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# ANALYSIS OF A PARALLEL ROBOT FOR MICRO MOVEMENTS

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**Abstract.** This paper is concerned with the analysis of a parallel robot of the kind 3-revolute-prismatic-spherical (3-RPS), encompassing its inverse and direct kinematics, inverse dynamics, and workspace. The dynamics is studied using the Lagrange formulation, whereas the workspace is obtained by direct solution of the direct kinematic model. The main properties of the model are illustrated by means of simulation results.

**Keywords:** 3-RPS, Parallel Robot, Kinematics, Dynamics, Workspace

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Compared to their serial counterparts, parallel robots perform better in terms of precision, stiffness, and load-to-mass ratio, at the price of reduced workspace and application flexibility (Huang *et al.*, 2013). The best-known parallel mechanism is the Stewart Platform (Stewart, 1965), which is able to move on six degrees of freedom (*dof*) and is largely used in flight simulators. As presented by Clavel (1989), Gosselin and Hamel (1994), Wang and Gosselin (1997), Wang and Gosselin (1998), Li and Xu (2005), Huang *et al.* (2013), many practical applications do not require the use of all six *dof*, however, it is possible to develop simpler platforms to allow for significant cost reductions. Within this context, we highlight the 3-RPS parallel mechanism, with three degrees of freedom, proposed by H. Hunt (1983). This mechanism consists of three identical linear actuators, each one with one extremity linked through a spherical joint to a movable platform, and the other to a fixed base through a rotational joint, as shown in Fig. 1(a). This work is dedicated to analyzing its main kinematic and dynamic features.

## 2. KINEMATICS

Kinematics of parallel robots are fundamentally different from those of serial ones (Dasgupta and Mruthyunjaya, 2000). Thus, for ease of understanding, the proposed model is presented here in a reversed order from that usually found for serial manipulators: first, the *inverse* kinematics model is discussed, whereas the *direct* one is shown afterwards.

### 2.1 Inverse Kinematics

The robot consists of a mobile platform  $B_1B_2B_3$ , a base  $A_1A_2A_3$  and three extendable links,  $A_1B_1$ ,  $A_2B_2$  and  $A_3B_3$  of lengths  $d_1, d_2, d_3$  respectively. The three platform vertices  $B_1, B_2, B_3$  are equally spaced by 120 degrees in a radius  $h$  of its center of mass  $P$ . Likewise, the base vertices  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  are equally spaced the center  $O$ , at a distance  $g \geq h$ . Two coordinate systems  $A(XYZ)$  and  $B(XYZ)$  are attached to the centers of the platform and of the base, respectively, with the axis  $x$  is aligned with  $\overline{PB_1}$ , the points  $A_1, A_2$  and  $A_3$  are on the plane  $XY$  and the vector  $\overline{OA_1}$  coincides with the axis  $X$ .

The position vectors of  $B_1, B_2$  and  $B_3$  with respect to the base frame  $A(XYZ)$  are:

$$\mathbf{q}_i = \mathbf{p} + {}^A_B \mathbf{R}^B \mathbf{b}_i, \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{p}$  is the position of the center of the moving platform,  ${}^A_B \mathbf{R}$  is the rotational matrix from  $A(XYZ)$  to  $B(XYZ)$  and  ${}^B \mathbf{b}_i$  is the position of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  vertex related to  $B(XYZ)$ . Applying the geometric relations shown in Fig. 1(b), Eq. (1) becomes:

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} p_x + hu_x \\ p_y + hu_y \\ p_z + hu_z \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} p_x - \frac{1}{2}hu_x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}hv_x \\ p_y - \frac{1}{2}hu_y + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}hv_y \\ p_z - \frac{1}{2}hu_z + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}hv_z \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{q}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} p_x - \frac{1}{2}hu_x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}hv_x \\ p_y - \frac{1}{2}hu_y - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}hv_y \\ p_z - \frac{1}{2}hu_z - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}hv_z \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

where  $u_x, u_y, u_z, v_x, v_y, v_z$  are the director cosines of  $({}^A_B \mathbf{R})$  and  $p_x, p_y, p_z$  are the elements  $x, y, z$  of  $\mathbf{p}$ .

