

# Robot Kinematics

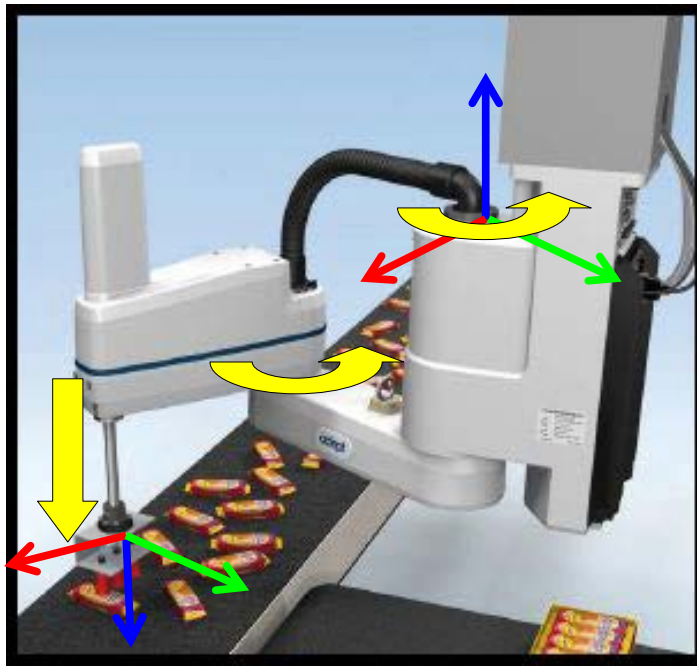
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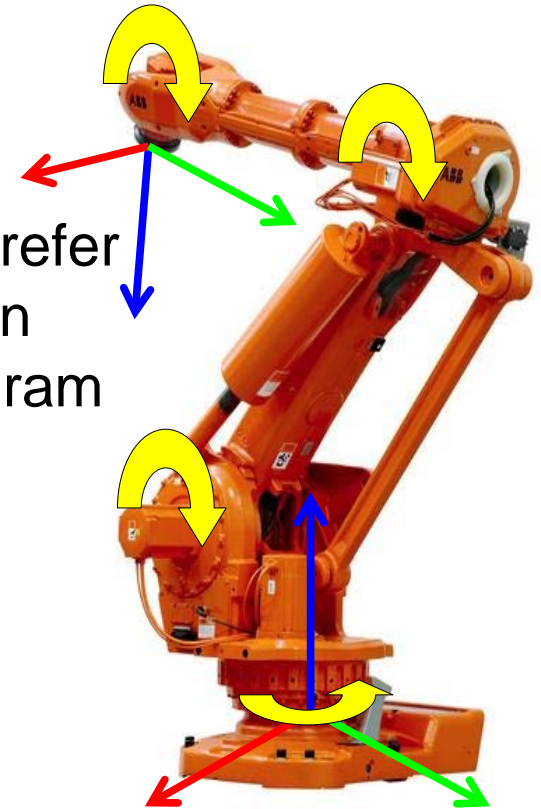
# Robot Manipulators

- A robot manipulator is typically moved through its joints
  - Revolute: rotate about an axis
  - Prismatic: translate along an axis



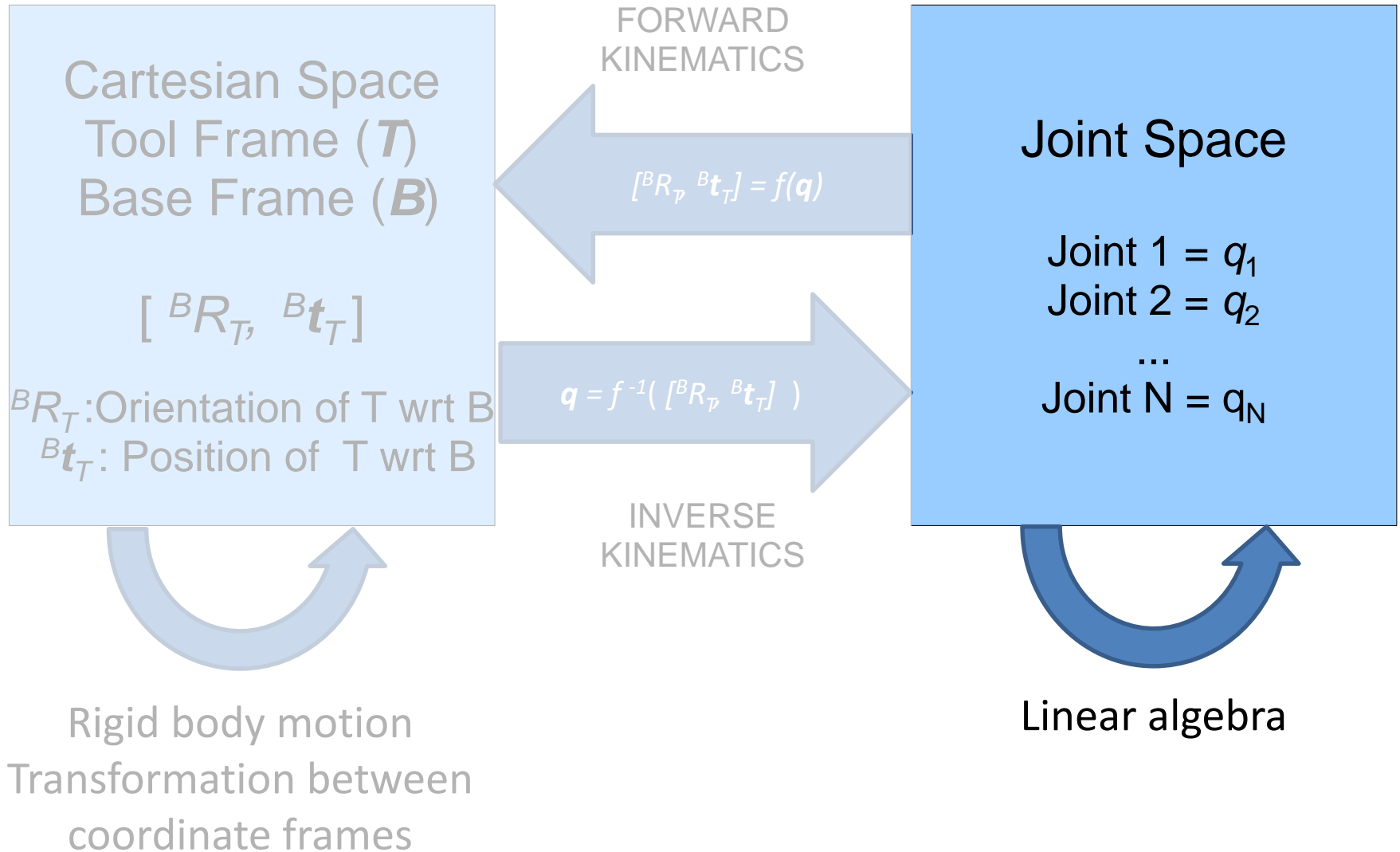
SCARA

But we often prefer using Cartesian frames to program motions



6 axes robot arm

# Kinematics



# Transformation Within Joint Space

Joint spaces are defined in  $\mathbb{R}^N$

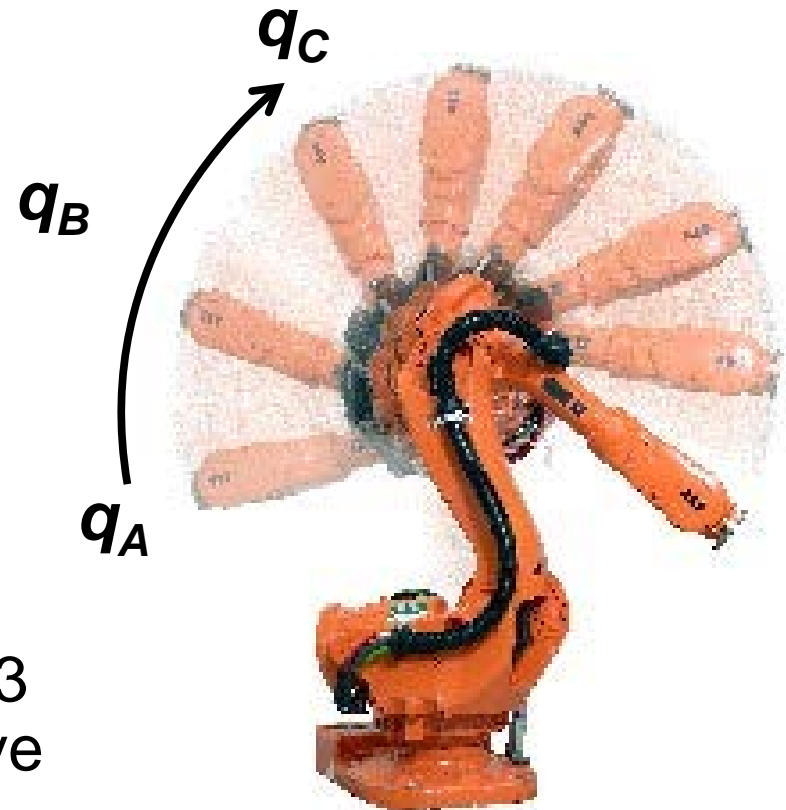
Thus for a vector of joint values

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ \vdots \\ q_N \end{bmatrix}$$

