Diagonalized Lagrangian Robot Dynamics

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Abstract

A diagonal equation $\dot{\nu} + C(\theta, \nu) = \epsilon$ for robot dynamics is developed by combining recent mass matrix factorization results [1-7] with classical Lagrangian mechanics. Diagonalization implies that at each fixed time instant the equation at each joint is decoupled from all of the other joint equations. The equation involves two important variables: a vector $\nu$ of total joint rotational rates and a corresponding vector $\epsilon$ of working joint moments. The nonlinear Coriolis term $C(\theta, \nu)$ depends on the joint angles $\theta$ and the rates $\nu$. The total joint rates $\nu = m^*(0) \dot{\theta}$ are related to the relative joint-angle rates $\dot{\theta}$ by a linear spatial operator $m^*(0)$ mechanized by a base-to-tip spatially recursive algorithm. The total rate $\nu(k)$ at a given joint $k$ reflects, in a very unique sense made precise in the paper, the total rotational velocity about the joint, including the combined effects due to all the links between joint $k$ and the manipulator base. This differs from the more traditional joint-angle rates $\dot{\theta}$ which only reflect the relative, as opposed to total, rotation about the joints. Similarly, the working moments $\epsilon = \ell T$ are related to the applied moments $T$ by the spatial operator $\ell(0) = m^{-1}(0)$ mechanized by a tip-to-base spatially recursive algorithm. The working moment $\epsilon(k)$ at a given joint $k$ is part of the applied moment $T(k)$ which does actual mechanical work, while its other part affects only the non-working internal constraint forces. The diagonal equations are obtained by using the recently developed [1] mass matrix factorization $M(0) = m(0) m^*(0)$ in the system Lagrangian. The diagonalization is achieved in velocity space. This means that only the velocity variables $\dot{\theta}$ are replaced with the new variables $\nu$, while the original configuration variables $\theta$ are retained. The new joint velocity variables $\nu$ can be viewed as time-derivatives of Lagrangian quasi-coordinates, similar to those of classical mechanics. The velocity transformations are shown to always exist for tree-like, articulated multibody systems, and they can be readily implemented using the spatially recursive filtering and smoothing methods [1, 4, 7] advanced by the authors in recent years.

1 Mass Matrix Factors Diagonalize Lagrange's Equations

The main new result in this paper is the development of diagonalized equations of motion $\dot{\nu} + C(\theta, \nu) = \epsilon$, which embody in a simple, elegant, diagonal equation the complete dynamical behavior of the robotic manipulator systems, while simultaneously exploiting the computational efficiency of the spatially recursive filtering and smoothing algorithms of [1,7] to conduct necessary velocity coordinate transformations. The diagonal equations of motion result by combining Lagrangian mechanics with the mass matrix factorization

$$M = [I + H \phi K] D [I + H \phi K]^*$$

(1.1)
in which \( H, \phi, D \) and \( K \) are spatial operators mechanized recursively by suitably defined [4, 7] spatial filtering and smoothing algorithms. Use of this in the system kinetic energy \( K(\theta, \dot{\theta}) := \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^T \mathbf{M}(\theta) \dot{\theta} \) results in

\[
K(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2} \nu^T \nu \tag{1.2}
\]

where \( \nu = [\nu(1), \ldots, \nu(n)] \) is a new set of variables related to the joint-angle rates \( \dot{\theta} \) by

\[
\nu = D^\frac{1}{2} [I + H \phi K]^T \dot{\theta} \tag{1.3}
\]

in these new variables, the kinetic energy is diagonalized in the sense that it is a simple sum of the squares of the total joint rates \( \nu(k) \) over all of the \( n \) joints. This is in contrast to the original expression \( K(\theta, \dot{\theta}) := \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^T \mathbf{M}(\theta) \dot{\theta} \) which involves the mass matrix \( \mathbf{M}(\theta) \) as a weighting matrix.

The diagonal equations of motion \( \dot{\nu} + C(\theta, \mathbf{\nu}) = 0 \) are obtained in this paper by applying classical Lagrangian mechanics methods to the above diagonalized kinetic energy. In addition to being diagonalized, the kinetic energy can also be thought of as being normalized. This means that the coefficient multiplying each of the terms in the kinetic energy expression Eq. (1.2) is identically equal to \( \frac{1}{2} \). An alternative set of diagonal equations of motion are also derived in which this coefficient is not normalized.

**The Total Joint Rates Are Time Derivatives of Lagrangian Quasi-Coordinates**

The new variables \( \mathbf{\nu} \) have a physical interpretation as time-derivatives of Lagrangian quasi-coordinates, similar to those typically encountered [8, 9] in analytical dynamics. These new variables are related to the original joint-angle velocities \( \dot{\theta} \) by means of the configuration-dependent linear transformation \( \mathbf{m}^* := D^\frac{1}{2} [I + H \phi K]^T \) in \( \mathbf{\nu} = \mathbf{m}^* \dot{\theta} \). This means that when the new joint velocity variables \( \mathbf{\nu} \) are integrated with respect to time, they do not directly result in the joint-angle configuration variables \( \dot{\theta} \). In order to determine the joint angles, it is first necessary to compute the joint-angle velocities \( \dot{\theta} \). This requires that the linear transformation \( \mathbf{m}^* \) above be inverted in order to obtain \( \dot{\theta} := (\mathbf{m}^*)^{-1} \mathbf{\nu} \). At first, inversion of the transformation \( \mathbf{m}^* \) looks difficult. However, recent factorization r-NULLS [1, 6] make it trivial to perform this inversion. The inverse transformation is given explicitly by \( \mathbf{m}^{-1} := [I - H \phi K] D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \) where \( H, \phi, K, \) and \( D \) are spatial operators also mechanized by efficient spatially recursive algorithms [4, 7].

There is a similarity between the variables \( \mathbf{\nu} \) and the angular velocity vector \( \omega \) typically used to describe the rotational velocity of a single rigid body with respect to an inertial coordinate frame. This similarity can be used to gain insight about the physical meaning of the total joint-rate variables \( \mathbf{\nu} \). The dynamics of a single rigid body is governed by the equation \( J \dot{\omega} + \omega \times J \omega = T \), in which \( J \) is the inertia tensor, and \( T \) is the vector of applied moments. This equation of motion is considerably simpler and elegant than that which would be obtained by using the system configuration variables, which for a rigid body would be typically the three Euler angles \( \theta := [\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3] \) describing the orientation of the body. However, although the dynamics equations are simpler, there is a drawback: direct integration of the angular velocity \( \omega \) does not produce the body orientation. The angular velocity variables are therefore time-derivatives of quasi-coordinates. They are related to the time derivatives \( \dot{\theta} \) of the configuration variables \( \theta \) by means of a linear, configuration dependent transformation \( \dot{\theta} = \mathbf{m}^*(\theta) \dot{\theta} \), which is a trigonometric function of the configuration variables. This means that \( \omega = \mathbf{m}^*(\theta) \dot{\theta} \) and \( \dot{\theta} = \mathbf{m}^*(\theta)^T \omega \). Thus, use of the angular velocity \( \omega \) leads to
very simple equations of motion. There is a price paid for this, in that the corresponding kinematic equation \( \dot{\theta} = [m^*(\theta)]^{-1} 2 \) requires inversion of the transformation \( m^*(\theta) \). In the case of a single rigid body, it is possible to do this analytically. This means that the penalty is manageable. In the case of multiple, linked rigid bodies considered in this paper, the factorization results of [4,7] enable a similar conversion from the time-derivatives of quasi-coordinates \( \nu \) to the joint-angle velocities \( \dot{\theta} \). Integrating the joint-angle rates \( \dot{\theta} \) with respect to time results in the system configuration.

While there is the above similarity with single-rigid-body dynamics, there are also differences. One important difference is that, in the multibody systems of this paper, the transformation \( m^* \) relating the new rate coordinates \( \nu \) to the joint-rate rates \( \dot{\theta} \) depends on quantities, such as link masses and inertias, typically associated with rigid-body dynamics. In the single-rigid-body case, in contrast, the relationship \( \nu = m^* \theta \) between the configuration-angle rates \( \dot{\theta} \) and the time-derivatives of quasi-coordinates \( \nu \) is purely kinematic and no masses or inertias are involved.

The New Forcing Term Reflects the Working Moments

Another key term in the new equations of motion is the forcing “input” \( \epsilon = \cos \epsilon(k) \rangle \} \text{ appearing on the right side of the equation. This term is related to the applied moments \( T \) by means of the configuration-dependent relationship}

\[
\epsilon = m^{-1}(\theta)T = D^{-\frac{3}{2}}(I - I\psi K)T
\]

The operators \( H, \psi, K \) and \( D \) are mechanized by an inward filtering operation [4]. The inputs \( \epsilon \) also have a physical interpretation. The input \( \epsilon(k) \) at the \( k \)-th joint can be thought of as being that part of the applied moment \( T(k) \) that does mechanical work at this joint. This is discussed in more detail later in this paper.

The New Coriolis Term is Computed Both in Closed Form and Recursively

The Coriolis term \( C(\omega, \nu) \) in the diagonalized equations of motion depends quadratically on the new velocity variables \( \nu \). A closed-form expression for this term is derived in this paper and explicitly shows this quadratic dependence. The Coriolis term can be computed by means of an inward spatial recursion from the tip to the manipulator to its base. This inward recursion is \( O(N) \) in that the number of mathematical operations increases only linearly with the number of degrees of freedom. Furthermore, the detailed steps in the inward recursion are similar to those required to factor and diagonalize the manipulator mass matrix. Consequently, the effects of the Coriolis term can be easily accounted in the recursions that diagonalize the equations of motion, with very little extra computational cost.

Relationship to Globally Diagonalized Equations

The search for global coordinate transformations that diagonalize the equations of motion is an active area of dynamics research [10-12]. The goal there is to find global, as opposed to local, coordinate transformations in which both the configuration variables \( \theta \) and the corresponding velocity variables \( \dot{\theta} \) are replaced by a new set of transformed coordinates. When written in the transformed coordinates, the equations of motion are completely decoupled from each other. Conditions for the existence of such a global transformation are well-established in the theory of non-Euclidean geometry. The globally diagonalizing transformation exists when the metric defined by the mass matrix is free of curvature [13]. The transformation exists if and only if the mass matrix is equivalent to one with constant coefficients in the new coordinate system. Unfortunately, as pointed out in [10-12], this is rarely the case for most practical multibody systems.

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in contrast, the present paper shows that the goal of diagonalizing in velocity space is always achievable for tree topology systems. The diagonalizing transformations advanced here are applied on the tangent space [13] of the configuration manifold instead of the configuration coordinates. The velocity-space transformations operate on velocities and time derivatives of configuration variables. The goals are therefore more modest than in the search for global transformations. However, in contrast with the global transformation approach, diagonalization in velocity space is shown to exist for very general classes of joint-connected multibody systems. Furthermore, explicit spatially recursive filtering and smoothing algorithms are set forth to compute efficiently the required velocity-space transformations.

Relationship to The Innovations Approach of Linear Filtering Theory

The quasi-coordinates $\nu$ appearing in the diagonalized equations of motion are closely analogous to the innovations process extensively investigated [14-16] in the area of linear filtering and estimation for state space systems. The innovations process [14] is a central ingredient in factoring, diagonalizing, and inverting state-space system covariance matrices by means of Kalman filtering and smoothing algorithms. The innovations process plays a similar role in the dynamics of mechanical systems [1, 4, 6]. The analogy between estimation theory and robot dynamics has been one of the central themes investigated by the authors [4, 7]. This paper provides an additional chapter in this still unfolding story.

