

## ROTATIONS (I)

## I Main Topics

A Uses of rotation in geology (and engineering) I

B Concepts behind rotation

## II Uses of rotation in geology (and engineering) I

A Plate tectonics

B Evaluating stresses and strains

C Return tilted bedding to horizontal to examine:

1 pre-tilting orientation of sedimentary structures (e.g. ripples)

2 pre-tilting orientation of beds below angular unconformities

3 pre-tilting orientation of paleomagnetic orientations

D To determine the orientations of features from drill cores

E Need to consider whether object is rotated and coordinate axes are fixed or whether the object is fixed and coordinate axes are rotated. This affects the sign(s) and sequence of the angle(s) of rotation.

## III Concepts behind rotation

A Any orthogonal coordinate system with axes  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  can be rotated to coincide with another orthogonal coordinate system  $x_1', x_2', x_3'$  by using the direction cosines relating the axes of the two systems.

Dir. cosines	$x_1$ axis	$x_2$ axis	$x_3$ axis
$x_1'$ axis	$a_{11}' = a_{1'1}$	$a_{12}' = a_{2'1}$	$a_{13}' = a_{3'1}$
$x_2'$ axis	$a_{21}' = a_{1'2}$	$a_{22}' = a_{2'2}$	$a_{23}' = a_{3'2}$
$x_3'$ axis	$a_{31}' = a_{1'3}$	$a_{32}' = a_{2'3}$	$a_{33}' = a_{3'3}$

**Note:**  $a_{13}'$  is not equal to  $a_{1'3}$  because  $\theta_{13}'$  is not equal to  $\theta_{1'3}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}' & a_{12}' & a_{13}' \\ a_{21}' & a_{22}' & a_{23}' \\ a_{31}' & a_{32}' & a_{33}' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \\ x_3' \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \\ x_3' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1'1} & a_{1'2} & a_{1'3} \\ a_{2'1} & a_{2'2} & a_{2'3} \\ a_{3'1} & a_{3'2} & a_{3'3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Right-hand rule:** If thumb is along rotation axis, then fingers curl in positive  $\theta$  direction

B Any orthogonal coordinate system with axes  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  can always be rotated to coincide with another orthogonal coordinate system by the following **three** steps (Cayley):

1 Rotate the xyz system about the  $x_1$  axis by angle  $\theta_1$ ,

so  $x_1, x_2, x_3 \rightarrow x_1', x_2', x_3'$  (Note that  $x_1 = x_1'$ )

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \\ x_3' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1'1} & a_{1'2} & a_{1'3} \\ a_{2'1} & a_{2'2} & a_{2'3} \\ a_{3'1} & a_{3'2} & a_{3'3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta_1 & \sin \theta_1 \\ 0 & -\sin \theta_1 & \cos \theta_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

2 Rotate the  $x_1', x_2', x_3'$  system about the  $x_2'$  axis by angle  $\theta_2$ ,

so  $x_1', x_2', x_3' \rightarrow x_1'', x_2'', x_3''$  (Note that  $x_2' = x_2''$ )

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1'' \\ x_2'' \\ x_3'' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1''1'} & a_{1''2'} & a_{1''3'} \\ a_{2''1'} & a_{2''2'} & a_{2''3'} \\ a_{3''1'} & a_{3''2'} & a_{3''3'} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \\ x_3' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_2 & 0 & -\sin \theta_2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sin \theta_2 & 0 & \cos \theta_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \\ x_3' \end{bmatrix}$$

3 Rotate the  $x_1'', x_2'', x_3''$  system about the  $x_3''$  axis by angle  $\theta_3$ ,

so  $x_1'', x_2'', x_3'' \rightarrow x_1''', x_2''', x_3'''$  (Note that  $x_3'' = x_3'''$ )

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1''' \\ x_2''' \\ x_3''' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1'''1''} & a_{1'''2''} & a_{1'''3''} \\ a_{2'''1''} & a_{2'''2''} & a_{2'''3''} \\ a_{3'''1''} & a_{3'''2''} & a_{3'''3''} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1'' \\ x_2'' \\ x_3'' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_3 & \sin \theta_3 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_3 & \cos \theta_3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1'' \\ x_2'' \\ x_3'' \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that the rotation matrices can be obtained by permutation:

