

Chapter 3: Astrometry

Some corrections and changes

1. Equation 3.8 should read

$$\mu = \sqrt{\mu_\delta^2 + (\cos \delta)^2 \mu_\alpha^2}.$$

2. The line before section 3.2.1 should read: Its angular velocity is equivalent to traversing the angle subtended by the diameter of the moon in a little less than 200 years.
3. The set of equations 3.13 can be proved as follows:

Consider a point P whose coordinates in the two systems are denoted by (x, y, z) and (x', y', z') , as illustrated in Figure 3.13. The x -axis is same as x' -axis, hence we obtain $x' = x$. We next drop a perpendicular from the point P on the yz plane. It meets the plane at point S as shown in the figure below (Figure 1). The projected distance OS on the $y - z$ plane is denoted as r_p . Since β is the latitude of P , it is clear that OS makes an angle β with the y -axis. From the figure we deduce that the coordinates of S are given by

$$y = r_p \cos \beta, \quad z = r_p \sin \beta.$$

Similarly

$$y' = r_p \cos(\beta + \theta) = r_p(\cos \beta \cos \theta - \sin \beta \sin \theta),$$

$$z' = r_p \sin(\beta + \theta) = r_p(\sin \beta \cos \theta + \cos \beta \sin \theta).$$

Comparing these two set of equations we obtain the formulas for y' and z' given in Equation 3.8.

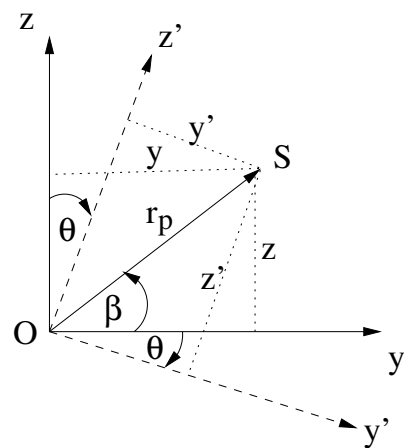


Figure 1: Clockwise rotation about x -axis by an angle θ .