

Rigid Body - Cheat Sheet

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Everything in “world space” unless noted otherwise.

1 Static Properties

- Point Masses m_i (at points p_i)
- Total Mass $M := \sum m_i$
- Center of Gravity $c_g := \frac{1}{M} \sum m_i p_i$
- Relative positions $r_i := p_i - c_g$
- Tensor of Inertia $I_b := \sum m_i \begin{pmatrix} r_y^2 + r_z^2 & -r_x r_y & -r_x r_z \\ -r_y r_x & r_z^2 + r_x^2 & -r_y r_z \\ -r_z r_x & -r_z r_y & r_x^2 + r_y^2 \end{pmatrix}$ (in “body space”)

2 Dynamic Properties (Motion State)

linear position	$x(t)$	$\in \mathbb{R}^3$	“position”
linear momentum	$P(t)$	$\in \mathbb{R}^3$	“momentum”
angular position	$R(t)$	$\in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$	“rotation”
angular momentum	$L(t)$	$\in \mathbb{R}^3$	

3 Derived Properties

world-space inertia	$I_w(t)$	$:= R(t) \cdot I_b \cdot R(t)^T$	$\in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$
	$I_w^{-1}(t)$	$:= R(t) \cdot I_b^{-1} \cdot R(t)^T$	$\in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$
linear velocity	$v(t)$	$:= \frac{1}{M} P(t)$	$\in \mathbb{R}^3$
angular velocity	$\omega(t)$	$:= I_w^{-1}(t) L(t)$	$\in \mathbb{R}^3$
velocity at point q	$v(t, q)$	$:= v(t) + \omega(t) \times (q - x(t))$	$\in \mathbb{R}^3$

4 Forces

linear force $F(t) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ “force”
angular force $\tau(t) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ “torque”

5 Differential Equations

linear part:

- $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}x(t) = v(t)$
- $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}P(t) = F(t)$

angular part:

- $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}R_i(t) = \omega(t) \times R_i(t)$ (R_i is the i -th column of R)
- $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}L(t) = \tau(t)$

Note: $R(t)$ must always be orthonormal after an update step.

6 Adding Impulse

Adding an impulse j at world-space point q . (An impulse is a change of momentum.)

- linear: $P(t) += j$
- angular: $L(t) += (q - x(t)) \times j$

7 Adding Force

Adding an force \tilde{F} at world-space point q .

- linear: $F(t) += \tilde{F}$
- angular: $\tau(t) += (q - x(t)) \times \tilde{F}$