

# Lecture

## Navigation Mathematics: Kinematics (Rotation Matrices: Fixed vs Relative)

EE 570: Location and Navigation

Lecture Notes Update on January 28, 2014

Stephen Bruder, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Aly El-Osery, Electrical Engineering Dept., New Mexico Tech

.1

### 1 Rotation Matrix

#### Rotation Matrix

- The rotation matrix  $C$  is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix requiring 9 parameters to describe and orientation.
- It can be shown that any orientation can be uniquely described using only 3-parameters.
- Some examples of 3-parameter descriptions include:
  - Fixed axis rotations
  - Relative (or Euler) axis rotations, and
  - angle-axis rotation

.2

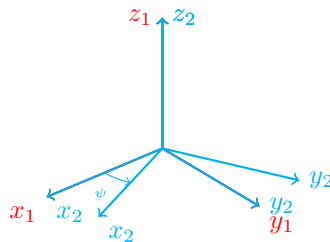
#### Rotation Matrix

- An example
  - Rotate **frame {2}** by  $\psi$  about the common  $z$ -axis.

$$\vec{x}_2 = \cos(\psi)\vec{x}_1 + \sin(\psi)\vec{y}_1 + 0\vec{z}_1$$

$$\vec{y}_2 = -\sin(\psi)\vec{x}_1 + \cos(\psi)\vec{y}_1 + 0\vec{z}_1$$

$$C_2^1 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\psi) & -\sin(\psi) & 0 \\ \sin(\psi) & \cos(\psi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



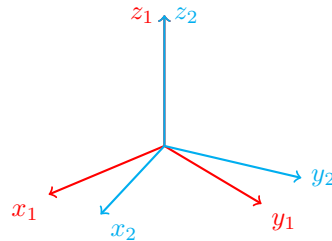
#### Note

Could have rotated the **frame {1}** by  $-\psi$  to get  $C_1^2 = R_{(z, -\psi)}$

.3

Rotation Matrix  
Alternatively,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \vec{x}_2, \vec{x}_1 \rangle &= \vec{x}_2 \cdot \vec{x}_1 = |\vec{x}_2||\vec{x}_1| \cos(\psi) = \cos(\psi) \\
 \langle \vec{x}_2, \vec{y}_1 \rangle &= \cos(90^\circ - \psi) = \sin(\psi) \\
 \langle \vec{x}_2, \vec{z}_1 \rangle &= \cos(90) = 0 \\
 \langle \vec{y}_2, \vec{x}_1 \rangle &= \cos(90^\circ - \psi) \\
 \langle \vec{y}_2, \vec{y}_1 \rangle &= \cos(\psi) \\
 \langle \vec{y}_2, \vec{z}_1 \rangle &= \cos(90) = 0 \\
 \langle \vec{z}_2, \vec{x}_1 \rangle &= \cos(90) \\
 \langle \vec{z}_2, \vec{y}_1 \rangle &= \cos(90) \\
 \langle \vec{z}_2, \vec{z}_1 \rangle &= \cos(0) = 1
 \end{aligned}$$



.4

Rotation Matrix

- Recall that

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_2^1 &= \begin{bmatrix} \langle \vec{x}_2, \vec{x}_1 \rangle, & \langle \vec{y}_2, \vec{x}_1 \rangle, & \langle \vec{z}_2, \vec{x}_1 \rangle \\ \langle \vec{x}_2, \vec{y}_1 \rangle, & \langle \vec{y}_2, \vec{y}_1 \rangle, & \langle \vec{z}_2, \vec{y}_1 \rangle \\ \langle \vec{x}_2, \vec{z}_1 \rangle, & \langle \vec{y}_2, \vec{z}_1 \rangle, & \langle \vec{z}_2, \vec{z}_1 \rangle \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi & 0 \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = R_{(\vec{z}, \psi)}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Similarly,

$$R_{(\vec{x}, \phi)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ 0 & \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix} \quad R_{(\vec{y}, \theta)} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

