



UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA
BARCELONATECH

Centre de la Imatge i la Tecnologia Multimèdia



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Euler pa/a , Rotation vector and Euler angles

Julen Cayero

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Rotation Mat to axis and angle

Given the rotation matrix we can find the euler's principal axis

$$\mathbf{R} = (\mathbf{I}_3 \cos \phi + (1 - \cos \phi)(\mathbf{u}\mathbf{u}^T) + \sin \phi [\mathbf{u}]_x)$$

Since $[\mathbf{u}]_x$ is skew symmetric its trace is null, which implies that

$$\text{trace}(\mathbf{R}) = 3 \cos \phi + (1 - \cos \phi)(u_1^2 + u_2^2 + u_3^2) \rightarrow$$

$$\text{trace}(\mathbf{R}) = 1 + 2 \cos \phi \rightarrow$$

$$\phi = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{\text{trace}(\mathbf{R}) - 1}{2} \right)$$



Rotation Mat to axis and angle

Given the rotation matrix we can find the Euler's principal angle

$$\mathbf{R} = (\mathbf{I}_3 \cos \phi + (1 - \cos \phi)(\mathbf{u}\mathbf{u}^T) + \sin \phi [\mathbf{u}]_x)$$

$$\mathbf{R}^T = (\mathbf{I}_3 \cos \phi + (1 - \cos \phi)(\mathbf{u}\mathbf{u}^T) - \sin \phi [\mathbf{u}]_x)$$

As consequence

$$\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}^T = 2 \sin \phi [\mathbf{u}]_x$$

Which implies that

$$[\mathbf{u}]_x = \frac{\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}^T}{2 \sin \phi}$$



Rotation vector

Euler principal angle and axis: We have used 4 parameters. 3 for the unitary principal axis + one additional to encode the rotation magnitude.

However rotations are defined by 3 parameters. Therefore, how about making a vector

$$\mathbf{r} = \phi \mathbf{u}$$

\mathbf{r} is a 3 dimensional vector, which norm is equal to the rotation magnitude, and its direction is the principal axis. Then:

$$\mathbf{u} = \frac{\mathbf{r}}{\|\mathbf{r}\|}; \quad \phi = \|\mathbf{r}\|$$



Rotation vector and rotation matrices

We can use the past relations over the Rodrigues formula to achieve:

$$\mathbf{p}' = \left[\mathbf{I}_3 \cos(\|\mathbf{r}\|) + \frac{(1 - \cos(\|\mathbf{r}\|))}{\|\mathbf{r}\|^2} (\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}^T) + \frac{\sin(\|\mathbf{r}\|)}{\|\mathbf{r}\|} [\mathbf{r}]_x \right] \mathbf{p}$$

Euler angles

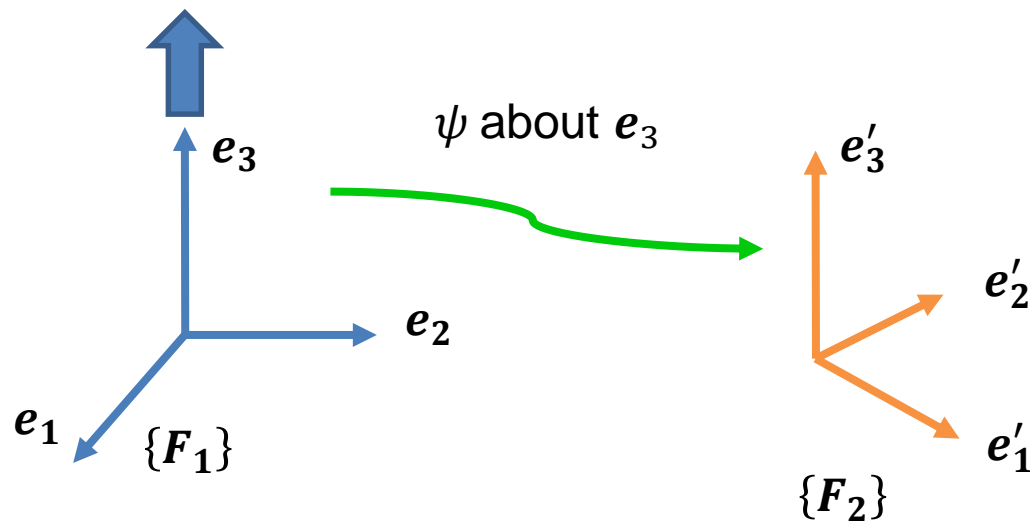
If we are working with orthonormal bases, can we take benefit of knowing the direction of the three base axis directions?

