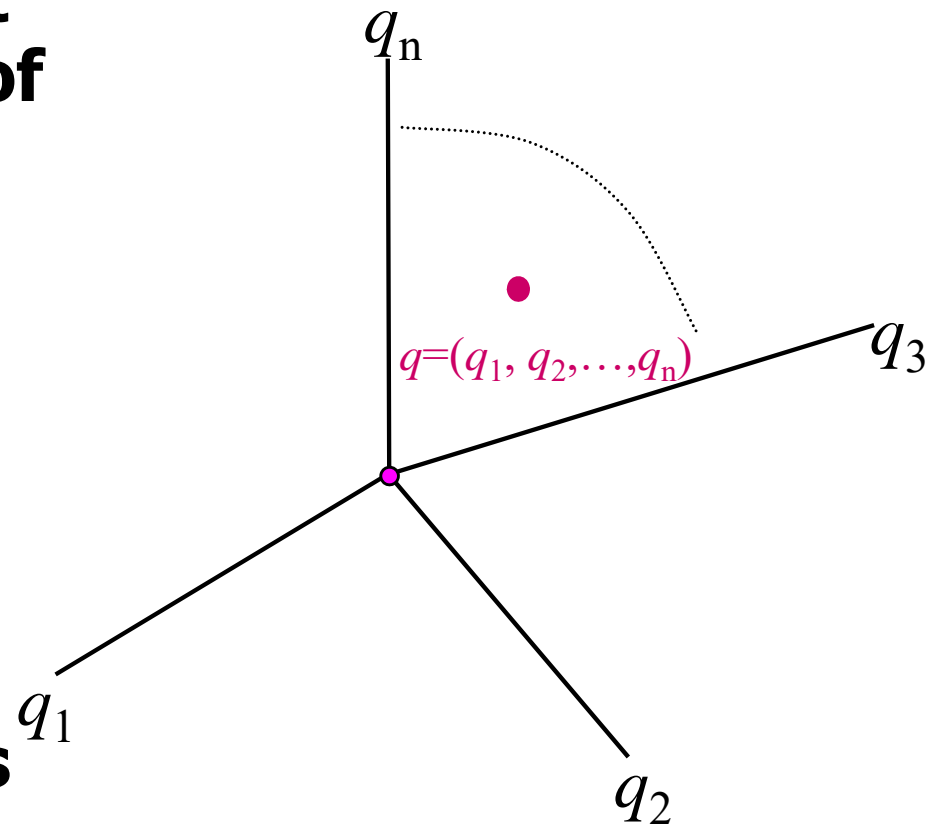
Configuration Space (C-space)

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

- Usually a configuration is expressed as a vector of position & orientation parameters: $q = (q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n)$

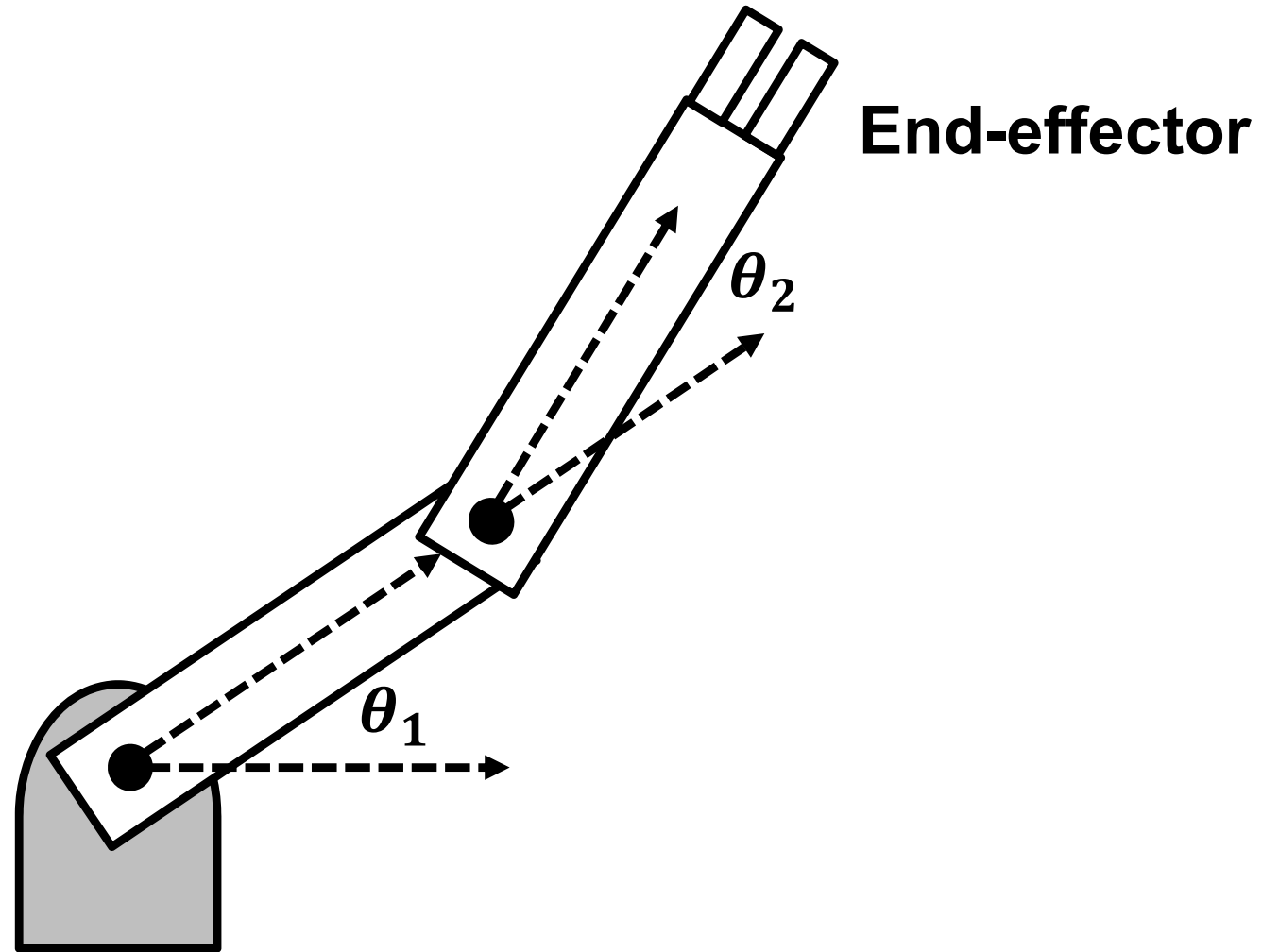
- The configuration space C is the set of all possible configurations

