



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI GENOVA

DIBRIS

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,  
BIOENGINEERING, ROBOTICS AND SYSTEM ENGINEERING

MODELLING AND CONTROL OF MANIPULATORS

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## First Assignment

**Equivalent representations of orientation matrices**

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Assignment description</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Exercise 1 - Equivalent Angle-Axis Representation (Exponential representation) . . . . .	3
1.2	Exercise 2 - Inverse Equivalent Angle-Axis Problem . . . . .	3
1.3	Exercise 3 - Euler angles (Z-X-Z) vs Tait-Bryan angles (Yaw-Pitch-Roll) . . . . .	4
1.4	Exercise 4 - Quaternions . . . . .	4
<b>2</b>	<b>Exercise 1</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Q1.1 . . . . .	5
2.2	Q1.2 . . . . .	5
2.3	Q1.3 . . . . .	5
2.4	Q1.4 . . . . .	5
2.5	Q1.5 . . . . .	6
2.6	Q1.6 . . . . .	6
2.7	Q1.7 . . . . .	7
2.8	Q1.8 . . . . .	7
<b>3</b>	<b>Exercise 2</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1	Q2.1 . . . . .	7
3.2	Q2.2 . . . . .	9
3.3	Q2.3 . . . . .	9
<b>4</b>	<b>Exercise 3</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1	Q3.1 . . . . .	10
4.2	Q3.2 . . . . .	10
4.3	a. . . . .	10
4.4	b. . . . .	10
4.5	c. . . . .	11
4.6	Q3.3 . . . . .	11
4.7	Q3.4 . . . . .	12
<b>5</b>	<b>Exercise 4</b>	<b>12</b>
5.1	Q4.1 . . . . .	12
5.2	Q4.2 . . . . .	13

Mathematical expression	Definition	MATLAB expression
$\langle w \rangle$	World Coordinate Frame	w
${}^a_b R$	Rotation matrix of frame $\langle b \rangle$ with respect to frame $\langle a \rangle$	aRb
${}^a_b T$	Transformation matrix of frame $\langle b \rangle$ with respect to frame $\langle a \rangle$	aTb

Table 1: Nomenclature Table

# 1 Assignment description

The first assignment of Modelling and Control of Manipulators focuses on the geometric fundamentals and algorithmic tools underlying any robotics application. The concepts of transformation matrix, orientation matrix and the equivalent representations of orientation matrices (Equivalent angle-axis representation, Euler Angles and Quaternions) will be reviewed.

The first assignment is **mandatory** and consists of 4 different exercises. You are asked to:

- Download the .zip file called MOCOM-LAB1 from the Aulaweb page of this course.
- Implement the code to solve the exercises on MATLAB by filling the predefined files called "main.m", "ComputeAngleAxis.m", "ComputeInverseAngleAxis.m", and "QuatToRot.m".
- Write a report motivating the answers for each exercise, following the predefined format on this document.

## 1.1 Exercise 1 - Equivalent Angle-Axis Representation (Exponential representation)

A particularly interesting minimal representation of 3D rotation matrices is the so-called "*angle-axis representation*" or "*exponential representation*". Given two frames  $\langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle$ , initially coinciding, let's consider an applied geometric unit vector  $(\mathbf{v}, O_a) = (\mathbf{v}, O_b)$ , passing through the common origin of the two frames, whose initial projection on  $\langle a \rangle$  is the same of that on  $\langle b \rangle$ . Then let's consider that frame  $\langle b \rangle$  is purely rotated around  $\mathbf{v}$  of an angle  $\theta$ , even negative, accordingly with the right-hand rule. We note that the axis-line defined by  $(\mathbf{v}, O_a) = (\mathbf{v}, O_b)$  remains common to both the reference systems of the two frames  $\langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle$  and we obtain that the orientation matrix constructed in the above way is said to be represented by its equivalent angle-axis representation that admits the following equivalent analytical expression, also known as Rodrigues Formula:

$$\mathbf{R}(*\mathbf{v}, \theta) = e^{[*\mathbf{v}\wedge]\theta} = e^{[\rho\wedge]} = \mathbf{I}_{3 \times 3} + [*\mathbf{v}\wedge] \sin(\theta) + [*\mathbf{v}\wedge]^2 (1 - \cos(\theta))$$

**Q1.1** Given two generic frames  $\langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle$ , given the geometric unit vector  $(\mathbf{v}, O_a) = (\mathbf{v}, O_b)$  and the angle  $\theta$ , implement on MATLAB the Rodrigues formula, computing the rotation matrix  ${}^a_b R$  of frame  $\langle b \rangle$  with respect to  $\langle a \rangle$ .

