

10 Operations

10.1 Introduction

This International Standard specifies operations on SRF coordinates and, in the case of 3D object-spaces, on SRF spatial directions, vectors and orientations. Underlying some of these operations are the similarity transformations relating two ORM's (two SRFs with the same ORM is treated as a special case). Similarity transformations are treated first in [10.3](#). The general case of changing the coordinate of a position in one SRF to its corresponding coordinate in another SRF is specified in [10.4](#), followed by important special cases. The specification of a spatial direction, vector or orientation in the context of an SRF is defined, and operations for changing these representations from one SRF to their corresponding representations in another SRF are specified in [10.5](#).

Euclidean distance in 2D and 3D object-space is specified in [10.6](#). Geodesic distance and azimuth on the surface of an oblate ellipsoid (or sphere) are specified in [10.7](#).

10.2 Symbols and terminology

An important category of spatial operations is changing the representation of spatial information in one SRF to the representation in a second SRF. For these SRF operations, the adjective “source” shall be used to refer to the first SRF, and the adjective “target” shall be used to refer to the second SRF.

The symbols in [Table 10.1](#) are used throughout this clause.

Table 10.1 — Symbols

Symbol	Definition
SRF_S	Source spatial reference frame
SRF_T	Target spatial reference frame
V_S	Applicable region of SRF_S
E_S	Extended region of SRF_S
ORM_S	Object reference model of SRF_S
ORM_R	Reference ORM for a given spatial object
CS_S	Spatial coordinate system of SRF_S
c_S	Coordinate of a position in SRF_S
$d_E()$	Euclidean distance
$d_G()$	Geodesic distance
$\vec{\Delta}_{T \leftarrow S}$	Origin displacement from frame T to frame S
E	Embedded orthonormal frame
G_S	Spatial generating function of CS_S
$\text{Dom}(G_S)$	Domain of the generating function G_S
$\text{Rng}(G_S)$	Range of the generating function G_S
$H_{T \leftarrow S}$	Similarity transformation from frame S to frame T
I	Identity matrix (or operator)
L	Localized orthonormal frame
L_{3D}	3D localization operator

Symbol	Definition
$(\lambda_S, \varphi_S, h_S)$	Geodetic coordinate tuple for a position in SRF _S
$M_{T \leftarrow S}$	Rotation matrix from frame S to frame T
n_S	Direction vector in SRF _S
$\sigma_{T \leftarrow S}$	Scale factor from frame S to frame T
$\Omega_{T \leftarrow S}$	Change of basis operator from frame S to frame T
p	Position vector
P_S	Mapping equations for SRF _S
q, r, s, t	Localization parameters
Q_S	Inverse mapping equations for SRF _S
R	Rotation operator
v_S	Vector quantity in SRF _S
W	World 3x3 transformation matrix
$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_S$	Position vector components in SRF _S
$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \\ \Delta z \end{bmatrix}_T$	Origin displacement vector components in SRF _T

10.3 ORM operations

10.3.1 Introduction

The similarity transformation (see 7.3.2) $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ between two object reference models, source ORM_S and target ORM_T underlies the coordinate operations in 10.4. There are two cases, depending on whether ORM_S and ORM_T represent the same object, or represent two different objects.

The case where ORM_S and ORM_T represent the same object is addressed in 10.3.2. Although objects are often represented by only a single object reference model, some objects, such as the Earth, are represented by many different object reference models (see Annex E). Given a set of n object reference models for an object, there are $n(n-1)$ possible source and target ORM pairs. Instead of specifying all possible similarity transformations among these object reference models, this International Standard reduces the requirement to specifying the reference transformation $H_{R \leftarrow S}$ from each source ORM for the object, ORM_S to the designated reference ORM for the object, ORM_R.

The more general case where ORM_S and ORM_T represent two different objects is addressed in 10.3.3. This includes subcases where one or both objects are represented by multiple object reference models, and where ORM_S and/or ORM_T are not the reference object reference models for their respective objects. It also includes subcases with different types of relationships between the two objects (see 8.4).

10.3.2 Relating different ORMs for the same object

If ORM_S and ORM_T are different object reference models that represent the same object, and therefore share the same reference ORM, ORM_R, the similarity transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the composition of their reference transformations $H_{R \leftarrow S}$ and $H_{T \leftarrow R}$, the inverse of $H_{R \leftarrow T}$ as shown in Figure 10.1. This is the common datum transformation operation.

$$H_{T \leftarrow S} = H_{T \leftarrow R} \circ H_{R \leftarrow S} \quad (10.1)$$

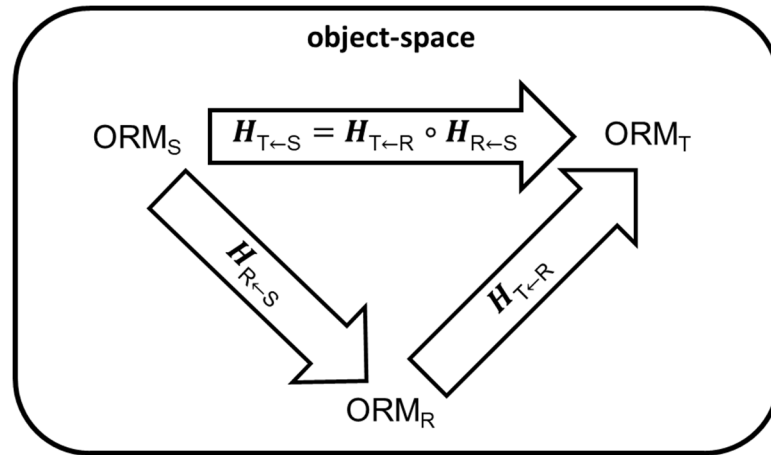


Figure 10.1 — Composed transformations for a single object

If ORM_S is the reference ORM for the object, $H_{R←S}$ reduces to the identity I . Similarly, if ORM_T is the reference ORM for the object, $H_{T←R}$ reduces to the identity I .

If ORM_S and ORM_T are identical, the similarity transformation $H_{T←S}$ reduces to the identity I (see 10.4.3 and 10.4.4). This subcase includes the relationship between a regional SRF and another SRF used as a reference (see 8.4.2).

If ORM_S is an object-fixed ORM, its reference transformation $H_{R←S}$ is a type of similarity transformation. Any 3D or 2D similarity transformation may be represented with the STT [ROTATE SCALE TRANSLATE](#) in the 3D case or STT [ROTATE SCALE TRANSLATE 2D](#) in the 2D case. Thus, using the notation of the STT formulation, $H_{R←S}$ may be represented as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_R = H_{R←S} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_S \right) \equiv \vec{\Delta}_{R←S} + \sigma_{R←S} \mathbf{M}_{R←S} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_S \quad (10.2)$$

NOTE For the Earth, the processes by which object reference models are established are based on physical measurements. These measurements are subject to error, and therefore introduce various types of relative distortions between object reference models. The scale factor $\sigma_{R←S}$ in [Equation 10.2](#) should equal 1,0 since each ORM is for the same object-space. However, values very close to 1,0 are allowed to account for small distortions (see 7.3.2). The reference transformation $H_{R←T}$ from ORM_T to the reference ORM_R is also a similarity transformation.

$H_{T←R}$ is also a similarity transformation:

$$\begin{aligned} H_{T←R} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_R \right) &= H_{R←T}^{-1} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_R \right) = (1/\sigma_{R←T}) \mathbf{M}_{R←T}^{-1} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_R - \vec{\Delta}_{R←T} \right) \\ &= \vec{\Delta}_{T←R} + (1/\sigma_{R←T}) \mathbf{M}_{R←T}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_R \end{aligned}$$

Because the matrix $\mathbf{M}_{R←T}$ is a rotation matrix, its transpose $\mathbf{M}_{R←T}^T$ is also its inverse $\mathbf{M}_{R←T}^{-1}$. The inverse of $\mathbf{M}_{R←T}$ is also the matrix $\mathbf{M}_{T←R}$ corresponding to the reverse rotations of ORM_T with respect to ORM_R . In particular:

$$\mathbf{M}_{T←R} = \mathbf{M}_{R←T}^{-1} = \mathbf{M}_{R←T}^T$$

and

$$H_{T←R} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_R \right) = \vec{\Delta}_{T←R} + (1/\sigma_{R←T}) \mathbf{M}_{T←R} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_R.$$

The composite operation $H_{T←S} = H_{T←R} \circ H_{R←S}$ reduces to:

$$H_{T←S} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_S \right) = H_{T←R} \circ H_{R←S} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_S \right) = \vec{\Delta}_{T←S} + (\sigma_{R←S}/\sigma_{R←T}) \mathbf{M}_{T←S} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_S \quad (10.3)$$

where:

$$\mathbf{M}_{T \leftarrow S} = \mathbf{M}_{T \leftarrow R} \mathbf{M}_{R \leftarrow S}, \text{ and } \vec{\Delta}_{T \leftarrow S} = \vec{\Delta}_{T \leftarrow R} + (1/\sigma_{R \leftarrow T}) \mathbf{M}_{T \leftarrow R} \vec{\Delta}_{R \leftarrow S}.$$

If the rotations $\mathbf{M}_{R \leftarrow S}$ and $\mathbf{M}_{R \leftarrow T}$ are equal, then $\mathbf{M}_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the identity matrix, and if $\sigma_{R \leftarrow S} = \sigma_{R \leftarrow T}$, $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S}$ simplifies to a translation of the origin:

$$\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}_S = \vec{\Delta}_{T \leftarrow S} + \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}_S.$$

[Equation 10.1](#) and [Figure 10.1](#) also apply to the 2D case.

If the source ORM_S is a time-dependent ORM for a spatial object, ORM_S(*t*) shall denote the source ORM_S at time *t*, and $\mathbf{H}_{R \leftarrow S}(t)$ shall denote the similarity transformation from ORM_S(*t*) to the object-fixed reference ORM_R. For a fixed value of time *t*₀, [Equation 10.1](#) and [Figure 10.1](#) generalize to $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S}(t_0) = \mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow R} \circ \mathbf{H}_{R \leftarrow S}(t_0)$. The generalization to a time-dependent target ORM_T(*t*) is $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S}(t_0) = \mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow R}(t_0) \circ \mathbf{H}_{R \leftarrow S}$. The generalization when both ORMs are time-dependent at time *t*₀ is $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S}(t_0) = \mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow R}(t_0) \circ \mathbf{H}_{R \leftarrow S}(t_0)$.