- A configuration is a point in C



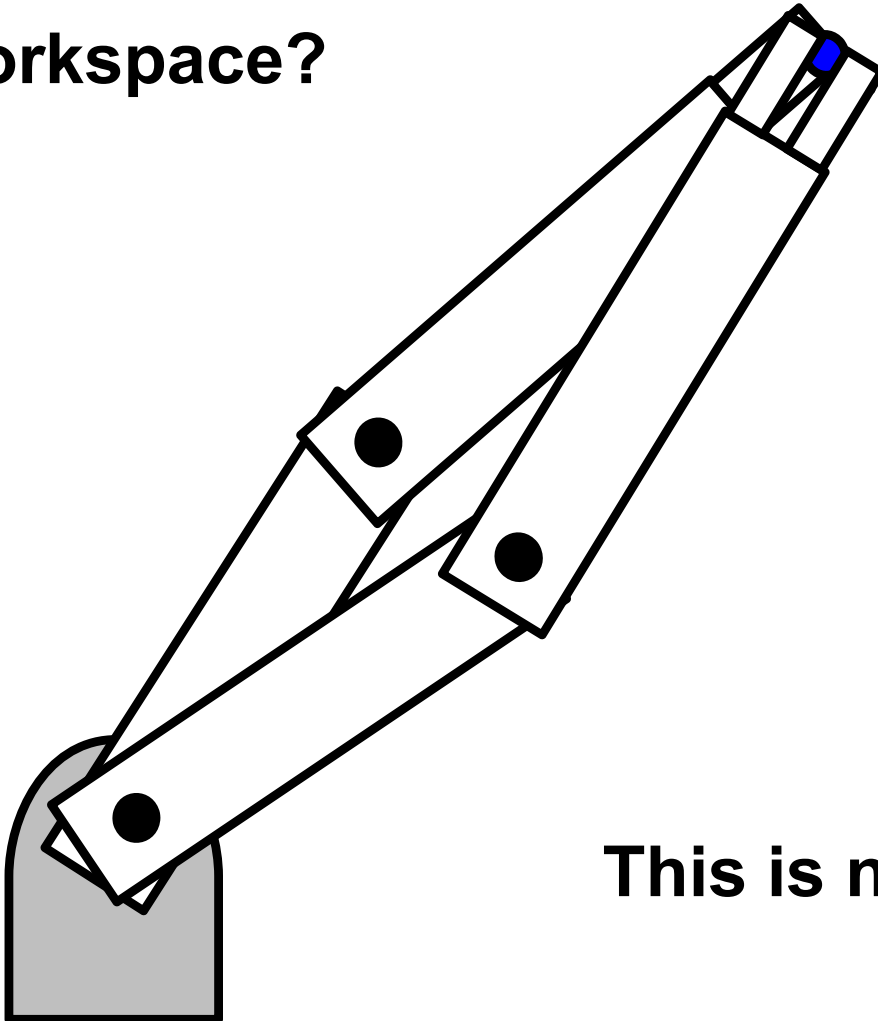
**C-space formalism:
Lozano-Perez '79**

Examples of Configuration Spaces