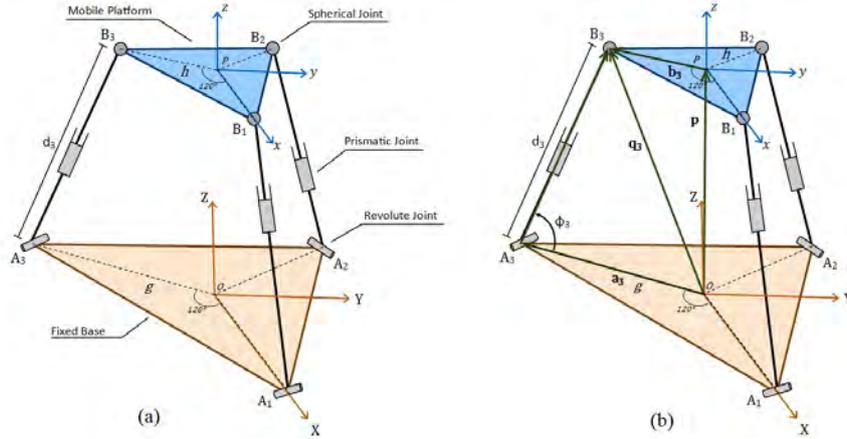


Figure 1: (a) 3-RPS mechanism. (b) Vectors of the vertices of the mechanism.

Due to the rotation joints, movement of the platform vertices on the  $x$ - and  $y$ - axes is restricted by:

$$q_{1y} = 0, \quad q_{2y} = -\sqrt{3}q_{2x}, \quad q_{3y} = \sqrt{3}q_{3x} \quad (3)$$

Therefore, from Eq. (2) and Eq. (3), one obtains the following constraint relations:

$$u_y = v_x, \quad p_y = -hu_y, \quad p_x = \frac{1}{2}h(u_x - v_y) \quad (4)$$

Alternatively, this solution can be expressed by the cosine directors in terms of Z-Y-Z Euler angles ( $\gamma, \beta, \alpha$ ):

$$\gamma = -\alpha, \quad p_y = \frac{1}{2}h(1 - c\beta)c2\alpha, \quad p_x = -\frac{1}{2}h(1 - c\beta)s2\alpha \quad (5)$$

where  $c\beta = \cos(\beta)$ ,  $c2\alpha = \cos(2\alpha)$  and  $s2\alpha = \sin(2\alpha)$ . From the restriction conditions, one concludes that three parameters must be chosen to determine the mechanism pose. However, since  $p_z$  is the only one that is completely free, it must be included in any choice set, whereas two others can be freely taken from the remaining five ( $p_x, p_y, \alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$ ). Although the mechanism has three degrees of freedom, the three Euler angles cannot be freely selected simultaneously because there are two angles that are function of each other in this case  $\gamma$  and  $\alpha$ . For a given coordinate ( $p_x, p_y$ ) there are two sets of Euler angles, ( $\alpha, \beta$ ) and ( $\alpha, -\beta$ ), in the order Z-Y-Z. In this paper the set ( $\alpha, \beta$ ) is considered. After obtaining the dependent variables, it is possible to calculate the vectors related to the legs  $A_iB_i$  with Eq.( 6).

$$\mathbf{d}_i = \mathbf{q}_i - \mathbf{a}_i, \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (6)$$

## 2.2 Direct Kinematics

The direct kinematics analysis is based on the relation between the lengths of the mechanism legs ( $d_1, d_2, d_3$ ) and their angles with respect to the base ( $\phi_1, \phi_2$ , and  $\phi_3$ ), which yields:

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} g - d_1 \cos(\phi_1) \\ 0 \\ d_1 \sin(\phi_1) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}(g - d_2 \cos(\phi_2)) \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}(g - d_2 \cos(\phi_2)) \\ d_2 \sin(\phi_2) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{q}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}(g - d_3 \cos(\phi_3)) \\ -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}(g - d_3 \cos(\phi_3)) \\ d_3 \sin(\phi_3) \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

Due to the geometric restriction posed by the shape of the platform, the distance between two adjacent spherical joints is always  $\sqrt{3}h$ . Thus, applying such restriction to Eq.( 7) leads to:

