

3D Transformation Calculations

Set up a spreadsheet to do the 3D transformation between ITRF(epoch 1997) and NAD83(ITRF89):

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_{\text{NAD83}} \\ Y_{\text{NAD83}} \\ Z_{\text{NAD83}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{TX} \\ \text{TY} \\ \text{TZ} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\text{RZ}(t) & \text{RY}(t) \\ \text{RZ}(t) & 1 & -\text{RX}(t) \\ -\text{RY}(t) & \text{RX}(t) & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_{\text{ITRF96}} \\ Y_{\text{ITRF96}} \\ Z_{\text{ITRF96}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Where

The estimated transformation parameters from ITRF96 at epoch 1997.0 to NAD83(ITRF89) are:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{TX}(1997.0) &= 0.9910 \text{ m} \\ \text{TY}(1997.0) &= -1.9072 \text{ m} \\ \text{TZ}(1997.0) &= -0.5129 \text{ m} \\ \text{RX}(1997.0) &= -25.79 \text{ mas} \\ \text{RY}(1997.0) &= -9.65 \text{ mas} \\ \text{RZ}(1997.0) &= -11.66 \text{ mas} \\ \text{DS}(1997.0) &= 6.62 \text{ ppb (not used, set to 0)} \end{aligned}$$

By convention, the R's are reported in millia-arcseconds (thousands of an arc-second), the calculations must be done in radians. The conversion is
1 mas = 4.8481368×10^{-9} radians

Use the spreadsheet to calculate the ITRF coordinates for an NGS well-surveyed point with NAD83(ITRF89) coordinates of:

$$\begin{aligned} X &= -251,132.682 \\ Y &= -4,511,459.574 \\ Z &= 4,486,877.498 \end{aligned}$$

What is the vector distance from the NAD83 X, Y, Z coordinate to the ITRF X, Y, Z coordinate, according to the formula

Vector distance = square root ($\Delta X^2 + \Delta Y^2 + \Delta Z^2$) where Δ is the difference along the axis, e.g., $\Delta X = X_{\text{NAD}} - X_{\text{ITRF}}$

Do the same conversion and vector distance for a point in Miami, Florida:

$$\begin{aligned} X &= 972,941.973 \\ Y &= -5,653,257.872 \\ Z &= 2,778,911.669 \end{aligned}$$