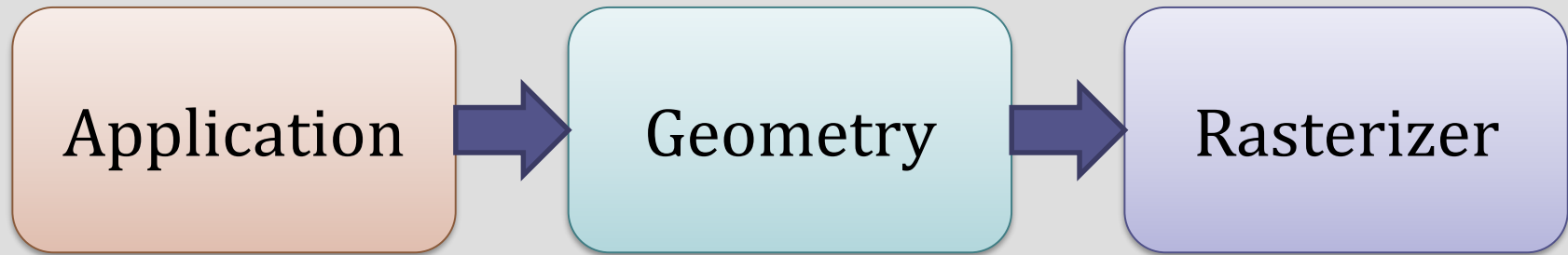


Coordinate Spaces

Jan Ondrej
Senior Research Fellow

Graphics Pipeline Overview

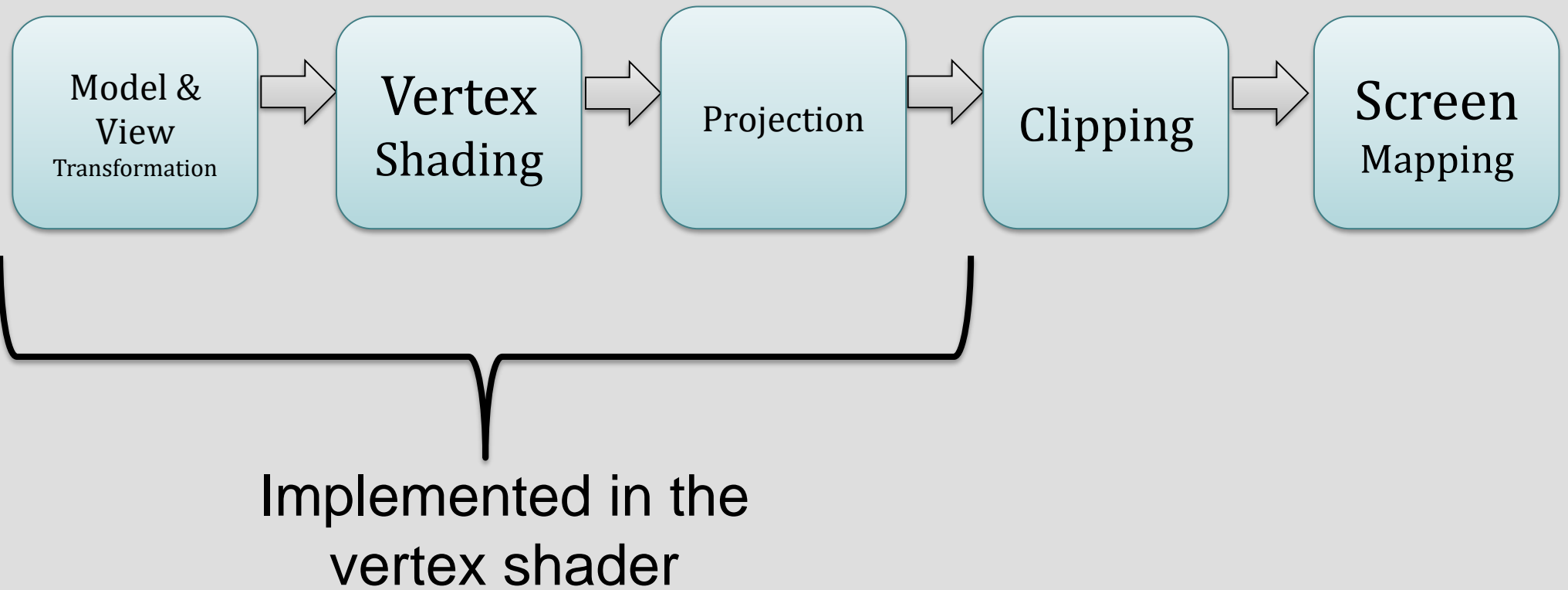
- Coarse Division
- Each stage is a pipeline in itself



- The slowest pipeline stage determines the *rendering speed (fps)*

The Geometry Stage

- Responsible for the per-polygon and per-vertex operations



Model Space

- 3ds Max, Maya, Softimage, Blender, Auto CAD etc.
- Vertices specified relative to a Cartesian coordinate system called model space
- Origin usually in centre or at feet of the character

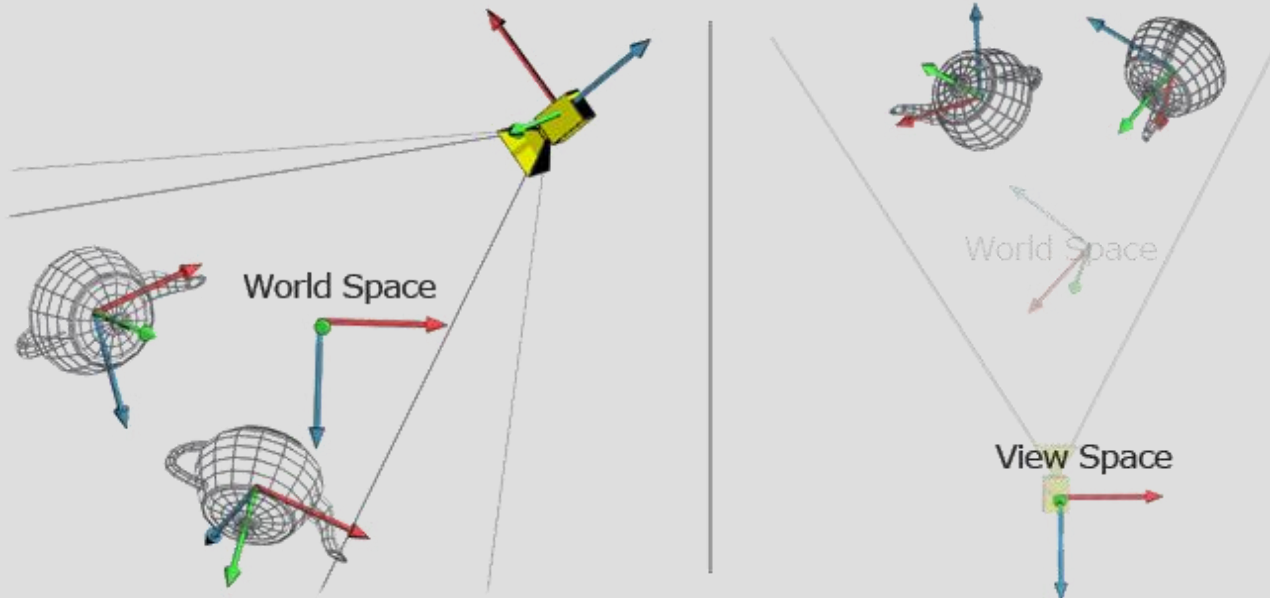


World Space

- *World space* is a fixed coordinate space, in which positions, orientations, scales of all objects in the game world are expressed
- Ties all objects together into a cohesive virtual world
- Right hand system in OpenGL
- Origin at the centre of the screen

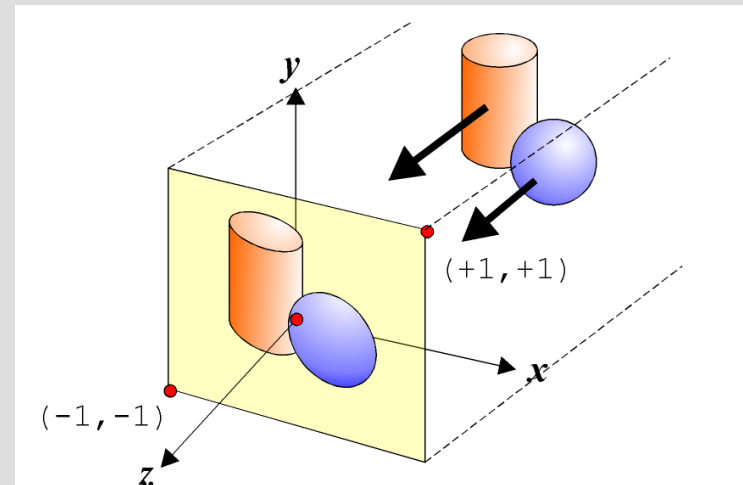
View Space

- A coordinate frame fixed to the camera
- Origin is placed at the focal point of the camera
- Right hand system in OpenGL



Projection

- After shading, rendering systems perform *projection*
- Models are projected from three to two dimensions
- *Perspective* or *orthographic* viewing



The Old Vertex Shader

```
in vec4 vPosition;
```

```
void main () {  
    // The value of vPosition should be between -1.0 and +1.0  
    gl_Position = vPosition;  
}
```

```
out vec4 fColor ;
```


```
void main () {  
    // No matter what, color the pixel red!  
    fColor = vec4 (1.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0);  
}
```


A Better Vertex Shader

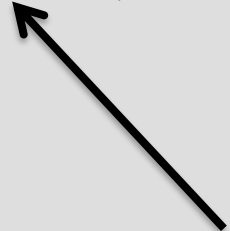
```
in vec4 vPosition; // the vertex in local coordinate system
uniform mat4 mM; // the matrix for the pose of the model
uniform mat4 mV; // The matrix for the pose of the camera
uniform mat4 mP; // The projection matrix (perspective)
```

```
void main () {
    // The value of vPosition should be between -1.0 and +1.0
    gl_Position = mP * mV * mM * vPosition;
}
```

New position in NDC



Original (local) position



Geometric Transformations

Objectives

- Learn how to carry out transformations
 - Rotation
 - Translation
 - Scaling
 - Combinations!

Computer Graphics Problems

- Much of graphics concerns itself with the problem of **displaying** 3D objects in 2D screen
- We want to be able to:
 - rotate, translate, scale our objects
 - view them from arbitrary points of view
 - view them in perspective
- Want to display objects in coordinate systems that are convenient for us and to be able to reuse object descriptions

Matrices

- Matrix addition

- $\begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e & g \\ f & h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a + e & c + g \\ b + f & d + h \end{bmatrix}$

- Matrix multiplication

- $\begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} e & g \\ f & h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ae + cf & ag + ch \\ be + df & bg + dh \end{bmatrix}$

- Not commutative in most cases

- **$\mathbf{AB} \neq \mathbf{BA}$**

- If **$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{AC}$** , it does not necessarily follow that **$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{C}$**

- It is associative and distributive

- $(\mathbf{AB})\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{BC})$

- $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{AB} + \mathbf{AC}$

- $(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{AC} + \mathbf{BC}$

- Transpose \mathbf{A}^T of a matrix \mathbf{A} is one whose rows are switched with its columns

Question

- $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$
- $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$
- What is $A+B^T$?

Answer

- $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$
- $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$
- What is $A+B^T$?
 - $AB^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ -4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

Matrices

- If you need to rotate a million vertices representing a dinosaur object about some axis, you don't need to multiply each point by 5 different matrices
- You simply multiply the 5 matrices together once and multiply each dinosaur point by that one matrix. Huge saving!



