

CSD2301 Lecture

15. Angular Momentum

LIN QINJIE

Outline

- Cross product
- Angular momentum
- Conservation of angular momentum

Vector (Cross) Product

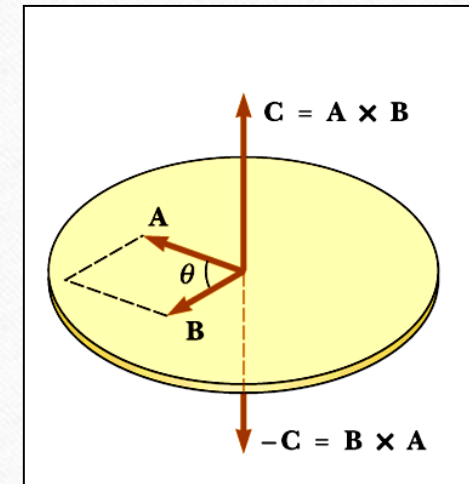
- Given two vectors **A** and **B**, the vector product is another vector **C**.

$$\vec{C} = \vec{A} \times \vec{B}$$

- The magnitude of C is:

$$C = AB \sin \theta$$

- It is equal to the **area of parallelogram** formed by the vectors.
- The direction of C is perpendicular to the plane formed by A and B and is given by the **right-hand rule**.



Some Properties

- If the order of the vectors are changed, the sign of the cross product changes.

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = -\vec{B} \times \vec{A}$$

- If A is parallel to B, then

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = 0$$

- If A is perpendicular to B then

$$|\vec{A} \times \vec{B}| = AB$$

- The vector product obeys the distributive law:

$$\vec{A} \times (\vec{B} + \vec{C}) = \vec{A} \times \vec{B} + \vec{A} \times \vec{C}$$