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= d_1^2 + d_2^2 + 3g^2 - 3h^2 + d_1d_2\cos(\phi_1)\cos(\phi_2) - 2d_1d_2\sin(\phi_1)\sin(\phi_2) - 3gd_1\cos(\phi_1) - 3gd_2\cos(\phi_2) \\ f_2 &= d_2^2 + d_3^2 + 3g^2 - 3h^2 + d_2d_3\cos(\phi_2)\cos(\phi_3) - 2d_2d_3\sin(\phi_2)\sin(\phi_3) - 3gd_2\cos(\phi_2) - 3gd_3\cos(\phi_3) \\ f_3 &= d_3^2 + d_1^2 + 3g^2 - 3h^2 + d_3d_1\cos(\phi_3)\cos(\phi_1) - 2d_3d_1\sin(\phi_3)\sin(\phi_1) - 3gd_3\cos(\phi_3) - 3gd_1\cos(\phi_1) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

The equations system described in Eq.( 8) may generate up to 8 results for a given set of leg lengths  $d_1, d_2$  and  $d_3$ , of which only one is correct for the robot ((Tsai, 1999), (Lukanin, 2005), (Ghosal, 2006)). Fig. 2 shows the 8 possible results for the equations system for a given value for  $d_1, d_2$  and  $d_3$  (in this case  $d_1 = d_2 = d_3$ ). In practical applications this calculation is simplified by restricting the possible physical values of  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3$  which the robot can achieve due to design constraints in the prismatic joints (minimum and maximum position of the actuators) and the spherical joints (maximum possible angles).

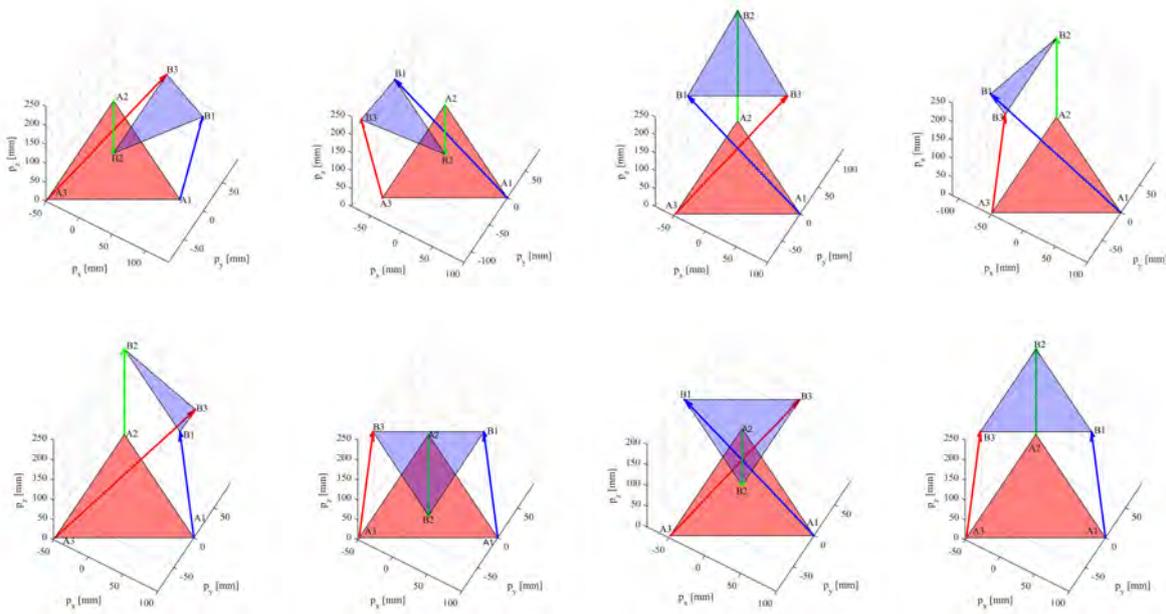


Figure 2: Eight possible results for the system equation.

### 3. WORKSPACE

The manipulator workspace can be obtained by calculating the inverse kinematics, but this methodology does not take into account the physical limits imposed by the joints. To include this effect, it is convenient to use the direct kinematics of the manipulator by directly specifying the values of  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$  and  $d_3$ . From the analysis performed by Sokolov (2013), it can be shown that the workspace of the centroid of the platform is limited in the plane X-Y by the cylinder with a radius equal to  $h$  (the platform radius). This limitation is independent of the maximum length provided by the prismatic joints, i.e., such cylinder has an infinite  $p_z$  coordinate, and this approach does not take into account singular positions reached by the mechanism. The Fig. 3 shows the initial position where  $p_x = p_y = 0$  and the limit positions, where the centroid of the moving platform reach the surface of the theoretical cylinder for a mechanism with  $h = 120\text{ mm}$ .