Homogeneous Coordinates

- Basis of the homogeneous co-ordinate system is the set of n basis vectors and the origin position:

$$\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n \text{ and } P_o$$

- All points and vectors are therefore compactly represented using their ordinates:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \\ a_o \end{bmatrix} \text{ or more usually } \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

Homogeneous Coordinates

- Vectors have no positional information and are represented using $a_o = 0$ whereas points are represented with $a_o = 1$:

$$\vec{v} = a_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \cdots + a_n \mathbf{v}_n + 0$$

$$P = a_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \cdots + a_n \mathbf{v}_n + P_o$$

- Examples:
- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| $\begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 1.3 \\ 2.2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ | $\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 \\ 1.0 \\ 0.0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ | $\begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 1.3 \\ 2.2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 \\ 1.0 \\ 0.0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ |
| Points | | Associated vectors | |

Homogeneous Coordinates

Using this scheme,
every rotation, translation, and scaling operation
can be represented by a matrix multiplication,
and **any combination** of the operations
corresponds to the products of the corresponding
matrices

- Using homogeneous co-ordinates allows us to treat translation in the same way as rotation and scaling

Translation

- Simplest of the operations
 - Add a positive number – moves to the right
 - Add a negative number – moves to the left
- Addition of constant values, causes uniform translations in those directions
- Translations are **independent** and can be performed in any order (including all at once)
 - Object moved one unit to the right then up
 - Same as if moved one unit up and to the right
 - Net result is motion of $\sqrt{2}$ units to the upper-right

Translation

Definition (Translation)

A translation is a displacement in a particular direction

- A translation is defined by specifying the displacements a , b , and c

$$x' = x + a$$

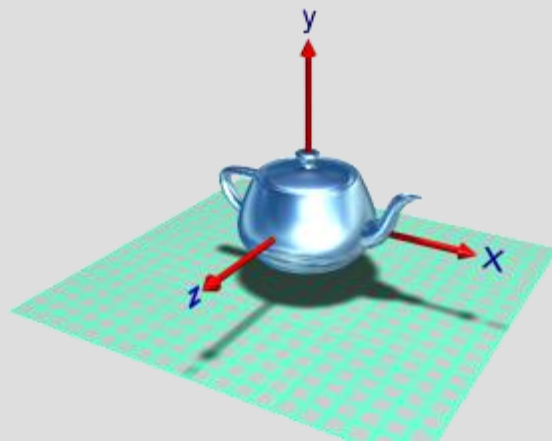
$$y' = y + b$$

$$z' = z + c$$

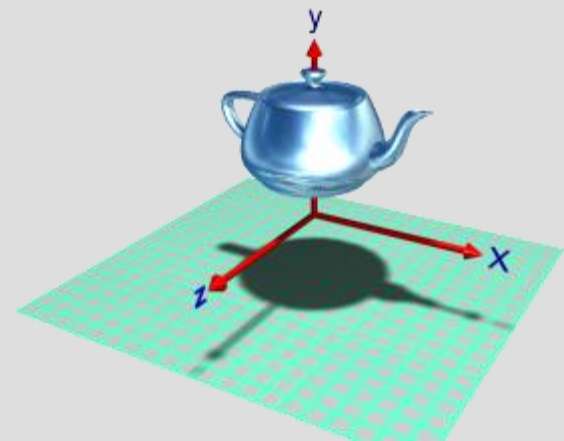
Translation

- Translation *only applies to points*, we never translate vectors.
- Remember: points have homogeneous co-ordinate $w = 1$

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= x + a \\y' &= y + b \\z' &= z + c\end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + a \\ y + b \\ z + c \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



translate along y



Scaling

- What if we want to make things larger or smaller?
- Have a car model
 - Want one 3 times smaller!



Scaling

Definition (Scaling)

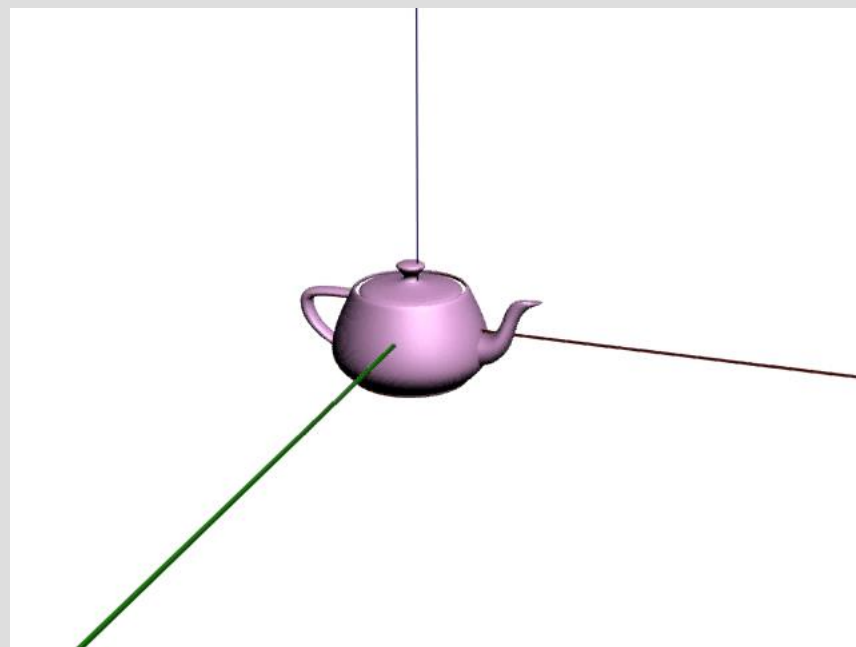
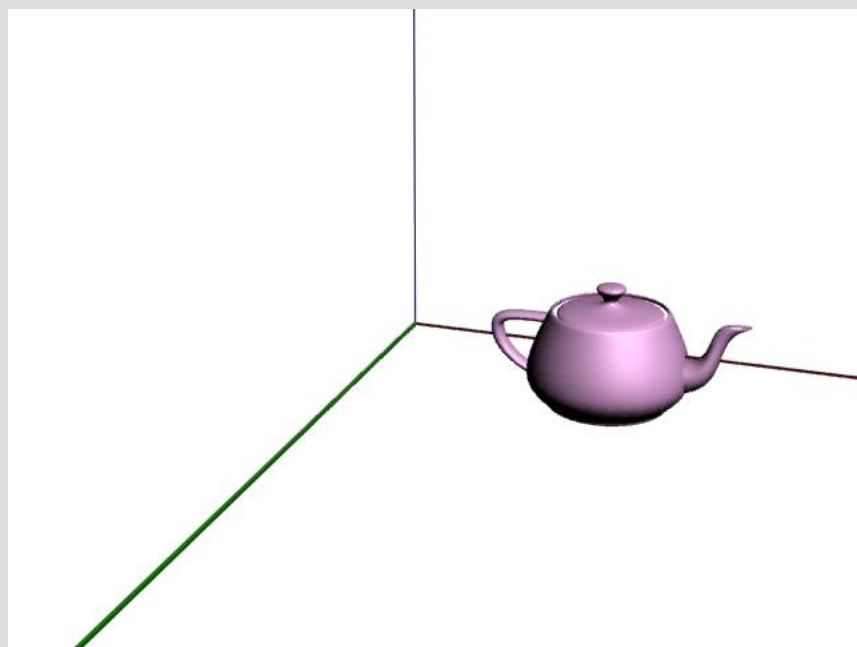
A **scaling** is an expansion or contraction in the x, y, and z directions by scale factors s_x , s_y , s_z and centred at the point (a,b, c)

- Generally we centre the scaling at the origin

$$x' = s_x x$$

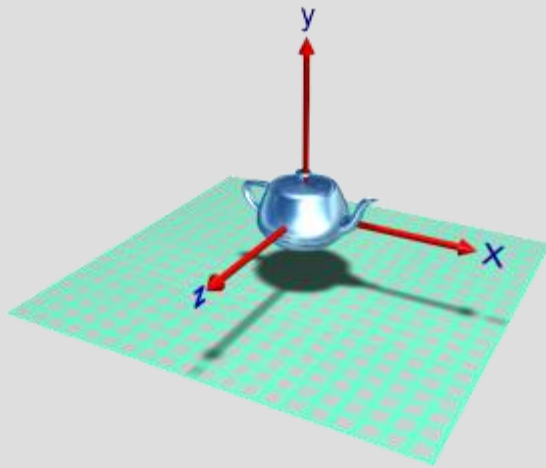
$$y' = s_y y$$

$$z' = s_z z$$

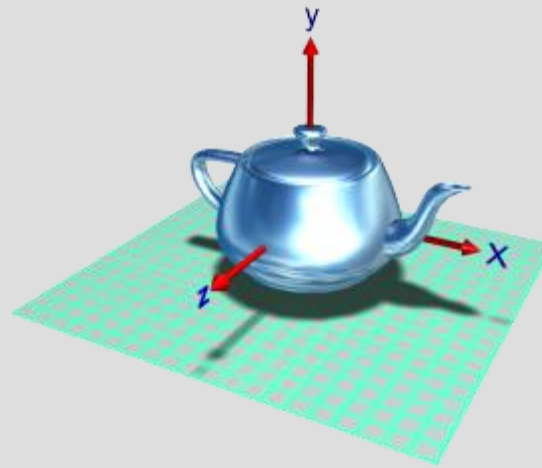


Scale

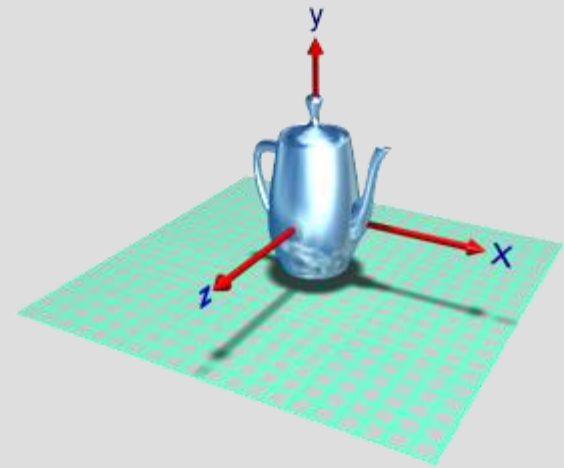
- all vectors are scaled from the origin:



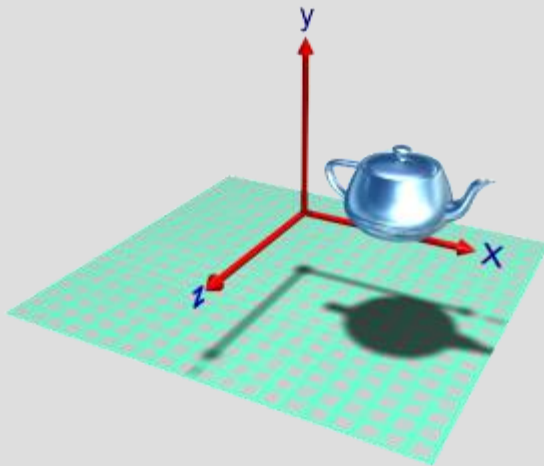
Original



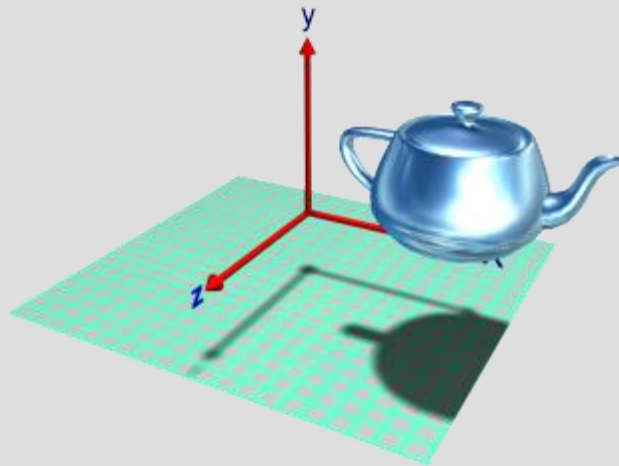
scale all axes



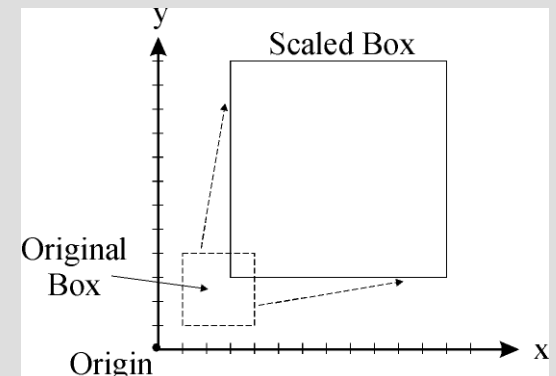
scale Y axis



offset from origin



distance from origin also scales



Scale

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_x x \\ s_y y \\ s_z z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s_z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}' = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{v}$$

