

Last Time:

- Higher-Order RK
- ~~SDF ODEs~~
- Stability of RK methods

Today:

- Rigid Bodies
  - Reference Frames
  - Attitude Representations
  - Rotation Matrices
- 

## \* Rigid Bodies

- So far we've talked about particles
- Next step: "rigid bodies" that have finite volume
- Definition: A collection of  $N$  particles whose relative distances are fixed:

$$\|r_i - r_j\| = c_{ij} \quad , \quad i, j \in [1..N]$$

$\underbrace{\text{position } \in \mathbb{R}^3}_{\text{Natural frequencies of rigid-body dynamics}}$   $\underbrace{\text{distance } R}_{\text{of feasible dynamics}}$

- Never true in reality. Approximation is valid when  $\omega_{flex} \gg \omega_{res}$

- Example:
  - 1) Car on highway  $\Rightarrow$  rigid body model OK  
vs. race car where roll dynamics, suspension and tire deformation become important
  - 2) Rocket has bending modes at  $10\text{-}20 \text{ Hz}$   
so control signals for thruster must be filtered / band-limited to avoid exciting flexible dynamics (Not rigid).
- If flexible dynamics are much faster than control inputs, rigid body motion  $\Rightarrow$  can ignore
- Rigid body models are extremely useful across robotics, control, aerospace, etc.

## \* Transformations + Configuration / Pose

- Particle only has position but rigid bodies have more configuration/pose information
- We could just keep track of  $N$  particles, but that's inefficient.
- What are all the transformations I can do to the  $N$  particles that will respect the relative distance constraints?

Translation:  $\vec{r}_i' = \vec{r}_i + \vec{v} + \vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}_i, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\|\vec{r}_i' - \vec{r}_j'\| = \|\vec{r}_i + \vec{v} + \vec{r}_j - \vec{v}\| = \|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j\| = c_{ij}$$

Rotation:  $r_i' = Q r_i \quad \forall i, \quad Q \in SO(3)$

$$\|r_i' - r_j'\| = \|Q r_i - Q r_j\| = \|Q(r_i - r_j)\|$$

$$= \|r_i - r_j\| = c_{ij}$$

$\text{Q}$  preserves lengths

- Now we can just reason about a single translation + rotation instead of  $N$  positions.

## Reference Frames + Attitude:

- Set of mutually-orthogonal basis vectors that form a right-handed coordinate system
- Two kinds:
  - "Inertial/Newtonian"  $\Rightarrow$  Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> law holds
  - "Body-fixed"/"Body"  $\Rightarrow$  attached to a moving rigid body
- For our purposes, rigid body always comes with a reference frame

## What is Attitude?

- Rotation between body-fixed frame and inertial frame
- A Lie group  $SO(3)$  (more on this later)

\* How do we write down Attitude?

- Euler Angles:

3 numbers, nonlinear kinematics/composition  
singularities at  $90^\circ$ ,  $180^\circ$

- Quaternions:

4 numbers, 1 constraint, no singularities  
(linear/bilinear kinematics + composition)  
Double-cover (2 quaternions for every rotation)

- Rotation:

4 numbers, 6 constraints, no singularities  
(linear/bilinear kinematics).

- Gibbs/Rodrigues Vector:

3 numbers, singularities at  $180^\circ$ ,  
quadratic composition/kinematics

- Axis-Angle Vector:

3 numbers, singularities at  $180^\circ$ , nonlinear  
kinematics/composition

- Modified Rodrigues Parameters:

3 numbers, singularity at  $360^\circ$ ,  
quartic composition/kinematics

- We will primarily use quaternions + rotation matrices.
- Don't use Euler angles!

## \* Rotation Matrices:

- Linear transformation between body frame and inertial frame

$$\xrightarrow{\text{Newtonian frame}} {}^N V = Q {}^B \overbrace{V}^{\text{body frame}}$$

- Write  $\vec{V}$  explicitly in terms of components

$$\vec{V} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{n}_1 \\ \vec{n}_2 \\ \vec{n}_3 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} {}^N V_1 \\ {}^N V_2 \\ {}^N V_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{b}_1 \\ \vec{b}_2 \\ \vec{b}_3 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} {}^B V_1 \\ {}^B V_2 \\ {}^B V_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} {}^N V &= \begin{bmatrix} \vec{n}_1 & \cdot & \vec{V} \\ \vec{n}_2 & \cdot & \vec{V} \\ \vec{n}_3 & \cdot & \vec{V} \end{bmatrix} = \vec{n} \cdot \vec{V} = \vec{n} \cdot (\vec{b}^T {}^B V) \\ &= \underbrace{(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{b}^T)}_Q {}^B V \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{n}_1 \\ \vec{n}_2 \\ \vec{n}_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \vec{b}_1 & \vec{b}_2 & \vec{b}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_1 & \vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2 & \vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_3 \\ \vec{n}_2 \cdot \vec{b}_1 & \vec{n}_2 \cdot \vec{b}_2 & \vec{n}_2 \cdot \vec{b}_3 \\ \vec{n}_3 \cdot \vec{b}_1 & \vec{n}_3 \cdot \vec{b}_2 & \vec{n}_3 \cdot \vec{b}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} {}^N b_1 & {}^N b_2 & {}^N b_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{B basis in } N \text{ components}} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^B n_1^+ \\ {}^B n_2^+ \\ {}^B n_3^+ \end{bmatrix} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{N basis in} \\ \text{B components} \end{array} \right\}$$

\* What is the inverse of  $Q$

$$Q^T Q = \begin{bmatrix} "b_1 \\ "b_2 \\ "b_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} "b_1 & "b_2 & "b_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

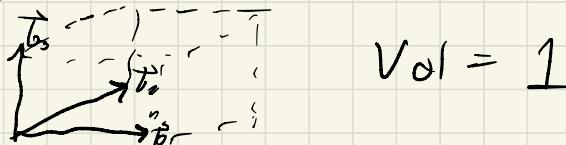
Orthogonal Basis

$$Q^{-1} Q = I \Rightarrow Q^T = Q^{-1}$$

"Orthogonal Matrix"

\* What is the determinant of  $Q$ ?

- Measures stretching
- Gives signed volume spanned by 3 columns of  $Q$



- Negative determinant implies reflection

$$\det(Q) = 1$$