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2D of Robotic Arm Based on Inverse Kinematics Using Arduino

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Abstract: The advancements and quick developments in the technology has made it possible to create a platform for the invention of new as well as great things. One of the concept that is being used lately to improve the technology is the concept of robotics. This project focuses on the implementation of inverse kinematics for a 2-DOF (two degrees of freedom) robot arm using an Arduino microcontroller. The inverse kinematics equations are derived and programmed to calculate the joint angles required to position the robot arm's end effector in a desired location within its workspace. The Arduino board is used to interface with the robot arm's actuators and control the movement of the arm. The Arduino programming aspect of the project involves developing a control algorithm that accepts target coordinates for the end effector and computes the necessary joint angles using inverse kinematics equations. Servo motors are manipulated through the Arduino Servo library to achieve the calculated angles, enabling the arm to reach the desired positions accurately and efficiently. To enhance the functionality and safety of the 2-DOF robotic arm, the project includes features such as calibration routines, testing procedures, and safety measures to avoid collisions and servo load. The project aims to demonstrate the application of inverse kinematics in controlling robotic manipulators for precise positioning tasks.

Keywords: Arduino UNO, Servo motor, Jumper Wires, L298N Motor driver

I. INTRODUCTION

A 2-degree-of-freedom (2-DOF) robotic arm is a versatile mechanical system with two rotational joints, allowing it to move in two dimensions. Inverse kinematics is a fundamental concept in robotics that involves calculating the joint angles necessary to position the end-effector of the robotic arm at a desired point in space. When implemented using an Arduino microcontroller, inverse kinematics enables precise control of the robotic arm's movement for various applications. The integration of inverse kinematics with a 2-DOF robotic arm and Arduino offers numerous possibilities for automation, experimentation, and learning. This combination empowers enthusiasts, students, and even professionals to explore the principles of robotics, programming, and kinematics in a hands-on manner. By understanding and implementing inverse kinematics, one can control the robotic arm's behavior and achieve specific tasks accurately. By successfully implementing inverse kinematics for the 2-DOF robot arm, we can create a system capable of accurately positioning the end-effector in a specified location. This opens up possibilities for various applications, such as pick-and-place operations, drawing, writing, or even more complex tasks that involve interacting with objects in the robot's environment. Throughout this project, we will delve into the necessary concepts, from the fundamental principles of inverse kinematics to the practical implementation using an Arduino microcontroller. We will explore the code, wiring, and necessary components to bring the 2-DOF robot arm to life, enabling it to perform precise movements based on the desired end-effector position.

II. METHODOLOGY

A. Existing System

The existing system for pesticide spraying in agriculture typically relies on manual labor or conventional tractor-mounted spraying systems. In many agricultural settings, pesticide spraying is carried out manually by farmworkers. This approach is labor-intensive, time-consuming, and can lead to inconsistent application rates. It also exposes workers to potentially harmful chemicals, posing health risks. While the manual labor try to cover more ground, they lack precision in targeting specific areas, resulting in overuse of pesticides and potential environmental harm to themselves as well as the farms.

B. Proposed System

The 2-DOF robotic arm based on inverse kinematics employs a combination of servo motors and components for robust monitoring. Initially Arduino software is installed in our computer.

After the installation process, the desired code is written in high level language set the coordinates of the desired position of the pesticide. The laptop connected to the Arduino board via a jack wire. The code is dumped into the Arduino .we connect the servomotors, Arduino and L298N accordingly and input coordinates will be provides in the code.

- 1) Give the desired X, Y positions.
- 2) Microcontroller (Arduino UNO): Acts as the central processing unit, acquiring data and processing it.
- 3) Connected to the 2DOF robot arm.
- 4) End Effector to desired X, Y position.
- 5) Water pump connected to spray the pesticides.

The following figure 1 shows the block diagram of the proposed system:

2DoF Inverse Kinematics(Watering Plants/Pesticide Spraying)

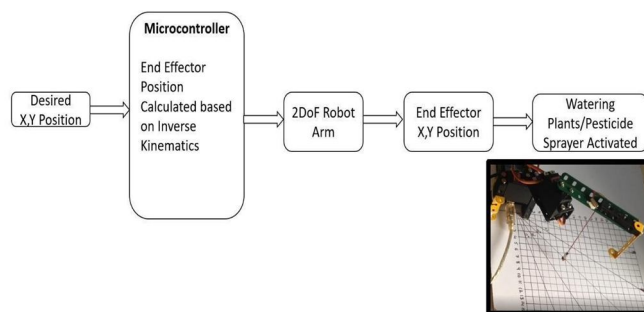


Figure 2.1: Block Diagram of proposed System

III. COMPONENTS

A. Arduino UNO

It is a microcontroller board based on the ATmega328P. It has 14 digital input/output pins (of which 6 can be used as PWM outputs), 6 analog inputs, a 16 MHz ceramic resonator (CSTCE16M0V53-R0), a USB connection, a power jack, an ICSP header and a reset button. It contains everything needed to support the microcontroller; simply connect it to a computer with a USB cable or power it with a AC-to-DC adapter or battery to get started.



