

# Rigid Body Transformations and Displacements

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MEAM 620, SPRING 2020

# Last time:

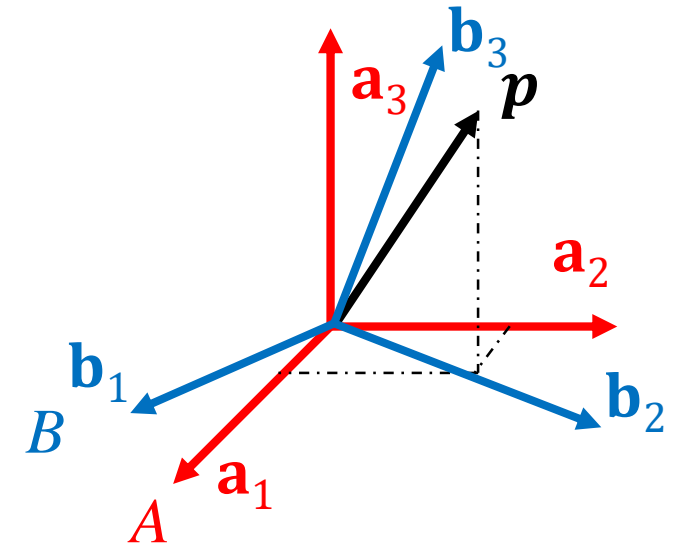
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1) Given one free vector  $\mathbf{p}$ , we thought about how the coordinate vectors  ${}^A[\mathbf{p}]$  and  ${}^B[\mathbf{p}]$  relate.

$${}^A[\mathbf{p}] = [{}^A\mathbf{R}_B] {}^B[\mathbf{p}]$$

2) We saw that this matrix can be viewed as a description of the orientation of  $B$  with respect to  $A$ .

$${}^A\mathbf{R}_B = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A[\mathbf{b}_1] & {}^A[\mathbf{b}_2] & {}^A[\mathbf{b}_3] \end{bmatrix}$$



# This time:

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Rigid body coordinate transformations of position vectors.

Homogeneous transformation matrices.

Rigid body displacements.

Many more choices of coordinates for rotations.

# Reference Frames and Points

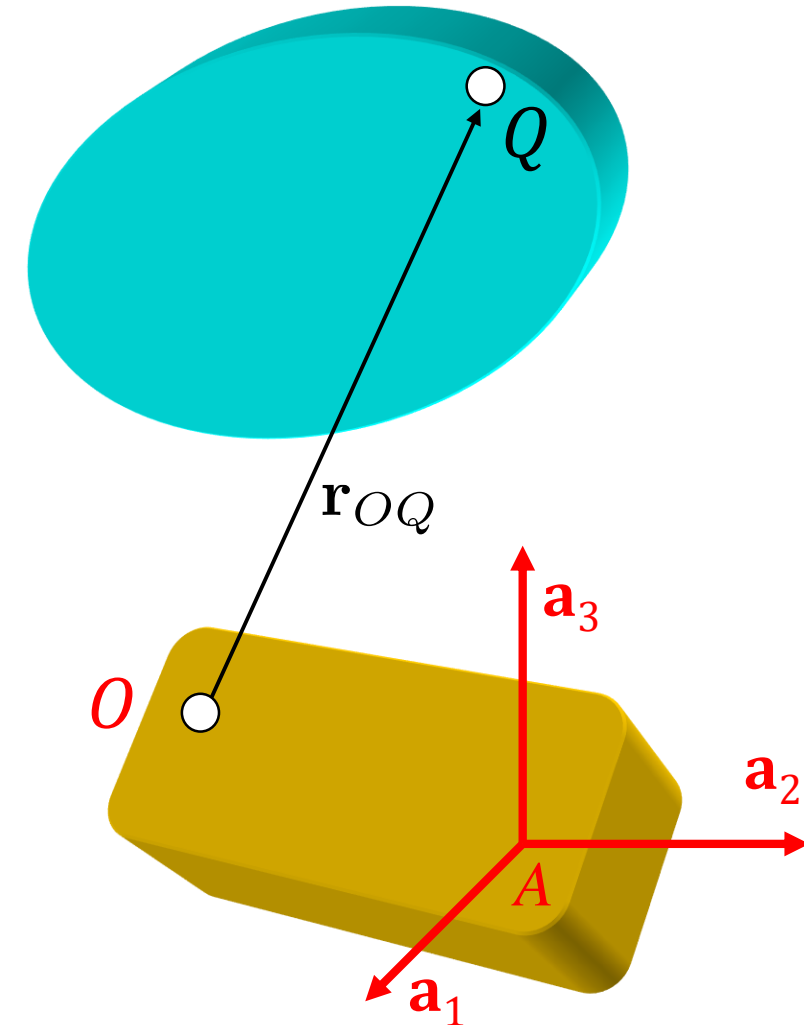
A reference frame  $A$  combines an

- origin point  $O$ , and
- basis vectors  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3\}$

A new point  $Q$  can be identified by the position vector  $\mathbf{r}_{OQ}$ .