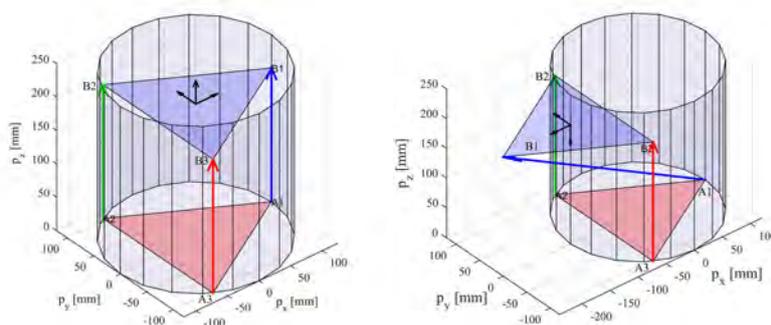


Figure 3: Theoretical workspace.

The computation of the working space through inverse kinematics and the fact that the limitations imposed by the joints are not taken into account are mentioned in Lukanin (2005). In the same work, it is shown that it is useful to discretize the leg lengths, solve for the direct kinematics and thus construct the boundary of the workspace as a set of discrete points in the cartesian space. This procedure avoids exploring solutions in the Cartesian space that are not feasible for the actual mechanism, thus reducing calculation efforts. In this work according to this approach, the mechanism workspace was constructed by discretization of the leg lengths in 1-mm steps, varying from 200 mm to 250 mm, totaling 50 points for each leg. Fig. 4 shows the practical workspace compared to the theoretical one, which is much larger.

Also from Fig. 4, it is clear that the centroid displacement is much smaller than those of the actuators' extremities, which emphasizes the utility of this mechanism for generating micro movements. The three-dimensional representation of the effective workspace is shown in Fig. 5.

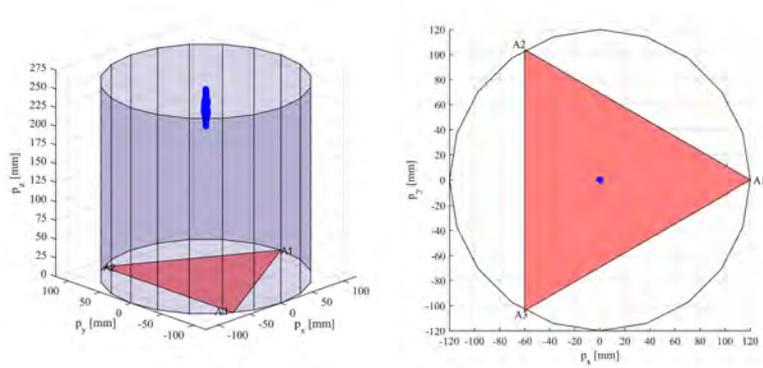


Figure 4: Effective workspace compared to the theoretical workspace.

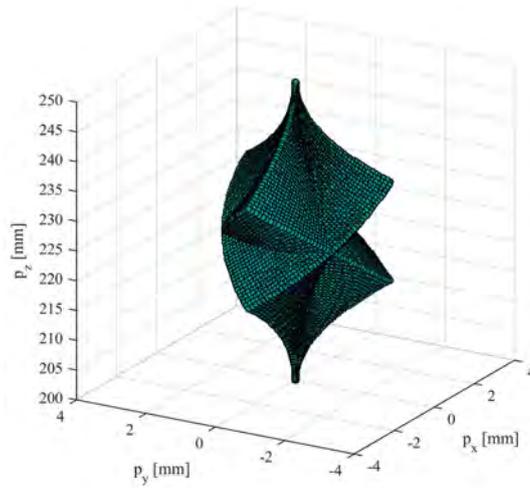


Figure 5: Effective workspace in detail.

The Fig. 6 shows in detail the workspace in the planes X-Y, X-Z and Y-Z. These views are helpful in further illustrating the micro movement characteristics of the mechanism. For instance, the values for  $p_x$  and  $p_y$  do not exceed 2,5 mm, for a 50-mm variation of the leg lengths.  $p_z$  is the only coordinate at the same scale of the variations of leg lengths.

