

The effect of incremental Euler rotations on an Euler orientation.

Dave Cromley, November 2011

Notation: To keep the expressions less intimidating:

An angle around the x axis is x instead of ax . δx is a small angle.

$\cos(x)$ is Cx ; $\sin(x)$ is Sx ; $\tan(x)$ is Tx .

$Dydx$ is the partial derivative of y with respect to (a rotation by) δx .

We start with $[m]$, the matrix from the Euler orientation (x , y , z).

```
[ +CyCz      +CxSz+SxSyCz  +SxSz-CxSyCz ]
[ -CySz      +CxCz-SxSySz  +SxCz+CxSySz ]
[ +Sy        -SxCy          +CxCy ]
```

(See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euler_angles)

$[\delta m]$ is the matrix of an incremental rotation by angle (e.g.) δx .

```
[ 1  0  0 ]
[ 0  Cδx Sδx ]
[ 0 -Sδx Cδx ]
```

Since δx is small, we can use:

```
[ 1  0  0 ]
[ 0  1  δx ]
[ 0 -δx  1 ]
```

$[m']$ is the matrix of the resulting Euler orientation (x' , y' , z').

The objective is to find x' , y' , and z' .

We do the following for each of δx , δy , and δz

START process A; use δx e.g.:

We get the difference matrix $[dm]$

$$[dm] = [m'] - [m] = [m] [\delta m] - [m] = [m] ([\delta m] - I)$$

We get 9 equations from the 9 elements of $[m]$ and $[dm]$:

$$\partial m_{ij} \partial x * Dxdx + \partial m_{ij} \partial y * Dydx + \partial m_{ij} \partial z * Dzdx = dm_{ij}$$

With these 9 equations in 3 unknowns, we can get $Dxdx$, $Dydx$, and $Dzdx$.

By choosing the best m_{ij} and dm_{ij} , the computations are not difficult.

END process A

Having all 9 partial derivatives, we have

$$x' = x + Dxdx * \delta x + Dxdy * \delta y + Dxdz * \delta z$$

$$y' = y + Dydx * \delta x + Dydy * \delta y + Dydz * \delta z$$

$$z' = z + Dzdx * \delta x + Dzdy * \delta y + Dzdz * \delta z$$

----- Apply δx rotation to get $Dxdx$, $Dydx$, $Dzdx$ -----

-- $[\delta x]-I$ matrix

```
[ 0  0  0 ]
[ 0  0  δx ]
[ 0 -δx  0 ]
-- [m] ([δx]-I)
```

```
[ 0           -SxSz+CxSyCz  +CxSz+SxSyCz  ]
[ 0           -SxCz-CxSySz  +CxCz-SxSySz  ]
[ 0           -CxCy          -SxCy ]
```

$$m31: +CyDydx = 0$$

$$Dydx = 0$$

$$m11: -SyCzDydx -CySzDzdx = 0$$

$$-CySzDzdx = 0$$

$$Dzdx = 0$$

$$m33: -SxCyDxdx -CxSyDydx = -SxCy$$

$$-SxCxCyDxdx = -SxCxCy$$

$$Dxdx = 1$$

---- Apply δ_y rotation to get $Dx dy$, $Dy dy$, $Dz dy$ -----

-- $[\delta_y]-I$ matrix
[0 0 - δ_y]
[0 0 0]
[δ_y 0 0]
-- [m] ($[\delta_y]-I$)
[+SxSz-CxSyCz 0 -CyCz]
[+SxCz+CxSySz 0 +CySz]
[+CxCy 0 -Sy]

m31: CyDydy = +CxCy
Dydy = Cx
m11: -SyCzDydy -CySzDzdy = +SxSz -CxSyCz
-CxSyCz -CySzDzdy = +SxSz -CxSyCz
-CySzDzdy = +SxSz -CxSyCz +CxSyCz
Dzdy = -Sx/Cy
m33: -SxCyDxdy -CxSyDydy = -Sy
-SxCyDxdy -CxCxSy = -Sy
-SxCyDxdy = -Sy +CxCxSy
-SxCyDxdy = -SxSxSy
Dxdy = SxTy

---- Apply δ_z rotation to get $Dx dz$, $Dy dz$, $Dz dz$ -----

-- $[\delta_z]-I$ matrix
[0 δ_z 0]
[- δ_z 0 0]
[0 0 0]
-- [m] ($[\delta_z]-I$)
[-CxSz-SxSyCz +CyCz 0]
[-CxCz+SxSySz -CySz 0]
[+SxCy +Sy 0]

m31: CyDydz = +SxCy
Dydz = +Sx
m11: -SyCzDydz -CySzDzdz = -CxSz-SxSyCz
-CySzDzdz = -CxSz-SxSyCz
-CySzDzdz = -CxSz +SxSyCz +SxSyCz
+CyDzdz = +Cx
Dzdz = +Cx/Cy
m33: -SxCyDxdz -CxSyDydz = 0
-SxCyDxdz -SxCxSy = 0
+CyDxdz = -CxSy
Dxdz = -CxTy

----- Combine the 9 results -----

```
Dxdx = 1
Dydx = 0
Dzdx = 0
Dxdy = +SxTy
Dydy = +Cx
Dzdy = -Sx/Cy
Dxdz = -CxTy
Dydz = +Sx
Dzdz = +Cx/Cy

x' = x +δx 1 +δy SxTy -δz CxTy
y' = y +δx 0 +δy Cx      +δz Sx
z' = z +δx 0 -δy Sx/Cy +δz Cx/Cy
```

I was unable to begin the computations for this until I stumbled across Jed Margolin's "Euler Angle Functions". His results didn't work for me, forcing me to do this paper.

<http://www.jmargolin.com/uvmath/euler.doc>

The desire to do this in the first place comes from the existance of the "passionate" programmers at thinBasic.com and the amazing product (it's free) and the active forum. The features of thinBasic seem innumerable. And the interests of the forum community are innumerable.

<http://thinbasic.com>

My thinBasic demo program using these results is at
<http://dbarc.net/dcgimbalrock.exe>

This paper resides at
<http://dbarc.net/dceulerrot.pdf>