As a shorthand, let  $\{{}^A q_1, {}^A q_2, {}^A q_3\}$  be the coordinates of  $\mathbf{r}_{OQ}$  in the basis of  $A$ .

$$\mathbf{r}_{OQ} = {}^A q_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + {}^A q_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + {}^A q_3 \mathbf{a}_3$$



# Transformation of Position Vectors

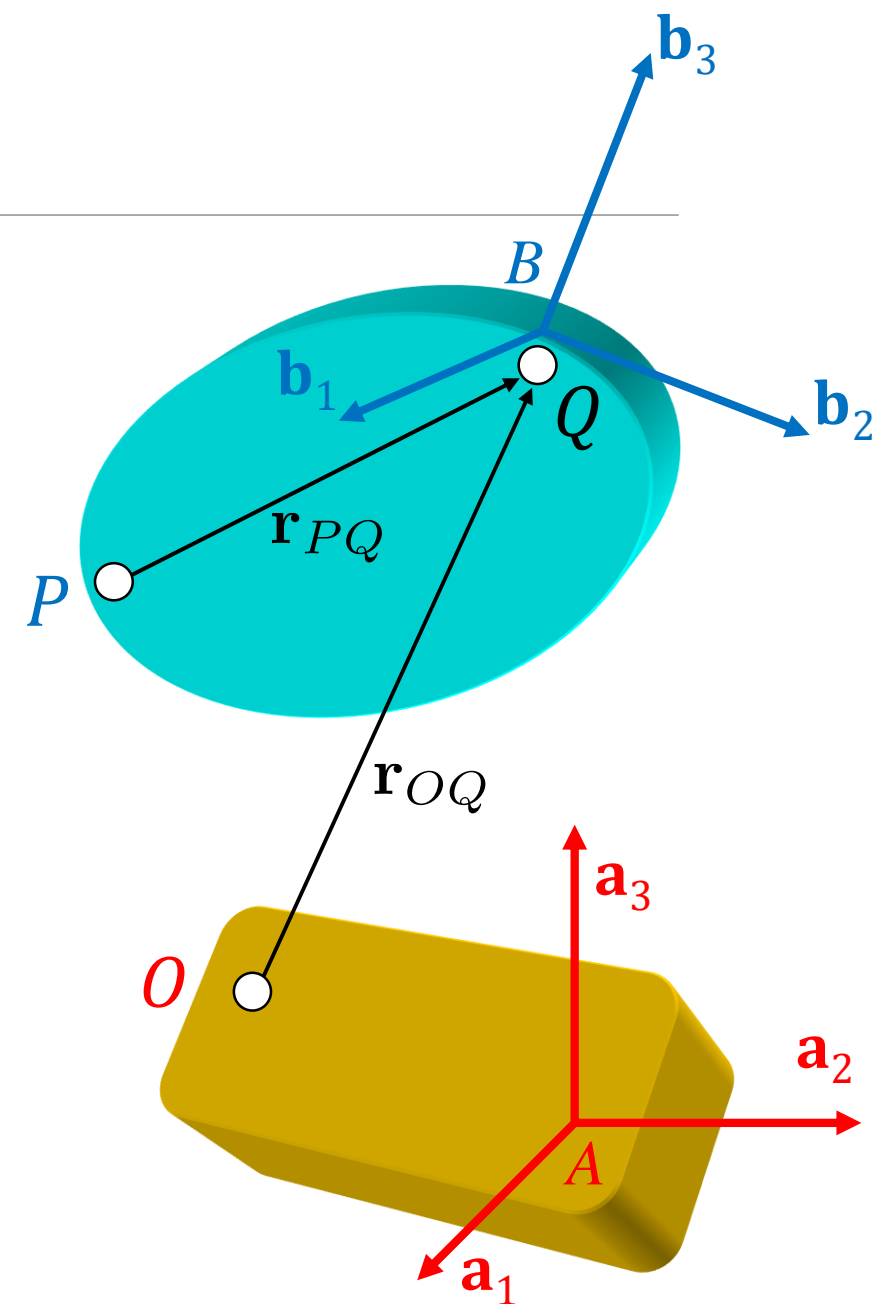
Introduce frame  $B$  with origin  $P$  and basis vectors  $\{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \mathbf{b}_3\}$ .

This gives us a new basis vector and associated coordinates.

$$\mathbf{r}_{OQ} = {}^A q_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + {}^A q_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + {}^A q_3 \mathbf{a}_3$$

$$\mathbf{r}_{PQ} = {}^B q_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + {}^B q_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + {}^B q_3 \mathbf{b}_3$$

How are these coordinates describing the point  $Q$  related?



# Transformation of Position Vectors

Start with vector addition, and complete the triangle.

$$\mathbf{r}_{OQ} = \mathbf{r}_{OP} + \mathbf{r}_{PQ}$$

Expand the vectors in whatever bases seem convenient.

