

# Virtual Trackball: Quaternions

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# Review last time

- Math for 3D graphics: **homogeneous** coordinates
  - 4x4 **transform** matrices
  - Translate, scale, rotate
- **Viewing**: (see RedBook ch3)
  - Positioning the camera: **model-view** matrix
  - Selecting a lens: **projection** matrix
  - Clipping: setting the **view volume**

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & d_x \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & d_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & d_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} s_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_y & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) & 0 & 0 \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# OpenGL vertex arrays

- Stores a vertex list in the graphics hardware
  - ◆ Six types of arrays: vertices, colours, colour indices, normals, texture coords, edge flags
- Our vertex list in C:
  - ◆ `GLfloat verts[][3] = { {0.0, 0.0, 0.0}, {0.1, 0.0, 0.0}, ... }`
- Load into hardware:
  - ◆ `glEnableClientState( GL_VERTEX_ARRAY );`
  - ◆ `glVertexPointer( 3, GL_FLOAT, 0, verts );`
    - **3**: 3D vertices
    - **GL\_FLOAT**: array is of GLfloat-s
    - **0**: contiguous data
    - **verts**: pointer to data

# Using OpenGL vertex arrays

- Use `glDrawElements` instead of `glVertex`
- Polygon list references **indices** in the stored vertex array
  - ◆ `GLubyte cubeIndices[24] = {0,3,2,1, 2,3,7,6, 0,4,7,3, 1,2,6,5, 4,5,6,7, 0,1,5,4};`
  - ◆ Each group of **four** indices is one quad
- Draw a whole object in **one** function call:
  - ◆ `glDrawElements( GL_QUADS, 24, GL_UNSIGNED_BYTE, cubeIndices );`

# OpenGL display lists

- Take a **group** of OpenGL commands (e.g., defining an object) and **store** in hardware
- Can change OpenGL **state**, camera view, etc. without **redefining** this stored object

- **Creating** a display list:

- ◆ `GLuint cubeDL = glGenLists(1);`
- ◆ `glNewList( cubeDL, GL_COMPILE );`
  - `glBegin(...); ....; glEnd();`
- ◆ `glEndList();`

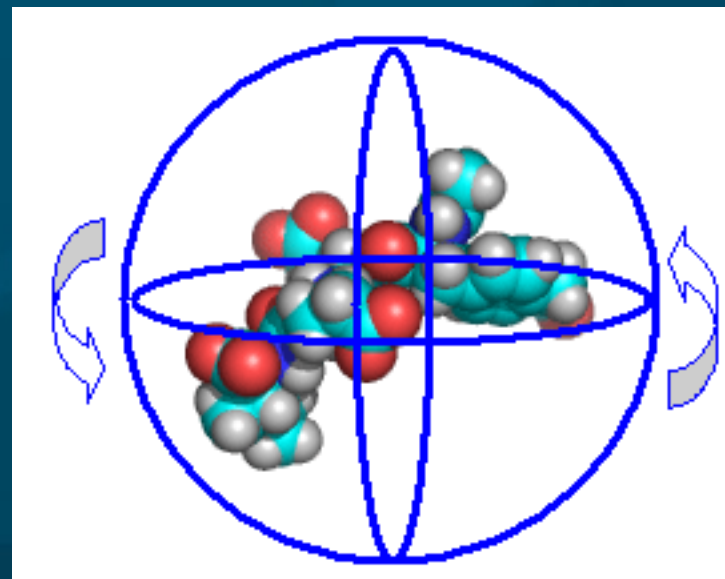
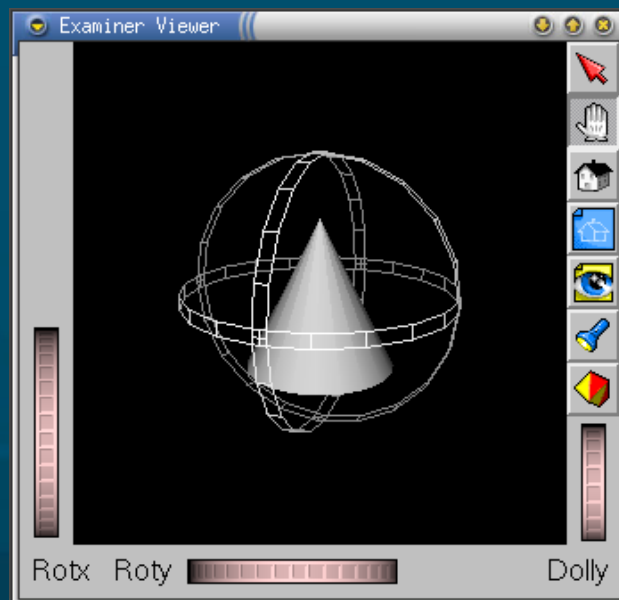
- **Using** a stored display list:

- ◆ `glCallList( cubeDL );`

See RedBook ch7

# Rotations in 3D

- Euler angles: angles about  $x, y, z$  axes
  - Needs an **order**: e.g., first  $x$ , then  $y$ , then  $z$
  - User **interface** to specify three angles **clunky**
- **Virtual trackball**: like an upside-down mouse
  - Motion in **2D** determines rotation of trackball



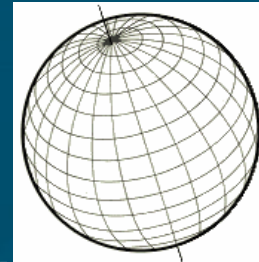
# Gimbal lock

- One naïve way to do get a **rotation** from **2D** mouse motion is:

- Vertical motion --> **elevation** (latitude)
- Horizontal --> **azimuth** (longitude)

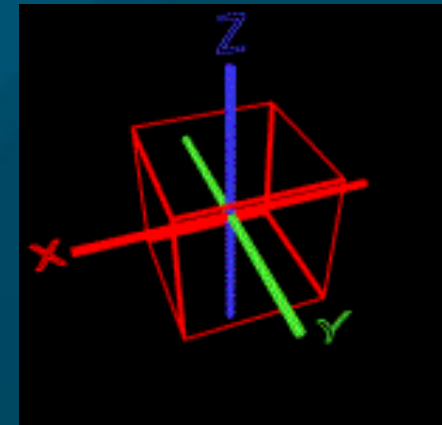
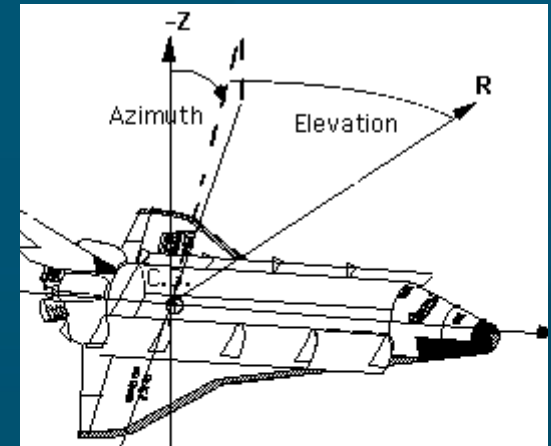
- Problem: **gimbal lock!**

- At the North/South **poles**, **longitude** has no meaning



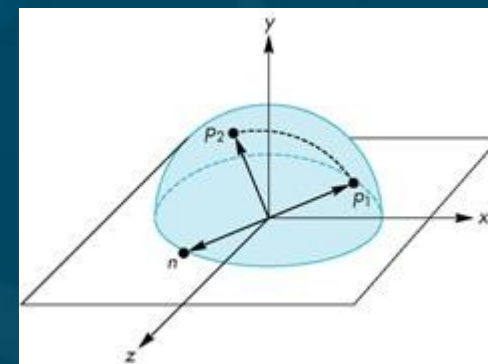
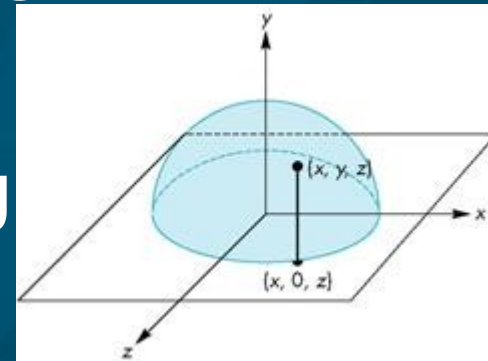
- Lose a **degree of freedom**

- **Apollo 11** landing on Moon nearly had an accident due to gimbal lock



# Virtual trackball

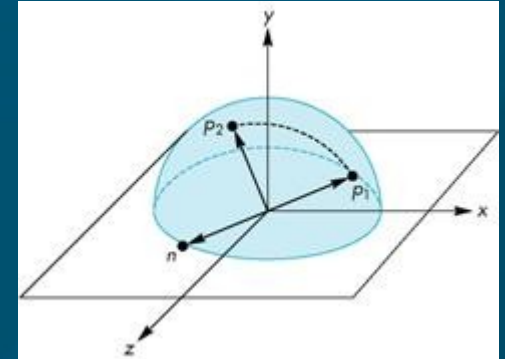
- Let the **mouse** position be in **x-z** plane
- Project up to the **hemisphere** of radius  $r$ :
  - ◆  $y = \text{sqrt}( r^2 - x^2 - z^2 )$
- Mouse **motion** corresponds to moving from  $p_1$  to  $p_2$  on the hemisphere
- Draw a “**great circle**” from  $p_1$  to  $p_2$ 
  - This determines the rotation
- Update in the **event** handler:  
every mouse-move yields a small rotation