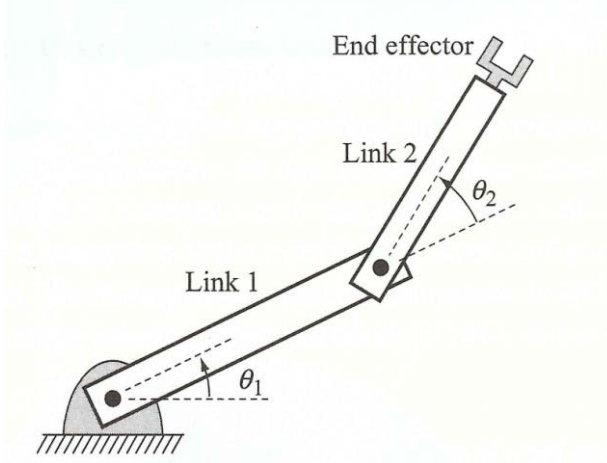
Examples of Configuration Spaces

Consider the end-effector in the workspace?

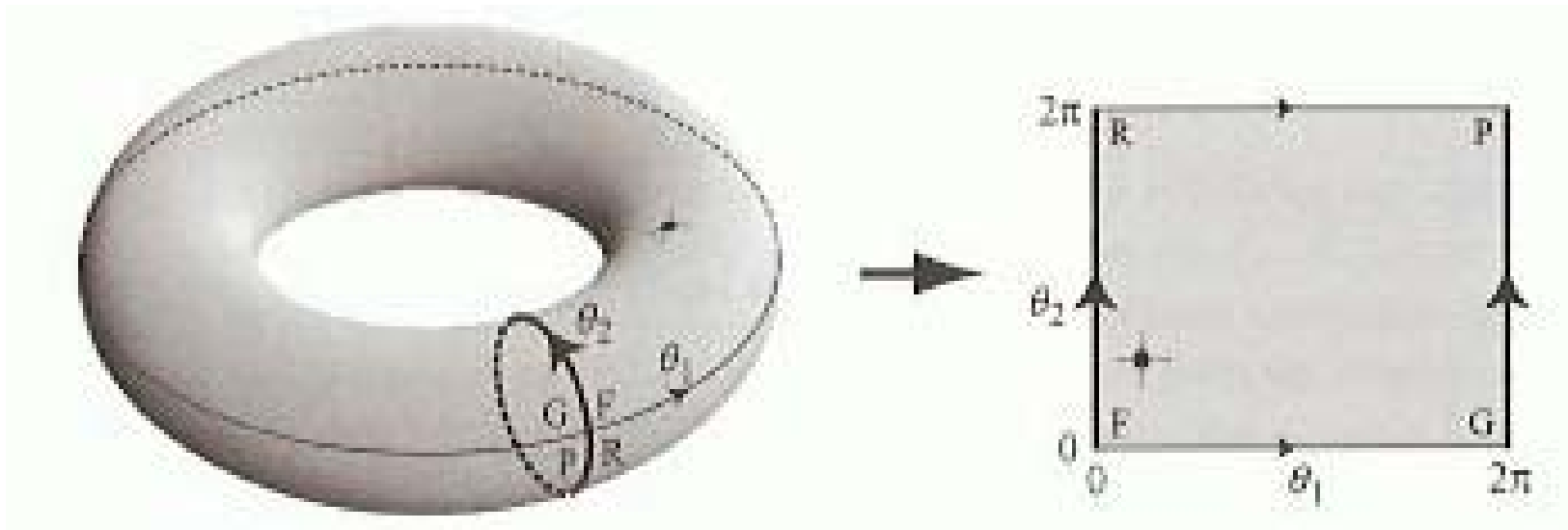


This is not a valid C-space!

