

# **Ch3: Rigid-Body Motions - Part 1**

# Reference Frames

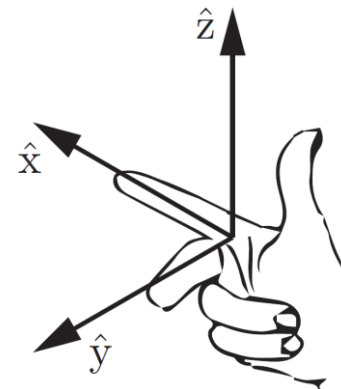
# Reference Frames

- **Fixed Space Frame**  $\{s\}$ : A stationary, inertial frame and there is only one.
- **Body-attached Frame**: A frame fixed to a body and moves with it.
- **Body Frame**  $\{b\}$ : A stationary, inertial frame that is instantaneously coincident with the body-attached frame.

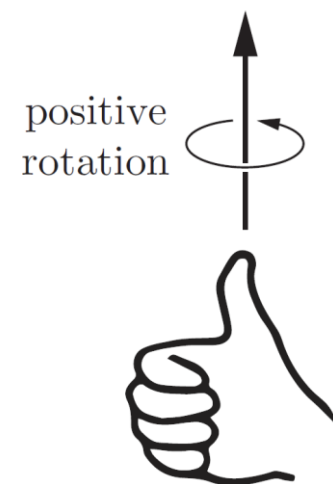
In this course, all frames are instantaneously stationary.

# Reference Frames

All reference frames are **right-handed**.



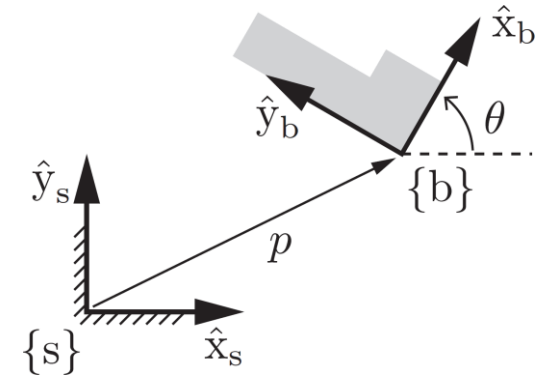
A **positive rotation** about an axis is defined as the direction in which the fingers of the right hand curl when the thumb is pointed along the axis.



# Rotation Matrices

# Rotation in 2D Space

In 2D, the simplest way to describe the orientation of the body frame  $\{b\}$  relative to the fixed frame  $\{s\}$  is by specifying the angle  $\theta$ .



Another way is to specify the directions of the unit axes  $\hat{x}_b$  and  $\hat{y}_b$  of  $\{b\}$  relative to  $\{s\}$ .

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{R} = [\hat{x}_b \quad \hat{y}_b] = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \quad \theta \in [0, 2\pi)$$

Rotation Matrix

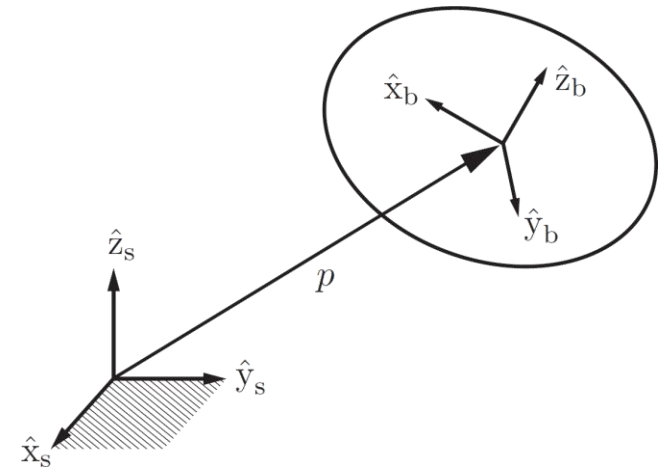
# Rotation in 3D Space

In 3D, a way to describe the orientation of the body frame  $\{b\}$  relative to the fixed frame  $\{s\}$  is by specifying the directions of the unit axes  $\hat{x}_b$ ,  $\hat{y}_b$  and  $\hat{z}_b$  of  $\{b\}$  relative to  $\{s\}$ .

$$\mathbf{R} = [\hat{x}_b \quad \hat{y}_b \quad \hat{z}_b] = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$$

Rotation Matrix

This is as Implicit representation.



$$\det(\mathbf{R}) = 1.$$

# Constraints on Rotation Matrix

1- The unit norm condition:  $\hat{x}_b$ ,  $\hat{y}_b$ , and  $\hat{z}_b$  are all unit vectors.

2- The orthogonality condition:  $\hat{x}_b \cdot \hat{y}_b = \hat{x}_b \cdot \hat{z}_b = \hat{y}_b \cdot \hat{z}_b = 0$

Compact form:  $\mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}_3$

For right-handed frames:  $\det(\mathbf{R}) = 1$



# Special Orthogonal Group $SO(n)$

The **special orthogonal group**  $SO(n)$ , also known as the (Lie) group of rotation matrices, is the set of all  $n \times n$  real matrices  $\mathbf{R}$  that satisfy (i)  $\mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}_3$  and (ii)  $\det(\mathbf{R}) = 1$ , where  $n = 2, 3$ .

orthogonal

special

$SO(2)$  is a subgroup of  $SO(3)$ :  $SO(2) \subset SO(3)$

$$\mathbf{R} \in SO(3) \quad SO(3) = \{\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3} \mid \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R} \mathbf{R}^T = \mathbf{I}_3, \det(\mathbf{R}) = 1\}$$

# Group

A **group** is a set of elements  $G = \{a, b, c, \dots\}$  and a binary operation  $\bullet$  on any two elements satisfying

- **Closure:**  $a \bullet b \in G \quad \forall a, b \in G$
- **Associativity:**  $(a \bullet b) \bullet c = a \bullet (b \bullet c) \quad \forall a, b, c \in G$
- **Identity Element Existence:**  $\exists I \in G$  such that  $a \bullet I = I \bullet a = a \quad \forall a \in G$
- **Inverse Element Existence:**  $\forall a \in G, \exists a^{-1} \in G$  such that  $a \bullet a^{-1} = a^{-1} \bullet a = I$

# Properties of Rotation Matrices

$SO(3)$  (or  $SO(2)$ ) is a **matrix (Lie) group** (and the group operation  $\bullet$  is matrix multiplication).