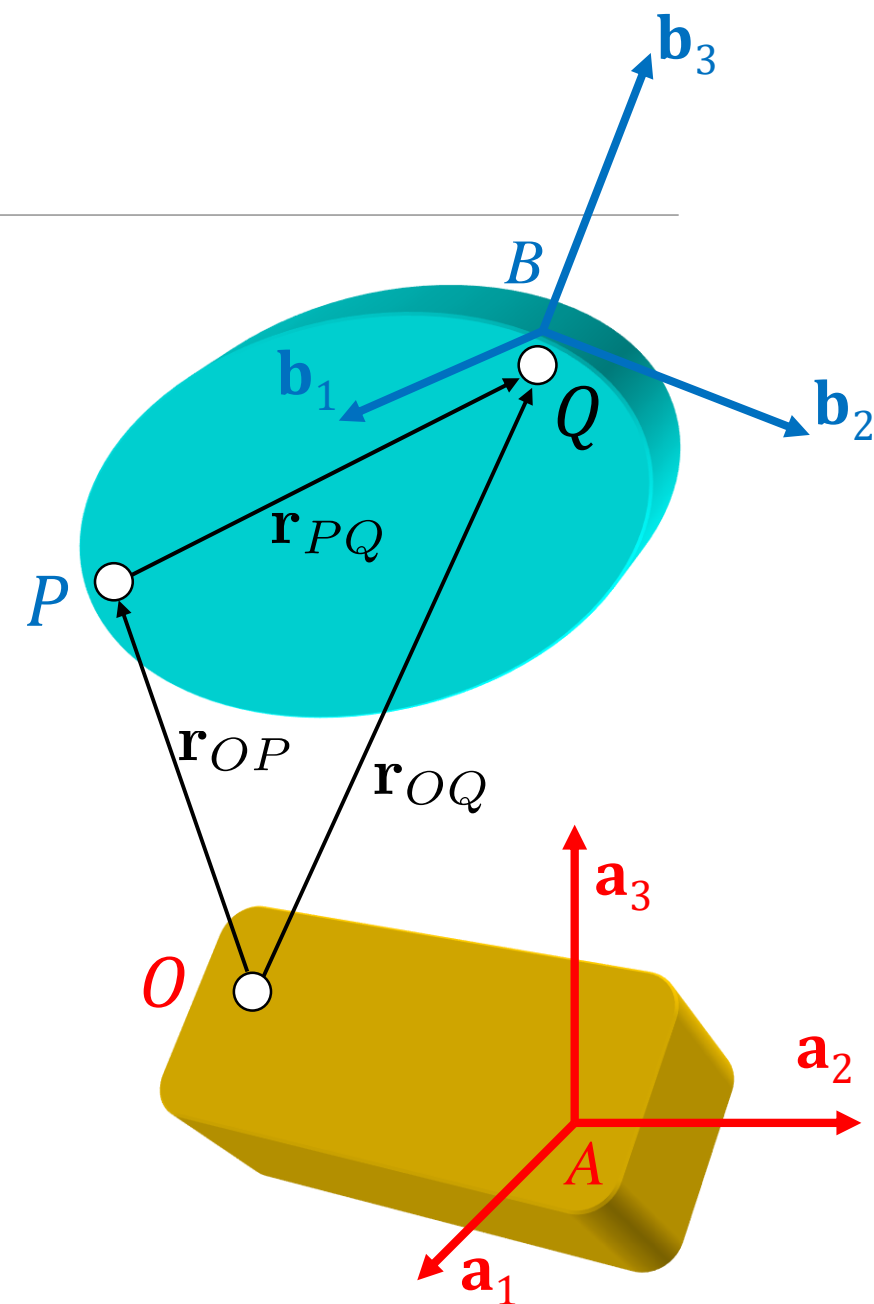
$$\mathbf{r}_{OQ} = {}^A q_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + {}^A q_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + {}^A q_3 \mathbf{a}_3$$

$$\mathbf{r}_{OP} = {}^A p_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + {}^A p_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + {}^A p_3 \mathbf{a}_3$$

$$\mathbf{r}_{PQ} = {}^B q_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + {}^B q_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + {}^B q_3 \mathbf{b}_3$$

Can't compute on coordinates of different bases.

~~$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^A q_1 \\ {}^A q_2 \\ {}^A q_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A p_1 \\ {}^A p_2 \\ {}^A p_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} {}^B q_1 \\ {}^B q_2 \\ {}^B q_3 \end{bmatrix}$$~~



# Rotation Matrix

Recall the rotation matrix transforms coordinates in  $B$  to coordinates in  $A$ . This brings the equation into consistent bases.

