

# Solving the kinematic problems with Python/Sympy

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## 1 The Direct Kinematic Problem - Done by Sympy

```
[1]: import sympy as sp
```

Let Python know some symbolic variables:

```
[2]: t1, t2, t3 = sp.symbols('t1 t2 t3')
```

```
[3]: t1
```

```
[3]: t1
```

Computations with the symbolic variables will be symbolic ;-)

```
[3]: t1+t2*t3**2
```

```
[3]: t1 + t2*t32
```

We should also have symbolic names for the lengths of the upper and lower arm:

```
[4]: l1, l2 = sp.symbols('l1 l2')
```

```
[5]: c1, c2, t = sp.symbols('c1 c2 t')
```

```
[6]: sp.Matrix([[l1,l2],[c1,c2]])
```

```
[6]:  $\begin{bmatrix} l_1 & l_2 \\ c_1 & c_2 \end{bmatrix}$ 
```

We need rotations around some center  $(c_1, c_2)$  and will represent it by the homogeneous matrix

$$Rot(c_1, c_2, t) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(t) & -\sin(t) & u \\ \sin(t) & \cos(t) & v \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \cos(t) & -\sin(t) \\ \sin(t) & \cos(t) \end{pmatrix} \right) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \cos(t) & \sin(t) \\ -\sin(t) & 1 - \cos(t) \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Even if the latter computation is very easy, we will submit it to Sympy:

```
[8]: sp.simplify(sp.Matrix([[1-sp.cos(t),sp.sin(t)],[-sp.sin(t),1-sp.cos(t)]])*sp.
    →Matrix([[c1],[c2]]))
```

```
[8]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} -c_1 \cos(t) + c_1 + c_2 \sin(t) \\ -c_1 \sin(t) - c_2 \cos(t) + c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

The simplify-command tries to make the expression simpler. We will use the result in the following definition of the function Rot

```
[9]: def Rot(c1,c2,t):
    return sp.Matrix([[sp.cos(t),-sp.sin(t),-c1*sp.cos(t) + c1 + c2*sp.
    →sin(t)], [sp.sin(t),sp.cos(t),-c1*sp.sin(t) - c2*sp.cos(t) + c2],[0,0,1]])
```

```
[10]: Rot(c1,c2,t)
```

```
[10]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(t) & -\sin(t) & -c_1 \cos(t) + c_1 + c_2 \sin(t) \\ \sin(t) & \cos(t) & -c_1 \sin(t) - c_2 \cos(t) + c_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

```
[12]: Rot(1,3,sp.pi/7)
```

```
[12]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\frac{\pi}{7}) & -\sin(\frac{\pi}{7}) & -\cos(\frac{\pi}{7}) + 1 + 3 \sin(\frac{\pi}{7}) \\ \sin(\frac{\pi}{7}) & \cos(\frac{\pi}{7}) & -3 \cos(\frac{\pi}{7}) - \sin(\frac{\pi}{7}) + 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

The solution of the direct kinematic problem of the planar 3R-arm is given by the following matrix; DON'T FORGET THE OFFSET!

```
[13]: sp.Matrix([[1,0,l1+l2],[0,1,0],[0,0,1]])
```

```
[13]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & l_1 + l_2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

```
[14]: Rot(0,0,t)
```

```
[14]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(t) & -\sin(t) & 0 \\ \sin(t) & \cos(t) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

```
[15]: SolDKP = Rot(0,0,t1)*Rot(l1,0,t2)*Rot(l1+l2,0,t3)*sp.
    →Matrix([[1,0,l1+l2],[0,1,0],[0,0,1]])
SolDKP
```

