

Problem 3: Finding Roll, Pitch, and Yaw Angles (15 points)

A rotation matrix R can be described as a product of successive rotations about the principal coordinate axes of the **fixed frame**. If we define the convention to be first a yaw about x_0 through an angle ψ , then pitch about the y_0 by an angle θ , and finally roll about the z_0 by an angle ϕ , we obtain the following transformation matrix, where s_ϕ signifies $\sin(\phi)$, c_ϕ signifies $\cos(\phi)$, etc.:

$$R = R_{z,\phi} R_{y,\theta} R_{x,\psi} = \begin{bmatrix} c_\phi c_\theta & -s_\phi c_\theta + c_\phi s_\theta s_\psi & s_\phi s_\theta + c_\phi s_\theta c_\psi \\ s_\phi c_\theta & c_\phi c_\theta + s_\phi s_\theta s_\psi & -c_\phi s_\theta + s_\phi s_\theta c_\psi \\ -s_\theta & c_\theta s_\psi & c_\theta c_\psi \end{bmatrix}$$

Imagine you have a numerical rotation matrix \mathcal{R} that has no zero entries. We will represent it with the following 3×3 array of r_{ij} scalar values.

$$\mathcal{R} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Find **closed-form** expressions that would enable you to solve for all possible sets of ψ , θ , and ϕ that would produce a given numerical matrix \mathcal{R} using the above formula for R . (15 points)

This problem is very similar to the steps needed to calculate Euler angles from a numerical rotation matrix, as with Puma.

Notice $r_{31} = -s_\theta$

$$s_\theta^2 + c_\theta^2 = 1$$

$$c_\theta^2 = 1 - s_\theta^2$$

$$c_\theta = \pm \sqrt{1 - r_{31}^2}$$

$$\theta = \begin{cases} \text{atan2}\left(\frac{-r_{31}}{\sqrt{1-r_{31}^2}}\right) & \text{option ①} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{atan2}\left(\frac{-r_{31}}{-\sqrt{1-r_{31}^2}}\right) & \text{option ②} \end{cases}$$

if using option ①, $c_\theta > 0$

notice r_{11} and r_{21} involve c_ϕ and s_ϕ
 r_{22} and r_{32} involve c_ψ and s_ψ

$$\begin{aligned} \phi &= \text{atan2}\left(\frac{r_{21}}{r_{11}}\right) \\ \psi &= \text{atan2}\left(\frac{r_{32}}{r_{22}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

if option ②, $c_\theta < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi &= \text{atan2}\left(\frac{-r_{21}}{-r_{11}}\right) \\ \psi &= \text{atan2}\left(\frac{-r_{32}}{-r_{22}}\right) \end{aligned}$$