We would also like to scale points thus we need a *homogeneous transformation* for consistency:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ w' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_x x \\ s_y y \\ s_z z \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_y & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{S}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/s_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/s_y & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/s_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Non-Uniform Scaling

- Make an object twice as big in the x-direction
 - Multiply all x-coordinates by 2, leave y&z unchanged
- 3 times as large in the y-direction
 - Multiply all y-coordinates by 3, leave z&x unchanged

Rotation

Definition (Rotation)

A rotation turns about a point (a,b) through an angle θ

- Generally, we rotate about the origin
- Using the z-axis as the axis of rotation, the equations are:

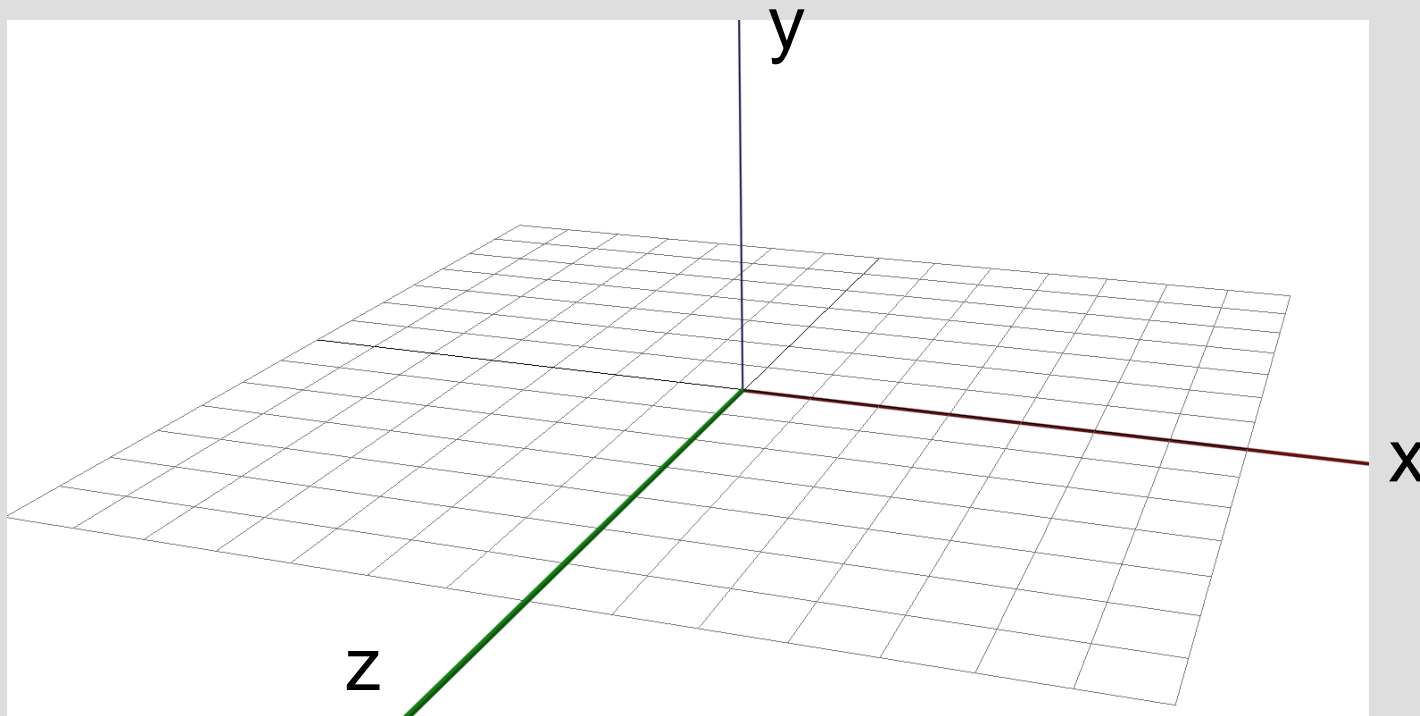
$$x' = x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta$$

$$y' = x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta$$

$$z' = z$$

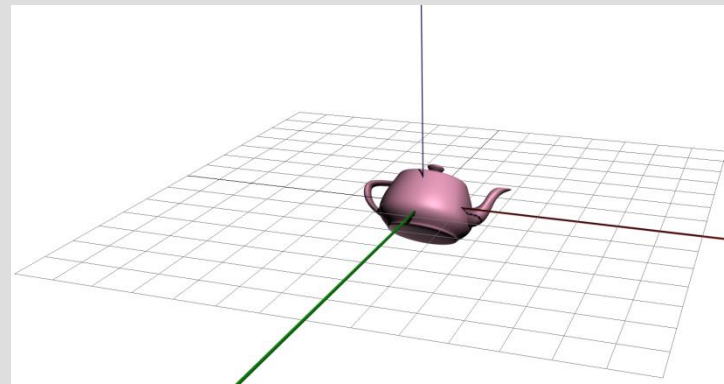
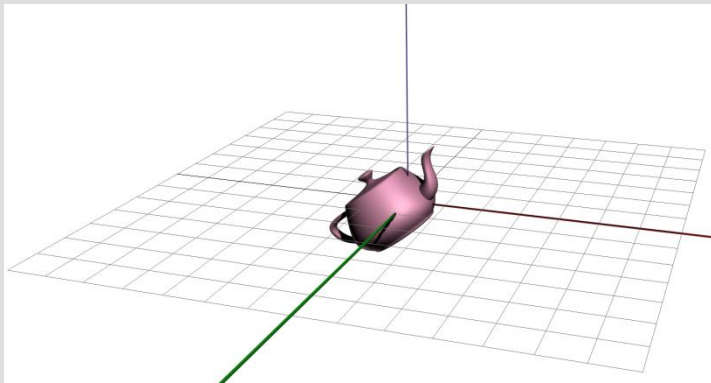
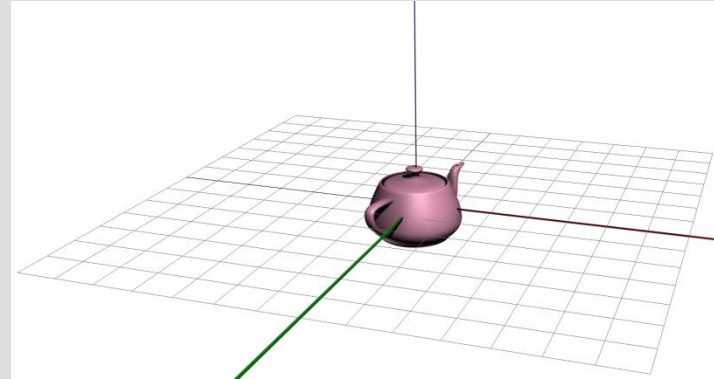
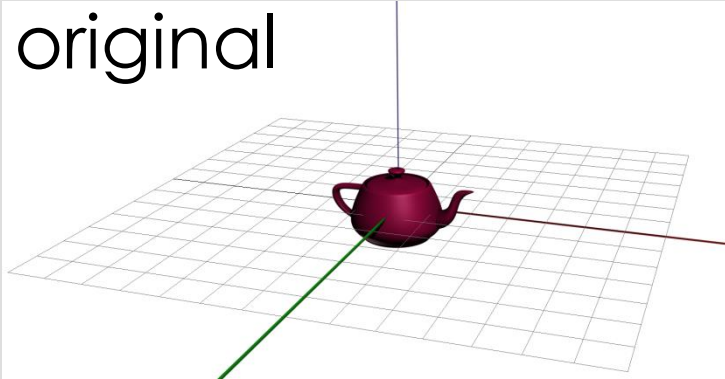
Rotation - idea

- Visualise rotation about an axis:
 - Put your eye on that axis in the positive direction and look towards the origin
 - Then, a positive rotation corresponds to a counter-clockwise rotation



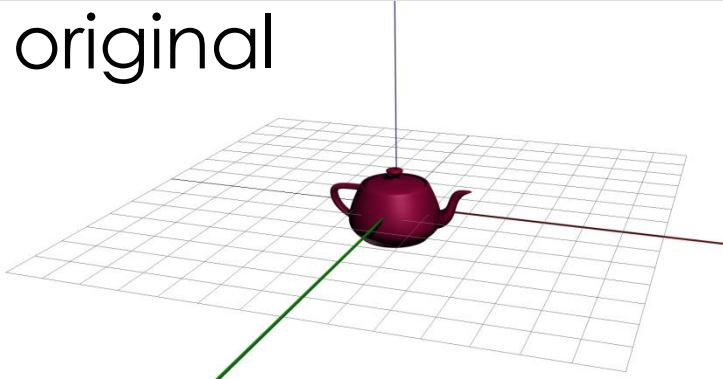
Which Axis?

original

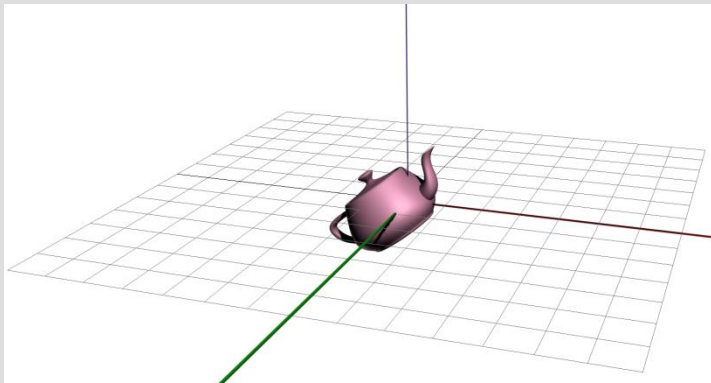
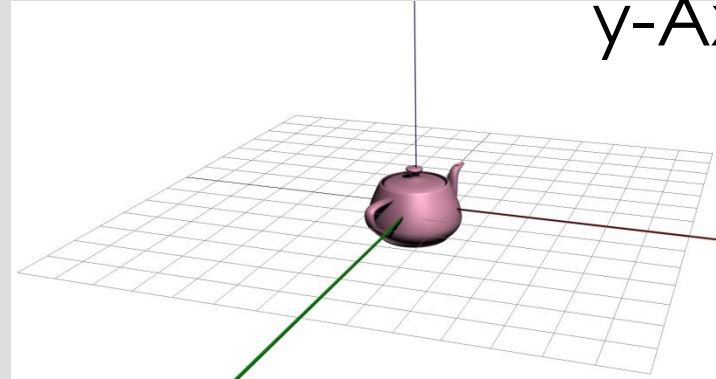


Which Axis?