```
[15]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} (-\sin(t_1) \sin(t_2) + \cos(t_1) \cos(t_2)) \cos(t_3) + (-\sin(t_1) \cos(t_2) - \sin(t_2) \cos(t_1)) \sin(t_3) & -(-\sin(t_1) \sin(t_2) + \cos(t_1) \cos(t_2)) \sin(t_3) + (\sin(t_1) \cos(t_2) + \sin(t_2) \cos(t_1)) \cos(t_3) & (-\sin(t_1) \sin(t_2) + \cos(t_1) \cos(t_2)) \cos(t_3) + (-\sin(t_1) \cos(t_2) - \sin(t_2) \cos(t_1)) \sin(t_3) \\ (-\sin(t_1) \sin(t_2) + \cos(t_1) \cos(t_2)) \sin(t_3) + (\sin(t_1) \cos(t_2) + \sin(t_2) \cos(t_1)) \cos(t_3) & (-\sin(t_1) \sin(t_2) + \cos(t_1) \cos(t_2)) \cos(t_3) + (-\sin(t_1) \cos(t_2) - \sin(t_2) \cos(t_1)) \sin(t_3) & (-\sin(t_1) \sin(t_2) + \cos(t_1) \cos(t_2)) \sin(t_3) + (\sin(t_1) \cos(t_2) + \sin(t_2) \cos(t_1)) \cos(t_3) \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

Not very nice, but true...

We will try to simplify the expression:

```
[16]: SolDKP = sp.simplify(SolDKP)
SolDKP
```

```
[16]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(t_1 + t_2 + t_3) & -\sin(t_1 + t_2 + t_3) & l_1 \cos(t_1) + l_2 \cos(t_1 + t_2) \\ \sin(t_1 + t_2 + t_3) & \cos(t_1 + t_2 + t_3) & l_1 \sin(t_1) + l_2 \sin(t_1 + t_2) \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

Done! The preceding expression *is* the solution of the direct kinematic problem.

Let's turn to the inverse kinematic problem.

## 2 The Inverse Kinematic Problem - Done by Sympy

We will solve the IKP in two different ways.

That is: solve the system

$$\text{SolDKP} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\gamma) & -\sin(\gamma) & u \\ \sin(\gamma) & \cos(\gamma) & v \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

### 2.1 Geometric Solution

Consider the translational part of the solution of the DKP:

$$\begin{bmatrix} l_1 \cos(t_1) + l_2 \cos(t_1 + t_2) \\ l_1 \sin(t_1) + l_2 \sin(t_1 + t_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that the following expression yields the very same result:

$$R_1 \cdot P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(t_1) & -\sin(t_1) \\ \sin(t_1) & \cos(t_1) \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} l_1 + l_2 \cos(t_2) \\ l_2 \sin(t_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

```
[17]: R1 = sp.Matrix([[sp.cos(t1), -sp.sin(t1)], [sp.sin(t1), sp.cos(t1)]])
R1
```

```
[17]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(t_1) & -\sin(t_1) \\ \sin(t_1) & \cos(t_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

```

```
[18]: P2 = sp.Matrix([[l1+l2*sp.cos(t2)], [l2*sp.sin(t2)]])
P2
```

```
[18]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} l_1 + l_2 \cos(t_2) \\ l_2 \sin(t_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

```

```
[19]: sp.simplify(R1*P2)
```

```
[19]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} l_1 \cos(t_1) + l_2 \cos(t_1 + t_2) \\ l_1 \sin(t_1) + l_2 \sin(t_1 + t_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

```

Next, let

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$

denote the origin of the target system. We have to solve the equation

$$R_1 \cdot P_2 = T.$$

Since the rotation matrix  $R_1$  will not change the norm of  $P_2$ , we get

$$\|P_2\| = \|T\| = u^2 + v^2.$$

For the norm (square of the length of a vector) we have to import another command:

```
[20]: from sympy.vector import CoordSys3D
      u, v = sp.symbols('u v')
```

The simplified term  $\|P_2\|$  is given by

```
[22]: sp.simplify(P2.dot(P2))
```

```
[22]: l12 + 2l1l2 cos(t2) + l22
```

Thus, we let Sympy solve the equation

```
[23]: EllbowAngle = sp.solve(sp.simplify(P2.dot(P2))-u**2-v**2,t2)
      EllbowAngle
```

```
[23]: [-acos(-(l1**2 + l2**2 - u**2 - v**2)/(2*l1*l2)) + 2*pi,
      acos(-(l1**2 - l2**2 + u**2 + v**2)/(2*l1*l2))]
```