$x_1 \rightarrow x_2, x_2 \rightarrow x_3, \text{ and } x_3 \rightarrow x_1.$

The direction cosines relating the  $x'''$  and  $x$  systems are:

Dir. cosines	$x_1$ axis	$x_2$ axis	$x_3$ axis
$x_1'''$ axis	$a_{1'''1} = a_{11'''}$	$a_{1'''2} = a_{21'''}$	$a_{1'''3} = a_{31'''}$
$x_2'''$ axis	$a_{2'''1} = a_{12'''}$	$a_{2'''2} = a_{22'''}$	$a_{2'''3} = a_{32'''}$
$x_3'''$ axis	$a_{3'''1} = a_{13'''}$	$a_{3'''2} = a_{23'''}$	$a_{3'''3} = a_{33'''}$

C Any orthogonal coordinate system with axes  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  can always be rotated to coincide with another orthogonal coordinate system by one rotation about a specially chosen axis (Euler's theorem). This single rotation can be found by successively applying the three rotations listed above:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1''' \\ x_2''' \\ x_3''' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1'''1 & a_1'''2 & a_1'''3 \\ a_2'''1 & a_2'''2 & a_2'''3 \\ a_3'''1 & a_3'''2 & a_3'''3 \end{bmatrix} \left( \begin{bmatrix} a_1''1 & a_1''2 & a_1''3 \\ a_2''1 & a_2''2 & a_2''3 \\ a_3''1 & a_3''2 & a_3''3 \end{bmatrix} \left( \begin{bmatrix} a_1'1 & a_1'2 & a_1'3 \\ a_2'1 & a_2'2 & a_2'3 \\ a_3'1 & a_3'2 & a_3'3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \right) \right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1''' \\ x_2''' \\ x_3''' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1'''1 & a_1'''2 & a_1'''3 \\ a_2'''1 & a_2'''2 & a_2'''3 \\ a_3'''1 & a_3'''2 & a_3'''3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Dir. cosines	x1 axis	x2 axis	x3 axis
x1''' axis	$+\cos\theta_3 \cos\theta_2$	$+\sin\theta_3 \cos\theta_2$	$-\sin\theta_2$
x2''' axis	$-\sin\theta_3 \cos\theta_1$ $+\cos\theta_3 \sin\theta_2 \sin\theta_1$	$+\cos\theta_3 \cos\theta_1$ $+\sin\theta_3 \sin\theta_2 \sin\theta_1$	$+\cos\theta_2 \sin\theta_1$
x3''' axis	$+\sin\theta_3 \sin\theta_1$ $+\cos\theta_3 \sin\theta_2 \cos\theta_1$	$-\cos\theta_3 \sin\theta_1$ $+\sin\theta_3 \sin\theta_2 \cos\theta_1$	$+\cos\theta_2 \cos\theta_1$

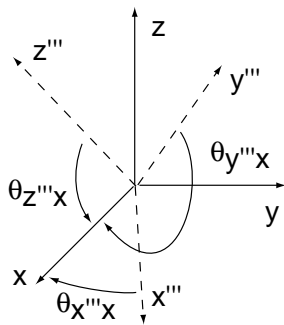
Let the axis of rotation be called axis **N** and the direction cosines relating the N axis to either the  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  system or the  $x_1''', x_2''', x_3'''$  system be  $\eta_1, \eta_2$ , and  $\eta_3$ , respectively. If the angle of rotation about **N** is  $\theta$ , then the nine direction cosines in the rotation matrix above can be expressed as:

Dir. cosines	x1 axis	x2 axis	x3 axis
x1''' axis	$\eta_1\eta_1(1-\cos\theta)$ $+\cos\theta$	$\eta_1\eta_2(1-\cos\theta)$ $+\eta_3 \sin\theta$	$\eta_1\eta_3(1-\cos\theta)$ $-\eta_2 \sin\theta$
x2''' axis	$\eta_2\eta_1(1-\cos\theta)$ $-\eta_3 \sin\theta$	$\eta_2\eta_2(1-\cos\theta)$ $+\cos\theta$	$\eta_2\eta_3(1-\cos\theta)$ $+\eta_1 \sin\theta$
x3''' axis	$\eta_3\eta_1(1-\cos\theta)$ $+\eta_2 \sin\theta$	$\eta_3\eta_2(1-\cos\theta)$ $-\eta_1 \sin\theta$	$\eta_3\eta_3(1-\cos\theta)$ $+\cos\theta$