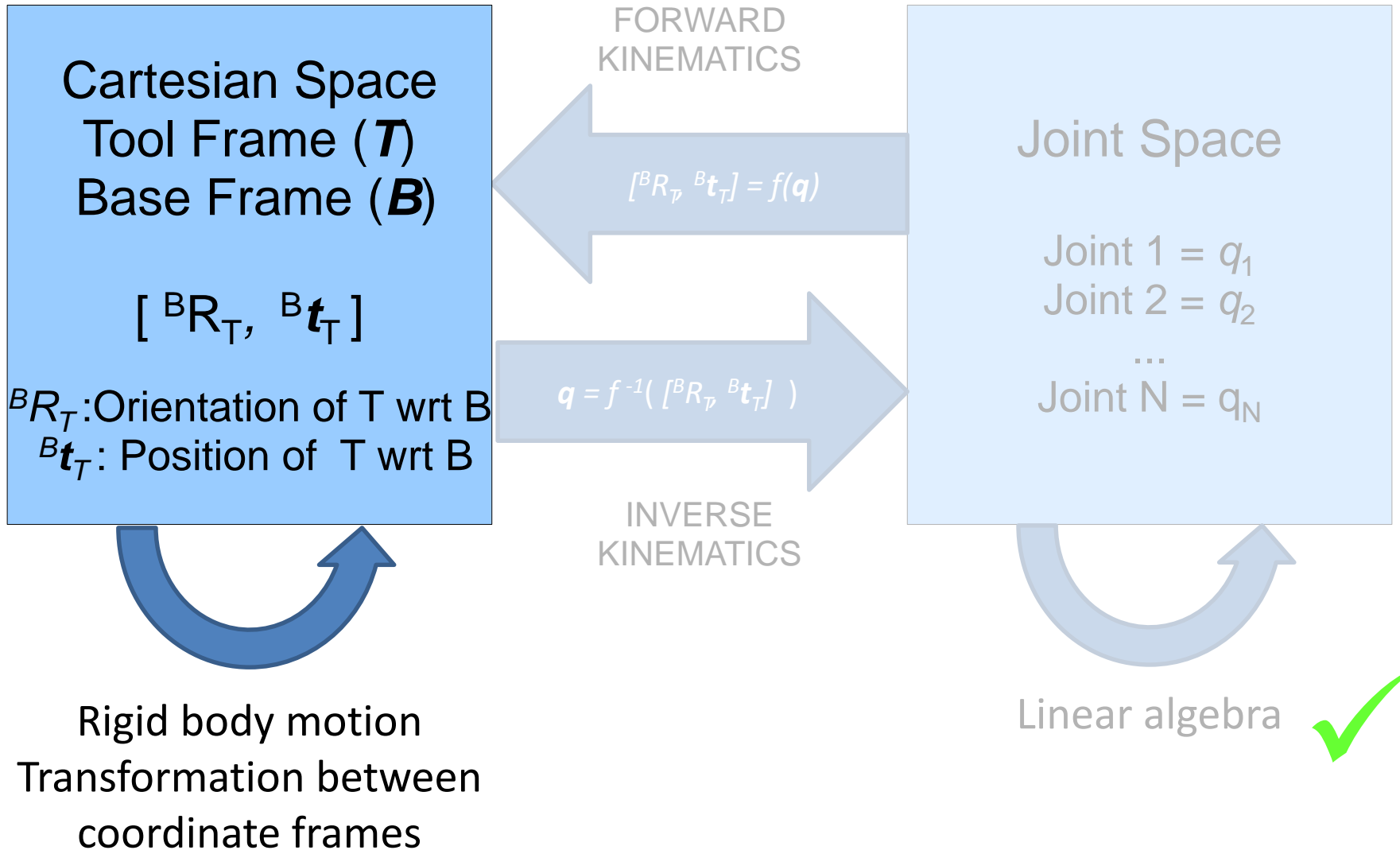
we can add/subtract joint values

$$\mathbf{q}_C = \mathbf{q}_A + \mathbf{q}_B$$

How many joints do you need? It depends on the task. But ISO 8373 requires all industrial robots to have at least three or more axes.



# Kinematics



# 2D Rigid Motion

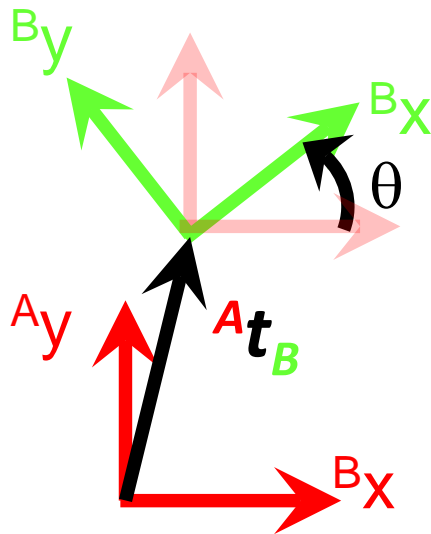
- Combine position and orientation:

- Special Euclidean Group: SE(2)

Special Orthogonal (SO)



$$SE(2) = \{(t, R): t \in \mathbb{R}^2, R \in SO(2)\} = \mathbb{R}^2 \times SO(2)$$



${}^A t_B \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is the translation between A and B

${}^A R_B \in SO(2)$  is the rotation between A and B

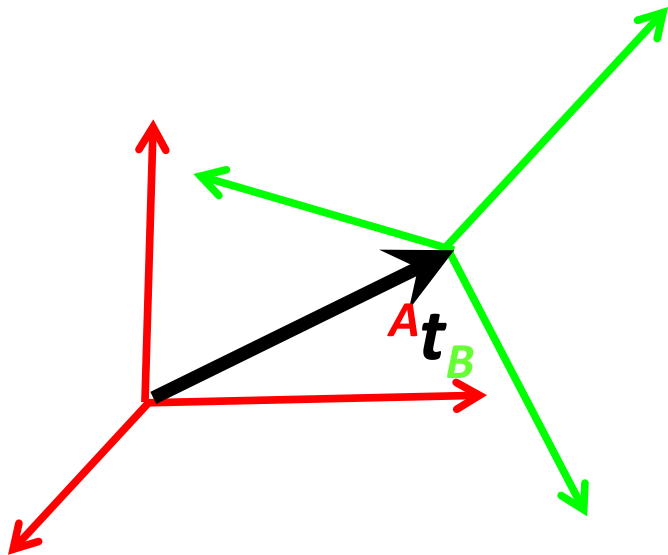
If  $R \in SO(2)$ , then  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ ,  $R R^T = I$  and  $\det(R) = 1$

$${}^A R_B = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

# 3D Rigid Motion

- Combine position and orientation:
  - Special Euclidean Group: SE(3)

$$SE(3) = \{(\mathbf{t}, R): \mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{R}^3, R \in SO(3)\} = \mathbb{R}^3 \times SO(3)$$



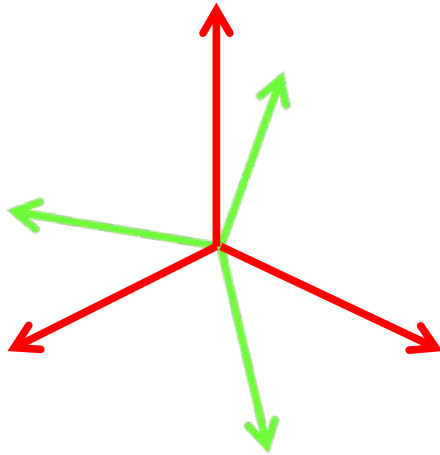
${}^A\mathbf{t}_B \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is the translation between A and B

${}^A R_B \in SO(3)$  is the rotation between A and B

If  $R \in SO(3)$ , then  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$ ,  $R R^T = I$  and  $\det(R) = 1$

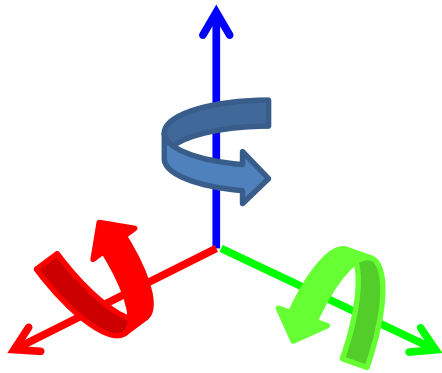
$${}^A R_B = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

# 3D Rotations



$${}^A R_B = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Can be factorized into a product of elementary rotations



$$R_x(\phi) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(\phi) & -\sin(\phi) \\ 0 & \sin(\phi) & \cos(\phi) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_y(\beta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\beta) & 0 & \sin(\beta) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin(\beta) & 0 & \cos(\beta) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_z(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\alpha) & -\sin(\alpha) & 0 \\ \sin(\alpha) & \cos(\alpha) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Be careful of Commutations

$$R = R_x R_y R_z \neq R_z R_y R_x$$



# 3D Rotations

- Lots of different ways to represent 3D rotations:
  - Quaternion, Euler angles, axis/angle, Rodrigues
  - They all have strengths (i.e. less than 9 numbers) and weaknesses (i.e. singularities)
    - “It is a fundamental topological fact that singularities can never be eliminated in any 3-dimensional representation of  $SO(3)$ .” A Math. Introduction to Robotic Manipulation
  - They represent a different way to represent the SAME concept:

A 3x3 matrix  $R$  such that

$$(R^T) R = R (R^T) = I$$

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

# Homogeneous Representation

- A 2D point is represented by appending a “1” to yield a vector in  $R^3$   $\mathbf{P} = [x \ y \ 1]^T$
- A 3D point is represented by appending a “1” to yield a vector in  $R^4$   $\mathbf{P} = [x \ y \ z \ 1]^T$
- They are called *homogenous coordinates*
- The *affine transformation* of a point

$${}^A\mathbf{P} = {}^A\mathbf{R}_B {}^B\mathbf{P} + {}^A\mathbf{t}_B$$

is represented by a *linear transformation* using a homogeneous coordinates

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{R}_B & {}^A\mathbf{t}_B \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Homogeneous Representation

$$\begin{aligned} {}^A\mathbf{P} &= {}^A\mathbf{R}_B {}^B\mathbf{P} + {}^A\mathbf{t}_B \\ {}^B\mathbf{P} &= {}^B\mathbf{R}_C {}^C\mathbf{P} + {}^B\mathbf{t}_C \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} {}^A\mathbf{P} &= {}^A\mathbf{R}_B {}^B\mathbf{P} + {}^A\mathbf{t}_B \\ {}^B\mathbf{P} &= {}^B\mathbf{R}_C {}^C\mathbf{P} + {}^B\mathbf{t}_C \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{Affine transformations}$$

