

# 3D Transformations

3D Rotations about an axis through the origin  
if not: conjugation trick

## Orientation vs. Rotation

- orientation is a state  
can be described by a rotation from a reference pose
  - rotation is an action / motion / transformation
- like
- |             |   |          |
|-------------|---|----------|
| point       | - | vector   |
| orientation | - | rotation |
| state       | - | movement |

Many representations for 3D rotations, sometimes inconsistently handled

- axis & angle "not a linear object"
- rotation matrix "circular"
- Euler angles
- quaternions

$$\vec{\theta} \equiv \vec{\theta} - \theta$$

$$SO(3) \approx RP^3$$

Euler's Theorem: The general displacement of a rigid body with one point fixed is a rotation about some axis.

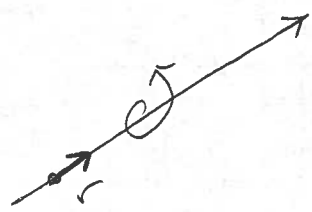
3 degrees of freedom (rot through origin)

5 degrees in general  
4 = line + 1 = angle

# Rotation representations

## 1. axis & angle

most intuitive



directional cosines

$r$  a unit length vector at the origin

$$r = \begin{pmatrix} r_x \\ r_y \\ r_z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r_x^2 + r_y^2 + r_z^2 = 1$$

$\alpha$  an angle (radians)

sometimes

$$\omega = \alpha r$$

difficult to apply rotations to points or vectors in this form

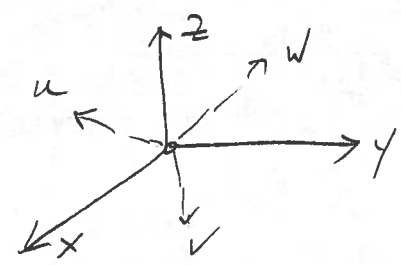
## 2. rotation matrices

easiest for applying to points or vectors

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} u_x & v_x & w_x & 0 \\ u_y & v_y & w_y & 0 \\ u_z & v_z & w_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad 4 \times 4$$

directional cosine matrix

cols of  $M$  are the unit vectors of the new frame after rotation



$M$  is a real, orthogonal matrix

$$u_x^2 + u_y^2 + u_z^2 = 1$$

$$u_x v_x + u_y v_y + u_z v_z = 0$$

$$v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2 = 1$$

$$v_x u_x + v_y u_y + v_z u_z = 0$$

[col. relations]

$$w_x^2 + w_y^2 + w_z^2 = 1$$

$$w_x v_x + w_y v_y + w_z v_z = 0$$

9 unknowns - 6 relations = 3 degrees of freedom

Note that

$M^{-1} = M^T$  is also an orthogonal matrix,

so dual relations

$$u_x^2 + v_x^2 + w_x^2 = 1, \quad \text{[row relations]}$$

$$MM^T = M^T M = I$$

$$u_x u_y + v_x v_y + w_x w_y = 0$$

also hold

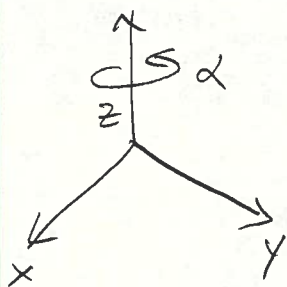
$$\det(M) = +1$$

$$\det^2(M) = 1$$

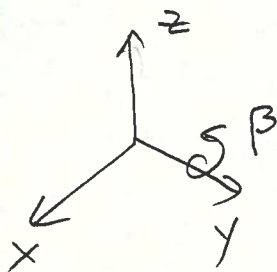
[ $\det(M) = -1$  are the reflections / glide reflections]

Note that eigenvalues of  $M \in O(3), SO(3)$   
are  $\{1, e^{\pm i\theta}\} = \{1, \cos\theta + i\sin\theta, \cos\theta - i\sin\theta\}$

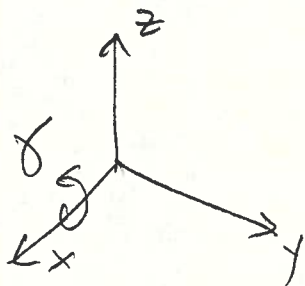
So what do these matrices look like?  $3 \times 3$



$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos\alpha & -\sin\alpha & 0 \\ \sin\alpha & \cos\alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

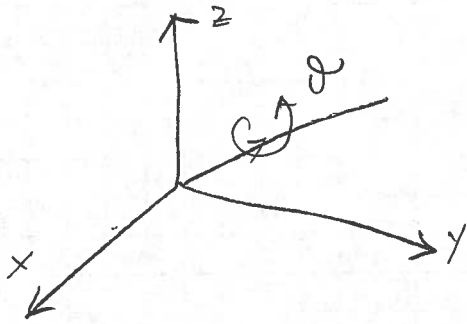


$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos\beta & 0 & \sin\beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin\beta & 0 & \cos\beta \end{bmatrix}$$