Then test it for the following cases and comment the results obtained, including some sketches of the frames configurations:

- **Q1.2**  $\mathbf{v} = [1, 0, 0]$  and  $\theta = 30^\circ$
- **Q1.3**  $\mathbf{v} = [0, 1, 0]$  and  $\theta = \pi/4$
- **Q1.4**  $\mathbf{v} = [0, 0, 1]$  and  $\theta = \pi/2$
- **Q1.5**  $\mathbf{v} = [0.408, 0.816, -0.408]$  and  $\theta = 0.2449$
- **Q1.6**  $\rho = [0, \pi/2, 0]$ ;
- **Q1.7**  $\rho = [0.4, -0.3, -0.3]$ ;
- **Q1.8**  $\rho = [-\pi/4, -\pi/3, \pi/8]$ ;

## 1.2 Exercise 2 - Inverse Equivalent Angle-Axis Problem

Given two reference frames  $\langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle$ , referred to a common world coordinate system  $\langle w \rangle$ , their orientation with respect to the world frame  $\langle w \rangle$  is expressed in Figure 12.

**Q2.1** Compute the orientation matrix  ${}^a_b R$ .

**Q2.2** Solve the Inverse Equivalent Angle-Axis Problem for the orientation matrix  ${}^a_b R$ .

**Q2.3** Given the following Transformation matrix:

$${}^w_c T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.835959 & -0.283542 & -0.46986 & 0 \\ 0.271321 & 0.957764 & -0.0952472 & -1.23 \\ 0.47703 & -0.0478627 & 0.877583 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve the Inverse Equivalent Angle-Axis Problem for the orientation matrix  ${}^c_b R$ .

\*

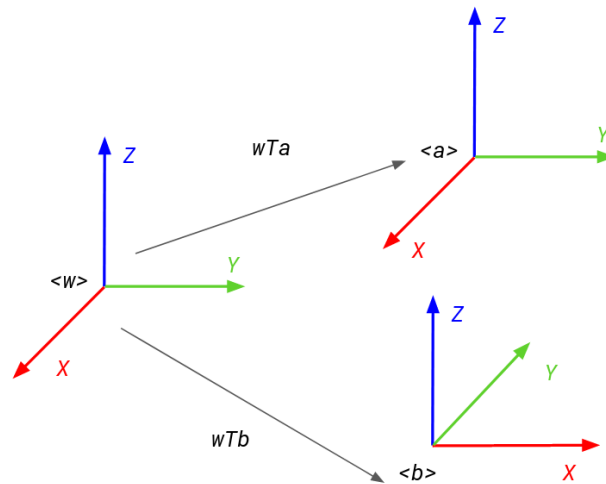


Figure 1: exercise 2 frames

### 1.3 Exercise 3 - Euler angles (Z-X-Z) vs Tait-Bryan angles (Yaw-Pitch-Roll)

Any orientation matrix can be expressed in terms of three elementary rotations in sequence. These can occur either about the axes of a fixed coordinate system (extrinsic rotations), or about the axes of a rotating coordinate system (intrinsic rotations) initially aligned with the fixed one. Then we can distinguish:

- Proper Euler angles: X-Z-X, Y-Z-Y, ...
- Tait-Bryan angles: Z-Y-X, X-Y-Z, ...

**Q3.1** Given two generic frames  $\langle w \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle$ , define the elementary orientation matrices for frame  $\langle b \rangle$  with respect to frame  $\langle w \rangle$ , knowing that:

- $\langle b \rangle$  is rotated of  $30^\circ$  around the z-axis of  $\langle w \rangle$
- $\langle b \rangle$  is rotated of  $45^\circ$  around the y-axis of  $\langle w \rangle$
- $\langle b \rangle$  is rotated of  $15^\circ$  around the x-axis of  $\langle w \rangle$

**Q3.2** Compute the equivalent angle-axis representation for each elementary rotation

**Q3.3** Compute the z-y-x (yaw,pitch,roll) representation and solve the Inverse Equivalent Angle-Axis Problem for the obtained orientation matrix