2 Globally Diagonalized Dynamics Are Elegant But Rarely Exist

For a manipulator system with $N$ degrees of freedom, the traditional Lagrangian equations of motion are

$$\mathcal{M}(\theta)\ddot{\theta} + \mathcal{C}(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \mathcal{T}; \quad \mathcal{C}(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \dot{\mathcal{M}}(\theta) - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^T \mathcal{M}_p \dot{\theta}$$

where by definition $\dot{\theta}^T \mathcal{M}_p \dot{\theta} \equiv \text{col}\{\dot{\theta}^T \mathcal{M}_p \dot{\theta}\}$, and $\mathcal{M}_p$ is the derivative of the mass matrix $\mathcal{M}$ with respect to the hinge coordinate $O(i)$. The global diagonalization approach seeks to replace the configuration coordinates $\theta$ and their time-derivatives $\dot{\theta}$ with a new set of variables $(\vartheta, \dot{\vartheta})$ in which the equations of motion are decoupled. The approach is based on the following assumption, which imposes the very stringent condition that the mass matrix factor $m(\theta)$ must be the gradient of a global coordinate transformation. This assumption is very rarely satisfied in practice [10-12]. Nonetheless, it is of interest to examine the globally diagonalized equations as an introduction to the locally diagonalized equations advanced in the present paper.

Assumption 2.1 There exists a global coordinate transformation $\vartheta = f(\theta) \in \mathbb{R}^N$ such that

$$\nabla_{\vartheta} \vartheta = \nabla_{\theta} f \cdot m^*(\theta) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

and the matrix function $m(\theta)$ is the "square root" of the mass matrix

$$m(\theta)m^*(\theta) = \mathcal{M}(\theta)$$

for all $\theta$. 
The above assumption requires that the mass matrix factor \( m(\theta) \) be the gradient of some function \( f(\theta) \). The requirement that \( f \) be a global coordinate transformation implies by definition that \( f \) and \( m \) must be both differentiable and invertible. It follows from Eq. (2.2) that the new generalized velocity vector is \( \dot{\theta} = m^*(\theta) \theta \). In terms of this velocity vector \( \dot{\theta} \), the kinetic energy is

\[
K(\dot{\theta}, \ddot{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^T \dot{\theta}.
\]

Lemma 2.1: When Assumption 2.1 holds, the equations of motion in the new coordinates \((\theta, \dot{\theta})\) are

\[
\ddot{\theta} = \epsilon \quad \text{where} \quad \epsilon = \ell(\theta)T' \in \mathbb{R}^N
\]

with \( \ell(\theta) \equiv m^{-1}(\theta) \).

Proof: Since \( \ddot{\theta} = m^* \dot{\theta} + m^* \dot{\dot{\theta}} \), then \( \ddot{\theta} = \ell^* [\dot{\theta} - m^* \dot{\dot{\theta}}] \). Use of this in Eq. (2.1) and pre-multiplication by \( \ell \) leads to \( \ddot{\theta} = C(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \epsilon \), where \( C(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \ell C(\theta, \dot{\theta}) - m^* \dot{\dot{\theta}} \). However, \( C(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = 0 \), since \( \dot{\theta}^T M \dot{\theta} = \nabla_\theta [\dot{\theta}^T \dot{\theta}] = 2 \nabla_\theta [\dot{\theta}^T \dot{\theta}] = 2 \frac{d}{dt} \nabla_\theta [\dot{\theta}^T \dot{\theta}] = \dot{m} \dot{\theta} \) and \( \ell \dot{\theta}^T M \dot{\theta} = \ell [m \dot{\theta}] = \ell m \dot{\theta} + m^* \dot{\dot{\theta}} \).

The new equations of motion in Eq. (2.4) are very simple. The mass matrix is the identity matrix, and there are no Coriolis forces. The component degrees of freedom are completely decoupled and governed by independent second-order linear differential equations. Thus, the coordinate transformation \( f(\theta) \) provides globally diagonalizing coordinates \((\theta, \dot{\theta})\) which replace the earlier \((\theta, \dot{\theta})\) coordinates. Since \( T \) is the vector of generalized forces corresponding to the generalized velocities vector \( \dot{\theta} \), the principle of virtual work implies that \( \epsilon \) is the vector of generalized forces corresponding to the generalized velocities \( \dot{\theta} \). Note that Eq. (2.4) can be obtained alternatively by deriving the Lagrangian equations of motion in the \( \theta \) coordinate system using the diagonalized expression Eq. (1.2) for the kinetic energy.

Now that the simplicity resulting from the global coordinate transformation \( f(\theta) \) is apparent, we examine conditions under which Assumption 2.1 is satisfied by multibody systems. The answer is based on a well-established result from non-Euclidean geometry. It is known [13] that the mass matrix \( M \) defines a metric tensor on the configuration manifold. Since tensor quantities are invariant under coordinate transformations, a globally diagonalizing transformation exists if and only if the metric tensor is a Euclidean metric tensor, i.e., one with constant coefficients. A manifold with a Euclidean metric is said to be "flat" and the curvature tensor associated with it is identically zero. The precise conditions for the metric tensor associated with \( M \) to be a Euclidean metric are summarized in the following lemma [11-13].

Lemma 2.2: Assumption 2.1 holds if and only if the curvature tensor \( R \) of \( M \) vanishes. For \( R \) to vanish, each of the \( N(N + 1)/2 \) Riemannian symbols of the first kind \( R_{ijk} \) defined below must vanish.

\[
R_{ijk} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 M_{ij}}{\partial \theta_k} + \frac{\partial^2 M_{kj}}{\partial \theta_i} - \frac{\partial^2 M_{ij}}{\partial \theta_k} - \frac{\partial^2 M_{kj}}{\partial \theta_i} \right] + \sum_l \left[ \{i_l\} [hk, l] - \{i_k\} [hj, l] \right]
\]

(2.5)

where the quantities \([i,j,k] \) and \( \{i_k\} \) are known [9] as Christoffel symbols of the first and second kind respectively and are computed from appropriate combinations of first derivatives of the mass matrix with respect to the joint angles.
In practice, the conditions in this lemma are very restrictive, and are rarely satisfied by practical multibody systems [11, 12]. Even when they are satisfied, the conditions are extremely difficult to verify, as first and second derivatives of the mass matrix must be computed with respect to the configuration variables $\theta$. The next section describes an alternative approach to diagonalizing the equations of motion that is broadly applicable to complex multibody systems.

3 Diagonalization in Velocity Space is Easier

Instead of diagonalizing globally in configuration space, we look at a diagonalizing transformation in the velocity space. This transformation replaces the joint-angle velocities $\dot{\theta}$ with a new set of velocities $\nu$, without replacing the configuration variables $\theta$. The search for this transformation begins with the following factorization of the mass matrix.

**Assumption 3.1** There exists a smooth, differentiable, and invertible function $m(\theta)$, with inverse denoted by $\ell(0)$, which factors the mass matrix as $M(\theta) = m(\theta)m^*(\theta)$ for all configurations. Unlike the previous Assumption 2.1, the function $m(\theta)$ here need not be the gradient of any function.

The differentiability of $m$ insures that the vector $\nu = m(\theta)\dot{\theta}$ is differentiable. Invertibility of $m(\theta)$ insures that time derivatives $\theta$ of the configuration variables can be recovered from $\nu$. Under these conditions $\nu$ is a valid choice as a new generalized velocity vector.

Assumption 3.1 is much weaker than Assumption 2.1. One consequence of the fact that $m$ is not the gradient of a function is that the transformed velocity vector $\nu$ is not the time derivative of any vector of configuration variables either. Its components are referred to [8] as time derivatives of quasi-coordinates. Integration of the vector $\nu$ with respect to time does not typically lead to the system configuration variables. Nonetheless, finding the system configuration from the transformed velocities $\nu$ is a relatively easy problem. This is done by solving the kinematic equation $\dot{\theta} = \ell(0)\nu$ for the time derivatives of the configuration variables, together with the dynamic equations satisfied by the acceleration variables $\ddot{\nu}$. These dynamic and kinematic equations are summarized in the following result.

**Lemma 3.1:** The equations of motion using the $(\theta, \nu)$ coordinates are

$$\dot{\nu} + C(\theta, \nu) = c$$

with the new Coriolis force vector

$$C(\theta, \nu) = \ell(m^* - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^T M \dot{\theta})$$

where $c = \ell(\theta)'$. The kinematic equation to obtain the joint-angle rates $\dot{\theta}$ is

$$\dot{\theta} = \ell(0)\nu$$

**Proof:** Similar to that of Lemma 2.1. Replace Eq. (2.4) by Eq. (3.1), where $C(\nu, \theta) = \ell C(\theta, \dot{\theta}) - m^* \dot{\theta}$. Use $C(0, \dot{\theta}) = m^* \dot{\theta} + m \dot{\theta} - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^T M \dot{\theta}$. 

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These equations of motion are considerably simpler than the original ones in Eq. (2.1). They are quite similar to the globally diagonalized equations in Eq. (2.4). The mass matrix here is once again constant and equal to the identity matrix. The main difference is that the Coriolis force term is no longer zero. However, it will be shown later that this Coriolis vector is orthogonal to the generalized velocity vector v. This implies that the Coriolis term does no mechanical work.

The most critical element leading to the above diagonalized equations is the mass matrix factor $m(\theta)$. Clearly, a numerical (e.g. Cholesky-like) factorization of the mass matrix at each configuration can be used to obtain a candidate factor $m(\theta)$. However, it may not be easy to physically interpret the corresponding transformed variables. Also, the factors may not smoothly depend on the configuration coordinates and thus might not be differentiable. More problematically, numerical factorization procedures provide no systematic way to compute the Coriolis force term $C(\theta, v)$, since the derivatives of $m$ are required for this purpose.

Important alternatives to numerical factorization are the, model-based operator factorizations of the manipulator mass matrix advanced in [1]. These factorization are reviewed in the next section. The factors are constructed using the spatially recursive filtering and smoothing methods of [4, 7], and provide closed-form expressions for $m(0)$ and its inverse $\ell(0)$. The algorithms required to do this are efficient, as the number of arithmetical operations increases only linearly with the number of degrees of freedom. In addition, we later derive close form expressions and computational algorithms for the new Coriolis term $C(\theta, \nu)$ as well.

The diagonal equations of motion in Eq. (3.1) represent a middle ground between the globally decoupled equations of motion in Lemma 2.1 and the standard equations of motion in Eq. (2.1). While they are not quite as simple as the globally diagonalized equations of Lemma 2.1, they always exist for the broad class of tree topology systems.

## 4 Operator Factorization and Inversion of the Mass Matrix

Recent results [1, 6] have established that the mass matrix can be factored and inverted using methods widely used in linear filtering and estimation theory. These results are summarized by the following identities, whose proof can be found in [1, 6].