We can use the composition of 3 successive (simple) rotations about different axis to generate any possible rotation.

We will use the 3,2,1 global to local notation.

Euler angles

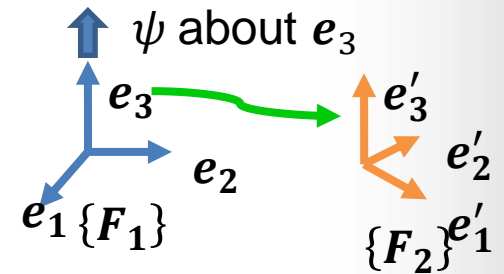
Simple rotation about the z axis.



Euler angles

Simple rotation about the z axis.

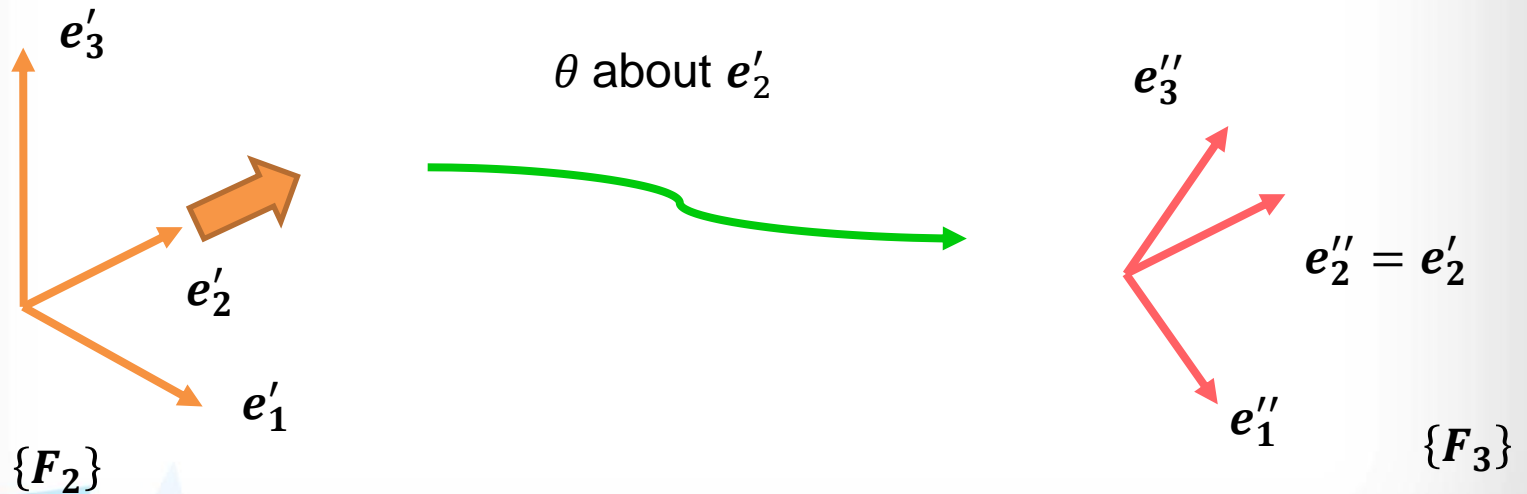
$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_1\}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi & 0 \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{\{F_2\}}$$



$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_2\}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi & \sin \psi & 0 \\ -\sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{\{F_1\}}$$

Euler angles

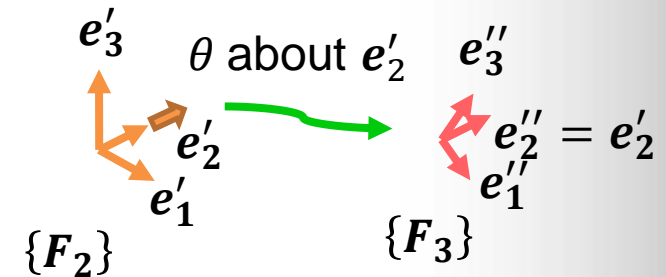
Simple rotation about the z axis.



Euler angles

Simple rotation about the y axis.

