



## A flashback: Complex Numbers in a nutshell 2/3



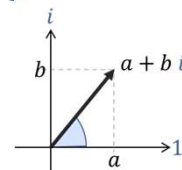
- For example, sum:  $(a + b i) + (c + d i) = (a + c) + (b + d)i$   
real part  $(a + c)$  imaginary part  $(b + d)i$
- For example, product (remembering  $i^2 = -1$ ):  
 $(a + b i) * (c + d i) = (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i$
- For example, inverse (verify it!):  
 $(a + b i)^{-1} = \frac{(a - b i)}{a^2 + b^2}$   
the «conjugate» of  $(a + b i)$   
the squared «magnitude» of  $(a + b i)$
- What is interesting to us is the **geometric interpretation** of these operations

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## A flashback: Complex Numbers in a nutshell 3/3



- Geometric interpretation:
  - $a + b i$  represents the vector/point  $(a, b)$
  - Complex sum = vector sum
  - Conjugate = mirroring with the imaginary axis (vertical)
  - Product = add angles (with real axis), multiply magnitudes
- Therefore:
  - product with a unitary (magnitude = 1) complex number is a 2D rotation around origin
  - A complex number  $r \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\|r\| = 1$  represents a 2D rot; multiply a vector  $(x + y i)$  with  $r$  means to rotate it




**Wouldn't it be nice to have the same for 3D rotations?**

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## Quaternions

	×		<i>i</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>k</i>
as a table:		<i>i</i>	-1	+ <i>k</i>	- <i>j</i>
		<i>j</i>	- <i>k</i>	-1	+ <i>i</i>
		<i>k</i>	+ <i>j</i>	- <i>i</i>	-1




- New «fantasy» assumption:  
there are three different “imaginary” numbers *i*, *j*, *k* such that:
 

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} i^2 = k^2 = j^2 = -1 \\ ij = k, \quad ji = -k \\ jk = i, \quad kj = -i \\ ki = j, \quad kj = -j \end{array} \right.$$

  - for any other purpose, *i, j, k* behave like real numbers

to remember it:




- Consequences:
  - We now have number of the form  $a i + b j + c k + d$ , with  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ , called Quaternions (their set is  $\mathbb{H}$ )
  - The algebra of quaternions (how to sum, multiply, invert them...) is simply determined by the «fantasy» assumptions
  - Again, what is interesting to us is the **geometric interpretation...**

*imaginary parts*      *real part*

↙      ↘      ↙      ↘

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## Quaternions: how to write them (three equivalent ways)




- Algebraic form:  $a i + b j + c k + d$ 
  - often, omitting the zeros, e.g.  $i + 2 k$  is a quaternion
- As vectors of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  :  $( a , b , c , d )$
- As vector & scalar pairs:  $( \vec{v} , d )$

the imaginary part,  
a 3D vector
 $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix}$ 
the real part,  
a scalar

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## Quaternions: algebra



$\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{H} \quad \mathbf{q} = ai + bj + ck + d$

- **Sum, Scale, Interpolate**, etc.:
  - Nothing new, just apply the rules
- **Magnitude**


← consider them as 4D versors

$$\|\mathbf{q}\| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2}$$

$$\|\mathbf{q}\|^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2$$
  - «unitary» if it's 1

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## Quaternions: algebra



$\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{H} \quad \mathbf{q} = ai + bj + ck + d$

- **Product**: just apply the «fantasy» assumptions
  - Observe: product is not commutative (nor anticommut.)
  - (see later slides to see what the product turns out to be)
- «**Conjugate**»:
 

*flip the imaginary parts*

  - like for complex numbers:  $\bar{\mathbf{q}} = -ai - bj - ck + d$
- **Inverse**: (like for complex numbers)  $\mathbf{q}^{-1} = \bar{\mathbf{q}} / \|\mathbf{q}\|^2$ 
  - For unitary quat, it's just the conjugated

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## Quaternions: geometric interpretation