This is annoying  $\rightarrow$

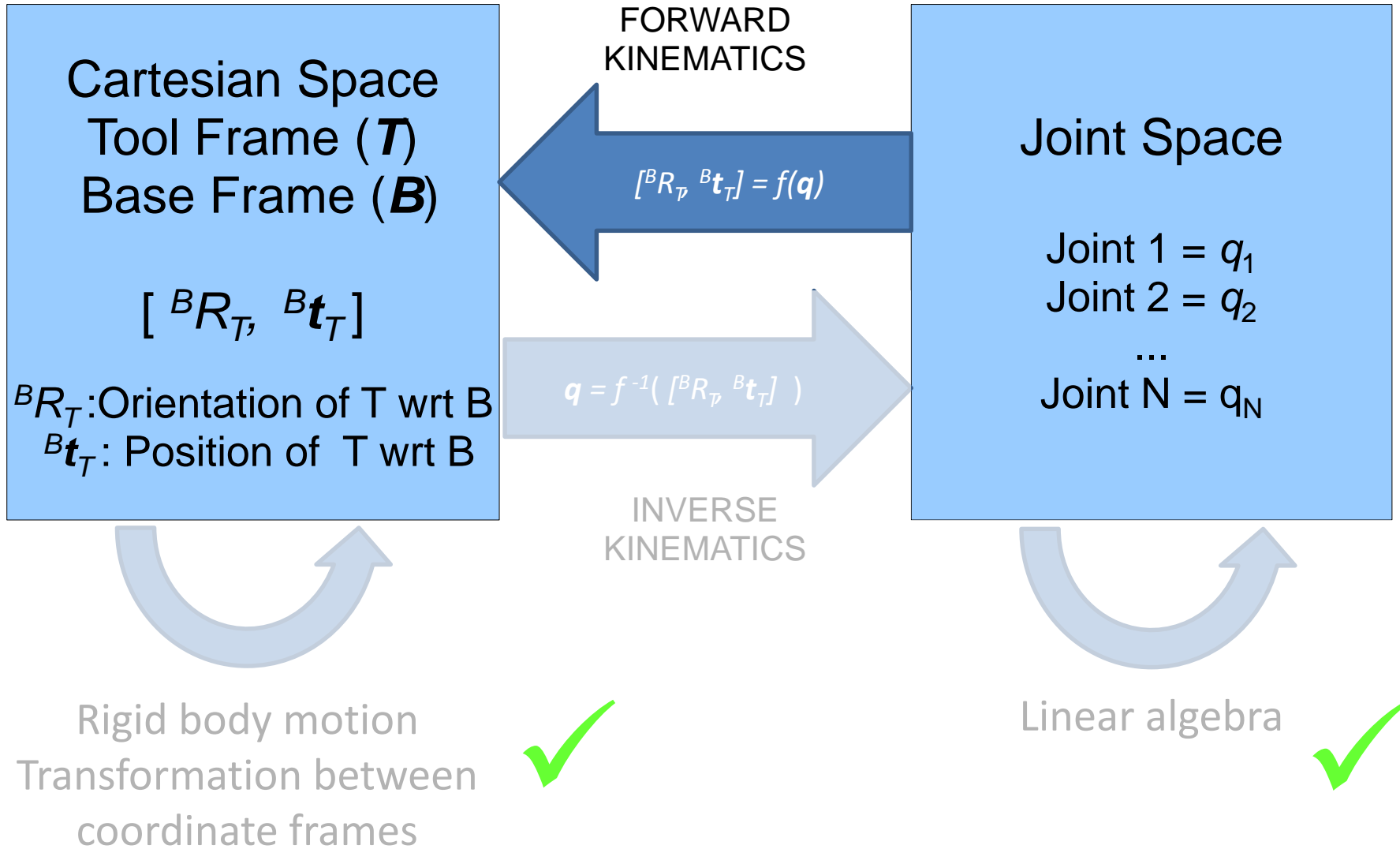
$${}^A\mathbf{P} = {}^A\mathbf{R}_B ({}^B\mathbf{R}_C {}^C\mathbf{P} + {}^B\mathbf{t}_C) + {}^A\mathbf{t}_B$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{R}_B & {}^A\mathbf{t}_B \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = {}^A\mathbf{E}_B \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{R}_C & {}^B\mathbf{t}_C \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^C\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = {}^B\mathbf{E}_C \begin{bmatrix} {}^C\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{R}_B & {}^A\mathbf{t}_B \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{R}_C & {}^B\mathbf{t}_C \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^C\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{Linear transformations}$$