**Q3.4** Compute the z-x-z representation and solve the Inverse Equivalent Angle-Axis Problem for the obtained orientation matrix

### 1.4 Exercise 4 - Quaternions

Given the following quaternion:  $q = 0.8924 + 0.23912i + 0.36964j + 0.099046k$  expressing how a reference frame  $\langle b \rangle$  is rotated with respect to  $\langle a \rangle$ :

**Q4.1** Compute the equivalent rotation matrix

**Q4.2** Solve the Inverse Equivalent Angle-Axis Problem for the obtained orientation matrix

## 2 Exercise 1

### 2.1 Q1.1

In this question we represent Rodrigues Formula On MATLAB that it should compute the rotation matrix

```

1  function R = ComputeAngleAxis(theta,v)
2  %Implement here the Rodrigues formula
3  I = eye(3);
4  q=[0 -v(3) v(2); v(3) 0 -v(1); -v(2) v(1) 0];
5  R= I+ q*sin(theta)+ (1-cos(theta))*(q*q);
6  end
7

```

Figure 2: Compute Angel Axis

and now we are going to test it in the next questions

### 2.2 Q1.2

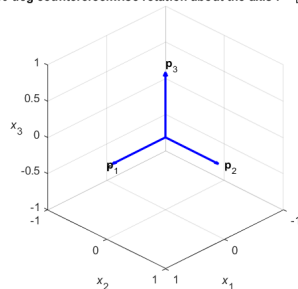
$$v = [1 \ 0 \ 0]$$

$$\theta = 30^\circ$$

$$\theta = \pi/6 \text{ rad}$$

$${}^a_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.8660 & -0.5 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.8660 \end{bmatrix}$$

30 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [1; 0; 0]$



30 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [1; 0; 0]$

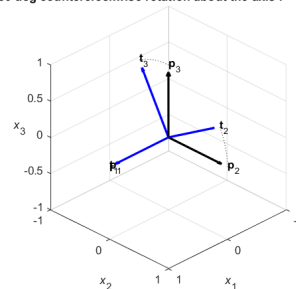


Figure 3: Q1.2

### 2.3 Q1.3

$$v = [0 \ 1 \ 0]$$

$$\theta = \pi/4$$

$${}^a_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7071 & 0 & 0.7071 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -0.7071 & 0 & 0.7071 \end{bmatrix}$$

### 2.4 Q1.4

$$v = [0 \ 0 \ 1]$$

$$\theta = \pi/2$$

$${}^a_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

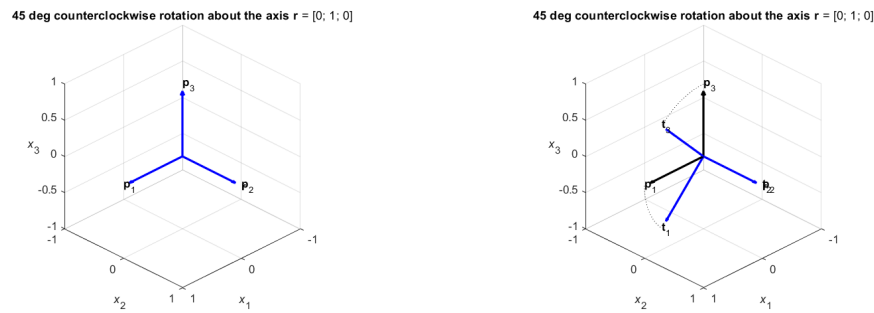


Figure 4: Q1.3

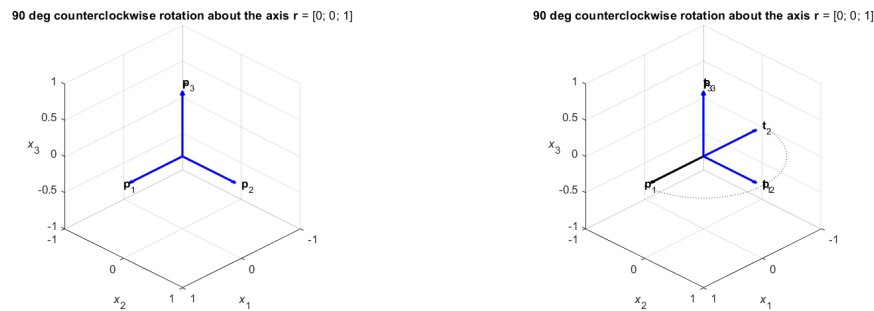


Figure 5: Q1.4

## 2.5 Q1.5

$$v = [0.408 \ 0.816 \ -0.408]$$

norm vector is not equal to 1 so we should normalize the vector v

$$v = v / \text{norm}(v)$$

$$\text{theta} = 0.2449$$

$${}^a_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9751 & 0.1089 & 0.1930 \\ -0.0890 & 0.9901 & -0.1089 \\ -0.2029 & 0.0890 & 0.9751 \end{bmatrix}$$

