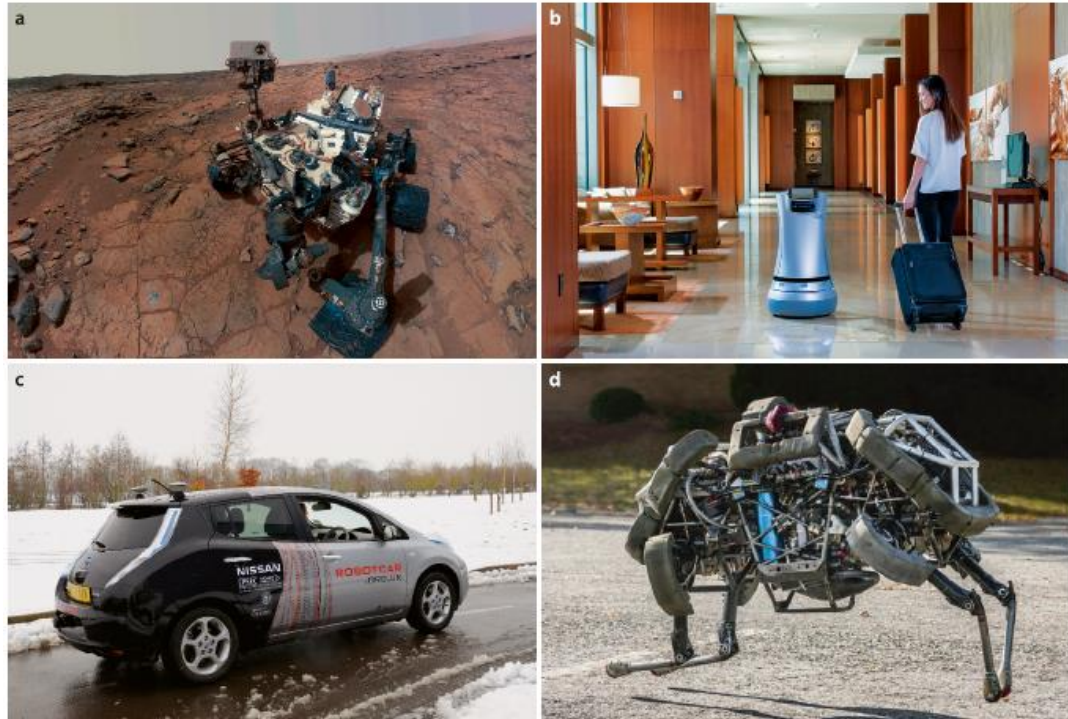




# ME 397- ASBR

## Week 1-Lecture 2



**a** Curiosity NASA/JPLCaltech; **b** Savioke Relay; **c** self driving car, Oxford Univ.;  
**d** Cheetah legged robot, Boston Dynamics

**FARSHID ALAMBEIGI, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor | Walker Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Cockrell School of Engineering | The University of Texas at Austin



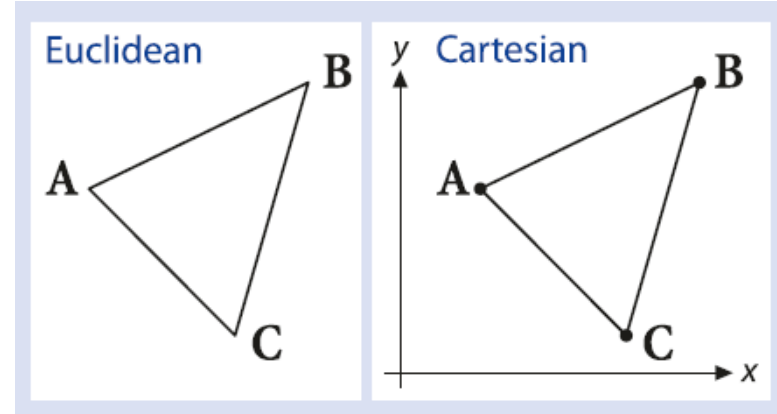
The University of Texas at Austin  
**Mechanical Engineering**  
Cockrell School of Engineering

Spring 2022

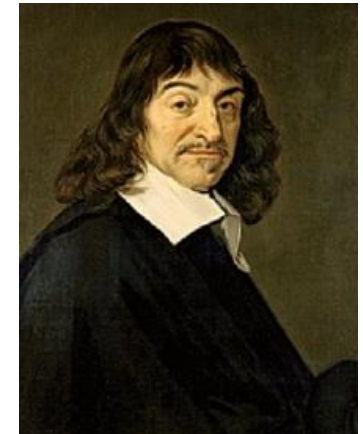
# Definitions

## ➤ Euclidean versus Cartesian geometry/Space:

- ✓ Euclidean geometry is concerned with points and lines and is entirely based on a set of axioms and makes no use of arithmetic.
- ✓ Descartes added a coordinate system (2D or 3D) and was then able to describe points, lines and other curves in terms of algebraic equations.
- ✓ The Cartesian plane (or space) is the Euclidean plane (or space) with all its axioms and postulates plus the extra facilities afforded by the added coordinate system.