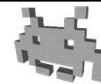
- A quaternion  $\mathbf{q} = (\vec{v}, d)$  represents :
  - the 3D point / vector / versor  $\vec{v}$ , when  $d = 0$
  - a 3D rotation, when  $\mathbf{q}$  is unit, i.e.  $\|\mathbf{q}\|^2 = \|\vec{v}\|^2 + d^2 = 1$
  - neither, otherwise
- If  $\mathbf{q}$  is a rotation and  $\mathbf{p}$  is a point ( $\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{H}$ ) then the representation of the rotated point / vector / versor is given by:

$$\mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{p} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{q}}$$

quaternion products

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## Rest of the lecture (plan)



- Quaternions to-do list
  - Understand *which* rotation is encoded by a quaternion
  - Investigate quaternion multiplication
  - Investigate cumulation, inversion, and interpolation of rotations as quaternions (including shortest path)
  - Examples of rotation as quaternions and their application
- Rotations exercises:
  - “Find the rotation which...”
  - “Convert a rotation representation into another”
- Roto-translation representation
  - Beyond just (rotation , translation) pairs

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## Rotation composition? Quaternion multiplication!

$p, q_0, q_1 \in \mathbb{H}$   
 $p$  represents a point  
 $q_0, q_1$  represent rotations

p rotated by  $q_1$ , then rotated by  $q_0$


$$q_0 \cdot (q_1 \cdot p \cdot \bar{q}_1) \cdot \bar{q}_0$$

p rotated by  $q_1$

product is associative  
(like for complex numbers)  $\longrightarrow =$

$$(q_0 \cdot q_1) \cdot p \cdot (\bar{q}_1 \cdot \bar{q}_0)$$

$\bar{r} \cdot \bar{s} = \overline{s \cdot r}$   
(rules of quaternions)  
(remember: product is not commutative)  $\longrightarrow =$

$$(q_0 \cdot q_1) \cdot p \cdot \overline{(q_0 \cdot q_1)}$$


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## Rotation inversion? Quaternion conjugation! Proof:

$p, q \in \mathbb{H}$   
 $p$  represents a point  
 $q$  represents a rotation

p rotated by  $q$ , then rotated by  $\bar{q}$

$$\bar{q} \cdot (q \cdot p \cdot \bar{q}) \cdot \bar{q}$$


p rotated by  $q$

Just like with complex numbers:  
 $q^{-1} = \frac{\bar{q}}{\|q\|^2} = \bar{q}$   
 that is:  
 $\bar{q} \cdot q = \|q\|^2 = 1$   
 because  $q$  is unitary

product is associative  
(like for complex numbers)  $\longrightarrow =$

$$(\bar{q} \cdot q) \cdot p \cdot (\bar{q} \cdot q)$$

$\longrightarrow =$

$$p$$


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## Quaternions: geometric interpretation (complete)



- A quaternion  $\mathbf{q} = (\vec{v}, d)$  represents :
  - the 3D point / vector / versor  $\vec{v}$ , when  $d = 0$
  - a 3D rotation, when  $\mathbf{q}$  is unit, i.e.  $\|\mathbf{q}\|^2 = \|\vec{v}\|^2 + d^2 = 1$
  - neither, otherwise
- If  $\mathbf{q}$  is a rotation and  $\mathbf{p}$  is a point ( $\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{H}$ ) then...
  - $\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{p} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{q}}$  is the rotated point / vector
  - $\bar{\mathbf{q}}$  is the inverse rotation
  - (so,  $\bar{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q}$  is point  $\mathbf{p}$  rotated... in the *other* direction)
  - $\mathbf{q}_0 \cdot \mathbf{q}_1$  is the composited rotation (first  $\mathbf{q}_1$  then  $\mathbf{q}_0$ )

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## 3D Rotations as Quaternions



- quaternion  $\mathbf{q}$  representing the 3D rotation of angle  $\alpha$  around axis  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}$  :
  - $\mathbf{q} = \left( \sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)\hat{\mathbf{a}}, \cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \right)$that is
  - $\mathbf{q} = \sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)\hat{a}_x i + \sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)\hat{a}_y j + \sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)\hat{a}_z k + \cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)$
- Observe that  $\|\mathbf{q}\|^2 = 1$

verify

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## Exercise: are the following quaternions unitary?



