

ENGR 3421: Robotics I

Kinematics of Differential Drive

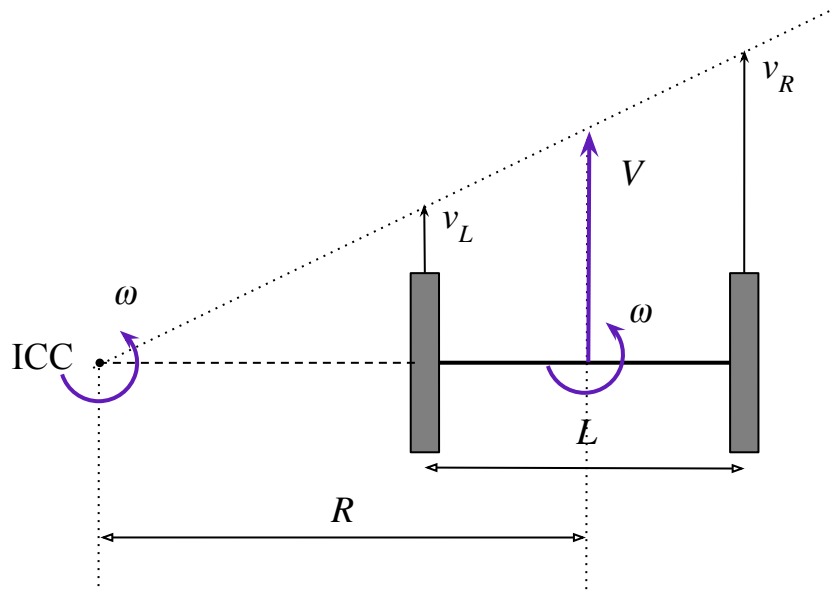
10/17/2023



Outline

- Motion: From Motor to Robot
- Forward Kinematics (w.r.t. different frames)

Motion: From Motor to Robot



ICC: Instantaneous Center of Curvature

R : radius of curvature

L : wheel separation distance

V : robot linear velocity

ω : robot angular velocity

r : radius of wheel

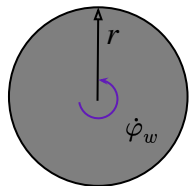
i : gear ratio

$\dot{\varphi}_w$: angular velocity of wheel

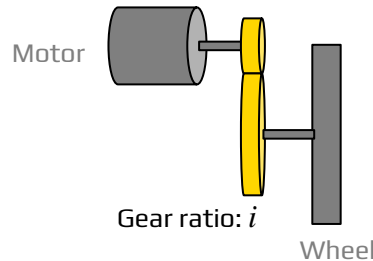
$\dot{\varphi}_m$: angular velocity of motor

v_L : linear velocity of left wheel

v_R : linear velocity of right wheel



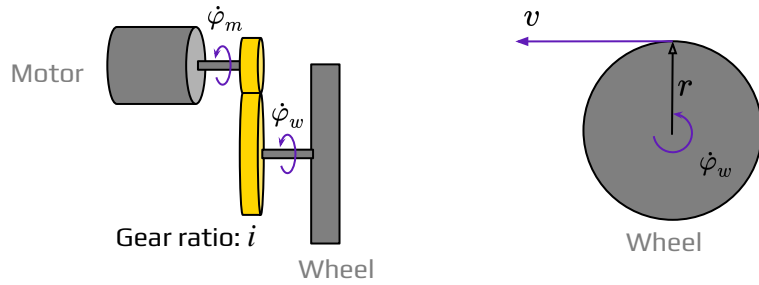
Wheel



Wheel

Speed Computation: Motor to Wheel

1. Time “Counts Per Second”
2. Revolutions Per Second = Counts Per Second / Counts Per Revolution
3. Shaft Speed = Revolutions Per Second / Gear Ratio = Wheel Angular Speed
4. Wheel Linear Speed = Wheel Angular Speed * Wheel Radius