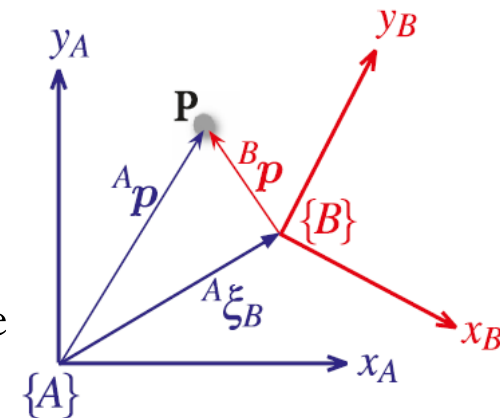
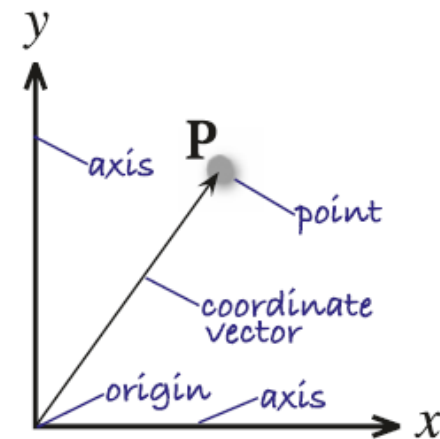
Euclid of Alexandria  
(ca. 325 BCE–265 BCE)



René Descartes  
(1596–1650)

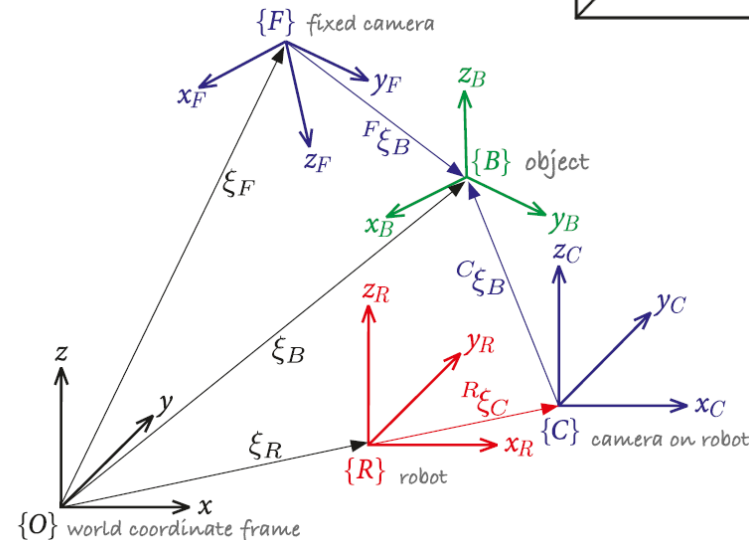
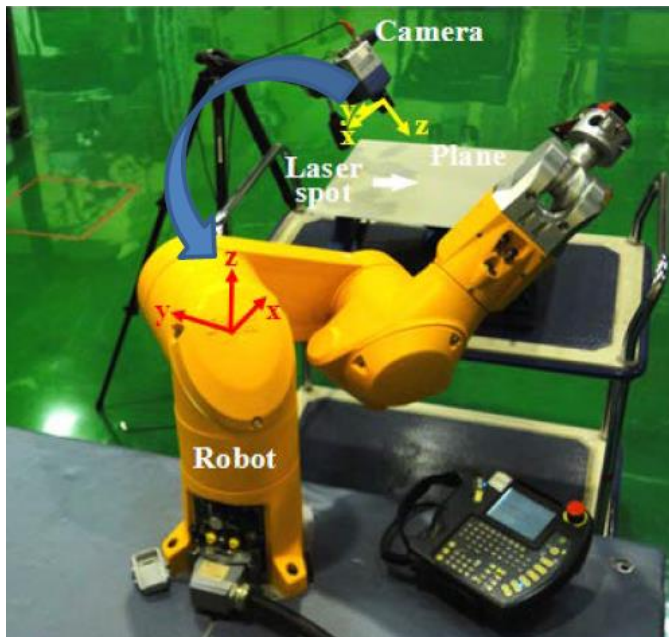
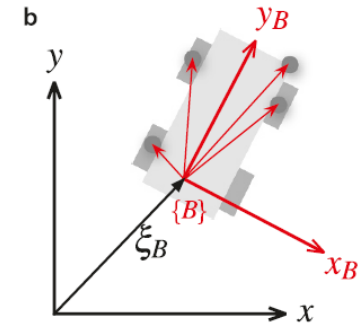
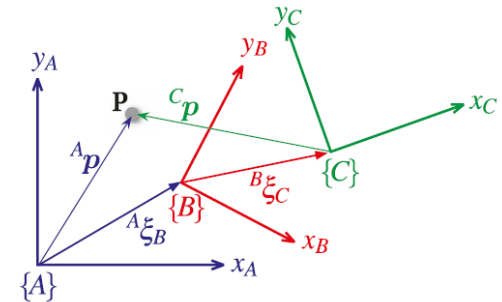
# Definitions

