

Read Angel Chapter 4.3, 4.7-4.10

Rotation Matrices

Let $\mathbf{R}_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$. For example, $\mathbf{R}_{30^\circ} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{3}/2 & -1/2 \\ 1/2 & \sqrt{3}/2 \end{pmatrix}$

- What is \mathbf{R}_{45° ?
- Let $\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, and $\vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$. Sketch these three vectors.
- Sketch the vectors $\mathbf{R}_{45^\circ}\vec{u}$, $\mathbf{R}_{45^\circ}\vec{v}$, $\mathbf{R}_{45^\circ}\vec{w}$.
- What effect did multiplication by \mathbf{R}_{45° have on the three vectors?
- What effect does multiplication by \mathbf{R}_{120° have on the three vectors?
- Explain why \mathbf{R}_θ is called a “rotation matrix”.
- Show that $\mathbf{R}_\alpha\mathbf{R}_\beta = \mathbf{R}_{\alpha+\beta}$. (Hint: use a sum-of-angles identity.)
- What does the equation of part (g) tell you about rotations?

Commutativity

Let $\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Let $P = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ be a point.

- Geometrically, what does multiplication by \mathbf{S} do to P ?
- Geometrically, what does multiplication by \mathbf{T} do to P ?
- Geometrically, what does multiplication by \mathbf{TS} do to P ?
- Geometrically, what does multiplication by \mathbf{ST} do to P ?