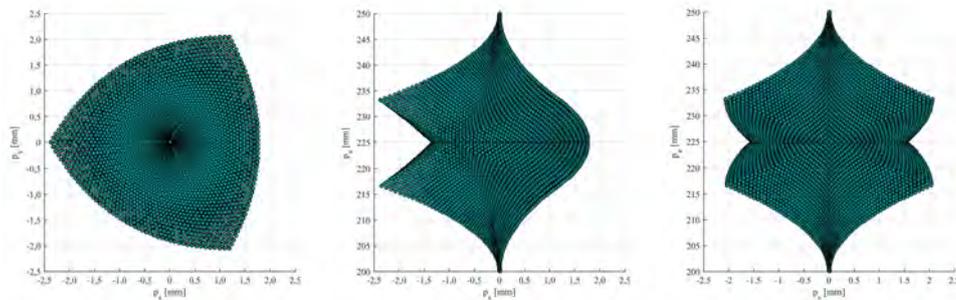


Figure 6: Effective workspace in planes X-Y, X-Z and Y-Z.

#### 4. DYNAMICS

In this study, the dynamics of the mechanism is modeled according to the Lagrangian formulation, as described in detail in Almeida (2018). This methodology is widely used in the field of robotics, and in the specific case of the 3-RPS robot, similar methodologies can be found in Lee and Shah (1988) and Li and Xu (2005).

#### 4.1 Lagrange's equations of the first kind

The main premise made in the discussion of the dynamics of the mechanisms is that all the elements are formed by rigid bodies. The Lagrange formulation is based on obtaining the kinetic and potential energies of each link of the manipulator. Once the energies are calculated the Lagrangian of the system is defined. The Lagrange equation is a function of the generalized coordinates  $\mathbf{q}$  and their time derivative  $\dot{\mathbf{q}}$ , Eq.( 9).

$$L(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = K - P \quad (9)$$

where  $K$  is the total kinematic energy and  $P$  the total potential energy of the system,  $\mathbf{q}$  is the vector with the generalized coordinates and  $\dot{\mathbf{q}}$  is its time derivative given in the Eq.( 10).

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \\ d_3 \\ \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \\ \phi_3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{d}_1 \\ \dot{d}_2 \\ \dot{d}_3 \\ \dot{\phi}_1 \\ \dot{\phi}_2 \\ \dot{\phi}_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

Eq.( 9) is also known as the Second Type Lagrange Equation. However, as pointed out by Ghosal (2006), in parallel robots and closed-chain mechanisms, there are a number of chain closure constraint equations (also known as holonomic constraints) that are written as:

$$f_j(\mathbf{q}) = 0, \quad j = 1, 2, 3 \quad (11)$$

The constraint equations, Eq.( 11), are the same as the aforementioned Eq.( 7). For the specific case of the 3-RPS mechanism the generalized coordinates are formed by three independent coordinates ( $d_1, d_2$  and  $d_3$ ) and three dependent coordinates ( $\phi_1, \phi_2$  and  $\phi_3$ ). In this case, in order to obtain the equation of motion, the concept of Lagrange Multipliers is used. The following Eq.( 12) is the Lagrange's equations of the first kind.

$$\bar{L}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = L(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) - \sum_{j=1}^3 \lambda_j \frac{\partial f_j(\mathbf{q})}{\partial q_i}, \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3 \quad (12)$$

where  $\lambda_j$  are the Lagrange multipliers introduced and must be determined.

#### 4.2 Obtaining kinematic and potential energy of the system

In order to obtain the differential equations a through the lagrange formulation it is necessary to obtain the kinetic and potential energies of the system. In this study, the parameters to calculate the dynamics of the manipulator considered masses and moments of inertia similar to the ones determined by Almeida (2018). The kinetic energy of the mobile platform is given by Eq.(13).

$$K_{plat} = \frac{1}{2}m\mathbf{V}^T\mathbf{V} + \frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\Omega}^T\mathbf{I}\boldsymbol{\Omega} \quad (13)$$

where,  $m$  is the mobile platform mass,  $\mathbf{I}$  is the platform inertia tensor given by the Eq.( 14),  $\mathbf{V}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$  are the linear and angular velocities of the mobile platform respectively and are given by Eq.( 15).

$$\mathbf{I} = {}^A_B \mathbf{R} \mathbf{I}_{local} {}^A_B \mathbf{R} \quad (14)$$

where  $\mathbf{I}_{local}$  is the platform local inertia tensor.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V} \\ \boldsymbol{\Omega} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{q}} \quad (15)$$

where  $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})$  is the Jacobian matrix in generalized coordinates. The calculation of the Jacobian matrix can be found in Ghosal (2006) and Almeida (2018).