# Methods of Rotation

Fig. 10.1

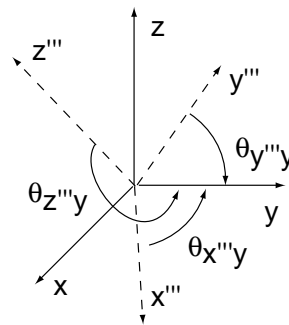
1 All the angles between the x,y,z axes and x''',y''',z''' axes are known



$$a_{x'''}x = \cos \theta_{x'''}x$$

$$a_{y'''}x = \cos \theta_{y'''}x$$

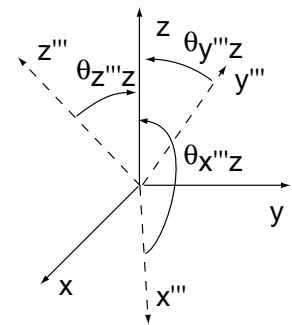
$$a_{z'''}x = \cos \theta_{z'''}x$$



$$a_{x'''}y = \cos \theta_{x'''}y$$

$$a_{y'''}y = \cos \theta_{y'''}y$$

$$a_{z'''}y = \cos \theta_{z'''}y$$

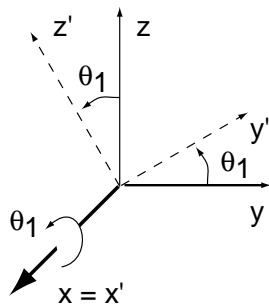


$$a_{x'''}z = \cos \theta_{x'''}z$$

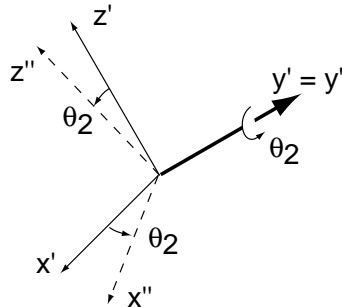
$$a_{y'''}z = \cos \theta_{y'''}z$$

$$a_{z'''}z = \cos \theta_{z'''}z$$

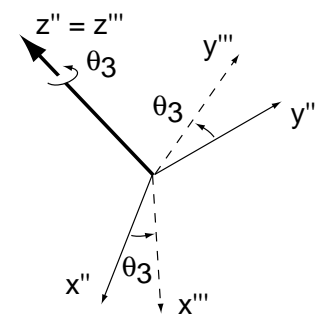
2 Method of three rotations



A: Rotate about x-axis

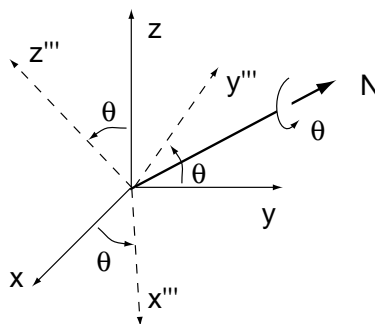


B: Rotate about y'-axis



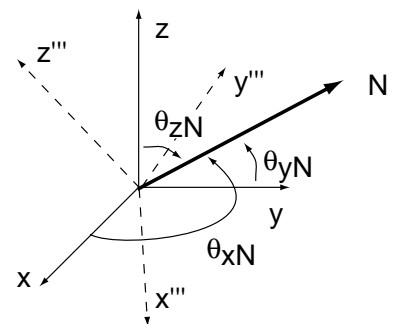
C: Rotate about z''-axis

3 Method of one rotation



This shows the angle of rotation about the rotation axis

$$\eta_1 = \cos \theta_{xN}$$