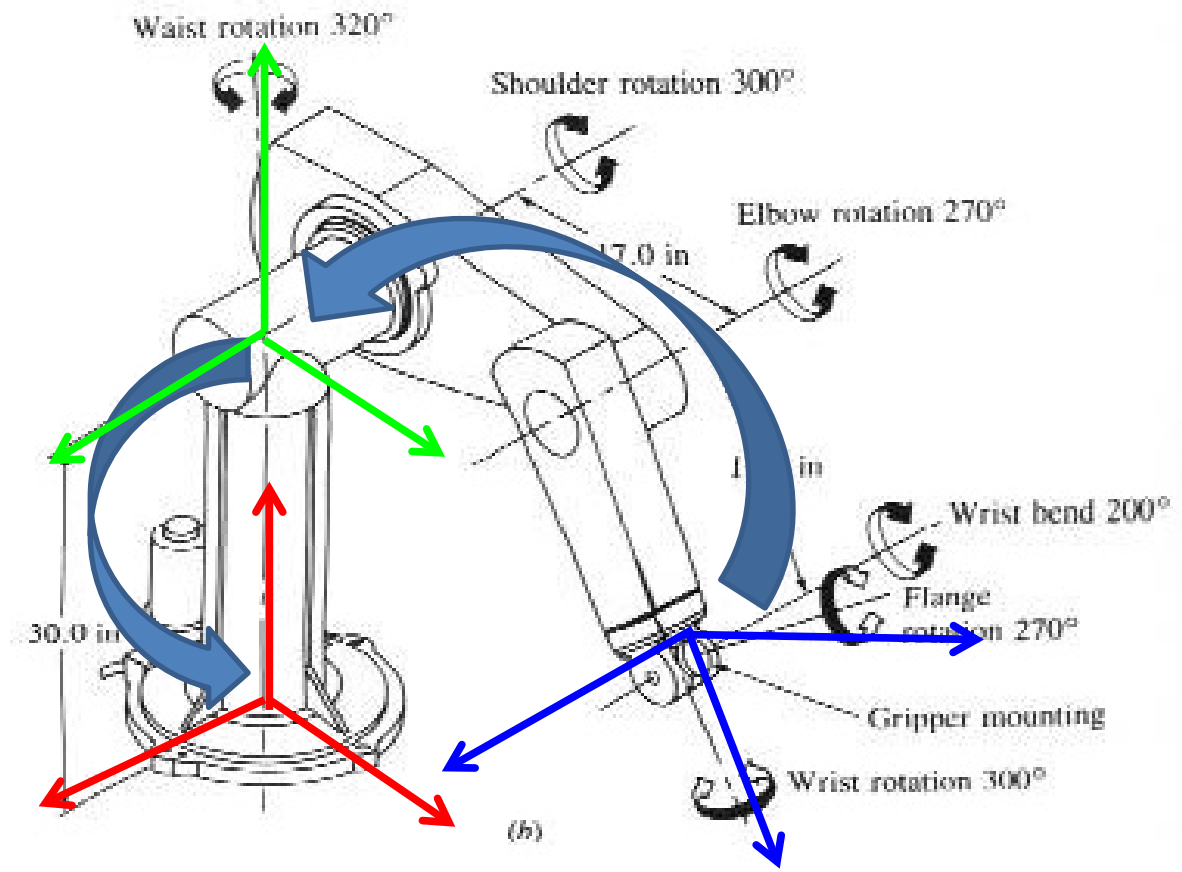
This is convenient  $\rightarrow$

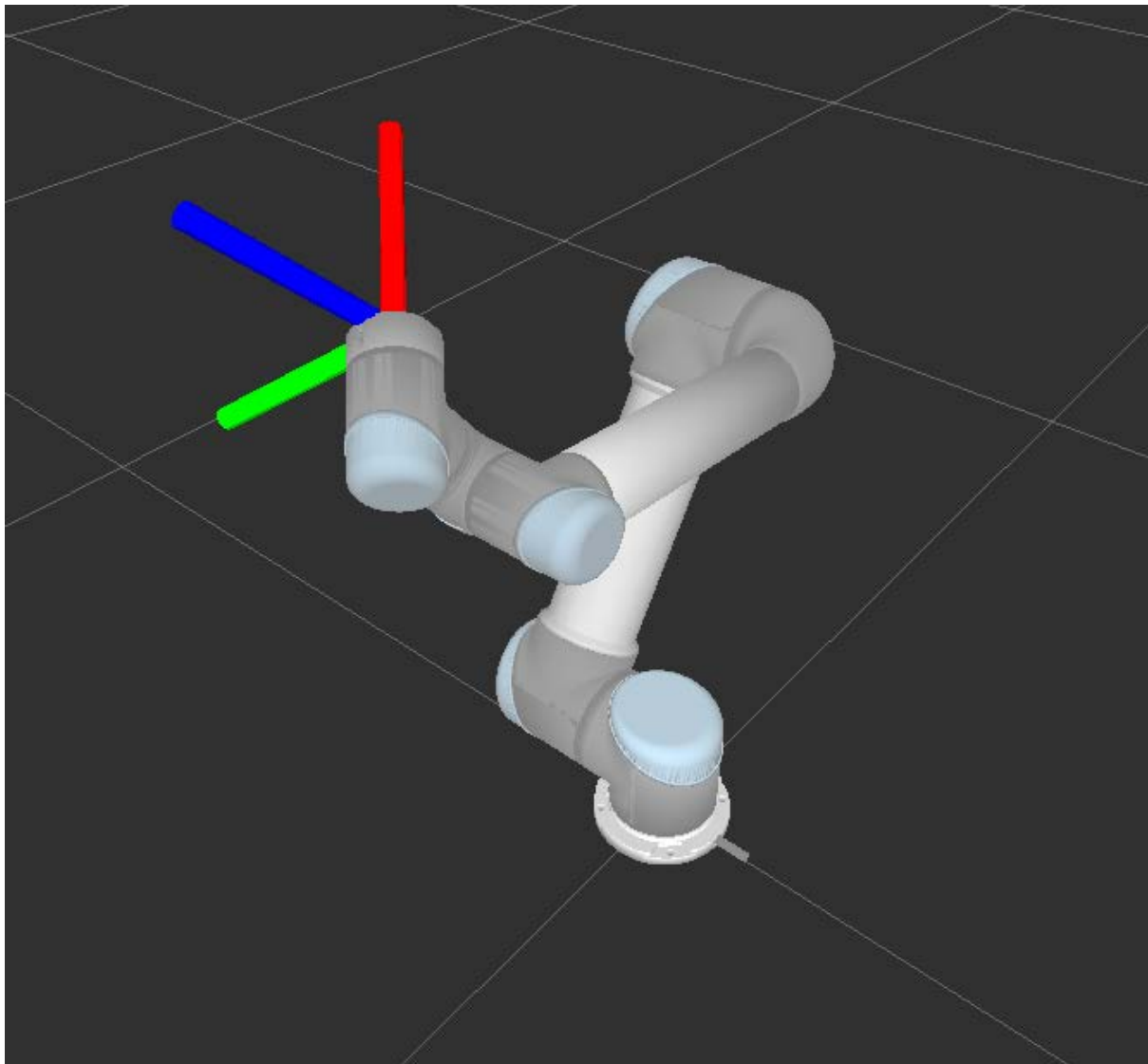
$$\begin{aligned} {}^A\mathbf{P} &= {}^A\mathbf{E}_B {}^B\mathbf{E}_C \begin{bmatrix} {}^C\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ {}^A\mathbf{P} &= {}^A\mathbf{E}_C \begin{bmatrix} {}^C\mathbf{P} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Kinematics



# Cartesian Transformation Kinematic Chain

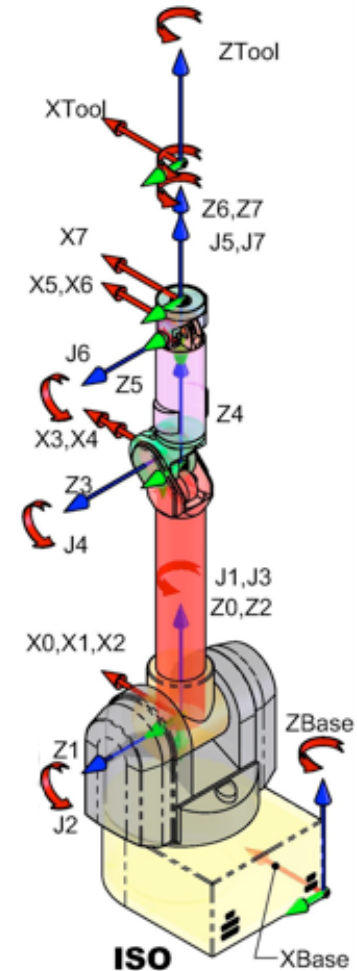




# Forward Kinematics

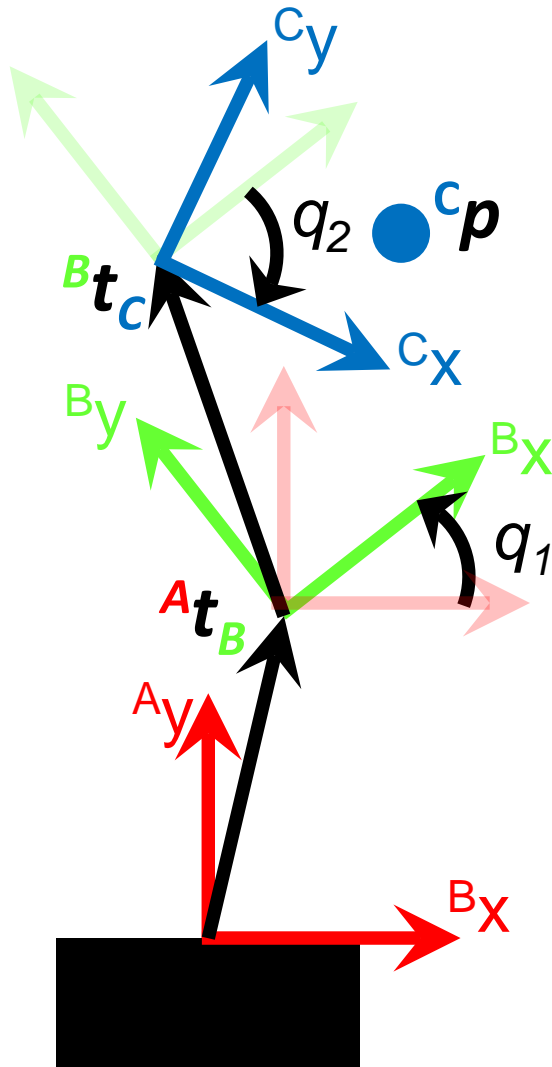
Guidelines for assigning frames to robot links:

- There are several conventions
    - Denavit Hartenberg (DH), modified DH, Hayati, etc.
    - They are “conventions” not “laws”
    - Mainly used for legacy reason (when using 4 numbers instead of 6 per link made a difference).
- 1) Choose the base and tool coordinate frame
    - Make your life easy!
  - 2) Start from the base and move towards the tool
    - Make your life easy!
    - In general each actuator has a coordinate frame.
  - 3) Align each coordinate frame with a joint actuator
    - Traditionally it's the “Z” axis but this is **not** necessary and any axis can be use to represent the motion of a joint



Barrett WAM

# Rigid Body Motion 2D

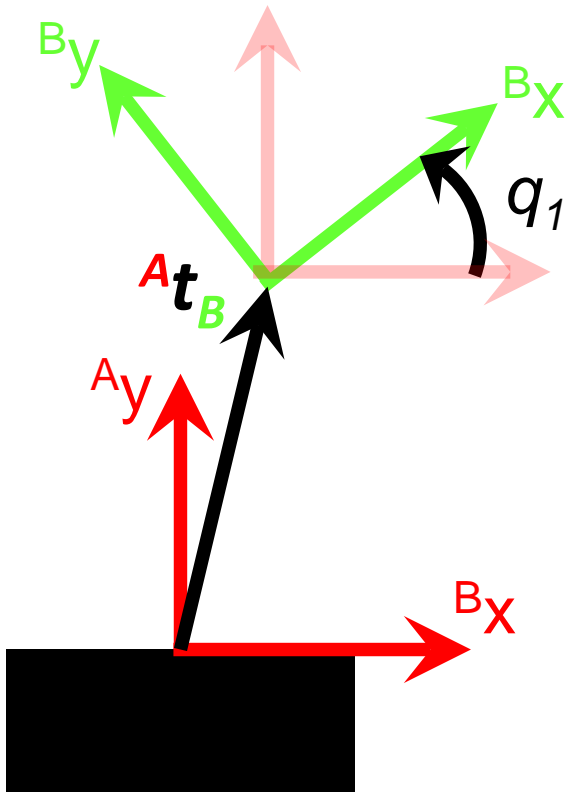


- We have the coordinates of a point  $P$  in the coordinate frame “ $C$ ”
- Given the following robot, what are the coordinates of  $P$  in the coordinate frame “ $A$ ”?



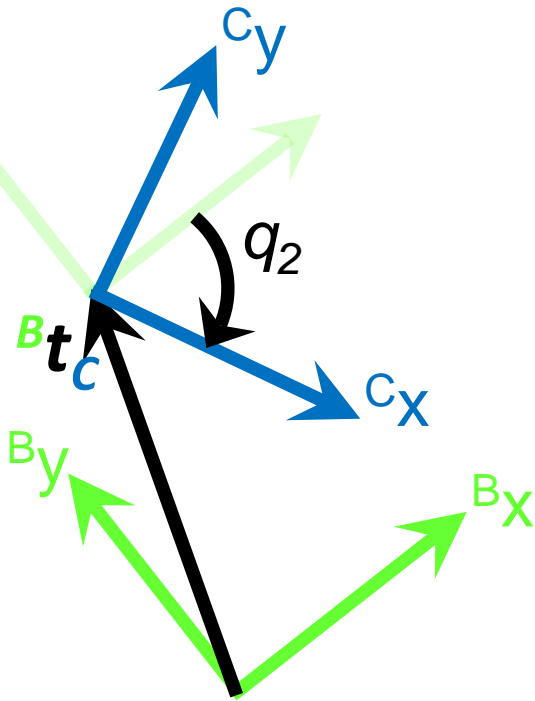
# Forward Kinematics 2D

- First, what is the position and orientation of coordinate frame “B” with respect to coordinate frame “A”?
  - The position of B with respect to A is constant  ${}^A t_B$
  - The orientation of B with respect to A depends on the angle  $q_1$



$${}^A R_B = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(q_1) & -\sin(q_1) \\ \sin(q_1) & \cos(q_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