# Axis and angle of rotation

- The **axis of rotation** is found by the cross-product of  $p_1$  and  $p_2$
- The **angle** between  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  is found by:  $|\sin \theta| = |n| / (|p_1| * |p_2|)$ 
  - If the mouse is moved slowly enough and we sample frequently,  $\sin \theta \approx \theta$
- `glRotatef(  $\theta$ ,  $n_1$ ,  $n_2$ ,  $n_3$  )`: angle+axis
- Problem: how to **compose** two rotations?  
Convert axis+angle to a **quaternion**.



# Quaternions

- Extension of **complex numbers** from 2D to 4D
  - ◆ (an example of a Clifford Algebra)
  - One **real**, three **imaginary** components  $i, j, k$ :
    - ◆  $\mathbf{b} = q_0 + q_1i + q_2j + q_3k = (q_0, \mathbf{q})$
    - ◆  $\mathbf{q} = q_1i + q_2j + q_3k$  is the **pure quaternion** part
- **Properties:**
  - ◆  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = (p_0 + q_0, \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})$
  - ◆  $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1$
  - ◆  $ij = k, ji = -k, jk = i, kj = -i, ki = j, ik = -j$
  - ◆  $|\mathbf{b}|^2 = q_0^2 + q_1^2 + q_2^2 + q_3^2$  (**magnitude**)

# Multiplying quaternions

- $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = (p_0q_0 - \mathbf{p}^*\mathbf{q}), q_0\mathbf{p} + p_0\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$ 
  - $\mathbf{p}^*\mathbf{q}$ : dot-product (treat  $\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}$  as 3D vectors)
  - $\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$ : cross-product (yields a quaternion)
- Order matters: multiplication is not **commutative!**
  - $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} \neq \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a}$
- We'll represent **composing** multiple rotations by multiplication of the corresponding quaternions

# Properties of quaternions

- Conjugate:  $\mathbf{b}(\text{conj}) = (q_0, -\mathbf{q})$
- Negative:  $-\mathbf{b} = (-q_0, -\mathbf{q})$
- Multiplicative inverse:  $\mathbf{b}^{-1} = \mathbf{b}(\text{conj}) / |\mathbf{b}|^2$
- Unit quaternions:  $|\mathbf{b}|=1$ , so  $\mathbf{b}^{-1} = \mathbf{b}(\text{conj})$ 
  - We'll represent **rotations** with unit quaternions

# Rotations with quaternions

- From the **axis-angle** form:
  - Rotate about the **unit** vector **u** by angle  $\theta$ :
  - $\mathbf{q} = ( \cos(\theta/2), \mathbf{u} \sin(\theta/2) )$
- A **point P** in 3D space is represented by the quaternion  $\mathbf{p} = ( 0, \mathbf{P} )$
- The **rotated** point **P'** is represented by the quaternion  $\mathbf{p}'$ :
  - $\mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{q} * \mathbf{p} * \mathbf{q}^{-1}$
- These are **quaternion** multiplications; convert to **matrix** notation:

# Converting to 4x4 matrix

- Rotate P by **q**:  $\mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{q} * \mathbf{p} * \mathbf{q}^{-1}$
- Left-multiplication of a point  $P = (x_p, y_p, z_p)$  by a rotation quaternion  $q = (x, y, z, w)$ :
  - $q * P$ :
- Followed by right-multiplication by  $q^{-1}$ :
  - $P * q^{-1}$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} w_q & -z_q & y_q & x_q \\ z_q & w_q & -x_q & y_q \\ -y_q & x_q & w_q & z_q \\ -x_q & -y_q & -z_q & w_q \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ z_p \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} w_q & -z_q & y_q & -x_q \\ z_q & w_q & -x_q & -y_q \\ -y_q & x_q & w_q & -z_q \\ x_q & y_q & z_q & w_q \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ z_p \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Putting it all together

- Hence, rotating a point  $P$  by a quaternion  $q = (x, y, z, w)$  is equivalent to multiplying by a  $4 \times 4$  matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} w^2 + x^2 - y^2 - z^2 & 2xy - 2wz & 2xz + 2wy & 0 \\ 2xy + 2wz & w^2 - x^2 + y^2 - z^2 & 2yz - 2wx & 0 \\ 2xz - 2wy & 2yz + 2wx & w^2 - x^2 - y^2 + z^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & w^2 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \end{pmatrix}$$