

# Virtual Cameras and KUPER CONTROLS

You are a cameraman standing behind the camera with your eye looking through the lens...

**VTrack (+)**            Track BACK Away From Subject  
**VTrack (-)**            Track FORWARD Toward Subject  
                              - Zero position is arbitrary or set to start of shot -  
(“VTrack” is equivalent to **Translate Z** axis, and is calibrated in **decimal inches**.)

**VEW (+)**                Move the camera to the RIGHT  
**VEW (-)**                Move the camera to the LEFT  
                              (Perpendicular to the track)  
                              - Zero position is typically center of rig travel -  
(“VEW” is equivalent to **Translate X** axis, and is calibrated in **decimal inches**.)

**VNS (+)**                Move the camera UP  
**VNS (-)**                Move the camera DOWN  
                              (Perpendicular to the ground plane)  
                              - Zero position for **boom arm is level** at an arbitrary height  
(“VNS” is equivalent to **Translate Y** axis, and is calibrated in **decimal inches**.)

**NOTE:** Film cameras are typically in the **rotation order:** ROLL-TILT-PAN; in MAYA use “ZXY”

**VPan (+)**                Pan RIGHT horizon fixed; image moves to Left  
**VPan (-)**                Pan LEFT horizon fixed; image moves to Right  
                              - Zero position is camera **facing forward** on the Z axis -  
(“VPan” is equivalent to **Rotate Y** axis, and is calibrated in **decimal degrees**.  
Here KUPER departs from MAYA; pan values are opposite sign  
Axis is always perpendicular to ground plane on every system)

**VTilt (+)**                Tilt UP horizon moves Down  
**VTilt (-)**                Tilt DOWN; horizon moves Up  
                              - Zero position is camera at **dead level** -  
(“VTilt” is equivalent to **Rotate X** axis, and is calibrated in **decimal degrees**.)

**VRoll (+)**                Roll COUNTERCLOCKWISE horizon twists to Right  
**VRoll (-)**                Roll CLOCKWISE horizon twists to Left  
                              - Zero position is with the **horizon level** -  
(“VRoll” is equivalent to **Rotate Z** axis, and is calibrated in **decimal degrees**.)

The export order from a World Centered and Baked out MAYA camera is therefore:  
**TZ, TX, TY, RY\*-1, RX, RZ** with the origin at a known position within the set

Typical **KUPER ASCII** file in column and rows with one line header:

|         |         |         |          |         |        |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|--------|
| 47.1054 | 176.92  | 24.939  | -23.5196 | 36.0916 | 35.512 |
| 47.1055 | 176.919 | 24.9386 | -23.4909 | 36.0864 | 35.497 |

etc.

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