**Identity 4.1**

\[
\mathcal{M} = H\phi M\phi^T H^T \quad (4.1a)
\]

\[
\mathcal{M} = [I + H\phi K]D[I + H\phi K]^* \quad (4.1b)
\]

\[
[I + H\phi K]^{-1} = I - H\psi K \quad (4.1c)
\]

\[
\mathcal{M}^{-1} = [I - H\psi K]^* D^{-1} [I - H\psi K] \quad (4.1d)
\]

The factorization in Eq. (4.1a) is referred to here as the Newton-Euler operator Factorization, because it is known [1] to be equivalent to the traditional [171] recursive Newton-Euler equations of motion for a serial manipulator. The recursive algorithms embedded in this factorization, while quite useful [17] for inverse dynamics computations, are not by themselves very useful for the
diagonalized equations developed in this paper. The primary limitation [1] is that the factors \( H \phi \) and \( \phi^* H^* \) are neither square nor invertible. Nevertheless, Eq. (4.1a) is pivotal for the development of the alternative factorization in Eq. (4.1b). This alternative has been referred to [1] as the Innovations Operator Factorization, because of its relationship to the innovations approach [14] of linear filtering theory. This Innovations Factorization is essential to developing the diagonalized equations of motion.

The factorization in Eq. (4.1b) is a closed-form, symbolic, model-based (lower-triangular)-(diagonal) -(upper-triangular) \( IDL^* \) factorization of the mass matrix \( M \). The factorization is model-based [1] in the sense that the manipulator model itself is used to prescribe each of the computations required. Because of this, every computational step has an immediate physical interpretation. This adds substantial physical insight to the factorization. The factors \([I+H \phi K]\) and \( D \) are square with the former being lower triangular and the latter diagonal. Since the mass matrix is positive-definite, both factors \([I+H \phi K]\) and \( D \) are invertible. In particular, since \( D \) is diagonal, each of its diagonal elements \( D(k) \) is invertible and positive definite. A closed-form operator expression for the inverse of the factor \([I+H \phi K]\) is provided by Eq. (4.1c). The factorization in Eq. (4.1d) is a closed-form \( I^* DL \) factorization of \( M^* \). These operator factorization and inversion results for the mass matrix closely parallel similar results for covariance factorization in estimation theory [1, 6]. The operator expression for \( M^{-1} \) also forms the foundation for \( O(N) \) articulated body forward dynamics algorithms [4, 7, 18]. All of the operators involved in the above mass matrix factorization and inversion are synthesized by spatially recursive algorithms.

**Recursive Newton-Euler Factorization**

The aim of this subsection is to summarize briefly the essential ideas leading to the Newton-Euler Operator Factorization of the mass matrix, given by

\[
M(0) = H \phi M \phi^* H \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N} \tag{4.2}
\]

While this is done for a serial chain manipulator, the factorization results apply to a much more general class of complex joint-connected mechanical systems, including tree-colligational manipulators with flexible links and joints [7].

Consider a serial manipulator with \( n \) rigid links as shown in Figure 1. The links are numbered in increasing order from tip to base. The outermost link is link 1 and the innermost link is link \( n \). The overall number of degrees-of-freedom for the manipulator is \( N \). There are two joints attached to the \( k \)th link. A coordinate frame \( O_k \) is attached to the inboard joint, and another frame \( O_{k-1}^t \) is attached to the outboard joint. Frame \( O_k \) is also the body frame for the \( k \)th link. The \( k \)th joint connects the \((k+1)\)th and \( k \)th links and its motion is defined as the motion of frame \( O_k \) with respect to frame \( O_{k-1}^t \). When applicable, the free-space motion of a manipulator is modeled by attaching a 6 degree-of-freedom joint between the base link and the inertial frame about which the free-space motion occurs. However, in this paper, without loss of generality and for the sake of notational simplicity, all joints are assumed to be single rotational degree-of-freedom hinges with the \( k \)th hinge coordinate given by \( \theta(k) \). For this case the total number of degrees of freedom \( N = n \).

The spatial velocity of the \( k \)th body frame \( O_k \) is \( \dot{V}(k) = [\omega^*(k), v^*(k)]^* \in \mathbb{R}^6 \), where \( \omega(k) \) and \( v(k) \) are the angular and linear velocities of \( O_k \). With \( h(k) \in \mathbb{R}^9 \) denoting the \( k \)th hinge axis vector, \( n^*(k) \begin{pmatrix} h(k) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^6 \) denotes the joint map matrix for the hinge and the relative
spatial velocity across the $k^{th}$ joint is $\mathbf{H}^*(k)\dot{\theta}(k)$. The spatial force of interaction $f(k)$ across the $k^{th}$ joint is $f(k) = [N^*(k), F^*(k)]^T \in \mathbb{R}^6$, where $N(k)$ and $F(k)$ are the moment and force components respectively. The G x 6 spatial inertia matrix $M(k)$ of the $k^{th}$ link in the coordinate frame $O_k$ is

$$M(k) = \begin{pmatrix} J(k) & m(k)p(k) \\ -m(k)p(k) & m(k)I_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $m(k)$ is the mass, $p(k)\in \mathbb{R}^3$ is the vector from $O_k$ to the $k^{th}$ link center of mass, and $J(k)\in \mathbb{R}^{3x3}$ is the rotational inertia of the $k^{th}$ link about $O_k$.

In the above notation, the recursive Newton–Euler equations are [1, 17]

$$\begin{cases} V(n+1) = 0; \quad \alpha(n+1) = 0 \\ \text{for } k = n \cdots 1 \\ V(k) = \phi^*(k+1,k)V(k+1) + \mathbf{H}^*(k)\dot{\theta}(k) \\ \alpha(k) = \phi^*(k+1,k)\alpha(k+1) + \mathbf{H}^*(k)\dot{\theta}(k) + a(k) \\ \text{end loop} \end{cases} \quad (4.3)$$

$$\begin{cases} f(0) = 0 \\ \text{for } k = 1 \cdots n \\ f(k) = \phi(k,k-1)f(k-1) + M(k)\alpha(k) + b(k) \\ T(k) = \mathbf{H}(k)f(k) \\ \text{end loop} \end{cases}$$

where $T(k)$ is the applied momental joint $k$. The nonlinear, velocity dependent terms $a(k)$ and $b(k)$ are respectively the Coriolis acceleration and the gyroscopic force. The transformation operator
\[ \phi(k, k-1) \] between the \( O_{k-1} \) and \( O_k \) frames is

\[ \phi(k, k-1) = \begin{pmatrix} I_3 & \tilde{l}(k, k-1) \\ 0 & I_3 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6\times 6} \]

where \( l(k, k-1) \) is the vector from frame \( O_k \) to frame \( O(k-1) \), and \( \tilde{l}(k, k-1) \in \mathbb{R}^{3\times 3} \) is the skew-symmetric matrix associated with the cross-product operation.

The ‘(stacked’ notation \( \theta = \text{col}\{\theta(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^N \) is used to simplify the above recursive Newton-Euler equations. This notation \( [\theta] \) eliminates the arguments \( k \) associated with the individual links by defining composite vectors, such as \( \theta \), which apply to the entire manipulator system. We define

\[ T' = \text{col}\{T(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^N \quad V = \text{col}\{V(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n} \]
\[ f = \text{col}\{f(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n} \quad \alpha = \text{Col}\{\alpha(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n} \]
\[ a = \text{col}\{a(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n} \quad b = \text{col}\{b(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n} \]

In this notation, the equations of motion are \( [\theta, \dot{\theta}] \):

\[ V = \phi^* H \dot{\theta}; \quad \alpha = \phi^*[H \ddot{\theta} - \{a] \quad (4.4) \]
\[ f = \phi[M \alpha + b]; \quad T = H f = \mathcal{M} \dot{\theta} + C \quad (4.5) \]

where the mass matrix \( \mathcal{M}(\theta) = H \phi M \phi^* H \), and \( \mathcal{C}(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = H \phi[M \phi^* a + b] \in \mathbb{R}^N \) is the Coriolis term; \( H = \text{diag}\{H(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{N\times 6n} \) and \( M = \text{diag}\{M(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n\times 6n} \); and

\[ \phi = (I - \mathcal{E}_\phi)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \phi(2,1) & I & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi(n,1) & \phi(n,2) & \cdots & I \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n\times 6n} \quad (4.6) \]

with \( \phi(i, j) = \phi(i, i-1) \cdots \phi(j+1, j) \) for \( i > j \). The across-link rigid transformation operator \( \mathcal{E}_\phi \) is defined as

\[ \mathcal{E}_\phi := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \phi(2,1) & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \phi(3,2) & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \phi(n, n-1) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n\times 6n} \quad (4.7) \]

**Innovations Factorization By Spatial Kalman Filtering**

The innovations factorization of the mass matrix is \( \mathcal{M} = [I + H \phi K]D[I + H \phi K]^* \), and that of its inverse is \( \mathcal{M}^{-1} = [I - H \phi \psi K]^*D^{-1}[I - H \phi K] \). The spatial operators \( \phi, K \) and \( D \) embedded in these factorization are based on spatially recursive filtering and smoothing algorithms \([1,4,6]\). The following Riccati equation for the articulated body inertia \( P \) is a key part of these filtering and smoothing algorithms.
Algorithm 4.1 The articulated body inertia quantities $P(\cdot), \mathbf{D}(\cdot), \mathbf{G}(\cdot), \mathbf{K}(\cdot), \tau(\cdot), \tau(\cdot), P^+(\cdot)$ and $+((\cdot, \cdot))$ are defined by the Riccati equation

$$P^+(0) = 0$$

for $k = 1 \ldots n$

$$P(k) = \phi(k, k-1)P^+(k-1)\phi^*(k, k-1) + M(k)$$

$$\mathbf{D}(k) = H(k)P(k)H^*(k)$$

$$\mathbf{G}(k) = P(k)H^*(k)\mathbf{D}^{-1}(k)$$

$$\mathbf{K}(k+1, k) = \phi(k+1, k)G(k)$$

$$\tau(k) = \mathbf{G}(k)\mathbf{H}(k)$$

$$\tau(k) = \mathbf{I} \tau(k)$$

$$P^+(k) = \tau(k)P(k)$$

$$\psi(k+1, k) = -\phi(k+1, k)\tau(k)$$

end loop

This is equivalent to the following spatial operator equation

$$M = \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{E}_\psi \mathbf{P} \mathbf{E}_\psi^* = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E}_\phi \mathbf{P} \mathbf{E}_\phi^* \quad (4.9)$$

Algorithm 4.1 is the by now classical [4,14] Riccati equation of Kalman filtering. Its solution $P(k)$ is the articulated body inertia [4,18] of the part of the manipulator outboard (toward the tip) of joint $k$. The operator $P$ is a block-diagonal $6n \times 6n$ matrix with its $k$th diagonal element being $P(k) \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 6}$. Define also:

$$D = H P H^* \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

$$G = P H^* D^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n \times N}$$

$$K = \mathbf{E}_\phi G \in \mathbb{R}^{6n \times N}$$

$$\tau = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{G} H \in \mathbb{R}^{6n \times 6n}$$

$$\mathbf{E}_\phi = \mathbf{E}_\phi \tau \in \mathbb{R}^{6n \times 6n}$$

$$\psi = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E}_\psi)^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n \times 6n} \quad (4.10)$$

The operators $\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{G}$ and $\tau$ are all block diagonal. The operators $\mathbf{K}$ and $\mathbf{E}_\psi$ are not block diagonal, but their only nonzero block elements are $K(k,k-1)$'s and $\psi(k,k-1)$'s respectively along the first subdiagonal. The block elements of the lower block-triangular operator $\psi$ are: $\psi(i,j) = \psi(i,i - 1) \ldots \psi(j + 1,j)$ for $i > j$; $\psi(i,j) = 1$ for $i = j$; and $\psi(i,j) = 0$ for $i < j$. The structure of the operators $\psi$ and $\mathbf{E}_\psi$ is identical to that of the operators $\phi$ and $\mathbf{E}_\phi$ in Eq. (4.6) and Eq. (4.7), except that the elements are now $\psi(i,j)$ rather than $\phi(i,j)$.

