11. Kinematic models of contact *Mechanics of Manipulation*

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Outline.

Grübler

- Review of kinematic mechanisms
- Mobility and connectivity
- Grübler's formula

Salisbury

- Taxonomy of contacts
- Mobility and connectivity of grasp

Kinematic mechanisms

Link: a rigid body;

Joint: imposes one or more constraints on the relative motion of two links;

Kinematic mechanism:

a bunch of links joined by joints;

lower pairs joints involving positive contact area.



mobility of a mechanism: DOFs with one link fixed.

connectivity DOFs of one link relative to another.

What is the mobility of the five bar linkage at right?

What is the connectivity of

Link 1 relative to link two?

Link 3 relative to link 1?



mobility of a mechanism: DOFs with one link fixed.

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Grübler's formula

Given n links joined by g joints,

with u_i constraints and f_i freedoms at joint *i*. (Note that $u_i + f_i = 6$.) Assume one link is fixed and constraints are all independent. The mobility *M* is

$$M = 6(n - 1) - \sum u_i$$

= 6(n - 1) - \sum (6 - f_i)
= 6(n - g - 1) + \sum f_i

Or, for a planar mechanism:

$$M = 3(n-1) - \sum u_i$$
$$= 3(n-g-1) + \sum f_i$$

Grübler: special case for loops

The previous formula works (sort of) for all mechanisms.

For loops there is a variant.

One loop: n = g, so

$$M = \sum f_i + 6(-1)$$

Two loops: make a second loop by adding k links and k + 1 joints:

$$M = \sum f_i + 6(-2)$$

Every loop increases excess of joints over links by 1. For *l* loops:

$$M = \sum f_i - 6l$$

for a spatial linkage, and

$$M = \sum f_i - 3l$$

Mechanics of Manipulation – p.7

Example: what is the mobility of Watt's linkage?

Planar Grübler's formula:

$$M = 3(n-1) - \sum u_i =$$
$$M = 3(n-g-1) + \sum f_i =$$
$$M = \sum f_i - 3l =$$

Spatial Grübler's formula:

$$M = 6(n-1) - \sum u_i =$$
$$M = 6(n-g-1) + \sum f_i =$$
$$M = \sum f_i - 6l =$$



Independent constraints is a very strong assumption.

 M/h_{2}

Example: what is the mobility of Watt's linkage?

Planar Grübler's formula:

$$M = 3(n-1) - \sum u_i = 1$$
$$M = 3(n-g-1) + \sum f_i = M$$
$$M = \sum f_i - 3l = M$$

Spatial Grübler's formula:

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Spatial Grübler's formula:

$$M = 6(n-1) - \sum u_i = -2$$
$$M = 6(n-g-1) + \sum f_i =$$
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$$M = \sum f_i - 6l = -2$$



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M/h_{2}
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Kinematic models of contact

A grasp is like a kinematic mechanism.

Assume fingers do not lift or slip.

Model each contact as a joint

Apply Grübler's formula!





Taxonomy of contact types

In previous slide, contact was modeled as spherical joint. Are there other possibilities?

Salisbury's PhD thesis, 1982, included a taxonomy.



Mobility and connectivity of grasp

Salisbury suggests four measures:

- M Mobility of the entire system with the finger joints free.
- M' Mobility of the entire system, with the finger joints locked.
 - C Connectivity of the object relative to a fixed palm, with the finger joints free.
- C' Connectivity of the object relative to a fixed palm, with the finger joints locked.
- If C = 6 then object can make general motions.
- If $C' \leq 0$ then hand can immobilize object.

Example: the Salisbury hand

What is *C*? What is *C*'?





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