For the calculation of the kinetic energy of the legs, the premise to be made is that the distance to the rotational joint from the center of mass of each leg does not change with time. In this case the mass of the movable part of each actuator is neglected. This initial idea was proposed by Lee and Shah (1988), considering that most of the mass of the linear actuator

is in the lower part fixed to the rotational joint. The kinetic energy of the legs can then be described in matrix form in Eq.( 16).

$$K_{leg} = \frac{1}{2} m_{leg} \mathbf{V}_{leg}^T \mathbf{V}_{leg} + \frac{1}{2} I_{leg} \dot{\phi}^T \dot{\phi} \quad (16)$$

where  $m_{leg}$  is the each leg mass,  $I_{leg}$  is the inertia momentum of each leg in relation to the revolute joint,  $\mathbf{V}_{leg}$  is the vector containing the linear velocities of the center of mass of each leg given in Eq.( 17) and  $\dot{\phi}$  the vector containing the angular velocities of each leg given in Eq.( 18).

$$\mathbf{V}_{leg} = r \dot{\phi} \quad (17)$$

where  $r$  is the distance from the center of mass of a leg relative to its respective rotational joint.

$$\dot{\phi} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi}_1 \\ \dot{\phi}_2 \\ \dot{\phi}_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (18)$$

where  $\dot{\phi}_i$  is the  $i^{th}$  leg angular velocity. The potential energy of the whole system is described through generalized coordinates. The potential energy of the mobile platform is given by Eq.( 19)

$$P_{plat} = 9.81 \times p_z \quad (19)$$

The value of  $p_z$  can be calculated from the arithmetic mean of the spherical joint heights as show in Eq.( 20)

$$p_z = \frac{1}{3} (d_1 \sin(\phi_1) + d_2 \sin(\phi_2) + d_3 \sin(\phi_3)) \quad (20)$$

The potential energy of the leg set is given by Eq.( 21).

$$P_{leg} = 9.81 \times r m_{leg} (\sin(\phi_1) + \sin(\phi_2) + \sin(\phi_3)) \quad (21)$$

The kinetic energy and potential energy of the whole system are the sum of the kinetic and potential energy of the mobile platform and the leg set.

### 4.3 Inverse Dynamics

The problem of inverse dynamics consists in finding the values of torque and forces acting on a mechanism subjected to a trajectory as a function of time. The inverse dynamics in a robot, both serial and parallel, is solved directly since it involves the substitution  $\mathbf{q}$ ,  $\dot{\mathbf{q}}$  and  $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}$  in the equation of motion and solve it for  $\tau(t)$ . The calculation of  $\tau(t)$  is required for model-based control strategies such as Computed Torque. In addition, the maximum value of  $\tau_t$  for a given trajectory required in design assists in the design and choice of actuators (Ghosal, 2006). Since the actuating forces components of the vector  $\tau$  of legs 1, 2 and 3 are to be found for the 3-RPS mechanism, the leg lengths  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$  and  $d_3$  are chosen as the independent generalized coordinates, and the angles formed by the leg and base  $\phi_1$ ,  $\phi_2$ , and  $\phi_3$  are the dependent generalized coordinates. In this case the calculated forces will be those exerted by the prismatic joints. Since the kinetic energy depends on the generalized coordinates and their temporal derivatives, and while the potential energy depends only on the generalized coordinates, the motion equation can be as follows:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} = \tau_i + \sum_{j=1}^3 \lambda_j \frac{\partial f_j(\mathbf{q})}{\partial q_i}, \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (22)$$

At this point it is possible to define some parameters presented in the Eq.( 23).

$$q_i = \begin{cases} d_i, & i = 1, 2, 3 \\ \phi_{i-3}, & i = 4, 5, 6 \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

$$\tau_i = \begin{cases} F_i, & i = 1, 2, 3 \\ T_{i-3}, & i = 4, 5, 6 \end{cases}$$

where,  $F_i$  is the acting force on the prismatic joint of the  $i^{th}$  leg and  $T_i$  is the friction torque of the  $i^{th}$  revolute joint. In this study, as in Lee and Shah, 1988b, due to the difficulty of modeling the friction losses, the frictional forces in the rotational

joints are considered zero. Solving Eq.( 22), from the definitions of Eq.( 23), it is possible to rewrite the equation as show in Eq.( 24) and Eq.( 25).