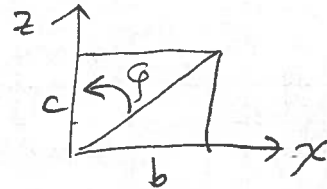


$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\gamma & -\sin\gamma \\ 0 & \sin\gamma & \cos\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

arbitrary axis case



$a, b, c \quad \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$

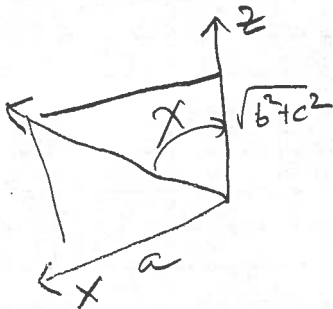


put axis on xz plane  
by an x rotation

$\cos \phi = \frac{c}{\sqrt{b^2 + c^2}}$

$\sin \phi = \frac{b}{\sqrt{b^2 + c^2}}$

$R_x^\phi$



$\cos \chi = \frac{\sqrt{b^2 + c^2}}{a}$

$\sin \chi = \frac{a}{\sqrt{b^2 + c^2}}$

align axis with z  
by an y rotation

$R_y^\chi$

$R_x^{-\phi} R_y^{-\chi} R_z^\theta R_y^\chi R_x^\phi$

$\leftarrow R_x(\phi)$

General formula (Rodrigues)

$c = \cos \theta \quad s = \sin \theta$

$R = cI + (1-c) r r^T + s r^\wedge$

↑ identity

$r^\wedge = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -r_z & r_y \\ r_z & 0 & -r_x \\ -r_y & r_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

skew symmetric  
 $[r^\wedge T = -r^\wedge]$

$r^\wedge v = r \times v = \begin{pmatrix} r_y v_z - r_z v_y \\ r_z v_x - r_x v_z \\ r_x v_y - r_y v_x \end{pmatrix}$

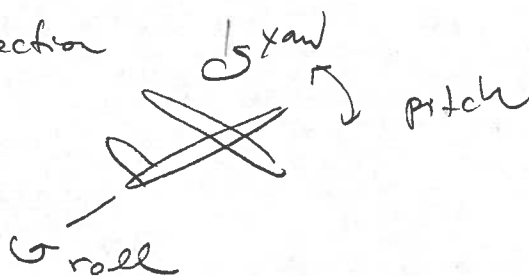
# Euler angles

It is possible to specify arbitrary rotations about an axis through the origin as compositions of 3 axis-aligned (x, y, z) rotations

e.g. roll, pitch, yaw for aircraft

↑  
ascend  
descend

direction



several variations : order of axes  
fixed or moving axes

X Y Z fixed

$\sigma_x$     $\gamma$     $R_z(\alpha) R_y(\beta) R_x(\gamma)$   
 $\sigma_y$     $\beta$   
 $\sigma_z$     $\alpha$

$$\begin{bmatrix} c\alpha & -s\alpha & 0 \\ s\alpha & c\alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c\beta & 0 & s\beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s\beta & 0 & c\beta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c\gamma & -s\gamma \\ 0 & s\gamma & c\gamma \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} c\alpha c\beta & c\alpha s\beta s\gamma - s\alpha c\gamma & c\alpha s\beta c\gamma + s\alpha s\gamma \\ s\alpha c\beta & s\alpha s\beta s\gamma + c\alpha c\gamma & s\alpha s\beta c\gamma - c\alpha s\gamma \\ -s\beta & c\beta s\gamma & c\beta c\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

how to compute  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  ?  $\left[ \quad \right]$

From matrices to Euler angles

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

X - Y - Z fixed  
 $\alpha$   $\beta$   $\gamma$

$$\beta = \text{Atan2}(-r_{31}, \sqrt{r_{11}^2 + r_{21}^2})$$

$$\alpha = \text{Atan2}(r_{21}/c\beta, r_{11}/s\beta)$$

$$\gamma = \text{Atan2}(r_{32}/c\beta, r_{33}/c\beta)$$

$$\text{Atan2}(y, x) \quad \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

↑ ↑ uses both signs

single solution  $-90 \leq \beta \leq 90$

Another Euler theorem

Any rotation about the origin can be expressed as the product of 3 rotations around the axes  $k, l, m$ , where  $k \neq l, l \neq m$

Z-Y-X Euler

Rot  $\begin{matrix} \partial z & \alpha \\ \partial y & \beta \\ \partial x & \gamma \end{matrix}$

moving system

mostly used by  
animation software

XYZ fixed  $\equiv$  ZYX Euler

Z-Y-Z Euler

$\begin{matrix} \partial z & \alpha \\ \partial y & \beta \\ \partial z & \gamma \end{matrix}$

24 different

angle conventions

fixed/Euler

$\begin{matrix} \circ & \circ \\ \nearrow & \nwarrow \\ \text{diff} & \text{diff} \end{matrix}$