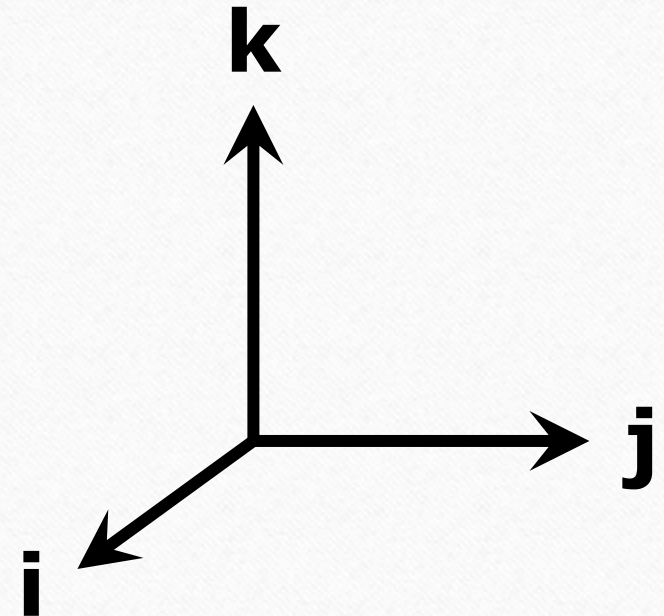
Some Properties

$$\hat{i} \times \hat{i} = \hat{j} \times \hat{j} = \hat{k} \times \hat{k} = 0$$

$$\hat{i} \times \hat{j} = -\hat{j} \times \hat{i} = \hat{k}$$

$$\hat{j} \times \hat{k} = -\hat{k} \times \hat{j} = \hat{i}$$

$$\hat{k} \times \hat{i} = -\hat{i} \times \hat{k} = \hat{j}$$



Torque: A Cross Product

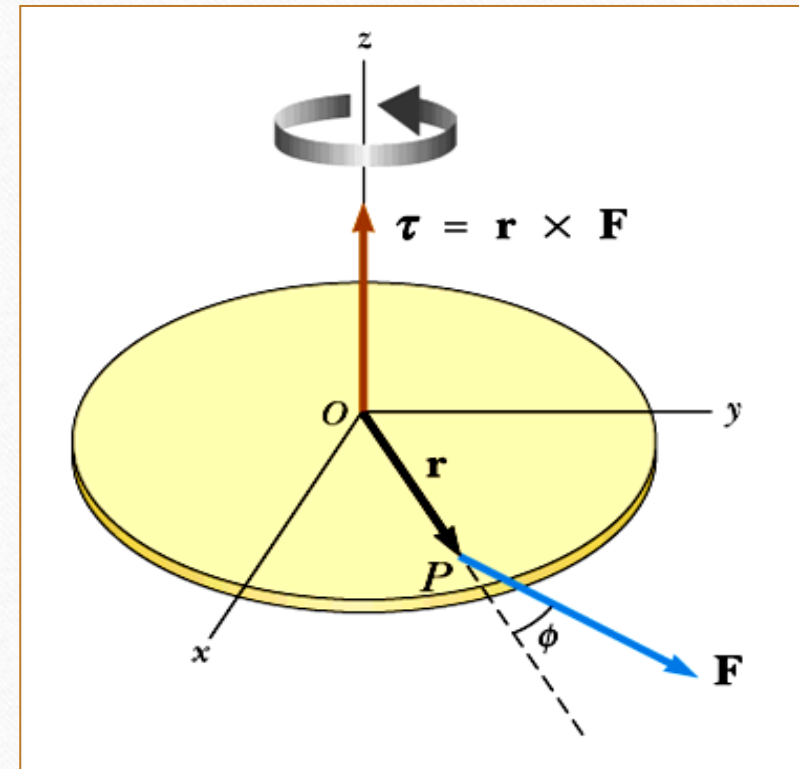
- Remember that the torque of a force was earlier defined as:

$$\tau = Fl = rF \sin \theta$$

- This is just the magnitude of torque vector about O:

$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$$

- Direction of vector is normal to the plane formed by \mathbf{r} and \mathbf{F} .

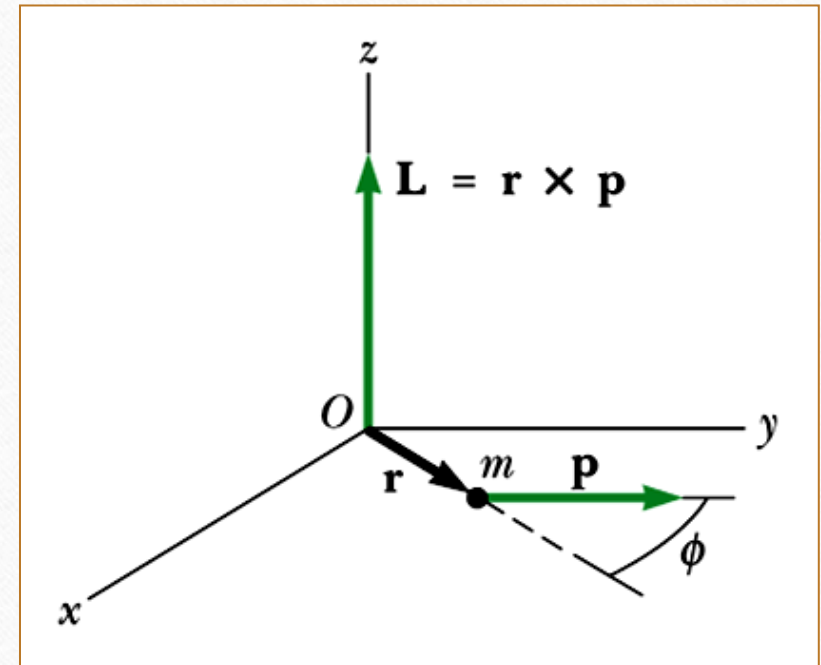


Angular Momentum

- The instantaneous angular momentum \mathbf{L} of a particle relative to the origin O is defined by the **cross product** of the instantaneous vector position \mathbf{r} and its instantaneous linear momentum \mathbf{p} .