- $\mathbf{q}_0 = (0,0,-1,0) = -j$
- $\mathbf{q}_1 = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) = 0.5i + 0.5j + 0.5k + 0.5$
- $\mathbf{q}_2 = (1,1,1,1) = i + j + k + 1$

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## Quaternions: exercises (solutions in next slides)



- Which quaternion encodes a turnabout?
  - (ita: «*un dietrofront*»): turning  $180^\circ$  around the up vector
- Apply that quaternion to rotate a point in  $(x,y,z)$ 
  - Use plain quaternion algebra, and algebraic notation
- Which quaternion encodes the identity rotation?
  - Is it the only one? If not, which other does?
  - Verify by applying it (or them)
- Which quaternion encodes «turn of  $90^\circ$  to your left»?
- Uses your previous *two* answers to find the quaternion encoding «turn  $45^\circ$  to your left», *by using interpolation*
  - Do you need SLERP in this case? Is NLERP enough? Why?
  - Verify that the solution is correct extracting axis & angle

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**Example: turnabout rotation**  
(italian: un «dietrofront»)

- Find the quaternion  $\mathbf{r}$  representing the rotation by  $180^\circ$  ( $\pi$  radians) around axis Y
  - $\hat{\mathbf{a}} = (0,1,0)$
  - $\alpha = \pi, \sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) = 1, \cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) = 0$
  - $\mathbf{r} = (1 \hat{\mathbf{a}}, 0) = 0i + 1j + 0k + 0 = j$

imaginary vector  $\curvearrowright$   $\curvearrowleft$  real scalar

- Find the quaternion  $\mathbf{q}$  representing point  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ :
  - $\mathbf{q} = 2i + 3j + 4k$
- Rotate that point with that rotation:
  - $\mathbf{q}' = \mathbf{r} \mathbf{q} \bar{\mathbf{r}} = j (2i + 3j + 4k)(-j) = \dots$  *(finish me!)*

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**3D Rotations as Quaternions:  
equivalent representations ☹**

- Around axis  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}$  by angle  $\alpha$ :
 
$$\mathbf{q} = \left( \sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{a}}, \cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \right)$$
- Around axis  $-\hat{\mathbf{a}}$  by angle  $(-\alpha)$  (it's the **same rotation!**):
 
$$\mathbf{q}' = \left( -\sin\left(\frac{-\alpha}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{a}}, \cos\left(\frac{-\alpha}{2}\right) \right) = \mathbf{q}$$

*the same quaternion :-)*

Nice! But:

- Around axis  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}$  by angle  $(\alpha + 2\pi)$  (again, it's the **same rotation!**):
 
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{q}'' &= \left( \sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2} + \pi\right) \hat{\mathbf{a}}, \cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2} + \pi\right) \right) = \\ &= \left( -\sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \hat{\mathbf{a}}, -\cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \right) = -\mathbf{q} \end{aligned}$$

*a different quaternion :-)*

- Conclusion:  
quaternion  $\mathbf{q}$  and quaternion  $-\mathbf{q}$  encode the same rotation

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## 3D Rotations as Quaternions: equivalent representations ☹



Given a quaternion  $q$  representing a rotation:

- Flip its imaginary part (getting  $\bar{q}$ ): **invert** rotation
- Flip its real part (getting  $-\bar{q}$ ): **invert** rotation
- Flip everything (getting  $-q$ ): **same** rotation

Every single rotation is encoded  
by **two** different quaternions:  $q$  and  $-q$ .  
(the inverse rotation is also encoded  
by two different quaternions:  $\bar{q}$  and  $-\bar{q}$ )

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## Interpolating two quaternions (that represent two rotations)

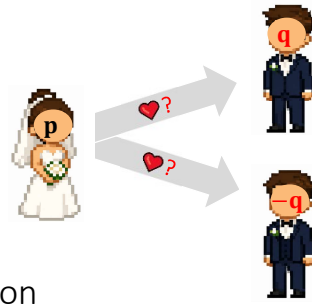


Works well, but two *caveats*:

- ⚠ Take the “shortest path” (as usual):  
flip 2<sup>nd</sup> quaternion first, if this makes them closer
  - Distance defined as dot product in 4D  
(consider quaternions as 4D unit vectors for this)  
(remember: dot product between unitary vectors is a  
measure of similarity!)
- ⚠ Loss of normality
  - Needs re-normalization (NLERP),
  - Or SLERP  
(again, just consider quaternions as 4D unit vectors)

