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SELF-LEARNING OF DELTA ROBOT USING INVERSE KINEMATICS AND ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS

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Abstract

As known as Parallel-Link Robot, Delta Robot is a kind of Manipulator Robot that consists of three arms mounted in parallel. Delta Robot has a central joint constructed as an end-effector represented as a gripper. An Analysis of Inverse Kinematic (IK) used to convert the end-effector trajectory (X, Y) into rotations of stepper motors (Z_A , Z_B and Z_C). The proposed method used Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) to simplify the process of IK solver. The IK solver generated the datasets contain motion data of the Delta robot. There are 11 KB Datasets consist of 200 motion data used to be trained. The proposed method was trained in 58.78 seconds in 5000 iterations. Using a learning rate (α) 0.05 and produced the average accuracy was 97.48%, and the average loss was 0.43%. The proposed method was also tested to transfer motion data over Socket.IO with 115.58B in 6.68ms.

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Keywords:

Artificial Neural Network; Delta Robot; Inverse Kinematics; Motion Data; Socket.IO;

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INTRODUCTION

Robots can be classified into two topologies, namely Serial Manipulator and Parallel Manipulator [1]. The parallel manipulator has abilities such as acceleration, stiffness, low inertia, high precision, and faster per-cycle operations. Serial manipulator produced slower movement because of its connected link a chain, and each joint has a mass in which needs to be calculated to achieve the dynamic manipulator. Meanwhile, The Delta Robot joints are mechanically separated to achieves faster movement by using low inertia. Nevertheless, there are still shortcomings in the Delta robot that is a relatively small workspace robot.

Delta Robot consists of three arms that are connected to the base and effector using a universal joint. The key of Delta robot design is using a parallelogram mechanism to maintain the orientation of the end-effector to the base. Since the Delta robot's Original Patent expired in December 2006 (Europe) and December 2007 (America), the development of research and implementation of the Delta robot has become more widespread [2][3]. The implementation of the Delta robot is used as a type of 3D Printer, Sketcher Robot, Laser Cutting Robot, and Pick and Place robot. So far, the Delta robot has been developed with a focus on a kinematic analysis of the robot's movement.

Kinematics is a mathematical model that describes the movement of end-effectors through Cartesian coordinates of the active joint position variable or vice versa. However, mathematical calculations of kinematics do not fully reflect perfect results in actual application. There is a position error caused by component manufacturing tolerance, assembly programming, and the dynamic influence of robot mechanics. On the other hand, the translation of forwarding and inverse kinematics on Delta robots is a fairly difficult problem.

The Inverse Kinematics (IK) of a Delta Robot has been derived in several methods. Some methods are numerical algorithm, geometrical method, genetic algorithm (GA), reduced method, polynomial method, fuzzy algorithm, fuzzy PID [4], Feed Forward Neural Network, Fuzzy Neural Network, Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO), etc. [5].

Previous work has been done to solve the IK problem using Neural Network (NN). NN can be used to control validations of the IK model. IK model is created based on the robot's geometry and dynamic to solve the forward kinematics problem [4][5].

Other solutions to solve the IK problem of Delta Robot can be by using a hybrid approach are artificial neural network and particle swarm optimization (ANN-PSO) model in the behavior prediction and optimization of channel connectors embedded in normal and high-strength concrete (HSC) [6, 7, 8].

An interesting topic also explained that IK solution could be solved using neural networks combined with a genetic algorithm (GA) [9, 10, 11]. NN-GA is an optimal design method for the parallel robot, which maximizes the volume of the workspace of parallel robots. The neural network learns the motion model of the robot. Then, the genetic algorithm uses this model to generate the optimal parameters of the robot [12].

To overcome this, the proposed method to solve the IK problem is using an Artificial Neural Network (ANN). Our proposed method's loss can be minimised by finding an optimum ANN architecture by constructing the layers, the activation function, and the optimizer. On the other hand, our proposed method is implemented using Socket.IO channels to distribute the pre-model of our IK-ANN data.

METHOD

This paper created the Delta robot using the Inverse Kinematics method as an initializing value for the Artificial Neural Network training data. The results of the end-effector position forwarded to the motor motion execution for a displacement of the effector position. Figure 1 shows the process of the proposed method while it trains and tests the ANN Model.

The IK dataset was generated in small rows (200 rows of IK data). The inputs contain any positions of the end-effector on the base frame R'(O' - x'y'z'). The outputs contain any directions on Z - axis ($Z_A, Z_B, and Z_C$). ANN Model (pretrained) used to train (the dataset) and to test (random inputs) to predict the direction on Z - axis ($Z_A, Z_B, and Z_C$). Socket.IO implemented as a communication platform in which will broadcast any random input (x, y) from delta robot then tested on ANN trained model to generate a predictive value of ($Z_A, Z_B, and Z_C$).