EXAMPLE ORM_S(*t*) is the ORM [EARTH INERTIAL J2000.0](#) at time *t*. ORM_R is the Earth reference ORM [WGS 1984](#). Because ORM_S(*t*) and ORM_R share the same embedding origin, the $\mathbf{H}_{R \leftarrow S}(t)$ transformation is a (rotation) matrix multiplication operation (without translation). The matrix coefficients for selected values of *t* account for polar motion, Earth rotation, nutation, and precession. Predicted values for these coefficients are computed and updated weekly by the International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service (IERS) [[IERS36](#)]. See [7.5](#) for other examples of dynamic ORM reference transformations.

10.3.3 Relating ORMs for different objects

If ORM_S and ORM_T are different object reference models that represent two different objects, a source object **S** and a target object **T**, the similarity transformation $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the composition of the reference transformation for ORM_S, $\mathbf{H}_{R_S \leftarrow S}$, the similarity transformation between the reference object reference models of the two objects, $\mathbf{H}_{R_T \leftarrow R_S}$, and the inverse reference transformation for ORM_T, $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow R_T}$, as shown in [Figure 10.2](#).

$$\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S} = \mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow R_T} \circ \mathbf{H}_{R_T \leftarrow R_S} \circ \mathbf{H}_{R_S \leftarrow S} \quad (10.4)$$

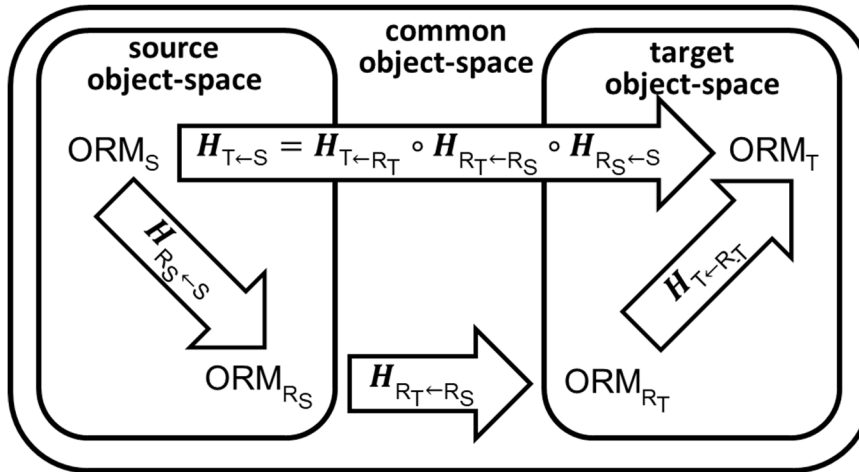


Figure 10.2 — Composed transformations for two different objects

The similarity transformations $\mathbf{H}_{R_S \leftarrow S}$ and $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow R_T}$ are the same as the corresponding transformations $\mathbf{H}_{R \leftarrow S}$ and $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow R}$ in [10.3.2](#). If ORM_S is the reference ORM for the source object, $\mathbf{H}_{R_S \leftarrow S}$ reduces to the identity **I**. Similarly, if ORM_T is the reference ORM for the target object, $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow R_T}$ reduces to the identity **I**.

Given that the two objects are fixed with respect to each other, the similarity transformation between their reference object reference models, $\mathbf{H}_{R_T \leftarrow R_S}$, depends on the relationship between the objects and their object-spaces. If one of the objects represents an assembly that includes the other object as a component, the object-

space of the component object can be considered to be nested within the object-space of the assembly object, as discussed in 8.4.2. In that case, the common object-space shown in Figure 10.2 represents the assembly object-space, and the similarity transformation $H_{R_T \leftarrow R_S}$ can be derived from the known displacement and orientation relationships between the object reference models of the component and assembly objects.

If the two objects are independent of each other, it still may be possible to derive the similarity transformation $H_{R_T \leftarrow R_S}$ if the displacement and orientation relationships between the two objects can be determined. As discussed in 8.4.2, it may be possible to consider one object as operating within the object-space of the other object. In that case, the ORM of the second object provides a reference for the ORM of the first object. Alternatively, it may be possible to consider both objects as operating within the object-space of a third object. In that case, the ORM of the third object provides a reference for both objects. In these last two cases, the common object-space shown in Figure 10.2 represents the object-space of the reference object,

If any ORM involved in the transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ is time-dependent, $ORM(t)$ shall denote that ORM at time t . Any similarity transformations involving that ORM are also time-dependent, and shall be denoted $H_{T \leftarrow S}(t)$. If the relationship between the object reference models can be determined at a fixed value of time t_0 , the similarity transformations generalize in the manner described in 10.3.2.

EXAMPLE ORM_S is the reference ORM for the space shuttle (as source object **S**). ORM_T is the reference ORM [WGS 1984](#) for the Earth (as spatial object **T**). When in orbit, the object-space of the space shuttle can be considered to be nested within the object-space of the Earth. At time t , the position and orientation of ORM_S with respect to ORM_T are known. $H_{T \leftarrow S}(t)$ can be determined and used to transform positions with respect to ORM_S to positions with respect to ORM_T .

10.4 Position operations

10.4.1 Introduction

Given a coordinate c_S representing a position in a source SRF, SRF_S , the operation²⁵ that computes the corresponding coordinate c_T of that position in a given target SRF, SRF_T is termed a change of SRF operation. This is a generalization of the change of basis operation defined in 6.2.

The general case of the change of SRF operation is addressed in 10.4.2. The general case depends on the existence of a similarity transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ (see 10.3) from the embedded frame determined by ORM_S , the ORM associated with SRF_S , to the embedded frame determined by ORM_T , the ORM associated with SRF_T . The general case also depends on CS_S , the spatial coordinate system associated with SRF_S , and CS_T , the spatial coordinate system associated with SRF_T .

Special cases allow for simplifications that result in computational short cuts to the general case. The case of matched normal embeddings is addressed in 10.4.3. Further specializations arise from combinations of specific coordinate-systems. Subclause 10.4.4 treats combinations of celestiodetic with a map projection.

Cases where CS_S and CS_T are based on the same abstract coordinate system, but ORM_S and ORM_T differ²⁶ do not generally produce computational simplifications. However, SRF_S and SRF_T are based on the [LOCOCENTRIC EUCLIDEAN 3D](#) CS, a simplification is possible. This simplification is presented in 10.4.5. This simplification is important for operations on directions, vector quantities, and orientations (see 10.5).

Another important special case occurs when the source object space is an abstract 3D object space. This special case is treated in 10.4.6.

10.4.2 General case

In the general case of the change of SRF operation, the source and target SRFs, SRF_S and SRF_T , are each based on a spatial coordinate system, CS_S and CS_T . SRF_S and SRF_T are also each based on an object reference

²⁵ [ISO 19111](#) defines this case as a coordinate operation.

²⁶ [ISO 19111](#) defines this case as a coordinate transformation.

model, ORM_S and ORM_T . SRF_S and SRF_T can be associated with different objects or with the same object. If SRF_S and SRF_T are associated with the same object, they can be based on different object reference models for that object, or on the same ORM.

Given two object-fixed SRFs, SRF_S and SRF_T , and a point in an object-space p that is within the applicable regions of both SRFs, the most general form of the change of SRF operation is:

$$c_T = G_T^{-1} \circ H_{T \leftarrow S} \circ G_S(c_S) \quad (10.5)$$

where c_S denotes the coordinate of p in SRF_S , and c_T denotes the coordinate of p in SRF_T . G_S is the spatial generating function for CS_S . $G_S(c_S)$ is the position vector p expressed in the embedded frame determined by ORM_S . $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the similarity transformation that transforms p from the embedded frame determined by ORM_S to the embedded frame determined by ORM_T . The inverse of the spatial generating function G_T , operating on p expressed in terms of the embedded frame determined by ORM_T , returns c_T . The composition of these operations is illustrated in [Figure 10.3](#). CS generating and inverse generating functions are specified in [Clause 5](#). Similarity transformations are specified in [Clause 7](#).

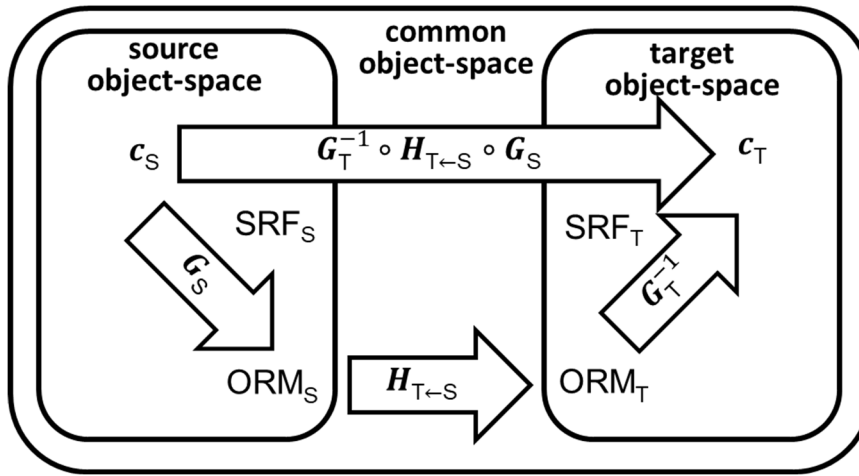


Figure 10.3 — Change of SRF operation – applied to coordinates

[Equation 10.5](#) is only defined for a value of c_S in the CS_S domain if its corresponding position belongs to the CS_T range (the range of a generating function is the domain of its inverse generating function). If $Dom(G_S)$ is the domain of the generating function G_S , $Rng(G_S)$ is the range of the generating function G_S , and $Rng(G_T)$ is the range of the generating function G_T , [Equation 10.5](#) is only defined for c_S in the set:

$$G_S^{-1} \left(Rng(G_S) \cap H_{T \leftarrow S}^{-1}(Rng(G_T)) \right) \equiv \{c_S \text{ in } Dom(G_S) | H_{T \leftarrow S}(G_S(c_S)) \text{ in } Rng(G_T)\} \quad (10.6)$$

If c_S does not belong to this set, it is invalid for the operation in [Equation 10.5](#).

EXAMPLE SRF_S is SRF [GEOCENTRIC WGS 1984](#) and SRF_T is an instance of SRF template [MERCATOR](#), with ORM [WGS 1984](#). For any c_S that is on the z-axis of SRF_S , [Equation 10.5](#) is not defined and is thus invalid, because the z-axis is not contained in the range of SRF template MERCATOR and, thus, it is not contained in the set in [Equation 10.6](#).

SRF_T may optionally specify an applicable region V_T , and may optionally also specify an extended region E_T (see [8.3.2.4](#)). If $Dom(G_T)$ is the domain of the generating function G_T , then $V_T \subseteq E_T \subseteq Dom(G_T)$. If c_T is computed using [Equation 10.5](#), c_T is either within the applicable region (c_T is in V_T), or c_T is within the extended region but not within the applicable region (c_T is in V_T/E_T), or c_T is within the CS domain but not within the extended region (c_T is in $Dom(G_T) \setminus E_T$).

In applications that functionally conform to an SRM profile, the domain of an SRF operation is restricted to the accuracy domain of the SRF as specified by that profile (see [Clause 12](#)).

[Equation 10.5](#) depends on the existence of a similarity transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ from the embedded frame determined by ORM_S to the embedded frame determined by ORM_T . If ORM_S and ORM_T represent the same object, $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ is as defined in [10.3.2](#). If ORM_S and ORM_T represent different objects, $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ is as defined in [10.3.3](#). The simplifications

If SRF_S and SRF_T are two [celestiodetic](#) SRFs with different object reference models for the same spatial object, [Equation 10.5](#) transforms the coordinate $c_S = (\lambda_S, \varphi_S, h_S)$ with respect to one oblate ellipsoid to $c_T = (\lambda_T, \varphi_T, h_T)$ with respect to the other oblate ellipsoid. A transformation between two celestiodetic SRFs for the spatial object Earth is known as a *horizontal datum shift*.

NOTE A number of numerical approximations developed to implement horizontal datum shift have been published. Under the assumption of zero rotations and no scale differences, a widely used approximation²⁷ to directly transform $c_S = (\lambda_S, \varphi_S, h_S)$ to $c_T = (\lambda_T, \varphi_T, h_T)$ is the *standard Molodensky transformation* formula (see [\[NGA36\]](#)).

In the case of a time-dependent relationships between ORM_S and ORM_T , [Equation 10.5](#) generalizes to:

$$c_T(t) = G_T^{-1} \circ H_{T \leftarrow S}(t) \circ G_S(c_S)$$

The time-dependent similarity transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}(t)$ is as discussed in [10.3.2](#) and [10.3.3](#), depending on whether ORM_S and ORM_T represent the same object or two different objects.

10.4.3 Matched normal embeddings

In this special case of the change of SRF operation, the source and target SRFs share the same ORM, or, more generally, the reference transformations of ORM_S and ORM_T are equivalent (*i.e.*, matched normal embeddings), and therefore $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the identity transformation. Consequently, [Equation 10.5](#) simplifies to:

$$c_T = G_T^{-1} \circ G_S(c_S) \text{ for all } c_S \text{ in the set: } \{G_S^{-1}(Rng(G_S) \cap Rng(G_T))\}. \quad (10.7)$$

EXAMPLE 1 If SRF_S is a [celestiodetic](#) SRF and SRF_T is the [celestiocentric](#) SRF for the same ORM, then since the CS of the celestiocentric SRF is [Euclidean 3D](#) for which the G_T^{-1} is the identity, [Equation 10.7](#) reduces to the geodetic generating function: $c_T = G_S(c_S)$.

If SRF_T is a 3D SRF that has ellipsoidal height designated as the vertical coordinate-component of the SRF (see [8.4.3](#)), and SRF_S is the induced zero height surface SRF, the *promotion operation* converts a surface coordinate c_S in SRF_S to a 3D coordinate in SRF_T by setting the 1st and 2nd coordinate-components of c_T to the 1st and 2nd coordinate-components of c_S and setting the 3rd coordinate-component, ellipsoidal height, to 0. Coordinate promotion is a special case of [Equation 10.7](#). Applicable spatial reference frames include those based on SRF templates [CELESTIODETIC](#), [PLANETODETIC](#), and all map projection SRF templates.

EXAMPLE 2 If SRF_S is an induced zero height surface [celestiodetic](#) SRF and SRF_T is the 3D celestiodetic SRF for the same ORM, [Equation 10.7](#) promotes $c_S = (\lambda, \varphi)$ from a coordinate of CS type surface to $c_T = (\lambda, \varphi, 0)$ a coordinate of CS type 3D.

If SRF_S is a 3D SRF that has ellipsoidal height designated as the vertical coordinate-component of the SRF (see [8.4.3](#)), and SRF_T is the induced zero height surface SRF, the *truncation operation* converts a 3D coordinate c_S in SRF_S to a surface coordinate c_T , by setting the 1st and 2nd coordinate-components of c_T to the 1st and 2nd coordinate-components of c_S . The point in object-space corresponding to c_S and the point in object-space corresponding to c_T are not the same point unless the height coordinate-component $h = 0$. Truncation, therefore, does not generally preserve location.

EXAMPLE 3 If SRF_S is a [celestiodetic](#) 3D SRF, the (induced) zero height surface SRF_T is the surface celestiodetic SRF for the same ORM. The truncation operation associates $c_T = (\lambda, \varphi)$ to $c_S = (\lambda, \varphi, 0)$.

EXAMPLE 4 SRF_S is a celestiodetic 3D SRF based on ORM SIRGAS_2000 (Table D.2). SRF_T is a celestiodetic 3D SRF based on ORM WGS_84, which is the reference ORM for Earth. The reference transformation for SIRGAS_2000 (Table E.6) is the identity transformation, thus the ORM embedded frames match and [Equation 10.7](#) applies. However, the ellipsoid RDs for these two ORM have differing minor semi-axis values b . Thus, the generating functions for these SRFs, while both

²⁷ Historically it was thought that these approximations would require less computation than direct conversion. The perceived computational advantage may have been overcome by technology advances. New efficient algorithms for converting celestiocentric coordinates to celestiodetic coordinates have been developed that result in appreciably faster transformations without the attendant loss of accuracy.

celestial 3D, have differing values at non-zero latitudes. Consequently $G_T^{-1} \circ G_S$ in Equation 10.6 will not equal the identity function. Furthermore, the range of SRF_S is smaller than the range of SRF_T.

10.4.4 Matched normal embeddings and map projection SRFs

In this special case of the change of SRF operation for map projection spatial reference frames, the source and target spatial reference frames share the same ORM, or, more generally, the reference transformations of ORM_S and ORM_T determine the same embedded frame (*i.e.*, matched normal embeddings), and therefore $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the identity transformation.

The spatial CS generating function G_{MP} for an augmented map projection SRF is implicitly defined (see 5.3.7.2 and 5.4.2) by the composition of the spatial generating function, G_{GD} , for the [geodetic](#) 3D CS with the inverse mapping equation $Q \equiv (Q_1, Q_2, h)$ as:

$$G_{MP} = G_{GD} \circ Q.$$

If SRF_S and SRF_T are map projection spatial reference frames for the same object, and the reference transformations of ORM_S and ORM_T are equivalent, [Equation 10.7](#) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} c_T &= (G_{GD,T} \circ Q_T)^{-1} \circ (G_{GD,S} \circ Q_S)(c_S) \\ &= P_T \circ G_{GD,T}^{-1} \circ G_{GD,S} \circ Q_S(c_S) \end{aligned} \quad (10.8)$$

where:

- Q_S : inverse mapping equations for SRF_S,
- $G_{GD,S}$: spatial generating function for the geodetic 3D CS for SRF_S,
- Q_T : inverse mapping equations for SRF_T (the inverse of P_T)
- P_T : mapping equations for SRF_T, and
- $G_{GD,T}$: spatial generating function for the geodetic 3D CS for SRF_T,

Furthermore, if ORM_S = ORM_T, $G_{GD,S} = G_{GD,T}$ and [Equation 10.8](#) simplifies to:

$$c_T = P_T \circ Q_S(c_S). \quad (10.9)$$

If SRF_T is a [celestial](#) SRF, SRF_S is an augmented map projection SRF, and ORM_T = ORM_S, [Equation 10.7](#) simplifies to:

$$c_T = Q_S(c_S).$$

Similarly, if SRF_S is a [celestial](#) SRF, SRF_T is an augmented map projection SRF, and ORM_T = ORM_S, [Equation 10.7](#) simplifies to:

$$c_T = P_T(c_S).$$

10.4.5 Cartesian 3D SRFs

In this special case of the change of SRF operation both the source and target SRFs (SRF_S and SRF_T) are instances of the [LOCOCENTRIC EUCLIDEAN 3D](#) SRF template ([Table 8.11](#)). This special case is important for the treatment of directions, vectors, and orientations (see 10.5). This SRF requires localization parameter vectors q , r , and s in the embedded frame E determined by the associated ORM. In terms of these parameters the spatial generating function, G_{LE3D} , is in the form of an affine transformation and thus allows the change of SRF operation to be explicitly expressed in affine transformation form ([Equation 10.10](#)) as well. The affine form of G_{LE3D} operating on the coordinate (u, v, w) of a position p in the localized frame L is:

$$\begin{aligned} p &= G_{LE3D}((u, v, w)) = L_{3D} \circ G_{E3D}((u, v, w)) \\ &= q + ur + vs + wt \\ &= q + u \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ r_3 \end{bmatrix} + v \begin{bmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ s_3 \end{bmatrix} + w \begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \mathbf{q} + \begin{bmatrix} r_1 & s_1 & t_1 \\ r_2 & s_2 & t_2 \\ r_3 & s_3 & t_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \mathbf{q} + \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{E \leftarrow L} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{E \leftarrow L} = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 & s_1 & t_1 \\ r_2 & s_2 & t_2 \\ r_3 & s_3 & t_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{t} \cdot \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{y} & \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{y} & \mathbf{t} \cdot \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{z} & \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{z} & \mathbf{t} \cdot \mathbf{z} \end{bmatrix},$$

\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{s} and $\mathbf{t} = (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{s})$ are the basis vectors of the localized frame L , and $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}$ are the basis vectors of the embedded frame E .

The spatial generating function G_{LE3D} maps a coordinate tuple in the domain of the localized frame of the SRF to the corresponding position \mathbf{p} in terms of the embedded frame E determined by the ORM of the SRF. The coordinate tuple (u, v, w) corresponds to the column vector $[u \ v \ w]^T$, for \mathbf{p} in the localized frame L specified by the parameters \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r} , and \mathbf{s} .

The inverse generating function can be similarly expressed as:

$$G_{LE3D}^{-1}(\mathbf{p}) = (u, v, w)$$

$$\text{where } [u \ v \ w]^T = \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{L \leftarrow E}(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}) \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{L \leftarrow E} = \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{E \leftarrow L}^{-1} = \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{E \leftarrow L}^T$$

The change of basis operation $\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{L \leftarrow E}$ transforms a position-vector in terms of the embedded frame E to the corresponding position-vector in terms of the localized frame L of the SRF.

The affine form of the spatial generating function G_{LE3D} and its inverse provide an affine form for the change of SRF operation between two instances of the Lococentric Euclidean 3D SRF template, SRF_S and SRF_T , with differing ORMs. This is illustrated in [Figure 10.4](#). In this figure, the Z axis of each of the four frames shown projects out of the page. SRF_S has localization parameters $\mathbf{q}_S, \mathbf{r}_S, \mathbf{s}_S$ and associated ORM_S , and SRF_T has localization parameters $\mathbf{q}_T, \mathbf{r}_T, \mathbf{s}_T$ and associated ORM_T . The similarity transformation between these object reference models is denoted by $H_{T \leftarrow S}$.

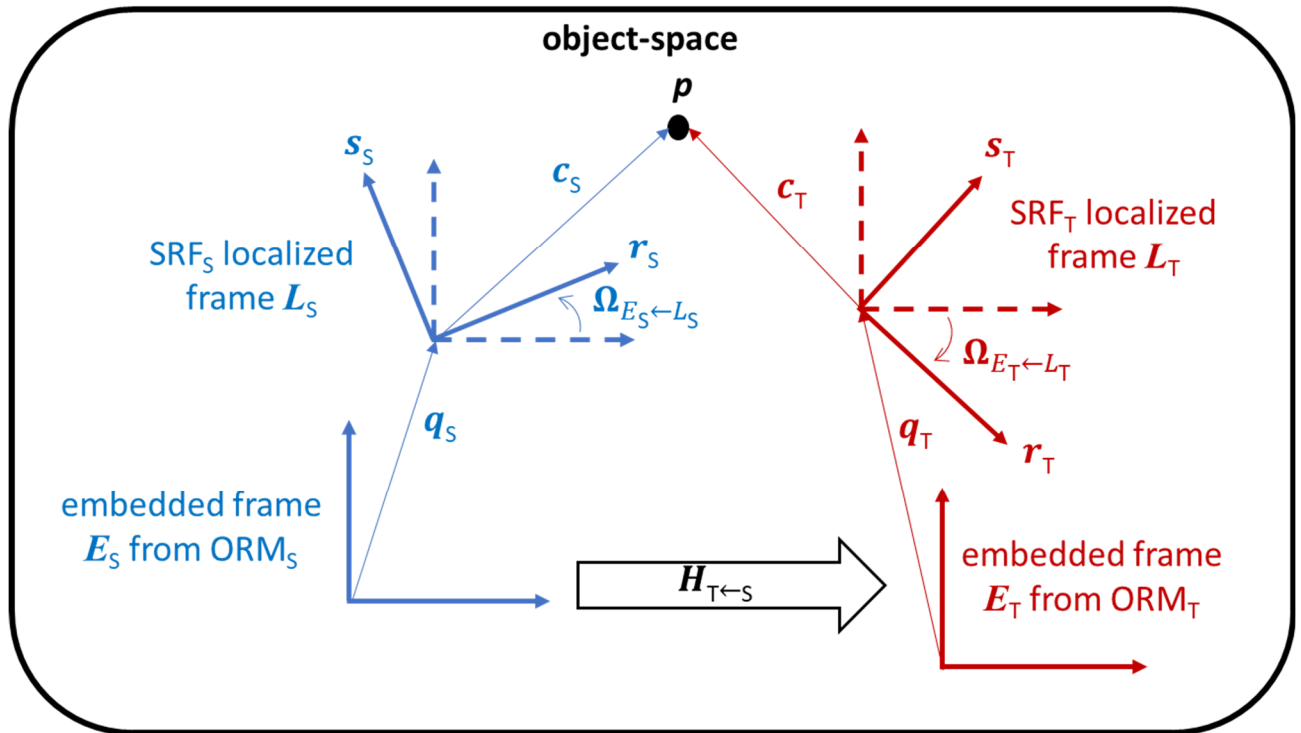


Figure 10.4 — Change of SRF operation for Lococentric Euclidean 3D SRFs

The coordinate c_T in SRF_T that corresponds to coordinate c_S in SRF_S can be computed using [Equation 10.5](#):

$$\mathbf{c}_T = \mathbf{G}_{LE3D,T}^{-1} \circ \mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S} \circ \mathbf{G}_{LE3D,S}(\mathbf{c}_S)$$

The change of SRF operation consists of three steps. First, the coordinate \mathbf{c}_S is transformed from the localized frame L_S for SRF_S to its embedded frame E_S , as shown in the left side of [Figure 10.4](#). Next, the similarity transformation $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S}$ transforms the coordinate from the embedded frame E_S for SRF_S to the embedded frame E_T for SRF_T. Finally, the coordinate is transformed from the embedded frame E_T of SRF_T to its localized frame L_T , as shown in the right side of [Figure 10.4](#).

Substituting the expression in [Equation 10.3](#) for $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S}$, and applying the affine transformation to both $\mathbf{G}_{LE3D,S}$ and $\mathbf{G}_{LE3D,T}^{-1}$ gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{c}_T &= \mathbf{\Omega}_{E_T \leftarrow L_T}^T \left(\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S} \left(\mathbf{q}_S + \mathbf{\Omega}_{E_S \leftarrow L_S}(\mathbf{c}_S) \right) - \mathbf{q}_T \right) \\ &= \mathbf{\Omega}_{E_T \leftarrow L_T}^T \left(\vec{\Delta}_{T \leftarrow S} - \mathbf{q}_T + \frac{\sigma_{R \leftarrow S}}{\sigma_{R \leftarrow T}} \mathbf{M}_{T \leftarrow S} \left(\mathbf{q}_S + \mathbf{\Omega}_{E_S \leftarrow L_S}(\mathbf{c}_S) \right) \right) \\ &= \underbrace{\mathbf{\Omega}_{E_T \leftarrow L_T}^T \left(\vec{\Delta}_{T \leftarrow S} + \frac{\sigma_{R \leftarrow S}}{\sigma_{R \leftarrow T}} \mathbf{M}_{T \leftarrow S} \mathbf{q}_S - \mathbf{q}_T \right)}_{\text{constant vector}} + \underbrace{\frac{\sigma_{R \leftarrow S}}{\sigma_{R \leftarrow T}} \left(\mathbf{\Omega}_{E_T \leftarrow L_T}^T \circ \mathbf{M}_{T \leftarrow S} \circ \mathbf{\Omega}_{E_S \leftarrow L_S} \right)}_{\text{matrix multiplication}}(\mathbf{c}_S) \end{aligned} \quad (10.10)$$

where $\mathbf{c}_S = (u, v, w)_S$, $\mathbf{c}_T = (x, y, z)_T$, and
for: $i = S$ or T ,

$$\mathbf{\Omega}_{E_i \leftarrow L_i} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{i,1} & s_{i,1} & t_{i,1} \\ r_{i,2} & s_{i,2} & t_{i,2} \\ r_{i,3} & s_{i,3} & t_{i,3} \end{bmatrix},$$

$\mathbf{r}_i = (r_{i,1} \ r_{i,2} \ r_{i,3})$, $\mathbf{s}_i = (s_{i,1} \ s_{i,2} \ s_{i,3})$, and $\mathbf{t}_i = (t_{i,1} \ t_{i,2} \ t_{i,3})$ are the CS localization parameters

The advantage of the final form of [Equation 10.10](#) is that it is significantly more efficient when transforming a large number of points, as the constant vector component can be computed only once and reused for each point.

If the corresponding reference transformations of ORM_S and ORM_T are equivalent, in that they each determine the same embedded frame, [Equation 10.7](#) specializes to [Equation 10.11](#):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{c}_T &= \mathbf{G}_{LE3D,T}^{-1} \circ \mathbf{G}_{LE3D,S}(\mathbf{c}_S), \\ &= \mathbf{\Omega}_{E_T \leftarrow L_T}^T (\mathbf{q}_S - \mathbf{q}_T) + \mathbf{\Omega}_{E_T \leftarrow L_T}^T \circ \mathbf{\Omega}_{E_S \leftarrow L_S}(\mathbf{c}_S) \end{aligned} \quad (10.11)$$

where $\mathbf{c}_S = (u, v, w)$

Every Cartesian SRF \mathbf{C} is equivalent to the [LOCOCENTRIC EUCLIDEAN 3D](#) SRF specified with SRFT localization parameters defined as:

\mathbf{q} is the embedded frame vector for the origin of \mathbf{C} ,
 \mathbf{r} is the unit vector on the primary axis of \mathbf{C} pointing in the positive direction, and
 \mathbf{s} is the unit vector on the secondary axis of \mathbf{C} pointing in the positive direction.

Thus [Equations 10.10](#) and [10.11](#) apply to Cartesian SRFs as well.

Similarly, the Cartesian coordinate system of any spatial orthonormal frame specified with frame parameter vectors \mathbf{q} , \mathbf{r} , and \mathbf{s} may also be identified with a [LOCOCENTRIC EUCLIDEAN 3D](#) SRF using the same parameters.

10.4.6 Instantiating abstract object-space SRFs

Engineering designs or abstract models are intended for realisation in the physical world or in virtual worlds. Instantiation of such models can require several types of SRFs and specific sequences of position operations.

Abstract models are designed in abstract object-spaces using such Cartesian SRFs as [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#). In many application domains, abstract models are included in other object-spaces. These other (target) object-spaces may be another abstract object-space, using its own instance of a [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) SRF, or may be a physical object-space that either uses a Cartesian SRF or a non-Cartesian SRF. To include an abstract model in a target object-space that is specified with a non-Cartesian SRF, it is necessary to establish a localized Cartesian SRF. Whether the target object-space is specified with a Cartesian SRF or a non-Cartesian SRF, the instantiation of an abstract model uses a uniform method by establishing a localized Cartesian SRF. The SRF in the target object-space supplies the reference coordinate c to specify the origin of the localized Cartesian SRF, which is instantiated from either a [LOCAL TANGENT SPACE EUCLIDEAN](#) SRFT or a [LOCOCENTRIC EUCLIDEAN 3D](#) SRFT. In this role, the target object-space SRF becomes the reference SRF and the localized SRF acts as the target SRF.

EXAMPLE 1 A building plan is designed in the source model SRF_S, an abstract space [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) SRF. A terrestrial site survey establishes the coordinate for the origin of the model in a reference SRF, a celestiodetic SRF_R. The target [LOCAL TANGENT SPACE EUCLIDEAN](#) SRF, SRF_T, is instantiated at the origin point specified in SRF_R. Source coordinates in SRF_S are related to local target coordinates in SRF_T by: $(x_T, y_T, z_T) = \sigma(x_S, y_S, z_S)$, where σ is a model scale factor. In addition to scaling, the instanced model is often rotated to adjust its orientation at the instanced position.

NOTE In some modelling applications, the model centre of gravity or bounding box centre, among other choices, is considered to be the "model origin". However, for purposes of model instantiation, the model origin is the point with coordinate (0, 0, 0) in the SRF in which the model is defined.

The instantiation of an abstract model entails the following steps, which provide a uniform method for both Cartesian and non-Cartesian-based SRFs of target object-space:

- 1) If the abstract space geometric model is specified in SRF_M that is not a [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) SRF and is instead specified in another 2D or 3D abstract space SRF, the model is converted using [Equation 10.6](#) from SRF_M to SRF_S, a [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) SRF. Otherwise, SRF_M becomes SRF_S.
- 2) The position at which the model is instantiated in the physical or abstract target object-space is identified by a coordinate c in SRF_R, a reference SRF for the target object-space.
- 3) The target for the conversion is SRF_T, a localized Cartesian 3D SRF with its origin specified by the coordinate c in SRF_R. SRF_T must be compatible with SRF_R. SRF_T may be either a [LOCAL TANGENT SPACE EUCLIDEAN](#) SRF or a [LOCOCENTRIC EUCLIDEAN 3D](#) SRF. SRF_T is realised by the reference coordinate c and the SRF_T template parameters.
- 4) A world transformation is supplied to correctly position, scale, and orient the geometric model instance. The transformation includes a scaled rotation matrix $\sigma\mathbf{R}$, where σ is a scale factor and \mathbf{R} is a rotation or identity matrix. The transformation may also optionally include $\vec{\Delta}_T = (\Delta x_T, \Delta y_T, \Delta z_T)$, an offset of the model origin from the SRF_T origin.
- 5) Each model vertex coordinate in SRF_S is converted to a corresponding coordinate in SRF_T through the following transformation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_T = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \\ \Delta z \end{bmatrix}_T + \sigma\mathbf{R} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}_S. \quad (10.12)$$

This equation is in the form of [Equation 10.4](#) where $\mathbf{H}_{T \leftarrow S}(v) = \vec{\Delta}_T + \sigma\mathbf{R}v$ and $\mathbf{G}_S = \mathbf{G}_T = \text{Identity}$, thus the conversion may be viewed as a change of SRF operation. See also [10.5.3 Example](#). In the terminology of ISO/IEC 18023-1 Data Representation Model (DRM) classes, $\mathbf{W} = \sigma\mathbf{R}$ is the world transformation 3x3 matrix class.

NOTE [Equation 10.12](#) illustrates that digital graphic composite pattern modelling techniques such as SceneGraph trees that use scale and rotation matrices \mathbf{W} together with translation operations at each tree node are special cases of [Equation 10.4](#). See also [10.5.3 Example](#).

EXAMPLE 2 A model geometry is specified in SRF_M, an abstract object-space Cartesian SRF. The model is to be instantiated in a physical object-space with a geocentric reference SRF, SRF_R. The SRF_R reference coordinate c determines the position of the model origin at point q . SRF_T is the target SRF realised from the [LOCOCENTRIC EUCLIDEAN 3D](#)

SRFT with template parameters q, r, s , where r and s are, respectively, the primary and secondary coordinate axis unit vectors of SRF_T with respect to SRF_R . The orientation of the instanced model with respect to SRF_T (and SRF_R) is determined by the model's rotation matrix R .

EXAMPLE 3 A CAD model of an automobile wheel is designed in an abstract object-space using a [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) source SRF, SRF_S . The wheel model is then instanced into another abstract object-space where a CAD model for the entire car is being designed, using a target [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) SRF, SRF_T . This is illustrated in [Figure 10.5](#). In this simple case, there is no need for a distinct reference SRF, and there is no need to localize the target SRF. The centre of the wheel model is at the origin of SRF_S , and its orientation is aligned with the axes of SRF_S . A transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ embeds an instance of the SRF_S into the abstract object-space of the car model, scaling the wheel model by σ to be consistent with the car model, and translating it by Δ_T to the appropriate position with respect to the car model. If necessary, the transformation can also rotate the wheel model by R to align it with the car model.

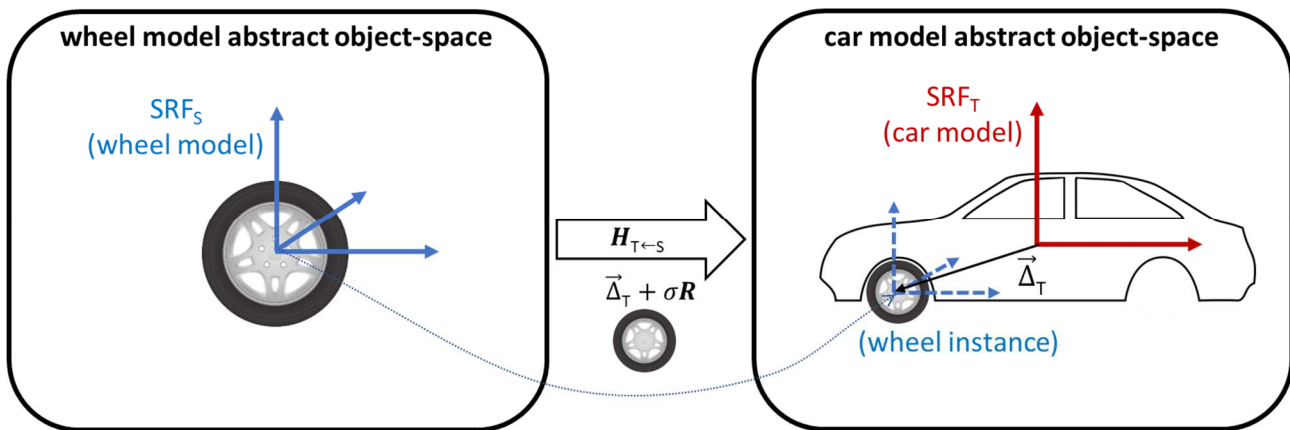


Figure 10.5 — Abstract object realised in another abstract object-space

EXAMPLE 4 A house is designed in an abstract object-space using a [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) source SRF, SRF_S . A terrestrial site survey using the [GEODETIC WGS 1984](#) SRF as the reference SRF, SRF_R , establishes the geodetic coordinate $(\lambda_0, \varphi_0, h_0)$ of the southeast corner of the site where the house will be built. This geodetic coordinate provides parameter values for an instance of the [LOCAL TANGENT SPACE EUCLIDEAN](#) SRF template that defines the origin (and tangent point) of the target SRF, SRF_T . The origin of SRF_T is at the southeast corner of the building site, and its axes align with local east and local north. Because the house will not be positioned at the origin of SRF_T , or aligned with its axes, the transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ scales the house model to its actual size, rotates it to its planned orientation on the site, and translates it to its planned position. This is illustrated in [Figure 10.6](#).

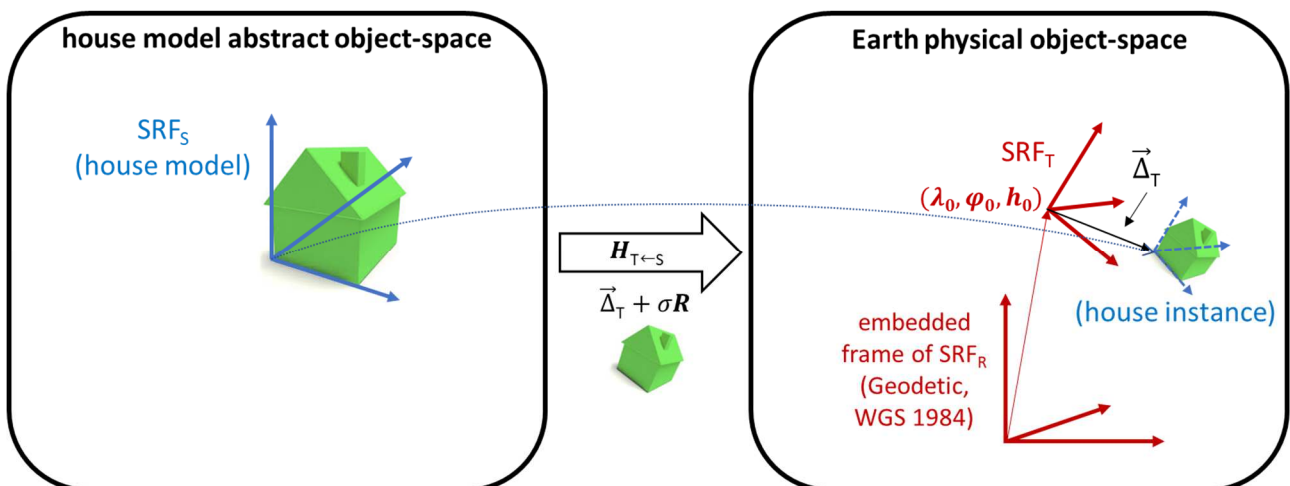


Figure 10.6 — Abstract object realised using a geodetic reference point

EXAMPLE 5 A house is designed in an abstract object-space using a [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) source SRF, SRF_S . The [GEOCENTRIC WGS 1984](#) SRF is used as the reference SRF, SRF_R . The localization parameters q_T, r_T , and s_T , for an instance of the [LOCOCENTRIC EUCLIDEAN 3D](#) SRF template define the target SRF, SRF_T . The geocentric coordinate (x, y, z) determines a corner of the building site, which is the origin of SRF_T at q_T . The building site footprint determines the axes r_T and s_T . Because the house will not be positioned at the origin of SRF_T , or aligned with its axes, the

transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ scales the house model to its actual size, rotates it to its planned orientation on the site, and translates it to its planned position. This is illustrated in [Figure 10.7](#).

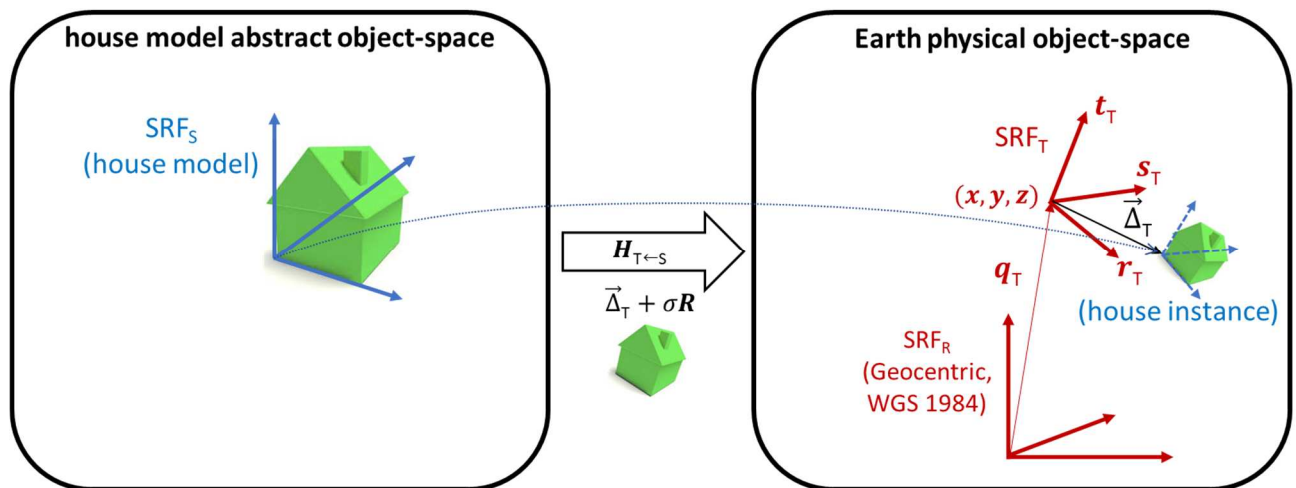


Figure 10.7 — Abstract object realised using a geocentric reference point

10.5 Vector operations

10.5.1 Introduction

Directions and vector quantities associated with a 3D SRF are specified with respect to 3D orthonormal frames (see [5.2.3](#)). Given an orthonormal frame for object-space (see [8.4.4](#)), a direction is represented as a unit vector in the Cartesian coordinate system determined by the frame. Vector quantities, such as velocity or force, are specified as vectors of appropriate direction and magnitude in the frame. The 3D orthonormal frame is termed the vector reference frame (see [5.3.6.4](#)).

The choice of the vector reference frame is often determined by the requirements of the user application. A 3D SRF can be used to directly or indirectly specify the vector reference frame.

One choice is to use a local tangent frame as the vector reference frame. A coordinate c in the interior of the domain of an orthogonal right-handed 3D²⁸ SRF specifies the local tangent frame at c (see [5.3.6.3](#) and [8.4.5](#)). This local tangent frame has its origin at c and its basis vectors tangent to the coordinate-component curves of the 3D SRF at the origin.

In the special case that the 3D SRF is a Cartesian SRF, all coordinate-component curves are straight lines in object-space. For each coordinate-component, all coordinate-component curve instances are parallel to one another. All coordinate-component curve instances for each coordinate-component are perpendicular to the coordinate-component curve instances for the other two coordinate-components. Thus, all local tangent frames of a Cartesian SRF are oriented the same way and differ only in the location of the frame origins.

A second, less restrictive, choice is to use a localized frame (see [8.4.5](#)) as the vector reference frame. A Cartesian SRF with spatial generating function $G(\cdot)$ specifies a localized frame by coordinates c_o, c_r, c_s where $G(c_o)$ is the localized frame origin and the vectors $G(c_r) - G(c_o)$ and $G(c_s) - G(c_o)$, which are perpendicular to each other, are its basis vectors (see [5.3.6.3](#)).

Given a vector with respect to one vector reference frame, the representation of the vector can be converted to a second vector reference frame if the orientation of one frame with respect to the other can be computed. The conversion computation in various situations is treated in [10.5.2](#) and [10.5.3](#). This operation uses a specialized

²⁸ All of the 3D SRFTs in this International Standard are based on orthogonal right-handed CSs.

form of [Equation 10.3](#), dropping the translation term since vectors are translation invariant and dropping the scale factor to preserve the magnitude of the vector.

10.5.2 Representing vectors in different vector reference frames

Given a source SRF, SRF_S , with corresponding ORM_S and embedded frame E_S , and a target SRF, SRF_T , in the same object-space, with a corresponding ORM_T and embedded frame E_T , a vector reference frame F_S can be derived from SRF_S at coordinate c_S as described in [10.5.1](#). Similarly, another vector reference frame F_T can be derived from SRF_T at coordinate c_T .

There are several conditions under which the embedded frames E_S and E_T are the same (i.e., share the same origin and the same basis vectors):

- SRF_S and SRF_T are the same SRF,
- SRF_S and SRF_T are specified using the same ORM, or
- SRF_S and SRF_T are specified using different ORMs that determine normal embeddings that produce the same embedded frame.

Given v_S , a vector with magnitude and direction represented in vector reference frame F_S , the same vector, denoted as v_T , can be represented with respect to vector reference frame F_T as:

$$v_T = \Omega_{T \leftarrow S} v_S,$$

where $\Omega_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the orientation of vector reference frame F_S with respect to vector reference frame F_T (see [6.3.2](#)).

When both vector reference frames F_S and F_T are specified using the same embedded frame, $\Omega_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the direction cosine matrix that transforms positions in F_S to equivalent positions in F_T (see [6.2.2](#)):

$$\Omega_{T \leftarrow S} = \begin{bmatrix} r_S \cdot r_T & s_S \cdot r_T & t_S \cdot r_T \\ r_S \cdot s_T & s_S \cdot s_T & t_S \cdot s_T \\ r_S \cdot t_T & s_S \cdot t_T & t_S \cdot t_T \end{bmatrix}, \quad (10.13)$$

where: r_i, s_i and t_i are the basis vectors of vector reference frame F_i at c_i ,
for $i = S, T$.

When the two vector reference frames F_S and F_T are specified using different embedded frames, v_T is computed as:

$$v_T = R_T^T \circ M_{T \leftarrow S} \circ R_S v_S$$

where:

R_T^T is the transpose of R_T ,

$M_{T \leftarrow S}$ is the rotation matrix component of the similarity transformation $H_{T \leftarrow S}$ from

ORM_S to ORM_T (see [Equation 10.3](#) in [10.3.2](#)) and

for: $i = S$ or T ,

$$R_i = \begin{bmatrix} r_{i,1} & s_{i,1} & t_{i,1} \\ r_{i,2} & s_{i,2} & t_{i,2} \\ r_{i,3} & s_{i,3} & t_{i,3} \end{bmatrix},$$

$r_i = (r_{i,1} \ r_{i,2} \ r_{i,3})$, $s_i = (s_{i,1} \ s_{i,2} \ s_{i,3})$, and $t_i = (t_{i,1} \ t_{i,2} \ t_{i,3})$ are the basis

vectors for the vector reference frame at c_i with respect to the embedded frame E_i .

(10.14)

[Equation 10.14](#) is derived from [Equation 10.3](#) by dropping the translation term since vectors are translation invariant and dropping the scale factor σ_{SR}/σ_{TR} to preserve the magnitude of the vector.

The rotation matrix $M_{T \leftarrow S}$ in [Equation 10.14](#) is termed the *orientation of SRF_S at reference coordinate c_S , with respect to SRF_T at reference coordinate c_T* . The rotation matrix $M_{T \leftarrow S}$ is a generalization of the matrix in [Equation 10.13](#) that accounts for the change of embedded frames between ORM_S and ORM_T .

EXAMPLE SRF_S is $\text{SRF}_{\text{GEODETTIC_WGS_1984}}$ and SRF_T is $\text{SRF}_{\text{GEOCENTRIC_WGS_1984}}$. With SRF_S reference coordinate $c_S = (\lambda, \varphi, h) = (-77\pi/180, +38,88\pi/180, 0)$. The Washington monument, an obelisk located at c_S ,

points approximately in the direction $\mathbf{n}_S = (0, 0, 1)$ in the local tangent frame at c_S . In this example, $ORM_S = ORM_T$ so that case b) applies. Since SRF_T is a Cartesian SRF, the local tangent frame at a coordinate c_T in SRF_T has the same basis vectors as the embedded frame, hence the dot product components of \mathbf{R} appearing in [Equation 10.13](#) with the basis vectors $\mathbf{r}_S, \mathbf{s}_S, \mathbf{t}_S$ for the tangent frame at c_S reduce to column vectors for $\mathbf{r}_S, \mathbf{s}_S, \mathbf{t}_S$ in embedded frame coordinates, so that:

$$\mathbf{n}_T = \mathbf{R}_S \mathbf{n}_S = \begin{bmatrix} r_{S,1} & s_{S,1} & t_{S,1} \\ r_{S,2} & s_{S,2} & t_{S,2} \\ r_{S,3} & s_{S,3} & t_{S,3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} t_{S,1} \\ t_{S,2} \\ t_{S,3} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{t}_S.$$

Then using the expression in [8.4.4 Example 3](#) for \mathbf{t}_S :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{t}_S &= (\cos \lambda_0 \cos \varphi_0 \quad \sin \lambda_0 \cos \varphi_0 \quad \sin \varphi_0) \\ &= (\cos(-77\pi/180) \cos(38,88\pi/180) \quad \sin(-77\pi/180) \cos(38,88\pi/180) \quad \sin(38,88\pi/180)) \\ &= (0,17511592 \quad -0,75851036 \quad 0,62769136). \end{aligned}$$

The resulting vector $\mathbf{n}_T = (0,17511592 \quad -0,75851036 \quad 0,62769136)$ is the direction vector at coordinate c_T in SRF_T .

10.5.3 Instantiating abstract object-space SRF directions in another object-space

Engineering designs and abstract models are often intended for realization in the physical world. In such cases, the operation of changing the representation of direction vector \mathbf{n}_S in a linear SRF representing the abstract space to a direction vector \mathbf{n}_T with respect to a vector reference frame F_T in an SRF for a physical object-space is based on [Equation 10.11](#). Denoting the basis vectors for F_T by $\mathbf{r}_T, \mathbf{s}_T, \mathbf{t}_T$, and transforming the direction vector through matrix multiplication by a given invertible matrix 3×3 \mathbf{W} (see [10.4.6 Example](#)), \mathbf{n}_T is computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{n}}_S &= \frac{1}{|\mathbf{W}|} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{n}_S \\ \mathbf{n}_T &= \mathbf{R}_T \tilde{\mathbf{n}}_S \end{aligned} \tag{10.15}$$

where matrix \mathbf{R}_T is defined in [Equation 10.14](#). Division by the determinant $|\mathbf{W}|$ cancels any scaling by matrix \mathbf{W} to ensure that \mathbf{n}_T is a unit vector. (The rotation matrix \mathbf{R}_T does not change the length of $\tilde{\mathbf{n}}_S$.)

EXAMPLE In [ISO/IEC 18023-1](#), if an instance of the class <DRM Geometry Model Instance> has a component of class <DRM World Transformation>, that component specifies an invertible matrix \mathbf{W} and a coordinate c in the <DRM Environment Root> SRF. If \mathbf{n}_S is a direction vector at reference coordinate c_S in an associated [LOCAL SPACE RECTANGULAR 3D](#) <DRM Geometry Model>, [Equation 10.11](#) may be used to compute c_T in the <DRM Environment Root> SRF and [Equation 10.15](#) may be used to compute the \mathbf{n}_T direction at c_T . This procedure to change <DRM Geometry Model> coordinates and directions to the environment root SRF is termed "model instancing".

10.6 Euclidean distance operation

This International Standard supports an operation to return the Euclidean distance between two object-space locations using the coordinates of those locations in an SRF.

If c_1 and c_2 are two coordinates in an SRF, and if G is the generating function of the CS of the SRF, the *Euclidean distance* d_E between the corresponding points in object-space is given by:

$$d_E(c_1, c_2) = d(G(c_1), G(c_2))$$

where d is the [Euclidean metric](#).

10.7 Geodesic distance operations

10.7.1 Introduction

A curve on a smooth surface that has the property that any sufficiently small segment of it realizes the shortest distance on the surface between the segment's two endpoints is termed a geodesic (see [Figure 10.8](#)). The formal definition of a geodesic is given in [A.7.4](#).

EXAMPLE 1 On a sphere, the equator, the meridians, and all other great circles are geodesics. Likewise any segment of one of these curves is a geodesic. No parallel of latitude except the equator is a geodesic.

EXAMPLE 2 On an oblate ellipsoid, the equator is a geodesic, and the meridians are all geodesics. All the other geodesics are curves which wind around the ellipsoid between two parallels of opposite latitude and any segment of which that crosses the equator, crosses at some non-right angle.

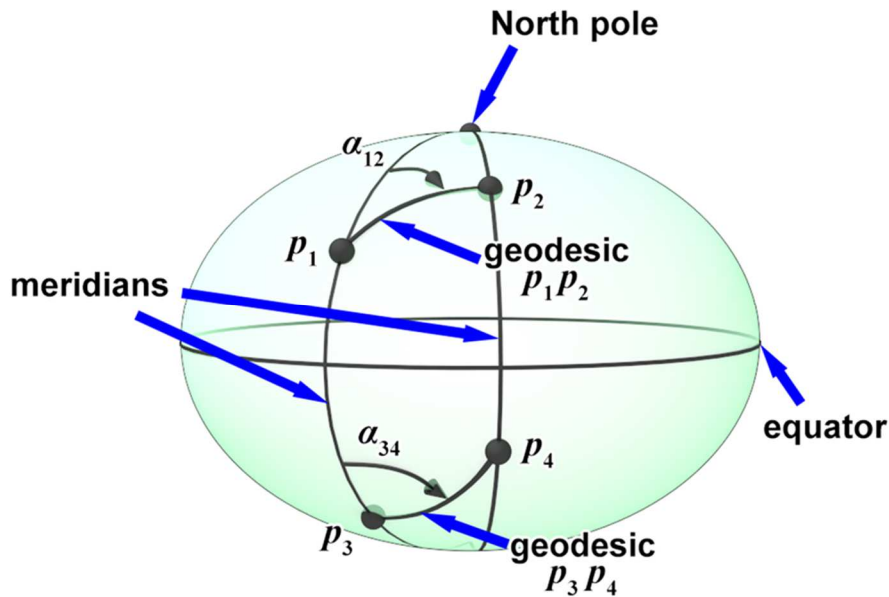


Figure 10.8 — Examples of geodesics

Let points p_1 and p_2 lie on a smooth surface. The shortest distance on the surface from p_1 to p_2 is the shortest arc length associated with any of the smooth surface curves that connect p_1 to p_2 . This distance is unique, but the curve that has this arc length may not be unique. In particular, for the two pole points, every meridian is such a shortest curve.

EXAMPLE 3 On an oblate ellipsoid, let p_1 be the point with surface geodetic coordinates $(\lambda, \varphi) = (0^\circ, 20^\circ)$ and let p_2 be the point diametrically opposite, *i.e.*, with surface geodetic coordinates $(\lambda, \varphi) = (180^\circ, -20^\circ)$. In that case, the shortest distance on the surface from p_1 to p_2 is twice the meridional quadrant, *i.e.*, twice the length of a meridian from equator to pole. But there are two distinct curves from p_1 to p_2 which have this number as their arc length – one passes through the north pole and the other passes through the south pole. (Both are composed of segments of meridians).

EXAMPLE 4 On an oblate ellipsoid with eccentricity ε , let points p_1 and p_2 lie on the equator but be separated by a longitude difference that is less than π and more than $\pi\sqrt{1-\varepsilon^2}$, an angle termed the “lift-off longitude”. Then there will be two curves from p_1 to p_2 whose arc length is the shortest distance from p_1 to p_2 – one lying in the northern hemisphere, the other lying (symmetrically) in the southern hemisphere. If the longitude difference is less than $\pi\sqrt{1-\varepsilon^2}$, the shorter equator segment from p_1 to p_2 is the shortest connecting curve.

If a curve lying on a smooth surface connects point p_1 to point p_2 , and if that curve’s arc length is also the shortest distance from p_1 to p_2 , then that curve is a geodesic. Thus, the arc length of the shortest curve connecting the two points is termed the *geodesic distance*.

EXAMPLE 5 The two curves from p_1 to p_2 defined in Example 3 are geodesics.

EXAMPLE 6 The two curves from p_1 to p_2 defined in Example 4 are geodesics.

The converse is not true. If a geodesic starts at point p_1 and ends at point p_2 , its arc length may or may not be the same as the shortest distance on the surface from p_1 to p_2 .

EXAMPLE 7 Let points p_1 and p_2 lie on the equator of a sphere or oblate ellipsoid at longitudes 0° and 181° , respectively. The segment of the equator from p_1 to p_2 that is continuous in longitude from 0° to 181° is a geodesic. (All segments of the equator are geodesics). However, its arc length is not the shortest distance on the surface from p_1 to p_2 . Any curve which realizes the shortest distance on the surface from p_1 to p_2 has to lie within a single hemisphere of longitude.

There are two problems of interest pertaining to geodesics on an oblate ellipsoid. In the first, termed the direct problem, a surface point, an azimuth, and a distance are given. The problem is to find a second surface point which terminates the (unique) geodesic whose initial point is the given point, whose initial forward azimuth is the given azimuth, and whose arc length is the given distance. Also to be found is the geodesic's terminal forward azimuth. The details are given in [10.7.3](#).

In the second problem, termed the indirect problem, two distinct surface points are given. The problem is to find the shortest distance on the surface between the two given points, and find the set of curves (which will be geodesics) whose arc lengths equal this shortest distance. In addition, the initial and terminal forward azimuths of each curve is to be found. The details are in [10.7.4](#).

This International Standard supports the geodesic operations for SRFs based on SRFT [CELESTIODETIC](#), [PLANETODETIC](#), and all map projection SRFTs.

Given two surface coordinates c_1 and c_2 of points p_1 and p_2 , respectively, the *geodesic distance operation*:

$$s = d_G(c_1, c_2)$$

is defined as the distance solution to the indirect problem for (λ_1, φ_1) and (λ_2, φ_2) where (λ_1, φ_1) is the surface geodetic coordinate for c_1 and (λ_2, φ_2) is the surface geodetic coordinate for c_2 .

An extended version of this operation provides the forward azimuth value α_1 at c_1 and the forward azimuth value α_2 at c_2 :

$$\{s, \alpha_1, \alpha_2\} = d_{GI}(c_1, c_2).$$

The geodesic destination operation corresponding to the direct problem requires a starting point c_1 , a forward azimuth value α_1 , at c_1 and a positive distance s . It returns the destination point c_2 and the forward azimuth value α_2 at c_2 :

$$\{c_2, \alpha_2\} = d_{GD}(c_1, \alpha_1, s)$$

where $\{(\lambda_2, \varphi_2), \alpha_2\}$ is the direct problem solution for input parameter values $\{(\lambda_1, \varphi_1), \alpha_1, s\}$.

There is a large body of literature concerning computational techniques to solve the direct and indirect problems. In the interest of accuracy and computational efficiency, many of these computational techniques treat the problems by sub-cases -- short lines, long lines, intermediate length lines, and other caveats and exceptions. Each of these has been optimized in a way that is appropriate for the intended application or user domain. For purposes of this International Standard, a recently published treatment ([\[ROL10\]](#)) that has one mathematical formulation to cover all cases is utilized.

10.7.2 Auxiliary functions

The treatment of the direct and indirect problems in [10.7.3](#) and [10.7.4](#) require the auxiliary functions defined in this subclause.

An important characteristic of a geodesic on an oblate ellipsoid is that the quantity termed the (non-metric) *Clairaut constant* and defined by:

$$c = \frac{\sin(\alpha) \cos(\varphi)}{\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2 \sin^2(\varphi)}}$$

has a constant value at every point on a given geodesic, where (λ, φ) is the coordinate of a point on the geodesic and α is the azimuth of the curve at that point.