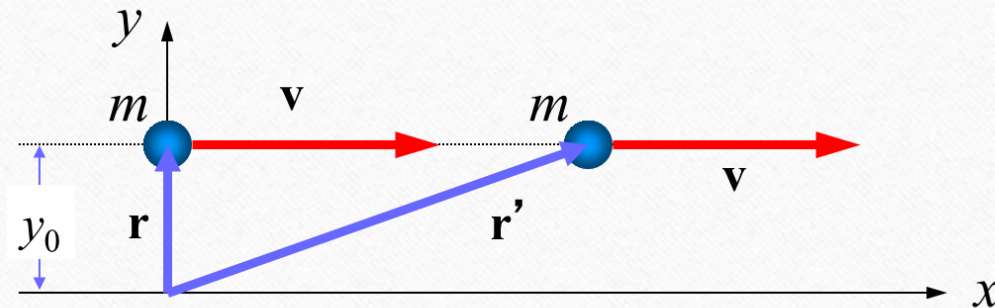
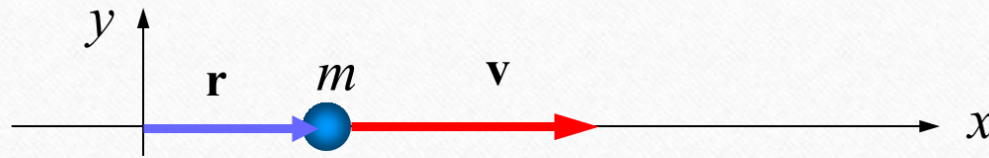
$$\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$$

- SI unit: $\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{s}$
- Both magnitude and direction depends on the choice of origin.



Concept Question

- Does a particle moving along a straight line have any angular momentum?



Torque & Angular Momentum

- We know that: $\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F} = \vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}$

- And: $\frac{d\vec{L}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(\vec{r} \times \vec{p}) = \vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} + \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \times \vec{p}$

- But: $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \times \vec{p} = \vec{v} \times m\vec{v} = 0$

- So: $\frac{d\vec{L}}{dt} = \vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \longrightarrow \vec{\tau} = \frac{d\vec{L}}{dt}$

Torque & Angular Momentum

- The **torque** acting on a particle is equal to the **time rate of change** of the particle's **angular momentum**.

$$\vec{\tau} = \frac{d\vec{L}}{dt}$$

- The time rate of change of the **total angular momentum of the system** about some origin in an inertial frame equals the net external torque acting on the system about that origin.

$$\sum \vec{\tau}_{\text{ext}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{d\vec{L}_i}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{L}_i = \frac{d\vec{L}_{\text{tot}}}{dt}$$

Rotating Rigid Object

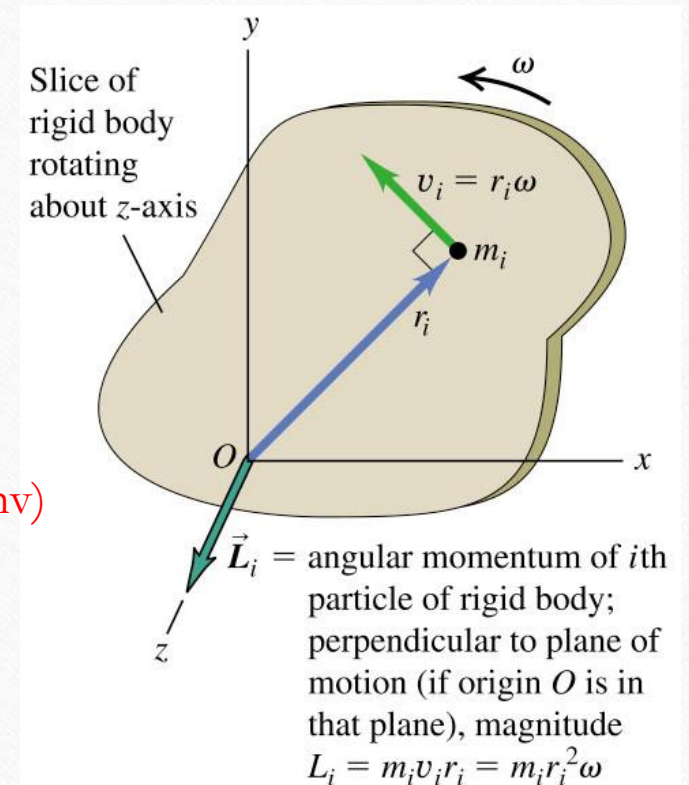
- Consider rotation of a rigid object about a fixed symmetric axis.