- **Closure:**  $R_1 R_2 \in SO(3)$
- **Associative:**  $(R_1 R_2) R_3 = R_1 (R_2 R_3)$  (but generally not commutative,  $R_1 R_2 \neq R_2 R_1$ )
- **Identity:**  $\exists I \in SO(3)$  such that  $RI = IR = R$
- **Inverse:**  $\exists R^{-1} \in SO(3)$  such that  $RR^{-1} = R^{-1}R = I \quad (\Rightarrow R^{-1} = R^T)$

\* For any vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and  $R \in SO(3)$ , the vector  $y = Rx$  has the same length as  $x$  ( $\|x\| = \|Rx\|$ ).

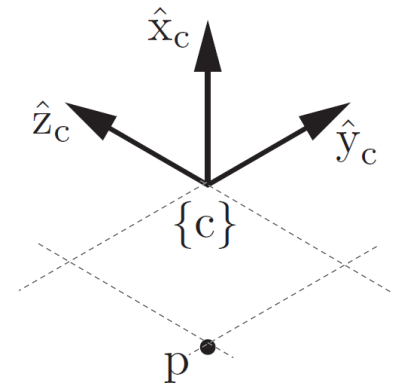
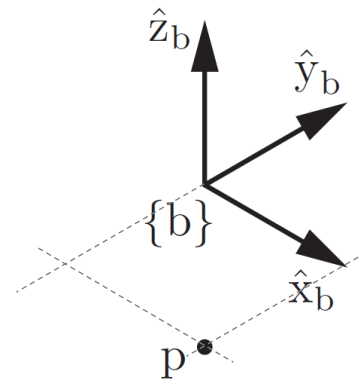
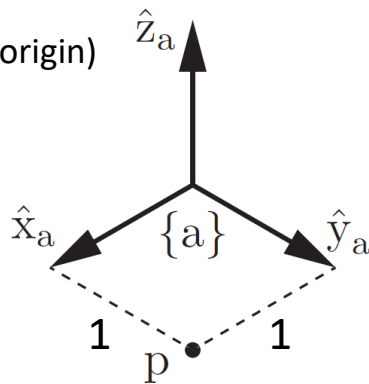
# Uses of Rotation Matrices (1)

## (1) Representing orientation of a frame.

Notation:  $R_{bc}$  is the orientation of  $\{c\}$  relative to  $\{b\}$ .

### Example:

(All frames have the same origin)



# Uses of Rotation Matrices (2)

(2) Changing the reference frame of a vector or frame.

Subscript Cancellation Rule:

$$R_{ab}p_b = R_{a\cancel{b}}\cancel{p_b} = p_a$$

$$R_{ab}R_{bc} = R_{a\cancel{b}}\cancel{R_{bc}} = R_{ac}$$

$R_{ab}$  can be viewed as a mathematical operator that changes the reference frame from  $\{b\}$  to  $\{a\}$ .

**Note:**  $R_{bc}R_{cb} = I$  or  $R_{bc} = R_{cb}^T = R_{cb}^{-1}$

# Example

Given  $\mathbf{R}_1 = \mathbf{R}_{ab}$ ,  $\mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{R}_{bc}$ , and  $\mathbf{R}_3 = \mathbf{R}_{ad}$ , write  $\mathbf{R}_{dc}$  in terms of  $\mathbf{R}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{R}_2$ , and  $\mathbf{R}_3$ .

Given  $\mathbf{p}_b$ , what is  $\mathbf{p}_d$  in terms of  $\mathbf{R}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{R}_2$ , and  $\mathbf{R}_3$ ?

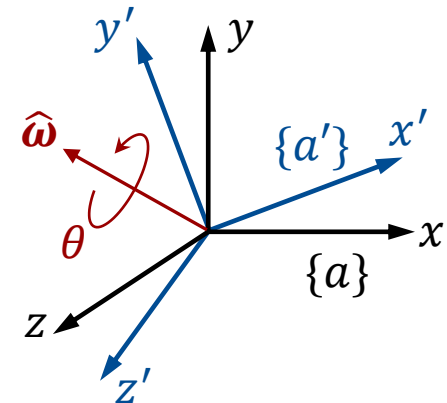
# Uses of Rotation Matrices (3)

(3) Rotating a vector or frame (about a unit axis  $\hat{\omega}$  by an amount  $\theta$ ).

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_{aa'} = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta)$$



$\mathbf{R}$  can be viewed as a mathematical operator that rotates  $\{a\}$  about a unit axis  $\hat{\omega} = (\hat{\omega}_1, \hat{\omega}_2, \hat{\omega}_3)$  (expressed in  $\{a\}$ ) by an amount  $\theta$  to obtain  $\{a'\}$ .



$$\text{Rot}(\hat{x}, \theta) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}, \text{Rot}(\hat{y}, \theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}, \text{Rot}(\hat{z}, \theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) = \begin{bmatrix} c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_1^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_2^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_3^2(1 - c_\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$s_\theta = \sin \theta, c_\theta = \cos \theta$$

- $\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) = \text{Rot}(-\hat{\omega}, -\theta)$

# Uses of Rotation Matrices (3) (cont.)

- Rotation of vector  $\mathbf{v}$  about a unit axis  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$  (expressed in the same frame) by an amount  $\theta$  is vector  $\mathbf{v}'$  expressed in the same frame:

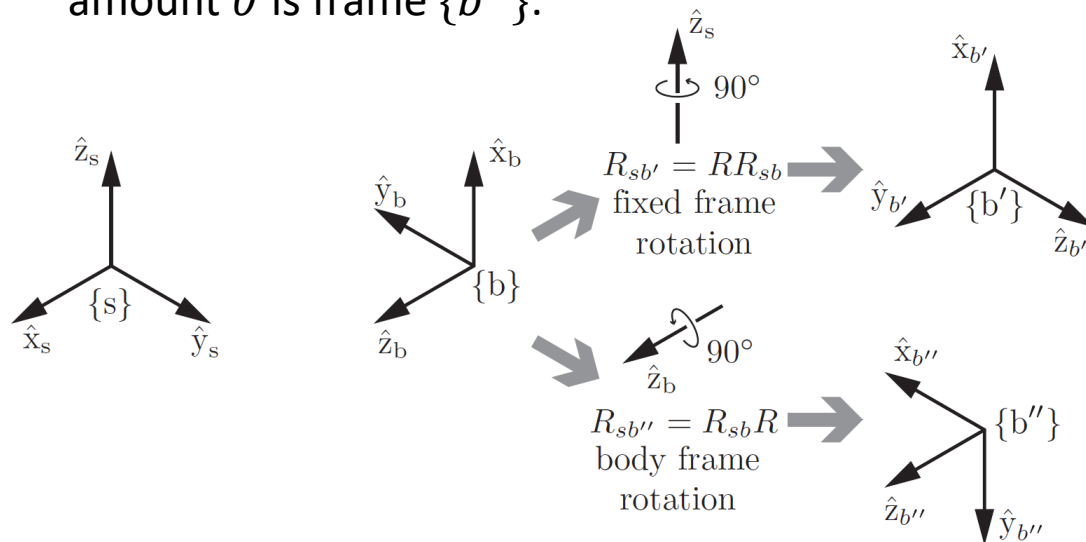
$$\mathbf{v}' = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{v} = \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \theta)\mathbf{v}$$

- Fixed-frame Rotation:** Rotation of frame  $\{b\}$  about an axis  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$  expressed in  $\{s\}$  by an amount  $\theta$  is frame  $\{b'\}$ :

$$\mathbf{R}_{sb'} = \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \theta)\mathbf{R}_{sb}$$

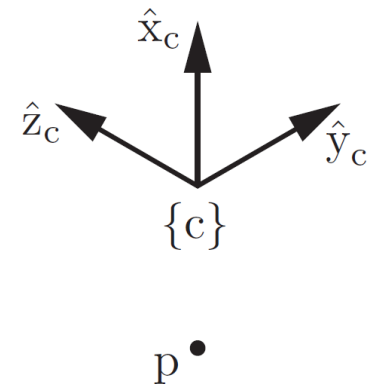
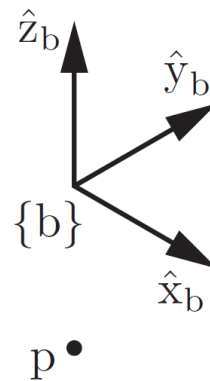
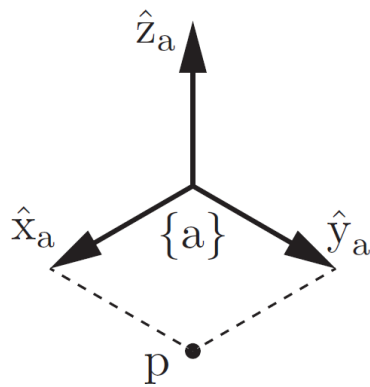
- Body-frame Rotation:** Rotation of frame  $\{b\}$  about an axis  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$  expressed in  $\{b\}$  by an amount  $\theta$  is frame  $\{b''\}$ :

$$\mathbf{R}_{sb''} = \mathbf{R}_{sb}\text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \theta)$$





# Examples



$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_{ba} = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta): \quad \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad \hat{\omega} = ?$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{bc'} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}_{bc} = ?$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{bc''} = \mathbf{R}_{bc}\mathbf{R} = ?$$

# Angular Velocities

# Set of Skew-Symmetric Matrices $so(3)$

The set of all  $3 \times 3$  real skew-symmetric matrices is called  $so(3)$  (which is the Lie algebra of the Lie group  $SO(3)$ ).

$$so(3) = \{\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3} | \mathbf{S}^T = -\mathbf{S}\} \quad so(3) \subset \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$$

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \quad [\mathbf{x}] \in so(3)$$

- Given any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)$ ,  $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{x}]\mathbf{R}^T = [\mathbf{R}\mathbf{x}]$ .
- Given  $[\mathbf{x}] \in so(3)$ ,  $[\mathbf{x}]^2 = \mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^T - \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 \mathbf{I}$  and  $[\mathbf{x}]^3 = -\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 [\mathbf{x}]$  and higher powers of  $[\mathbf{x}]$  can be calculated recursively.

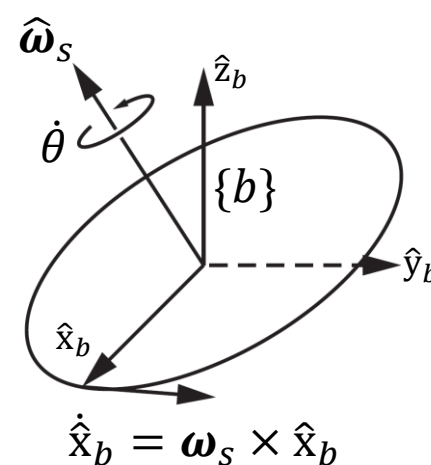
# Angular Velocities

Finding the angular velocity  $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  of frame  $\{b\}$  attached to a rotating body.