- A **coordinate frame**, or Cartesian coordinate system, is a set of orthogonal axes which intersect at a point known as the origin.
- A **vector** can be described in terms of its components, a **linear combination of unit vectors** which are parallel to the axes of the coordinate frame.
- A **point** is described by a **bound coordinate vector** that represents its *displacement from the origin of a reference coordinate system*.
- Points and vectors are **different things** even though they are each described by a tuple of numbers:
  - ✓ We can add vectors but not points (Euclidean points).
  - ✓ A vector has a direction and a magnitude.
  - ✓ The point P can be described by coordinate vectors relative to either frame {A} or {B}.
  - ✓ The difference of two points is a vector,
  - ✓ We can add a vector to a point to obtain another point.



# Definitions

- The **point P** can be described by **coordinate vectors** relative to either frame  $\{A\}$ ,  $\{B\}$  or  $\{C\}$ .
- The **frames** are described by **relative position and orientation (poses)  $\zeta$** .
- An **object**, unlike a point, also has an orientation.
- We can describe the **pose  $\zeta$**  of the **attached coordinate frame** to an **object** with respect to the **reference coordinate frame**.





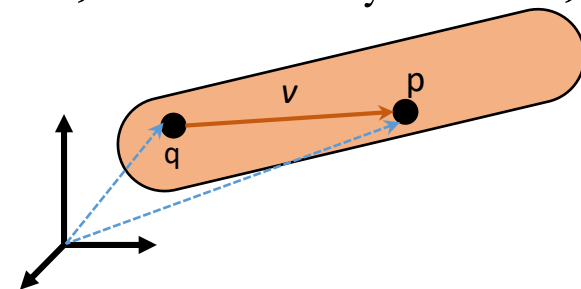
# Rigid Body Motion

- ✓ A **Rigid body** is a collection of particles such that the distance between any two particles remains fixed, regardless of any motions of the body or forces exerted on the body.
- ✓ We loosely define a perfectly rigid body as a completely “undistortable” body.
- ✓ If **p** and **q** are any two points on a **rigid body** then, as the body moves, **p** and **q** must satisfy:

$$\|p(t) - q(t)\| = \|p(0) - q(0)\| = \text{constant}.$$

where,  $\|\vec{v}\|$  is a Euclidean norm, i.e.,  $\sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2}$

- ✓ A **rigid motion** of an object is a motion which preserves distance between points.
- ✓ The study of **robot kinematics, dynamics, and control** has at its heart the study of the motion of rigid objects.



# Rigid Body Transformation

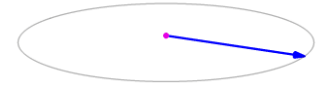
A mapping  $g : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a **rigid body transformation** if it satisfies the following properties:

1. (**Necessary condition**) **Length is preserved** for all points  $p$  and  $q$ :

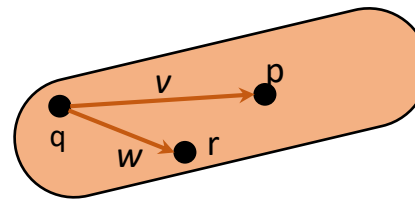
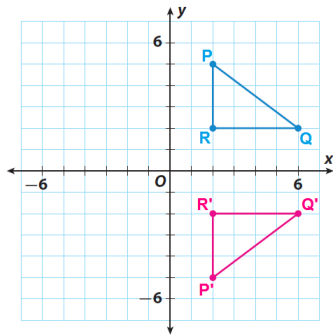
$$\|g(p) - g(q)\| = \|p - q\|$$

2. (**Sufficient Condition**) The cross product (**orientation**) is preserved for all vectors  $v$  and  $w$

$$g_*(v \times w) = g_*(v) \times g_*(w)$$



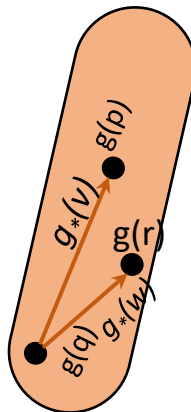
- Is **Reflection mapping e.g.**,  $g(x, y, z) = (x, y, -z)$  a rigid body transformation?