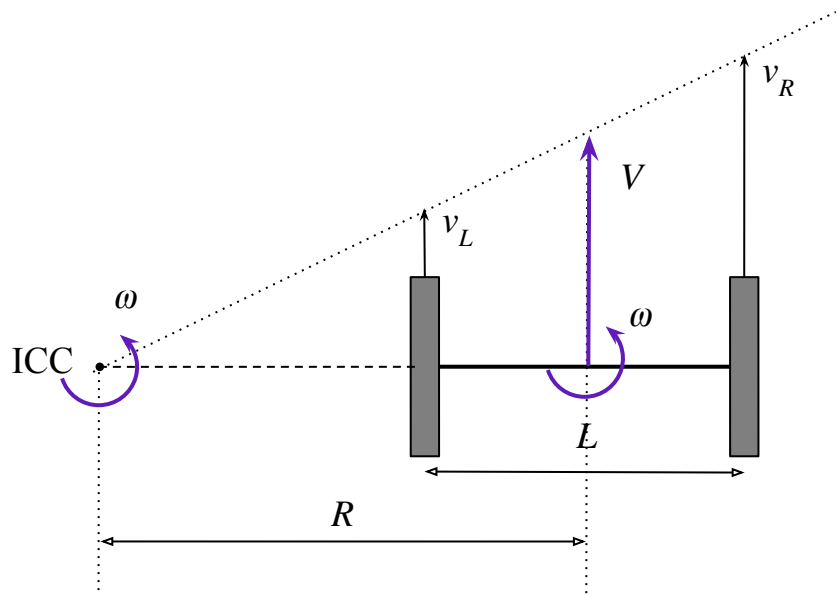
$$\dot{\varphi}_w = \frac{\dot{\varphi}_m}{i}$$

Motor velocity to wheel velocity

$$v = \dot{\varphi}_w r$$

Wheel angular velocity to linear velocity

Motion: From Wheel to Robot



$$\omega \left(R - \frac{L}{2} \right) = v_L$$

Rotation about ICC must be same for both wheels.