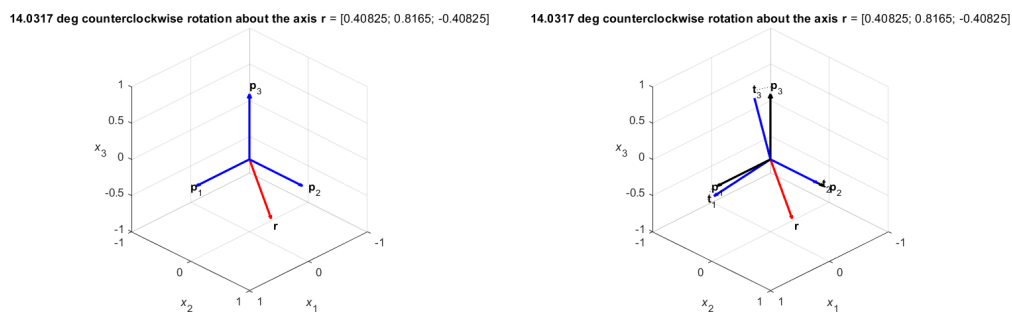


Figure 6: Q1.5

from question Q1.6 to Q1.8 we have the rotation vector so we need to divide it to angle angle axis (theta) and geometric Unit Vector (v)

## 2.6 Q1.6

$$p = [0 \ \pi/2 \ 0]$$

$$\text{theta} = \text{norm}(p)$$

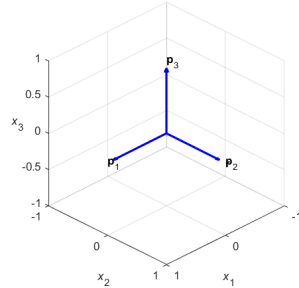
$$\text{theta} = 1.5708$$

$$v = p / \text{theta}$$

$$v = [0 \ 1 \ 0]$$

$${}^a_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

90 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0; 1; 0]$



90 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0; 1; 0]$

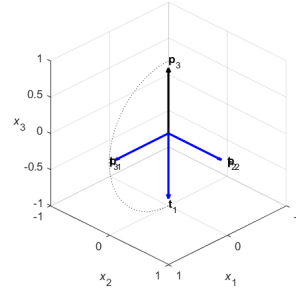
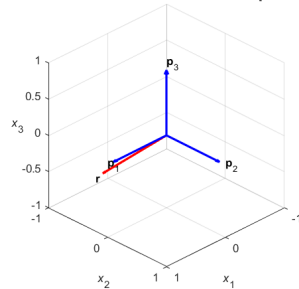


Figure 7: Q1.6

## 2.7 Q1.7

```
p=[0.4 -0.3 -0.3]
theta=norm(p)
theta= 0.5831
v=p/theta
v=[0.6860 -0.5145 -0.5145]
{}^a_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9125 & 0.2250 & -0.3416 \\ -0.3416 & 0.8785 & -0.3340 \\ 0.2250 & 0.4215 & 0.8785 \end{bmatrix}
```

33.4089 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0.68599; -0.5145; -0.5145]$



33.4089 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0.68599; -0.5145; -0.5145]$

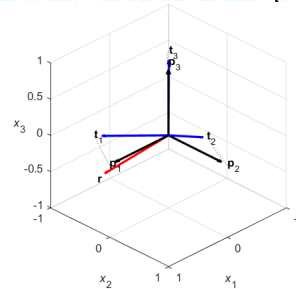


Figure 8: Q1.7

## 2.8 Q1.8

```
p=[-pi/4 -pi/3 pi/8]
theta=norm(p)
theta= 1.3666
v=p/theta
v=[-0.5747 -0.7663 0.2873]
{}^a_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 0.4661 & 0.0697 & -0.8820 \\ 0.6325 & 0.6709 & 0.3872 \\ 0.6187 & -0.7383 & 0.2686 \end{bmatrix}
```

