

20 - Quaternions, Rodrigues Parameters, Small-Angle Rotations, and Angular Velocity

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Rodrigues Parameters

$$\boldsymbol{\rho} \triangleq \tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

$$\rho_i \equiv \frac{\epsilon_i}{\epsilon_4}$$

$${}^{\mathcal{A}}C^{\mathcal{B}} = (I + [\boldsymbol{\rho} \times]) (I - [\boldsymbol{\rho} \times])^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \times \boldsymbol{\rho}$$

Quaternions

Define a new basis set, $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$, s. t. $\mathbf{i}^2 = \mathbf{j}^2 = \mathbf{k}^2 = -1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{ij} &= \mathbf{k} & \mathbf{jk} &= \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{ki} &= \mathbf{j} \\ \mathbf{ji} &= -\mathbf{k} & \mathbf{kj} &= -\mathbf{i} & \mathbf{ik} &= -\mathbf{j} \end{aligned}$$

A quaternion is a vector in this basis and a scalar:

$$\mathbf{q} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \mathbf{i} + v_2 \mathbf{j} + v_3 \mathbf{k} \\ r \end{bmatrix}$$

Quaternion product:

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ r_1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_2 \\ r_2 \end{bmatrix} \implies \mathbf{q}_1 \mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \mathbf{v}_2 + r_2 \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_1 \times \mathbf{v}_2 \\ r_1 r_2 - \mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Markely & Crassidis call this $\mathbf{q}_1 \odot \mathbf{q}_2$ and define:

$$\mathbf{q}_1 \otimes \mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \mathbf{v}_2 + r_2 \mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1 \times \mathbf{v}_2 \\ r_1 r_2 - \mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Quaternion Products

$$\mathbf{q}_1 \otimes \mathbf{q}_2 = [\mathbf{q}_1 \otimes] \mathbf{q}_2$$

$$\mathbf{q}_1 \odot \mathbf{q}_2 = [\mathbf{q}_1 \odot] \mathbf{q}_2$$

$$[\mathbf{q} \otimes] \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} rI - [\mathbf{v} \times] \\ -\mathbf{v}^T \end{bmatrix}}_{\triangleq \Psi(\mathbf{q})} & \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ r \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{q}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[\mathbf{q} \odot] \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} rI + [\mathbf{v} \times] \\ -\mathbf{v}^T \end{bmatrix}}_{\triangleq \Xi(\mathbf{q})} & \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ r \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{q}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{q}_1 \otimes \mathbf{q}_2 = \mathbf{q}_2 \odot \mathbf{q}_1$$

Quaternion Representation of Rotations

$$\mathbf{q}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}, \theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{n}} \\ \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b} = \mathbb{R} \cdot \mathbf{a} &\implies \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{q} \otimes \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{q}^* \\ &= [\mathbf{q} \odot]^T [\mathbf{q} \otimes] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \mathbf{q}^* &= \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{v} \\ r \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{for} \quad \mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ r \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

See Markely & Crassidis (2014), Sec. 2.7 & 2.9.3 for more details

Small Rotations

$$\text{Recall: } \mathbf{b} = \hat{\mathbf{n}}\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{a} + \cos \theta (\mathbf{a} - \hat{\mathbf{n}}(\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{a})) + \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{n}} \times \mathbf{a}$$

Assume $\theta \ll 1$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b} \approx \mathbf{a} + \theta \hat{\mathbf{n}} \times \mathbf{a} &\implies {}^A C^B \approx I + \theta [\hat{\mathbf{n}} \times]_{\mathcal{A}} \\ \mathbf{q} \approx \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\theta}{2} \hat{\mathbf{n}} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} &\implies {}^A C^B \approx I + 2 [\mathbf{q}_{1:3} \times]_{\mathcal{A}} \\ \boldsymbol{\rho} \approx \frac{\theta}{2} \hat{\mathbf{n}} &\implies {}^A \boldsymbol{\rho}^B \approx {}^A \boldsymbol{\rho}^C + {}^C \boldsymbol{\rho}^B \end{aligned}$$

The Angular Velocity Matrix

$$\tilde{\omega} \triangleq {}^B C^A A \dot{C}^B$$

$$A \dot{C}^B \triangleq \frac{d}{dt} A C^B$$

$$1. \quad ({}^B C^A)^{-1} \tilde{\omega} = ({}^B C^A)^{-1} {}^B C^A A \dot{C}^B = A \dot{C}^B \quad \implies \quad A \dot{C}^B = A C^B \tilde{\omega}$$

$$2. \quad \tilde{\omega}^T + \tilde{\omega} = \underbrace{\left({}^B C^A A \dot{C}^B \right)^T + \left({}^B C^A A \dot{C}^B \right)}_{\equiv \frac{d}{dt} ({}^B C^A A C^B) = \frac{d}{dt} (I)} = 0$$