- If  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  is expressed in  $\{s\}$ :  $\boldsymbol{\omega}_s = \dot{\theta} \hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}_s$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}_b &= \boldsymbol{\omega}_s \times \hat{\mathbf{x}}_b \\ \dot{\hat{\mathbf{y}}}_b &= \boldsymbol{\omega}_s \times \hat{\mathbf{y}}_b \\ \dot{\hat{\mathbf{z}}}_b &= \boldsymbol{\omega}_s \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}_b\end{aligned}$$

$\boldsymbol{\omega}_s$ : Fixed-frame angular velocity



$\mathbf{R}(t) = [\hat{\mathbf{x}}_b \quad \hat{\mathbf{y}}_b \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}}_b]$ :  $\mathbf{R}_{sb}$  at time  $t$

$\dot{\mathbf{R}}(t) = [\dot{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}_b \quad \dot{\hat{\mathbf{y}}}_b \quad \dot{\hat{\mathbf{z}}}_b]$ : Time rate of change of  $\mathbf{R}_{sb}$  at time  $t$

$$\dot{\mathbf{R}} = [[\boldsymbol{\omega}_s]\hat{\mathbf{x}}_b \quad [\boldsymbol{\omega}_s]\hat{\mathbf{y}}_b \quad [\boldsymbol{\omega}_s]\hat{\mathbf{z}}_b] = [\boldsymbol{\omega}_s]\mathbf{R}$$

$$[\boldsymbol{\omega}_s] = \dot{\mathbf{R}}\mathbf{R}^{-1}$$

# Angular Velocities

- If  $\omega$  is expressed in  $\{b\}$ :

$$\omega_s = R\omega_b$$

$\omega_b$ : Body-frame angular velocity

$$\omega_b = R^{-1}\omega_s = R^T\omega_s$$

$$[\omega_b] = [R^T\omega_s]$$

$$= R^T[\omega_s]R$$

$$= R^T(\dot{R}R^T)R$$

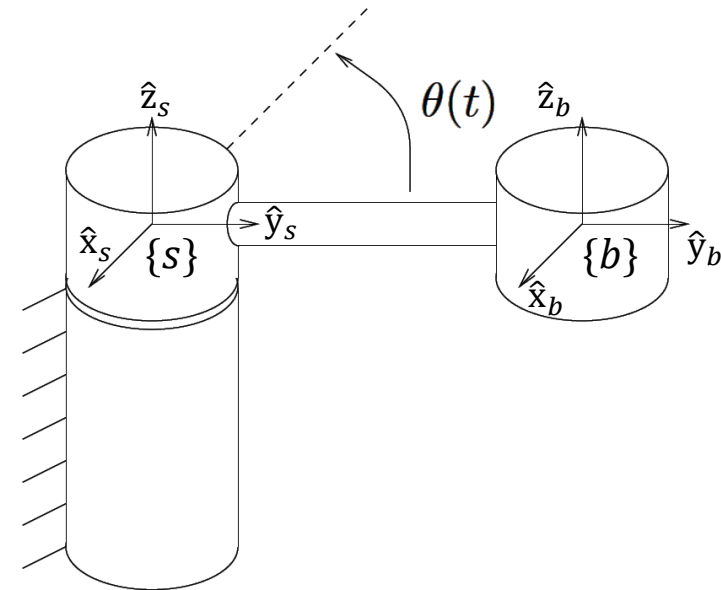
$$= R^T\dot{R} = R^{-1}\dot{R}$$

Recall:  $R[x]R^T = [Rx]$ .

$$[\omega_b] = R^{-1}\dot{R}$$

# Example

Find  $\boldsymbol{\omega}_s$  and  $\boldsymbol{\omega}_b$  for rotational motion of a one degree of freedom manipulator.



# Exponential Coordinate Representation of Rotation

# Matrix Exponential

**Scalar Linear ODE:**

$$\dot{x}(t) = ax(t) \quad \xrightarrow[\substack{x(0) = x_0}]{x(t) \in \mathbb{R}, a \in \mathbb{R} \text{ is constant}} \quad x(t) = e^{at}x_0$$

**Vector Linear ODE:**

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t) \quad \xrightarrow[\substack{\mathbf{x}(0) = \mathbf{x}_0}]{\mathbf{x}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ is constant}} \quad \mathbf{x}(t) = e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{x}_0$$



# Properties of Matrix Exponential $e^{At}$

$$\forall A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, t \in \mathbb{R}: \quad d(e^{At})/dt = Ae^{At} = e^{At}A$$

$$\text{If } A = PDP^{-1} \text{ for some } D \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ and invertible } P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}: \quad e^{At} = Pe^{Dt}P^{-1}$$

$$\text{If } D \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ is diagonal, i.e., } D = \text{diag}\{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\}: \quad e^{Dt} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{d_1 t} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & e^{d_2 t} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & e^{d_n t} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{If } AB = BA, \text{ then } e^A e^B = e^{A+B}.$$