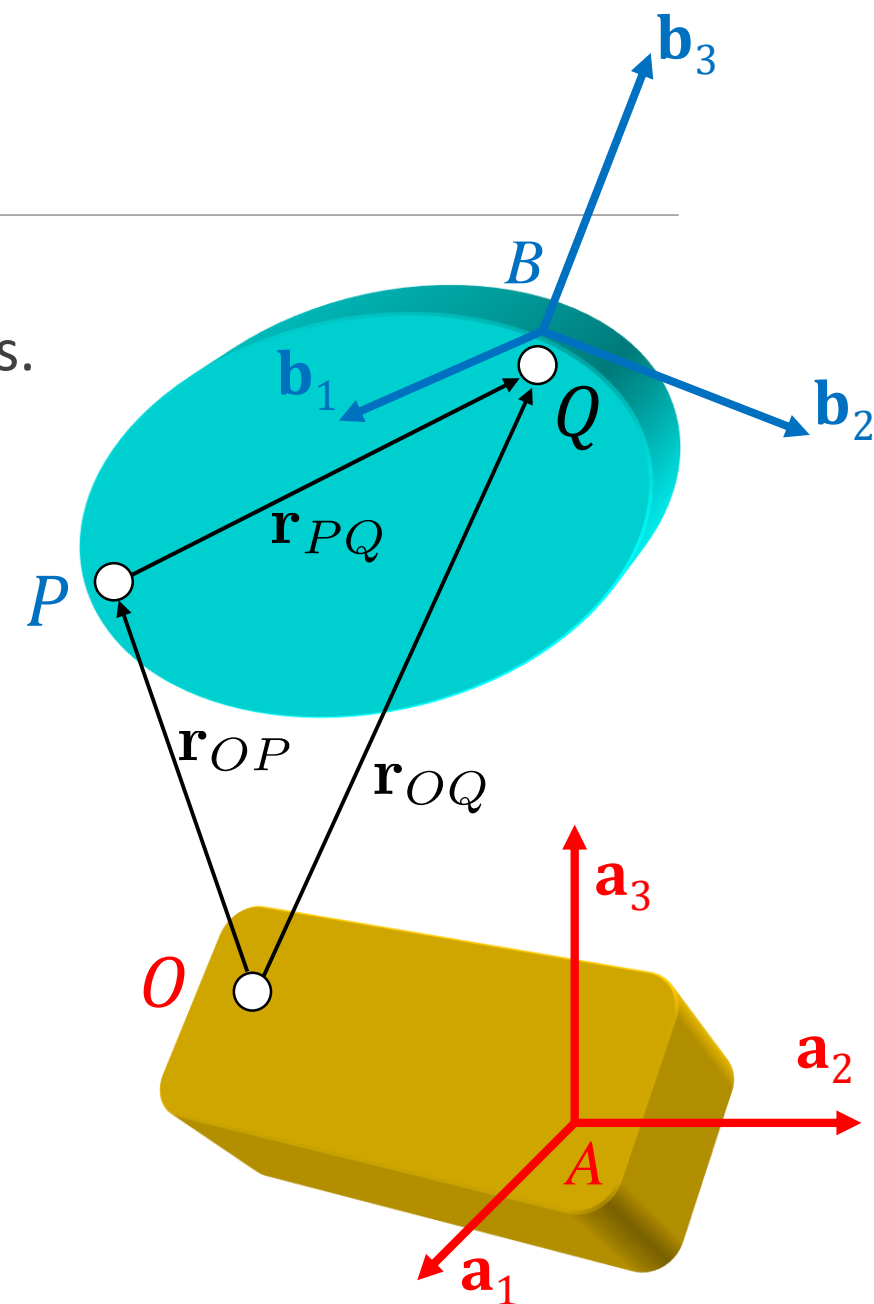
$$\mathbf{r}_{OQ} = \mathbf{r}_{OP} + \mathbf{r}_{PQ}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^A q_1 \\ {}^A q_2 \\ {}^A q_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A p_1 \\ {}^A p_2 \\ {}^A p_3 \end{bmatrix} + {}^A \mathbf{R}_B \begin{bmatrix} {}^B q_1 \\ {}^B q_2 \\ {}^B q_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