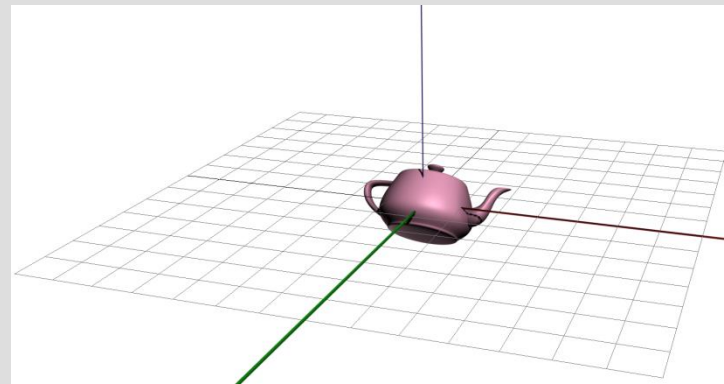
original



y-Axis



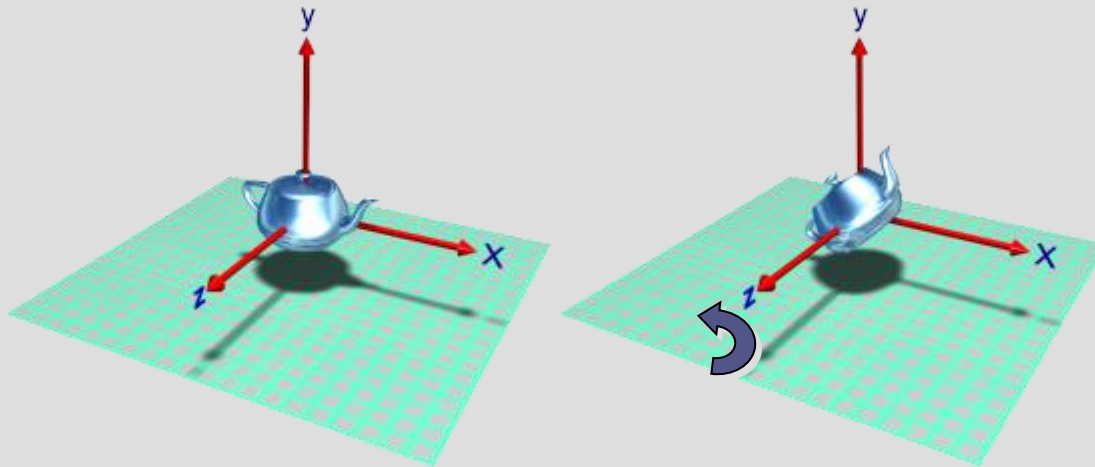
z-axis



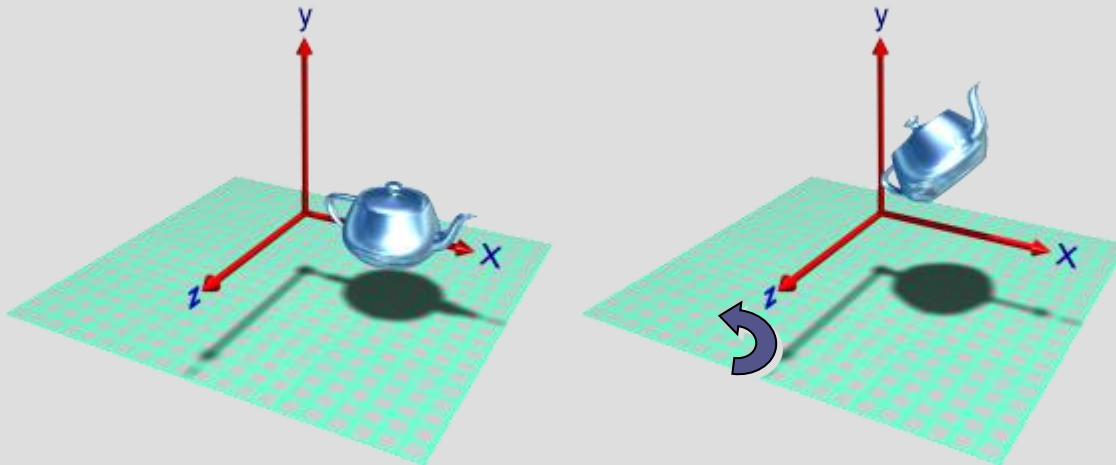
(-) x-axis

Rotation

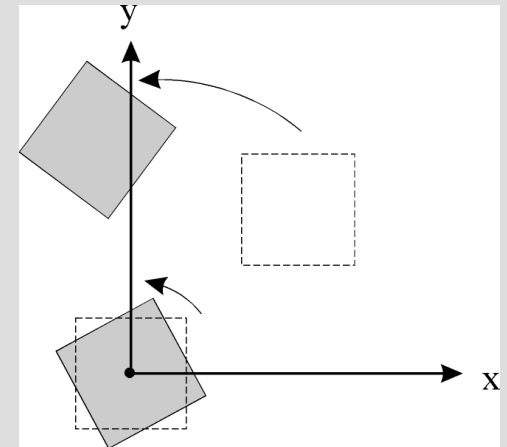
- Rotations are *anti-clockwise* about the *origin*:



rotation of 45° about the Z axis

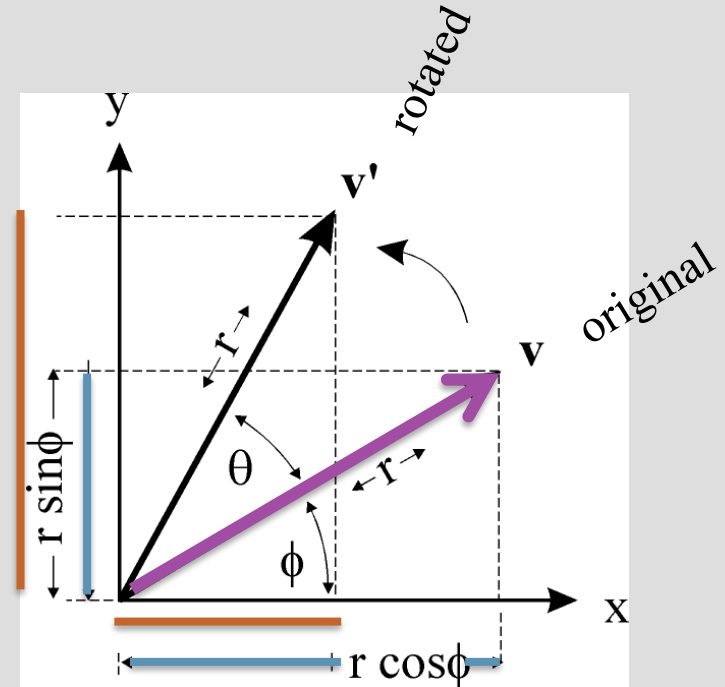


offset from origin rotation



Rotation about the z-axis

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} r \cos \phi \\ r \sin \phi \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{v}' =$$



$$\text{expand } (\phi + \theta) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x' = r \cos \phi \cos \theta - r \sin \phi \sin \theta \\ y' = r \cos \phi \sin \theta + r \sin \phi \cos \theta \end{cases}$$

$$\text{but } \begin{aligned} \underline{x = r \cos \phi} &\Rightarrow x' = x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta \\ \underline{y = r \sin \phi} &\Rightarrow y' = x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

Rotation about the z-axis

- Rotation in the clockwise direction is the inverse of rotation in the counter-clockwise direction and vice versa

Rotation

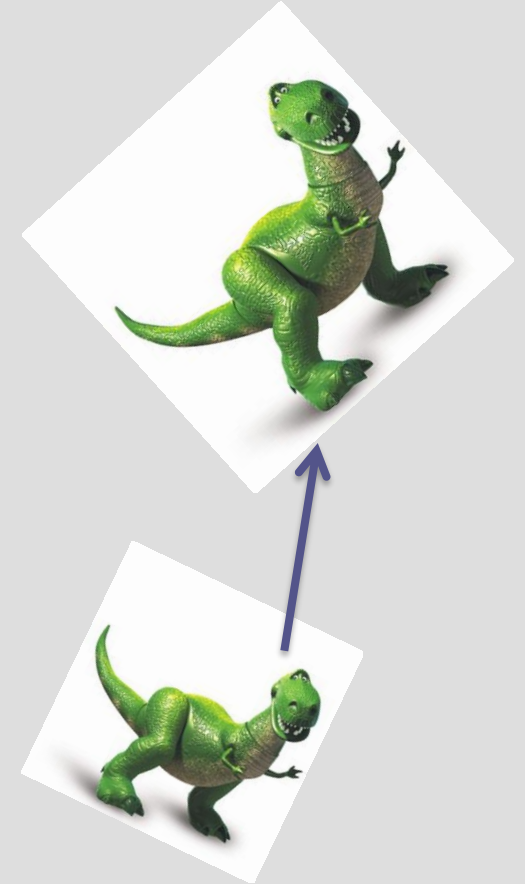
- 2D rotation of θ about origin: $\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$
- 3D homogeneous rotations:

$$\mathbf{R}_x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_y = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_z = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- If $\mathbf{M}^{-1} = \mathbf{M}^T$ then \mathbf{M} is *orthonormal*. All orthonormal matrices are rotations about the origin.

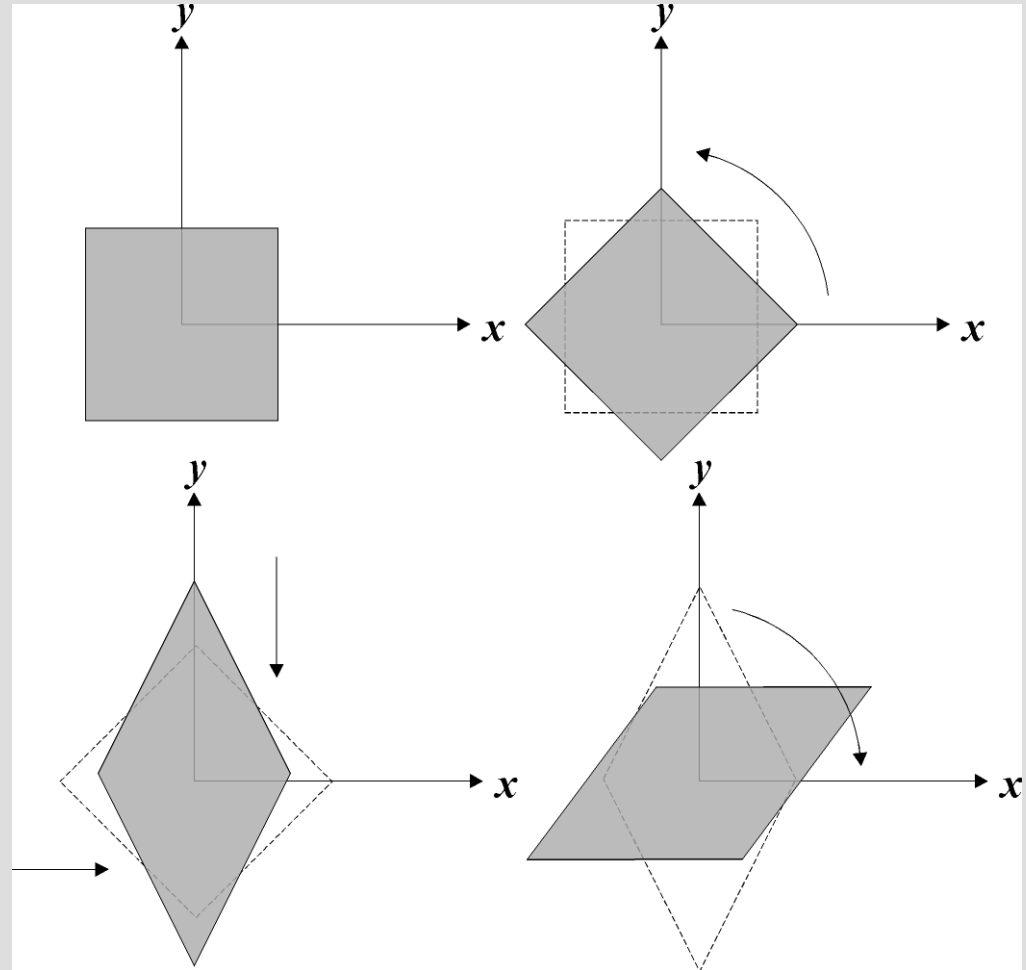
Combining Rotation, Translation, & Scaling

- Often advantageous to **combine** various transformations to form a more complex transformation
- If we do the algebra – things get complicated quickly
- Easier method – **matrices**



Affine Transformations

- All *affine transformations* are combinations of rotations, scaling and translations.



