



Animating Transformations

Michael Kazhdan

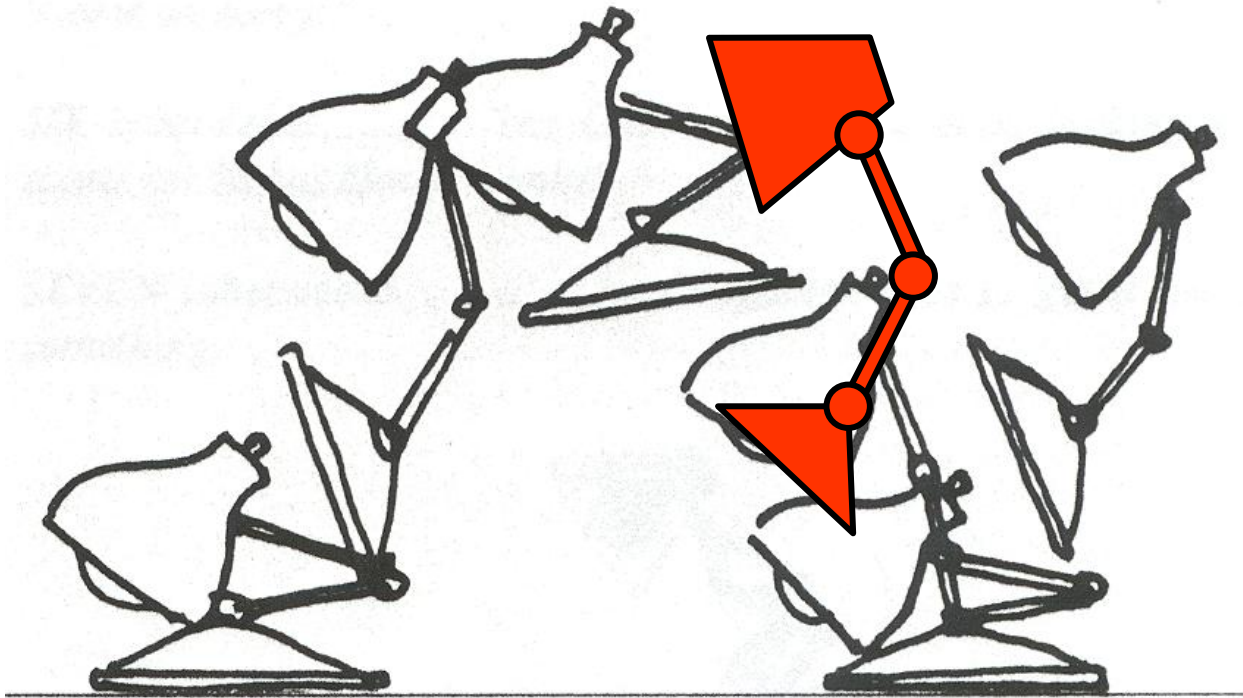
(601.457/657)



Recall

Keyframe Animation:

- Interpolate variables describing keyframes to determine poses for character “in-between”





Keyframe Animation

Q: Why interpolate/blend joint parameters instead of interpolating/blending vertices directly?

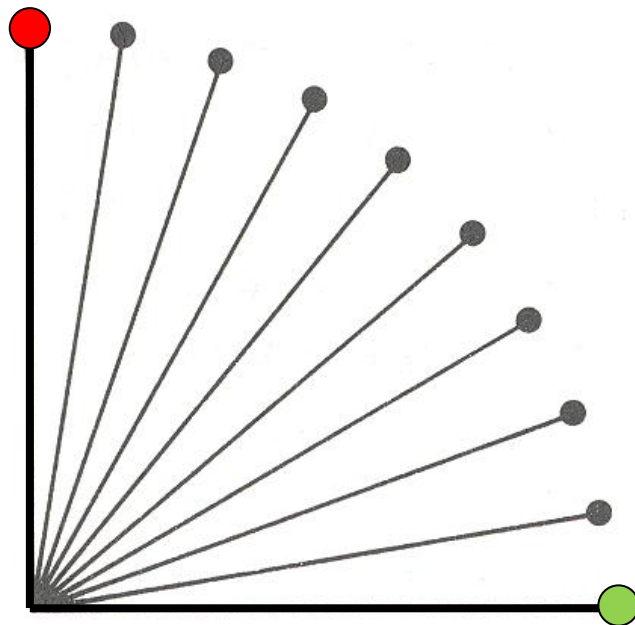
A: For translations, it doesn't make a difference (assuming the blend is translation equivariant).



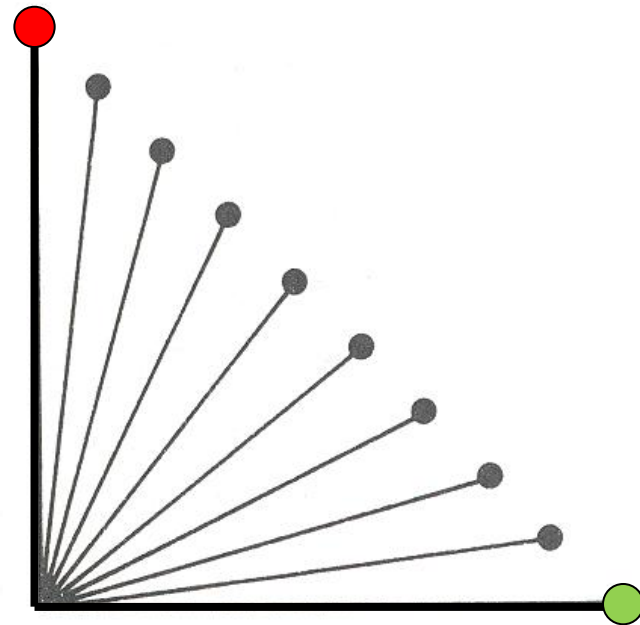
Keyframe Animation

Q: Why interpolate/blend joint parameters instead of interpolating/blending vertices directly?

A: For rotations, it could lead to geometric distortion.