## 3 Exercise 2

### 3.1 Q2.1

to Compute the orientation matrix we need the Inverse of Compute Angle Axis  
In this situation we have chose the rotation around z-axis and the angle  $\pi/2$



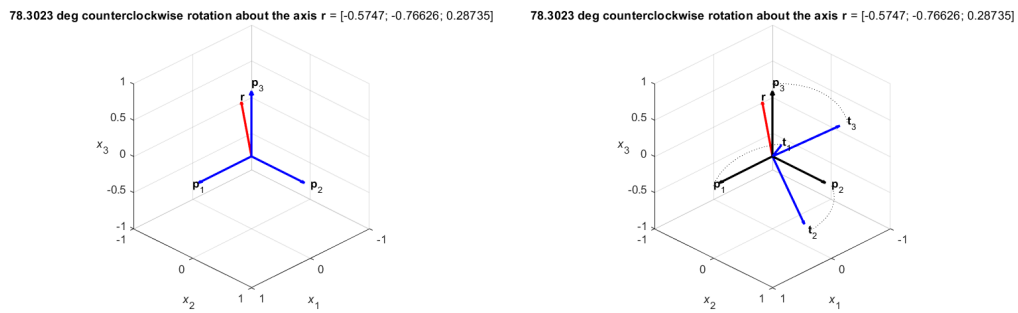


Figure 9: Q1.8

```

1 function [theta,v] = ComputeInverseAngleAxis(R)
2 [a, b]=size(R);
3 M=(R-R')/2;
4 vex=[0.5*(M(3,2)-M(2,3));0.5*(M(1,3)-M(3,1));0.5*(M(2,1)-M(1,2))];
5 if a==3 && b==3
6     if abs(1-diag(R*R'))<=0.001
7         if abs(1-det(R))<=0.001
8             theta=acos((trace(R)-1)/2);
9             [ev,evl]=eig(R);
10            e=abs(1-diag(evl))<=0.001;
11            v=ev(:,e);
12        else
13            error('DETERMINANT OF THE INPUT MATRIX IS 0')
14        end
15    else
16        error('NOT ORTHOGONAL INPUT MATRIX')
17    end
18    else
19        error('WRONG SIZE OF THE INPUT MATRIX')
20    end
21    end
22 end
23

```

Figure 10: Compute Angel Axis Inverse

$$v=[0 \ 0 \ 1]$$

$$\theta = \pi/2$$

(a) and (w) are identical and parallel so:

$${}^a_w R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

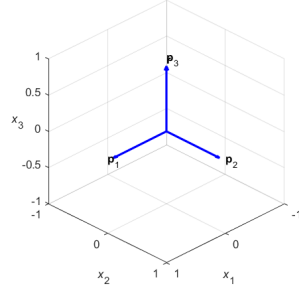
$${}^w_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$${}^a_b R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

### 3.2 Q2.2

$v=[0 \ 0 \ 1]$   
 $\theta=1.5708$

90 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0; 0; 1]$



90 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0; 0; 1]$

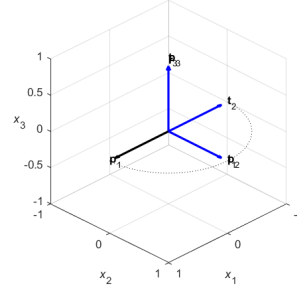


Figure 11: Q2.2

### 3.3 Q2.3

we have :  ${}^w_c R = \begin{bmatrix} 0.835959 & -0.283542 & -0.469869 \\ 0.271321 & 0.957764 & 0.0952472 \\ 0.47703 & -0.0478627 & 0.877583 \end{bmatrix}$

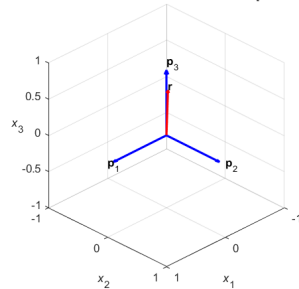
and

${}^c_b R = {}^w_c R' x {}^w_b R$

$v=[0.2651 \ 0.2931 \ 0.9186]$

$\theta=1.3529$

77.5127 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0.26514; 0.29307; 0.91859]$



77.5127 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0.26514; 0.29307; 0.91859]$