Homogenous Coordinates

Using this scheme,
every rotation, translation, and scaling operation
can be represented by a matrix multiplication,
and **any combination** of the operations
corresponds to the products of the corresponding
matrices

Transformation Composition

- It is common for graphics programs to apply **more than one** transformation to an object
 - Take vector \mathbf{v}_1 , Scale it (\mathbf{S}), then rotate it (\mathbf{R})
 - First, $\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{v}_1$, then, $\mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{v}_2$
 - $\mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{S}\mathbf{v}_1)$
 - Since matrix multiplication is **associative**: $\mathbf{v}_3 = (\mathbf{RS})\mathbf{v}_1$
- In other words, we can represent the effects of transforms by two matrices in a **single matrix** of the same size by multiplying the two matrices: $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{RS}$
- **NB:** transforms are applied from the **right side first**
 - Matrix multiplication is not commutative
 - Order matters!
 - Scaling then rotating is usually different than rotating then scaling

Transformation Composition

- More complex transformations can be created by *concatenating* or *composing* individual transformations together.

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{T} \circ \mathbf{R} \circ \mathbf{S} \circ \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{TRST} \quad \mathbf{v}' = \mathbf{T}[\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{S}[\mathbf{T}\mathbf{v}]]] = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}$$

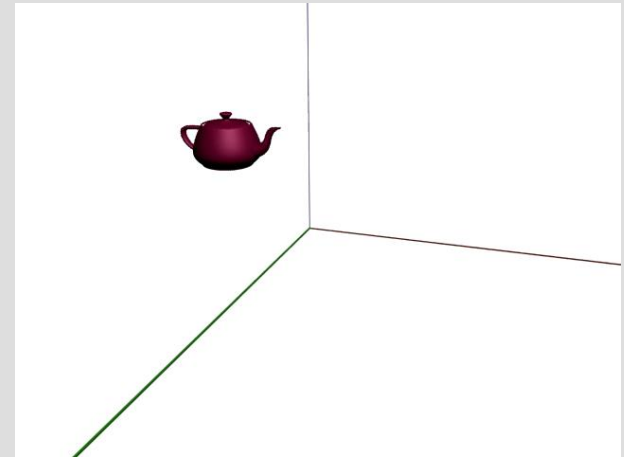
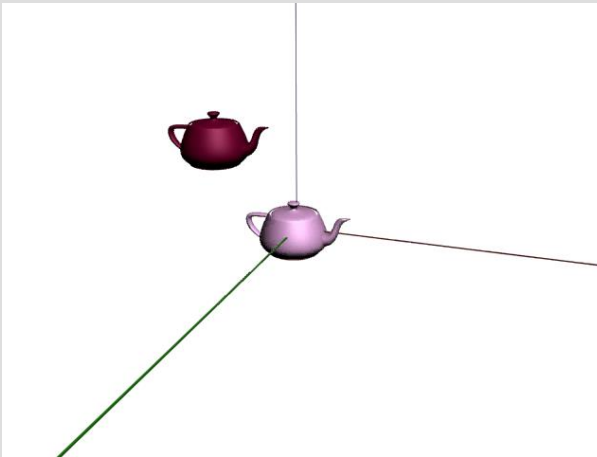
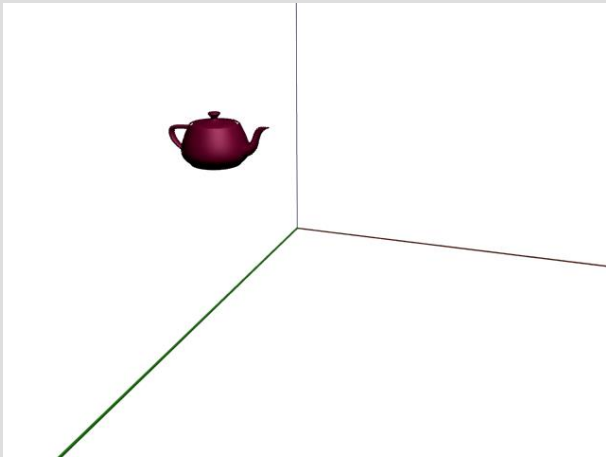
- Matrix multiplication is *non-commutative* \Rightarrow **order is vital**
- We can create an affine transformation representing rotation about a point P_R :

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{T}(P_R)\mathbf{R}(\theta)\mathbf{T}(-P_R)$$

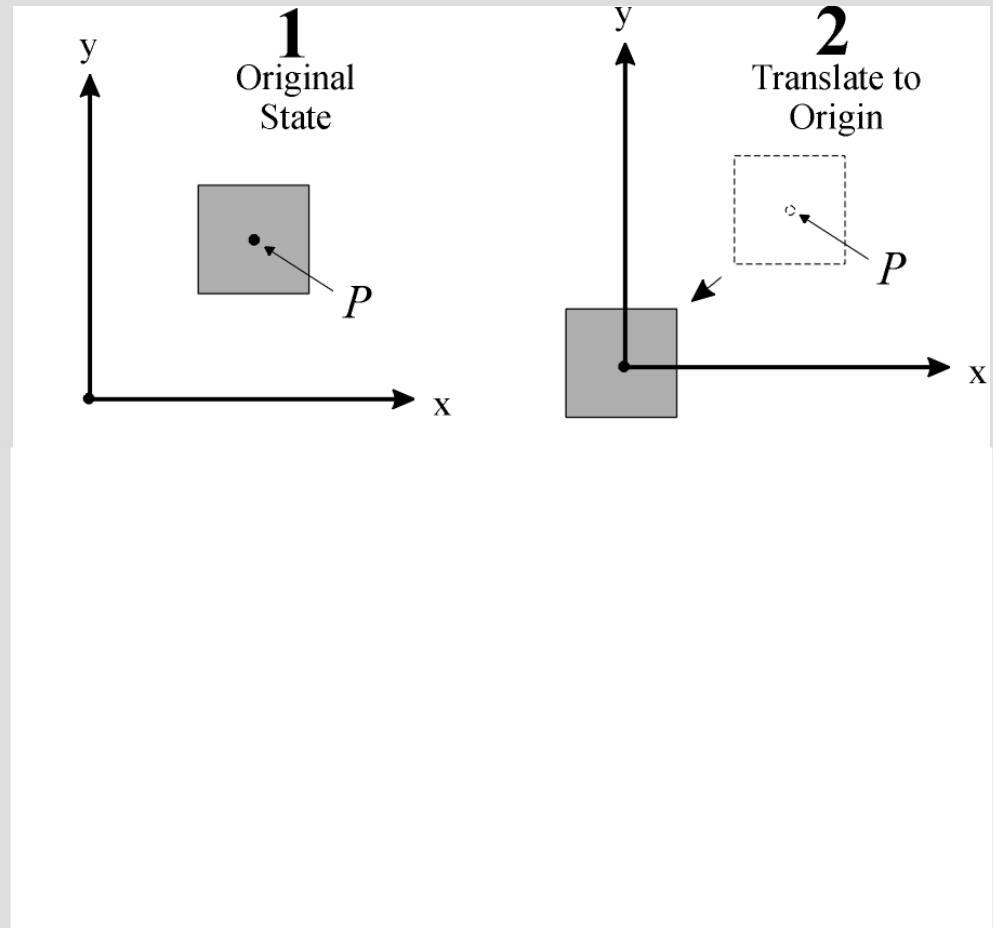
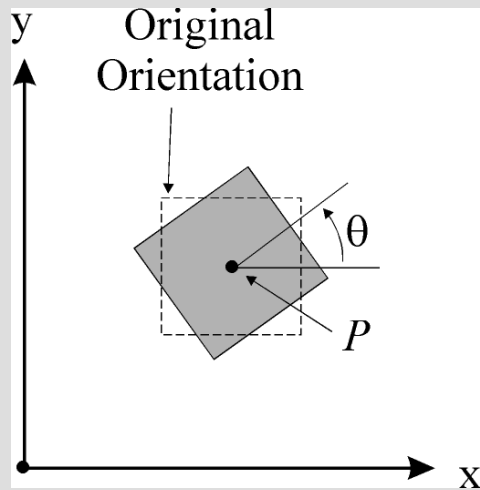
= *translate to origin, rotate about origin, translate back to original location*

Rotation about a point

- What if rotation is not about the origin?
 - Translate the centre of rotation to the origin,
 - Perform the rotation
 - Translate back



Transformation Composition



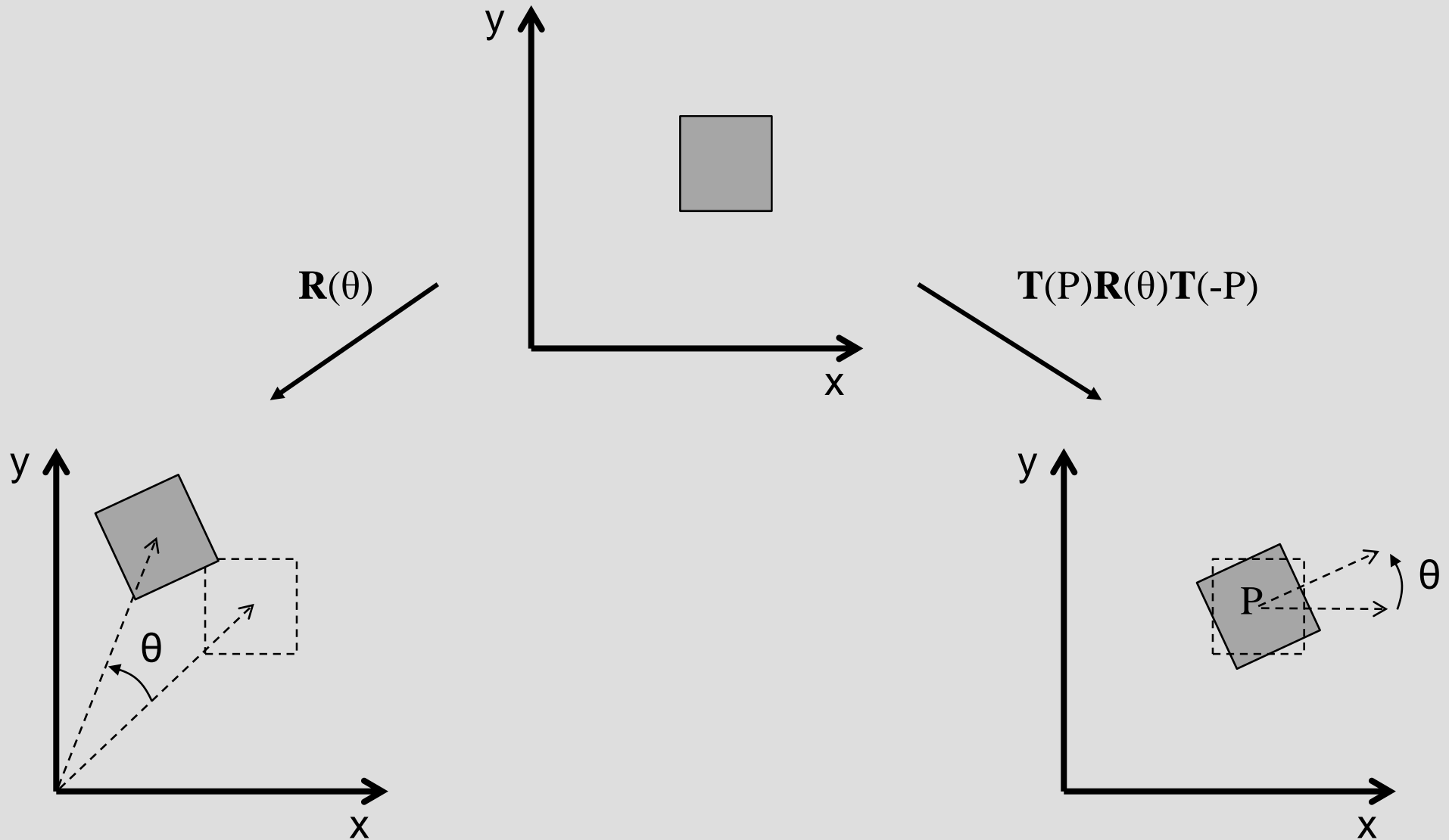
Transformation Composition

Rotation in **XY** plane by q degrees anti-clockwise about point P

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{T}(P)\mathbf{R}(\theta)\mathbf{T}(-P)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & P_x \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & P_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -P_x \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -P_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & P_x - P_x \cos \theta + P_y \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & P_y - P_x \sin \theta - P_y \cos \theta \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Transformation Composition