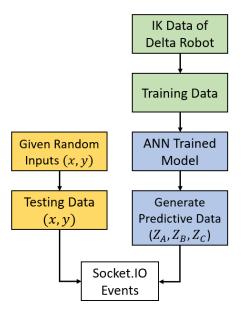


Figure 1. IK-ANN Block Diagram

Inverse Kinematics (IK) Analysis

Inverse Kinematics on this robot is very necessary for the design of robot motion. This function is to find the position of the entire linear actuator or slider towards the end effector. For example, if the end-effector position moves to position X with respect to position 0, then how much displacement changes (up/down) of the three linear actuators or sliders. In this section, the analysis is based on Stolfi [12].

Delta robot consists of the top platform, bottom platform, and end effector. The reference remains on the R(O - xyz) frame system located in the middle on the upper platform (*ABC* triangle). The *Z*-axis is parallel to the end effector, and the *Y*-axis is parallel to *CO*, as shown in Figure 2.

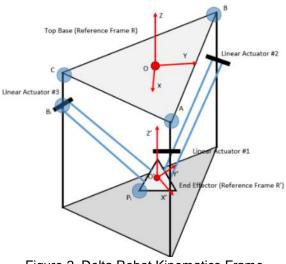


Figure 2. Delta Robot Kinematics Frame

Another reference is the system R'(O' - x'y'z') located in the middle of the end effector (triangle P_1, P_2, P_3). The *Z*-axis 'is in the direction perpendicular to the end effector, and the *Y*-axis' is parallel along P_3O' .

As a geometry parameter, where [4]:

$$OA = OB = OC = R \tag{1}$$

$$O'P_1 = O'P_2 = O'P_3 = r$$
 (2)

$$B_1 P_1 = B_2 P_2 = B_3 P_3 = L \tag{3}$$

The object of inverse kinematics is to determine the position of three linear actuators due to changes in point O' (middle of the end effector) to the global reference of the *R* system. Point O' in frame *R* can be written as:

$$[O']R = (xyz)T \tag{4}$$

The coordinates of the point P_i in frame R' can be written as:

$$[P_i]R' = (rcos(n_i), rsin(n_i), 0)T$$
(5)

Where i = 1, 2, 3 and:

$$n(i) = \frac{4i-3}{6}\pi \tag{6}$$

Adding from two vectors at once will get the position of P_i with respect to the 0 - xyz frame [3].

$$[P_i]R = (rcos(n_i) + x, rsin(n_i) + y, z)T$$
 (7)

Meanwhile, to determine the Bi point on frame R:

$$[B_i]R = (Rcos(n_i), Rsin(n_i), x_i)T$$
(8)

Where Z_i Above is the *Z*-axis position to be searched as the position of each linear actuator concerning the frame R reference. As it is known:

$$L = |[P_i - B_i]| \tag{9}$$

Then it can be specified as:

$$(x - x_i)^2 + (y - y_i)^2 + (z - z_i)^2 = L^2$$
 (10)

Where:

By rearranging Equation 10:

$$z = \pm \sqrt{L^2 - (x - x_i)^2 - (y - y_i)^2}$$
(13)

To find the desired position z point on each actuator from the Delta robot, only the positive form of (13) is used.

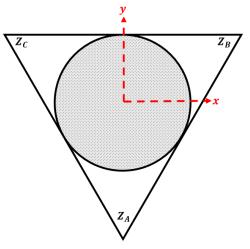


Figure 3. Sketch of dots for Dataset in Workspace

The coordinate frame of the Delta Robot shown in Figure 2 can be depicted as the desired coordinates of the end-effector. Figure 3 shows a sketch of dots for Dataset in Workspace. This method is easily used to see the data distribution of the delta robot workspace.

Artificial Neural Network (ANN)

An intelligence platform inspired by the biological neurons can conveniently learn patterns and predict high-dimensional data distributions [6][11]. ANN design is needed as an initial description of how ANN works as a substitute for inverse kinematics' repetitive mathematical calculation process to determine the *Z*-axis position of the slider against the X - Y coordinate end-effector. ANN consists of the input layer, hidden layer, and output layer. Figure 4 shows the components among the layers [13, 14, 15].