coordinates  
of  $Q$  in  $A$

coordinates  
of  $P$  in  $A$

coordinates  
of  $Q$  in  $B$



# Homogeneous Transformation Matrix

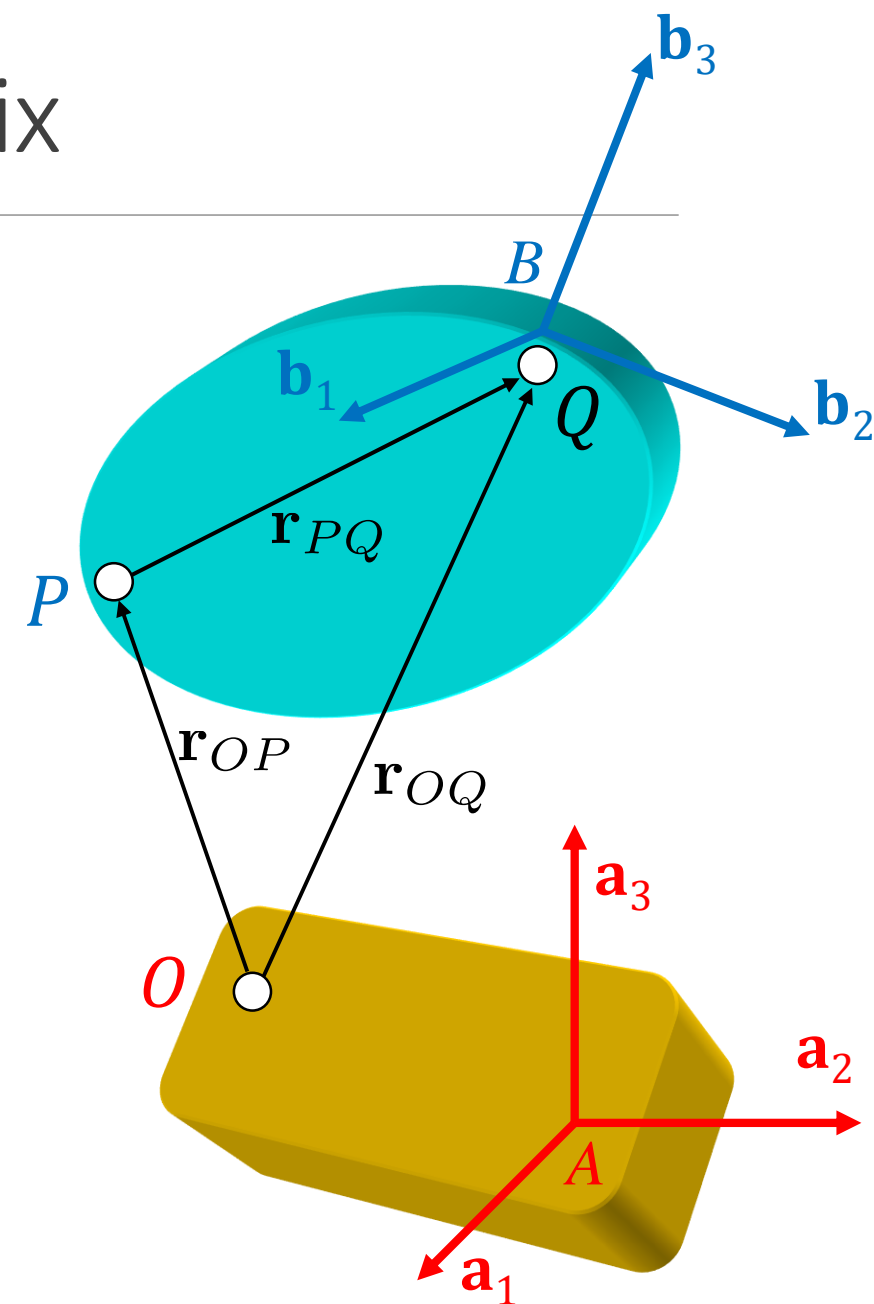
This rigid body transformation can be described by a 4x4 homogeneous transformation matrix.

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^A q_1 \\ {}^A q_2 \\ {}^A q_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A p_1 \\ {}^A p_2 \\ {}^A p_3 \end{bmatrix} + {}^A \mathbf{R}_B \begin{bmatrix} {}^B q_1 \\ {}^B q_2 \\ {}^B q_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{coordinates} \\ \text{of } Q \text{ in } {}^A \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^A q_1 \\ {}^A q_2 \\ {}^A q_3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} & & & {}^A p_1 \\ & & & {}^A p_2 \\ & & & {}^A p_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^B q_1 \\ {}^B q_2 \\ {}^B q_3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{coordinates} \\ \text{of } Q \text{ in } {}^B \end{matrix}$$

the 4x4 homogeneous  
transformation matrix  ${}^A \mathbf{T}_B$

“homogeneous  
coordinates”

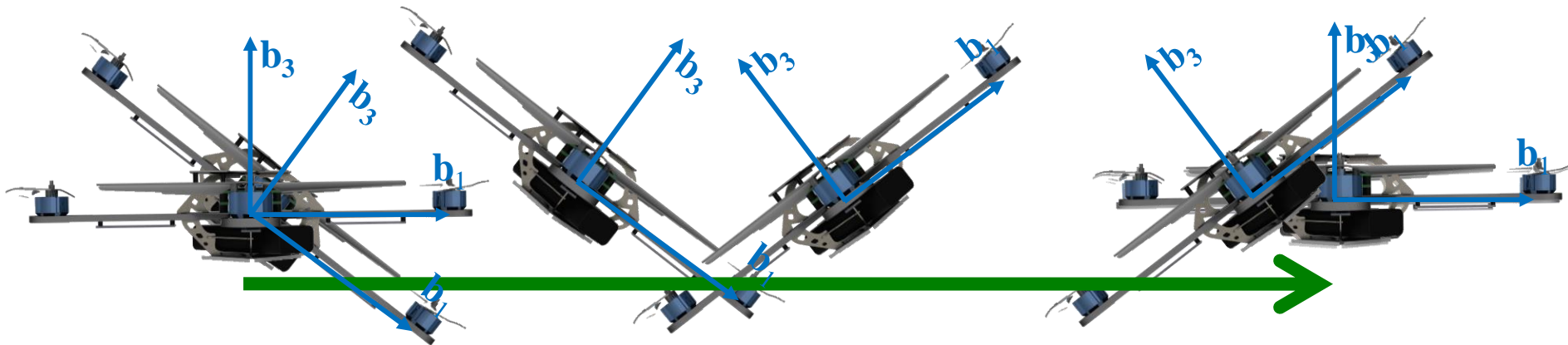
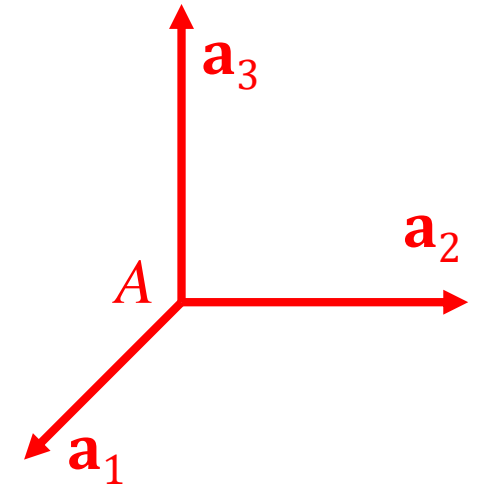




# Rigid Body Transformations

So far we've been working with examples of rigid body transformations.