For  $i = 1, 2, 3$

$$F_i = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{d}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial d_i} - \left( \lambda_1 \frac{\partial f_1(\mathbf{q})}{\partial d_i} + \lambda_2 \frac{\partial f_2(\mathbf{q})}{\partial d_i} + \lambda_3 \frac{\partial f_3(\mathbf{q})}{\partial d_i} \right) \quad (24)$$

For  $i = 4, 5, 6$

$$\lambda_1 \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \phi_{i-3}} + \lambda_2 \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \phi_{i-3}} + \lambda_3 \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial \phi_{i-3}} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\phi}_{i-3}} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \phi_{i-3}} \quad (25)$$

The Eq.( 25) is a set of three equations and three unknowns Lagrange multipliers  $\lambda_1$ ,  $\lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_3$ . Once obtained the Lagrange multipliers by the Eq.( 25) it is possible to calculate the acting forces on the prismatic joints using Eq.( 24).

In order to validate the mathematical model created a comparison with the results obtained by Sokolov, 2003, is made. In his work Sokolov (2013) got the dynamic model using virtual work approach. Sokolov (2013), also considers the mass of the mobile part of the actuators. This approach differs from the present work. To validate the model developed in this study, the same parameters of Sokolov (2013), are used.

The forces acting on the prism joints are calculated from the imposition of a helical trajectory of the center of mass of the mobile platform. The helicoid pattern has radius  $r_h$  and pitch  $p_h$  and is given by the Eq.( 26), Eq.( 27) and Eq.( 28).

$$p_x = r_h \cos(\varphi) \quad (26)$$

$$p_y = r_h \sin(\varphi) \quad (27)$$

$$p_z = z_0 + \frac{p_h}{2\pi} \varphi \quad (28)$$

where  $z_0$  is the initial value of  $p_z$  and  $\varphi$  is given by Eq.( 29).

$$\varphi(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{4\pi t^2}{\sqrt{1+9\pi^2}}, & 0 \leq t \leq t_a \\ \frac{\pi(4t-1)}{\sqrt{1+9\pi^2}}, & t_a \leq t \leq t_{a+b} \\ \frac{\pi(-2-9\pi^2+4(1+\sqrt{1+9\pi^2})t^2-4t^2)}{\sqrt{1+9\pi^2}}, & t_{a+b} \leq t \leq t_t \end{cases} \quad (29)$$

where  $t$  is time variable.

Fig. 7 shows the trajectory in the Cartesian space that must be developed by the centroid of the platform.

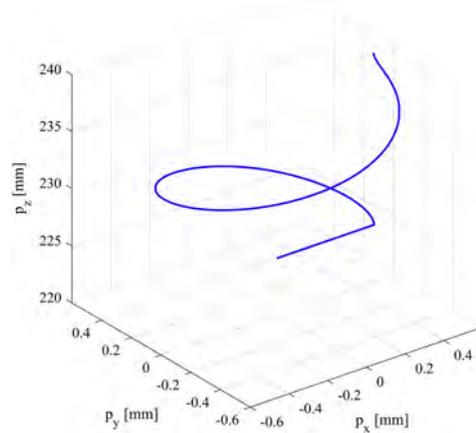


Figure 7: Helical trajectory in cartesian coordinates.

Tab. 1 shows the parameters taken from Sokolov (2013), and is used for the comparison of the methodologies. From the parameters for the simulation, Sokolov (2013), considers the masses and moments of inertia of the moving part of the linear actuators, not presented in the present study.

Fig. 8 shows the joint values (independent generalized coordinate path) for the helicoid trajectory. Although the methodology used by Sokolov (2013) is different from the one presented here, both kinematic approaches yield similar results.