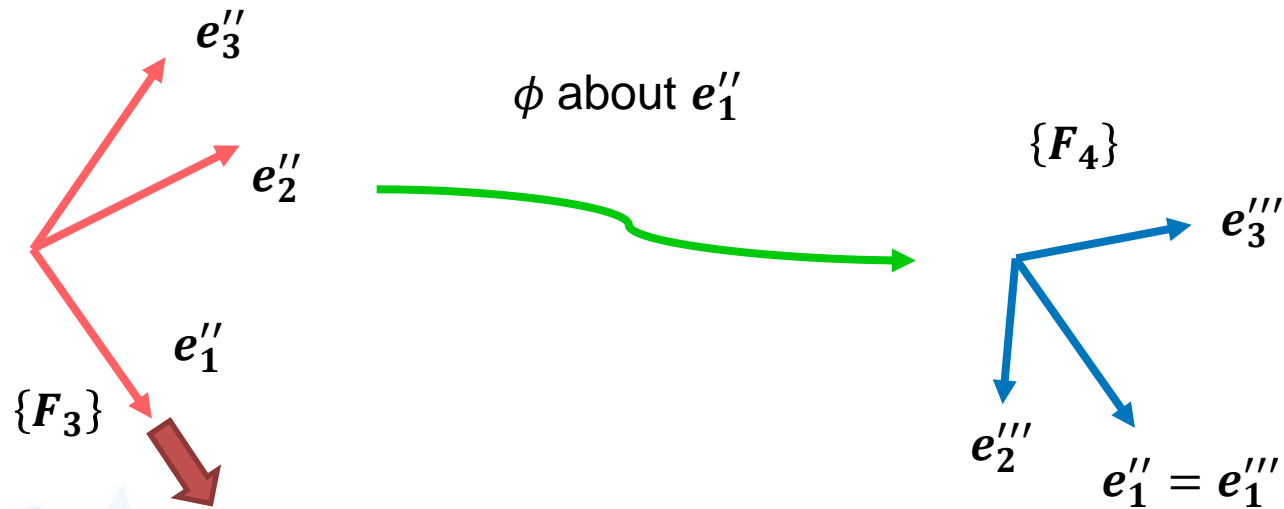
$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_2\}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{\{F_3\}}$$



$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_3\}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{\{F_2\}}$$

Euler angles

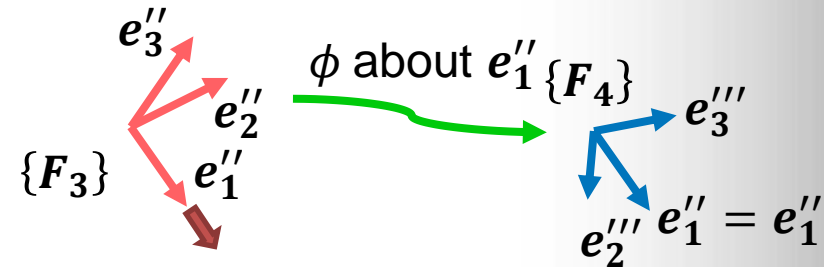
Simple rotation about the x axis



Euler angles

Simple rotation about the x axis.

$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_3\}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ 0 & \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{\{F_4\}}$$



$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_4\}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \phi & \sin \phi \\ 0 & -\sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{\{F_3\}}$$

Euler angles

Composition of rotations

$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_2\}} = \mathbf{R}_\psi \mathbf{v}_{\{F_1\}}; \quad \mathbf{v}_{\{F_3\}} = \mathbf{R}_\theta \mathbf{v}_{\{F_2\}}; \quad \mathbf{v}_{\{F_4\}} = \mathbf{R}_\phi \mathbf{v}_{\{F_3\}};$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_4\}} = \mathbf{R}_\phi \mathbf{R}_\theta \mathbf{R}_\psi \mathbf{v}_{\{F_1\}}$$



Euler angles

Rotation matrix are equivalent to the change of basis matrix from target frame to initial frame

$$\mathbf{v}_{\{F_1\}} = (\mathbf{R}_\phi \mathbf{R}_\theta \mathbf{R}_\psi)^T \mathbf{v}_{\{F_4\}} \rightarrow \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_\psi^T \mathbf{R}_\theta^T \mathbf{R}_\phi^T$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \cos \psi & \cos \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi - \cos \phi \sin \psi & \cos \psi \cos \phi \sin \theta + \sin \psi \sin \phi \\ \cos \theta \sin \psi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi + \cos \psi \cos \phi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \cos \phi - \cos \psi \sin \phi \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \sin \phi & \cos \theta \cos \phi \end{pmatrix}$$

Different Euler's angles

Is possible to select other axis permutations rather than the 3-2-1 order presented.