Examples of Configuration Spaces

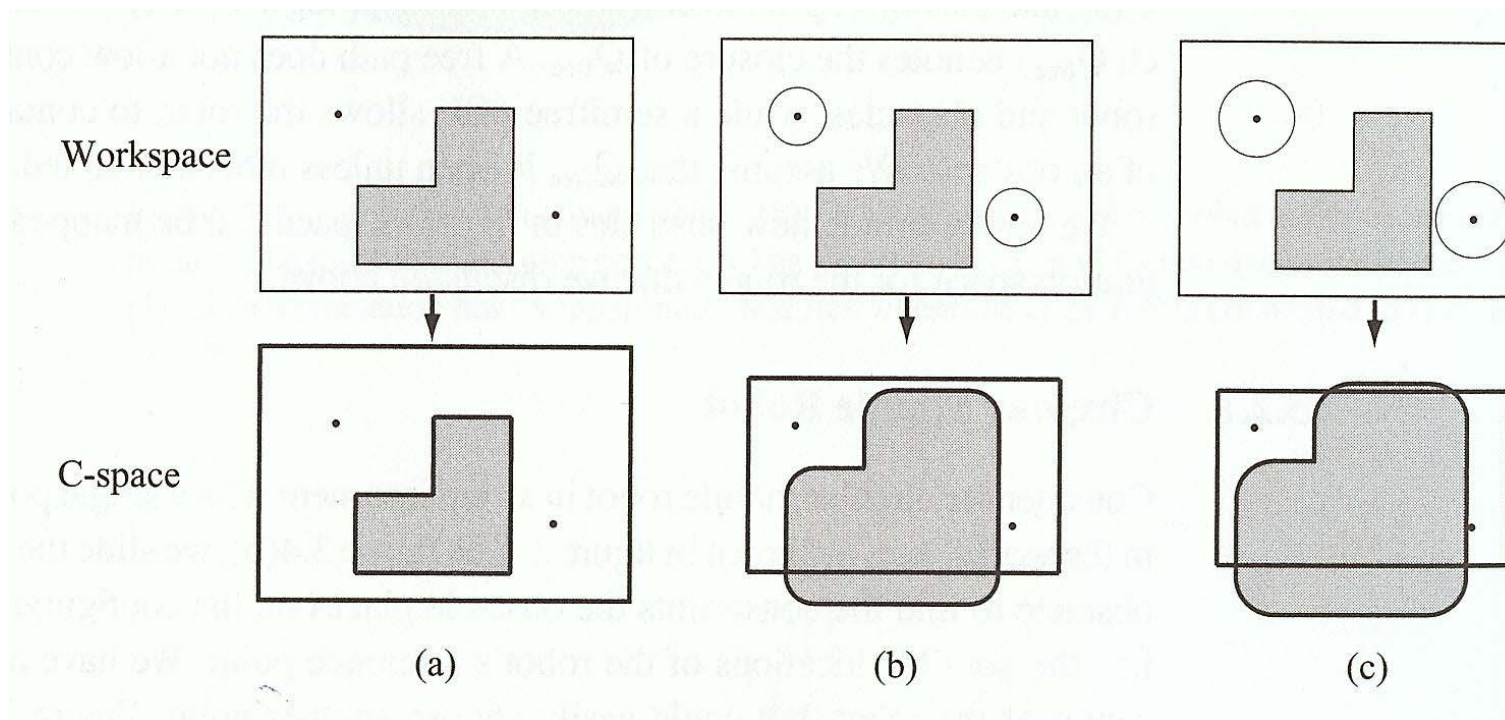
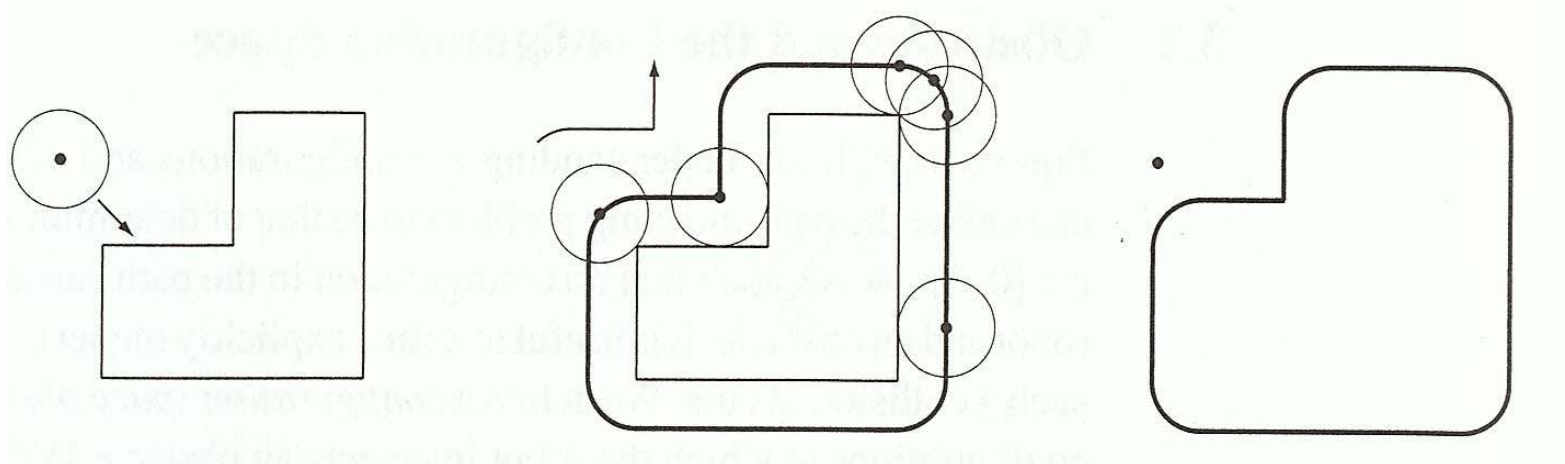


The topology of C is usually **not** that of a Cartesian space R^n .