Figure 3.1: Arduino UNO Board

B. L298N Motor Driver

The L298N is a dual H-Bridge motor driver which allows speed and direction control of two DC motors at the same time. The module can drive DC motors that have voltages between 5 and 35V, with a peak current up to 2A. This L298N Motor Driver Module is a high power motor driver module for driving DC and Stepper Motors. This module consists of an L298 motor driver IC and a 78M05 5V regulator. L298N Module can control up to 4 DC motors, or 2 DC motors with directional and speed control.

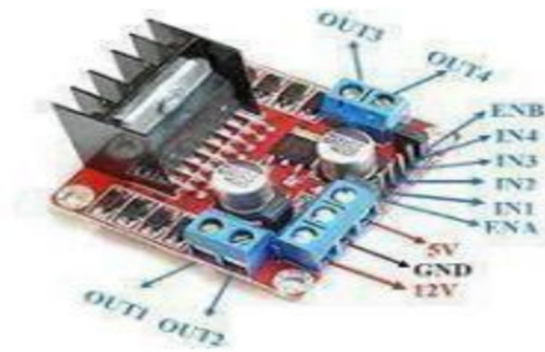


Figure 3.2: L298N Motor Driver

C. Servomotor

A servo motor is a type of motor commonly used in robotics and other applications that require precise control of angular position. When selecting a servo motor for your specific application, it's crucial to consider how these specifications align with your project's requirements and performance goals.

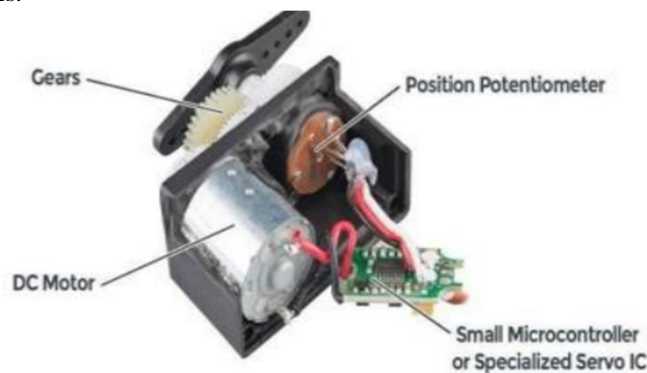


Figure 3.3: Servomotor

D. Breadboard

A breadboard is a simple device designed to let you create circuits without the need for soldering. The breadboard is a white rectangular board with small embedded holes to insert electronic components. It is commonly used in electronics projects. We can also say that breadboard is a prototype that acts as a construction base of electronics. A breadboard is also categorized as a Solderless board. It means that the component does not require any soldering to fit into the board. Thus, we can say that breadboard can be reused. We can easily fit the components by plugging their end terminal into the board. Hence, a breadboard is often called a plug board. White plastic is the material that is used to create breadboards. Today, most of the breadboards are Solderless breadboards. We can directly plug in the electronic components and connect it with the external power supply. The top and bottom holes of a row in a breadboard are connected horizontally, and the center part is connected vertically.

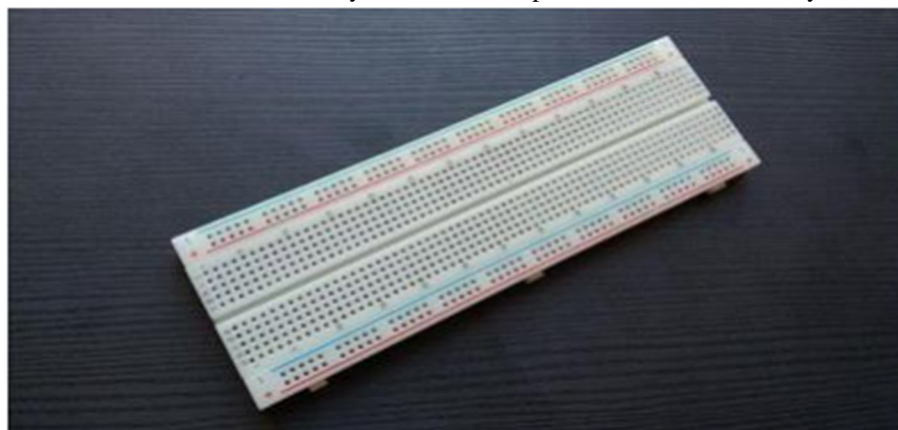


Figure 3.4: Breadboard

E. Water Pump:

Micro DC 3-6V Micro Submersible Pump Mini water pump For Fountain Garden Mini water circulation System DIY project. This is a low cost, small size Submersible Pump Motor which can be operated from a 3 ~ 6V power supply. It can take up to 120 liters per hour with very low current consumption of 220mA. Just connect tube pipe to the motor outlet, submerge it in water and power it. Make sure that the water level is always higher than the motor. Dry run may damage the motor due to heating and it will also produce noise.