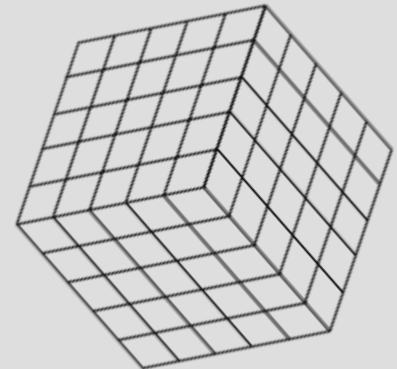
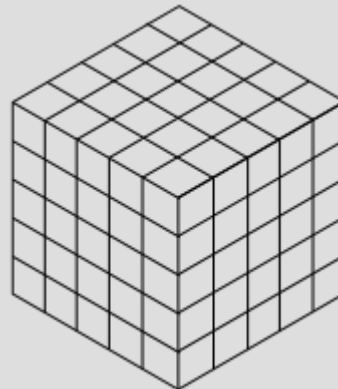
Orientation Representations

Overview

- Orientation Representation
 - Matrices
 - Fixed Axis Angles
 - Euler Angles
 - Axis + Angle
 - Quaternions

Orientation Representation

- What is the best way to represent the orientation of an object in space?
- Typical Scenarios:
 - User specifies an object in 2 transformed states and computer used to interpolate to produce animated keyframes
 - Object is to undergo 2 or more successive transformations
- Strengths and Weaknesses of each approach
 - Storage
 - Concatenation
 - Interpolation
 - Application



4 x 4 Transformation Matrix

- 4 x 4 matrix great for concatenation
- Fast to compute
- ✗ • Storage issue for bone-animation
- ✗ • Not suitable for keyframe interpolation
 - Intermediate matrices not correct

$$M(t_0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad M(t_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & \frac{-\sqrt{3}}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad 0.5 * M(t_0) + 0.5 * M(t_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.75 & \frac{-\sqrt{3}}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} & 0.75 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

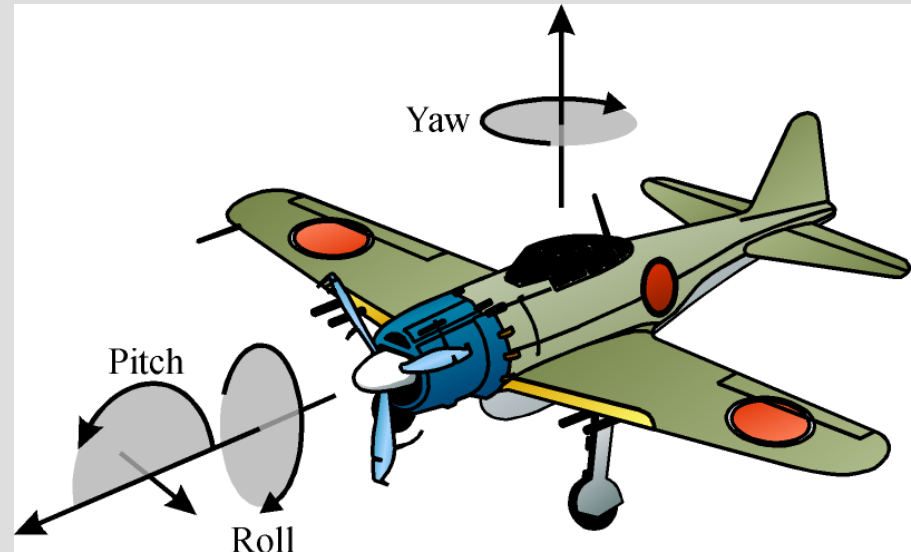
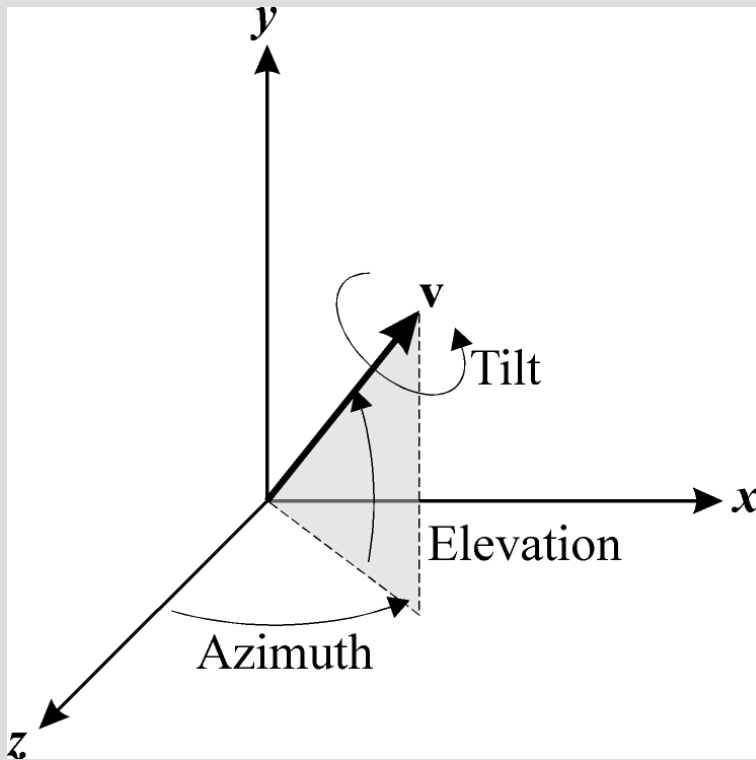
$\mathbf{Rx}(0)$ $\mathbf{Rx}(60)$ $\cos^{-1}(0.75) \neq \sin^{-1}(\sqrt{3}/4)$

Fixed-angle Representation

- Angles used to rotate about world axes
- A fixed order of three rotations is implied
 - e.g., x-y-z
- Many possible orderings of rotations
 - x-y-x
 - y-x-z
 - etc.
- Object orientation given by 3 angles: (10, 45, 90)

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{R}_z(90)\mathbf{R}_y(45)\mathbf{R}_x(10)$$

Euler Angles



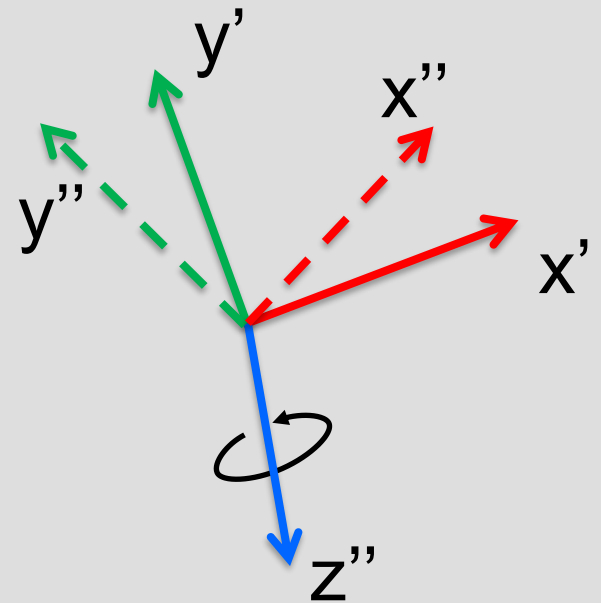
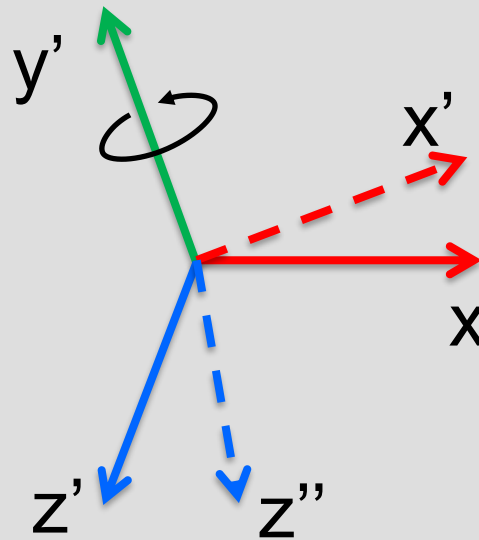
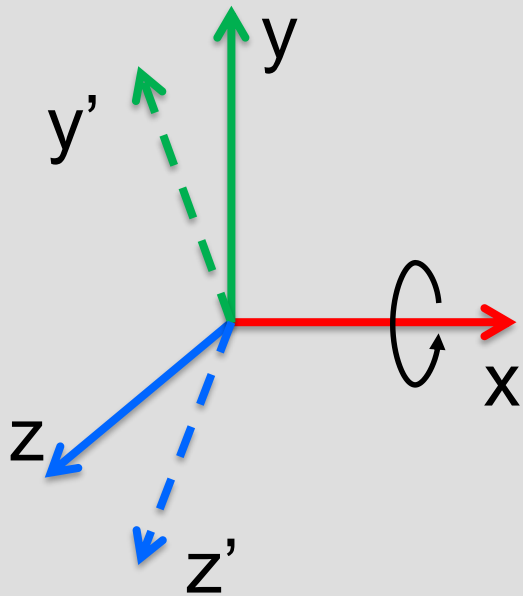
Sometimes known as *roll*, *pitch* and *yaw*

Euler Angles

- In a *Euler angle representation*, the axes of rotation are the axes of the **local coordinate system** that rotate with the object, as opposed to the fixed global axes
- Can use any of various ordering of three axes of rotation as its representation scheme
- Example: Want rotation x-y-z by (10, 45, 90)
- Use prime symbol to represent rotation about a rotated frame

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{R}_z''(90)\mathbf{R}_y'(45)\mathbf{R}_x(10)$$

Euler Angles: xyz



$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{R}_z''(90)\mathbf{R}_y'(45)\mathbf{R}_x(10)$$

Euler Angles

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{R}_y'(45)\mathbf{R}_x(10)$$

- Using global axis rotation matrices to implement the transformations, the y-axis rotation can be achieved by: $\mathbf{R}_x(10)\mathbf{R}_y(45)\mathbf{R}_x(-10)$

- Thus result of two rotations is:

$$\mathbf{R}_y'(45)\mathbf{R}_x(10) = \mathbf{R}_x(10)\mathbf{R}_y(45)\mathbf{R}_x(-10)\mathbf{R}_x(10) = \mathbf{R}_x(10)\mathbf{R}_y(45)$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{R}_z''(90)\mathbf{R}_y'(45)\mathbf{R}_x(10)$$

