

CLUSTER II – Rotation from S/C to GSE coordinates

based on an email by Steve Schwartz; expanded by Andrew Lahiff

1. Rotate by SUNAZ degrees about the XB axis to a primed coordinate system in which the sun at the spin start lies in the x'-y' plane. SUNAZ is given by:

$$\text{SUNAZ} = 26.2 - \text{SPOS} * 360 / (16 * 1024)$$

where 26.2 is the angle (in degrees) between the sun sensor and the YB axis, and

$$\text{SPOS} = 176 \text{ (before 00:05:00 August 17th, 2003)}$$

$$\text{SPOS} = 1200 \text{ (after 00:05:00 August 17th, 2003)}$$

2. We now will construct the rotation matrix – it is made from the vectors ex' , ey' and ez' .

AUX contains the spin axis latitude (λ) and longitude (ϕ). Note that

$$\text{latitude } \lambda = \phi \text{ (here } \phi_{\text{GSE}} \text{ is the azimuthal angle)}$$

$$\text{longitude } \phi = 90 - \theta_{\text{GSE}} \text{ (here } \theta_{\text{GSE}} \text{ is the polar angle)}$$

Now, ex' is the spin axis, the components of which in GSE are known:

$$(\cos \lambda \cos \phi, \cos \lambda \sin \phi, \sin \lambda)$$

This was obtained using the usual relation between Cartesian and spherical coordinates, and:

$$\cos (90 - A) = \sin A$$

$$\sin (90 - A) = \cos A$$

3. ez' is perpendicular to ex_{GSE} , since the sun is the x'-y' plane. Therefore, ez' in GSE coordinates is

$$(0, e32, e33)$$

since $(1, 0, 0) \cdot (e31, e32, e33) = 0$. At this stage we do not know the values of $e32$ and $e33$.

4. ez' is perpendicular to ex' , therefore:

$$(\cos \lambda \cos \phi, \cos \lambda \sin \phi, \sin \lambda) \cdot (0, e_{32}, e_{33}) = 0$$

This gives a relation between e_{32} , e_{33} , λ and ϕ , i.e.

$$e_{33} = -(\cos \lambda \sin \phi / \sin \lambda) e_{32}$$

The vector ez' is then given by:

$$(0, 1, -\cos \lambda \sin \phi / \sin \lambda) e_{32}$$

This needs to be normalized to 1. This gives:

$$e_{32} = \sin \lambda / \text{Sqrt}[\cos^2 \lambda \sin^2 \phi + \sin^2 \lambda] = \beta \sin \lambda$$

Therefore ez' is given by

$$(0, \sin \lambda, -\cos \lambda \sin \phi) \beta$$

5. Next, ey' is perpendicular to both ez' and ex' , hence:

$$ey' = ez' \times ex'$$

This gives:

$$ey'(0) = \beta (\sin^2 \lambda + \cos^2 \lambda \sin^2 \phi)$$

$$ey'(1) = -\beta \cos^2 \lambda \cos \phi \sin \phi$$

$$ey'(2) = -\beta \cos \lambda \sin \lambda \cos \phi$$

6. The rotation matrix is then given by:

$$R = x' ex' + y' ey' + z' ez'$$