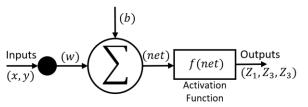


Figure 4. The architecture of ANN Delta Robot [6]

The Input layer contains activations of endeffector coordinates defined as x and y in which formulated as

$$F = f(net) = f(x, y) \tag{14}$$

f(x, y) defines as the activation function in the desired direction should be [6, 16, 17],

$$f(x,y)_j = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\sum_{j=1}^n w_{jk} x_j + b_j}}$$
(15)

The output layer represents the desired position of *z* positions on each actuator described in (13) (Z_A , Z_B , and Z_C). To calculate the backpropagation process defined as f' (or called δ_j Aka "delta"). The derivative of the activation function f(x, y) and γ as a learning rate. So, the weights will be graded when the gradient descent is calculated by [18, 19, 20],

$$\delta_j = f'(x, y) \sum_{j=1}^n W_{jk} \,\delta_j \tag{16}$$

Socket.IO

Socket.IO is used to distribute the data among the environment by using events called 'onListening' and events 'onEmit.' Events 'onListening' is an event to retrieve incoming data in which distributed through its event. Events 'onEmit' is an event to transmit any data into its event [21][22].

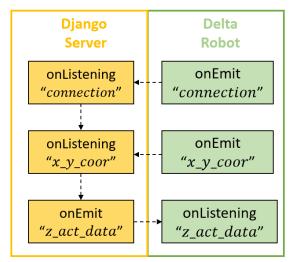


Figure 5. Socket.IO Events [20]

Figure 5 represents the Socket.IO events used to distribute data among platforms. The data was trained on the Django server and distribution through socket.IO event onListening ' x_y -coor' in which waiting to receive end-effector data (x, y) from the robot delta. then emitting an event ' z_act_data' , which mean the predictive z actuator data (Z_A , Z_B , and Z_C)

Proposed Design

Table 1 shows the hyperparameter that might be used to find the optimum ANN architecture to the Sole IK problem as described above.

Table 1. Hyperparameter of ANN				
Parameters	Choices	Selected Parameters		
Number of Layers	[3,4,5,6,7,8]	3		
Number of Neurons in Hidden Layers	[2, 4, 6,]	2, 6, 12		
Activation Functions	['ReLU', 'Sigmoid', 'TanH', 'Leaky ReLu']	'Leaky ReLu'		
Optimizer	['SGD', 'ADAM']	'ADAM'		
Activation Functions Rate γ	[0.01. 0.02, 1.0]	0.05		

The hyperparameters were selected as the parameter to build ANN architecture in which to find the optimum values of the number of layers, number of hidden layers, activation functions, optimizer, and the learning rate.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The following is the prototype that was completed as describes in Figure 2. As shown in Figure 3, the inverse kinematics inputs taken by the coordinate of the end-effector (x and y) to produce the desired Z position in direction A, B and C (Z_A , Z_B , and Z_C)

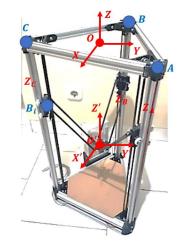


Figure 6. Prototype of Delta Robot

The dataset from robot motion in Figure 6. 200 rows of motion data were collected and stored as a CSV file.

ANN Training

The training process was performed using Intel(R) Core© i5-6300HQ CPU@2.30GHz, 16GB RAM, and NVIDIA GeForce GTX 960M 4GB VRAM. The training process followed the hyperparameter shown in Table 1. The training performance was captured in Figure 7.

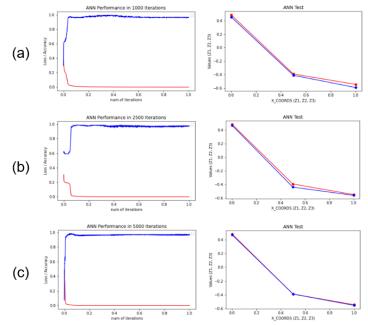


Figure 7. The ANN Loss and Accuracy in: (a) 1000 iterations, (b) 2500 iterations, and (c) 5000 iterations

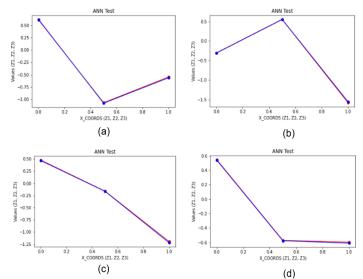


Figure 8. The Testing Performance of Single Motion: (a) Motion Set 1, (b) Motion Set 2, (c) Motion Set 3, and Motion Set 4

Figure 7 shows the performance of the ANN Loss and Accuracy. The loss is presented as the red line of the left graph, and the accuracy is presented as the blue line of the left graph. Figure 7(a) shows the loss decreased and the accuracy increased in 1000 iterations. Figure 7(b) shows the loss decreased and the accuracy increased in 2500 iterations. Figure 7(c) shows the loss decreased and the accuracy increased in 5000 iterations. The detailed values of ANN Loss and accuracy were captured in this Table 2.

Table 2 shows the selected hyperparameter was performed in 1000 iterations, 2500 iterations,

and 5000 iterations. The loss was decreased by 0.0043 in 5000 iterations, and the accuracy was increased by 0.9748 in 5000 iterations. This iteration step was executed in 58.7826 seconds.

