

DIRECTION COSINE MATRIX IN TERMS OF THE UNIT QUATERNION

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By means of Eq. (11.154) we can rewrite the direction cosine matrix (Eq. 11.143) entirely in terms of the components of the unit quaternion $\hat{\mathbf{q}}$.

Let us deal with each of the nine components of $[\mathbf{Q}]_{xx}$ in turn, starting with Q_{11} . From Eq. (11.143) we have

$$Q_{11} = l^2(1 - \cos\theta) + \cos\theta$$

Substituting the trig identity $\cos\theta = \cos^2(\theta/2) - \sin^2(\theta/2)$ from Eq. (11.156), and then expanding and rearranging terms yields

$$Q_{11} = l^2 - l^2 \cos^2(\theta/2) - \sin^2(\theta/2) + [l^2 \sin^2(\theta/2) + \cos^2(\theta/2)]$$

Since $\cos^2(\theta/2) = 1 - \sin^2(\theta/2)$, we may write this as

$$Q_{11} = (l^2 - 1) \sin^2(\theta/2) + [l^2 \sin^2(\theta/2) + \cos^2(\theta/2)]$$

From Eq. (11.141) we have $l^2 - 1 = -m^2 - n^2$, so that, making use of Eq. (11.154),

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{11} &= l^2 \sin^2(\theta/2) - m^2 \sin^2(\theta/2) - n^2 \sin^2(\theta/2) + \cos^2(\theta/2) \\ &= \underbrace{l^2 \sin^2(\theta/2)}_{q_1^2} - \underbrace{m^2 \sin^2(\theta/2)}_{q_2^2} - \underbrace{n^2 \sin^2(\theta/2)}_{q_3^2} + \underbrace{\cos^2(\theta/2)}_{q_4^2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$Q_{11} = q_1^2 - q_2^2 - q_3^2 + q_4^2$$

Likewise, for the remaining two diagonal components of $[\mathbf{Q}]_{xx}$ we find that

$$Q_{22} = -q_1^2 + q_2^2 - q_3^2 + q_4^2$$

$$Q_{33} = -q_1^2 - q_2^2 + q_3^2 + q_4^2$$

For the off-diagonal components of $[\mathbf{Q}]_{xx}$, we start with Q_{12} and observe from Eq. (11.143) that

$$Q_{12} = lm(1 - \cos\theta) + n \sin\theta$$

Replacing $\sin\theta$ and $\cos\theta$ by the trig identities in Eq. (11.156), we get

$$Q_{12} = lm[1 - \cos^2(\theta/2) + \sin^2(\theta/2)] + [2n \sin(\theta/2) \cos(\theta/2)]$$

Employing the identity $\cos^2(\theta/2) = 1 - \sin^2(\theta/2)$ yields

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{12} &= 2lm \sin^2(\theta/2) + 2n \sin(\theta/2) \cos(\theta/2) \\ &= 2 \cdot \overbrace{l \sin(\theta/2)}^{q_1} \cdot \overbrace{m \sin(\theta/2)}^{q_2} + 2 \cdot \overbrace{n \sin(\theta/2)}^{q_3} \cdot \overbrace{\cos(\theta/2)}^{q_4} \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$Q_{12} = 2(q_1 q_2 + q_3 q_4)$$

Following the same line of reasoning for the five remaining off-diagonal components, leads to

$$Q_{13} = 2(q_1 q_3 - q_2 q_4)$$

$$Q_{21} = 2(q_1 q_2 - q_3 q_4)$$

$$Q_{23} = 2(q_2 q_3 + q_1 q_4)$$

$$Q_{31} = 2(q_1 q_3 + q_2 q_4)$$

$$Q_{32} = 2(q_2 q_3 - q_1 q_4)$$

This shows that Eq. (11.157) is indeed a valid formula for the direction cosine matrix $[\mathbf{Q}]_{Xx}$ in terms of the unit quaternion $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}$.