$$\omega \left(R + \frac{L}{2} \right) = v_R$$

$$v_L = V - \frac{\omega L}{2}$$

Linear velocity of left wheel

$$v_R = V + \frac{\omega L}{2}$$

Linear velocity of right wheel

$$V = \frac{v_L + v_R}{2}$$

Linear velocity of robot

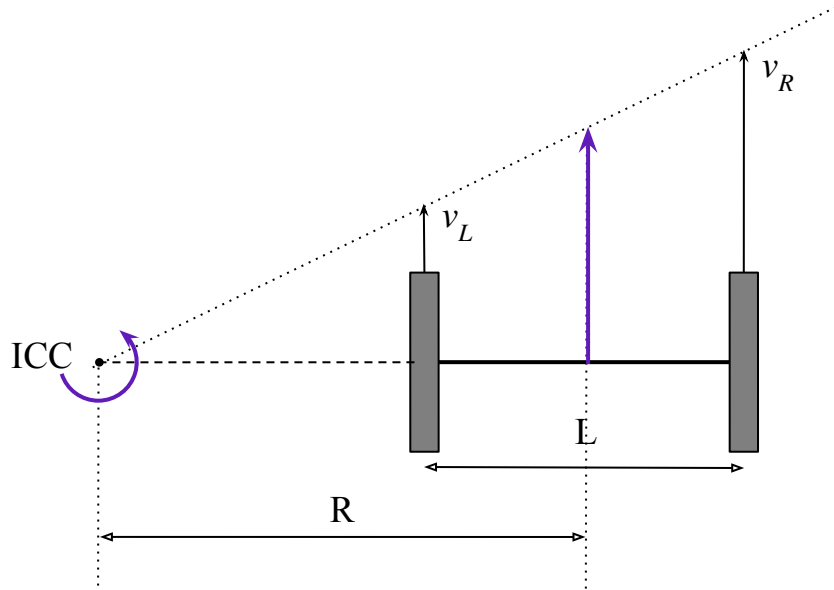
$$\omega = \frac{v_R - v_L}{L}$$

Angular velocity of robot

$$R = \frac{L}{2} \frac{v_L + v_R}{v_L - v_R}$$

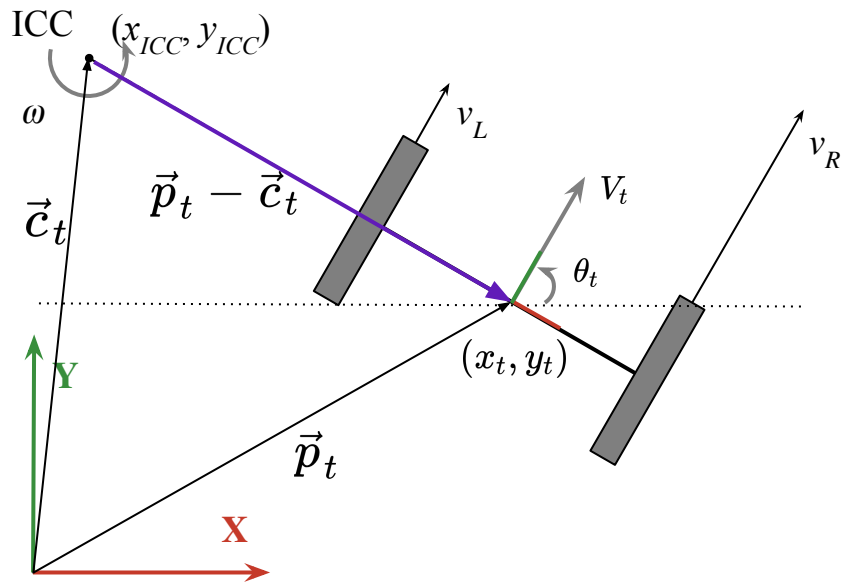
Rotation radius.

Motion: Special Cases



- If $v_L = v_R$, then linear motion in a straight line. R becomes infinite, no rotation $\omega=0$.
- If $v_L = -v_R$, then rotation about the midpoint of the wheel axis, $R = 0$.
- If $v_L = 0$, then rotation about the left wheel, $R = L/2$.
Rotation about the right wheel if $v_R = 0$.

Forward Kinematics (Continuous)



$$\vec{p} = [x, y]^T$$

$$\vec{c} = [x - R \sin(\theta), y + R \cos(\theta)]^T$$

$$\vec{p} - \vec{c} = [x - x_{ICC}, y - y_{ICC}]^T$$

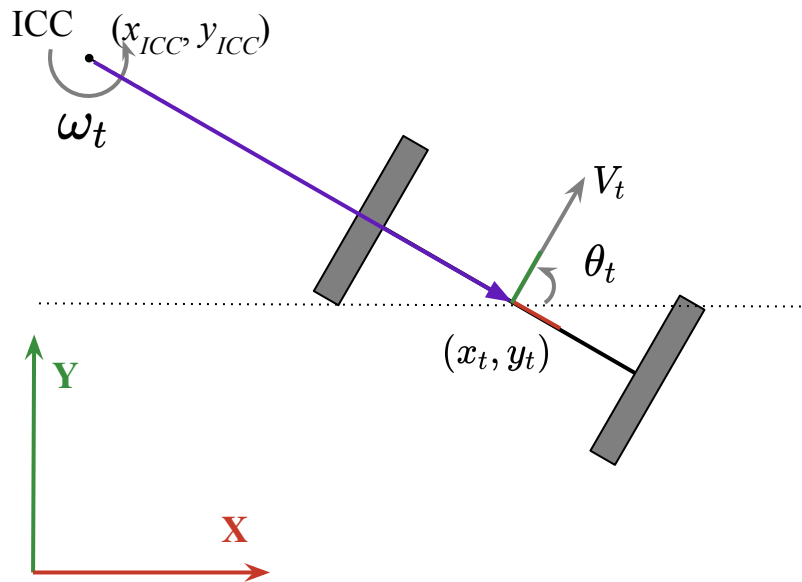
$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ \theta' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\omega\delta t) & -\sin(\omega\delta t) & 0 \\ \sin(\omega\delta t) & \cos(\omega\delta t) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x - x_{ICC} \\ y - y_{ICC} \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} x_{ICC} \\ y_{ICC} \\ \omega\delta t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x(t) = \int_0^t V(t) \cos(\theta(t)) dt$$

$$y(t) = \int_0^t V(t) \sin(\theta(t)) dt$$

$$\theta(t) = \int_0^t \omega(t) dt$$

Forward Kinematics (Discrete)