Good arm



Bad arm

Watt & Watt



Keyframe Animation

Q: Why interpolate/blend joint parameters instead of interpolating/blending vertices directly?

A: For rotations, it could lead to geometric distortion.

For articulating objects, transformations are a combination of translation and rotation

- Translations are straight-forward:
Use your favorite spline to fit a curve through/near the translational offsets
- How do we interpolate/approximate rotations?



Overview

- Orthogonal Transformations, Rotations, and SVD
- Interpolating/Approximating Points
 - Vectors
 - Unit-Vectors
- Interpolating/Approximating Transformations
 - Matrices
 - Rotations
 - » SVD Factorization
 - » Euler Angles



Orthogonal Transformations

What are orthogonal transformations?

An *orthogonal matrix* $\mathbf{O} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is a linear transformation that preserves angles:

$$\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{O}\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{O}\mathbf{w} \rangle$$

Recall that the (standard) dot-product between two vectors can be expressed as a matrix multiplication:

$$\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{w}$$



Orthogonal Transformations

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$$\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{O}\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{O}\mathbf{w} \rangle$$

\Rightarrow If \mathbf{O} is an orthogonal matrix:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{w} &= (\mathbf{O}\mathbf{v})^\top (\mathbf{O}\mathbf{w}) \\ &= \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{O}^\top \mathbf{O} \mathbf{w} \end{aligned}$$

Since this is true for all \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} , this means that:

$$\mathbf{O}^\top \cdot \mathbf{O} = \text{identity} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \mathbf{O}^\top = \mathbf{O}^{-1}$$



Orthogonal Transformations

What are orthogonal transformations?

$$\mathbf{O}^T \cdot \mathbf{O} = \text{identity}$$

For matrices $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$:

- The determinant of the product is:

$$\det(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = \det(\mathbf{A}) \cdot \det(\mathbf{B})$$

- The determinant of the transpose is:

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \det(\mathbf{A}^T)$$

It follows that:

$$\det(\mathbf{O}^T \cdot \mathbf{O}) = \det(\text{identity})$$

$$\det(\mathbf{O}) \cdot \det(\mathbf{O}) = 1$$

\Downarrow

$$\det(\mathbf{O}) = \pm 1$$



Rotations

What are rotations?

A *rotation matrix* $\mathbf{O} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is:

1. An orthogonal matrix
2. That preserves orientation (i.e. $\det(\mathbf{O}) = 1$).

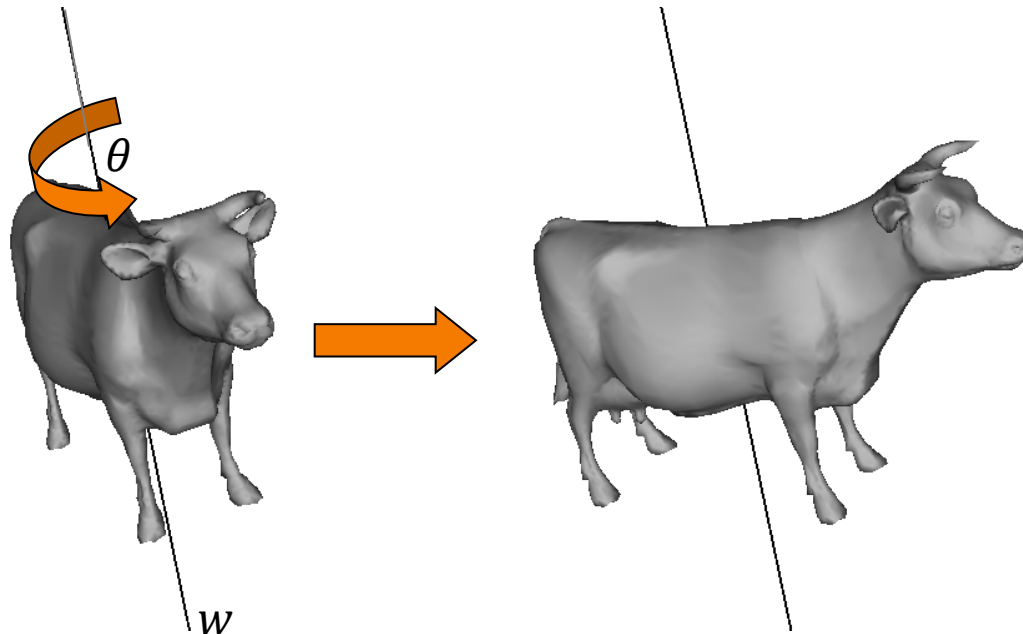


Rotations

What are rotations?

A rotation in 3D can also be specified by:

- its axis of rotation w (with $\|w\| = 1$) and
- its angle of rotation θ





Rotations

What are rotations?

A rotation in 3D can also be specified by:

- its axis of rotation w (with $\|w\| = 1$) and
- its angle of rotation θ

Properties:

- The rotation corresponding to (θ, w) is the same as the rotation corresponding to $(-\theta, -w)$.
- The inverse of a rotation corresponding to (θ, w) is $(-\theta, w)$.
- Given rotations corresponding to (θ_1, w) and (θ_2, w) , the product of the rotations corresponds to $(\theta_1 + \theta_2, w)$.

How do we define the product of rotations corresponding to (θ_1, w_1) and (θ_2, w_2) ?



SVD

Any $n \times n$ matrix \mathbf{M} can be expressed in terms of its Singular Value Decomposition as:

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T$$

where:

- \mathbf{U} and \mathbf{V} are $n \times n$ orthogonal matrices
- \mathbf{D} is an $n \times n$ diagonal matrix (i.e. off-diagonals are 0)
 - » Typically the diagonal entries are:
 - Non-negative
 - Decreasing

SVD



Applications:

- Procrustes method
- Finding the (pseudo-)inverse of a matrix
- Compression



SVD

Finding the Inverse of a Matrix:

If we have an $n \times n$ invertible matrix \mathbf{M} , we can use the SVD to compute the inverse of \mathbf{M} .