Mapping  $g$

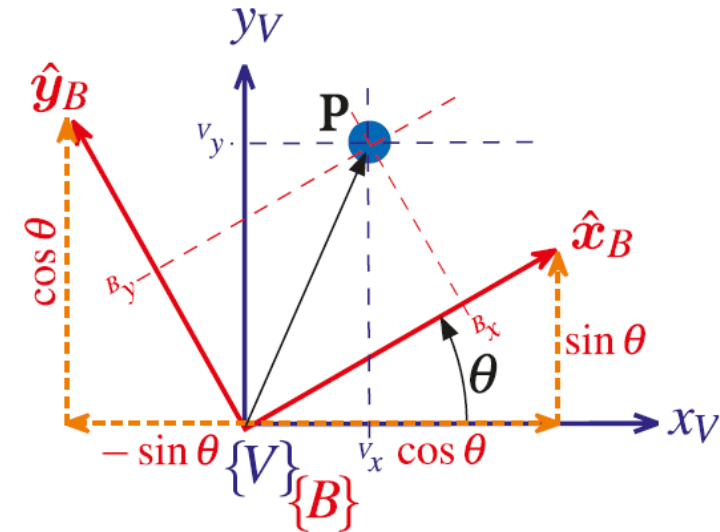


Rigid Body Transformation



# 2D Rotation Matrix

- **Goal:** Given **known position P** in the **rotated frame {B}**, find its position wrt **fixed frame {V}**.
- The point **P** can be considered with respect to the 2D **red (Rotated) or blue coordinate frame with the same origin:**  
i.e.,  ${}^V\mathbf{p} = {}^B\mathbf{p}$



$$\begin{aligned}
 {}^B\mathbf{p} &= {}^Bx\hat{x}_B + {}^By\hat{y}_B & {}^V\mathbf{p} &= {}^Vx\hat{x}_V + {}^Vy\hat{y}_V \\
 &= (\hat{x}_B \quad \hat{y}_B) \begin{pmatrix} {}^Bx \\ {}^By \end{pmatrix} & &= (\hat{x}_V \quad \hat{y}_V) \begin{pmatrix} {}^Vx \\ {}^Vy \end{pmatrix} \\
 &\text{known} & &\text{unknown}
 \end{aligned}$$

$${}^B\mathbf{p} = (\hat{x}_V \quad \hat{y}_V) \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} {}^Bx \\ {}^By \end{pmatrix}$$

$${}^V\mathbf{p} = {}^B\mathbf{p}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} {}^Vx \\ {}^Vy \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} {}^Bx \\ {}^By \end{pmatrix}$$

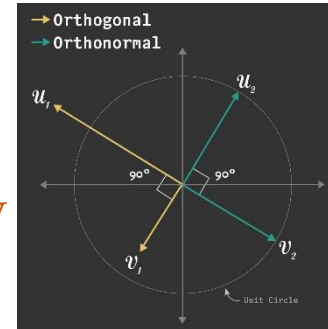
$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{x}_B &= \cos\theta\hat{x}_V + \sin\theta\hat{y}_V \\
 \hat{y}_B &= -\sin\theta\hat{x}_V + \cos\theta\hat{y}_V
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\hat{x}_B \quad \hat{y}_B) = (\hat{x}_V \quad \hat{y}_V) \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} {}^Vx \\ {}^Vy \end{pmatrix} = {}^V\mathbf{R}_B \begin{pmatrix} {}^Bx \\ {}^By \end{pmatrix}$$

# Rotation Matrix as an Orthogonal Matrix

- A square matrix whose columns (and rows) are orthonormal vectors is an *orthogonal matrix*.
- In other words, a square matrix whose **column vectors**  $r_i$  are **mutually perpendicular** and have **magnitude equal to 1** will be an **orthogonal matrix**.



$$r_i^T r_j = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 1, & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}$$

- Rotation Matrices are examples of **orthogonal matrices** with the following properties:

1.  $RR^T = R^T R = I.$

2.  $\det R = \pm 1$

$$\det(AB) = \det(A) \times \det(B)$$

$$\det(A^T) = \det(A)$$

$$\det(I_n) = 1$$

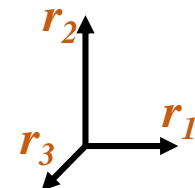
- To determine the sign of the determinant of  $R$ , we recall from linear algebra that

$$\det R = r_1^T (r_2 \times r_3)$$

➡  $R = r_1^T r_1 = 1$

For right-handed coordinate frame

$$r_2 \times r_3 = r_1$$





# Special Orthogonal Matrices

- We may define the **space of rotation matrices** in  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  by

$$SO(n) = \{R \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} : RR^T = I, \det R = +1\}$$

- The notation **SO** abbreviates **S**pecial **O**rthogonal.
- **Special** refers to the fact that **det R = +1 rather than ±1.**
- We will be primarily interested in  $n = 3$  and  $n = 2$  case (planar rotations).
- Also, the **inverse** is the same as the **transpose**, that is,  $R^{-1} = R^T$

$$\begin{pmatrix} {}^B x \\ {}^B y \end{pmatrix} = ({}^V R_B)^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} {}^V x \\ {}^V y \end{pmatrix} = ({}^V R_B)^T \begin{pmatrix} {}^V x \\ {}^V y \end{pmatrix} = {}^B R_V \begin{pmatrix} {}^V x \\ {}^V y \end{pmatrix}$$

- $SO(3)$  is a **group** under the operation of **matrix multiplication**, which means that the product of two rotation matrix is a rotation matrix.