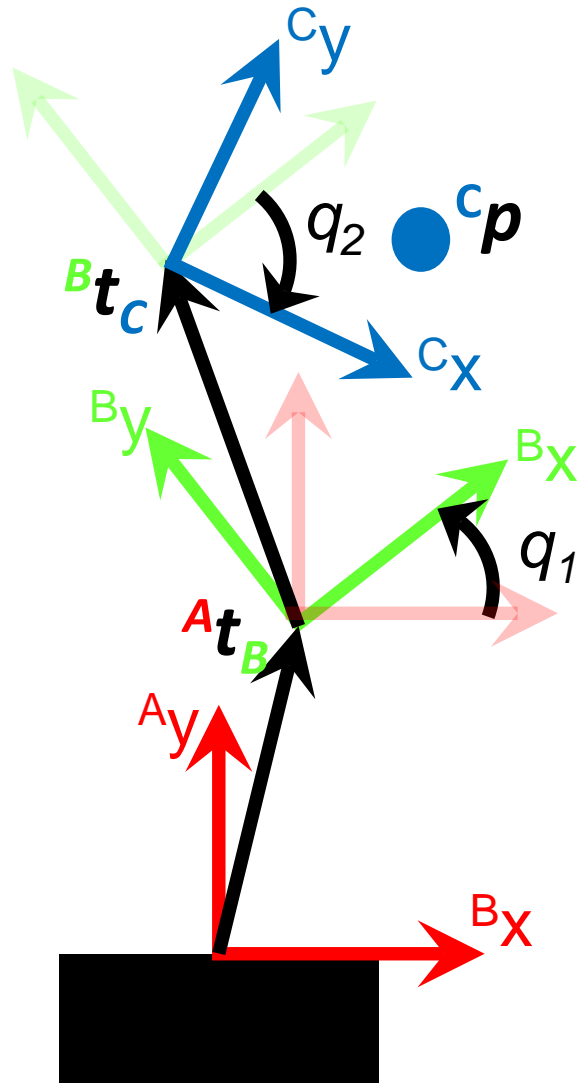
# Forward Kinematics 2D



- Second, what is the position and orientation of coordinate frame “C” with respect to coordinate frame “B”?
  - The position of C with respect to B is constant  ${}^B t_C$
  - The orientation of C with respect to B depends on the angle  $q_2$

$${}^B R_C = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(q_2) & -\sin(q_2) \\ \sin(q_2) & \cos(q_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Forward Kinematics 2D



$${}^B E_C = \begin{bmatrix} {}^B R_C & {}^B t_C \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^B P = {}^B E_C {}^C P$$

$${}^A E_B = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B & {}^A t_B \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^A P = {}^A E_B {}^B P$$

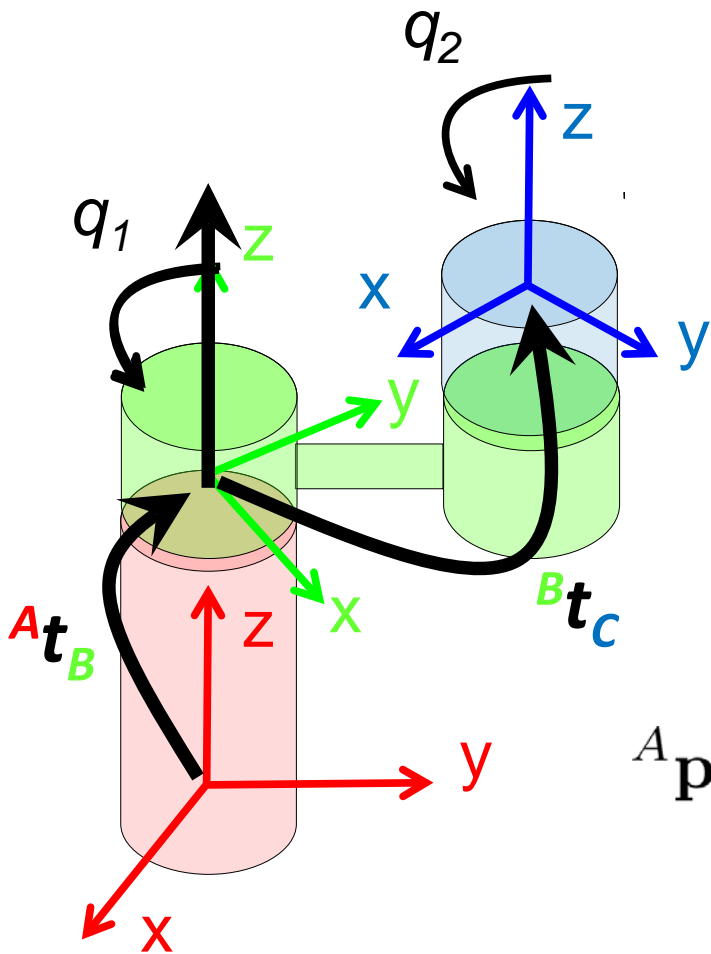
$${}^A P = {}^A E_B {}^B E_C {}^C P = {}^A E_C {}^C P$$

$${}^A E_C = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_C & {}^A t_B \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^A P = {}^A E_C {}^C P$$

Forward kinematics  
 ${}^A R_C$  and  ${}^A t_B$  are functions  
of  $q_1$  and  $q_2$

# Forward Kinematics 3D



$$R_z(q) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos q & -\sin q & 0 \\ \sin q & \cos q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^A \mathbf{p} = {}^A E_B {}^B \mathbf{p}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} R_z(q_1) & {}^A \mathbf{t}_B \\ \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

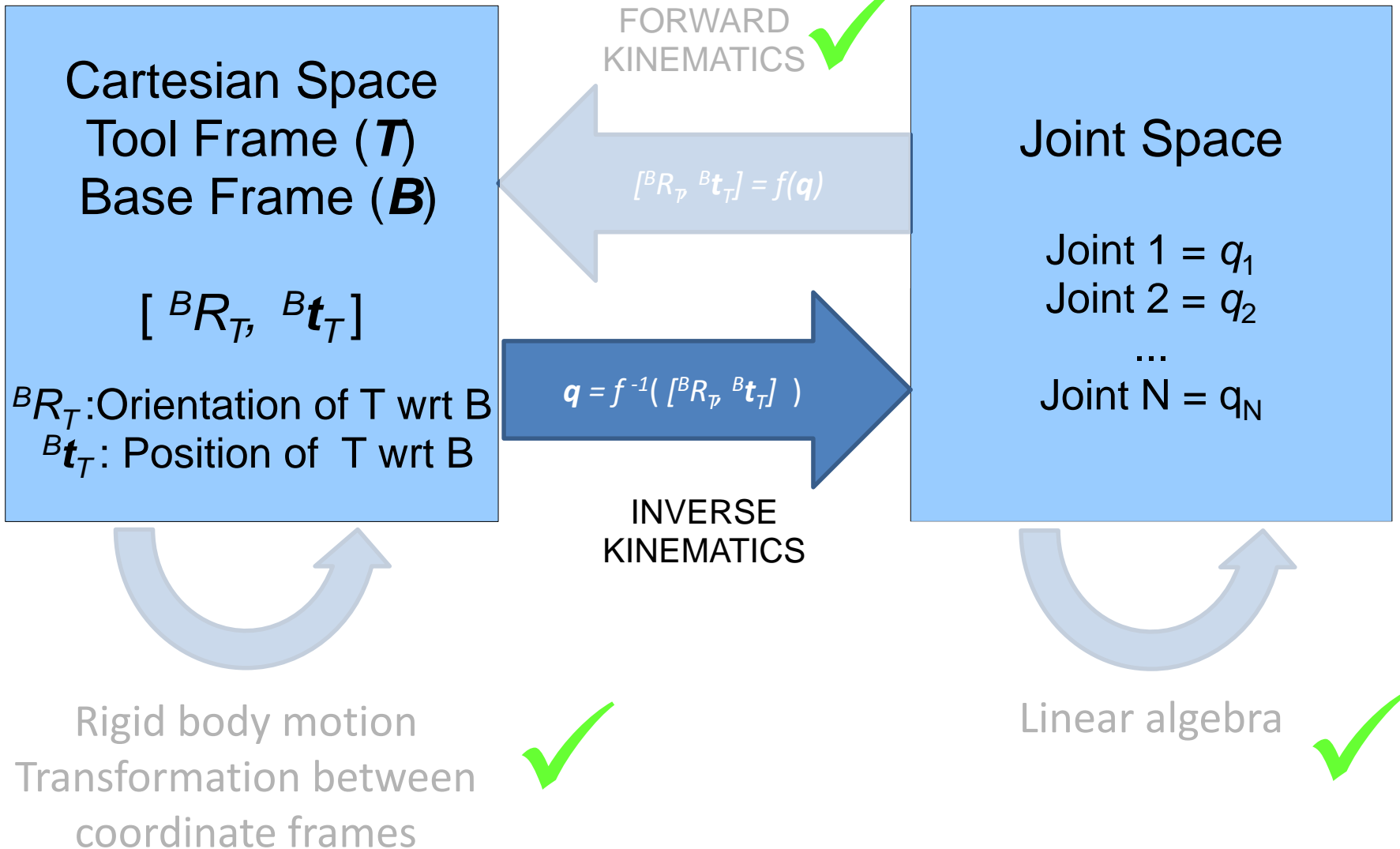
$${}^B \mathbf{p} = {}^B E_C {}^C \mathbf{p}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} R_z(q_2) & {}^B \mathbf{t}_C \\ \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

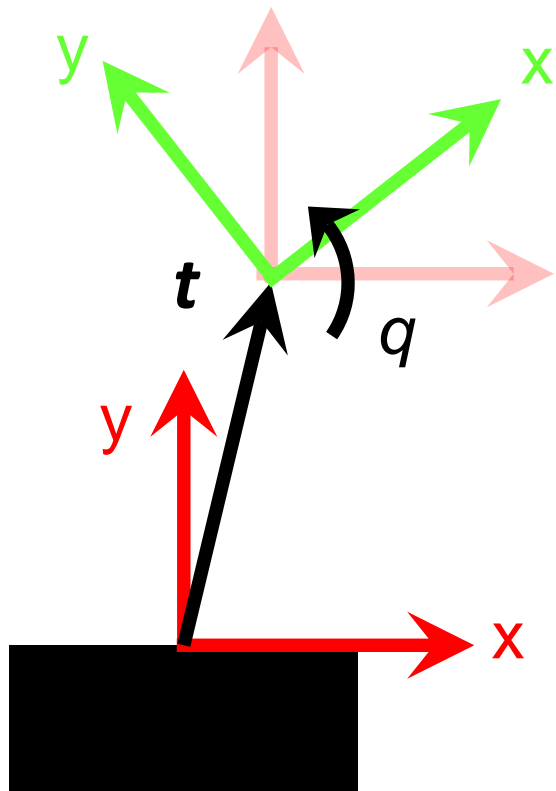
$${}^A \mathbf{p} = {}^A E_B {}^B E_C {}^C \mathbf{p}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} R_z(q_1)R_z(q_2) & {}^A \mathbf{t}_B + R_z(q_1){}^B \mathbf{t}_C \\ \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Kinematics