Fig. 9 shows the force values in each linear actuator. The figure is complemented by the numerical values on Tab. 2. It is observed that the forces calculated here for each actuator resemble those given by Sokolov (2013), but are slightly smaller. An explanation for this is that in the study of Sokolov (2013), the mass and moments of inertia of the movable part of the actuators are considered, as previously exposed. In addition, the author makes use of virtual works for the calculation of the equation of movement.

Table 1: Parameters taken from Sokolov (2013), for validation of the mathematical model.

Manipulator parameters		
$g$	460	$mm$
$h$	230	$mm$
$m$	0.18	$kg$
$(I_{xx}; I_{yy}; I_{zz})$	(0.093; 0.093; 0.187)	$kg.m^2$
$(I_{xy}; I_{xz}; I_{yz})$	(0; 0; 0)	$kg.m^2$
$r$	200	$mm$
$m_{leg}$	0.09	$kg$
$I_{leg}$	0.05	$kg.m^2$
Manipulator parameters		
$r_h$	0.75	$mm$
$p_h$	0.5	$mm$
$z_0$	0.4	$mm$
Manipulator parameters		
$t_a$	0.5	$s$
$t_b$	4.2	$s$
$t_t$	5.2	$s$

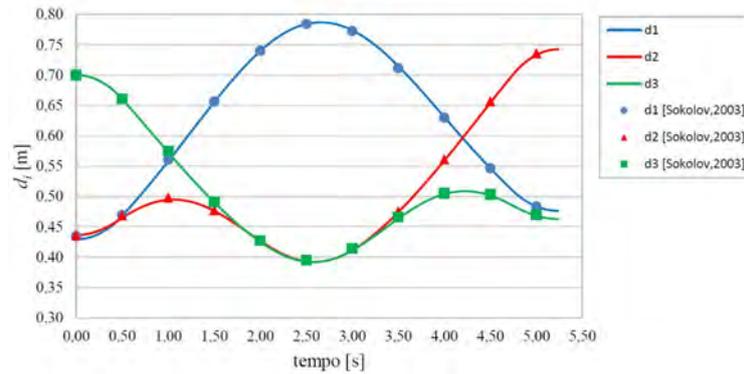


Figure 8: Inverse kinematics comparison.

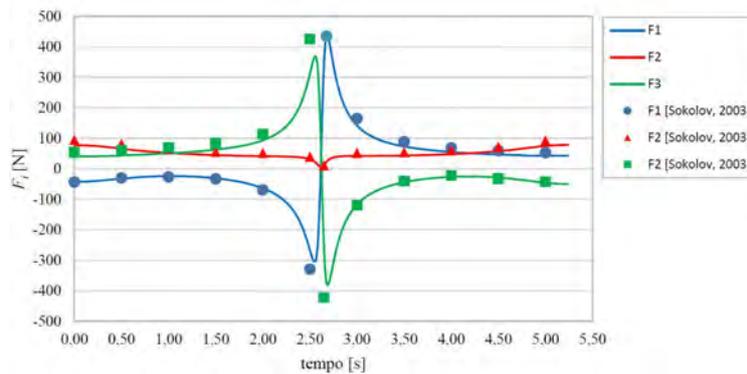


Figure 9: Inverse dynamics comparison.

Table 2: Comparison of minimum and maximum values of the acting force on the primitive joints.

	Sokolov, 2003			This study		
	$d_1$	$d_2$	$d_3$	$d_1$	$d_3$	$d_3$
<i>Min</i>	-329 N	11 N	-422 N	-305 N	6 N	-382 N
<i>Max</i>	509 N	95 N	426 N	438 N	78 N	369 N

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

In this study the kinematics calculation exposed the movement restrictions imposed by the configuration of the mechanism joints. It was possible to study the three independent degrees of freedom in the inverse kinematics and the difficulty

of solving the direct kinematics of the mechanism, where eight solutions were obtained for a given set of values of  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$  and  $d_3$  being only one of them correct. The effective workspace of the mechanism was shown to be much more limited than its theoretical one. Thus, the main advantage of this mechanism lies in generating small displacements compared to those of its actuators. The dynamics of the mechanism was studied using the Lagrangian formulation. Its corresponding simulation results were compared to the bibliography, showing that the model represents satisfactorily the dynamic behavior of the mechanism.

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