



Orbital period,  $T$

Angular velocity,  $\underline{\omega}^s = \omega_y \hat{e}_2 = \frac{2\pi}{T} \hat{e}_2$   
 $= \omega \hat{e}_2$

Points to be noted,

- The reaction-wheel attitude control system is fixed to the satellite. So, <sup>the</sup> attitude control system along with the satellite can be considered <sup>as a single</sup> system.
- Thus the individual torques  $M_x, M_y, M_z$ , that are being applied on the corresponding reaction wheels, are internal moments, as far as the satellite system is considered.

- Hence an equal and opposite moment will act on the rest of the satellite.

For example, if  $M_x$  is the <sup>shaft</sup> torque applied on the reaction-wheel 'X' to increase/decrease its angular speed, an equal and opposite moment  $M_x$  is acting on the reaction wheel 'Z' as a gyroscopic moment (refer to figure). ~~This moment will~~  
 The direction of this gyroscopic moment is along negative x axis.

- Similarly, the shaft torque  $M_z$  acting on the reaction-wheel 'Z' (along positive z direction) leads to a gyroscopic moment  $M_z$  on the reaction-wheel 'X' along the negative z axis.

- Given that at  $t=0$ ,  $\Omega_z = \Omega_0$  and  
 $\Omega_x = \Omega_y = 0$

- The angular velocity of the satellite about its y axis is a result of the precession

Caused by the two gyroscopic moments.

(3)

- Moment of inertia of each reaction wheel is  $I$ .

considering actuation of reaction wheel 'X',

$$M_x = I \dot{\Omega}_x \quad \text{--- -- -- -- --} \quad (1)$$

At the same time,  $-M_x$  is acting on the reaction wheel 'Z' is supposed to produce a constant precession rate of  $\omega_y = \omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}$ .

This moment is acting about the point O. ~~the~~

Thus, using <sup>the</sup> gyroscope equation for symmetric rotors with high spin going through steady precession,

$$\underline{M}^0 = I_3 \underline{\dot{\phi}} \times \underline{\dot{\psi}}$$

$$\text{Here } \underline{M}^0 = -M_x \hat{e}_1$$

for  
(~~from~~ reaction wheel Z)

$$I_3 = I$$

$$\underline{\dot{\phi}} = \omega \hat{e}_2$$

$$\underline{\dot{\psi}} = \Omega_z \hat{e}_3$$

$$\text{Thus, } -M_x \hat{e}_1 = I (\omega \hat{e}_2 \times \Omega_z \hat{e}_3)$$



$$\text{i.e., } M_x = -I \Omega_z \omega \quad \text{--- (2) (4)}$$

Similarly for reaction-wheel 'z',

$$M_z = I \dot{\Omega}_z \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

and

$$-M_z \hat{e}_3 = I (\omega \hat{e}_2 \times \Omega_x \hat{e}_1)$$

$$\text{i.e., } M_z = I \Omega_x \omega \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

$$\text{From (1) \& (2), } I \dot{\Omega}_x = -I \Omega_z \omega \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

$$\text{From (3) \& (4) } I \dot{\Omega}_z = I \Omega_x \omega \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

substituting for  $\Omega_x$  in (5) from (6),

$$\cancel{I} \frac{\ddot{\Omega}_z}{\omega} = -\Omega_z \omega$$

$$\text{i.e., } \ddot{\Omega}_z + \Omega_z \omega^2 = 0 \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

substituting for  $\Omega_z$  in (6) from (5),

$$-\frac{\ddot{\Omega}_x}{\omega} = \Omega_x \omega$$

$$\text{i.e., } \ddot{\Omega}_x + \Omega_x \omega^2 = 0 \quad \text{--- (8)}$$

(5)

solution to (7) & (8) will be of this form,

$$\Omega_z = A_z \cos \omega t + B_z \sin \omega t$$

$$\Omega_x = A_x \cos \omega t + B_x \sin \omega t$$

Given,  $\Omega_z = \Omega_0$  at  $t=0 \Rightarrow A_z = \Omega_0$

$$\Omega_x = 0 \text{ at } t=0 \Rightarrow A_x = 0$$

Substituting  $\Omega_x = B_x \sin \omega t$  in (5),

$$B_x \omega \cos \omega t + \Omega_z \omega = 0$$

at  $t=0$ ,  $B_x = -\Omega_0$

$$\Omega_z = \Omega_0$$

Substituting  $\Omega_z = \Omega_0 \cos \omega t + B_z \sin \omega t$  in (6),

$$-\Omega_0 \sin \omega t + B_z \omega \cos \omega t - \Omega_x \omega = 0$$

at  $t=0$ ,  $B_z = 0$

$$\Omega_x = 0$$

Thus,  $\Omega_x(t) = -\Omega_0 \sin \omega t$

$$\Omega_z(t) = \Omega_0 \cos \omega t$$

Motor torques on the shaft,

⑥

$$M_x = -I \Omega_0 \omega \cos \omega t$$

$$M_z = -I \Omega_0 \omega \sin \omega t$$

Reaction-wheel 'y' has no rotation,

$$\Omega_y = 0 \quad \& \quad M_y = 0$$

Graphs,