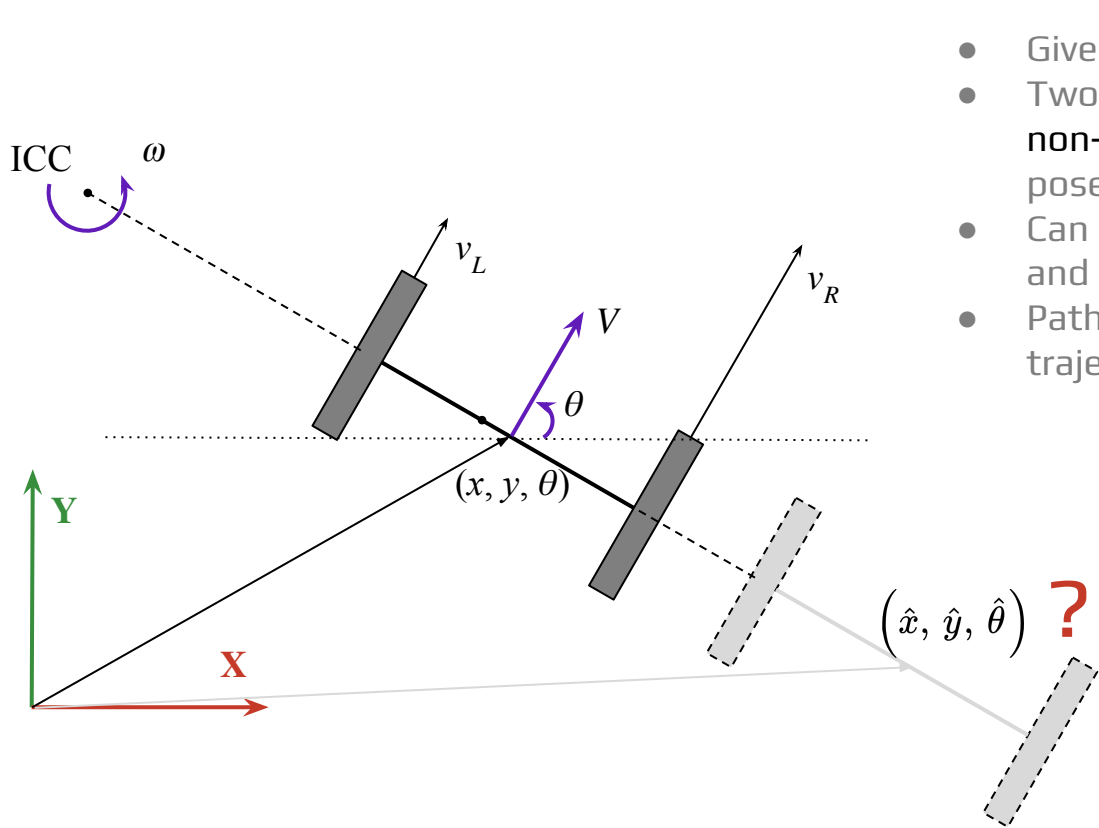


$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1} &= x_t + \Delta x \\ &= x_t + V_t \cos \theta_t \cdot \Delta t\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}y_{t+1} &= y_t + \Delta y \\ &= y_t + V_t \sin \theta_t \cdot \Delta t\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{t+1} &= \theta_t + \Delta \theta \\ &= \theta_t + \omega_t \cdot \Delta t\end{aligned}$$

Inverse Kinematics



- Given a target $(\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{\theta})$, What is $V(t)$ and $\omega(t)$?
- Two-wheeled differential drive vehicle imposes **non-holonomic** constraints on establishing its pose (think about lateral translation).
- Can achieve the goal by moving in straight line and spinning in place.
- Path planning algorithms may find smoother trajectories.