$$(e^A)^{-1} = e^{-A}$$

# Exponential Coordinates of Rotations

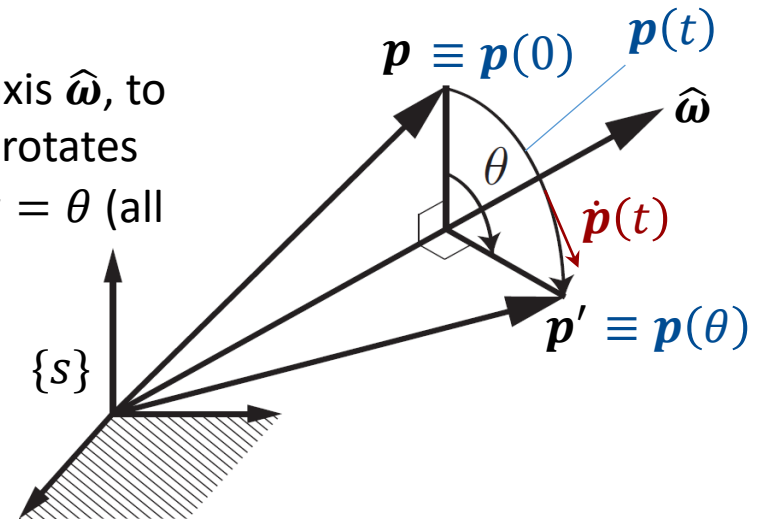
The vector  $\mathbf{p}$  is rotated by an angle  $\theta$  about the unit axis  $\hat{\omega}$ , to  $\mathbf{p}'$ . This rotation can be achieved by imagining that  $\mathbf{p}$  rotates at a constant rate of  $\dot{\theta} = 1$  rad/s from time  $t = 0$  to  $t = \theta$  (all vectors are expressed in  $\{s\}$ ).

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}} = \hat{\omega} \times \mathbf{p}(t) = [\hat{\omega}]\mathbf{p}(t) \quad (\|\hat{\omega}\| = 1)$$

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]t} \mathbf{p}(0)$$

at  $t = \theta$

$$\mathbf{p}(\theta) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} \mathbf{p}(0) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{R} = e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) \in SO(3) \quad [\hat{\omega}]\theta = [\hat{\omega}\theta] \in so(3)$$



$\Rightarrow$  Any rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)$  can be obtained by rotating from the identity matrix  $\mathbf{I}$  about a unit rotation axis  $\hat{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  ( $\|\hat{\omega}\| = 1$ ) by an angle of rotation  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  about that axis. This motivates a three-parameter representation of a rotation  $\mathbf{R}$  called the **exponential coordinates** as  $\hat{\omega}\theta \in \mathbb{R}^3$  (equivalently,  $\hat{\omega}$  and  $\theta$  can be written individually as the **axis-angle representation** of a rotation).

# Exponential Coordinates of Rotations

For any rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)$ , we can always find a unit rotation axis  $\hat{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  ( $\|\hat{\omega}\| = 1$ ) and scalar  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\mathbf{R} = e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{exp:} \quad & [\hat{\omega}]\theta \in so(3) \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \in SO(3) \quad : \quad e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) = \mathbf{R} \\ \text{log:} \quad & \mathbf{R} \in SO(3) \rightarrow [\hat{\omega}]\theta \in so(3) \quad : \quad \log(\mathbf{R}) = [\hat{\omega}]\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\omega}\theta \in \mathbb{R}^3 & \quad : \text{Exponential coordinates of } \mathbf{R} \in SO(3) \\ [\hat{\omega}]\theta = [\hat{\omega}\theta] \in so(3) & \quad : \text{Matrix logarithm of } \mathbf{R} \text{ (inverse of the matrix exponential)} \end{aligned}$$

# Matrix Exponential

$$\text{exp: } [\hat{\omega}]\theta \in so(3) \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \in SO(3) \quad : e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) = \mathbf{R}$$

❖ Finding  $\mathbf{R}$  by having  $\hat{\omega}$  and  $\theta$ :

$$\begin{aligned} e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} &= I + [\hat{\omega}]\theta + [\hat{\omega}]^2 \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + [\hat{\omega}]^3 \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \dots \\ &= I + \underbrace{\left( \theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots \right)}_{\sin \theta} [\hat{\omega}] + \underbrace{\left( \frac{\theta^2}{2!} - \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \frac{\theta^6}{6!} - \dots \right)}_{1 - \cos \theta} [\hat{\omega}]^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) = e^{[\hat{\omega}]\theta} = I + \sin \theta [\hat{\omega}] + (1 - \cos \theta) [\hat{\omega}]^2 \quad (\text{Rodrigues' formula for rotations})$$

$$\text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta) = \begin{bmatrix} c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_1^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_2^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_3^2(1 - c_\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$s_\theta = \sin \theta, c_\theta = \cos \theta, \quad \hat{\omega} = (\hat{\omega}_1, \hat{\omega}_2, \hat{\omega}_3)$$

# Matrix Exponential: Remark

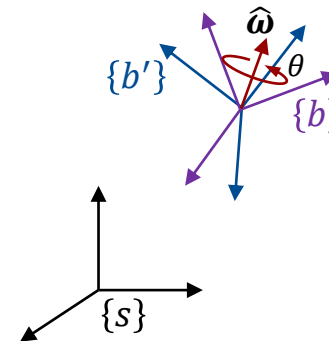
For a given  $\hat{\omega}$ :  $(\hat{\omega}_s = R_{sb}\hat{\omega}_b)$

Body-frame displacement:  $R_{sb'} = R_{sb}e^{[\hat{\omega}_b]\theta}$

$\hat{\omega}$  is expressed in  $\{b\}$

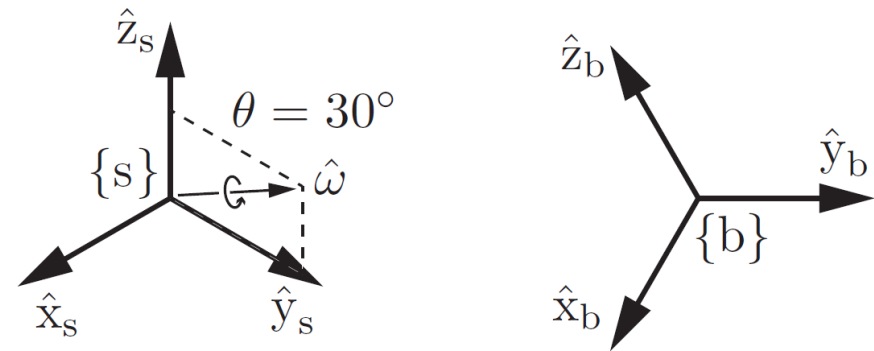
Fixed-frame displacement:  $R_{sb'} = e^{[\hat{\omega}_s]\theta}R_{sb}$

$\hat{\omega}$  is expressed in  $\{s\}$



# Example

The frame  $\{b\}$  is obtained by a rotation from  $\{s\}$  by  $\theta_1 = 30^\circ$  about  $\hat{\omega}_1 = (0, 0.866, 0.5)$ . Find the rotation matrix representation of  $\{b\}$ .