# Group Definition

- A **set**  $G$  together with a **binary operation**  $\circ$  defined on elements of  $G$  is called a group if it satisfies the following axioms:
1. **Closure:** If  $g_1, g_2 \in G$ , then  $g_1 \circ g_2 \in G$ .
  2. **Identity:** There exists an identity element,  $e$ , such that
$$g \circ e = e \circ g = g \text{ for every } g \in G.$$
  3. **Inverse:** For each  $g \in G$ , there exists a (unique) inverse,  $g^{-1} \in G$ , such that  $g \circ g^{-1} = g^{-1} \circ g = e$ .
  4. **Associativity:** If  $g_1, g_2, g_3 \in G$ , then  $(g_1 \circ g_2) \circ g_3 = g_1 \circ (g_2 \circ g_3)$ .
- $SO(3)$  is a **group** under the operation of **matrix multiplication**
1. If  $R_1, R_2 \in SO(3)$ , then  $R_1 R_2 \in SO(3)$ . Hint: use definition of  $SO(3)$  matrices!
  2. The identity matrix is the identity element.
  3. Inverse of  $R \in SO(3)$  is  $R^T \in SO(3)$ .
  4. The associativity of the group operation follows from the associativity of matrix multiplication; that is,  $(R_1 R_2) R_3 = R_1 (R_2 R_3)$ .

# Rotations are rigid body transformations

A rotation  $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbf{SO}(3)$  is a rigid body transformation; that is,

1.  $\mathbf{R}$  preserves distance:

$$\|Rq - Rp\| = \|q - p\| \text{ for all } q, p \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

2.  $\mathbf{R}$  preserves orientation:

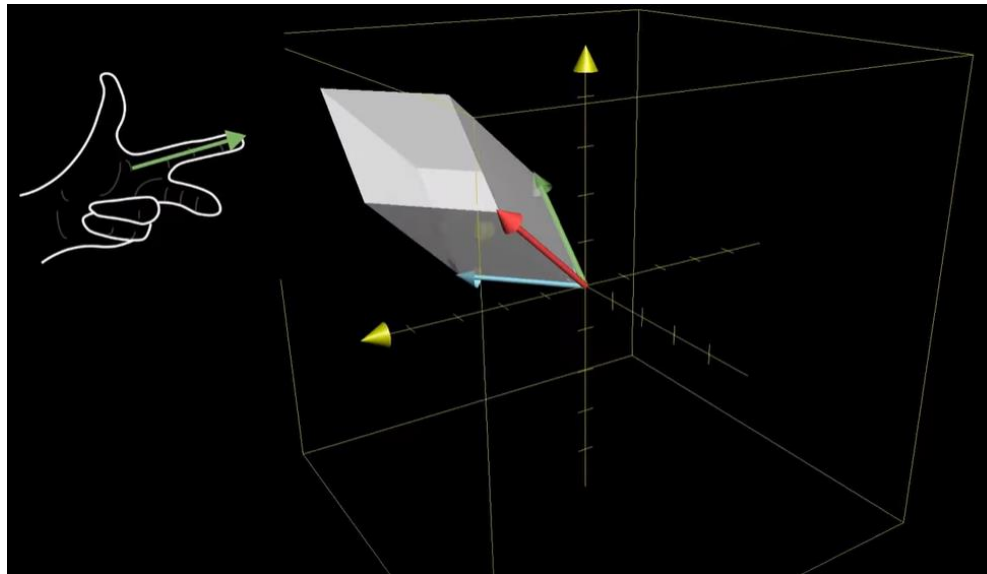
$$R(v \times w) = Rv \times Rw \text{ for all } v, w \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

i.e., the rotation of the cross product of two vectors is the cross product of the rotation of each of the vectors by  $\mathbf{R}$ .

❖ Proof in your **THA1**!

# Physical Interpretation of Rotation Matrices

- Geometrically, determinant can be viewed as the **volume scaling factor** of the **linear transformation** described by the matrix.
- The determinant is **positive or negative** according to whether the linear mapping **preserves or reverses the orientation of  $n$ -space**.
- $\det(R)=+1$  means that it's a **rigid body transformation** that does not **change the length and orientation!**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lp3X9LOh2dk>

# Uses of Rotation Matrices

- There are three major uses for a rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$ :
  - (a) To represent an orientation;
  - (b) To change the reference frame in which a vector or a frame is represented (Solved example);
  - (c) To rotate a vector or a frame.
- In (a) ,  $\mathbf{R}$  is thought of as representing a frame;
- In (b) and (c),  $\mathbf{R}$  is thought of as an operator that acts on a **vector or frame** (changing its reference frame or rotating it).