Components of Angular Velocity Matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A \dot{C}_{11}^B & A \dot{C}_{21}^B & A \dot{C}_{31}^B \\ A \dot{C}_{12}^B & A \dot{C}_{22}^B & A \dot{C}_{32}^B \\ A \dot{C}_{13}^B & A \dot{C}_{23}^B & A \dot{C}_{33}^B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \dot{C}_{11}^B & A \dot{C}_{12}^B & A \dot{C}_{13}^B \\ A \dot{C}_{21}^B & A \dot{C}_{22}^B & A \dot{C}_{23}^B \\ A \dot{C}_{31}^B & A \dot{C}_{32}^B & A \dot{C}_{33}^B \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \omega_1 &= A \dot{C}_{12}^B A C_{13}^B + A \dot{C}_{22}^B A C_{23}^B + A \dot{C}_{32}^B A C_{33}^B \\ \omega_2 &= A \dot{C}_{13}^B A C_{11}^B + A \dot{C}_{23}^B A C_{21}^B + A \dot{C}_{33}^B A C_{31}^B \\ \omega_3 &= A \dot{C}_{11}^B A C_{12}^B + A \dot{C}_{21}^B A C_{22}^B + A \dot{C}_{31}^B A C_{32}^B \end{aligned} \right\} \omega_i = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{igh} (\epsilon_{igh} + 1) A C_{jh}^B A \dot{C}_{ig}^B$$

Poisson's Kinematic Equations

$$A \dot{C}_{ij}^B = \epsilon_{ghj} \omega_h A C_{ig}^B$$

The Angular Velocity Vector

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathbf{b}_i &= \sum_{j=1}^3 (\mathbf{b}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j) \mathbf{a}_j \\ {}^{\mathcal{A}}\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{b}_i &= \sum_{j=1}^3 \frac{d}{dt} \underbrace{(\mathbf{b}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j)}_{\equiv {}^{\mathcal{B}}C_{ij}^{\mathcal{A}}} \mathbf{a}_j \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} \omega_1 &= {}^{\mathcal{A}}\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{b}_2 \cdot \mathbf{b}_3 & \omega_2 &= {}^{\mathcal{A}}\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{b}_3 \cdot \mathbf{b}_1 & \omega_3 &= {}^{\mathcal{A}}\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{b}_1 \cdot \mathbf{b}_2 \end{aligned}$$

Recall:

$$\begin{aligned} {}^{\mathcal{A}}C^{\mathcal{B}} &= I \cos \theta + \sin \theta [\hat{\mathbf{n}}_{\times}]_{\mathcal{B}} + (1 - \cos \theta) [\hat{\mathbf{n}}]_{\mathcal{B}} [\hat{\mathbf{n}}]_{\mathcal{B}}^T \\ \omega_i &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{igh} (\epsilon_{igh} + 1) {}^{\mathcal{A}}C_{jh}^{\mathcal{B}} {}^{\mathcal{A}}\dot{C}_{jg}^{\mathcal{B}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} \omega_1 &= n_1 \dot{\theta} \\ \omega_2 &= n_2 \dot{\theta} \\ \omega_3 &= n_3 \dot{\theta} \end{aligned} \right\} \boxed{\begin{aligned} {}^{\mathcal{A}}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} &\triangleq \omega_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + \omega_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + \omega_3 \mathbf{b}_3 \\ &= \dot{\theta} \hat{\mathbf{n}} \end{aligned}}$$

A Bit of Derivation

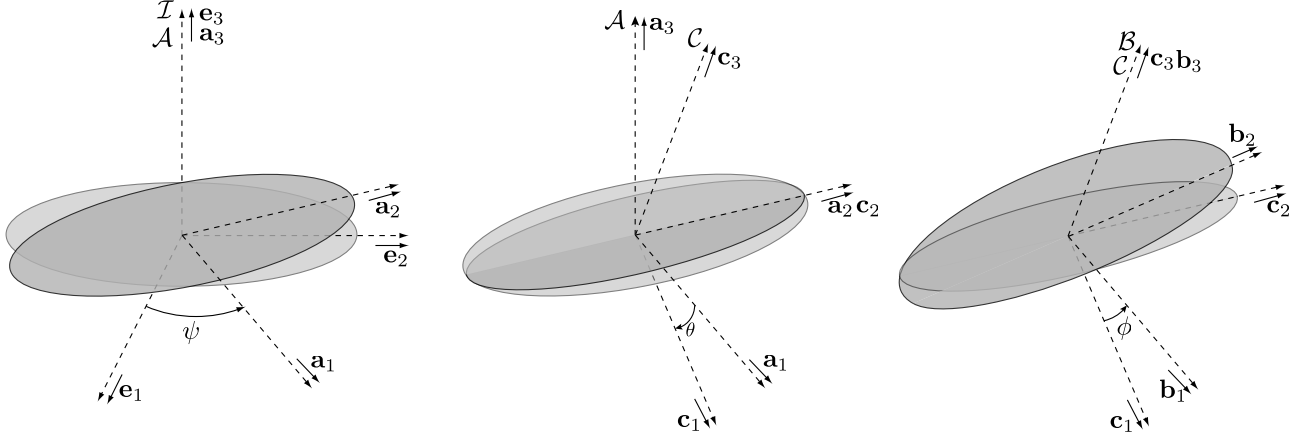
$$\mathbf{r} = [\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{A}}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \mathbf{a}_3 \end{bmatrix} = [\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{B}}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \mathbf{b}_2 \\ \mathbf{b}_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \mathbf{a}_3 \end{bmatrix} = {}^{\mathcal{A}}C^{\mathcal{B}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \mathbf{b}_2 \\ \mathbf{b}_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad [\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{A}} = {}^{\mathcal{A}}C^{\mathcal{B}} [\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