Find the new rotation matrix if  $\{b\}$  is then rotated by  $\theta_2$  about

- (a) an axis  $\hat{\omega}_2$  expressed in  $\{s\}$ .
- (b) an axis  $\hat{\omega}_2$  expressed in  $\{b\}$ .

# Matrix Logarithm

$$\log: \quad \mathbf{R} \in SO(3) \quad \rightarrow \quad [\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}]\theta \in so(3) \quad : \quad \log(\mathbf{R}) = [\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}]\theta$$

❖ Finding  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}$  and  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  by having  $\mathbf{R}$ :

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_1^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_2^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_3^2(1 - c_\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{tr } \mathbf{R} = r_{11} + r_{22} + r_{33} = 1 + 2\cos \theta$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sin \theta} (\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}^T) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\hat{\omega}_3 & \hat{\omega}_2 \\ \hat{\omega}_3 & 0 & -\hat{\omega}_1 \\ -\hat{\omega}_2 & \hat{\omega}_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}]$$

$$\mathbf{R} \Big|_{\theta=0} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R} \Big|_{\theta=\pi} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 + 2\hat{\omega}_1^2 & 2\hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2 & 2\hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3 \\ 2\hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2 & -1 + 2\hat{\omega}_2^2 & 2\hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3 \\ 2\hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3 & 2\hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3 & -1 + 2\hat{\omega}_3^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Matrix Logarithm: Algorithm

**(a)** If  $\text{tr} \mathbf{R} = 3$  (or  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}$ ), then  $\theta = 0$  and  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}$  is undefined.

**(b)** If  $\text{tr} \mathbf{R} = -1$ , then  $\theta = \pi$  and  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}$  is equal to any of the three vectors that is a feasible solution:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(1+r_{11})}} \begin{bmatrix} 1+r_{11} \\ r_{21} \\ r_{31} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(1+r_{22})}} \begin{bmatrix} r_{12} \\ 1+r_{22} \\ r_{32} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(1+r_{33})}} \begin{bmatrix} r_{13} \\ r_{23} \\ 1+r_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

(Note that if  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}$  is a solution, then so is  $-\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}$ )

**(c)** Otherwise,  $\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2} (\text{tr} \mathbf{R} - 1) \right) \in (0, \pi)$

$$[\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}] = \frac{1}{2\sin \theta} (\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}^T)$$



# Other Representations of Rotations

# Euler Angles

Another minimal representation of orientation can be obtained by using a set of three angles  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ , i.e., by composing a suitable sequence of three elementary rotations about the (fixed frame  $\{s\}$  or body/current frame  $\{b\}$ ) coordinate axes.

Two Examples:

- $ZYX$  Euler angles (with rotations about the body/current frame  $\{b\}$ ).
- $XYZ$  Euler angles (with rotations about the fixed frame  $\{s\}$ ). This is also called **roll–pitch–yaw** angles.

# Euler Angles ZYX

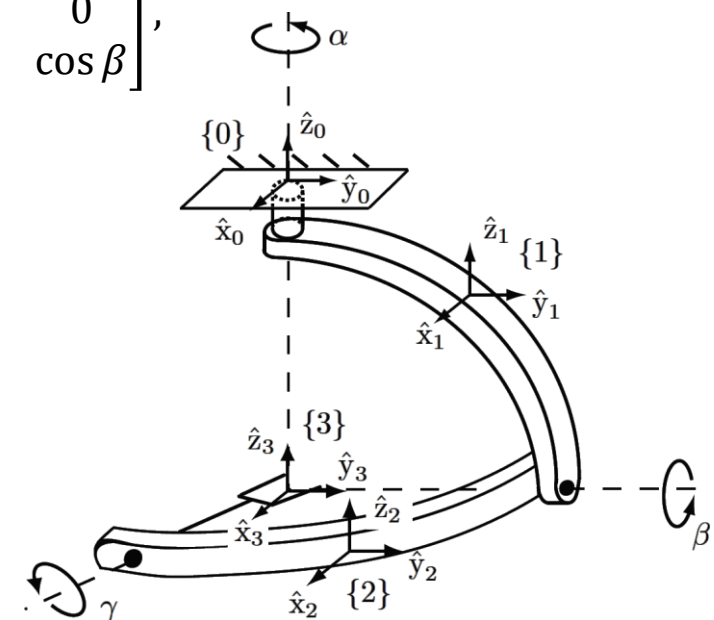
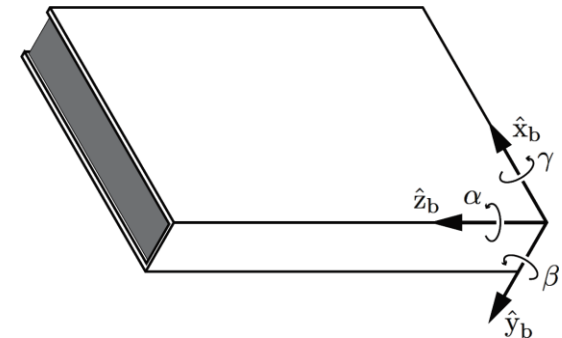
ZYX Euler angles (with rotations about the body/current frame  $\{b\}$ ):

$$\mathbf{R}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \mathbf{I} \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}, \alpha) \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \beta) \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \gamma)$$

$$\text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \gamma) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \gamma & -\sin \gamma \\ 0 & \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma \end{bmatrix}, \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \beta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \beta & 0 & \sin \beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \beta & 0 & \cos \beta \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}, \alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha & 0 \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\mathbf{R}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \begin{bmatrix} c_\alpha c_\beta & c_\alpha s_\beta s_\gamma - s_\alpha c_\gamma & c_\alpha s_\beta c_\gamma + s_\alpha s_\gamma \\ s_\alpha c_\beta & s_\alpha s_\beta s_\gamma + c_\alpha c_\gamma & s_\alpha s_\beta c_\gamma - c_\alpha s_\gamma \\ -s_\beta & c_\beta s_\gamma & c_\beta c_\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$