$$S^1 \times S^1 = T^2$$

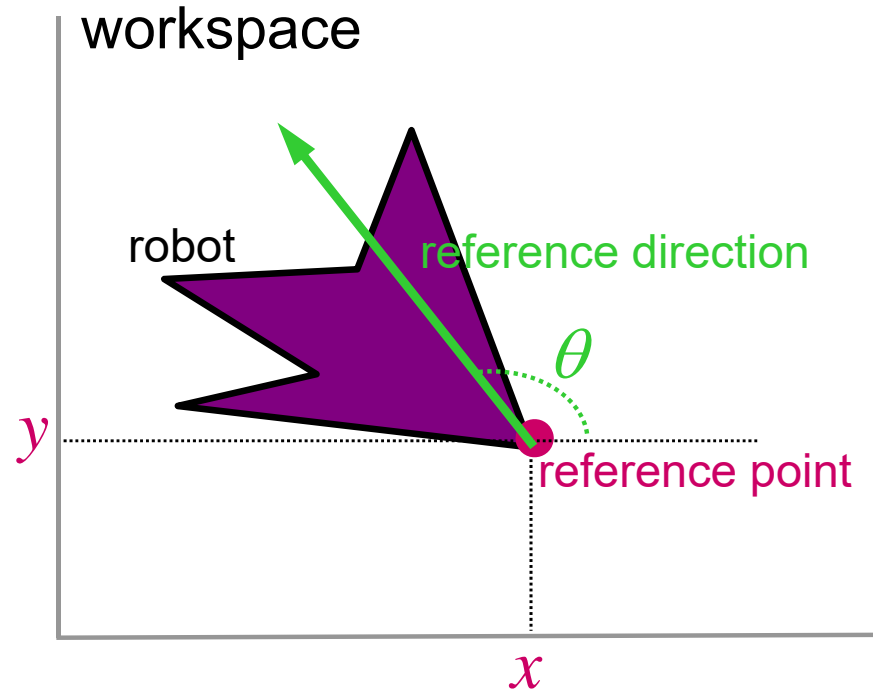
Examples of Circular Robot



Dimension of Configuration Space

- The **dimension of the configuration space** is the **minimum** number of parameters needed to specify the configuration of the object completely
- It is also called the number of **degrees of freedom** (dofs) of a moving object

Example: Rigid Robot in 2-D Workspace



- **3-parameter specification:** $q = (x, y, \theta)$ with $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$.
 - **3-D configuration space**

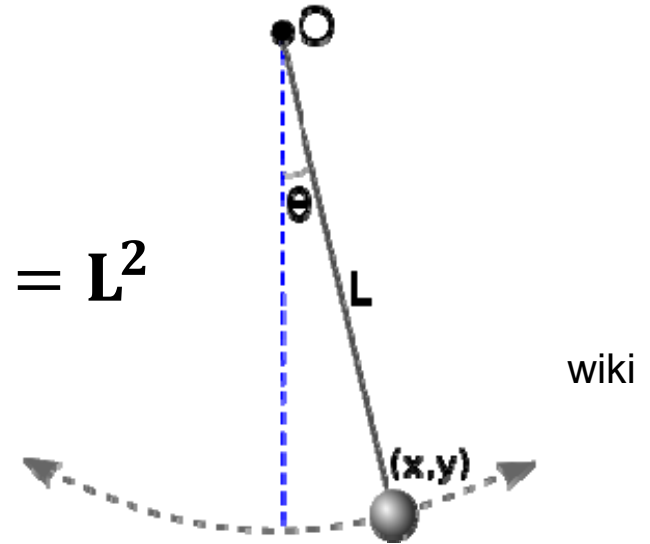
Example: Rigid Robot in 2-D workspace

- **4-parameter specification: $q = (x, y, u, v)$ with $u^2 + v^2 = 1$. Note $u = \cos \theta$ and $v = \sin \theta$**
- **dim of configuration space = 3**
 - **Does the dimension of the configuration space (number of dofs) depend on the parametrization?**