```
[24]: EllbowAngle[0]
```

```
[24]: -acos(- (l12 + l22 - u2 - v2) / (2l1l2)) + 2pi
```

```
[25]: EllbowAngle[1]
```

```
[25]: acos(- (l12 - l22 + u2 + v2) / (2l1l2))
```

For **both** angles we get some vector  $P_2$  and have to solve  $R_1 \cdot P_2 = T$ , i.e., we have to rotate  $P_2$  around the origin by the angle  $t_1$  to  $T$ . Clearly, we may use the “intelligent” arctan `atan2` for this job. Thus, we obtain the following solution for  $t_1$  (recall that we have to flip the coordinates for `atan2`):

```
[26]: ShoulderAngle = sp.atan2(v,u) - sp.atan2(P2[1],P2[0])
      ShoulderAngle
```

```
[26]: atan2(v,u) - atan2(l2 sin(t2), l1 + l2 cos(t2))
```

We finish by plugging the specific values for  $t_2$  into the latter expression:

```
[109]: ShoulderAngle.subs(t2, EllbowAngle[0])
```

```
[109]: atan2(v,u) - atan2(-l2*sqrt(1 - (l12 + l22 - u2 - v2)2 / (4l12l22)), l1 - (l12 + l22 - u2 - v2) / (2l1))
```

```
[110]: ShoulderAngle.subs(t2, EllbowAngle[1])
```

```
[110]: atan2(v, u) - atan2( l2*sqrt(1 - ((-l1**2 - l2**2 + u**2 + v**2)**2)/(4*l1**2*l2**2)), l1 + (-l1**2 - l2**2 + u**2 + v**2)/(2*l1) )
```

We got everything we will need.

## 2.2 Algebraic Solution

Again, we are interested in the solution of the equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} l_1 \cos(t_1) + l_2 \cos(t_1 + t_2) \\ l_1 \sin(t_1) + l_2 \sin(t_1 + t_2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}.$$

Putting  $c_1 = \cos(t_1)$ ,  $c_2 = \cos(t_1 + t_2)$ ,  $s_1 = \sin(t_1)$ ,  $s_2 = \sin(t_1 + t_2)$ , we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_2 \\ l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}.$$

If we can solve the latter equation for  $c_1, s_1, c_2, s_2$ , then we can recover  $t_1 = \text{atan2}(s_1, c_1)$  and  $t_1 + t_2 = \text{atan2}(s_2, c_2)$ . However, there are only two equations for the four variables, so we add two more, namely  $c_1^2 + s_1^2 = 1$  and  $c_2^2 + s_2^2 = 1$  (trigonometric Pythagoras). Thus, we have to solve the following system of equations

$$l_1 c_1 + l_2 c_2 = u \quad (1)$$

$$l_1 s_1 + l_2 s_2 = v \quad (2)$$

$$c_1^2 + s_1^2 = 1 \quad (3)$$

$$c_2^2 + s_2^2 = 1 \quad (4)$$

It is not too hard to derive the solution by paper and pencil, but we want to use Sympy:

```
[27]: c1, c2, s1, s2 = sp.symbols('c1 c2 s1 s2')
```

```
[28]: AlgSolve = sp.solve([l1*c1+l2*c2-u, l1*s1+l2*s2-v, c1**2+s1**2-1, c2**2+s2**2-1],
    → [c1, s1, c2, s2], dict = True)
AlgSolve
```

```
[28]: [{c1: (l1**2*u - l2**2*u + u**3 + u*v**2 - v*sqrt(-l1**4 + 2*l1**2*l2**2 +
2*l1**2*u**2 + 2*l1**2*v**2 - l2**4 + 2*l2**2*u**2 + 2*l2**2*v**2 - u**4 -
2*u**2*v**2 - v**4))/(2*l1*(u**2 + v**2)),
s1: (l1**2*v - l2**2*v + u**2*v + u*sqrt(-l1**4 + 2*l1**2*l2**2 + 2*l1**2*u**2
+ 2*l1**2*v**2 - l2**4 + 2*l2**2*u**2 + 2*l2**2*v**2 - u**4 - 2*u**2*v**2 -
v**4) + v**3)/(2*l1*(u**2 + v**2)),
c2: (-l1**2*u + l2**2*u + u**3 + u*v**2 + v*sqrt(-l1**4 + 2*l1**2*l2**2 +
2*l1**2*u**2 + 2*l1**2*v**2 - l2**4 + 2*l2**2*u**2 + 2*l2**2*v**2 - u**4 -
2*u**2*v**2 - v**4))/(2*l2*(u**2 + v**2)),
s2: -u*sqrt(-(-l1**2 - 2*l1*l2 - l2**2 + u**2 + v**2)*(-l1**2 + 2*l1*l2 -
l2**2 + u**2 + v**2))/(2*l2*(u**2 + v**2)) + v*(-l1**2 + l2**2 + u**2 +
v**2)/(2*l2*(u**2 + v**2))}],
```