Physical Meaning of Spatial Operators

We summarize here the physical meaning of the important spatial operators involved in the innovations and recursive Newton-Euler mass matrix factorizations, and in the corresponding spatially recursive filtering and smoothing algorithms that synthesize the spatial operators. The operator $\phi(k,k-1)$ converts a spatial force at frame $O_k^k_j$, and transforms it across the $k$th rigid link into a corresponding spatial force at the inboard $k$th joint frame $O_k$. Its transpose $\phi^*(k,k-1)$ transforms spatial velocities and accelerations in the opposite direction. Both transformations are rigid in the sense that the body $k$ to which the operator corresponds is by definition a rigid body. The operator
\( \mathcal{E}_\phi \) is a shift operator whose elements are all zero, except along its lower sub-diagonal as shown in Eq. (4.7). In addition to producing a shift, it rigidly transforms all the forces in the manipulator from the outboard to the inboard frame for each link. Its transpose \( \mathcal{E}_\phi^T \), produces a shift and a velocity transfer in the outward direction. The operator \( \mathcal{H} \) projects spatial forces at the joints into generalized force components along the joint axes. Its transpose \( \mathcal{H}^* \) converts the scalar rotational rates along the joint axes into 6-dimensional relative spatial velocities across the joint.

The articulated body inertia \( \mathbf{P} \) is the solution to the Riccati equation. Its diagonal element \( \mathbf{P}(k) \) at joint \( k \) is the effective inertia [18] at frame \( O_k \) of the articulated body consisting of links 1 through \( k \). The articulated body inertia captures the "bicycle chain" effect, that is, if a bicycle chain is held firmly at its \( k \)th link, \( \mathbf{l}(k) \) is the effective spatial inertia felt at that link and its value depends upon the configuration of the outboard hinges. The articulated joint inertia \( \mathbf{D}(k) \) at joint \( k \) is a scalar quantity obtained by projecting the articulated body inertia \( \mathbf{P}(k) \) along the joint axis.

The Kalman gain \( \mathbf{G} \) is computed from the articulated body inertia and appears [4] as a key element in the recursive filtering and smoothing algorithms. Its primary function is to compute the joint articulation operator \( \mathcal{V} \) whose diagonal element \( \mathbf{V}(k) \) at joint \( k \) is used to remove the scalar rotational inertia about that joint, thereby rendering the resulting body outboard of this joint as an articulated body.

The Reduced Manipulator \( \mathcal{A}_k \) at the \( k \)th link

While discussing the articulated body quantities and their physical meaning, one handy notion is that of a reduced manipulator. We define a reduced manipulator \( \mathcal{A}_k \) at link \( k \) to be a manipulator consisting of just links 1 through \( k \). Clearly, associated with every link in the manipulator is a reduced manipulator. The reduced manipulator \( \mathcal{A}_1 \) consists of just link 1, while the reduced manipulator \( \mathcal{A}_n \) associated with the \( n \)th link is the whole manipulator itself. In general, the reduced manipulator \( \mathcal{A}_{k+1} \) consists of the reduced manipulator \( \mathcal{A}_k \) with the \((k+1)\)th link added on to its has?. The reduced manipulator \( \mathcal{A}_k \) can be regarded as the original manipulator in which all the hinges inboard of the \( k \)th link have been locked.

5 The Innovations Factors Diagonalize The Mass Matrix

The innovations factorization in Identity 4.1 leads to a set of diagonal equations of motion. To this end, define the operators \( \mathbb{m}(0) \) and \( \ell(0) \) as

\[
\mathbb{m}(0) \triangleq [I + \mathcal{H} \phi K] D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \quad \ell(0) \triangleq m^{-1}(0) D^{-\frac{1}{2}} [I - \mathcal{H} \psi K] \tag{5.1}
\]

we have

\[
\mathcal{M}^{-1}(0) \overset{4.1d}{=} \mathbb{m}(0) \mathbb{m}^*(0) ; \quad \mathcal{M}^{-1}(0) \overset{4.1d}{=} \ell(0) \ell^*(0) \tag{5.2}
\]
\[
\nu = m^* \dot{\theta} = D^{\frac{3}{2}} [I + H^0K] \Phi \dot{\theta} \quad \text{for} \quad k = n \cdots 1
\]

\[
V^+(k) = \phi^*(k + 1, k) V(k + 1) \\
v(k) = D^{\frac{3}{2}}(k) [\Phi(k) - i G^*(k) V^+(k)] \\
v(k) = V^+(k) - i H^*(k) \Phi(k)
\]

end loop

Table 1: \( \dot{\theta} \) and \( v \) can be recursively computed from each other.

\[
c = \ell T = D^{\frac{3}{2}} [I - H^0K] T \\
z(0) = 0 \\
for \quad k = 1 \cdots n \\
z(k) = \phi(k, k - 1) z^+(k - 1) \\
c(k) = D^{-\frac{3}{2}}(k) [T(k) - H(k) z(k)] \\
z^+(k) = z(k) + G(k) c(k)
\]

end loop

Table 2: \( c \) and \( T \) can be recursively computed from each other.

The function \( m(\theta) \) so defined satisfies all of the conditions in Assumption 3.1, although verifying the condition of differentiability requires the following more careful argument. The operators \( H \) and \( \phi \) are smooth and differentiable functions of the coordinates, so the only potential trouble spot is the differentiability of the articulated body quantities in Eq. (4.9), particularly the inverse \( D^{-1} \) of the diagonal operator \( D = HP^H \). The diagonal matrix \( D \) is always positive definite, invertible and a smooth function of the generalized coordinates. Consequently, \( D^{-1} \) is always a smooth and differentiable function of \( \theta \). q'bus, \( m = [I + H^0K] D^{\frac{3}{2}} \) is also a smooth and differentiable matrix function. 'J'bus, \( m(\theta) \) satisfies all the conditions in Assumption 3.1.

The Relative and Total Joint Rates Are Easily Computed From Each Other

The total joint rates \( \nu \) are computed from the relative joint rates \( \dot{\theta} \) by means of the transformation \( \nu = m^* \dot{\theta} \). This transformation is mechanized by means of an outward recursion from the base of the manipulator to its tip. This outward recursion is specified by the algorithm on the left column of Table 1. The inverse transformation \( \theta = \ell^T \nu \) is also mechanized by an outward recursion. The right column of Table 1 shows this algorithm.

Similarly, the "new" input variables \( c \) appearing in the diagonalized equation \( \dot{\nu} + C(\nu, \theta) = c \) are obtained from the "old" inputs \( T \) by the transformation \( c = \ell T \). This is mechanized by an inward, tip-to-base recursion specified on the left column of Table 2. The inverse operation \( T = m c \) from the new variables \( c \) to the old variables \( T \) is also performed recursively in an outward direction, as specified by the algorithm in the right column of Table 2.
It is relatively easy therefore to go back and forth from the “old” variables $\dot{\theta}$ and $T$ in traditional robot dynamics and the “new” variables $v$ and $c$ in the diagonalized equations of this paper. The two mutually reciprocal outward recursions in Table 1 govern the relationships between the new and old velocities. Two mutually reciprocal inward recursions in the Table 2 govern the relationships between the new and old inputs. Each of the above four recursions represents an $O(N)$ computational algorithm, in the sense that the number of required computations increases only linearly with the number $N$ of degrees of freedom.

**Physical Interpretation of the Total Joint Velocities**

The total joint velocities $v$ can be obtained from the joint-angle velocities by means of the recursion on the left column of Table 1. There is a physical interpretation to this. Observe from Table 1 that

$$D^\frac{1}{2}(k)v(k) = \delta(k) + \dot{\theta}(k), \text{ where } \delta(k) = \sum_{j=1}^{k} G^*(k)V^+(k)$$  \hspace{1cm} (5.3)

in which $V_{i}(k)$ is the spatial velocity of frame $O_1^k$ which is immediately adjacent to and on the inboard side of the $k^{th}$ hinge. This spatial velocity is due to the relative velocities $\dot{\theta}(j)$ at all of the joints inboard of joint $k$. The spatial velocity $V^+(k)$ represents the spatial velocity of the “base body” of the $k^{th}$ reduced manipulator $A_k$. The quantity $D^\frac{1}{2}(k)$ is a normalizing factor which is used so that the kinetic energy is not only diagonalized but normalized as in Eq. (1.2).

Eq. (5.3) states that the total joint rate $D^\frac{1}{2}(k)v(k)$ at joint $k$ is the sum of two angular rates. One of these is the relative joint velocity $\dot{\theta}(k)$ at joint $k$ between link $k$ and the next link $k+1$, which is the hinge velocity at the base link of the reduced manipulator $A_k$. The second angular rate given by $\delta(k)$ represents an additional term due to the non-zero spatial velocity $V(k+1)$ of the “base body” of $A_k$. When link $(k+1)$ is at rest, the additional term $\delta(k)$ is zero, and $D^\frac{1}{2}(k)v(k)$ equals the commonly used hinge relative rate $\dot{\theta}(k)$. The correction term $\delta(k)$ depends on the articulated body inertia quantities $P(k)$ and $D(k)$. It compensates for the joint motion induced in all the outboard hinges by the motion of the “base body”.

**Physical Interpretation of the New Generalized Forces**

The input variables $c$ in the new equations of motion also have a nice physical interpretation. This can be seen from the relationship

$$T(k) = D^\frac{1}{2}(k)c(k) - I(k)z(k)$$  \hspace{1cm} (5.4)

One way to interpret this relationship is to observe that the applied moment $T(k)$ at joint $k$ is the sum of two terms. The first term $D^\frac{1}{2}(k)c(k)$ is a working joint moment in the sense that it directly enters the diagonalized equation $\dot{\nu} + C(\theta, \nu) c = c$ and causes the “acceleration” term $\dot{\nu}$ to either increase or decrease. The second component $I(k)z(k)$ depends only upon and compensates for all the outboard applied moments $2'(1),...,I(k-1)$. A point worth noting here is that $c(k)$ depends only on quantities associated with the reduced manipulator $A_k$ alone.

**Extension of the Cross Product Operations to Spatial Vectors**

It is well known that the cross-product $\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{y}$ of a pair of 3-dimensional vectors $\mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{y}$ can also be written as $\hat{\mathbf{z}}y$ where $\hat{\mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$ is the appropriate skew-symmetric matrix. We introduce here a new “cross-product” operator for 6-dimensional spatial quantities as follows. Let $X = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix}$ and $Y = \begin{pmatrix} c \\ d \end{pmatrix}$ be spatial vectors where $a, b, c, d$ are 3-dimensional vectors. Then, the “(cross-product)
The spatial cross-product operation is anti-symmetric, i.e. \( X \times Y = -Y \times X \) and satisfies the Jacobi identity. (Indeed, this cross-product operation is in fact the Lie bracket operation for the Lie algebra associated with the Lie group consisting of the \( \phi(t) \) transformation operators). We also have the identity \( X^* (Z \times Y) = -Z^* (X \times Y) \). As in the 3-dimensional case, \( \bar{X} \) represents the matrix corresponding to the spatial cross-product operation. However, while the operation \( \times \) is anti-symmetric for spatial vectors, the matrix \( \bar{X} \) is not skew-symmetric, i.e. \( \bar{X}^* \neq \bar{X} \), except in the case where the lower half of \( X \) is zero. Given spatial vectors \( X(k) \), and the vector \( X = \text{col}\{X(k)\}_{k=1}^n \in \mathbb{R}^n \), we define

\[
\bar{X} \triangleq \text{diag}\{\bar{X}(k)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{6n \times 6n}
\]

so that

\[
\bar{X}Y = \text{col}\{\bar{X}(k)Y(k)\}_{k=1}^n \in \mathbb{R}^{6n}
\]

### 6 Mass Matrix Derivatives in The Coriolis Term

The Coriolis term \( C(0, \nu) = \ell(\dot{m}v - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^T \mathcal{M}_0 \dot{\theta}) \) is one of the key elements in the diagonalized equations of motion \( \dot{\nu} = C(0, \nu) = \epsilon \). It is apparent that there are two key computations in this term:

- The inertial time derivative \( \dot{\mathbf{n}} \) of the mass matrix factor \( \mathbf{m} \) in the innovations factorization \( \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{m} \mathbf{m}^T \).
- The first-order derivative or “sensitivity” \( \mathbf{Me} \) of the mass matrix \( \mathbf{M} \) with respect to the joint angles \( \theta \).