- Describe the relationship between reference frames attached to two different rigid bodies.
- Describe how to relate coordinates for the same point observed in two different reference frames.



# Rigid Body Displacements

Consider two distinct poses of the same rigid body.

Point  $Q$  is fixed to the rigid body, and moves with it.  
Where does it go?

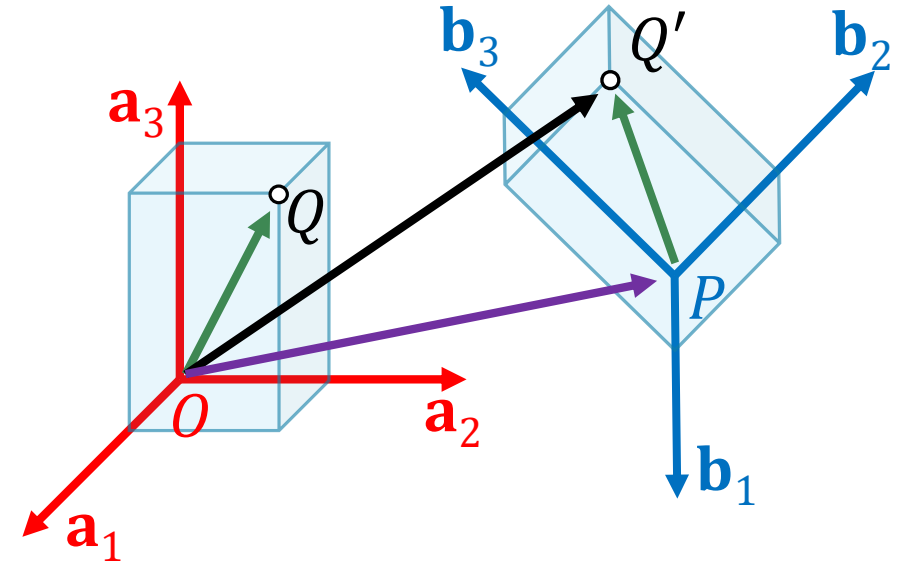
$$\mathbf{r}_{OQ'} = \mathbf{r}_{OP} + \mathbf{r}_{PQ'}$$

Write in terms of the coordinate vectors

$${}^A\mathbf{q}' = {}^A\mathbf{p} + {}^A\mathbf{R}_B {}^B\mathbf{q}' \quad \text{but now notice that } {}^B\mathbf{q}' = {}^A\mathbf{q}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^Aq'_1 \\ {}^Aq'_2 \\ {}^Aq'_3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{R}_B & {}^A\mathbf{p} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^Aq_1 \\ {}^Aq_2 \\ {}^Aq_3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

new point coordinates in A
transformation  ${}^A\mathbf{T}_B$ 
old point coordinates in A

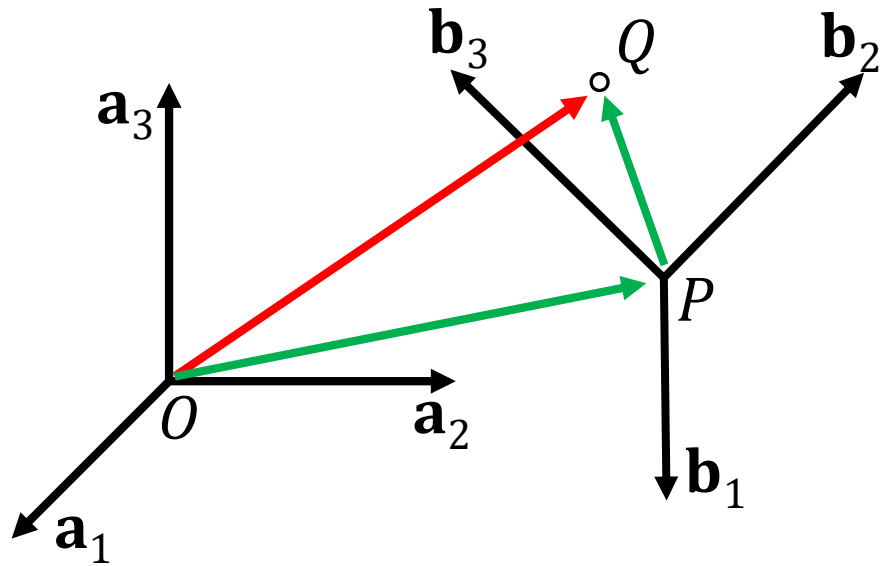


The same transformation  ${}^A\mathbf{T}_B$  can describe

- 1) Transform of points in B to points in A.
- 2) Rigid displacement of a point in A (point Q) to another point in A (point A').