An aside

If we know the values of the $\sin \alpha$ and $\cos \alpha$ of the angle α it is possible to identify α

$$\begin{aligned}\cos \alpha &< 0 \\ \sin \alpha &> 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cos \alpha &> 0 \\ \sin \alpha &> 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cos \alpha &< 0 \\ \sin \alpha &< 0\end{aligned}$$

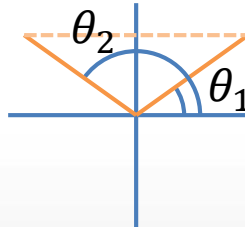
$$\begin{aligned}\cos \alpha &> 0 \\ \sin \alpha &< 0\end{aligned}$$

Rotation Matrix to Euler angles

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \cos \psi & \cos \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi - \cos \phi \sin \psi & \cos \psi \cos \phi \sin \theta + \sin \psi \sin \phi \\ \cos \theta \sin \psi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi + \cos \psi \cos \phi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \cos \phi - \cos \psi \sin \phi \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \sin \phi & \cos \theta \cos \phi \end{pmatrix}$$

With :

$$r_{31} = -\sin \theta \rightarrow \theta = \sin^{-1}(-r_{31})$$



2 possibilities: Select one

Rotation Matrix to Euler angles

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \cos \psi & \cos \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi - \cos \phi \sin \psi & \cos \psi \cos \phi \sin \theta + \sin \psi \sin \phi \\ \cos \theta \sin \psi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi + \cos \psi \cos \phi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \cos \phi - \cos \psi \sin \phi \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \sin \phi & \cos \theta \cos \phi \end{pmatrix}$$

With θ known;

$$\phi = \text{atan2} \left(\frac{r_{32}}{\cos \theta}, \frac{r_{33}}{\cos \theta} \right)$$

$$\psi = \text{atan2} \left(\frac{r_{21}}{\cos \theta}, \frac{r_{11}}{\cos \theta} \right)$$

Rotation Matrix to Euler angles

An example:

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.9254 & 0.018 & 0.3785 \\ 0.1632 & 0.8826 & -0.4410 \\ -0.3420 & 0.4698 & 0.8138 \end{pmatrix}$$

Determine ϕ , θ and ψ .



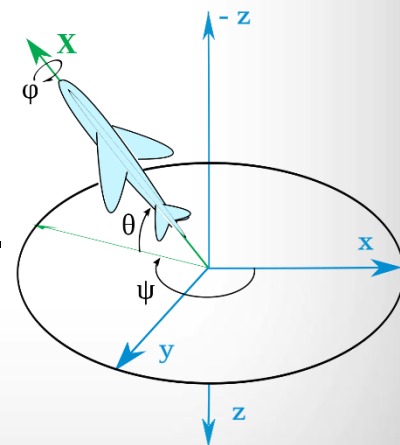
Rotation Matrix to Euler angles

When $\theta = \pm k \frac{\pi}{2}$ for k odd

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cos \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi - \cos \phi \sin \psi & \cos \psi \cos \phi \sin \theta + \sin \psi \sin \phi \\ 0 & \sin \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi + \cos \psi \cos \phi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \cos \phi - \cos \psi \sin \phi \\ \pm 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

And the past equations are not usable anymore.

If $\theta = \pm k \frac{\pi}{2}$ for k odd, the x and z axis will be aligned and the last rotation will be counteracting the first one. In this case, we can not distinguish between ψ and ϕ .



Rotation Matrix to Euler angles

Therefore we can assign, ϕ or ψ a value and determine the other by using the remaining entries of the matrix.

As example:

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.3420 & 0.9397 \\ 0 & 0.9397 & -0.3420 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Determine ϕ , θ and ψ .



Composing rotations

To concatenate rotations with the parametrizations given, we need to pass for the rotation matrices.

$$\mathbf{R}_3 = \mathbf{R}_2 \mathbf{R}_1$$

This brings inefficiency to the code because we need constantly to relate different 3-4 dimensional parametrizations with the rotation matrices to make operations.