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## Shortest path interpolation: the case of quaternions



- Let  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  be two rotations
- $\mathbf{q}$  and  $-\mathbf{q}$  represent the same rotation (as a state).
  - Which one to choose? alike choose alike
- Which one is closer to  $\mathbf{p}$  ?
  - Similarity between  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  =  $\text{dot}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$
  - Similarity between  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $-\mathbf{q}$  =  $\text{dot}(\mathbf{p}, -\mathbf{q}) = -\text{dot}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$
- Conclusion:
  - If  $\text{dot}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$  is positive, interpolate with  $\mathbf{q}$
  - Otherwise, interpolate with  $-\mathbf{q}$

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## Quaternions, exercise: Experiment with cumulation rotations



1. Take the quaternion  $q_0$  that encodes the  $180^\circ$  rotation around the Y axis (see exercises above)
2. Take the quaternion  $q_1$  that encodes the  $180^\circ$  rotation around the X axis (see exercises above)
3. Compute the quaternion  $q_2$  that does the two rotations in succession, in that order (using  $q_0$  and  $q_1$ )
4. Which rotation is encoded by  $q_2$ ? Verify with a real 3D object (e.g. a cell phone) that  $q_2$  encoded the status that is reached if you rotate by  $q_0$  and then by  $q_1$

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## Quaternions, exercise: Experiment with interpolating rotations



1. Take (again) the quaternion  $q_0$  that encodes the  $180^\circ$  rotation around the Y axis
2. Take a quaternion  $q_1$  that encodes identity rotation
  - (question: is there only one of them?)
3. Compute the quaternion  $q_2$  that interpolates the two quaternions  $q_0$  and  $q_1$ 
  - what happens with the shortest path?
  - why do you think that happens?
4. Which rotation is encoded by  $q_2$ ? To help with the answer, the sin and cos for  $\pi/4$  radians ( $45^\circ$ ) is...

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## Quaternion Product

$\times$	a <i>i</i>	+	b <i>j</i>	+	c <i>k</i>	+	d
e <i>i</i>		+		+		+	
+							
f <i>j</i>		+		+		+	
+							
g <i>k</i>		+		+		+	
+							
h		+		+		+	

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### Quaternion Product

		$\vec{v}$						
	×	a	+	b	+	c	+	d
		<i>i</i>		<i>j</i>		<i>k</i>		
e	<i>i</i>	-1	+	<i>k</i>	+	- <i>j</i>	+	<i>i</i>
	+	ae	+	be	+	ce	+	de
f	<i>j</i>	- <i>k</i>	+	-1	+	<i>i</i>	+	<i>j</i>
	+	af	+	bf	+	cf	+	df
g	<i>k</i>	<i>j</i>	+	- <i>i</i>	+	-1	+	<i>k</i>
	+	ag	+	bg	+	cg	+	dg
h		<i>i</i>	+	<i>j</i>	+	<i>k</i>	+	hd
	+	ah	+	bh	+	ch	+	

$$(\vec{w}, h)$$

$$\cdot$$

$$(\vec{v}, d)$$

$$=$$

$$(\text{some vector}, \text{some scalar})$$

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### Quaternion Product

		$\vec{v}$						
	×	a	+	b	+	c	+	d
		<i>i</i>		<i>j</i>		<i>k</i>		
e	<i>i</i>	-1	+	<i>k</i>	+	- <i>j</i>	+	<i>i</i>
	+	ae	+	be	+	ce	+	de
f	<i>j</i>	- <i>k</i>	+	-1	+	<i>i</i>	+	<i>j</i>
	+	af	+	bf	+	cf	+	df
g	<i>k</i>	<i>j</i>	+	- <i>i</i>	+	-1	+	<i>k</i>
	+	ag	+	bg	+	cg	+	dg
h		<i>i</i>	+	<i>j</i>	+	<i>k</i>	+	hd
	+	ah	+	bh	+	ch	+	

$$(\vec{w}, h)$$

$$\cdot$$

$$(\vec{v}, d)$$

$$=$$

$$(\vec{w}d + \vec{v}h + \vec{w} \times \vec{v}, hd - \vec{w} \cdot \vec{v})$$

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## Quaternion multiplication: notes



- The previous slide shows how to compactly write (and compute! and code!) a product between two quaternions that are expressed as pairs (imaginary-vector, real-scalar)
- Quaternion multiplication is the basic operation, used (twice) to apply a rotation to a point/vector/versor, and (once) to cumulate two quaternions
- For example (next slide): let's use this in the formula to rotate to a point/vector/versor with quaternions
  - and let's see what simplifies
- Note: do not confuse the **quaternion product** with the **dot product** of two quaternions seen as 4D vectors

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## Applying rotations (as quaternions)



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{array}{ccc} \text{quaternion} & \text{quaternion} & \text{conjugate} \\ \text{representing} & \text{representing} & \text{of} \\ \text{a rotation} & \text{3D point or vector } \vec{v} & (\vec{w}, a) \end{array} \\
 & (\vec{w}, a) (\vec{v}, 0) (-\vec{w}, a) = \\
 & = (\vec{w}, a) (a\vec{v} - \vec{v} \times \vec{w}, \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) = \\
 & = \left( \begin{array}{l} a\vec{w} \times \vec{v} - \vec{w} \times \vec{v} \times \vec{w} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w})\vec{w} + a^2 \vec{v} - a\vec{v} \times \vec{w}, \\ \cancel{a\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}} - \cancel{a\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}} + \cancel{\vec{w} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})} \end{array} \right) = \\
 & = (a^2 \vec{v} + 2a\vec{w} \times \vec{v} + (\vec{w} \cdot \vec{v})\vec{w} - \vec{w} \times \vec{v} \times \vec{w}, \quad 0) \\
 & \text{Optimized!} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{of course}
 \end{aligned}$$

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## Exercise: quaternion norm as a quaternion product



- As you may remember,  
given a complex number  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbf{c} = a + ib$   
its magnitude  $\|\mathbf{c}\| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$   
can be expressed as

$$\|\mathbf{c}\|^2 = \mathbf{c} \bar{\mathbf{c}}$$

- Does the same hold for quaternions?  
Given  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{H}$  :

$$\|\mathbf{q}\|^2 = \mathbf{q} \bar{\mathbf{q}}$$

- Verify, using the multiplication formula we learnt

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## Quaternions as rotations: summary








- Compact to store (4 scalars, almost the minimum)
- Trivial to invert (just conjugate)
- Fast to composite (just multiply: 2<sup>nd</sup> \* 1<sup>st</sup> )
- Fast to apply (multiply twice, with natural and conjugated)
- Easy to enforce that it stays a rotation (just renormalize)
  - Even after long sequences of cumulations, unlike matrices
- Behaves well under interpolation
  - Just use NLERP – even better with SLERP
  - Remember to take the shortest path (=> flip sign if necessary)
- The favorite representation in 3D games
  - but, other solutions still useful in one context or another

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### Recap: representing rotations




1/2	3x3 Matrix	Euler Angles
Space efficient? (in RAM, GPU, storage...)	★☆☆☆☆ 9 scalars	★★★★★ 3 scalars (even as small int!) 
Efficient / easy to	Apply (to points/vectors)	★★★★★ 9 products (3 dot products) 
	Invert (produce inverse)	★★★★★ just transpose
	Composite (with another rotation)	★★☆☆☆ Matrix multipl (9 dots) Numerical errors
	Interpolate (with another rotation)	★☆☆☆☆ Introduces shear/scale
Intuitive? (e.g. to manually set)	★★★★☆	★★★★★ roll yaw pitch 
Notes...	Free extra shear + scale  Useful to extract local axes.	 <b>GIMBAL LOCK</b>

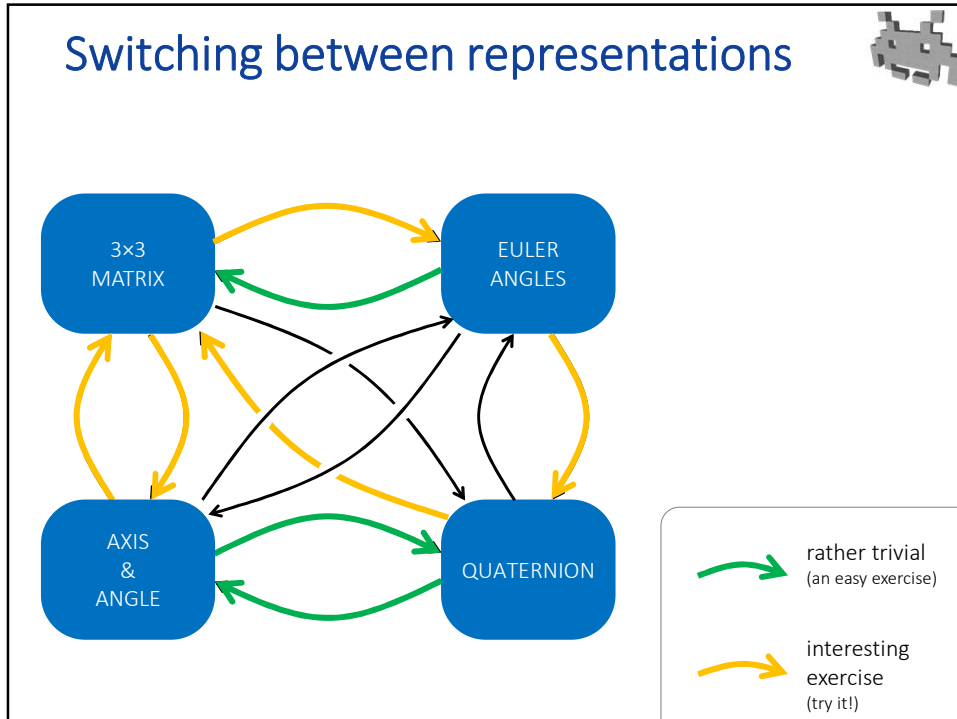
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### Recap: representing rotations



2/2	axis , angle	(unitary) quaternion
Space efficient? (in RAM, GPU, storage...)	★★★★☆ 4 scalars (or 3) (precision needed)	★★★★☆ 4 scalars (precision needed)
Efficient / easy to	Apply (to points/vectors)	★★★★☆ just 2 quat product (& optimizable)
	Invert (produce inverse)	★★★★★ Just flip axis OR angle
	Composite (with another rotation)	★★☆☆☆
	Interpolate (with another rotation)	★★★★☆
Intuitive? (e.g. to manually set)	★☆☆☆☆ no	★☆☆☆☆ no
Notes...	 <b>two representations for each rotation</b> (flip all → no effect) (for different reasons) Require shortest path!	

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### What defines a rotation, for you?


« Roll, pitch, and yaw! »  
then you are... a pilot, or an astronaut

« X-angle, Y-angle, and Z-angle! »  
then you are... a digital artist (like an animator, or a scener)

« An angle! »  
then you are... a flatland citizen

« A vector! the dir is the axis the magnitude the angle »  
then you are... a physicist

« A 3x3 matrix! the submatrix of a 4x4 transform »  
then you are... a computer graphicist, or a Graphics API

« A quaternion! »  
then you are... a game developer 

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3D Videogames

# Transformations in games: a few practical notes about game engines



Marco Tarini



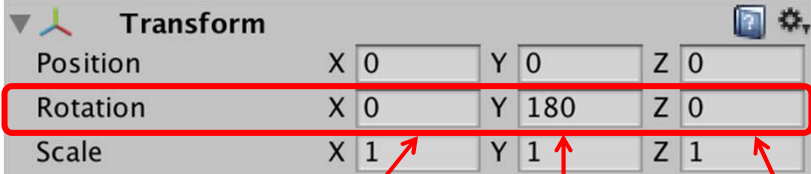
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## Notes on transformation in unity

### What you see in the GUI

Rotations as Euler angles

- the intuitive choice! (perfect for a GUI)



Property	X	Y	Z
Position	0	0	0
Rotation	0	180	0
Scale	1	1	1

aka PITCH (so, goes 2nd)      aka YAW (so, goes 3rd)      aka ROLL (so, goes 1st)

note: exposed as degrees, not radians  
--> even more intuitive

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## Notes on rotations in internally