This section summarizes key results regarding the differentiation of spatial operators which lead to a relatively easy computation of the above mass matrix derivatives. The detailed derivation of the results is provided in Appendix A.

### Time Derivatives of Key Spatial Operators

The inertial time derivative \( \dot{x} \) of a quantity \( x \) is taken with respect to an inertially fixed frame. The local time derivative \( \dot{x}(k) \) for a quantity associated with body \( k \) is taken with respect to the \( k \)-th body frame \( \mathcal{O}_k \). Frame \( \mathcal{O}_k \) rotates with respect to inertial space at the angular velocity \( \omega(k) \). The inertial time derivative \( \dot{x}(k) \) of an arbitrary 6-dimensional spatial vector \( x(k) \) attached to body \( k \) is related to its local time derivative vector \( \dot{x}(k) \) as follows:

\[
\dot{x}(k) = \dot{x}(k) + \Omega(k)x(k)
\]

where \( \Omega(k) \) is the spatial cross product matrix associated with the spatial vector \( \Omega(k) \) which is defined as:

\[
\Omega(k) \triangleq \begin{pmatrix}
\omega(k) \\
0
\end{pmatrix}
\]
Table 3 summarizes some of the key expressions for the derivatives of various operator quantities. These expressions follow from the sensitivity expressions derived in Appendix A.

The local time derivative \( \dot{P}(k) \) of the articulated body inertia \( P(k) \) is a key quantity required to evaluate the time derivatives of the Kalman gain \( G(k) \), the articulation operator \( \tau(k) \) as well as the term \( \dot{m} \) in the Coriolis force \( C(V, \theta) = \ell(\dot{m}V - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta} \ddot{M} \theta) \). Because of this, the local time derivative \( \dot{P} \) require special consideration, and this is given in the next sub-section.

**Local Time Derivative of the Articulated Inertia**

This section discusses the local time derivative \( \dot{P}(k) \) of the articulated body inertia \( P(k) \). A useful quantity in this regard is \( \dot{\lambda}(k) \) which is the initial time derivative of \( \lambda(k) \) with respect to the coordinates of the reduced manipulator \( \mathcal{A}_k \) alone. First we define the quantities \( \Omega_\delta(k) \in \mathbb{R}^6 \) and \( \Omega_\delta \in \mathbb{R}^{6n} \) as follows:

\[
\Omega_\delta(k) \triangleq \Omega(k) - \Omega(k+1) = H^*(k) \dot{\theta}(k), \quad \Omega_\delta \triangleq \text{co}_\%(k) \quad (6.3)
\]

The algorithm for computing \( \dot{\lambda}(k) \) and \( \dot{P}(k) \) is given below.

**Algorithm 6.1** The local time-derivative \( \dot{P} \) and \( \dot{\lambda}(k) \) satisfy the following operator equations:

\[
\dot{\lambda} = \dot{P} + \dot{\Omega}_\delta P - P \dot{\Omega}_\delta, \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{P} = \mathcal{E}_\psi \dot{\lambda} \mathcal{E}_\psi^* \quad (6.4)
\]

The computational algorithm in component form is as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{\lambda}(0) &= 0 \\
&\text{for } k = 1 \ldots n \\
\dot{P}(k) &= \psi(k, k-1) \dot{\lambda}(k-1) \psi(k, k-1) \\
\dot{\lambda}(k) &= \dot{P}(k) + \dot{\Omega}_\delta(k) P(k) - P(k) \dot{\Omega}_\delta(k) \\
&\text{end loop}
\end{align*}
\]

These results are derived in Appendix A. The above algorithm consists of an inward recursion from the tip to the last of the system. It is a sensitivity equation for the articulated
body inertia Riccati equation. It provides a means to compute \( \hat{\lambda}(k) \) and the local time derivative \( \dot{P} \) of the articulated body inertia \( P \), in terms of the articulated body inertia itself. The recursion is linear, with the term \( \Omega_k P - P \Omega_k \) being an input. For each joint \( k \), this term reflects the change in the articulated body inertia due to the rotation \( \Omega_k(k) \). Because the algorithm is an inward recursion, the time derivative \( \dot{\lambda}(k) \) at a joint \( k \) depends only on the rotation at the joints of the reduced manipulator \( A_k \). The time derivative does not depend on the joints on the inward path toward the base of the system. The inertial time derivative of the articulated body inertia is given by

\[
\dot{P}(k) = \dot{P}(k) + b(k) - P(k) \dot{\Omega}(k) = \dot{\lambda}(k) + \dot{\Lambda}(k + 1) - P(k) \dot{\Omega}(k + 1)
\] (6.6)

**Time Derivative of the Mass Matrix Innovations Factor**

**Identity 6.1** The time derivative of the mass matrix factor \( m \) is

\[
\dot{m} \overset{A.30}{=} H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \hat{\phi} P + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \right] H' D^{-\frac{1}{2}}
\] (6.7)

where \( \hat{\phi} \overset{A}{=} \phi - I \).

For convenience in later developments, observe also the following additional identity.

**Identity 6.2**

\[
\dot{m} = H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \phi K HP + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \right] V
\] (6.8)

**Proof:** We have that

\[
m \overset{(A.30)}{=} H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \hat{\phi} P + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \right] H' D^{-1/2}
\]

\[
m \overset{(5.1, A.31)}{=} H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \hat{\phi} P + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \right] H' G' \phi^* H' \hat{\theta}
\]

\[
m \overset{(4.4)}{=} H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \hat{\phi} P + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \right] H' G' V
\]

\[
m \overset{(4.8)}{=} H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \phi K HP + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \tau^* \right] V
\]

\[
m \overset{(6.4)}{=} H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \phi K HP + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \lambda^* \right] V
\]

\[
m \overset{(6.4)}{=} H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \phi K HP + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \lambda^* \right] V
\]

\[
m \overset{(A.37)}{=} H \phi \left[ \Omega_k \phi K HP + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda \lambda^* \right] V
\] (6.9)
Closed-Form Mass Matrix Sensitivity $\mathcal{M}_\theta$, and $\hat{\theta}^* \mathcal{M}_\theta \hat{\theta}$

Define

$$\Pi(i) \triangleq [\Pi^*(i)] = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{h}(i) & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{h}(i) \end{pmatrix}$$

(6.10)

Note that $\hat{\Omega}(i) = \Pi(i) \hat{\theta}(i)$. Also define the block-diagonal matrix operator $\Pi_i^k \in \mathbb{R}^{6n \times 6n}$ as

$$\Pi_i^k(k, k) = \Pi(i) \delta_{k-i}$$

(6.11)

The matrix on the right side is the new quantity required to define the sensitivity of the mass matrix. This operator has a very simple structure. All of its elements are 0, except for a single $6 \times 6$ block $\Pi(i)$ at the $i^{th}$ location on the diagonal.

Identity 6.3

$$\mathcal{M}_\theta, \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi} \left[ \Pi^\phi \phi M - M \phi \Pi^{\phi^*} \right] \phi^* II^*$$

(6.12)

The above formula is closed-form, in the sense that it explicitly computes the mass matrix sensitivity in terms of the operators $\phi$, $A_4$, and $II$ appearing in the mass matrix itself. That the formula is closed-form is of extreme importance, because it implies that the mass matrix derivatives can be easily computed using operations and spatially recursive algorithms similar to those used to compute the mass matrix itself. As described later, this allows development of simple closed-form expressions and recursive algorithms to evaluate the Coriolis term $C(\theta, \nu)$ in the diagonalized equations of motion.

As discussed in Appendix A, Identity 6.3 is established by use of the classical chain-rule of differentiation, applied to the more elementary sensitivities $\Pi_i^k, \phi_i^k$, and $M$ making up the mass matrix $M = \Pi \phi M \phi^* II^*$. Identity 6.3 leads to the following expression for the term $\hat{\theta}^* \mathcal{M}_\theta \hat{\theta}$ in the Coriolis forces.

Identity 6.4

$$\hat{\theta}^* \mathcal{M}_\theta \hat{\theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta} \left[ \Omega_\theta (I + \phi K I) P + \hat{V}^* M \right] V$$

(6.13)

7 Closed-Form Coriolis Forces $C(\theta, \nu)$

The various sensitivity and time derivative quantities computed above are used for the development of a closed form representation for the Coriolis forces term $C(\theta, \nu)$ given below.

Identity 7.1

$$C(\theta, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \Psi \left[ \mathcal{E}_\psi \lambda - \lambda \mathcal{E}_\psi \hat{\Omega}_\lambda P - \hat{P} \hat{\Omega}_\lambda - 2 \hat{V}^* M \right] \psi^* H^* D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \nu$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \Psi \left[ \mathcal{E}_\psi \lambda - \lambda \mathcal{E}_\psi \hat{\Omega}_\lambda P - \hat{P} \hat{\Omega}_\lambda - 2 \hat{V}^* M \right] V$$

(7.1)
Proof: Combine Lemma 3.1, Eq. (6.13) and Eq. (6.8).

The explicit expression for the Coriolis term in identity 7.1 is a breakthrough. It explicitly evaluates in terms of relatively simple quantities, the very complicated quantity \( C(\theta, \nu) = \ell (\tilde{m} - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{M}_0 \tilde{\theta}) \) which depends on various derivatives of the system mass matrix. Algorithm 7.1 below computes this term recursively.

**Inwardly Recursive Algorithm to Compute \( C(\theta, \nu) \)**

An algorithm to compute \( C(\theta, \nu) \) recursively is described below. It is assumed that \( V \) as well as the various articulated body quantities have been computed using Eq. (4.8) and are available prior to these computations.

**Algorithm 7.1**

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{i(0)} &= 0, \quad y(0) = 0 \\
\text{for } k = 1 \ldots n \\
  y(k) &= \tilde{\Phi}(k) P(k) \\
  Y(k, k-1) &= \tilde{\psi}(k, k-1) \tilde{\lambda}(k-1) \\
  \tilde{\lambda}(k) &= Y(k, k-1) \tilde{\psi}(k, k-1) \tilde{x}(k) + \nabla^* \tilde{x}(k) \\
  \tilde{y}(k) &= \tilde{\psi}(k, k-1) \tilde{y}(k-1) - 2 \left[ V^*(k) M(k) \nabla \tilde{X}(k) \nabla^* \tilde{X}(k) V(k) \right] V(k) \\
  C(k) &= \frac{1}{2} D^{\frac{1}{2}}(k) H(k) y(k)
\end{align*}
\]  

(7.2)

The above algorithm proceeds from tip-to-base and is of \( O(N) \) computational complexity.

**Coriolis Force Does No Work**

The Coriolis term \( C(\theta, \nu) \) is orthogonal to the generalized velocities \( \nu \) and therefore does no mechanical work.

**Lemma 7.1:**

\[
\nu^* C(\theta, \nu) = 0
\]  

(7.3)

**Proof:** Observe that \( \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_n \mathcal{M}_0 \mathcal{M} \) implies that \( \tilde{\theta}^* \mathcal{M}_0 \tilde{\theta} = 2 \text{col} \left\{ \nu^* \mathcal{M}_0 \tilde{\theta} \right\} \). Consequently, \( \nu^* C(\theta, \nu) = \tilde{\theta}^* \left( m \nu - \text{col} \left\{ \nu^* \mathcal{M}_0 \tilde{\theta} \right\} \right) = \tilde{\theta}^* m\nu - \sum_{i=1}^{\nu} (\theta(i) \nu^* m_\theta \tilde{\theta} - \tilde{\theta}^* \tilde{\theta} \nu - \nu^* \tilde{\theta}^* \tilde{\theta} \nu) = 0. \]

A similar orthogonality condition can be obtained using the explicit expression for the Coriolis vector \( C(\theta, \nu) \) in Identity 7.1:

\[
\nu^* C(\theta, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \nu^* \left[ \mathcal{E}_\nu \tilde{\lambda} - \lambda \mathcal{E}_\nu^* \tilde{\lambda} - \mathcal{P}_0 \mathcal{P} - 2 \mathcal{P}^* \mathcal{M} \right] V
\]  

(7.4)

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \nu^* \left[ \mathcal{E}_\nu \tilde{\lambda} - \lambda \mathcal{E}_\nu^* \tilde{\lambda} - \mathcal{P}_0 \mathcal{P} - 2 \mathcal{P}^* \mathcal{M} \right] V = 0
\]  

(7.5)
Since the matrix expression in the middle is skew-symmetric, the overall expression is zero.

The orthogonality of the nonlinear Coriolis forces is similar to the orthogonality condition \( w \cdot [\omega \times J\omega] = 0 \) of the gyroscopic force terms in the equations of motion for a single rigid body rotating with angular velocity \( \dot{\omega} \). In contrast, the corresponding Coriolis forces term \( C(\theta, \dot{\theta}) \) in the regular equations of motion in Eq. (2.1) does work, i.e., \( \Theta C(\theta, \dot{\theta}) \neq 0 \).

**Rate of change of the kinetic energy**

The non-working nature of the Coriolis forces has an interesting implication. Recall that the kinetic energy of the system is \( K(\theta, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \nu^T \nu \).

**Lemma 7.2:** The rate of change of the kinetic energy is the dot product of the generalized forces and generalized velocities

\[
\frac{d}{dt} K(\theta, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\nu}^T \nu = \nu^T \epsilon - C(\theta, \nu) = \nu^T \epsilon
\]

**Un-normalized Diagonalized Equations of Motion**

An alternative set of diagonalized form equations of motion can be obtained by using a slightly different generalized velocity vector defined as

\[
\xi = D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \nu = [I + \phi K]^\nu \dot{\theta}
\]

The kinetic energy in these coordinates is

\[
K(\xi, \dot{\xi}) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\xi}^T D(\theta) \dot{\xi}
\]

The mass matrix now is the block diagonal matrix \( D(\theta) \). The equations of motion in the new coordinates \((\theta, \xi)\) are given below.

**Lemma 7.3:**

\[
D \ddot{\xi} + C(\theta, \xi) = \kappa
\]

where

\[
\kappa \triangleq D^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon = [I - \phi K]^\nu \dot{\theta}
\]

\[
C(\theta, \xi) \triangleq D^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[ C(\theta, \nu) - D^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dD^{-\frac{1}{2}} \nu}{dt} \right] = H \phi \left[ \dot{\lambda} \dot{\xi} - (\ddot{\xi} P + \dot{V}^* MV) \right] = H \phi \left[ \dot{\lambda} \dot{\xi} - \ddot{\xi} P^* V - \dot{V}^* MV \right]
\]

The equations of motion in Eq. (7.9) are similar to those of the previous section and can be derived fairly readily. They are still diagonal, but they differ from those in Eq. (3.1) in two respects. First, although the mass matrix \( D \) is diagonal, it is configuration dependent. Moreover,
while the Coriolis forces term $C(O, \xi)$ is simpler than $C(\theta, \nu)$, it is not orthogonal to the generalized velocities vector any more. An $O(N)$ computational algorithm for the components of $C(O, \xi)$ is

$$
\begin{align*}
\dot{\lambda}(0) &= 0, \quad y(0) = 0 \\
\text{for } k = 1 \cdots n \\
X(k) &= \Omega_o(k)P(k) \\
\dot{\lambda}(k) &= \psi(k, k - 1)\dot{\lambda}(k - 1) + \psi^*(k, k - 1)X(k) + X^*(k) \\
y(k) &= \psi(k, k - 1)y(k - 1) + \dot{\lambda}(k)H^*(k)\xi(k) - \left[\dot{v}^*(k)\dot{M}(k) + a'(k)\right]V(k) \\
C(k) &= H(k)y(k)
\end{align*}
$$

8 Forward Dynamics and Control Applications

$O(N)$ Forward Dynamics

One important application is that of forward dynamics and numerical integration to predict the motion of the manipulator in response to applied moments. An algorithm based upon the un-normalized diagonalized equations of motion in Lemma 7.3 is described here. The acceleration term is given by:

$$
\dot{\xi} = T^{-1}[k - C(\theta, \xi)] T^{-1}T - H\psi \zeta
$$

(8.1)

where

$$
\zeta = KT + \dot{\lambda}H^*\xi - (\dot{\Omega_o}P + \dot{V}^*\dot{M})v
$$

(8.2)

The diagonalized equation is used to obtain the following forward dynamics algorithm.

Algorithm 8.1

1. Compute the articulated body inertia terms and $\dot{\lambda}(k)$ terms using Eq. (4.8) and part of Eq. (7.10).

2. Compute the time derivatives $\dot{\xi}$ of the total joint rates $\nu$ using the algorithm:

$$
\begin{align*}
\gamma(0) &= 0 \\
\text{for } k = 1 \cdots n \\
\zeta(k) &= K(k, k - 1)T(k - 1) + I_1k \\
\gamma(k) &= \psi(k, k - 1) - [\hat{\Omega}_o(k)P(k) + \dot{V}^*(k)\dot{M}(k)]V(k) \\
\dot{\xi}(k) &= D^{-1}(k)[T(k) - H(k)\gamma(k)]
\end{align*}
$$

(8.3)

3. Conduct an integration step to obtain the total joint rates $\xi$ at a new time instant.

4. Compute the joint-angle rates $\dot{\theta}$ and $V$ by means of the outward recursion in Table 1 and using the fact that $\nu = D^{-\frac{3}{2}}\xi$.

5. Integrate the joint-angle rates $\dot{\theta}$ to obtain the joint angles $\theta$ at the new time instant.

6. Go back to the first step and repeat as long as necessary until a prescribed final time has been reached.
The very first time, \( V \) must be computed explicitly (from \( \dot{\theta} \) or \( \xi \)) using one of the algorithms in Table 1. Algorithm 8.1 is similar to those typically [4, 18] associated with \( O(N) \) forward dynamics. However, it is a significant improvement because it is only a 2-sweep algorithm involving an inward recursion to compute \( \xi \) followed by an outward recursion to compute \( \dot{\theta} \). The Coriolis effects are completely accounted for in the inward sweep. Previous \( O(N^2) \) algorithms typically [1, 18] require at least 1 or even 2 preliminary inverse dynamics sweeps, prior to utilization of the forward dynamics algorithm. Moreover, the computational cost of this algorithm is quite similar to that of the conventional \( O(N) \) articulated body inertia forward dynamics algorithm. While the coordinate transformations required in this algorithm are not required, the latter involves additional computations involving the residual forces and the link spatial accelerations.

**Decoupled Control**

The diagonal equations can also be used to design controllers that are decoupled on non-interacting. The decoupled control approach focuses on the dynamical behavior of the \( v \) coordinates. Satisfactory performance in the original physical coordinate variables \( \dot{\theta} \) follows from this. For example, stability in \( v, c \) coordinates is equivalent to stability in the original \( \theta, \dot{\theta} \) coordinates. The analysis and control design however is simpler because the equations of motion used in this design are decoupled. The control problem can be stated in terms of the variables \( v \) and \( c \) in the diagonalized equations of motion. The problem consists of finding a feedback relationship that determines the input \( c \) in terms of the velocities \( v \). Once \( c \) is determined, it is possible to go back to physical space to determine the required input moments \( \tau \) by means of the relationship \( \tau = mc \), and to mechanize this relationship using the inwardly recursive algorithm in Table 2.

**Control 8.1** *The rate feedback control*

\[ c = -cv \]  \hspace{1cm} (8.4)

in which \( c \) is a positive diagonal control gain matrix renders the system stable in the sense of \( \|Y\|_{1,21,0,1} \) on.

This result follows by using the kinetic energy as a Lyapunov function and observing that its time derivative (given in Lemma 7.2) can be guaranteed to be negative definite by the choice of the above control approach. This algorithm involves rate feedback only. It can be referred to as a "rate" control algorithm because the feedback quantity is a velocity, in fact, it is a vector of total velocities. It does not guarantee that the manipulator will end up in a prescribed configuration. The following algorithm does this.

Let \( Y = \text{col}\{\hat{y}_0, \hat{y}_1, \hat{y}_2, \hat{y}_3\} \) be a 12-dimensional vector whose first component \( \hat{y}_0 \) is the desired linear position of the end-effector with respect to an inertial reference. The remaining vectors \( \hat{y}_1, \hat{y}_2, \hat{y}_3 \) are 3 unit vectors which together form an orthonormal basis attached to the end-effector. These three vectors are used to indicate the desired orientation that the end-effector should reach as a result of the control action. Similarly, the end-effector position, in both translation and rotation, is given by \( Y(\theta) = \text{col}\{y_0(\theta), y_1(\theta), y_2(\theta), y_3(\theta)\} \), in which the dependence on \( \theta \) is shown explicitly. It is easy to see that the Jacobian mapping between the hinge rates \( \hat{\theta} \) and the time derivative of the output \( Y \) is given by

\[ \dot{Y} = B^T \phi H \dot{\theta} \]  \hspace{1cm} (8.5)
with $B$ being a suitable linear operator [4].

The Euclidean norm $\|e\|$ of the error $e \triangleq \tilde{Y} - Y(\theta)$ is a measure of the distance between the desired and the actual configuration. The following control algorithm guarantees that the manipulator goes to the prescribed configuration $\tilde{Y}$, while simultaneously driving all the velocities to zero.

**Control 8.2** The feedback control

$$\epsilon = -c_1 \nu - c_2 H \psi \lambda e$$  \hspace{1cm} (8.6)

in which $c_1$ and $c_2$ are positive, diagonal control gain matrices, causes the system to reach the prescribed configuration $\tilde{Y}$ and drives the velocities to zero.

This follows easily by taking the time-derivative of the lyapunov function $\|\nu\|^2 + \|e\|^2$.

The above control approaches require more analysis to include such effects as magnitude bounds on the applied joint moments. The use of diagonal equations of motion for robot control is in its infancy. The main objective of this subsection is to introduce the approach and to provide a few preliminary examples. More comprehensive application of diagonalized models in robot control will require further investigation.

9 Conclusions

The diagonalized equations of motion presented here are very closely related to the body of knowledge [1, 3, 6, 7] recently developed by the authors on spatially recursive algorithms for manipulator dynamics. The present paper complements and builds upon the previous work and explicitly derives the diagonalized Lagrangian equations of motion which are in addition mechanized by efficient recursive algorithms. The focus here is on the new equations of motion, on the diagonalizing transformations required to obtain them, and on the physical interpretation of the transformed variables. The results presented embed in a single diagonalized equation several of the spatially recursive algorithms previously developed. This provides an additional step toward an increasingly more succinct statement of the equations of motion for articulated multibody systems.

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References


Appendix A: Sensitivities of Spatial Operators

Similar to $\mathbb{H}_s^i$, we define the $6n \times 6n$ block diagonal operators $\mathbb{H}_s^i$ and $\mathbb{H}$ with $\mathbb{H}(i)$ along the block diagonal as follows:

$$\mathbb{H}_s^i(k, k) = \mathbb{H}(i)\delta_{k<i}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{H}_s^i(k, k) = \mathbb{H}(i)\delta_{k=i} \quad (A.1)$$

Note that

$$\mathbb{H} = \mathbb{H}_s^i + \mathbb{H}_s^i \quad (A.2)$$

We also define the $6n \times 6n$ block diagonal operators $\mathbb{\hat{\Omega}} = \text{diag}\{\hat{\Omega}(k)\}$ and $\mathbb{\tilde{\Omega}} = \text{diag}\{\tilde{\Omega}(k+1)\}$.

We also have that $\mathbb{\hat{\Omega}} = \mathbb{\hat{\Omega}}_s + \mathbb{\hat{\Omega}}_s$.

Operator Expression for $\text{col}\{\phi^* \mathcal{M}_0, \hat{\theta}\}$

First we state without proof the following fairly obvious component-level sensitivity expressions:

$$[H'(k)]_o = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } k \geq i \\ \left( h(i)h(k) \right) & \text{for } k < i \end{cases} \quad (A.3)$$

$$[\phi(k+1,k)]_o = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } k \geq i \\ \mathbb{H}(i)\phi(k+1,k) - \phi(k+1,k)\mathbb{H}(i) & \text{for } k < i \end{cases} \quad (A.4)$$

$$[M(k)]_o = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } k > i \\ \mathbb{H}(i)M(k) - M(k)\mathbb{H}(i) & \text{for } k \leq i \end{cases} \quad (A.5)$$

These component level sensitivities can be aggregated together to obtain the following operator-level sensitivity expressions:

$$\mathbb{H}_o^i = \mathbb{H}_s^i \mathbb{H} \quad (A.6)$$

$$[\mathcal{E}_\phi]_o = \mathbb{H}_s^i \mathcal{E}_\phi \quad (A.7)$$

$$\phi_0 = -\phi[\mathcal{E}_\phi]_o, \phi = \phi_0 \mathbb{H}_s^i - \phi_0 \mathbb{H}_s^i + \mathbb{H}_s^i \phi \quad (A.8)$$

$$M_0 = \mathbb{H}_s^i M - M \mathbb{H}_s^i \quad (A.9)$$

A useful fact in deriving the above expressions is that

$$\mathcal{E}_\phi \phi = \phi \mathcal{E}_\phi = \phi - I = \hat{\phi} \quad (A.10)$$

The following Lemma establishes the sensitivity of $\phi_0 \mathcal{M} \phi^*$ with respect to $\mathbb{H}(i)$.

**Lemma A.1:**

$$[\phi_0 \mathcal{M} \phi^*]_o = [\phi_0 \mathbb{H}_s^i + \mathbb{H}_s^i] \phi \mathcal{M} \phi^* - \phi \mathcal{M} \phi^* [\mathbb{H}_s^i \phi^* + \mathbb{H}_s^i] \quad (A.11)$$

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Proof:

\[
[\phi M \phi^*]_{\theta_1} = [\phi]_{\theta_1} M \phi^* + \phi M [\phi]_{\theta_1}^* + \phi M_0 \phi^* \\
\overset{(A.9, A.10)}{=} \left[ \phi H_1^* \phi - \phi H_1^* \phi \right] M \phi^* + \phi M \left[ \phi^* H_1^* \phi - \phi^* H_1^* \phi \right] + \phi \left[ H_1^* M - M H_1^* \right] \phi^*
\]

\[
= \left[ \phi H_1^* - \phi H_1^* \right] M \phi^* + \phi M \phi^* \left[ H_1^* \phi^* - H_1^* \phi^* \right] \\
\overset{(A.2, A.11)}{=} \left[ \phi H_1^* + H_1^* \right] M \phi^* - \phi M \phi^* \left[ H_1^* \phi^* + H_1^* \phi^* \right]
\]

The following lemma provides an expression for the sensitivity of the mass matrix.

Lemma A.2:

\[
\mathcal{M}_{\theta_1} = H \phi \left[ H_1^* \phi M - M \phi^* H_1^* \right] \phi^* H^*
\]  
(A.13)

Proof:

\[
\mathcal{M}_{\theta_1} = H \phi M \phi^* H^* + H \phi M \phi^* H_0^* + H \phi M \left[ \phi^* H_1^* \phi^* \right]_0, H^* \\
\overset{(A.7, A.12)}{=} H \phi \left[ H_1^* \phi M - M \phi^* H_1^* \right] \phi^* H^*
\]

From these expressions we obtain the following expressions for \( \{ \theta^* \mathcal{M}_{\theta_1}, b \} \).

Lemma A.3:

\[
\text{col} \left\{ \theta^* \mathcal{M}_{\theta_1}, \theta \right\} = 2 H \tilde{V}^* \phi M V \\
\overset{(4.4, A.13)}{=} 2 \text{col} \left\{ V^* H_1 \phi M V \right\} = 2 \text{diag} \left\{ V^* \Pi^* \Pi(k) \right\} \phi M V
\]
(A.14a)

\[
= 2 H \phi \left[ \tilde{\Omega}_3 \phi + \tilde{V}^* \right] M V \quad \text{(A.14b)}
\]

\[
= 2 H \phi \left[ \tilde{\Omega}_3 (I + \phi K I) I + \tilde{V}^* M \right] V \\
\quad \text{(A.14c)}
\]

Proof:

We have that

\[
\text{col} \left\{ \theta^* \mathcal{M}_{\theta_1}, \theta \right\} \overset{(A.4, A.13)}{=} 2 \text{col} \left\{ V^* \Pi \phi M V \right\} = 2 \text{diag} \left\{ V^*(k) \Pi(k) \right\} \phi M V
\]  
(A.15)

However,

\[
\text{diag} \left\{ V^*(k) \Pi(k) \right\} = - \text{diag} \left\{ H(k) \tilde{V}^*(k) \right\} \\
\overset{(- \text{X^*Y^*} = Y^* \text{X^*} \forall \text{X, Y} \in \mathbb{R}^6)}{=} H(k) \tilde{V}^*
\]

Substituting this into Eq. (A.15) leads to the expression in Eq. (A.14a). Eq. (A.14b) follows from the direct use of Eq. (11.7) in Eq. (4.14a). The use of the expression for \( v \) in Eq. (4.4) along with Eq. (B.3) leads to Eq. (A.14c).
Derivatives of articulated body inertia quantities

We begin here by computing the sensitivities of the articulated body quantities. First we define the quantities \( \lambda_i(k) \) for all \( i \) and \( k \) in the range \( \{1...n\} \) as follows:

\[
\lambda_i(k) = \begin{cases} 
0 & \text{for } k < i \\
\Pi((i) P(i) - P(i) \Pi((i)) & \text{for } k = i \\
\psi(k,i) \lambda_i(i) \psi^*(k,i) & \text{for } k > i 
\end{cases} \tag{A.16}
\]

As we show in the lemma below, \( \lambda_i(k) \) is nothing but the derivative of \( P(k) \) with respect to \( \theta(i) \) for \( k \geq i \), i.e., it represents the derivative of the \( k \)th articulated body inertia with respect to the \( i \)th outboard hinge coordinate. We define the block diagonal matrix \( \lambda_i \triangleq \text{diag} \{ \lambda_i(k) \} \). It is quite straightforward to verify that Eq. (A.16) can be re-expressed at the operator level by the equation:

\[
\lambda_i - \mathcal{E}_\psi \lambda_i \mathcal{E}_\psi^* = \Pi_i^\dagger P - P^\dagger \Pi_i 
\tag{A.17}
\]

Lemma A.4:

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{P}_\theta &= \lambda_i - P^\dagger \Pi_i + \Pi_i^\dagger P \\
\mathcal{D}_\theta &= H \lambda_i H^* \\
[D^{-1}]_\theta &= -D^{-1} H \lambda_i H^* D^{-1} \\
\mathcal{G}_\theta &= \tau \lambda_i H^* D^{-1} + \Pi_i^\dagger G \\
\end{align*}
\tag{A.18-21}
\]

The component expressions for these operators are given by

\[
\lambda_i(k) = \mathcal{P}_\theta(k) \delta_{k \geq i} = \begin{cases}
0 & \text{for } k < i \\
\mathcal{P}_\theta(k) & \text{for } k \geq i
\end{cases} \tag{4.22}
\]

\[
\mathcal{P}_\theta(k) = \begin{cases}
\Pi((i) P(k) - P(k) \Pi((i)) & \text{for } k \leq i \\
\psi(k,i) P_\theta(i) \psi^*(k,i) & \text{for } k > i
\end{cases} \tag{4.23}
\]

Proof: Define \( \gamma_i \) as

\[
\gamma_i \triangleq \mathcal{P}_\theta + \Pi_i^\dagger P - \Pi_i^\dagger P 
\tag{A.24}
\]

We will show later that \( \gamma_i \) is in fact the \( \lambda_i \) defined in Eq. (A.17). The use of Eq. (4.8), Eq. (A.7) and Eq. (A.24) leads to the following sequence of sensitivities with respect to \( \theta(i) \).