- For a particle with mass m_i : $L_i = m_i r_i^2 \omega$

- For the whole object: $L_z = \sum_i m_i r_i^2 \omega$

$$L_z = I\omega$$

$$L = (r)(mv)$$



Rotating Rigid Object

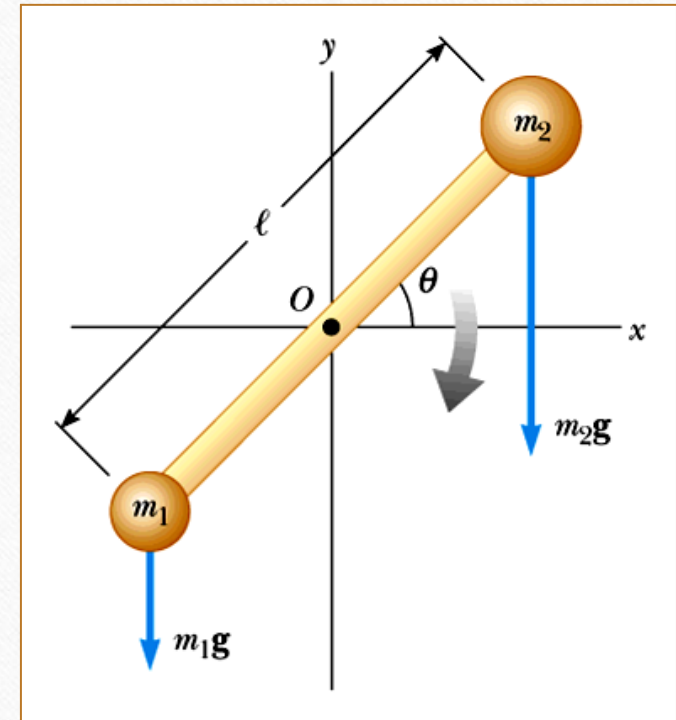
- Differentiate with respect to time:

$$\frac{dL_z}{dt} = I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = I\alpha$$

$$\sum \tau_{\text{ext}} = \frac{dL_z}{dt} = I\alpha$$

Example: Rotating Rod

- A rigid rod of mass M and length l is pivoted without friction. Two particles of masses m_1 and m_2 are connected to its ends. The combination rotates in a vertical plane with an angular speed ω . Find the expression for the magnitude of angular momentum and acceleration of the system.