Rotations as Quaternion (a class)

- can be initialized (via constructors) as a ... quaternion, euler angles, axis+angle, or matrix
- can be converted to / accessed as... any of the above (thanks to methods, or to “properties” - basically setter/getter methods in disguise+ that gives the illusion for a “quaternion” to be whichever type you think it is
- Support for cumulation (multiplication), inversion (conjugation), interpolation (SLERP) ...
- Support for all the common problems (from-to rotation, etc)

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## Notes on Rotations in UNREAL ENGINE



- Class **FQuat** : fields: **W X Y Z**
- convert from:
    - axis+angle, matrix4x4, Rotator, euler (vec3) (by constructors)
    - Euler angles (`makeFromEuler` method)
    - From-to vector pairs (`FindBetween` method)
  - convert to:
    - `ToAxisAndAngle`, `Euler`, `Rotator`,
    - matrix columns `GetAxis(X|Y|Z)`
    - also, with names: `Get(Forward|Right|Up)Vector`,
  - methods: invert with `Inverse`,  
blend with `FastSlerp`  
or `FastSlerpFullPath` (no shortest path)  
apply with `RotateVector` / `UnrotateVector`  
composite with `operator *`
- Class **FRotator** for “nautical” Euler angles:  
fields: **Pitch Roll Yaw**

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## Notes on Rotations in Godot (C# / C++ game engine)



### Class **Basis**

- a rotation as a 3x3 matrix
- Its x,y,z fields (of type Vector3) are the columns (that is, the x,y,z axis of local space define in global space)
- Warning: doesn't have to be orthonormal. For example, can include scale
- Has a method to enforce back orthonormality

### Class **Quaternion**

- a rotation as a quaternion
- Includes method for SLERP-ing

The two classes can be converted to/from each other (via constructors)

Both include methods for cumulation (multiplication), application, inversion.

Both include methods for conversion to/from axis-angle.

Euler angles: no explicit support (but naturally you can go from 3 Euler angles to either class by multiplying rotations around x, y, z axis, but no built-in order)

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## Notes on rotations in OpenGL (Computer Graphics Library)

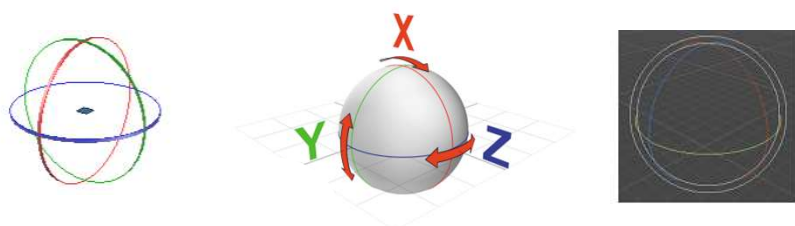


- In the «old school» API:  
(and now in many similar libraries)
  - API: glRotate3f
    - takes: angle & axis
  - Internally:
    - matrices
    - jointly as with any other spatial transform
    - separated in MODEL+VIEW+PROJECT transforms

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## GUI: how do artists author 3D rotations?

- Typical way: **rotation gizmo**
  - (also: «arcball» or «trackball»)
  - 3 handles to control the three Euler angles
  - or “free”, drag-n-drop mode (trackball metaphor)




convention: Red = X Green = Y Blue = Z

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## GUI: how do artists author 3D translations?

**translation gizmo**

- handles to traslate along axes or planes



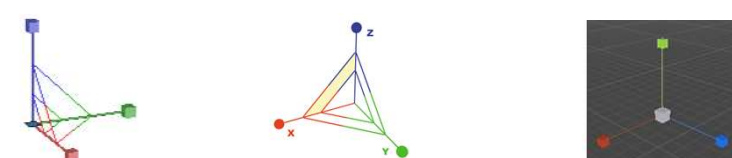
convention:  
Red = X  
Green = Y  
Blue = Z

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## GUI: how to author 3D scalings?

**scale gizmo**

- 3 handles for anisotropic scalings
- 1 handle (middle) for uniform scalings



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