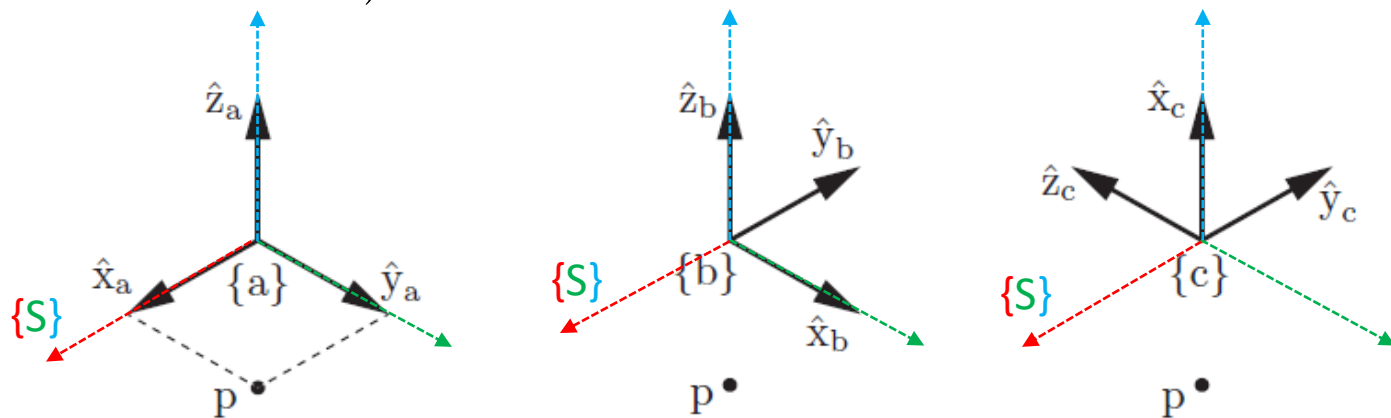
# Uses of Rotation Matrices

## (a) To represent an orientation:

- ✓ Frames  $\{a\}$ ,  $\{b\}$ , and  $\{c\}$  representing the same space with the same origin.
- ✓ RGB color frame is a **fixed space frame**  $\{s\}$ , which is aligned with frame  $\{a\}$ .
- ✓ The orientations of the three frames **relative to  $\{s\}$**  can be written as  $\mathbf{R}_f$ , which implicitly referring to the orientation of frame  $\{f\}$  relative to the fixed frame  $\{s\}$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{R}_{sf}$

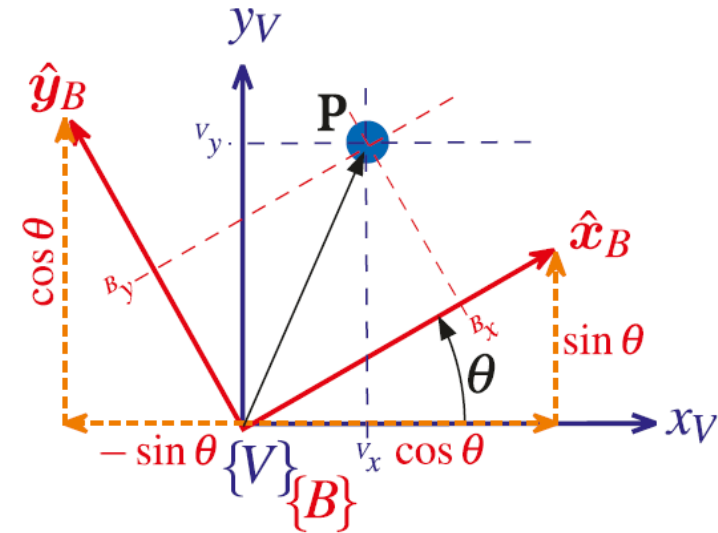
$$R_a = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad R_b = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad R_c = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- A rotation matrix is just a collection of three unit vectors!



# 2D Rotation Matrix

- **Goal:** Given **known position P** in the **rotated frame {B}**, find its position wrt **fixed frame {V}**.
- The point **P** can be considered with respect to the 2D **red (Rotated) or blue coordinate frame with the same origin:**  
i.e.,  ${}^V\mathbf{p} = {}^B\mathbf{p}$



$$\begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_x \\ B_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = {}^V R_B \begin{pmatrix} B_x \\ B_y \end{pmatrix}$$