Example: Rotating Rod

$$\tau_1 = m_1 g \frac{l}{2} \cos \theta$$

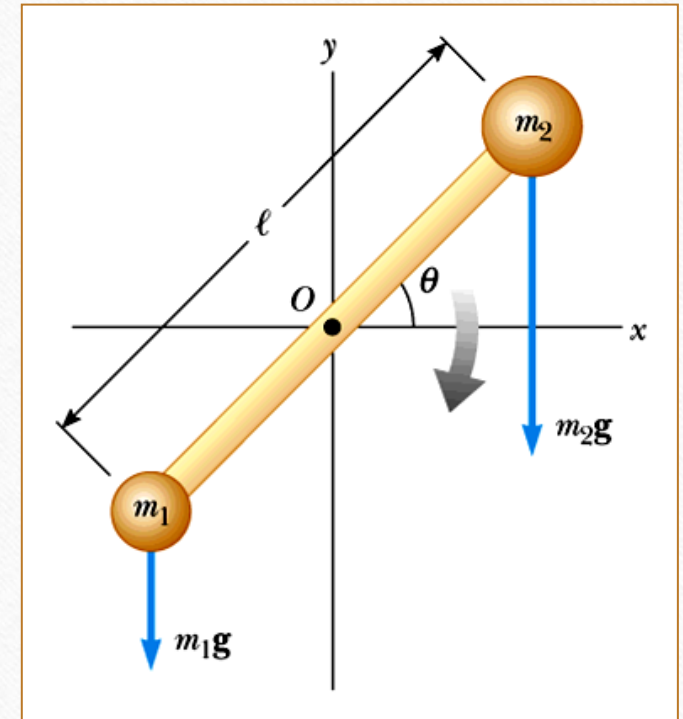
$$\tau_2 = -m_2 g \frac{l}{2} \cos \theta$$

$$\sum \tau_{\text{ext}} = \tau_1 + \tau_2 = I\alpha$$

$$\alpha = \frac{2(m_1 - m_2)g \cos \theta}{l(M/3 + m_1 + m_2)}$$

$$I = \frac{1}{12}Ml^2 + m_1 \left(\frac{l}{2}\right)^2 + m_2 \left(\frac{l}{2}\right)^2$$

$$L = I\omega = \frac{l^2}{4} \left(\frac{M}{3} + m_1 + m_2 \right) \omega$$



Conservation of Angular Momentum

- The total angular momentum of a system is constant if the resultant external torque acting on the system is zero.

$$\sum \vec{\tau}_{\text{ext}} = \frac{d\vec{L}}{dt} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \vec{L} = \text{const.}$$

- Conservation of angular momentum:

$$\vec{L}_i = \vec{L}_f$$

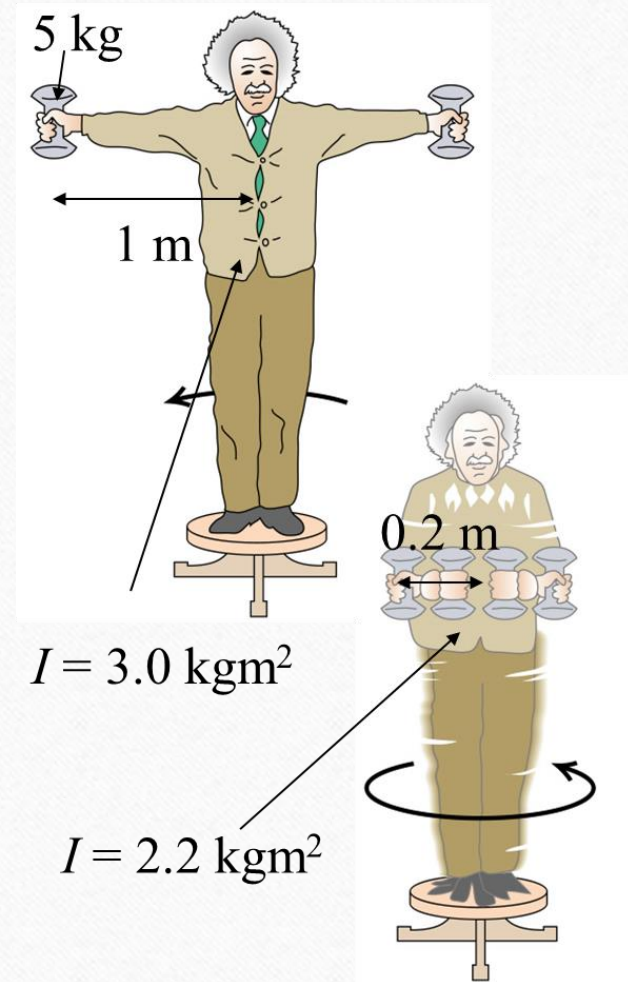
$$I_i \omega_i = I_f \omega_f$$

Valid for **rotation about a fixed axis** or axis through the CM of a moving system as long as that axis remains fixed in direction.