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{D}_\theta &= \Pi([\mathcal{P}_\theta + \Pi_i^\dagger P - \Pi_i^\dagger P] H^* - \Pi \gamma_i H^*) \\
[D^{-1}]_\theta &= -D^{-1} \mathcal{D}_\theta D^{-1} = -D^{-1} \Pi \gamma_i H^* D^{-1} \\
\mathcal{G}_\theta &= \mathcal{P}_\theta H^* D^{-1} + \Pi_i^\dagger \Pi H^* D^{-1} - \Pi \Pi_i^\dagger H^* D^{-1} \gamma_i H^* D^{-1} \\
\tau_\theta &= \gamma_i H^* D^{-1} + \Pi_i^\dagger G \\
\tau_\theta &= -[\mathcal{P}_\theta] \\
\mathcal{E}_\psi_{\theta} &= [\mathcal{E}_\psi_{\theta} \gamma_i H^* D^{-1} H + \Pi_i^\dagger \tau - \tau \Pi_i^\dagger] \\
\end{align*}
\tag{A.25}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{P}_\theta &= \Pi([\mathcal{P}_\theta + \Pi_i^\dagger P - \Pi_i^\dagger P] H^* - \Pi \gamma_i H^*) \\
[D^{-1}]_\theta &= -D^{-1} \mathcal{D}_\theta D^{-1} = -D^{-1} \Pi \gamma_i H^* D^{-1} \\
\mathcal{G}_\theta &= \mathcal{P}_\theta H^* D^{-1} + \Pi_i^\dagger \Pi H^* D^{-1} - \Pi \Pi_i^\dagger H^* D^{-1} \gamma_i H^* D^{-1} \\
\tau_\theta &= \gamma_i H^* D^{-1} + \Pi_i^\dagger G \\
\tau_\theta &= -[\mathcal{P}_\theta] \\
\mathcal{E}_\psi_{\theta} &= [\mathcal{E}_\psi_{\theta} \gamma_i H^* D^{-1} H + \Pi_i^\dagger \tau - \tau \Pi_i^\dagger] \\
\end{align*}
\end{align*}
\tag{A.25}
\]
Differentiating Eq. (4.9) (i.e. $M = P - \mathbf{E}_\psi P \mathbf{E}_\phi^*$) with respect to $\theta(i)$, we obtain
\[
\Pi' M - M \Pi' = \frac{d}{d\theta} \Pi' \mathbf{E}_\psi P \mathbf{E}_\phi^* = \Pi' \mathbf{E}_\psi P \mathbf{E}_\phi^* - \Pi' \mathbf{E}_\psi P [\mathbf{E}_\phi]^* = \Pi' \mathbf{E}_\psi P \mathbf{E}_\phi^* - \Pi' \mathbf{E}_\psi P [\mathbf{E}_\phi]^*
\]
where
\[
\Pi' = \Pi' \mathbf{E}_\psi P [\mathbf{E}_\phi]^* = \Pi' \mathbf{E}_\psi P [\mathbf{E}_\phi]^*
\]
\[
\Rightarrow 0 = \Pi' \mathbf{E}_\psi P E_\phi^* + M + [\mathbf{E}_\psi P E_\phi^* + M] \Pi' - \mathbf{E}_\psi [P \theta(i) - \Pi' P + P \Pi'] \mathbf{E}_\phi^* + \mathbf{E}_\psi \gamma_i \mathbf{E}_\phi^*
\]
\[
\Rightarrow \mathbf{E}_\psi \gamma_i \mathbf{E}_\phi^* = \Pi' P + P \Pi' - \mathbf{E}_\psi \gamma_i \mathbf{E}_\phi^*
\]
\[
\Rightarrow \gamma_i = \mathbf{E}_\psi \gamma_i \mathbf{E}_\phi^*
\]

However, the last equation above is the same as Eq. (4.17) and implies that $\gamma_i = \lambda_i$. This establishes Eq. (4.18) thru Eq. (4.21). The component level expressions in Eq. (4.22) follow directly from Eq. (4.16) and Eq. (4.18). Eq. (4.23) follows from Eq. (4.16) together with Eq. (4.22).

Let us consider the reduced manipulator $A_k$, and define $\lambda(k)$ to be the articulated body inertia $P(k)$ at the $k^{th}$ link. By definition, $\lambda(k)$ depends only upon the coordinates $\{O(1), \ldots, \theta(k)\}$ and is independent of the coordinates $\{\theta(k+1), \ldots, \theta(n)\}$. Thus, it follows clearly from Eq. (4.22) that $\lambda_i(k)$ is just the sensitivity of $\lambda(k)$ with respect to $\theta(i)$ for each $i$. Thus the inertial time derivative $\dot{\lambda}(k)$ is given by
\[
\dot{\lambda}(k) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i(k) \dot{\theta}(i) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i(k) \dot{\theta}(i)
\]
It is easy to see that the local time derivative $\dot{P}(k) = \psi(k, k-1) \dot{\lambda}(k-1) \psi^*(k, k-1)$. We define the operator $\dot{\lambda} = \text{diag}\{\dot{\lambda}(k)\}$. Clearly from the above
\[
\dot{\lambda} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \dot{\theta}(i)
\]
Expressions analogous to Eq. (4.16) and Eq. (4.17) are given in the lemma below.

**Lemma A.5:**
\[
\dot{\lambda} - \mathbf{E}_\psi \dot{\lambda} = \dot{\Omega}_k P - P \dot{\Omega}_k
\]
\[
\begin{cases}
\dot{\lambda}(0) = 0 \\
\dot{\lambda}(k) = \psi(k, k-1) \dot{P}(k-1) \psi^*(k, k-1) + \dot{\Omega}(k) P(k) - P(k) \dot{\Omega}(k)
\end{cases}
\]

**Proof:** We obtain Eq. (A.27) by multiplying both sides of Eq. (A.17) by $\dot{\theta}(i)$ and summing over all $i$ from 1 to $n$. Eq. (A.28) is merely a component level restatement of Eq. (A.27).

**Operator Expression for $\dot{m}$**
From three sensitivity expressions we obtain the following expression for $\dot{m}$.
Lemma A.6: The sensitivity of \( m \) with respect to \( \theta(i) \) is given by

\[
m_{\theta(i)} = H \phi \left[ \Pi^\dagger \phi P + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda_i \right] H^* D^{-1/2}
\]  
(A.29)

The expression for the time derivative of \( m \) is given by

\[
\dot{m} = H \phi \left[ \dot{\Omega}_i \phi P + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \dot{P} \right] H^* D^{-1/2}
\]  
(A.30)

Proof: Note that

\[
[I + H \phi K]^{(4,8, A.11)} = [H \phi]^{(A.11)} + H \phi G^{(A.11)} I - H G + H \phi G^{(4,8)} H \phi G 
\]  
(A.31)

Therefore,

\[
[I + H \phi K]_{\theta(i)} = [H \phi]_{\theta(i)} G + H \phi G_{\theta(i)}
\]

([A.8, A.21])

\[
H \phi \left[ (\Pi^\dagger \phi - I^\dagger) G + \tau \lambda_i H^* D^{-1} + \Pi^\dagger \phi G \right]
\]

([A.2, A.11])

\[
H \phi \left[ \Pi^\dagger \phi K + \tau \lambda_i H^* D^{-1} \right]
\]

([4,8, A.11])

\[
H \phi \left[ \Pi^\dagger \phi P + \tau \lambda_i H^* D^{-1} \right]
\]

Also

\[
[D^{1/2}]_{\theta(i)} = \frac{1}{2} D^{-1/2} D_{\theta(i)} \quad (A.19)
\]

\[
\frac{1}{2} D^{-1/2} H \lambda_i H^* = \frac{1}{2} H \lambda_i H^* D^{-1/2}
\]

Using the above expressions it follows that

\[
m_{\theta(i)} = [I + H \phi K]_{\theta(i)} D^{1/2} + [I + H \phi K][D^{1/2}]_{\theta(i)} = H \phi \left[ \Pi^\dagger \phi P + \frac{1}{2} (I + \tau) \lambda_i \right] H^* D^{-1/2}
\]

Using the above in the relationship

\[
\dot{m} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} m_{\theta(i)} \dot{\theta}(i)
\]

leads to Eq. (A.30)

Appendix B: Operator Identities

The following lemmas contain some useful operator identities used in this paper.

Lemma B.1:

\[
[I - H \psi K] H \phi = H \psi 
\]

(B.1)

\[
\phi K [I - H \psi K] = \psi K 
\]

(B.2)

\[
\phi M \phi^* H^* = [I + \phi K H] P \phi^* H^* 
\]

(B.3)

\[
H \phi \tilde{\tau} = H \phi E_\psi 
\]

(11.1)
Proof: We have that

\[ \psi^{-1} - \phi^{-1} \begin{align*} &\psi &\phi \\ &E_{\psi} &E_{\phi} \\ &\phi \tau &\phi \tau \\ &KH &KH \end{align*} \ (B.5) \]

Pre-and post-multiplying this by \( \psi \) and \( \phi \) respectively it follows that

\[ \phi - \psi = \psi \phi \]

from which Eq. (11.1) follows. Similarly, pre-and post-multiplying Eq. (B.5) by \( \phi \) and \( \psi \) respectively leads to Eq. (B.2).

Pre-and post-multiplying Eq. (4.9) by \( \phi \) and \( \phi^* \) respectively leads to

\[ \phi M \phi^* \begin{align*} &\phi P \phi^* - \phi \tau P \phi^* \\ &\phi P \phi^* - \phi \tau P \phi^* \\ &\phi P + \phi P \phi^* - \phi \tau P \phi^* \\ &\phi P + \phi K H P \phi^* - \phi \tau P = \phi \tau P + [I + \phi K H] P \phi^* \end{align*} \]

Post multiplying the above by \( H^* \) and noting that

\[ \tau P H \begin{align*} &\tau P \phi^* \\ &\tau P \phi^* \end{align*} \quad \text{and} \quad \tau^* H^* = 0 \]  

leads to Eq. (B.3).

We have

\[ H \phi E_{\phi} \begin{align*} &H \phi \tau \\ &H \phi \tau \end{align*} \quad \text{H} \phi \tau \]

and thus establishing Eq. (B.4).

Lemma B.2:

\[ H \left[ \tilde{V}^* \phi - \phi \tilde{V}^* \right] = H \phi \Omega \phi \]  

Proof: In this proof, whenever it is more convenient, we use the notation \( A^* \) in place of \( A \). For any spatial vector \( \hat{X} \in \mathbb{R}^6 \) and any \( l \in \mathbb{R}^3 \) it is easy to verify that

\[ [\phi^*(l) \hat{X}]^* = \phi^*(l) \hat{X} \phi^*(l) \quad \text{where} \quad \phi(l) \triangleq \begin{pmatrix} I_3 & l \\ 0 & I_3 \end{pmatrix} \]  

Recall that

\[ V^+(k) = \phi^*(k+1, k) V(k-1, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad V(k) = V^+(k) + H^* \tilde{\theta}(k) \]

Applying Eq. (B.8) to \( V(k + 1) \) and \( V^+(k) \) we have

\[ \tilde{V}^+(k) = [\phi^*(k+1, k) V(k + 1, 1) \phi^*(k+1, k) \tilde{V}(k + 1, 1) \phi^*(k+1, k)] \]

\[ \Rightarrow \tilde{V}^+(k) \phi^*(k+1, k) = \phi^*(k+1, k) \tilde{V}(k + 1, 1) \phi^*(k+1, k) \]  

Eq. (B.9) can be re-expressed at the operator level in the form

\[ E_{\phi}^* \tilde{V} = \tilde{V}^+ E_{\phi}^* = \tilde{V} E_{\phi}^* - \Omega \tilde{E}_{\phi}^* \]  

(B.10)
Thus we have

\[-\mathcal{E}_\phi \hat{V}^* \quad (H.10) \quad -\hat{V}^* \mathcal{E}_\phi + \mathcal{E}_\phi \hat{\Omega}_\delta \]
\[\implies \phi^{-1} \hat{V}^* \quad (A.11) \quad \hat{V}^* \phi^{-1} + \mathcal{E}_\phi \hat{\Omega}_\delta \]
\[\implies \hat{V}^* \quad (A.11) \quad \phi \{\hat{V}^* \phi^{-1} + \hat{\Omega}_\delta\} + \hat{\Omega}_\delta \]
\[\implies H \hat{V}^* = H \phi \{\hat{V}^* \phi^{-1} + \hat{\Omega}_\delta\} \]
\[\implies H \hat{V}^* \phi = H \phi \hat{V}^* + H \phi \hat{\Omega}_\delta \phi \]

We have made use of the fact that

\[H(k)\hat{\Omega}(k) = 0 \implies H \hat{\Omega}_\delta \quad (A.3) \] 0