Expressing \mathbf{M} in terms of its SVD gives:

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T$$

where:

- \mathbf{U} and \mathbf{V} are $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix,
- \mathbf{D} is an $n \times n$ diagonal matrix



SVD

Finding the Inverse of a Matrix :

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T$$

We can express \mathbf{M}^{-1} as:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{M}^{-1} &= (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T)^{-1} = (\mathbf{V}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{U}^{-1} \\ &= \mathbf{V}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{U}^T\end{aligned}$$

Since:

- \mathbf{U} is an orthogonal transformation, $\mathbf{U}^{-1} = \mathbf{U}^T$.
- \mathbf{V} is an orthogonal transformation, $\mathbf{V}^{-1} = \mathbf{V}^T$.



SVD

Solving Linear Systems:

$$\mathbf{M}^{-1} = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{U}^T$$

Since \mathbf{D} is a diagonal matrix:

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_{n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{D}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\lambda_1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\lambda_2} & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \frac{1}{\lambda_{n-1}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

Note that this is not necessarily an *efficient* way to invert a matrix.



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Vectors

Given a collection of n control points $\{\mathbf{p}_0, \dots, \mathbf{p}_{n-1}\}$, define a curve $\Phi(t)$ that approximates/interpolates the points.

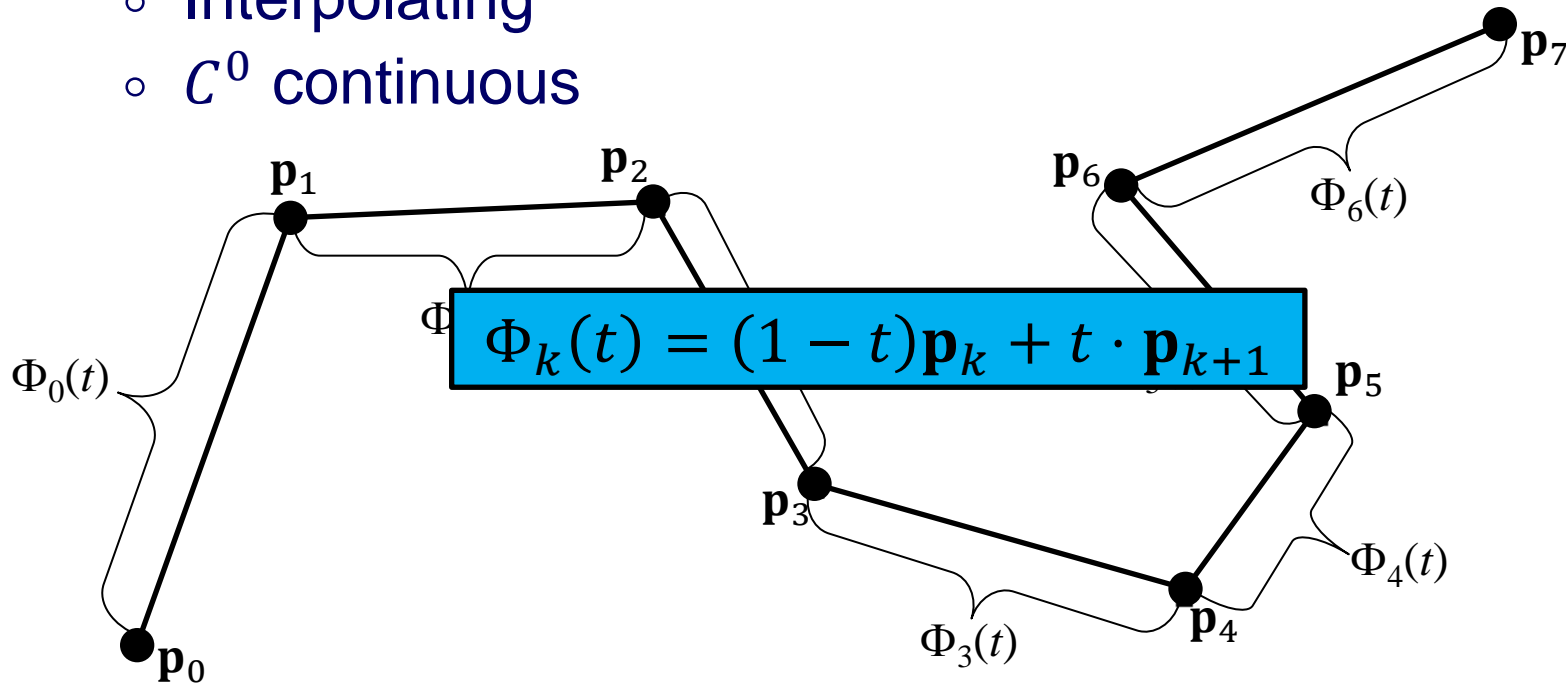


Vectors

Given a collection of n control points $\{\mathbf{p}_0, \dots, \mathbf{p}_{n-1}\}$, define a curve $\Phi(t)$ that approximates/interpolates the points.

Linear Interpolation:

- Interpolating
- C^0 continuous





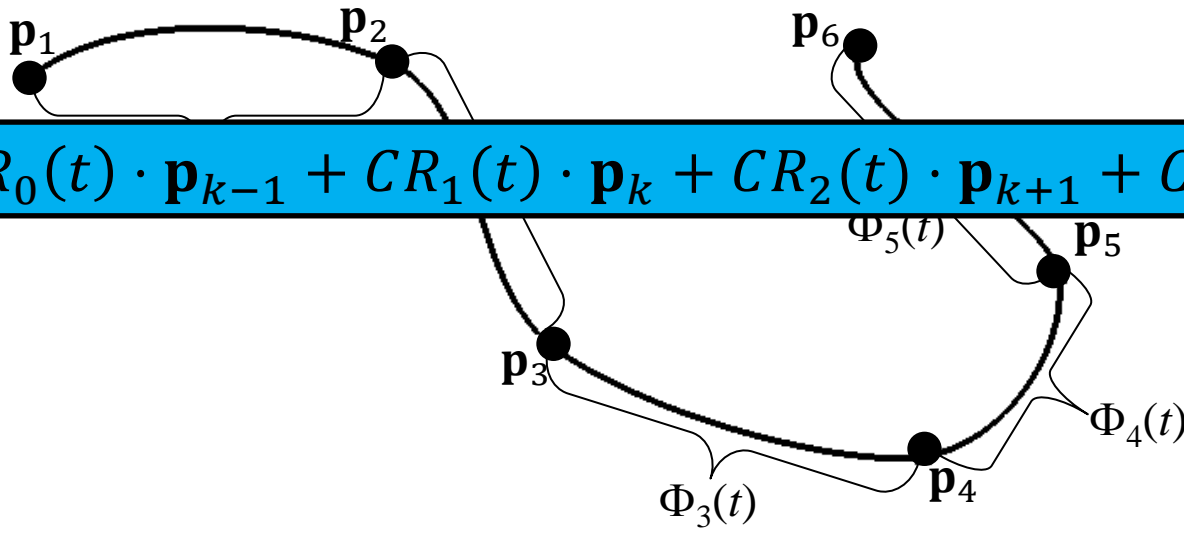
Vectors

Given a collection of n control points $\{\mathbf{p}_0, \dots, \mathbf{p}_{n-1}\}$, define a curve $\Phi(t)$ that approximates/interpolates the points.

Catmull-Rom Splines (Cardinal Splines w/ $s = 1/2$):

- Interpolating
- C^1 continuous

● \mathbf{p}_7



$$\Phi_k(t) = CR_0(t) \cdot \mathbf{p}_{k-1} + CR_1(t) \cdot \mathbf{p}_k + CR_2(t) \cdot \mathbf{p}_{k+1} + CR_3(t) \cdot \mathbf{p}_{k+2}$$



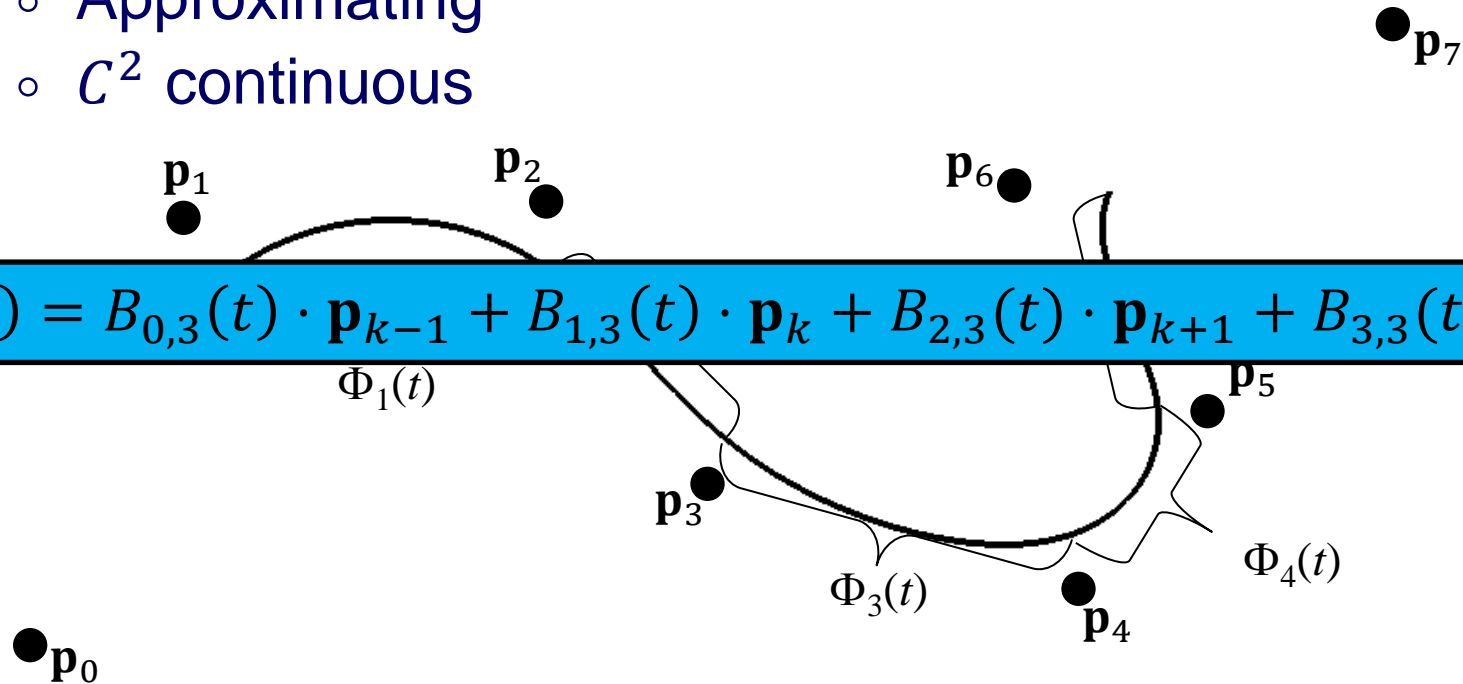
Vectors

Given a collection of n control points $\{\mathbf{p}_0, \dots, \mathbf{p}_{n-1}\}$, define a curve $\Phi(t)$ that approximates/interpolates the points.

Uniform Cubic B-Splines:

- Approximating
- C^2 continuous

$$\Phi_k(t) = B_{0,3}(t) \cdot \mathbf{p}_{k-1} + B_{1,3}(t) \cdot \mathbf{p}_k + B_{2,3}(t) \cdot \mathbf{p}_{k+1} + B_{3,3}(t) \cdot \mathbf{p}_{k+2}$$

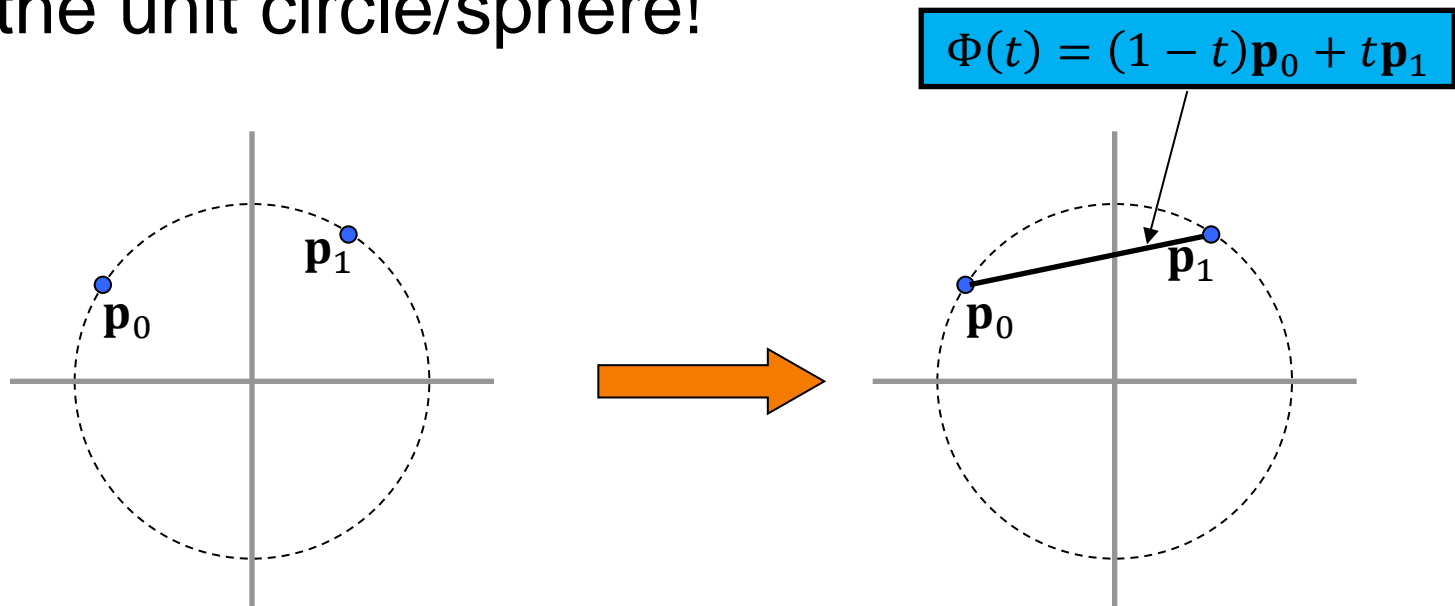




Unit-Vectors

What if we add the constraint that the points $\{\mathbf{p}_0, \dots, \mathbf{p}_{n-1}\}$ and the curve $\Phi(t)$ have to lie on the unit circle/sphere ($\|\mathbf{p}_i\| = 1$, $\|\Phi(t)\| = 1$)?

We can't interpolate/approximate the points as before, because the in-between points don't have to lie on the unit circle/sphere!

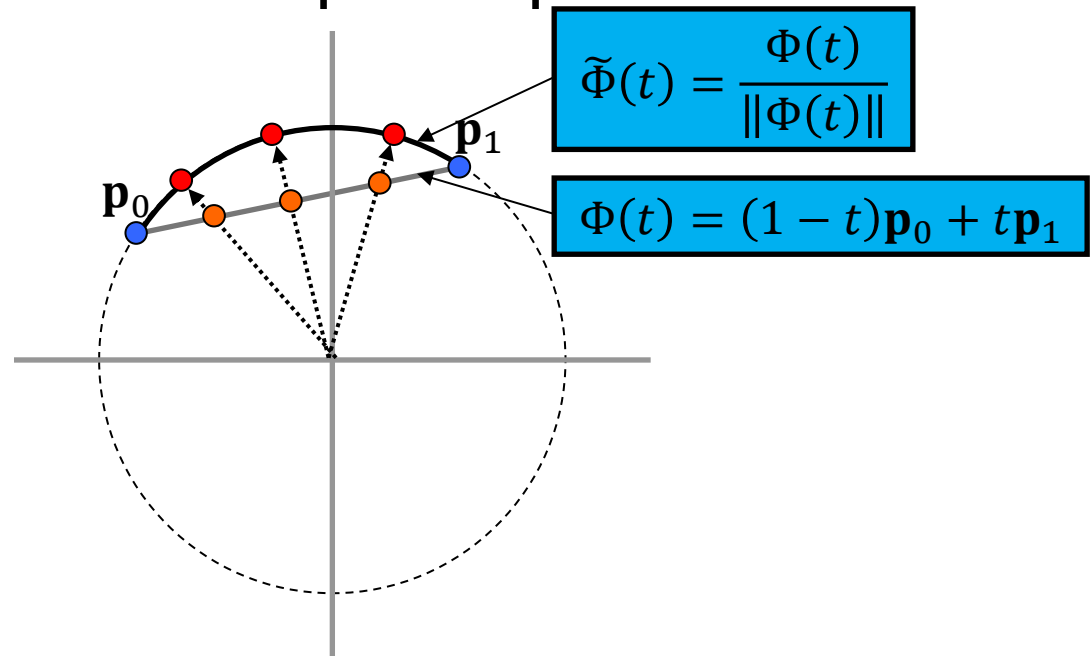




Unit-Vectors

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We can normalize the in-between points by sending them to the *closest* circle/sphere point:



Curve Normalization

Limitations:

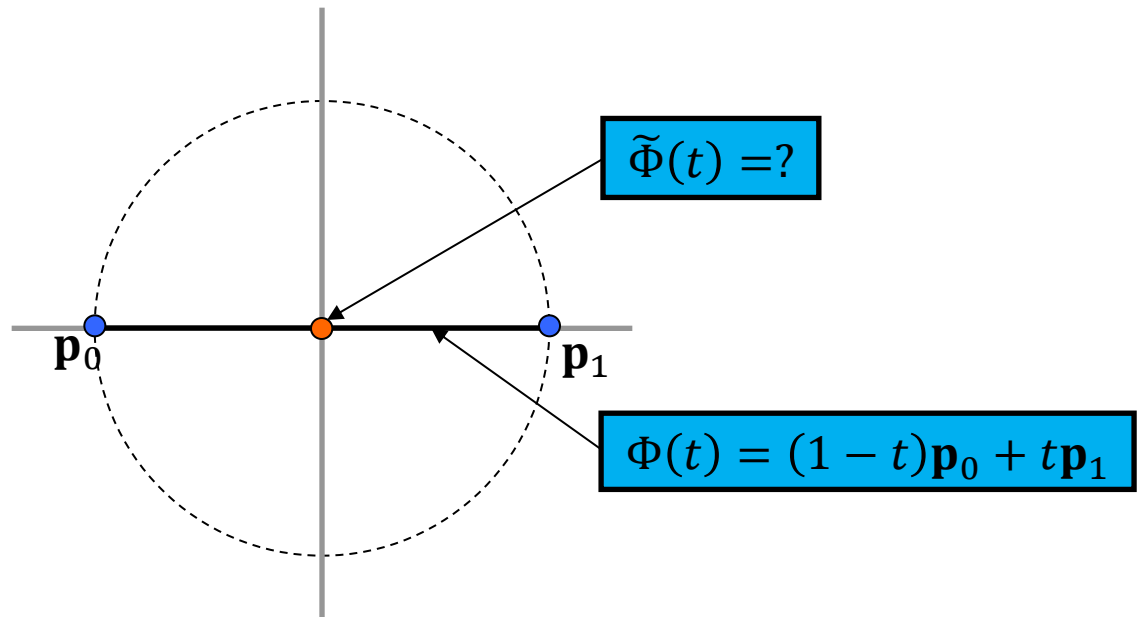




Curve Normalization

Limitations:

- The normalized curve is not always well defined.

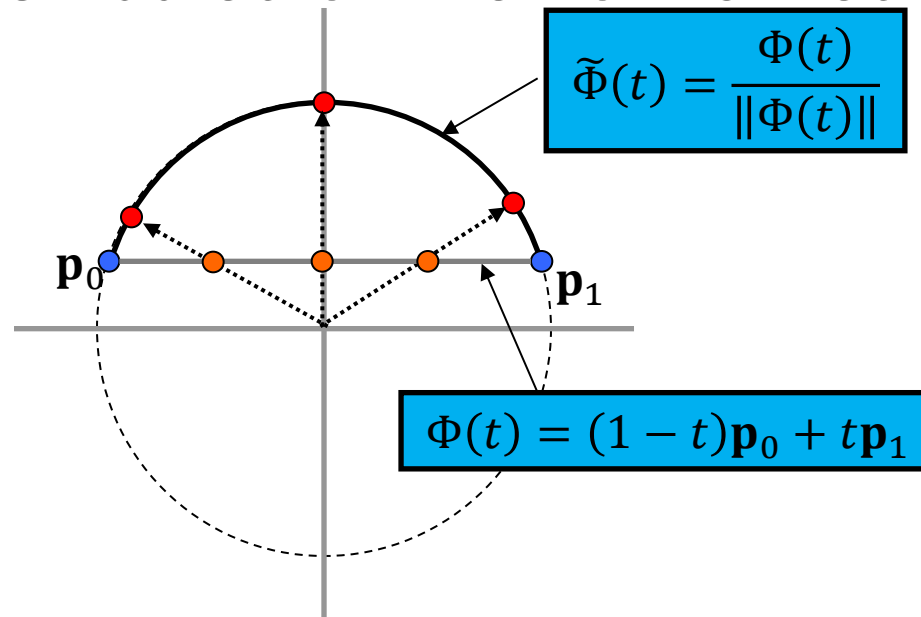




Curve Normalization

Limitations:

- The normalized curve is not always well defined.
- Just because points are uniformly distributed on the original curve, does not mean that they will be uniformly distributed on the normalized one.



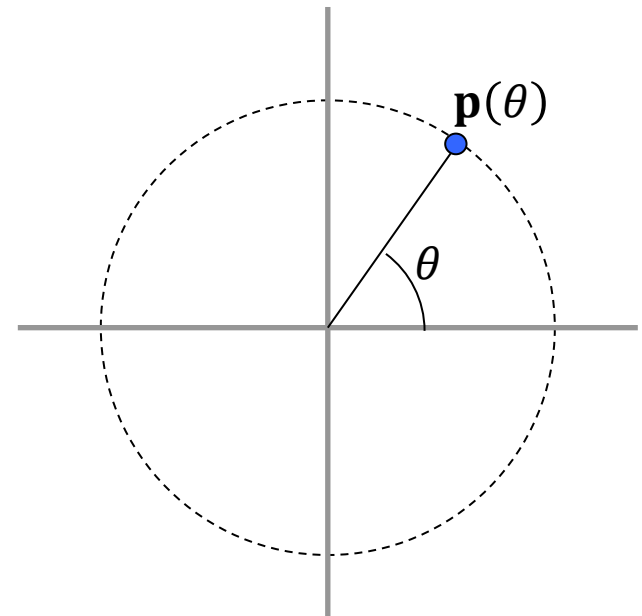


Curve Parameterization

- Define a parameterization of the circle/sphere.
- Compute the parameters of the end-points;
- Blend the parameters and evaluate.

SLERP (Spherical Linear Interpolation):

- Parameterize: $(\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$





Curve Parameterization

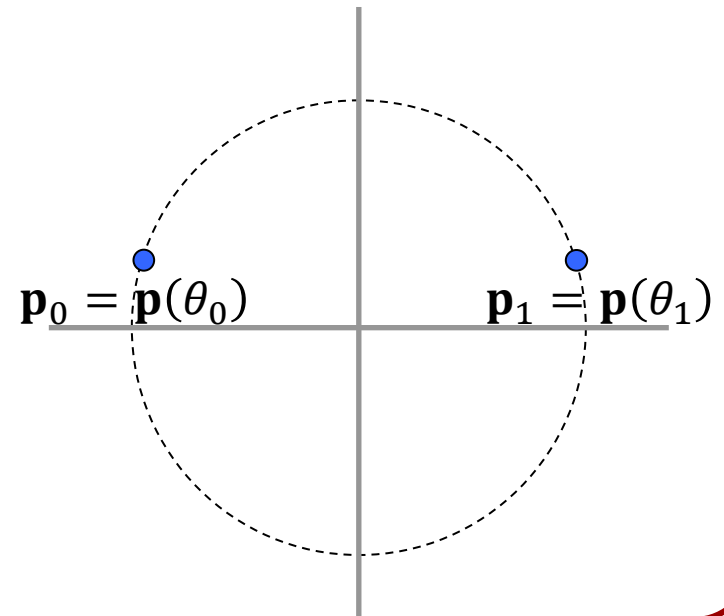
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SLERP (Spherical Linear Interpolation):

- Parameterize: $(\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$
- Compute:

$$\mathbf{p}_0 = (\cos \theta_0, \sin \theta_0)$$

$$\mathbf{p}_1 = (\cos \theta_1, \sin \theta_1)$$





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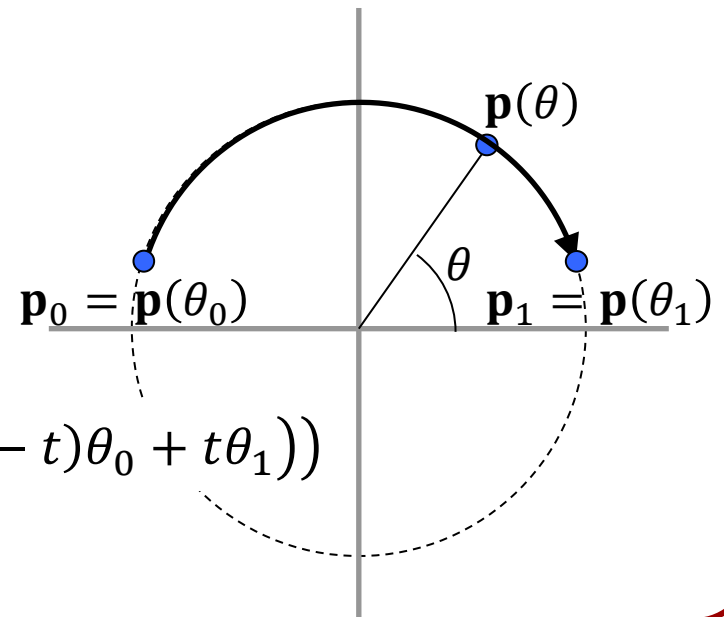
- Compute:

$$\mathbf{p}_0 = (\cos \theta_0, \sin \theta_0)$$

$$\mathbf{p}_1 = (\cos \theta_1, \sin \theta_1)$$

- Set:

$$\Phi(t) = (\cos((1-t)\theta_0 + t\theta_1), \sin((1-t)\theta_0 + t\theta_1))$$





Curve Parameterization

Note:

- Parameter may not be unique.
- A shortest path in parameter space does not have to define a shortest path in the space of rotations.

SELT (Spherical Linear Interpolation).

- Parameterize: $(\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$

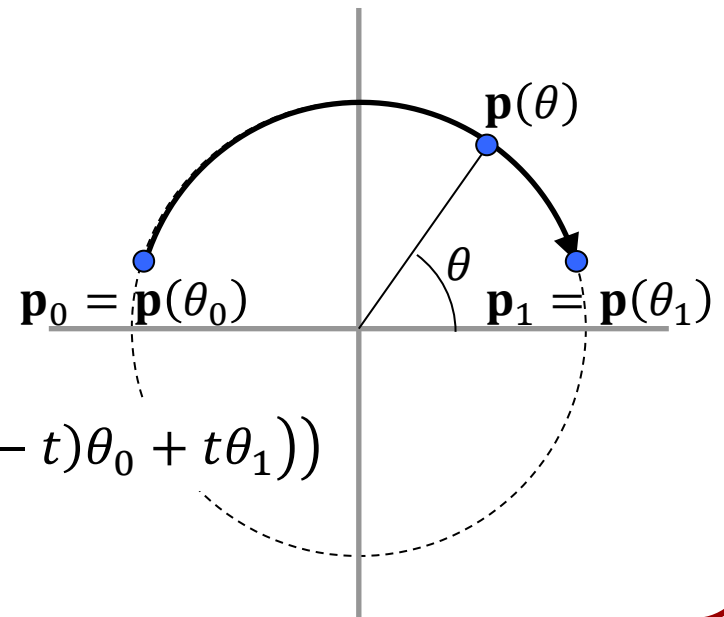
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Matrices

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Matrices

Given a collection of n matrices $\{\mathbf{M}_0, \dots, \mathbf{M}_{n-1}\}$, define a curve $\Phi(t)$ that approximates/interpolates the matrices.

As with vectors:

- Linear Interpolation:

$$\Phi_k(t) = (1 - t)\mathbf{M}_k + t \cdot \mathbf{M}_{k+1}$$

- Catmull-Rom Interpolation:

$$\Phi_k(t) = CR_0(t) \cdot \mathbf{M}_{k-1} + CR_1(t) \cdot \mathbf{M}_k + CR_2(t) \cdot \mathbf{M}_{k+1} + CR_3(t) \cdot \mathbf{M}_{k+2}$$

- Uniform Cubic B-Spline Approximation:

$$\Phi_k(t) = B_{0,3}(t) \cdot \mathbf{M}_{k-1} + B_{1,3}(t) \cdot \mathbf{M}_k + B_{2,3}(t) \cdot \mathbf{M}_{k+1} + B_{3,3}(t) \cdot \mathbf{M}_{k+2}$$



Rotations

What if we add the constraint that the matrices $\{\mathbf{M}_0, \dots, \mathbf{M}_{n-1}\}$ and the values of the curve $\Phi(t)$ have to be rotations?

We can't interpolate/approximate the matrices as before, because the in-between matrices don't have to be rotations!

We could try to normalize, by mapping every matrix $\Phi(t)$ to the nearest rotation.

Challenge



Given a matrix \mathbf{M} , what is the closest rotation \mathbf{R} ?



Normalization: SVD Factorization

Given a matrix \mathbf{M} , what is the closest rotation \mathbf{R} ?

Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) allows us to express \mathbf{M} as a diagonal matrix, multiplied on the left/right by orthogonal transformations $\mathbf{O}_1/\mathbf{O}_2$:

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{O}_1 \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{O}_2$$

Because the λ_i are positive, the closest orthogonal transform \mathbf{O} to \mathbf{M} is:

$$\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{O}_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{O}_2$$



Normalization: SVD Factorization

Given a matrix \mathbf{M} , what is the closest rotation \mathbf{R} ?

Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) allows us to

ex In standard SVD factorization, the diagonal values are
le non-negative, and ordered from largest to smallest.

The orthogonal transformations \mathbf{O}_1 and \mathbf{O}_2 are not necessarily rotations.

To get a rotation, we must make the product have determinant 1.

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The orthogonal transformations \mathbf{O}_1 and \mathbf{O}_2 are not necessarily rotations.

To get a rotation, we must make the product have determinant 1.

Because the λ_i are positive and decreasing, the closest orthogonal transform \mathbf{O} to \mathbf{M} is:

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{O}_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \det(\mathbf{O}_1 \cdot \mathbf{O}_2) \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{O}_2$$



Parametrization: Euler Angles

Every rotation matrix \mathbf{R} can be parameterized by:

- a rotation about the z -axis, multiplied by
- a rotation about the y -axis, multiplied by
- a rotation about the z -axis:

$$\mathbf{R}(\theta, \phi, \psi) = \mathbf{R}_z(\psi)\mathbf{R}_y(\phi)\mathbf{R}_z(\theta)$$

The angles $(\theta, \phi, \psi) \in [0, 2\pi) \times [0, \pi] \times [0, 2\pi)$ are called the Euler angles.



Parametrization: Euler Angles

Instead of blending matrices and then normalizing, we can blend the rotation parameters:

- For each \mathbf{M}_k , compute the Euler angles $(\theta_k, \phi_k, \psi_k)$



Parametrization: Euler Angles

Instead of blending matrices and then normalizing, we can blend the rotation parameters:

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- Interpolate/Approximate the Euler angles:



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Instead of blending matrices and then normalizing, we can blend the rotation parameters:

- For each \mathbf{M}_k , compute the Euler angles $(\theta_k, \phi_k, \psi_k)$
- Interpolate/Approximate the Euler angles:

» Linear Interpolation:

- $\theta_k(t) = (1 - t)\theta_k + t \cdot \theta_{k+1}$
- $\phi_k(t) = (1 - t)\phi_k + t \cdot \phi_{k+1}$
- $\psi_k(t) = (1 - t)\psi_k + t \cdot \psi_{k+1}$



Parametrization: Euler Angles

Instead of blending matrices and then normalizing, we can blend the rotation parameters:

- For each \mathbf{M}_k , compute the Euler angles $(\theta_k, \phi_k, \psi_k)$
- Interpolate/Approximate the Euler angles:

- » Linear Interpolation

- » Catmull-Rom Interpolation:

- $\theta_k(t) = CR_0(t) \cdot \theta_{k-1} + CR_1(t) \cdot \theta_k + CR_2(t) \cdot \theta_{k+1} + CR_3(t) \cdot \theta_{k+2}$

- $\phi_k(t) = CR_0(t) \cdot \phi_{k-1} + CR_1(t) \cdot \phi_k + CR_2(t) \cdot \phi_{k+1} + CR_3(t) \cdot \phi_{k+2}$

- $\psi_k(t) = CR_0(t) \cdot \psi_{k-1} + CR_1(t) \cdot \psi_k + CR_2(t) \cdot \psi_{k+1} + CR_3(t) \cdot \psi_{k+2}$



Parametrization: Euler Angles

Instead of blending matrices and then normalizing, we can blend the rotation parameters:

- For each \mathbf{M}_k , compute the Euler angles $(\theta_k, \phi_k, \psi_k)$
- Interpolate/Approximate the Euler angles:
 - » Linear Interpolation
 - » Catmull-Rom Interpolation
 - » Uniform Cubic B-Spline Approximation:
 - $\theta_k(t) = B_{0,3}(t) \cdot \theta_{k-1} + B_{1,3}(t) \cdot \theta_k + B_{2,3}(t) \cdot \theta_{k+1} + B_{3,3}(t) \cdot \theta_{k+2}$
 - $\phi_k(t) = B_{0,3}(t) \cdot \phi_{k-1} + B_{1,3}(t) \cdot \phi_k + B_{2,3}(t) \cdot \phi_{k+1} + B_{3,3}(t) \cdot \phi_{k+2}$
 - $\psi_k(t) = B_{0,3}(t) \cdot \psi_{k-1} + B_{1,3}(t) \cdot \psi_k + B_{2,3}(t) \cdot \psi_{k+1} + B_{3,3}(t) \cdot \psi_{k+2}$



Parametrization: Euler Angles

Instead of blending matrices and then normalizing, we can blend the rotation parameters:

- For each \mathbf{M}_k , compute the Euler angles $(\theta_k, \phi_k, \psi_k)$
- Interpolate/Approximate the Euler angles:
 - » Linear Interpolation
 - » Catmull-Rom Interpolation
 - » Uniform Cubic B-Spline Approximation
- Set the value of the in-between matrix to:

$$\Phi_k(t) = \mathbf{R}_z(\theta_k(t))\mathbf{R}_y(\phi_k(t))\mathbf{R}_z(\psi_k(t))$$



Translations and Rotations

We represent translations and rotations independently, allowing us to:

- Blend the translations with splines
- Blend rotations with splines and
 - Normalization, or
 - Parametrization

There are other approaches that treat translations and rotations in a unified manner:

Dual Quaternions for Rigid Transformation Blending, [Kavan *et al.*, 2006]