Example: Spinning Scientist

- A scientist stands at center of turntable carrying 5-kg dumbbell in each hand. $I = 3.0 \text{ kgm}^2$ with arms extended and $I = 2.2 \text{ kgm}^2$ when dumbbells at stomach. $r_1 = 1.0 \text{ m}$, $r_2 = 0.20 \text{ m}$. If period of revolution is initially $T_1 = 2.0 \text{ s}$, what is his final angular velocity. Compare initial and final KEs and explain why they are different.

No external torques: $I_1\omega_1 = I_2\omega_2$



Example: Spinning Scientist

- With arms extended:

$$I_1 = 3.0 + 2(5.0)(1.0)^2 = 13 \text{ kg m}^2$$

$$\omega_1 = \frac{2\pi}{T} = \frac{2\pi}{2.0} = 3.14 \text{ rad/s}$$

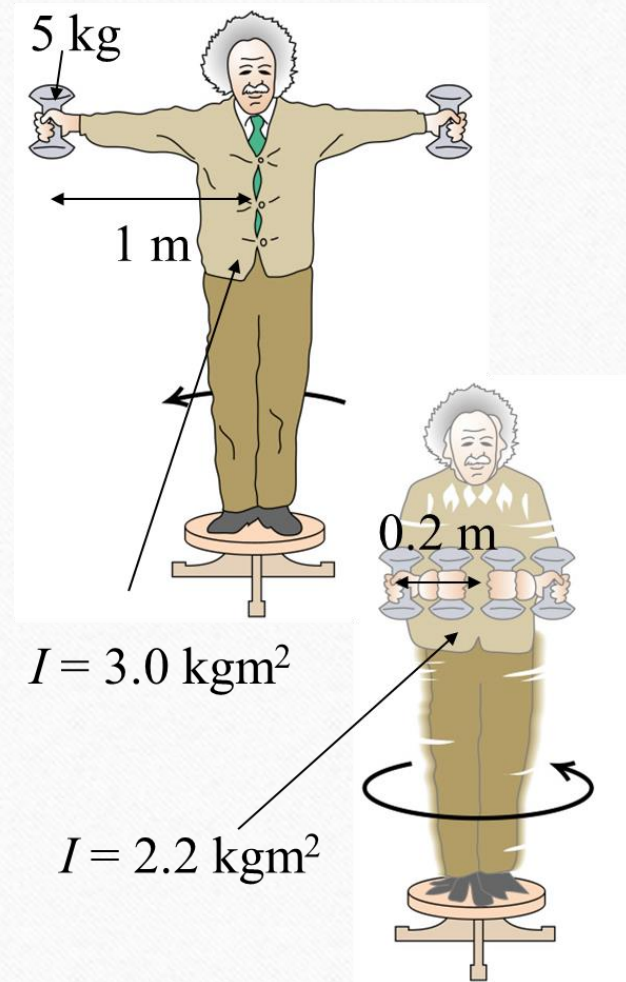
$$K_1 = \frac{1}{2}I_1\omega_1^2 = \frac{1}{2}(13)(3.14)^2 = 64.2 \text{ J}$$

- With arms pulled in:

$$I_2 = 2.2 + 2(5.0)(0.2)^2 = 2.6 \text{ kg m}^2$$

$$\omega_2 = \frac{I_1}{I_2}\omega_1 = \frac{13}{2.6}3.14 = 15.7 \text{ rad/s}$$

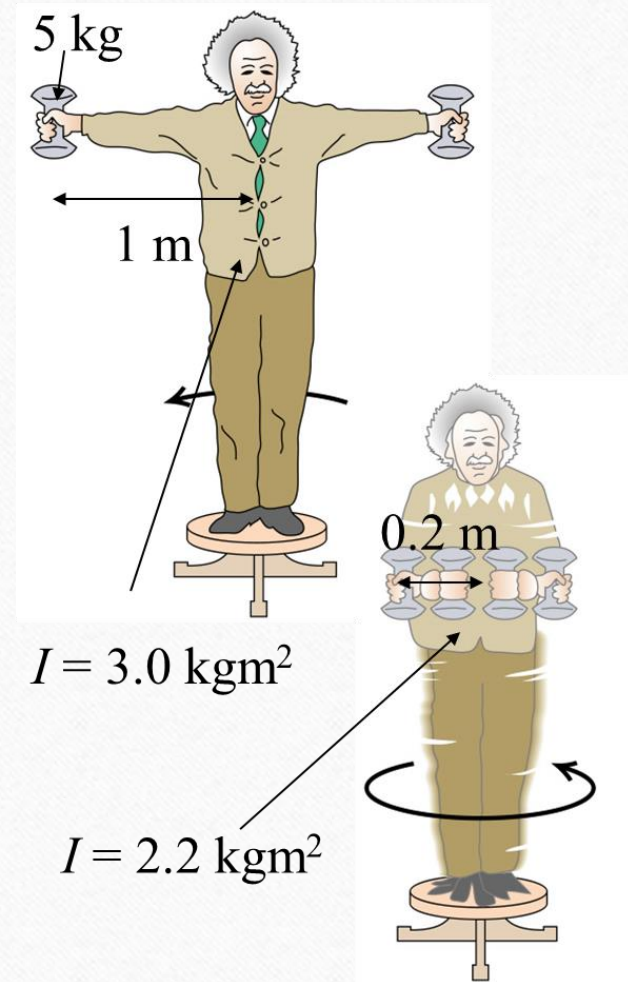
$$K_2 = \frac{1}{2}I_2\omega_2^2 = \frac{1}{2}(2.6)(15.7)^2 = 321 \text{ J}$$



Example: Spinning Scientist

$$K_2 - K_1 > 0$$

- Scientist has to do +ve work!
- In his frame, there are forces pulling the dumbbells outwards (centrifugal force), and he must apply an inward force to pull the dumbbells in.
- Force he exerted on dumbbells is in the direction of displacement of dumbbells \Rightarrow +ve work.




Example: Neutron Star


- A star rotates with a period of 30 days about an axis through its centre. After the star undergoes a supernova explosion, the stellar core, which had a radius of 1.0×10^4 km, collapses into a neutron star of radius 3.0 km. Determine the period of rotation of the neutron star.


Angular momentum is conserved:


Assumptions:

1. Mass remains the same.
2. No external torque.
3. Sphere with uniform density before and after explosion.


$$I_f \omega_f = I_i \omega_i$$


$$\frac{2}{5} M R_f^2 \left(\frac{2\pi}{T_f} \right) = \frac{2}{5} M R_i^2 \left(\frac{2\pi}{T_i} \right)$$

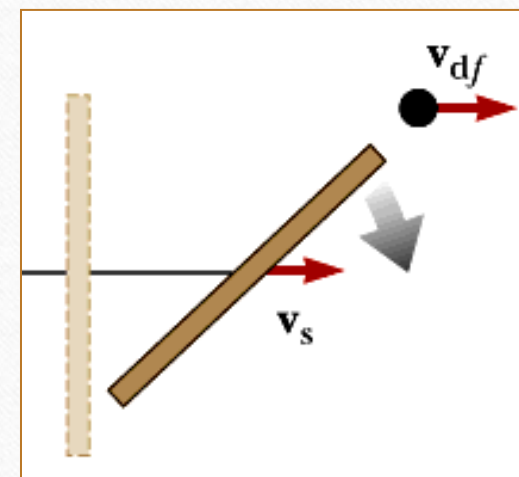
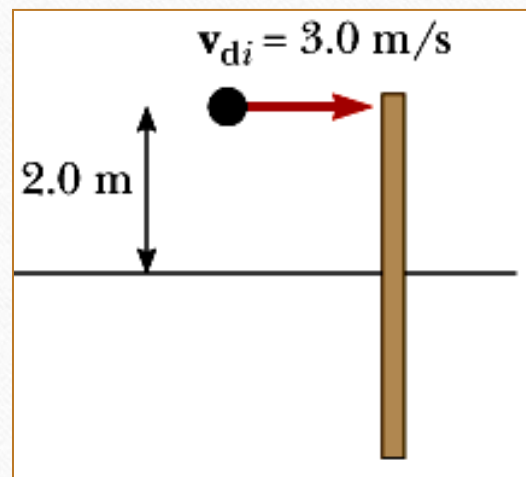