# Inverse Kinematics 2D



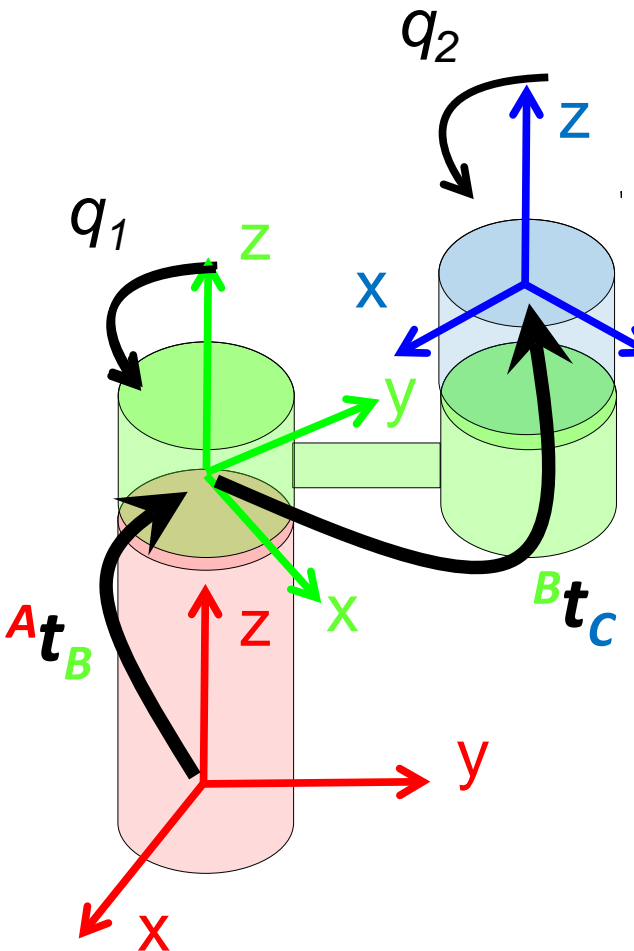
$${}^A E_B(q) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos q & -\sin q & t_x \\ \sin q & \cos q & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Given  ${}^A R_B$  and  ${}^A \mathbf{t}_B$  find  $q$

$q$  only appears in  ${}^A R_B$  so solving R for  $q$  is pretty easy. With several joints, the inverse kinematics gets very messy.

$${}^A R_B(\phi) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7071 & -0.7071 & 0 \\ 0.7071 & 0.7071 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad q = 45 \text{ degrees}$$

# Inverse Kinematics 3D



$${}^A E_C = \begin{bmatrix} R_z(q_1)R_z(q_2) & {}^A \mathbf{t}_B + R_z(q_1) {}^B \mathbf{t}_C \\ \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

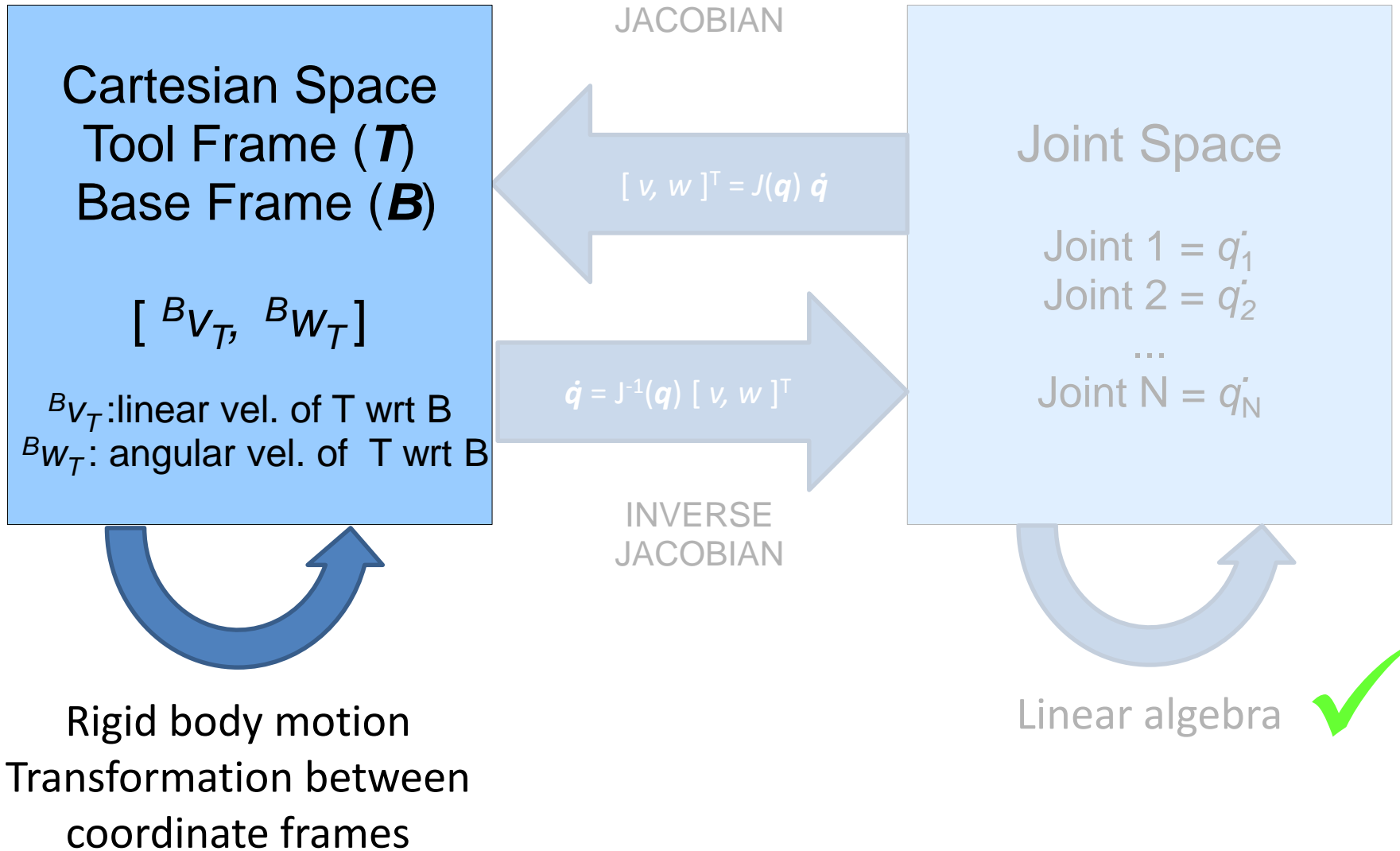
Likewise, in 3D we want to solve for the position and orientation of the last coordinate frame: Find  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  such that

Solving the inverse kinematics gets messy fast!

- A) For a robot with several joints, a symbolic solution can be difficult to get
- B) A numerical solution (Newton's method) is more generic