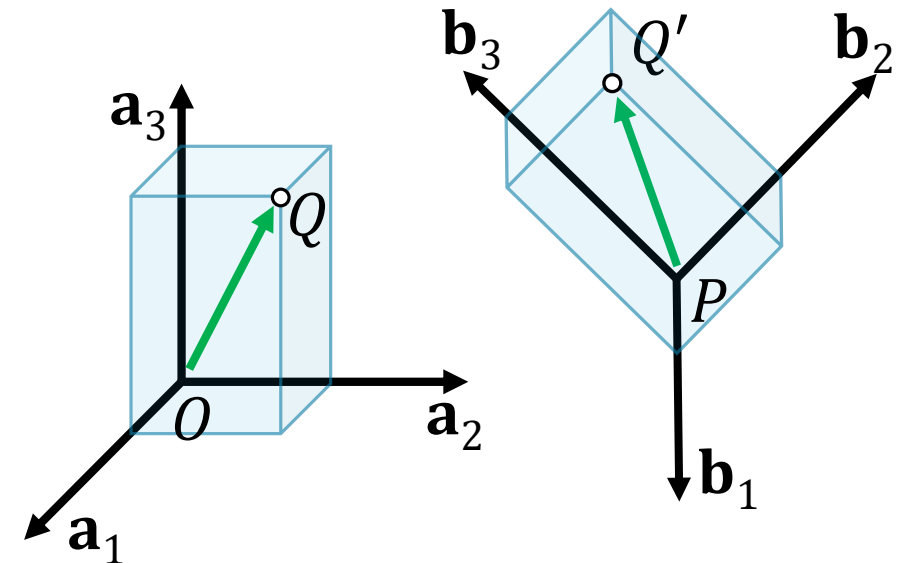
# Two interpretations of the matrix ${}^A\mathbf{T}_B$

Rigid body transformation.



A transformation of points in B to points in A.

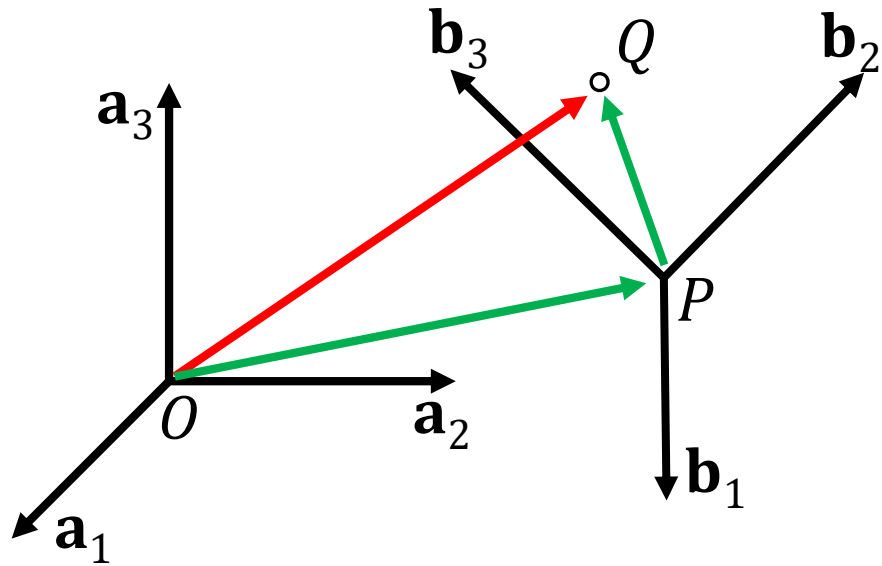
Rigid body displacement.



A rigid displacement of a point in A (point  $Q$ ) to another point in A (point  $Q'$ ).

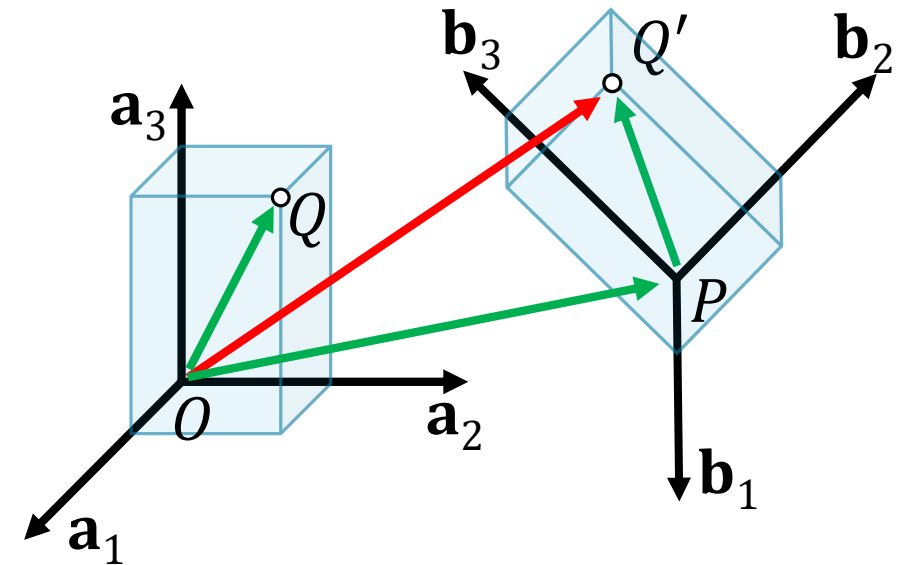
# Two interpretations of the matrix ${}^A\mathbf{T}_B$

Rigid body transformation.



A transformation of points in B to points in A.

Rigid body displacement.



A rigid displacement of a point in A (point  $Q$ ) to another point in A (point  $Q'$ ).

# Composition of Displacements

Displacement from A to B

$${}^A\mathbf{T}_B = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{R}_B & {}^A\mathbf{p} \\ 0_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

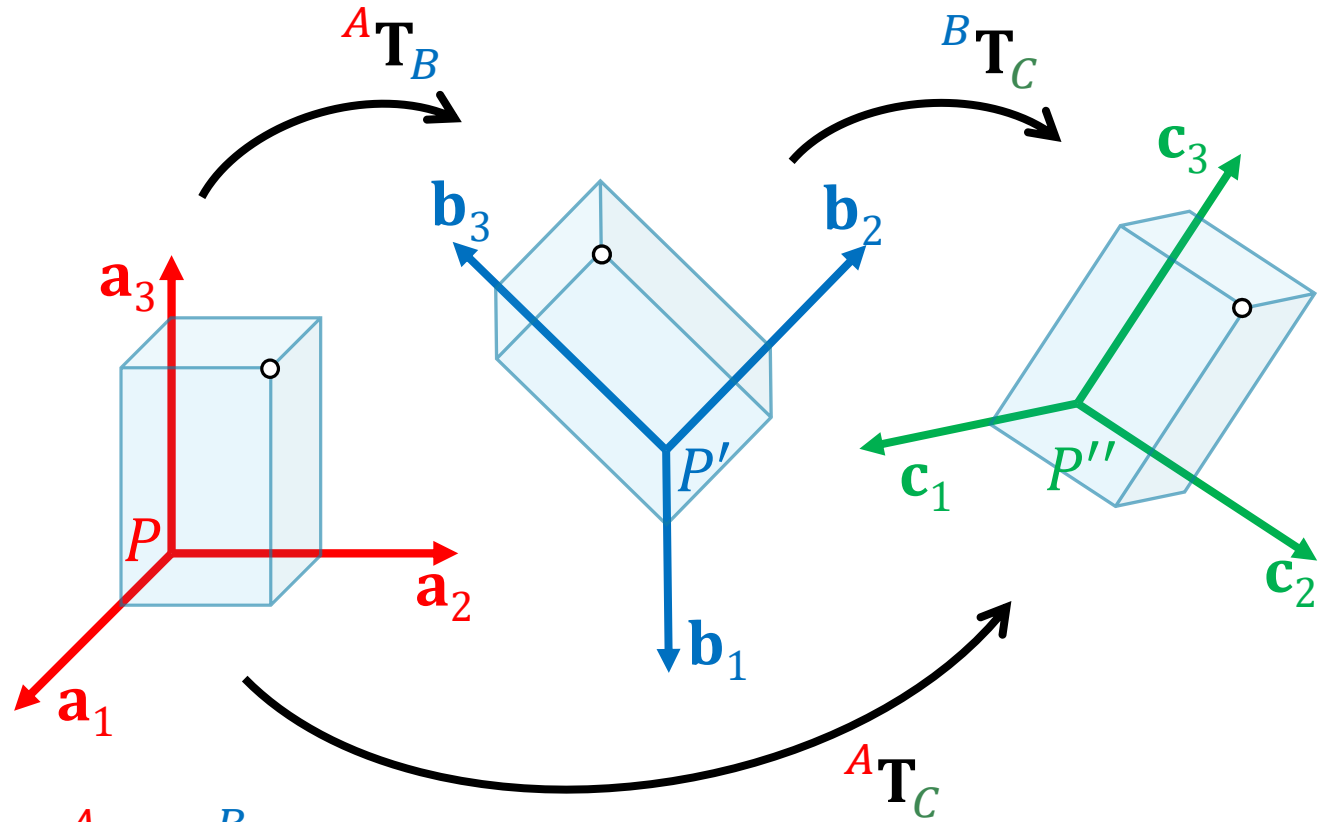
Displacement from B to C

$${}^B\mathbf{T}_C = \begin{bmatrix} {}^B\mathbf{R}_C & {}^B\mathbf{p}' \\ 0_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Displacement from A to C

$${}^A\mathbf{T}_C = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A\mathbf{R}_C & {}^A\mathbf{p}'' \\ 0_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad {}^A\mathbf{T}_C = {}^A\mathbf{T}_B {}^B\mathbf{T}_C$$

Here  ${}^B\mathbf{p}'$  denotes the position vector of  $P'$  in  $B$ , etc.



In each case,  ${}^X\mathbf{T}_Y$  describes the displacement of body fixed frame  $X$  to  $Y$  in reference frame  $X$ .

# Conventional Use

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## Composition of Displacements

- Displacements are generally described in a body-fixed frame.
- For example:  ${}^B\mathbf{T}_C$  is the displacement of a rigid body from  $B$  to  $C$  described relative to the axes of the “first frame”  $B$ .

## Composition of Transformations

- Treated similarly to displacements.
- ${}^A\mathbf{T}_C = {}^A\mathbf{T}_B {}^B\mathbf{T}_C$