.5

Rotations Don't Commute

Consider

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{(\vec{y}, \theta)} R_{(\vec{z}, \psi)} &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi & 0 \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta \cos \psi & -\cos \theta \sin \psi & \sin \theta \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ -\sin \theta \cos \psi & \sin \theta \sin \psi & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$R_{(\vec{z}, \psi)} R_{(\vec{y}, \theta)} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi \cos \theta & -\sin \psi & \cos \psi \sin \theta \\ \sin \psi \cos \theta & \cos \psi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \neq R_{(\vec{y}, \theta)} R_{(\vec{z}, \psi)}$$

.6

## 2 Fixed vs Relative Rotations

### Fixed vs Relative Rotations

- Fixed axis rotation
  - conduct rotations about the original (i.e., fixed)  $x$ -,  $y$ -, or  $z$ -axis
- Relative axis rotation
  - Conduct rotations about the current location (i.e., relative) of  $x$ -,  $y$ -, or  $z$ -axis
  - \* Sometimes referred to as Euler rotations

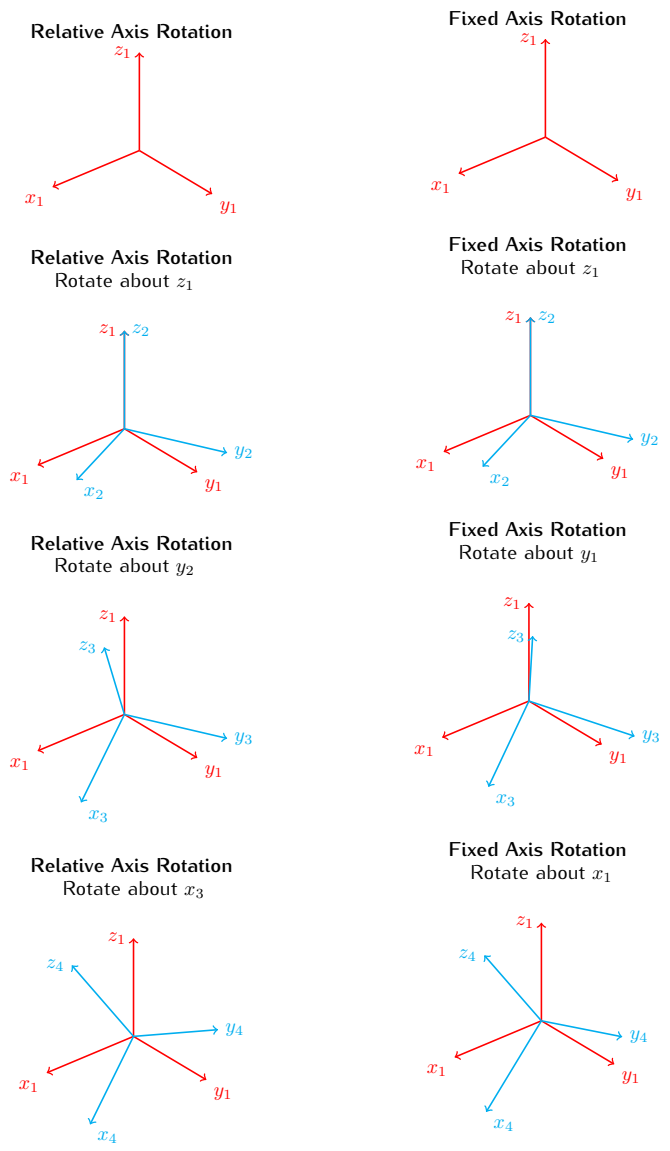
\_\_\_\_\_ .7

### An example

- **Step 1:** Rotate about the  $z$ -axis by  $\psi$ , then
- **Step 2:** Rotate about the  $y$ -axis by  $\theta$ , then
- **Step 3:** Rotate about the  $x$ -axis by  $\phi$ .

