

Assignment 2 Solutions

Exercise 1:

We need to show that the length of a free vector remains unchanged under rotation:

$$\|v\| = \|Rv\|.$$

Since the norm of a vector is given by:

$$\|v\| = \sqrt{v^T v}.$$

Applying the rotation matrix R:

$$\|Rv\| = \sqrt{(Rv)^T (Rv)}.$$

Using the property of orthogonal matrices: $R^T R = I$, we get:

$$(Rv)^T (Rv) = v^T R^T R v = v^T I v = v^T v.$$

Thus, $\|Rv\| = \|v\|$, proving that rotation preserves vector length.

Exercise 2:

The dot product of two vectors is:

$$v_1 \cdot v_2 = v_1^T v_2.$$

Applying a rotation matrix R:

$$(Rv_1) \cdot (Rv_2) = (Rv_1)^T (Rv_2) = v_1^T R^T R v_2.$$

Since $R^T R = I$, we obtain:

$$v_1^T v_2.$$

Thus, the dot product remains unchanged, proving independence from the choice of coordinate frame.

Exercise 3:

The sequence of rotations leads to the rotation matrix:

$$R = R_z(\alpha) R_x(\psi) R_z(\theta) R_x(\phi).$$

Exercise 4:

Given matrices:

$$R_1^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & -\sqrt{3}/2 \\ 0 & \sqrt{3}/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$R_1^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We find R_2^3 using:

$$R_2^3 = (R_1^2)^T R_1^3.$$

Exercise 5:

For axis-angle rotation with unit vector:

$k = (1/\sqrt{3}) [1, 1, 1]^T$, $\theta = 90$ degrees.

Using Rodrigues' rotation formula:

$R_{k,\theta} = I + \sin(\theta) [k]_{\times} + (1 - \cos(\theta)) k k^T$.



Exercise 6:

Homogeneous transformation matrix:

$R = \text{Rot}_x(\alpha) \text{Trans}_x(b) \text{Trans}_z(d) \text{Rot}_z(\theta)$.

Identifying commutative pairs:

- Rotations about different axes generally do not commute.
- Translations along different axes commute.
- A rotation about an axis does not commute with a translation along a different axis unless aligned.

Finding valid permutations requires verifying order preservation in transformation sequences.

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permutations!