**Note that the inverse kinematics is NOT the inverse of the forward kinematics  $({}^A E_B^{-1})$**

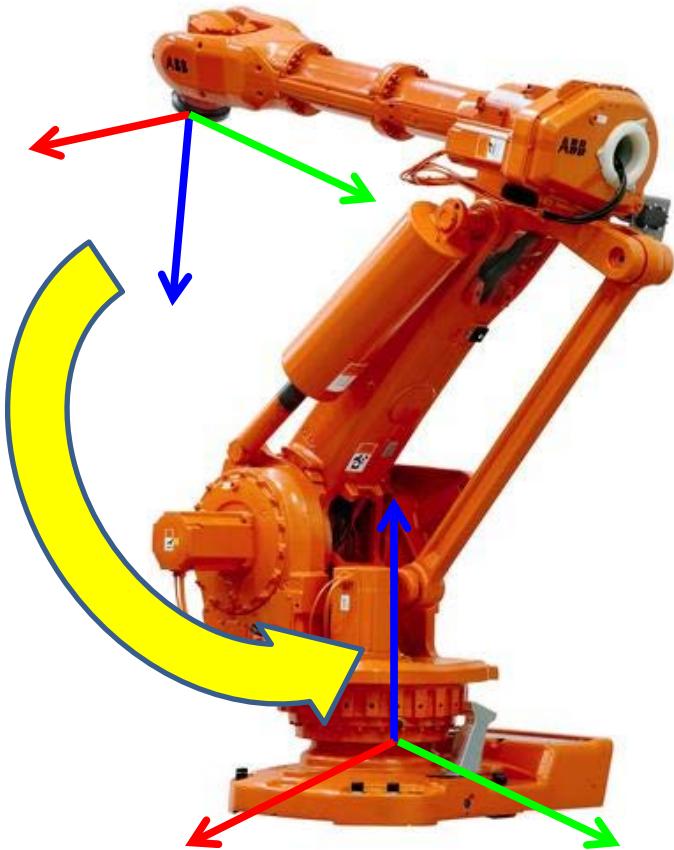
# Kinematics





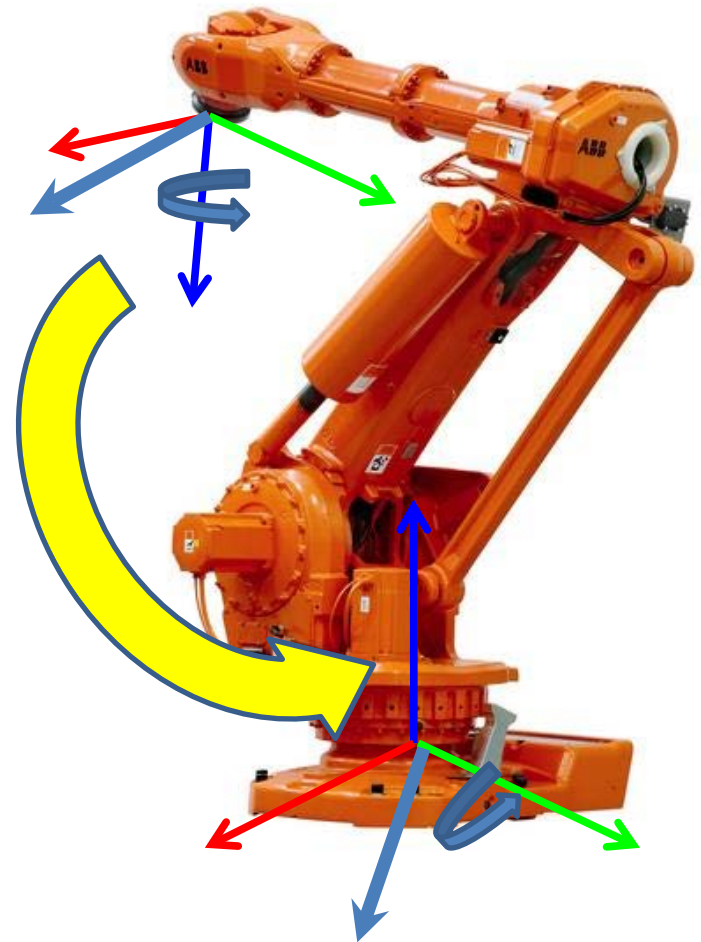
## Rigid Body Transformation

Relates two coordinate frames



## Rigid Body Velocity

Relate a 3D velocity in one coordinate frame to an equivalent velocity in another coordinate frame



# Rotational Velocity

We note that a rotation relates the coordinates of 3D points with

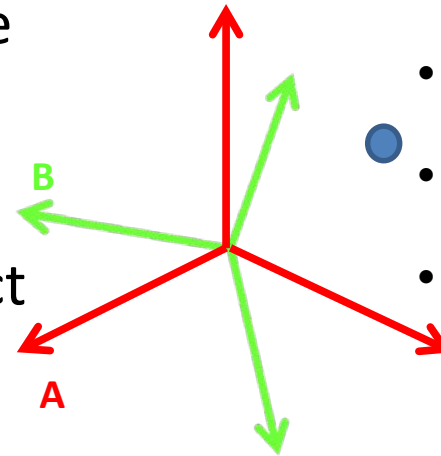
$${}^A p(t) = {}^A R_B(t) {}^B p$$

Deriving on both sides with respect to time we get

$$v_{A_p}(t) = \frac{d {}^A p(t)}{dt} = {}^A \dot{R}_B {}^B p$$

$$v_{A_p}(t) = {}^A \dot{R}_B ({}^A R_B^{-1} {}^A R_B) {}^B p$$

$$v_{A_p}(t) = ({}^A \dot{R}_B {}^A R_B^{-1}) {}^A p$$



- Point P is attached to frame B
- Frame B moves wrt to frame A
- Frame A is inertial

Identity

This skew symmetric matrix defines the **spatial angular velocity**

# Rotational Velocity

$${}^A \dot{R}_B {}^A R_b^{-1} \text{ is skew symmetric } \hat{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_z & a_y \\ a_z & 0 & -a_x \\ -a_y & a_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The instantaneous spatial angular velocity is defined by

$${}^A \hat{\omega}_B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_z & \omega_y \\ \omega_z & 0 & -\omega_x \\ -\omega_y & \omega_x & 0 \end{bmatrix} = {}^A R_B {}^A R_B^{-1} \longrightarrow {}^A \omega_B = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{bmatrix}$$

# Rotational Velocity

$${}^A \dot{R}_B {}^A R_b^{-1} \text{ is skew symmetric } \hat{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_z & a_y \\ a_z & 0 & -a_x \\ -a_y & a_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The instantaneous spatial angular velocity is defined by

$${}^A \hat{\omega}_B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_z & \omega_y \\ \omega_z & 0 & -\omega_x \\ -\omega_y & \omega_x & 0 \end{bmatrix} = {}^A \dot{R}_B {}^A R_B^{-1} \longrightarrow {}^A \omega_B = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{bmatrix}$$

# Rigid Body Velocity

We note that a rotation relates the coordinates of 3D points with

$${}^A p(t) = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B(t) & {}^A t_B(t) \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} {}^B p = {}^A E_B(t) {}^B p$$

Just like we did for rotations, deriving on both sides with respect to time we get

$$v_{A_p}(t) = ({}^A \dot{E}_B {}^A E_B^{-1}) {}^A p$$

and we expand the matrices to be

$${}^A \dot{E}_B {}^A E_B^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A \dot{R}_B & {}^A \dot{t}_B \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B^T & -{}^A R_B^T {}^A t_B \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{angular velocity} & \text{linear velocity} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The diagram shows the expansion of the matrix product. The top-left element of the resulting matrix is circled in blue and labeled "angular velocity". The top-right element is also circled in blue and labeled "linear velocity".

# Rigid Body Velocity

The “*s*”**patial velocity** is defined by

$${}^A\hat{V}_B^s = {}^A\dot{E}_B {}^A E_B^{-1}$$

Where the linear velocity is defined by

$${}^A v_B^s = -{}^A\dot{R}_B {}^A R_B^T {}^A t_B + {}^A \dot{t}_B$$

And the angular velocity is define as before by

$${}^A\hat{\omega}_B^s = {}^A\dot{R}_B {}^A R_B^T$$

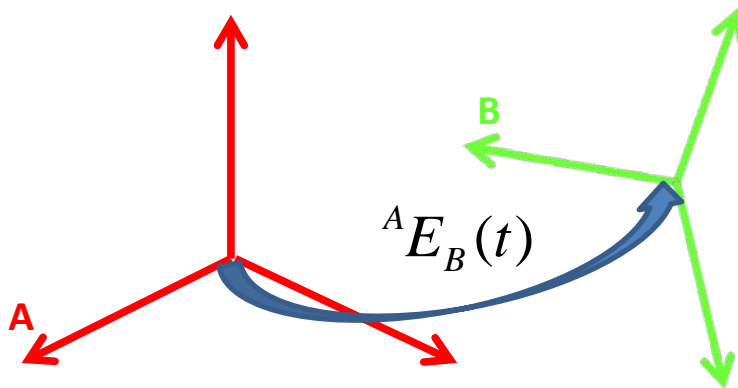
Combining these two we obtain the 6D vector

$${}^A V_B^s = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A v_B^s \\ {}^A \omega_B^s \end{bmatrix}$$

# Body Velocity

- If we have  ${}^A E_B(t)$  but we want to know the velocity of frame B with respect to frame A?

$$\begin{aligned} {}^A p(t) &= {}^A E_B(t) {}^B p \\ {}^A E_B^{-1} v_{A_p}(t) &= {}^A E_B^{-1} A \dot{E}_B {}^B p \\ v_{B_p}(t) &= \left( {}^A E_B^{-1} A \dot{E}_B \right) {}^B p \end{aligned}$$



Most intuitive: This is your velocity with respect to yourself

# Body Velocity

The “*b*”**ody velocity** is defined by

$${}^A\hat{V}_B^b = {}^A E_B^{-1} {}^A \dot{E}_B = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B^T {}^A \dot{R}_B & {}^A R_B^T {}^A \dot{t}_B \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Where the linear velocity is defined by

$${}^A v_B^b = {}^A R_B^T {}^A \dot{t}_B$$

And the angular velocity is define as before by

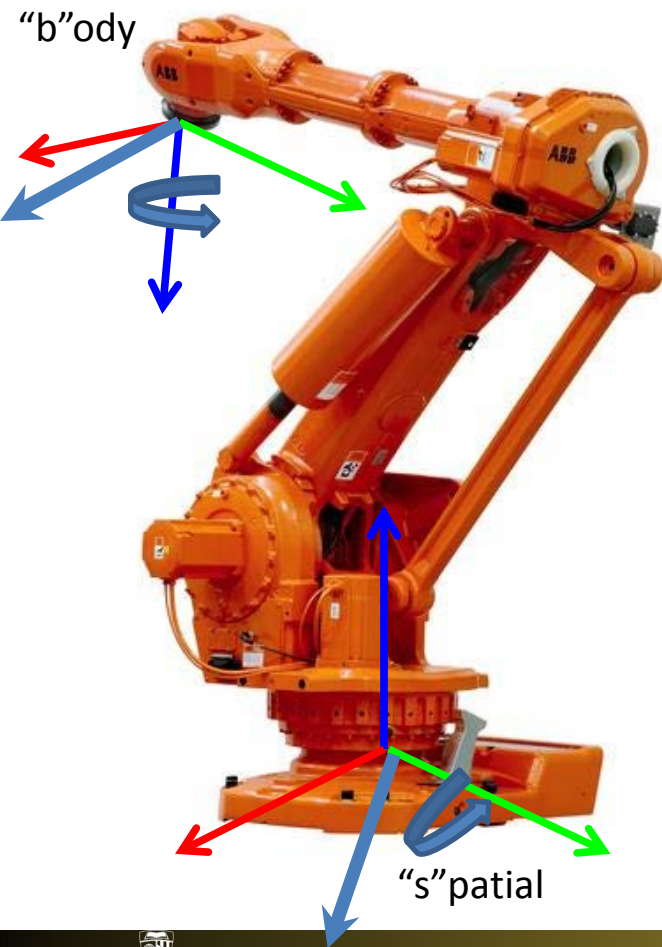
$${}^A \hat{\omega}_B^b = {}^A R_B^T {}^A \dot{R}_B$$

Combining these two we obtain the 6D vector

$${}^A V_B^b = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A v_B^b \\ {}^A \omega_B^b \end{bmatrix}$$