Holonomic and Non-Holonomic Constraints

- **Holonomic constraints**

- $g(q, t) = 0$
- E.g., pendulum motion: $x^2 + y^2 = L^2$

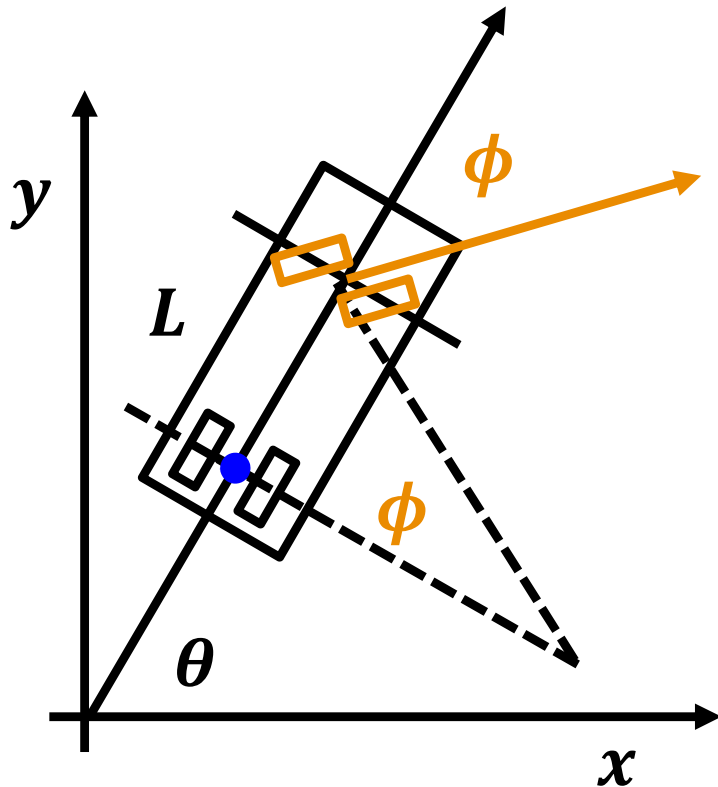


- **Non-holonomic constraints**

- $g(q, q', t) = 0$ (or $q' = f(q, u)$, where u is an action parameter)
- This is related to the kinematics of robots
- To accommodate this, the C-space is extended to include the position and its velocity

Example of Non-Holonomic Constraints

See Kinematic Car Model of my draft



$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\cos(\theta)} = \frac{dy}{dx}$$
$$\sin(\theta)dx - \cos(\theta)dy = 0$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v \cdot \cos(\theta), \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = v \cdot \sin(\theta),$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\phi)$$

Note that v, ϕ are action parameters

Holonomic and Non-Holonomic Constraints

- **Dynamic constraints**

- **Dynamic equations are represented as $G(q, q', q'') = 0$**
- **These constraints are reduced to non-holonomic ones when we use the extended C-space such as the state space:**

$$S = (X, X'), \text{ where } X = (q, q')$$

Computation of Dimension of C-Space

- **Suppose that we have a rigid body that can translate and rotate in 2D workspace**
 - **Start with three points: A, B, C (6D space)**
- **We have the following (holonomic) constraints**
 - **Given A, we know the dist to B: $d(A,B) = |A-B|$**
 - **Given A and B, we have similar equations:
 $d(A,C) = |A-C|, d(B,C) = |B-C|$**
- **Each holonomic constraint reduces one dim.**
 - **Not for non-holonomic constraint**

Example: Rigid Robot in 3-D Workspace

- **We can represent the positions and orientations of such robots with matrices (i.e., $SO(3)$ and $SE(3)$)**

SO (n) and SE (n)

- **Special orthogonal group, SO(n)**, of $n \times n$ matrices R ,

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

that satisfy:

$$r_{1i}^2 + r_{2i}^2 + r_{3i}^2 = 1 \text{ for all } i,$$

$$r_{1i}r_{1j} + r_{2i}r_{2j} + r_{3i}r_{3j} = 0 \text{ for all } i \neq j,$$

$$\det(R) = +1$$

Refer to the 3D Transformation at the undergraduate computer graphics.

<http://sgvr.kaist.ac.kr/~sungeui/render/raster/transformation.pdf>

- Given the orientation matrix R of SO (n) and the position vector p , **special Euclidean group, SE (n)**, is defined as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} R & p \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