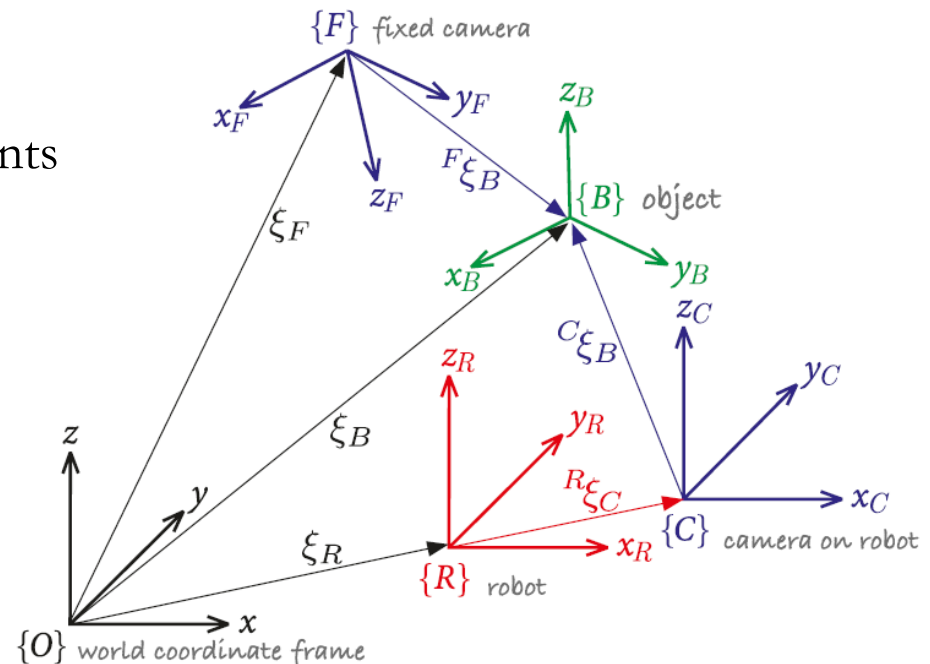
# Uses of Rotation Matrices

## (b) Changing the reference frame

- If the rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}_{ab}$  represents the orientation of {b} in {a} and  $\mathbf{R}_{bc}$  represents the orientation of {c} in {b}, then we have:

$$R_{ac} = R_{ab}R_{bc}.$$

- **Notation:**  $\mathbf{R}_{ab} = {}^a\mathbf{R}_b$  both represents the orientation of {b} in {a}.



# Uses of Rotation Matrices

## (b) Changing the reference frame

- If the rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}_{ab}$  represents the orientation of  $\{b\}$  in  $\{a\}$  and  $\mathbf{R}_{bc}$  represents the orientation of  $\{c\}$  in  $\{b\}$ , then we have:

$$R_{ac} = R_{ab}R_{bc}.$$

- $\mathbf{R}_{bc}$  can be viewed as a **representation of the orientation** of  $\{c\}$ .
- While  $\mathbf{R}_{ab}$  can be viewed as a **mathematical operator** that changes the reference frame from  $\{b\}$  to  $\{a\}$ .
- A subscript cancellation rule helps us to remember this property:

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

- The reference frame of a vector can also be changed by a rotation matrix:

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

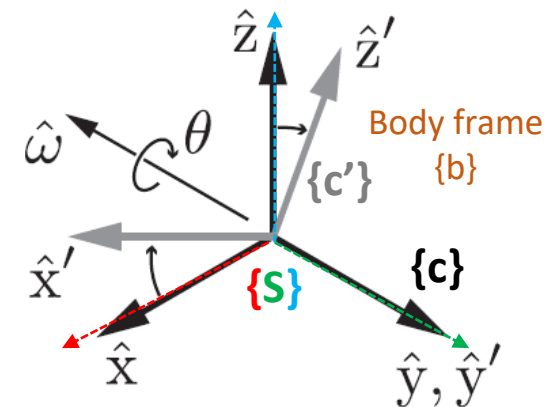
# Uses of Rotation Matrices

## (c) Rotating a vector or a frame

- We rotate the frame  $\{c\}$  about a **unit axis**  $\hat{\omega}$  by an **amount**  $\theta$ , the new frame is  $\{c'\}$  and can define it by  $R_{sc'}$ .
- We can also see  $R$  as a **rotation operator**, instead of as an orientation, i.e.,  $R = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}, \theta)$

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

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



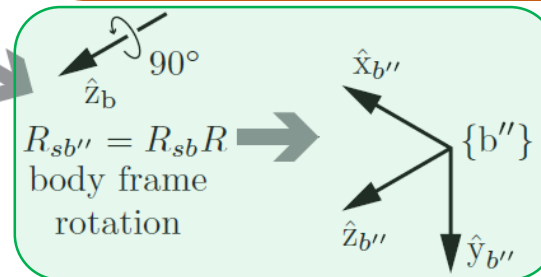
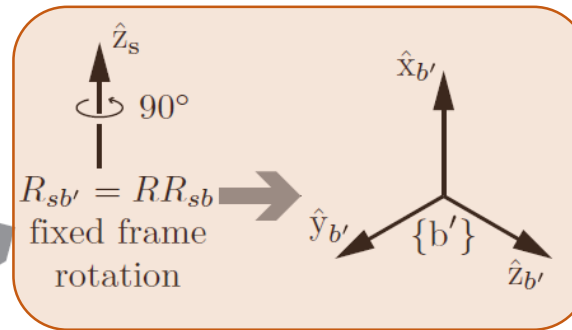
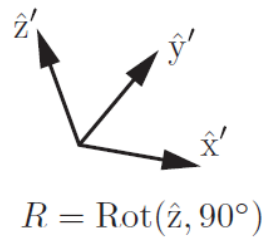
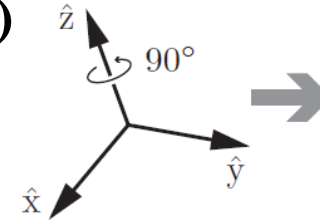
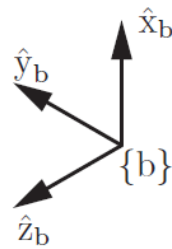
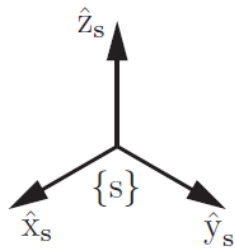
- **Rot** is an independent-to-frame operation that rotates the orientation represented by the Identity matrix to the orientation represented by R.
- We have to specify whether the axis of rotation  $\hat{\omega}$  is expressed in  $\{S\}$  or **body frame  $\{b\}$** , (e.g.,  $\{c\}$  in the figure).
- Depending on our choice, the same numerical  $\hat{\omega}$  (and therefore the same numerical  $R$ ) corresponds to different rotation axes in the underlying space!!!