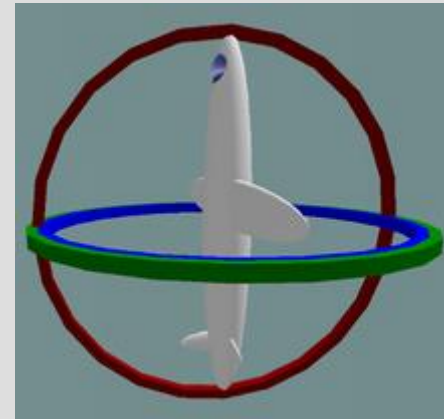
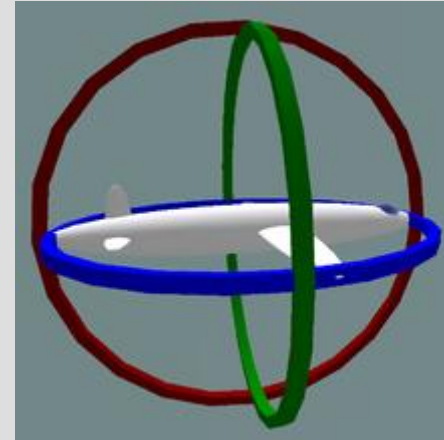
Euler Angles

- The third rotation $\mathbf{R}_z(90)$ is around the now twice rotated frame
- This rotation can be achieved by undoing the previous rotations $\mathbf{R}_x(-10)$ followed by $\mathbf{R}_y(-45)$
- Then rotating around the global z-axis by $\mathbf{R}_z(90)$ & then re-applying the previous rotations

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{R}_z''(90)\mathbf{R}_y'(45)\mathbf{R}_x(10) &= \overbrace{\mathbf{R}_x(10)\mathbf{R}_y(45)} \mathbf{R}_z(90) \overbrace{\mathbf{R}_y(-45)\mathbf{R}_x(-10)} \mathbf{R}_x(10)\mathbf{R}_y(45) \\ &= \mathbf{R}_x(10)\mathbf{R}_y(45)\mathbf{R}_z(90) \end{aligned}$$

Gimbal Lock

- Problem: two axes of rotation can effectively line up on top of each other when an object can rotate freely in space
- Example
 - If the aircraft pitches up 90 degrees, the aircraft and platform's Yaw axis gimbal becomes parallel to the Roll axis gimbal
 - changes about yaw can no longer be compensated for.



Euler Angle Concatenation

- Can't just add or multiply components
- Best way:
 - Convert to matrices
 - Multiply matrices
 - Extract euler angles from resulting matrix
- Not cheap

Euler Angle Interpolation

- Example:
 - Halfway between $(0, 90, 0)$ & $(90, 45, 90)$
 - Lerp directly, get $(45, 67.5, 45)$
 - Desired result is $(90, 22.5, 90)$
- Can use Hermite curves to interpolate
- Assumes you have correct tangents
- AFAIK, slerp not even possible

Euler Angles

- Thus, system of Euler angles is precisely equivalent to the fixed-angle system in reverse order
- Has exactly the same advantages and disadvantages as those of the fixed-angle representation

Advantages

- Compact
- Fairly intuitive
- Good for GUI
- Easy to work with
 - Similar to what we know how to do in mathematics
- Disadvantage
 - Gimbal lock
 - Interpolation
 - Expensive for concatenation

Axis + Angle

- Euler Rotation Theorem: One orientation can be derived from another by a single rotation about an arbitrary axis
- Angle-axis
 - Any orientation can be represented by two parameters
 - The axis of rotation (vector)
 - The angle of rotation (scalar)

Axis + Angle

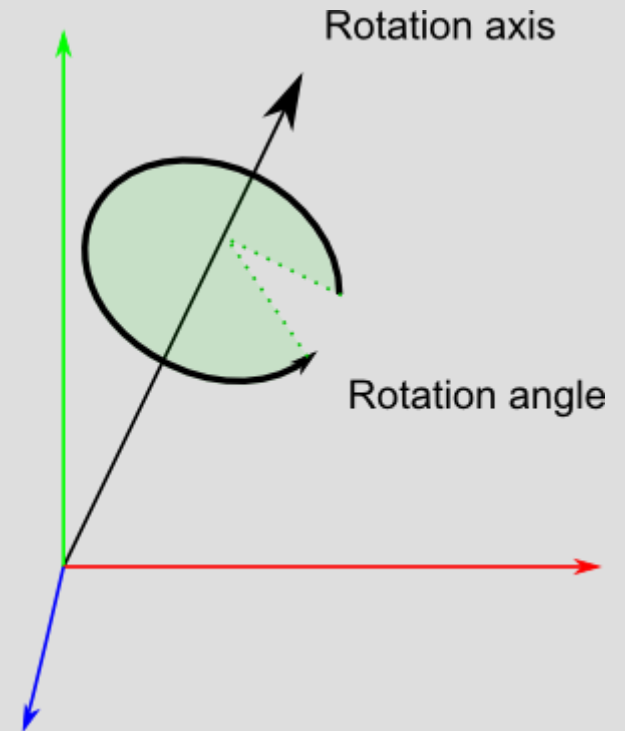
- Specify vector, rotate counter clockwise around it
- Intuitive
- Compact (only requires 3 floats)
- Cannot apply directly to points or vectors
- Can interpolate
 - Interpolate the axes of rotation and angles separately
- Not good for concatenation
 - Convert to matrix, concatenate, convert back
 - Same issue as Euler angles

Axis + Angle

- Rotation

$$R(\mathbf{p}, \hat{\mathbf{r}}, \theta) = \cos \theta \cdot \mathbf{p} + (1 - \cos \theta)(\mathbf{p} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}})\hat{\mathbf{r}} + \sin \theta(\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{p})$$

- Convenient at times to do this
- Not the simplest operation
- More of a transitional format
 - Convert to axis-angle, manipulate angle or axis, convert back



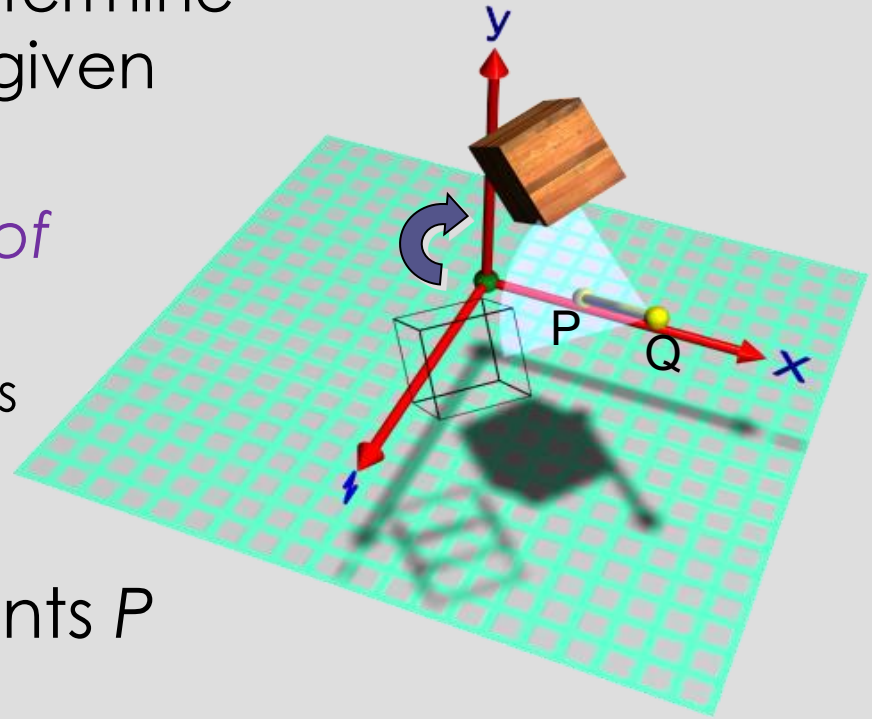
Axis + Angle - General

- What if you want to rotate about an axis that does not happen to be one of the 3 principle axes?
 - Can do this using operations we already have
- Strategy:
 - Do one or two rotations about the principal axes to get the axis we want aligned with the z-axis
 - Then, rotate about the z-axis
 - Undo the rotations we did to align your axis with the z-axis

Axis + Angle - Matrices

- A frequent requirement is to determine the matrix for rotation about a given axis.
- Such rotations have *3 degrees of freedom* (DOF):
 - 2 for spherical angles specifying axis orientation
 - 1 for twist about the rotation axis
- Assume axis is defined by points P and Q
- Pivot point is C and rotation axis vector is:

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{P - Q}{|P - Q|}$$



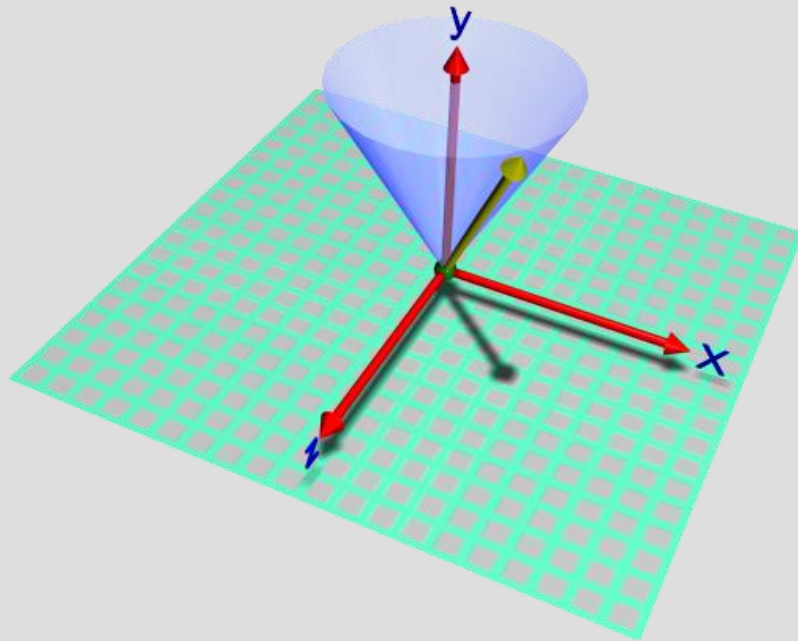
Axis + Angle - Matrices

1. Translate the pivot point to the origin $\Rightarrow \mathbf{T}(-P)$
2. Align the axis of rotation (P) so that the axis lines up with \mathbf{z} say $\Rightarrow \mathbf{R}(\theta_y)\mathbf{R}(\theta_x)$
3. Rotate about \mathbf{z} by the required angle $\theta \Rightarrow \mathbf{R}(\theta)$
4. Undo the first 2 rotations to bring us back to the original orientation $\Rightarrow \mathbf{R}(-\theta_x)\mathbf{R}(-\theta_y)$
5. Translate back to the original position $\Rightarrow \mathbf{T}(P)$
6. The final rotation matrix is:

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{T}(P)\mathbf{R}(-\theta_y)\mathbf{R}(-\theta_x)\mathbf{R}(\theta)\mathbf{R}(\theta_x)\mathbf{R}(\theta_y)\mathbf{T}(-P)$$