```

{c1: (l1**2*u - l2**2*u + u**3 + u*v**2 + v*sqrt(-l1**4 + 2*l1**2*l2**2 +
2*l1**2*u**2 + 2*l1**2*v**2 - l2**4 + 2*l2**2*u**2 + 2*l2**2*v**2 - u**4 -
2*u**2*v**2 - v**4))/(2*l1*(u**2 + v**2)),
s1: (l1**2*v - l2**2*v + u**2*v - u*sqrt(-l1**4 + 2*l1**2*l2**2 + 2*l1**2*u**2
+ 2*l1**2*v**2 - l2**4 + 2*l2**2*u**2 + 2*l2**2*v**2 - u**4 - 2*u**2*v**2 -
v**4) + v**3)/(2*l1*(u**2 + v**2)),
c2: (-l1**2*u + l2**2*u + u**3 + u*v**2 - v*sqrt(-l1**4 + 2*l1**2*l2**2 +
2*l1**2*u**2 + 2*l1**2*v**2 - l2**4 + 2*l2**2*u**2 + 2*l2**2*v**2 - u**4 -
2*u**2*v**2 - v**4))/(2*l2*(u**2 + v**2)),
s2: u*sqrt(-(-l1**2 - 2*l1*l2 - l2**2 + u**2 + v**2)*(-l1**2 + 2*l1*l2 - l2**2
+ u**2 + v**2))/(2*l2*(u**2 + v**2)) + v*(-l1**2 + l2**2 + u**2 +
v**2)/(2*l2*(u**2 + v**2))}]

```

We derive two (quite complicated) solutions; dict = True makes it easy to access the parts:

```
[29]: AlgSolve[0][c1]
```

```
[29]:
```

$$\frac{l_1^2 u - l_2^2 u + u^3 + uv^2 - v\sqrt{-l_1^4 + 2l_1^2 l_2^2 + 2l_1^2 u^2 + 2l_1^2 v^2 - l_2^4 + 2l_2^2 u^2 + 2l_2^2 v^2 - u^4 - 2u^2 v^2 - v^4}}{2l_1(u^2 + v^2)}$$

```
[122]: AlgSolve[0][s1]
```

```
[122]:
```

$$\frac{l_1^2 v - l_2^2 v + u^2 v + u\sqrt{-l_1^4 + 2l_1^2 l_2^2 + 2l_1^2 u^2 + 2l_1^2 v^2 - l_2^4 + 2l_2^2 u^2 + 2l_2^2 v^2 - u^4 - 2u^2 v^2 - v^4} + v^3}{2l_1(u^2 + v^2)}$$

```
[123]: AlgSolve[0][c2]
```

```
[123]:
```

$$\frac{-l_1^2 u + l_2^2 u + u^3 + uv^2 + v\sqrt{-l_1^4 + 2l_1^2 l_2^2 + 2l_1^2 u^2 + 2l_1^2 v^2 - l_2^4 + 2l_2^2 u^2 + 2l_2^2 v^2 - u^4 - 2u^2 v^2 - v^4}}{2l_2(u^2 + v^2)}$$

```
[124]: AlgSolve[0][s2]
```

```
[124]:
```

$$\frac{u\sqrt{-(-l_1^2 - 2l_1 l_2 - l_2^2 + u^2 + v^2)(-l_1^2 + 2l_1 l_2 - l_2^2 + u^2 + v^2)}}{2l_2(u^2 + v^2)} + \frac{v(-l_1^2 + l_2^2 + u^2 + v^2)}{2l_2(u^2 + v^2)}$$

Clearly, one wouldn't use the solutions as they are. First of all, it suffices to compute the complicated terms for  $c_1, s_1$  only, since

$$c_2 = \frac{u - l_1 c_1}{l_2} \text{ and } s_2 = \frac{v - l_1 s_1}{l_2}$$

are much "cheaper" to calculate. Furthermore, the radicants in the solutions for  $c_1, s_1$  look pretty much the same. To prove that they are equal indeed, we have to extract these by cut and paste:

```
[127]: print(AlgSolve[0][c1])
```

```

(l1**2*u - l2**2*u + u**3 + u*v**2 - v*sqrt(-l1**4 + 2*l1**2*l2**2 +
2*l1**2*u**2 + 2*l1**2*v**2 - l2**4 + 2*l2**2*u**2 + 2*l2**2*v**2 - u**4 -
2*u**2*v**2 - v**4))/(2*l1*(u**2 + v**2))

```

```
[128]: print(AlgSolve[0][s1])

(11**2*v - 12**2*v + u**2*v + u*sqrt(-11**4 + 2*11**2*12**2 + 2*11**2*u**2 +
2*11**2*v**2 - 12**4 + 2*12**2*u**2 + 2*12**2*v**2 - u**4 - 2*u**2*v**2 - v**4)
+ v**3)/(2*11*(u**2 + v**2))
```

```
[132]: radc1 = -11**4 + 2*11**2*12**2 + 2*11**2*u**2 + 2*11**2*v**2 - 12**4 +
→2*12**2*u**2 + 2*12**2*v**2 - u**4 - 2*u**2*v**2 - v**4
radc1
```

```
[132]: -l14 + 2l12l22 + 2l12u2 + 2l12v2 - l24 + 2l22u2 + 2l22v2 - u4 - 2u2v2 - v4
```

```
[134]: rads1 = -11**4 + 2*11**2*12**2 + 2*11**2*u**2 + 2*11**2*v**2 - 12**4 +
→2*12**2*u**2 + 2*12**2*v**2 - u**4 - 2*u**2*v**2 - v**4
rads1
```

```
[134]: -l14 + 2l12l22 + 2l12u2 + 2l12v2 - l24 + 2l22u2 + 2l22v2 - u4 - 2u2v2 - v4
```

```
[135]: radc1 - rads1
```

```
[135]: 0
```

OK, they are the same, so we have to compute only once. Moreover, the structure may be nicer than one can see:

```
[138]: Dummy = sp.factor(-11**4 + 2*11**2*12**2 + 2*11**2*u**2 + 2*11**2*v**2 - 12**4 +
→2*12**2*u**2 + 2*12**2*v**2 - u**4 - 2*u**2*v**2 - v**4)
Dummy
```

```
[138]: - (-l12 - 2l1l2 - l22 + u2 + v2) (-l12 + 2l1l2 - l22 + u2 + v2)
```

```
[139]: print(Dummy)
```

```
-(-11**2 - 2*11*12 - 12**2 + u**2 + v**2)*(-11**2 + 2*11*12 - 12**2 + u**2 +
v**2)
```

```
[140]: (11**2 + 2*11*12 + 12**2 - u**2 - v**2)*(-11**2 + 2*11*12 - 12**2 + u**2 + v**2)
```

```
[140]: (-l12 + 2l1l2 - l22 + u2 + v2) (l12 + 2l1l2 + l22 - u2 - v2)
```

```
[143]: a = 2*11*12
b = 11**2+12**2-u**2-v**2
sp.simplify(Dummy - (a+b)*(a-b))
```

```
[143]: 0
```

Thus, we derive the radicant by the following procedure:

$$a = 2l_1l_2 \tag{5}$$

$$b = l_1^2 + l_2^2 - u^2 - v^2 \tag{6}$$

$$d = (a + b)(a - b) \tag{7}$$

With a bit more effort:

$$c = l_1^2 - l_2^2 + u^2 + v^2 \quad (8)$$

$$c_1 = \frac{cu - v\sqrt{d}}{2l_1(u^2 + v^2)} \quad (9)$$

$$s_1 = \frac{cv + u\sqrt{d}}{2l_1(u^2 + v^2)} \quad (10)$$

$$\theta_1 = \text{atan2}(s_1, c_1). \quad (11)$$

This discussion finishes the explanations of how to use Sympy.

[ ]: