

Example to understand \mathbf{q}

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$$[q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3] = [0.9885, 0.0091, 0.0206, -0.1512]:$$

1. Rotation about the x-axis (roll):

$$\begin{aligned}\text{roll} &= \arctan 2 \left(2(q_0 q_1 + q_2 q_3), 1 - 2(q_1^2 + q_2^2) \right) \\ &= \arctan 2 \left(2(0.9885 \times 0.0091 + 0.0206 \times -0.1512), 1 - 2(0.0091^2 + 0.0206^2) \right) \\ &= \arctan 2 \left(2(0.0090 - 0.0031), 1 - 2(0.0001 + 0.0004) \right) \\ &= \arctan 2 \left(2 \times 0.0059, 0.9990 \right) \\ &= \arctan 2 \left(0.0118, 0.9990 \right) \\ &\approx 0.0118 \text{ rad} \\ &\approx 0.68^\circ\end{aligned}$$

2. Rotation about the y-axis (pitch):

$$\begin{aligned}\text{pitch} &= \arcsin (2(q_0 q_2 - q_3 q_1)) \\ &= \arcsin (2(0.9885 \times 0.0206 - (-0.1512) \times 0.0091)) \\ &= \arcsin (2(0.0204 + 0.0014)) \\ &= \arcsin (2 \times 0.0218) \\ &= \arcsin (0.0436) \\ &\approx 0.0436 \text{ rad} \\ &\approx 2.50^\circ\end{aligned}$$

3. Rotation about the z-axis (yaw):

$$\begin{aligned}\text{yaw} &= \arctan 2 \left(2(q_0 q_3 + q_1 q_2), 1 - 2(q_2^2 + q_3^2) \right) \\ &= \arctan 2 \left(2(0.9885 \times -0.1512 + 0.0091 \times 0.0206), 1 - 2(0.0206^2 + (-0.1512)^2) \right) \\ &= \arctan 2 \left(2(-0.1495 + 0.0002), 1 - 2(0.0004 + 0.0228) \right) \\ &= \arctan 2 \left(-0.2986, 0.9536 \right) \\ &\approx -0.3046 \text{ rad} \\ &\approx -17.46^\circ\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the quaternion $[q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3] = [0.9885, 0.0091, 0.0206, -0.1512]$ represents the following rotations about the x, y, and z axes:

- Rotation about the x-axis (roll): approximately 0.68 degrees
- Rotation about the y-axis (pitch): approximately 2.50 degrees
- Rotation about the z-axis (yaw): approximately -17.46 degrees