# Transform Body Velocity to Spatial Velocity



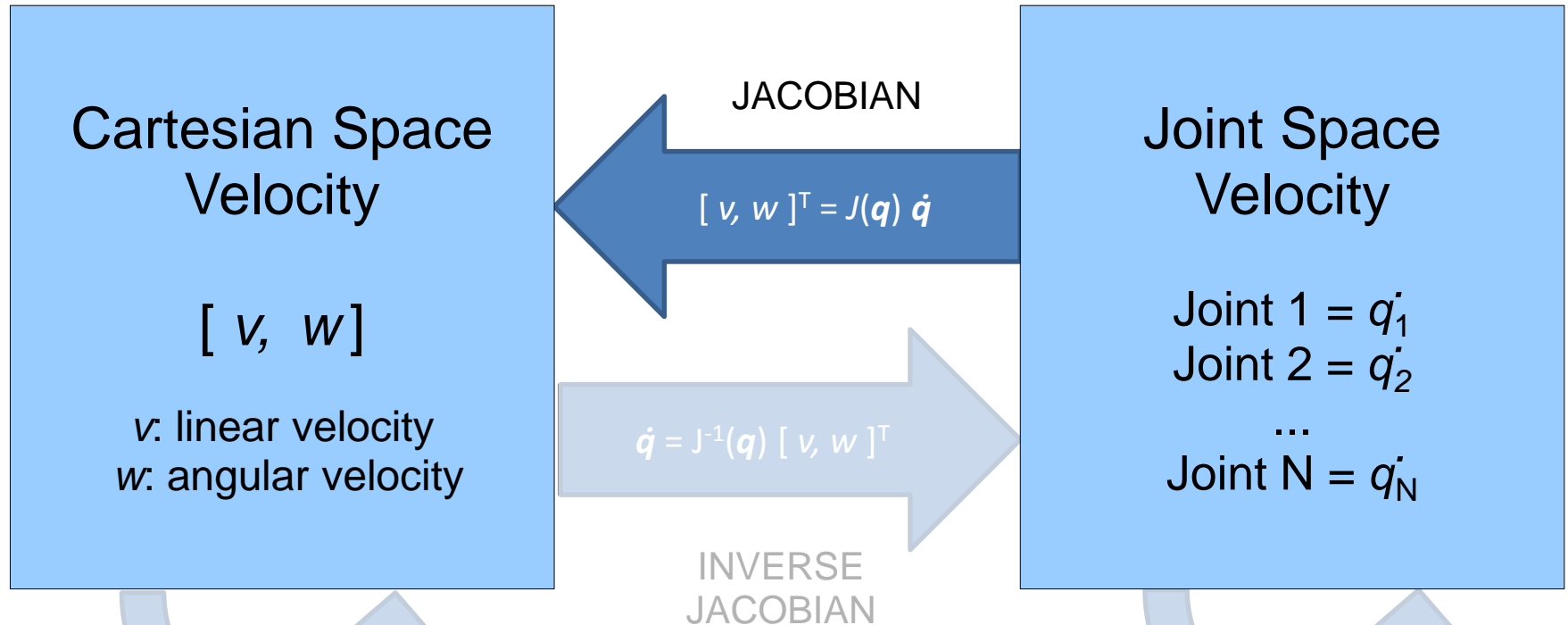
If you are given a body velocity, for example say you want to:

- 1) Rotate the tool about a given axis (in the tool frame)
- 2) Drive the tool along a given axis (in the tool frame)

Then you can compute the equivalent velocity in the base frame according to

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^A v_B^s \\ {}^A \omega_B^s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A R_B & {}^A \hat{t}_B {}^A R_B \\ 0 & {}^A R_B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^A v_B^b \\ {}^A \omega_B^b \end{bmatrix}$$

# Kinematics



Rigid body motion  
Transformation between  
coordinate frames



Linear algebra



# Manipulator Jacobian

Spatial velocity of the “T”ool frame in the “B”ase frame is

$${}^B\hat{V}_T^s = {}^B\dot{E}_T(t) {}^B E_T^{-1}(t)$$

Let’s change the time varying trajectory  ${}^B E_T(t)$  to be a time varying joint trajectory  $\mathbf{q}(t)$

$${}^B\hat{V}_T^s = {}^B\dot{E}_T(\mathbf{q}(t)) {}^B E_T^{-1}(\mathbf{q}(t))$$

Derivative of the  
forward kinematics  
wrt  $q_i$

Inverse of the  
forward kinematics

$${}^B\hat{V}_T^s = \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{\partial {}^B E_T}{\partial q_i} \dot{q}_i \right) {}^B E_T^{-1}(\mathbf{q}(t))$$

$${}^B\hat{V}_T^s = \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{\partial {}^B E_T}{\partial q_i} {}^B E_T^{-1}(\mathbf{q}(t)) \right) \dot{q}_i$$

Applying the chain rule

$$\frac{\partial E(\mathbf{q}(t))}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial E(\mathbf{q}(t))}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{q}(t)}{\partial t}$$

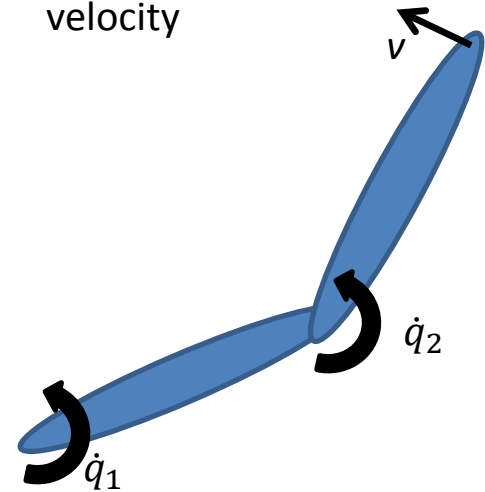
# Manipulator Jacobian

$${}^B \hat{V}_T^s = \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{\partial {}^B E_T}{\partial q_i} {}^B E_T^{-1}(\mathbf{q}(t)) \right) \dot{q}_i$$

Sum the contribution of each joint to the tool's velocity

Lets rewrite this result as

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^B v_T^s \\ {}^B \omega_T^s \end{bmatrix} = J(\mathbf{q}) \dot{\mathbf{q}}$$



Where  $J(\mathbf{q})$  is a  $6 \times N$  matrix called the manipulator Jacobian that relates joint velocities to the Cartesian velocity of the tool. Note that  $J(\mathbf{q})$  depends on “ $\mathbf{q}$ ” and, therefore, on the robot's configuration

# Kinematics

JACOBIAN ✓

Cartesian Space  
Tool Frame (**T**)  
Base Frame (**B**)

$$[ {}^B V_T, {}^B W_T ]$$

${}^B V_T$ : linear vel. of T wrt B  
 ${}^B W_T$ : angular vel. of T wrt B

Joint Space

Joint 1 =  $q_1$   
Joint 2 =  $q_2$   
...  
Joint N =  $q_N$

$[ v, w ]^T = J(q) \dot{q}$

$\dot{q} = J^{-1}(q) [ v, w ]^T$

INVERSE  
JACOBIAN

Rigid body motion  
Transformation between  
coordinate frames ✓

Linear algebra ✓

# Manipulator Jacobian

We just derived that given a vector of joint velocities, the velocity of the tool as seen in the base of the robot is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^B v_T^s \\ {}^B \omega_T^s \end{bmatrix} = J(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}}$$

If, instead we want the tool to move with a velocity expressed in the **base** frame, the corresponding joint velocities can be computed by

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = J^{-1}(\mathbf{q}) \begin{bmatrix} {}^B v_T^s \\ {}^B \omega_T^s \end{bmatrix}$$

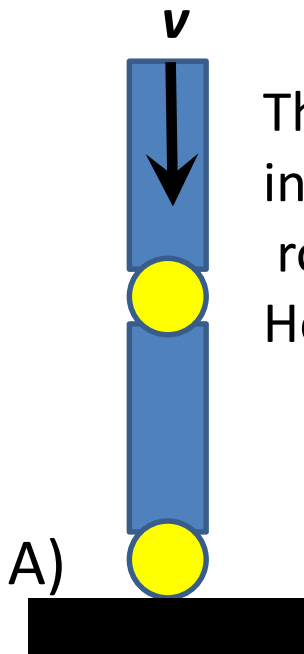
Inverting a matrix is much easier than computing the inverse kinematics!

# Manipulator Jacobian

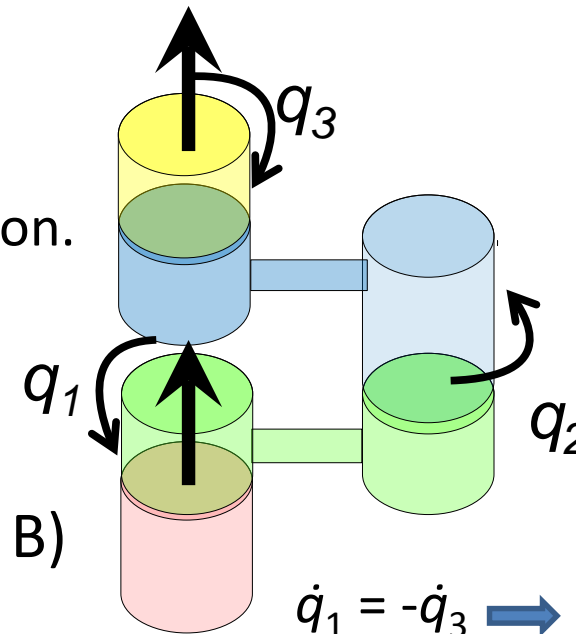
What if the Jacobian has no inverse?

A) No solution: The velocity is impossible

B) Infinity of solutions: Some joints can be moved without affecting the velocity (i.e. when two axes are colinear)



The robot cannot move in this direction when the robot is in this configuration. Hence  $J(\mathbf{q})$  is singular.



In this configuration,  $q_1$  and  $q_3$  can counter rotate. Hence  $J(\mathbf{q})$  is singular.

$$\dot{q}_1 = -\dot{q}_3 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} {}^B \mathbf{v} \\ {}^B \boldsymbol{\omega} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$