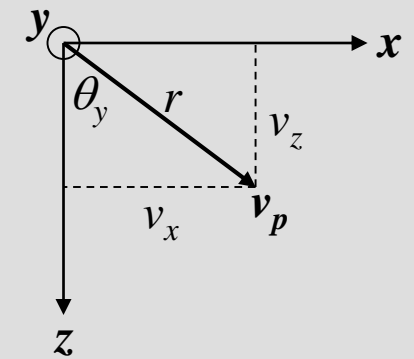
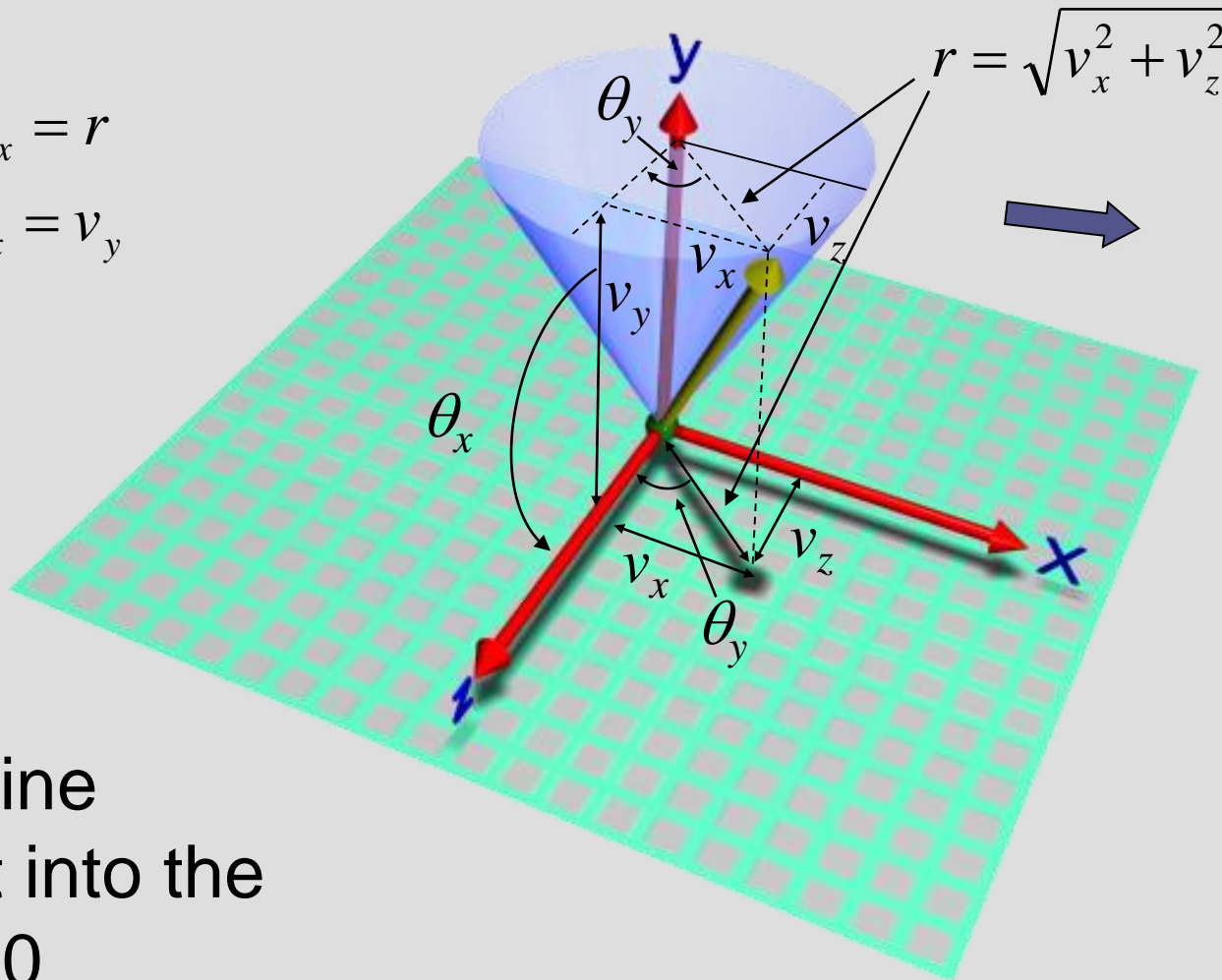
Axis + Angle - Matrices

- We need the Euler angles θ_x and θ_y which will orient the rotation axis along the **z** axis.
- We determine these using simple trigonometry.



Aligning axis with z

$$\cos \theta_x = r$$
$$\sin \theta_x = v_y$$



$$\cos \theta_y = \frac{v_z}{r}$$

$$\sin \theta_y = \frac{v_x}{r}$$

-Rotate line
segment into the
plane $y=0$

Aligning axis with z

- Note that as shown the rotation about the **x** axis is anti-clockwise but the **y** axis rotation is *clockwise*.
- Therefore the required **y** axis rotation is $-\theta_y \Rightarrow$

$$\mathbf{R}(\theta_x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & r & -v_y & 0 \\ 0 & v_y & r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{R}(-\theta_x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & r & v_y & 0 \\ 0 & -v_y & r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R}(\theta_y) = \begin{bmatrix} v_z/r & 0 & v_x/r & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -v_x/r & 0 & v_z/r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{R}(-\theta_y) = \begin{bmatrix} v_z/r & 0 & -v_x/r & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ v_x/r & 0 & v_z/r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{T}(P)\mathbf{R}(\theta_y)\mathbf{R}(-\theta_x)\mathbf{R}(\theta)\mathbf{R}(\theta_x)\mathbf{R}(-\theta_y)\mathbf{T}(-P)$$

Quaternion Representation



- Developed by Sir William Rowan Hamilton in 1843
- Irish physicist, astronomer, and mathematician
- Was looking for ways of extending complex numbers to higher spatial dimensions
- Carved into side of Broom Bridge, along the Royal Canal
- Extension of complex numbers that gives us an elegant way of representing 3d rotations

Quaternion Representation

- A quaternion is a 3-dimensional vector plus a fourth scalar coordinate
 - Axis of rotation is scaled by the sine of the half angle of rotation
 - Angle is stored as cosine of the half angle

$$\mathbf{q} = [a \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}]$$

- Big benefits over axis+angle:
 - Rotations can be **concatenated** and directly applied to points and vectors via quaternion multiplication
 - Good for **interpolation** via LERP or SLERP
- No Gimbal Lock
- Small size

Quaternion Operations

- Support some of the familiar operations
- Quaternion Multiplication
 - Given 2 quaternions: p , q representing rotations **P** and **Q**
 - pq represents the composite rotation (rotation **Q** followed by rotation **P**)
 - Grassman product

$$pq = (pq)_s + (\vec{p}\vec{q})_v = (p_s q_s - \vec{p}_v \cdot \vec{q}_v) + (p_s \vec{q}_v + \vec{p}_v q_s + \vec{p}_v \times \vec{q}_v).$$

Rotating Vectors

- Re-write vector in quaternion form
 - $\mathbf{v} = [\mathbf{v} \ 0]$
 - $\mathbf{v}' = \text{rotate}(q, \mathbf{v}) = q\mathbf{v}q^{-1}$
- Since quaternions are always unit length:
 - $\mathbf{v}' = \text{rotate}(q, \mathbf{v}) = q\mathbf{v}q^*$



Quaternion Concatenation

- Same as for matrices
- Just multiply quaternions together
- $q_{net} = q_3 q_2 q_1$;
- $v' = q_3 q_2 q_1 v q_1^{-1} q_2^{-1} q_3^{-1}$
- Note how quaternion rotations always multiply on *both* sides of the vector

Quaternion-Matrix

- We can convert any 3D rotation freely between a 3 x 3 matrix and a quaternion
- Let $q = [\mathbf{qv} \ qs] = [\mathbf{qv}_x \ \mathbf{qv}_y \ \mathbf{qv}_z \ qs] = [x \ y \ z \ w]$, then:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2y^2 - 2z^2 & 2xy - 2wz & 2xz + 2wy \\ 2xy + 2wz & 1 - 2x^2 - 2z^2 & 2yz - 2wx \\ 2xz - 2wy & 2yz + 2wx & 1 - 2x^2 - 2y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

eq. 1: Quaternion to matrix

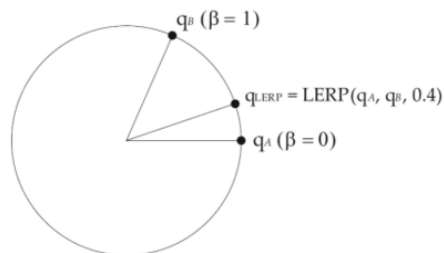
- (assumes using row vectors)
- Faster conversion & Discussion
 - <http://www.euclideanspace.com/maths/geometry/rotations/conversions/matrixToQuaternion/index.htm>

Linear Interpolation

- LERP is the easiest and least computationally intensive approach
- Given 2 quaternions, p & q , representing rotations A and B , we can find an intermediate rotation q_{lerp} that is β percent of the way from A to B

$$q_{\text{LERP}} = \text{LERP}(q_A, q_B, \beta) = \frac{(1-\beta)q_A + \beta q_B}{|(1-\beta)q_A + \beta q_B|}$$

$$= \text{normalize} \begin{bmatrix} (1-\beta)q_{Ax} + \beta q_{Bx} \\ (1-\beta)q_{Ay} + \beta q_{By} \\ (1-\beta)q_{Az} + \beta q_{Bz} \\ (1-\beta)q_{Aw} + \beta q_{Bw} \end{bmatrix}^T.$$



Linear Interpolation

- Quaternions are points on a 4-D hypersphere
- LERP interpolates along a chord of the hypersphere
 - Rotation animations do not have a constant angular speed when parameter is changing at a constant rate
 - Rotation will appear slower at the end points and faster in the middle

Spherical Linear Interpolation

- SLERP uses sines and cosines to interpolate along a great circle of the 4D hypersphere
- Results in constant angular speed

$$\text{SLERP}(p, q, \beta) = w_p p + w_q q,$$

$$w_p = \frac{\sin((1 - \beta)\theta)}{\sin(\theta)},$$

$$w_q = \frac{\sin(\beta\theta)}{\sin(\theta)}.$$

SQT Transformations

- Quaternion only represents rotation
- Use SQT transform to combine with scale and translation
- Widely used in computer animation because of the smaller size

Comparison

- Euler Angles
 - Simplicity
 - Small size
 - Intuitive – pitch, roll, yaw easy to visualize
 - Easily interpolate rotations about a single axis
 - Not good for more complex interpolations
 - Gimbal lock
 - Order of rotations matters (PYR, YPR..)

Comparison

- Matrices
 - No gimbal lock
 - Can represent arbitrary rotations uniquely
 - Straightforward to apply to vectors and points
 - Built-in support
 - Transpose, inverse
 - Arbitrary affine transformations
 - Not intuitive to look at
 - Not easily interpolated
 - Storage

Comparison

- Axis + Angle
 - Reasonably intuitive
 - Compact
 - Rotations not easily interpolated
 - Cannot be applied in a straightforward way to vectors

Comparison

- Quaternions
 - Compact
 - Concatenation of rotations
 - Easily applied to points and vectors
 - Easy and smooth interpolation
 - Use SQT for combinations
 - No Gimbal lock
 - Not as intuitive to work with

Degrees of Freedom

- Euler Angles
 - 3 parameters – 0 constraints = 3 DOF
- Axis+Angle
 - 4 parameters – 1 constraint = 3 DOF
 - Constraint: Axis is constrained to be unit length
- Quaternion
 - 4 parameters – 1 constraint = 3 DOF
 - Constraint: Quaternion is constrained to be unit length
- 3 x 3 matrix
 - 9 parameters – 6 constraints = 3 DOF
 - Constraints: All 3 rows and all 3 columns must be of unit length

Recommended Reading

- Computer Animation: Algorithms & Techniques, 3rd Edition, Rick Parent
- Game Engine Architecture, 2nd Edition, Jason Gregory
- GDC vaults – Understanding Rotations, Jim Van Verth
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gimbal_lock
- http://antongerdelan.net/teaching/guest_lectures/morph_targets/
- “Homogeneous Coordinates and Computer Graphics” by Tom Davis
- <http://www.geometer.org/mathcircles/cghomogen.pdf>
- Interactive Computer Graphics: A Top-down approach with OpenGL, by Edward Angel