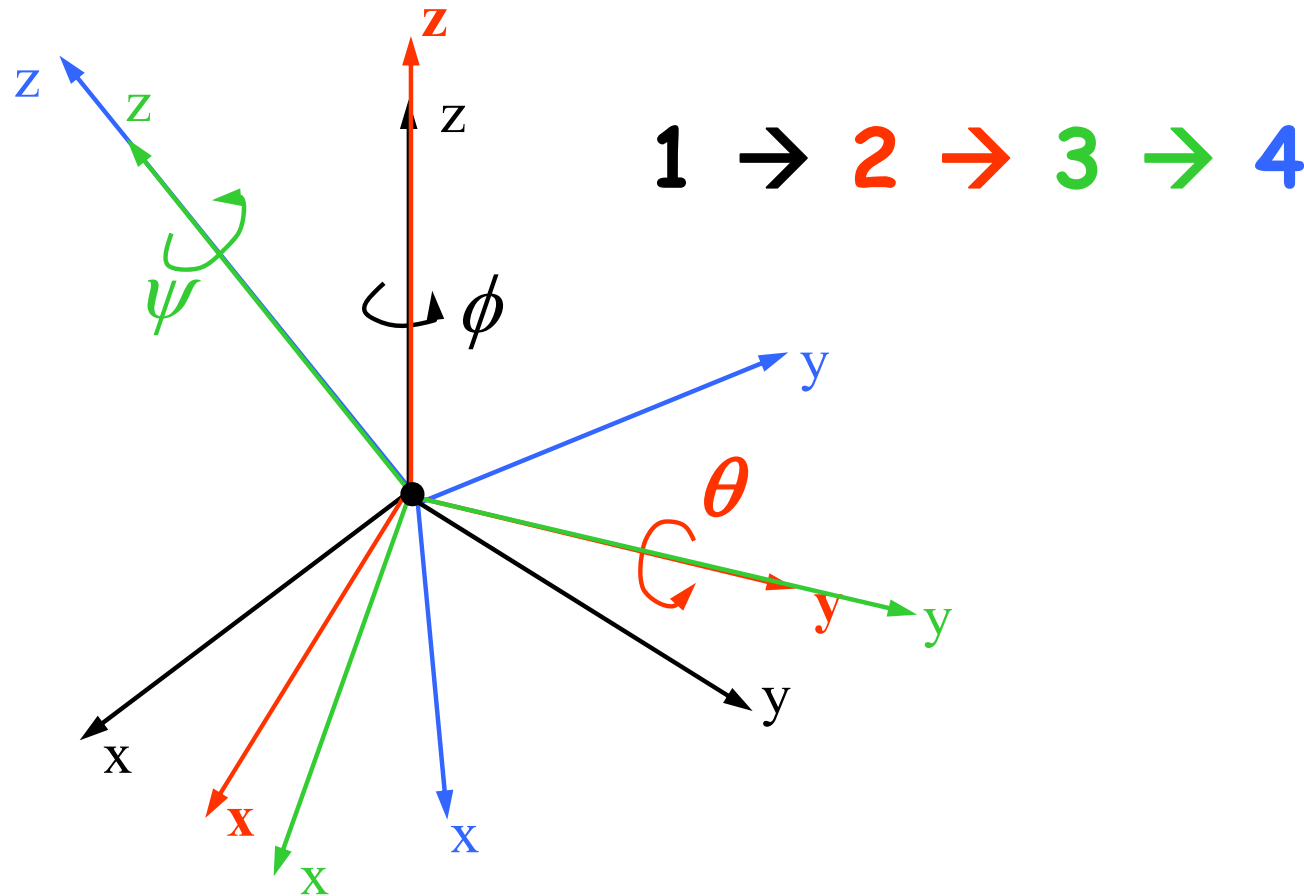
Example: Rigid Robot in 3-D Workspace

- $q = (\text{position, orientation}) = (x, y, z, ???)$
- **Parametrization of orientations by matrix:**
 $q = (r_{11}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{33}, r_{33})$ where $r_{11}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{33}$ are the elements of rotation matrix

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{pmatrix} \in SO(3)$$

Example: Rigid Robot in 3-D Workspace

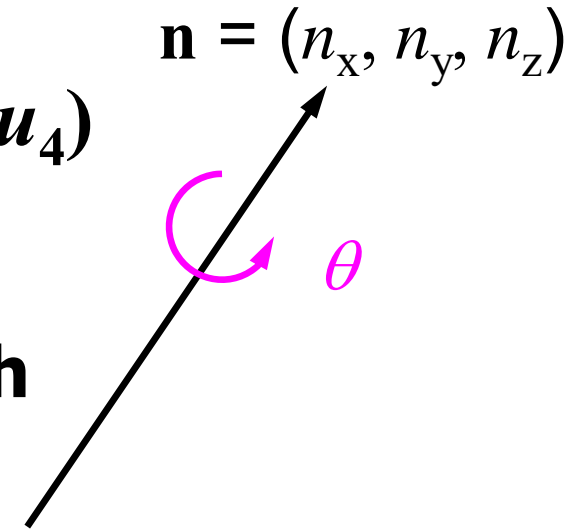
- Parametrization of orientations by Euler angles:
 (ϕ, θ, ψ)



Example: Rigid Robot in 3-D Workspace

- **Parametrization of orientations by unit quaternion:** $u = (u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4)$ with $u_1^2 + u_2^2 + u_3^2 + u_4^2 = 1$.

- **Note** $(u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4) = (\cos \theta/2, n_x \sin \theta/2, n_y \sin \theta/2, n_z \sin \theta/2)$ with $n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2 = 1$