# Euler Angles ZYX

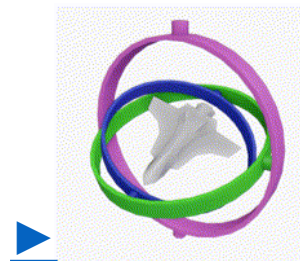
Finding  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  for any given rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)$ :

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_\alpha c_\beta & c_\alpha s_\beta s_\gamma - s_\alpha c_\gamma & c_\alpha s_\beta c_\gamma + s_\alpha s_\gamma \\ s_\alpha c_\beta & s_\alpha s_\beta s_\gamma + c_\alpha c_\gamma & s_\alpha s_\beta c_\gamma - c_\alpha s_\gamma \\ -s_\beta & c_\beta s_\gamma & c_\beta c_\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

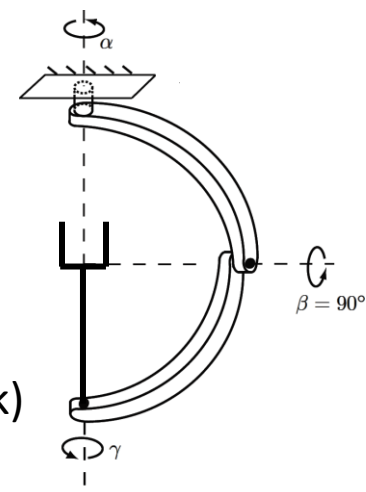
- If  $r_{31} \neq \pm 1$  (i.e., when  $\beta \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ ):
 
$$\beta = \text{atan2} \left( -r_{31}, \sqrt{r_{11}^2 + r_{21}^2} \right)$$

$$\alpha = \text{atan2}(r_{21}, r_{11})$$

$$\gamma = \text{atan2}(r_{32}, r_{33})$$
- If  $r_{31} = -1$ , then  $\beta = \pi/2$ , and if  $r_{31} = 1$ , then  $\beta = -\pi/2$ . In these cases, it is possible to determine only the sum or difference of  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$ .



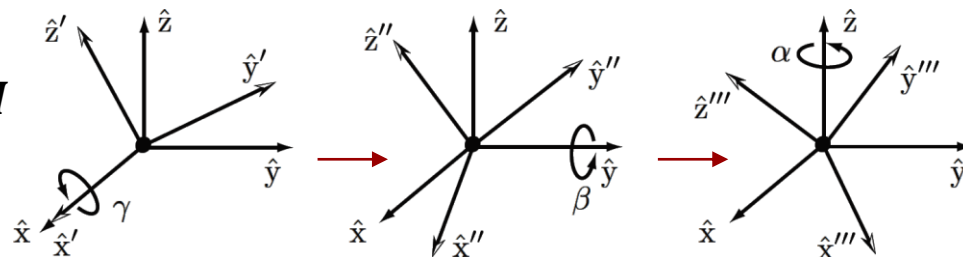
(Gimbal lock)



# Roll–Pitch–Yaw Angles (XYZ)

XYZ Euler angles (with rotations about the fixed frame  $\{s\}$ ):

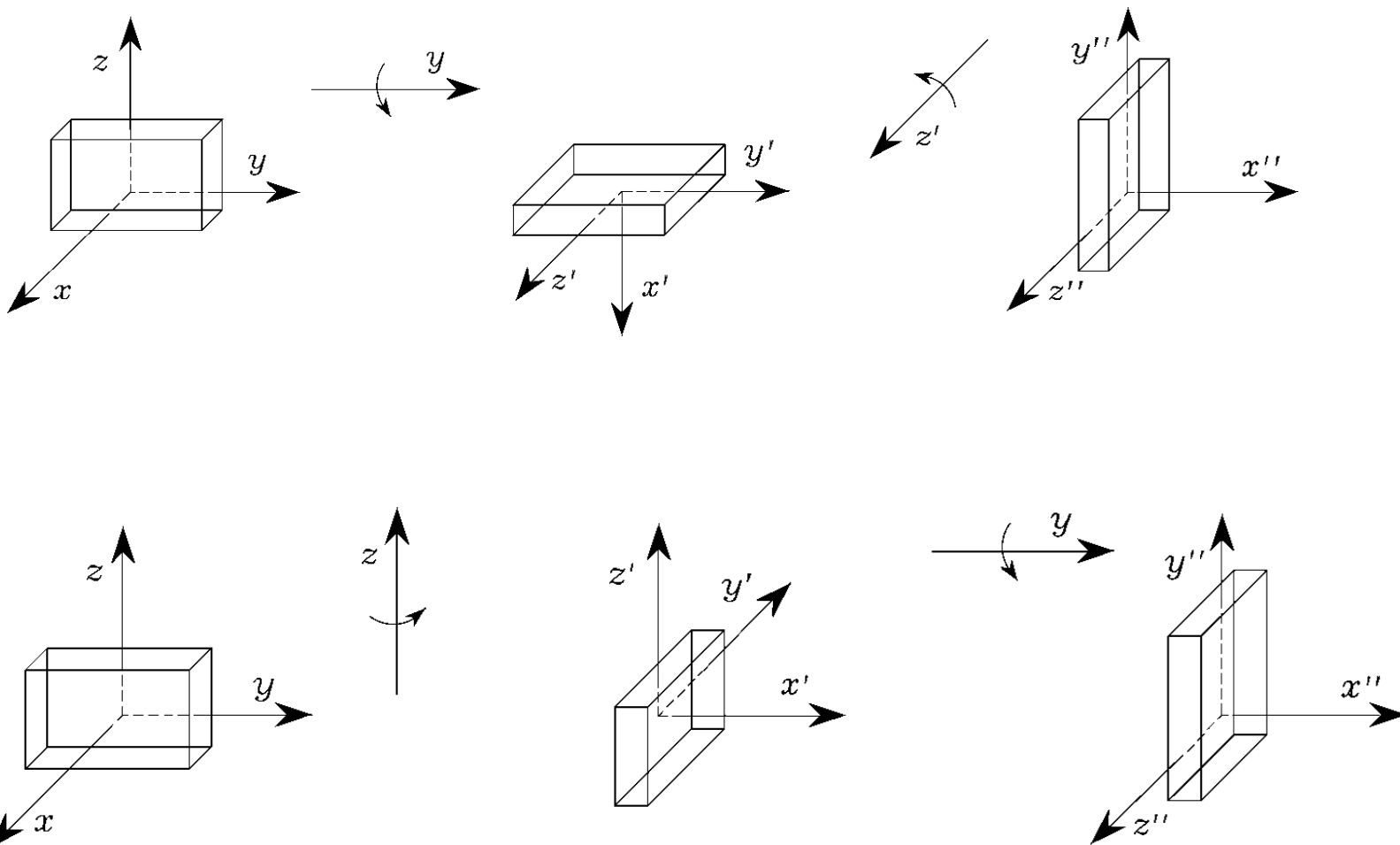
$$\mathbf{R}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}, \alpha) \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \beta) \text{Rot}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \gamma) \mathbf{I}$$



$$\mathbf{R}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \begin{bmatrix} c_\alpha c_\beta & c_\alpha s_\beta s_\gamma - s_\alpha c_\gamma & c_\alpha s_\beta c_\gamma + s_\alpha s_\gamma \\ s_\alpha c_\beta & s_\alpha s_\beta s_\gamma + c_\alpha c_\gamma & s_\alpha s_\beta c_\gamma - c_\alpha s_\gamma \\ -s_\beta & c_\beta s_\gamma & c_\beta c_\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

This product of three rotations is the same as that for the ZYX Euler angles with rotations about the body/current frame  $\{b\}$ , i.e., the same product of three rotations admits two different physical interpretations.

# Successive Rotations about Axes of Fixed & Body/Current Frames



# Unit Quaternions

The unit quaternions are an alternative representation of rotations that alleviates the singularity of the division by  $\sin \theta$  in the logarithm formula of the exponential coordinates, but at the cost of four variables subject to one constraint in the representation.

Let  $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)$  have the exponential coordinate representation  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}\theta$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{R} = e^{[\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}]\theta}$ , where  $\|\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}\| = 1$  and  $\theta = [0, \pi]$ .

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta/2) \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}} \sin(\theta/2) \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^4 \quad \text{Clearly } \|\mathbf{q}\| = 1$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_1^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_2(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_3s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_2^2(1 - c_\theta) & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta \\ \hat{\omega}_1\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) - \hat{\omega}_2s_\theta & \hat{\omega}_2\hat{\omega}_3(1 - c_\theta) + \hat{\omega}_1s_\theta & c_\theta + \hat{\omega}_3^2(1 - c_\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{tr } \mathbf{R} = r_{11} + r_{22} + r_{33} = 1 + 2\cos \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow q_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 + r_{11} + r_{22} + r_{33}} \quad , \quad \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{4q_0} \begin{bmatrix} r_{32} - r_{23} \\ r_{13} - r_{31} \\ r_{21} - r_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Unit Quaternions

$$\mathbf{q} = (q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3) \Rightarrow \mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} q_0^2 + q_1^2 - q_2^2 - q_3^2 & 2(q_1q_2 - q_0q_3) & 2(q_0q_2 + q_1q_3) \\ 2(q_0q_3 + q_1q_2) & q_0^2 - q_1^2 + q_2^2 - q_3^2 & 2(q_2q_3 - q_0q_1) \\ 2(q_1q_3 - q_0q_2) & 2(q_0q_1 + q_2q_3) & q_0^2 - q_1^2 - q_2^2 + q_3^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

It is interpreted as a rotation about the unit axis, in the direction of  $(q_1, q_2, q_3)$  by an angle  $2 \cos^{-1} q_0$ .

- If  $\mathbf{p} = (p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3)$  and  $\mathbf{q} = (q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3)$ , then  $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{pq}$  is computed by:

$$\begin{bmatrix} n_0 \\ n_1 \\ n_2 \\ n_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_0p_0 - q_1p_1 - q_2p_2 - q_3p_3 \\ q_0p_1 + p_0q_1 + q_2p_3 - q_3p_2 \\ q_0p_2 + p_0q_2 - q_1p_3 + q_3p_1 \\ q_0p_3 + p_0q_3 + q_1p_2 - q_2p_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The rotation of a point or vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  by the angle  $\theta$  about an axis in the direction  $\hat{\omega}$  through the origin is determined as  $\mathbf{q}_{v'} = \mathbf{q}\mathbf{q}_v\mathbf{q}^*$  where  $\mathbf{q}$  is quaternion representation of  $\hat{\omega}\theta$ ,  $\mathbf{q}^* = (q_0, -q_1, -q_2, -q_3)$  is conjugate of  $\mathbf{q}$ ,  $\mathbf{q}_v = (0, \mathbf{v})$ , and  $\mathbf{q}_{v'} = (0, \mathbf{v}')$ .