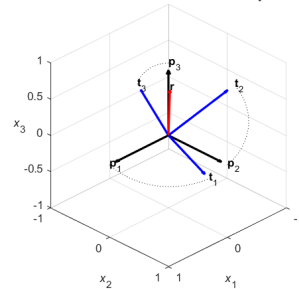


Figure 12: Q2.2

## 4 Exercise 3

### 4.1 Q3.1

```
% a
%rotation matrix from <w> to frame <b> by rotating around z-axes
wRb_z = [cos(pi/6) -sin(pi/6) 0 ; sin(pi/6) cos(pi/6) 0; 0 0 1];

% b
%rotation matrix from <w> to frame <b> by rotating around y-axes
wRb_y = [cos(pi/4) 0 sin(pi/4) ; 0 1 0 ; -sin(pi/4) 0 cos(pi/4)];

% c
%rotation matrix from <w> to frame <b> by rotating around x-axes
wRb_x = [1 0 0 ; 0 cos(pi/12) -sin(pi/12) ; 0 sin(pi/12) cos(pi/12)];

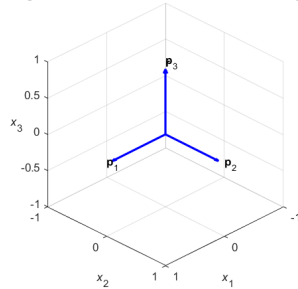
disp('es 3.1:');disp(wRb_z);disp(wRb_y);disp(wRb_x);
```

### 4.2 Q3.2

#### 4.3 a.

$v=[0 \ 0 \ 1]$   
 $\theta=0.5236$

30 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0; 0; 1]$



30 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0; 0; 1]$

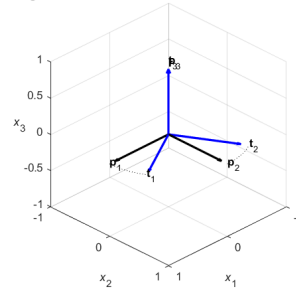
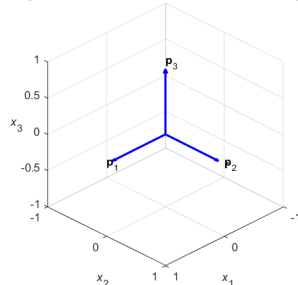


Figure 13: Q3.2a

#### 4.4 b.

$v=[0 \ 1 \ 0]$   
 $\theta= 0.7854$

45 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0; 1; 0]$



45 deg counterclockwise rotation about the axis  $r = [0; 1; 0]$

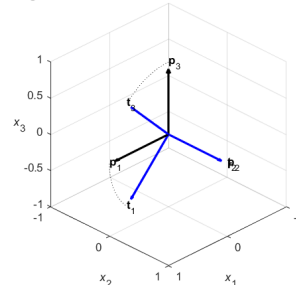


Figure 14: Q3.2b

## 4.5 c.

$v=[1 \ 0 \ 0]$   
 $\theta=0.2618$

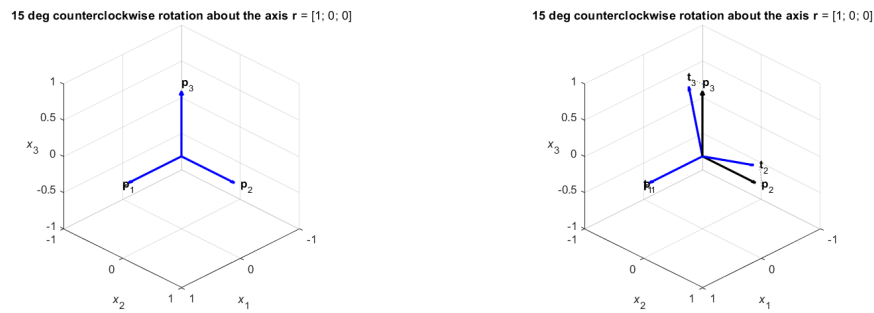


Figure 15: Q3.2c

## 4.6 Q3.3

$v=[0.0415 \ 0.9026 \ 0.4285]$   
 $\theta=0.9126$

Rzyx 3.3:

0.6124	-0.3245	0.7209
0.3536	0.9280	0.1174
-0.7071	0.1830	0.6830

Figure 16: Matrix of Rzyx

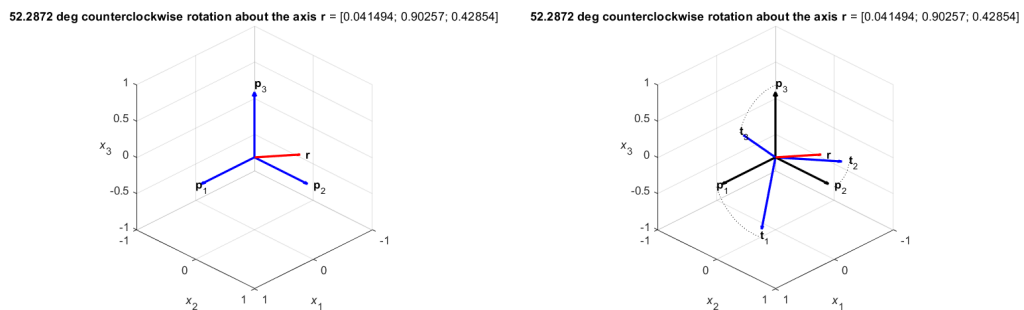


Figure 17: Q3.3

## 4.7 Q3.4

$v = [0.2546 \ 0 \ 0.9670]$   
 $\theta = 1.0765$

Rzxx 3.4:

0.5085	-0.8513	0.1294
0.8513	0.4744	-0.2241
0.1294	0.2241	0.9659

Figure 18: Matrix of Rzxx

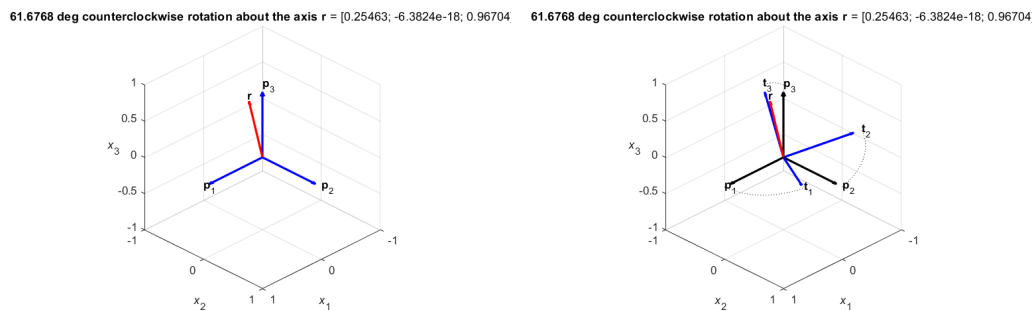


Figure 19: Q3.4

## 5 Exercise 4

### 5.1 Q4.1

$a = 0.8924;$   
 $b = 0.23912;$   
 $c = 0.36964;$   
 $d = 0.099046;$   
 $q = [a \ b \ c \ d];$

rot matrix es 4.1

0.7071	-0.0000	0.7071
0.3536	0.8660	-0.3536
-0.6124	0.5000	0.6124

Figure 20: Rot Matrix 4.1

## 5.2 Q4.2

```

rot matrix2 es 4.2
    0.7071    -0.0000    0.7071
    0.3536     0.8660   -0.3536
   -0.6124     0.5000    0.6124

```

Figure 21: Rot Matrix 4.2

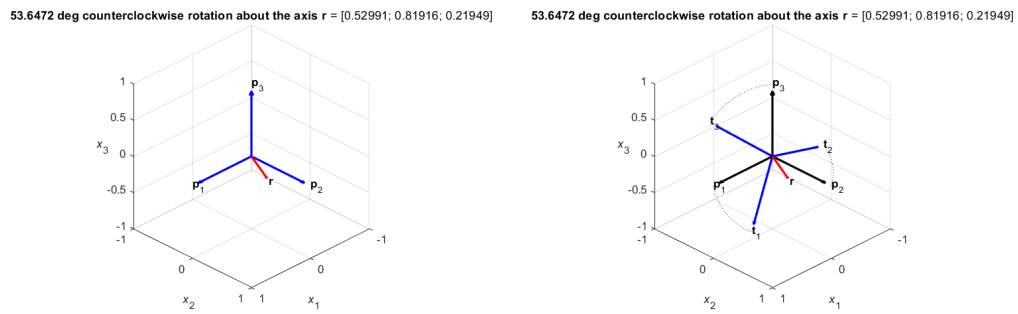


Figure 22: Q4.2