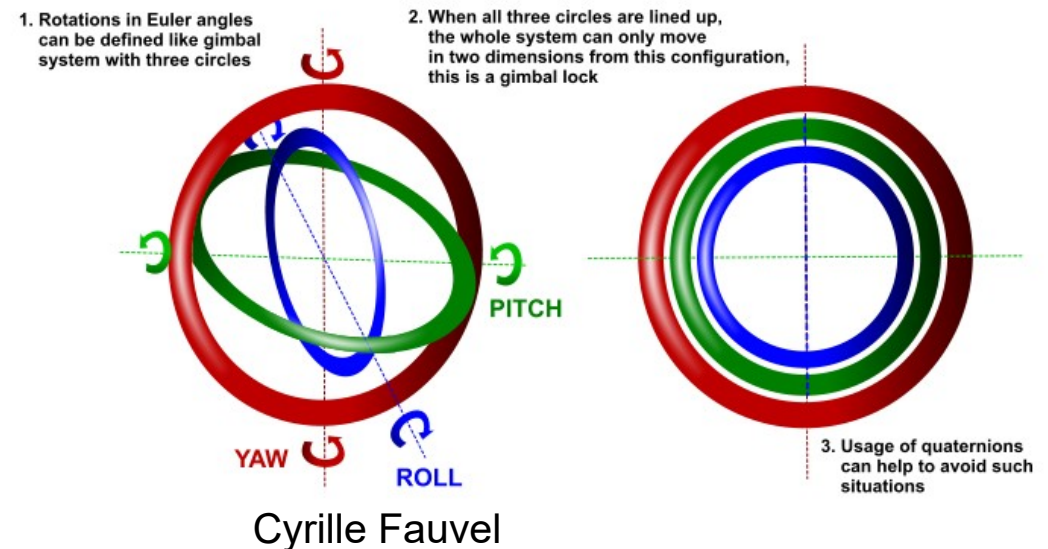


- **Compare with representation of orientation in 2-D:**
 $(u_1, u_2) = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$

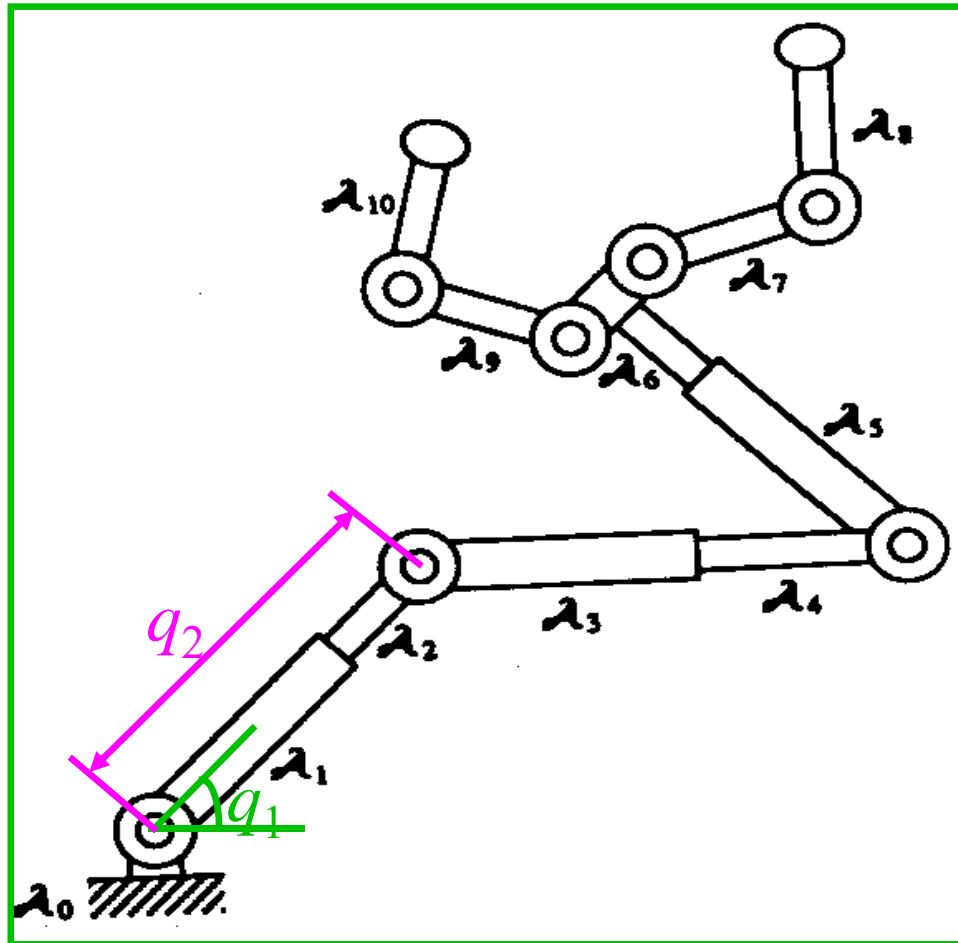
Example: Rigid Robot in 3-D Workspace

- **Advantage of unit quaternion representation**
 - **Compact**
 - **No singularity (no gimbal lock indicating two axes are aligned)**
 - **Naturally reflect the topology of the space of orientations**

- **Number of dofs = 6**
- **Topology: $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \text{SO}(3)$**



Example: Articulated Robot



- $q = (q_1, q_2, \dots, q_{2n})$
- **Number of dofs = $2n$**
- **What is the topology?**

An articulated object is a set of rigid bodies connected at the joints.

Class Objectives were:

- **Configuration space**
 - **Definitions and examples**
 - **Obstacles**
 - **Paths**
 - **Metrics**

Next Time....

- **Configuration space**
 - **Definitions and examples**
 - **Obstacles**
 - **Paths**
 - **Metrics**

Homework

- **Come up with one question on what we have discussed today**
 - <https://forms.gle/R2ZcS9pZ9me9RzmKA>
 - **Write a question two times before the mid-term exam**
- **Browse two papers**
 - **Submit their summaries online before the Tue. Class**
 - <https://forms.gle/2jdXkgYu5snyAb3s8>