# Uses of Rotation Matrices

- The **independent rotation operator**  $R = \text{Rot}(\hat{z}^s; 90^\circ)$  gives the orientation of the right-hand frame in the left-hand frame.

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

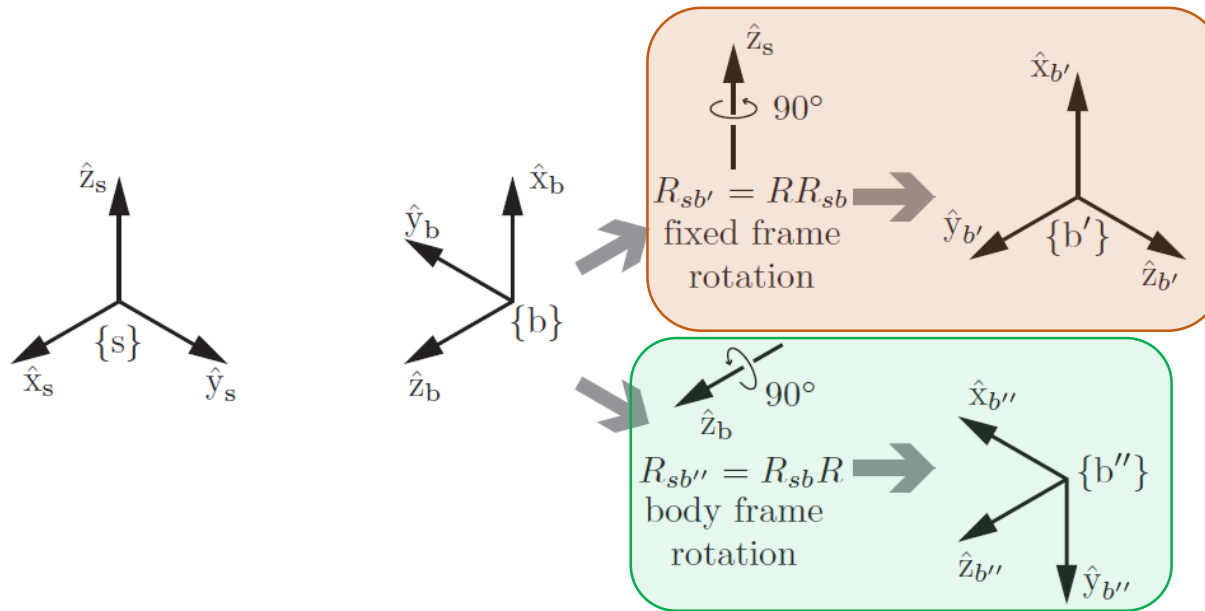


- The quantity  $R R_{sb}$  rotates  $\{b\}$  by 90 degree about the **fixed-frame axis**  $\hat{z}_s$  to  $\{b'\}$ .
- The quantity  $R_{sb} R$  rotates  $\{b\}$  by 90 degree about the **body-frame axis**  $\hat{z}_b$  to  $\{b''\}$ .

$$R_{sb'} = \text{rotate\_by\_R\_in\_}\{s\}\text{-frame } (R_{sb}) = \boxed{R} R_{sb}$$

$$R_{sb''} = \text{rotate\_by\_R\_in\_}\{b\}\text{-frame } (R_{sb}) = R_{sb} \boxed{R}$$

# Uses of Rotation Matrices



- In other words, **pre-multiplying** by  $R = \text{Rot}(\hat{\omega}; \theta)$  yields a rotation about an axis  $\hat{\omega}$  considered to be in the **fixed frame**, and **post-multiplying** by  $R$  yields a rotation about  $\hat{\omega}$  considered as being in the **body frame**.
- The quantity  $RR_{sb}$  rotates  $\{b\}$  by 90 degree about the **fixed-frame axis**  $\hat{z}_s$  to  $\{b'\}$ .
- The quantity  $R_{sb}R$  rotates  $\{b\}$  by 90 degree about the **body-frame axis**  $\hat{z}_b$  to  $\{b''\}$ .

$$R_{sb'} = \text{rotate\_by\_R\_in\_}\{s\}\text{-frame } (R_{sb}) = RR_{sb}$$

$$R_{sb''} = \text{rotate\_by\_R\_in\_}\{b\}\text{-frame } (R_{sb}) = R_{sb}R.$$

# References

- Murray, R.M., Li, Z., Sastry, S.S., “*A Mathematical Introduction to Robotic Manipulation.*”, **Chapter 2.**
- Corke, Peter. “Robotics, vision and control: fundamental algorithms in MATLAB®” second, completely revised. Vol. 118. Springer, 2017, **Chapter 2.**
- Lynch and Park, “*Modern Robotics,*” Cambridge U. Press, 2017, **Chapter 3.**