Figure 3.5: Water Pump

IV. WORKING

Initially install the Arduino IDE software in the PC or a laptop and write the desired code in a high-level language. Set the coordinates (X and Y positions) of the robotic arms connected to the servomotors to the desired position where the pesticides need to be sprayed. Then setup the hardware as follows: Connect two servomotor wires to the breadboard and Arduino UNO board. Servo motor consists of three connecting wires, they are brown - ground, red - supply, and orange - control. Connect ground and supply wires of servo motor to the breadboard, and control wire to the Arduino UNO board (Pin no - ~3). Repeat the same step for the second servo motor, by connecting the control wire to the Arduino UNO board (Pin no - ~5). Connect the Vin and ground pins of the Arduino UNO board to the breadboard. Power jack of the Arduino UNO is connected to the 12V adaptor and another power supply i.e., an USB cable is connected to the laptop. Consider the L298N Motor driver, connect the Vin and ground pins of the driver motor to the breadboard, and connect the input to the Arduino UNO board (Pin No – A0). Then connect the outputs from the driver motor to the water pump. The water pump is submerged in a tank of pesticides. After the hardware setup is done, now connect the laptop to the Arduino UNO board and dump the code into the board. Setup the coordinates in the code and run the program. Now the robotic arms move to the desired position that has been set and the pesticides will be sprayed at the affected location of the plant, instead of spraying all over the plant, which causes no environmental harm and also reduces the harm for the workers those are working in the farm or a nursery or a garden.

V. RESULTS

In this project, Robotics and Embedded Systems plays an important role. Two robotic arms, two servomotors, Arduino UNO board and L298N Motor Driver are the components used to make the connections of the required circuit. In order to spray pesticides at a particular place, we are supposed to give the X and Y coordinates to the system, the embedded system process the input and calculate the angles according to the input coordinates then the processed output is given to the servomotors which has a robotic arm attached to it. Now, the pesticides is sprayed at the target.

The mathematical formula used for calculating the angles are:

$$q_2 = \cos^{-1} (x^2 + y^2 - a_1^2 - a_2^2) / (2a_1a_2)$$

$$q_1 = \tan^{-1} (y / x) - \tan^{-1} (a_2 \sin q_2) / (a_1 + a_2 \cos q_2)$$

(Note: The length of the robotic arm considered is $a_1 = a_2 = 20\text{cm}$)

Now, let us analyze the different cases:

Case 1: Let $X=20$, $Y=25$

The calculated shoulder angle is 40.5(degree), the elbow angle is 60.5(degree) and the end effector angle from the reference is 110(degree). It means the Coordinates are in the free space of the robotic arm. Initially the shoulder angle is calculated and then the elbow angle. The pesticides will only be sprayed at the target i.e., at end effector angle.

Case 2: Let $X=25$, $Y=30$

The calculated shoulder angle is 55(degree), the elbow angle is 75(degree) and the end effector angle from the reference is 130(degree). Since, the coordinates given are not in the blind spot. The robotic arm moves to the target position and spray the pesticides.

Case 3: Let $X=35$, $Y=45$

No angle is calculated because the input coordinates are given in the blind spot. The robotic arm cannot be positioned in the target coordinates.

In this way, the robotic arm calculates the angles and move its end effector to the target position and spray the pesticides at the target. This reduces the effect of health Hazards.

VI. CONCLUSION

The accuracy and precision of the arm's movement are analyzed and discussed. The accuracy and precision of the robot arm's movement are discussed, highlighting any discrepancies between the desired and achieved end-effector positions. Factors affecting accuracy, such as sensor noise or mechanical limitations, are addressed. The limitations of the implemented system are discussed, including any constraints imposed by the Arduino microcontroller, mechanical design, or computational limitations. Potential sources of errors are identified and analyzed. Suggestions for potential improvements to the system are provided, considering both hardware and software aspects.

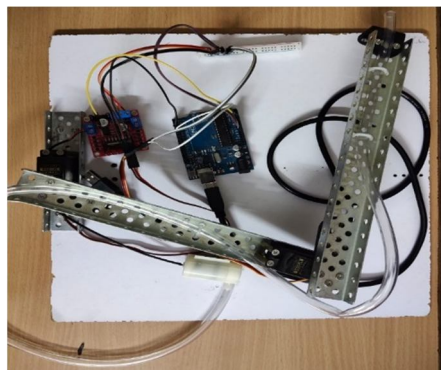


Figure 6.1: Final Connection Setup

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