ANN Testing

Single point of end-effector coordinated tested as desired coordinated of x and y shown in Figure 7.

The proposed method was tested in single desired coordinated as a set of motion. Figure 8 represents four motions that were tested in Figure 8(a), Figure 8(b), Figure 8(c), and Figure 8(d). By

given any input *x* and *y*, will produce any desired actuators positions in Z-directions (Z_A , Z_B , and Z_C). The detailed values of ANN testing performance were captured in this Table 3.

algorithm performance to generate 50 motions in the direction Z_A (Figure 9(a)), Z_B (Figure 9(b)), Z_C (Figure 9(c)), and combined (Figure 9(d)).

The proposed method was implemented to perform *n* Motions and captured in actuator direction Z_A, Z_B , and Z_C . Figure 9 shows the

|--|

	1000 iterations	2500 iterations	5000 iterations
Executed time (seconds)	12.5525	29.7373	58.7826
Num of Epoch	1000	2500	5000
Average Loss	0.0787	0.0131	0.0043
Average Accuracy	0.9322	0.9528	0.9748
Activation Function	Leaky-ReLu	Leaky-ReLu	Leaky-ReLu
Optimizer	Adam	Adam	Adam
Learning Rate (α)	0.05	0.05	0.05
Lavers	261263	261263	261263

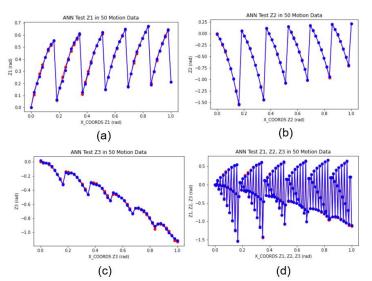


Figure 9. The Testing Performance of 50 Motions: (a) Motion Data of Z_A , (b) Motion Data of Z_B , (c) Motion Data of Z_C And (d) Motion Data of Z_A , Z_B , and Z_C

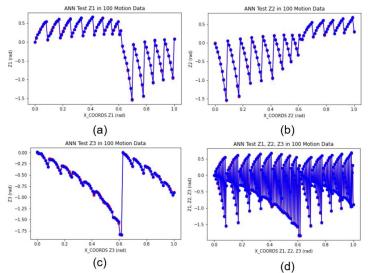


Figure 10. The Testing Performance of 100 Motions: (a) Motion Data of Z_A , (b) Motion Data of Z_B , (c) Motion Data of Z_C And (d) Motion Data of Z_A , Z_B , and Z_C

(a) Motion Set 1, (b) Motion Set 2, (c) Motion Set 3, and Motion Set 4					
Motion Set		1	2	3	4
Inputs (meter)	х	0.7	0.5	0.3	-0.4
	Y	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.7
Target (Radian)	Z_A	0.6086	0.5482	0.4784	-0.3098
	Z_B	-1.0696	-0.5705	-0.1597	0.5508
	Z_{c}	-0.5474	-0.5971	-1.1973	-1.5789
Predicted (Radian)	Z_A	0.6256	0.5405	0.4675	-0.3031
	Z_B	-1.0751	-0.5763	-0.1646	0.5553
	Z_c	-0.5255	-0.6099	-1.2226	-1.5499

Table 3. The Testing Performance of Single Motion

Figure 10 shows the algorithm performance to generate 100 motions in the direction Z_A (Figure 10(a), Z_B (Figure 10(b)), Z_C (Figure 10(c)), and combined (Figure 10(d)).

The desired 50 motions` Z values are shown in the blue line, which is compared with the actual values represented in the red line.

Table 4 shows the Socket.IO response within a set of motion with 115.6B processed in 6.68 ms, 50 sets of motion with 912.3B processed in 216.35 ms, and 100 sets of motion with 1712.1B processed in 335.56 ms.

Table 4. Socket.IO Response				
Inputs (motions)	1	50	100	
Data Size (Byte)	115.6	912.3	1712.1	
Socket.IO Response (<i>ms</i>)	6.68	216.35	335.56	

CONCLUSION

This study has developed the method to determine the end-effector position using inverse kinematics and substitute by Artificial Neural Network. All the equations are used to determine the position of the slider that will be dataset for ANN. The proposed method used Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) to simplify the process of IK solver. The IK solver generated the datasets contain motion data of the Delta robot. 11KB Datasets consist of 200 motion data used to be trained. The proposed method was trained in 58.78 seconds in 5000 iterations. Using a learning rate (α) 0.05 produced an average accuracy of 97.48%, and the average loss was 0.43%. The proposed method was also tested to transfer motion data over Socket.IO with 115.58B in 6.68ms.

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