$$T_f = \left(\frac{R_f}{R_i} \right)^2 T_i = \left(\frac{3}{1 \times 10^4} \right)^2 \times 30 \text{ days}$$


$$T_f = 0.23 \text{ s}$$

Example: Disk and Stick

A 2.0-kg disk travelling at 3.0 m/s strikes a 1.0-kg stick of length 4.0 m that is lying flat on frictionless ice. Assume **elastic collision** and that the disk does not deviate from its original line of motion, find

- (a) the translational speed of the disk, v_{df}
- (b) the translational speed of the stick, v_s
- (c) the angular speed of the stick, ω after the collision.



Example: Disk and Stick

The three conservation laws apply.

$$m_d v_{di} = m_d v_{df} + m_s v_s \quad \text{Linear Momentum}$$

$$-r m_d v_{di} = -r m_d v_{df} + I \omega \quad \text{Angular Momentum}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} m_d v_{di}^2 = \frac{1}{2} m_d v_{df}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_s v_s^2 + \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2 \quad \text{Energy}$$

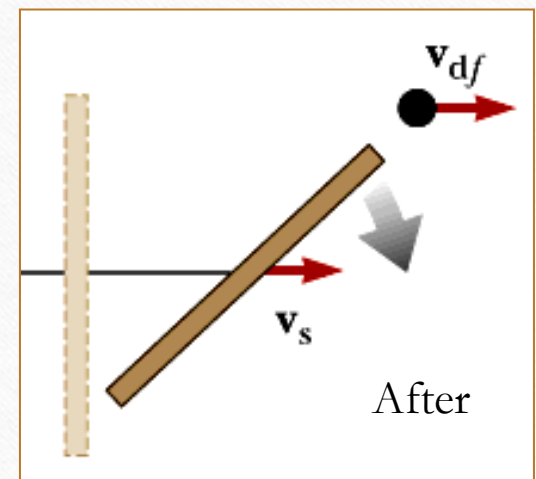
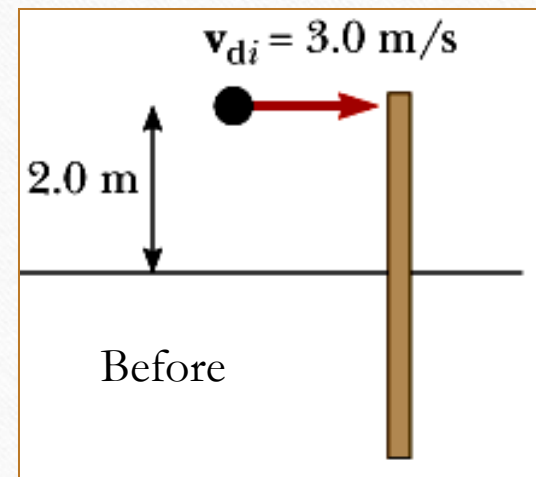
$$2(3) = (2)v_{df} + (1)v_s$$

$$-2(2)(3) = -2(2)v_{df} + \frac{1}{12}(1)(4)^2 \omega$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(2)(3)^2 = \frac{1}{2}(2)v_{df}^2 + \frac{1}{2}(1)v_s^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{12}(1)(4)^2 \right] \omega^2$$

$$v_s = 1.3 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\omega = -2.0 \text{ rad/s}$$



The End