The mathematics required to solve the direct and indirect problems involves the use of elliptic integrals. The incomplete elliptic integral of third kind is defined for real n , θ and m , with $m^2 < 1$ as:

$$P(n, \theta, m) = \int_0^\theta d\xi / \left((1 - n \sin^2 \xi) \sqrt{1 - m \sin^2 \xi} \right).$$

The treatment in [ROL10] defines two auxiliary functions: a longitude difference function $L(c, \theta_1, \theta_2)$ and an arc length function $A(c, \theta_1, \theta_2)$ that are defined for all values of c , θ_1 and θ_2 by:

$$\begin{aligned} L(c, \theta_1, \theta_2) &= \left(c(1 - \varepsilon^2) / \sqrt{1 - c^2 \varepsilon^2} \right) \left(P(k^2(c), \theta_2, k^2(c) \varepsilon^2) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - P(k^2(c), \theta_1, k^2(c) \varepsilon^2) \right), \quad c \neq 0 \\ L(0, \theta_1, \theta_2) &= \lim_{c \rightarrow 0^+} L(c, \theta_1, \theta_2). \end{aligned} \quad (10.16)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} A(c, \theta_1, \theta_2) &= \left(a(1 - \varepsilon^2) / \sqrt{1 - c^2 \varepsilon^2} \right) \left(P(k^2(c) \varepsilon^2, \theta_2, k^2(c) \varepsilon^2) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - P(k^2(c) \varepsilon^2, \theta_1, k^2(c) \varepsilon^2) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (10.17)$$

where:

$$k^2(c) = (1 - c^2) / (1 - c^2 \varepsilon^2).$$

10.7.3 The direct problem

Given an oblate ellipsoid with major semi-axis a and eccentricity ε , let p_1 be a non-polar point on the ellipsoid given by its surface geodetic coordinates (λ_1, φ_1) . Let a geodesic be defined with p_1 as its initial point, α_1 as its initial forward azimuth, and arc length s . This geodesic will terminate at a point p_2 .

The direct problem requires finding the surface geodetic coordinates (λ_2, φ_2) of p_2 and the forward azimuth α_2 of the geodesic at the point p_2 . The quantity $\alpha_2 + \pi$ is termed the *back azimuth* at p_2 as it points backwards toward p_1 .

The given parameters are restricted to $-\pi/2 < \varphi_1 < \pi/2$, $-\pi < \alpha_1 \leq \pi$, and $s > 0$.

The functions $L(c, \theta_1, \theta_2)$ and $A(c, \theta_1, \theta_2)$ are used to solve the direct problem.

The given values in the direct problem (λ_1, φ_1) and α_1 determine the Clairaut constant c ,

$$c = \sin(\alpha_1) \cos(\varphi_1) / \sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2 \sin^2(\varphi_1)}.$$

Then using the longitude difference function,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_2 &= \lambda_1 + L(c, \theta_1, \theta_2), \\ \varphi_2 &= \arcsin(k(c) \sin \theta_2), \text{ and} \\ \alpha_2 &= \arctan2 \left(c \sqrt{1 - k^2(c) \sin^2 \theta_2}, k(c) \sqrt{1 - c^2 \varepsilon^2} \cos \theta_2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1 &= \arcsin(\sin(\varphi_1) / k(c)), \\ k(c) &= \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - c^2}{1 - c^2 \varepsilon^2}}, \quad k(c) \geq 0 \text{ if } |\alpha_1| \leq \pi/2 \text{ and } k < 0 \text{ otherwise,} \end{aligned}$$

and θ_2 is determined by the arc length function:

$$s = A(c, \theta_1, \theta_2). \quad (10.18)$$

[Equation 10.18](#) has a unique solution for θ_2 , which can be found by iterative methods.

10.7.4 The indirect problem

Given an oblate ellipsoid with major semi-axis a and eccentricity ε , let p_1 and p_2 be two points on the ellipsoid given by their surface geodetic coordinates (λ_1, φ_1) and (λ_2, φ_2) .

The indirect problem requires finding the shortest distance s on the ellipsoid from p_1 to p_2 . Further, for each curve from p_1 to p_2 whose arc length is s , it is required to find the forward azimuths α_1 and α_2 at the points p_1 and p_2 respectively. (Such curves will be geodesics, and there will be 1, 2, or infinitely many of them).

The given parameters are restricted to $-\pi \leq \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 \leq \pi$, $-\pi/2 \leq \varphi_1 \leq \pi/2$, and $-\pi/2 \leq \varphi_2 \leq \pi/2$.

The solution to the indirect problem can be determined once c , the Clairaut constant for the solution geodesic curve segment, is found. Dealing with the extreme c values 0 and 1 separately simplifies the process.

The single meridional case: $c = 0$ if $\lambda_2 = \lambda_1$ or if either point is a pole ($|\varphi_1| = \pi/2$ or $|\varphi_2| = \pi/2$). Then if $\varphi_1 < \varphi_2$, the solution is:

$$s = A(0, \varphi_1, \varphi_2), \text{ and } \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.$$

Otherwise $\varphi_1 > \varphi_2$, and the solution is:

$$s = A(0, \varphi_2, \varphi_1), \text{ and } \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \pi.$$

If either point is a pole, the azimuth at that point is undefined. The solution geodesic curve segment is unique unless both given points are poles. In that case the solution set is the infinite set of all meridians.

Meridional segments joined at pole: $c = 0$ if $\lambda_2 = \lambda_1 \pm \pi$ and $\varphi_2 \geq -\varphi_1$. Then

$$s = A(0, \varphi_1, \pi - \varphi_2), \alpha_1 = 0, \alpha_2 = \pi$$

and the geodesic curve segment passes through the north pole.

Similarly, $c = 0$ if $\lambda_2 = \lambda_1 \pm \pi$ and $\varphi_2 < -\varphi_1$. Then

$$s = -A(0, \varphi_1, -\varphi_2 - \pi), \alpha_1 = \pi, \alpha_2 = 0$$

and the geodesic curve segment passes through the south pole.

Eastward Equatorial segment: $c = 1$ if $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = 0$ and $0 < \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 \leq \pi\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2}$. Then

$$s = a(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1), \text{ and } \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \pi/2$$

The solution is unique.

Nearly antipodal Eastward Equatorial segment:

If $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = 0$ and the points are separated by more than the lift-off longitude ($\pi\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2} < \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 < \pi$), then c is determined by solving the equation:

$$\lambda_2 - \lambda_1 = L(c, 0, \pi) \text{ in the interval } 0 \leq c \leq 1.$$

the solution parameters are then given by:

$$s = A(c, 0, \pi), \alpha_1 = \arcsin(c), \text{ and } \alpha_2 = \pi - \alpha_1.$$

This geodesic curve segment lies in the northern hemisphere. A second solution lies in the southern hemisphere in north-south symmetry.

Typical prograde case: This case assumes that $0 < \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 < \pi$ and $\varphi_2 \geq |\varphi_1|$, but not $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = 0$.

Define $c_{max} = \cos \varphi_2 / \sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2 \sin^2 \varphi_2}$ and $\lambda_{crit} = L(c_{max}, (\arcsin(\sin \varphi_1 / \sin \varphi_2), \pi/2))$.

Then c may be determined by an iterative solution of the equation:

$$\lambda_2 - \lambda_1 = L(c, \theta_1(c), \theta_2(c)) \text{ in the interval } 0 \leq c \leq c_{max}$$

where: θ_1 , θ_2 and k are the following functions of c :

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1(c) &= \arcsin(\sin(\varphi_1)/k(c)), \\ \theta_2(c) &= \begin{cases} \arcsin(\sin(\varphi_1)/k(c)), & \text{if } \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 < \lambda_{crit} \\ \pi/2, & \text{if } \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 = \lambda_{crit}, \text{ and} \\ \pi - \arcsin(\sin(\varphi_1)/k(c)), & \text{if } \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 > \lambda_{crit} \end{cases} \\ k(c) &= \sqrt{(1 - c^2)/(1 - c^2 \varepsilon^2)}, \end{aligned}$$

The solution parameters are determined by c :

$$\begin{aligned} s &= A(c, \theta_1(c), \theta_2(c)), \\ \alpha_1 &= \arctan2(c\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2 \sin^2 \varphi_1}, \sqrt{1 - c^2} \cos \theta_1), \text{ and} \\ \alpha_2 &= \arctan2(c\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2 \sin^2 \varphi_2}, \sqrt{1 - c^2} \cos \theta_2). \end{aligned}$$

NOTE Extremely small values of c can cause numerical instability in some implementations.

Other prograde cases: If $0 < \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 < \pi$ and the cases above do not apply, a new pair of points p_3 and p_4 that satisfy the typical prograde case constraints can be specified using parameters from the given pair p_1 and p_2 . The indirect problem solution for points p_3 and p_4 , the shortest distance between them s , and the forward azimuths α_3 at p_3 and α_4 at p_4 will determine the solution for p_1 and p_2 as follows:

If $|\varphi_2| \leq \varphi_1$, let $p_3 = (\lambda_1, \varphi_2)$ and $p_4 = (\lambda_2, \varphi_1)$. Then $\alpha_1 = \pi - \alpha_4$ and $\alpha_2 = \pi - \alpha_3$.

If $|\varphi_2| \leq -\varphi_1$, let $p_3 = (\lambda_1, -\varphi_2)$ and $p_4 = (\lambda_2, -\varphi_1)$. Then $\alpha_1 = \alpha_4$ and $\alpha_2 = \alpha_3$.

If $|\varphi_1| \leq -\varphi_2$, let $p_3 = (\lambda_1, -\varphi_1)$ and $p_4 = (\lambda_2, -\varphi_2)$. Then $\alpha_1 = \pi - \alpha_3$ and $\alpha_2 = \pi - \alpha_4$.

In all these cases the arc length solution is the same, $s = \tilde{s}$, and the value of c and the multiplicity of shortest geodesic segments are also the same.

Retrograde cases: A retrograde case, $\lambda_2 < \lambda_1$, is converted to a prograde case with $p_3 = (\lambda_2, \varphi_1)$ and $p_4 = (\lambda_1, \varphi_2)$. Then $\alpha_1 = -\alpha_3$, $\alpha_2 = -\alpha_4$, and $s = \tilde{s}$. The value $(-c)$ from the prograde case is the retrograde solution value for c and the multiplicity of shortest geodesic segments are the same.

<https://standards.iso.org/ittf/PubliclyAvailableStandards/>