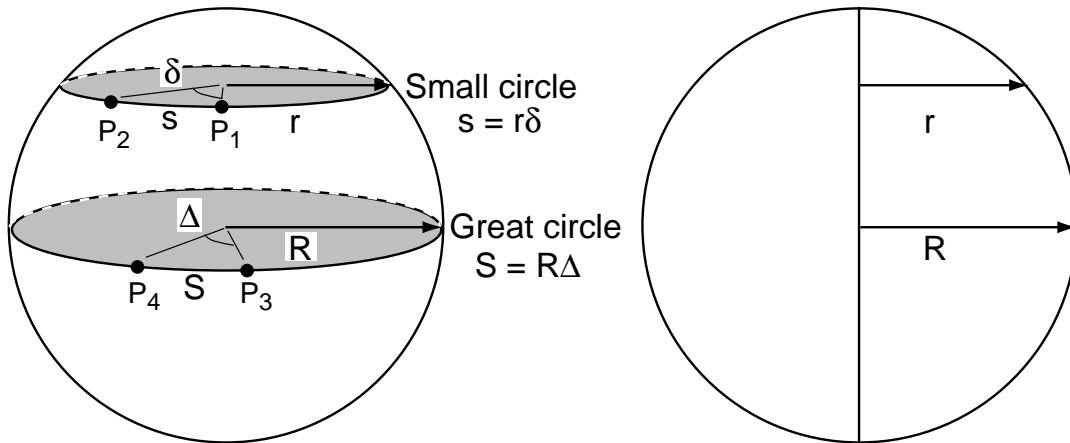
This shows the orientation of the rotation axis relative to the three coordinate axes

$$\eta_2 = \cos \theta_{yN}$$

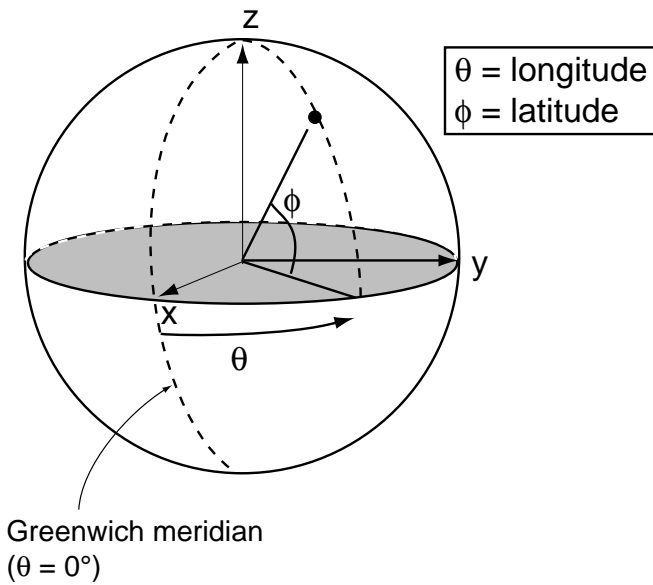
$$\eta_3 = \cos \theta_{zN}$$

Geometry on a Sphere for Plate Tectonics

Fig. 10.2



Global reference frame of Cox and Hart (1986)



Direction cosines

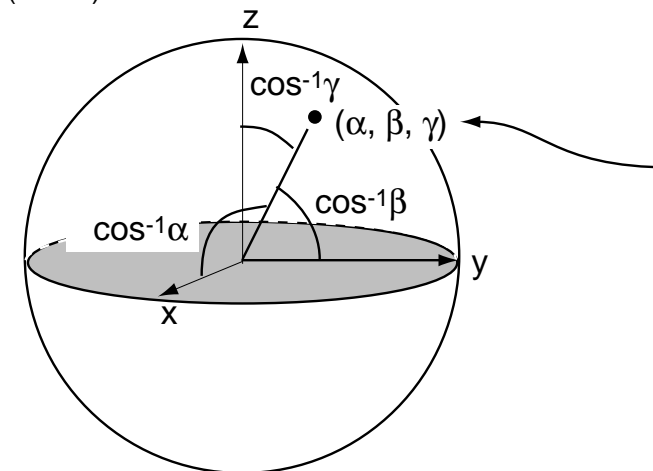
$$\alpha = \cos \omega_x = (\cos \phi) (\cos \theta)$$

$$\beta = \cos \omega_y = (\cos \phi) (\sin \theta)$$

$$\gamma = \cos \omega_z = \sin \phi$$

East longitude: positive  
 West longitude: negative  
 North latitude: positive  
 South latitude: negative

To get x,y, and z coordinates, multiply  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  by R, respectively .



$$\phi = \sin^{-1} \gamma$$

$$\theta = \text{atan2}(\beta, \alpha)$$

The x,y,z coordinates of a point on a unit sphere are  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$ , respectively .