\_\_\_\_\_ .8

### Rotation Matrix



\_\_\_\_\_ .9

### 3 Relative Axis Rotation

#### Relative Axis Rotations

- It is intuitive to think in terms of the orientation of one coordinate *wrt* another coordinate frame
  - In frame {3} frame {4} is described as  $C_4^3 = [\vec{x}_4^3, \vec{y}_4^3, \vec{z}_4^3] = R_{(\vec{x}, \phi)}$
  - In frame {2} frame {3} is described as  $C_3^2 = [\vec{x}_3^2, \vec{y}_3^2, \vec{z}_3^2] = R_{(\vec{y}, \theta)}$ 
    - \* Therefore, in frame {2}, frame {4} is  $C_4^2 = C_3^2 C_4^3$
  - In frame {1} frame {2} is described as  $C_2^1 = [\vec{x}_2^1, \vec{y}_2^1, \vec{z}_2^1] = R_{(\vec{z}, \psi)}$ 
    - \* Therefore, in frame {1}, frame {4} is  $C_4^1 = C_2^1 C_3^2 C_4^3$

.10

#### Euler Angles

- In the case of relative axis: Yaw ( $\psi$ ), Pitch ( $\theta$ ), Roll ( $\phi$ ) rotation sequence

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_4^1 &= C_2^1 C_3^2 C_4^3 \\
 &= R_{(\vec{z}, \psi)} R_{(\vec{y}, \theta)} R_{(\vec{x}, \phi)} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi & 0 \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ 0 & \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix} \quad (1) \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} c_\theta c_\psi & c_\psi s_\theta s_\phi - c_\phi s_\psi & c_\phi c_\psi s_\theta + s_\phi s_\psi \\ c_\theta s_\psi & c_\phi c_\psi + s_\theta s_\phi s_\psi & c_\phi s_\theta s_\psi - c_\psi s_\phi \\ -s_\theta & c_\theta s_\phi & c_\theta c_\phi \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

.11

### 4 Fixed Axis Rotation

#### Fixed Axis Rotations

- It is intuitive to think in terms of taking a vector  $\vec{p}$  and rotating it into a new vector  $R\vec{p}$  both in the same coordinate frame
  - The first “yaw” rotation, “rotates” the frame {1} basis vector to become the frame {2} basis vector  $[\vec{x}_2^1, \vec{y}_2^1, \vec{z}_2^1] = R_{(\vec{z}, \psi)} [\vec{x}_1^1, \vec{y}_1^1, \vec{z}_1^1] = C_2^1$
  - The second “pitch” rotation, “rotates” the frame {2} basis vector to become the frame {3} basis vector  $[\vec{x}_3^1, \vec{y}_3^1, \vec{z}_3^1] = R_{(\vec{y}, \theta)} [\vec{x}_2^1, \vec{y}_2^1, \vec{z}_2^1] = C_3^1$
  - The third “roll” rotation, “rotates” the frame {3} basis vector to become the frame {4} basis vector  $[\vec{x}_4^1, \vec{y}_4^1, \vec{z}_4^1] = R_{(\vec{x}, \phi)} [\vec{x}_3^1, \vec{y}_3^1, \vec{z}_3^1] = C_4^1$

.12

#### Fixed Axis Rotation

- In the case of fixed axis: Yaw ( $\psi$ ), Pitch ( $\theta$ ), Roll ( $\phi$ ) rotation sequence

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_4^1 &= R_{(\vec{x}, \phi)} R_{(\vec{y}, \theta)} R_{(\vec{z}, \psi)} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ 0 & \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi & 0 \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2) \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} c_\theta c_\psi & -c_\theta s_\psi & s_\theta \\ c_\psi s_\theta s_\phi + c_\phi s_\psi & c_\phi c_\psi - s_\theta s_\phi s_\psi & -c_\theta s_\phi \\ s_\phi s_\psi - c_\phi c_\psi s_\theta & c_\psi s_\phi + c_\phi s_\theta s_\psi & c_\theta c_\phi \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

.13

## 5 Summary

### Fixed vs Relative Rotations

- Fixed Axis Rotations
  - Multiply on the *LEFT*
  - $R_{final} = R_n \dots R_2 R_1$

### Fixed Axis Rotation

$$R_{resultant} = R_{fixed} R_{original}$$

- Relative (Euler) Axis Rotations
  - Multiply on the *RIGHT*
  - $R_{final} = R_1 R_2 \dots R_n$

### Relative Axis Rotation

$$R_{resultant} = R_{original} R_{relative}$$

You can mix the two types of rotations