Unit Vectors of Frame \mathcal{A} Unit Vectors of

Frame \mathcal{B}

$$\begin{aligned} {}^{\mathcal{A}}\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{r} &= \frac{d}{dt} \left([\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{A}}^T \right) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \mathbf{a}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \left(\frac{d}{dt} \left([\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{B}}^T \right) {}^{\mathcal{B}}C^{\mathcal{A}} + [\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{B}}^T {}^{\mathcal{B}}\dot{C}^{\mathcal{A}} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \mathbf{a}_3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \left([\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{B}}^T \right) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \mathbf{b}_2 \\ \mathbf{b}_3 \end{bmatrix} + [\mathbf{r}]_{\mathcal{B}}^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \mathbf{b}_2 \\ \mathbf{b}_3 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Kinematics of the 3-2-3 $(\psi, \theta, \phi)_{\mathcal{I}}^{\mathcal{B}}$ rotation



$$\begin{aligned}
 {}^{\mathcal{I}}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} &= \dot{\psi}\mathbf{a}_3 + \dot{\theta}\mathbf{c}_2 + \dot{\phi}\mathbf{b}_3 & \omega_1 &= \dot{\theta} \sin \phi - \dot{\psi} \sin \theta \cos \phi & \dot{\psi} &= (-\omega_1 \cos \phi + \omega_2 \sin \phi) \csc \theta \\
 &= \omega_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + \omega_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + \omega_3 \mathbf{b}_3 & \omega_2 &= \dot{\theta} \cos \phi + \dot{\psi} \sin \theta \sin \phi & \dot{\theta} &= \omega_1 \sin \phi + \omega_2 \cos \phi \\
 & & \omega_3 &= \dot{\phi} + \dot{\psi} \cos \theta & \dot{\phi} &= (\omega_1 \cos \phi - \omega_2 \sin \phi) \cot \theta + \omega_3
 \end{aligned}$$

Kinematics of Euler Parameters (and Quaternions)

$${}^{\mathcal{A}}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} = 2 \left(\epsilon_4 \frac{{}^{\mathcal{B}}\mathrm{d}}{{\mathrm{d}}t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} - \dot{\epsilon}_4 \boldsymbol{\epsilon} - \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \times \frac{{}^{\mathcal{B}}\mathrm{d}}{{\mathrm{d}}t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \right)$$

$$\frac{{}^{\mathcal{B}}\mathrm{d}}{{\mathrm{d}}t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\epsilon_4 {}^{\mathcal{A}}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \times {}^{\mathcal{A}}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} \right) \quad \dot{\epsilon}_4 = -\frac{1}{2} {}^{\mathcal{A}}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_4 & \epsilon_3 & -\epsilon_2 & -\epsilon_1 \\ -\epsilon_3 & \epsilon_4 & \epsilon_1 & -\epsilon_2 \\ \epsilon_2 & -\epsilon_1 & \epsilon_4 & -\epsilon_3 \\ \epsilon_1 & \epsilon_2 & \epsilon_3 & \epsilon_4 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Inverse} \equiv \text{Transpose}} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\epsilon}_1 \\ \dot{\epsilon}_2 \\ \dot{\epsilon}_3 \\ \dot{\epsilon}_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{{}^{\mathcal{B}}\mathrm{d}}{{\mathrm{d}}t} \mathbf{q} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q} \odot \begin{bmatrix} {}^{\mathcal{A}}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Kinematics of Rodrigues Parameters

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} &= \frac{2}{1 + \boldsymbol{\rho} \cdot \boldsymbol{\rho}} \left(\frac{{}^{\mathcal{B}}\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} \boldsymbol{\rho} - \boldsymbol{\rho} \times \frac{{}^{\mathcal{B}}\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} \boldsymbol{\rho} \right) \\ \frac{{}^{\mathcal{B}}\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} \boldsymbol{\rho} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\mathcal{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} + \boldsymbol{\rho} \times \mathcal{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} + \boldsymbol{\rho} \otimes \boldsymbol{\rho} \cdot \mathcal{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathcal{B}} \right)\end{aligned}$$