

Last Time:

- Moment of Inertia
- Euler's Equation
- Equilibria + Stability

Today:

- Solutions to Euler's Equation
- Energy Dissipation
- Gyrostats

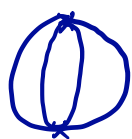
Solutions + Momentum Sphere:

- There is an analytic solution to Euler's equation but it is very ugly and not very useful in practice
- Usually numerical methods are used
- A lot of insight can still be gained from looking at the qualitative behavior

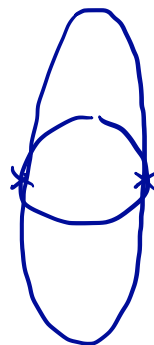
$\|h\| = \text{constant} \Rightarrow$ solutions lie on "momentum sphere"

$h^T J^{-1} h = \text{constant} \Rightarrow$ solutions lie on "energy ellipsoid"

- Trajectories are intersections of momentum sphere and energy ellipsoid

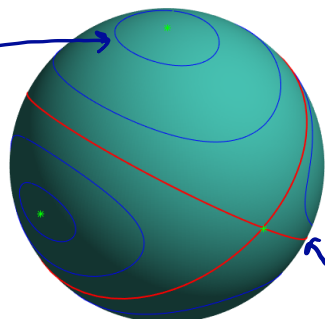


minimum energy
(major-axis spin)



maximum energy
(minor axis spin)

periodic motion
is called "nutaton"



"separatrix"

Energy Dissipation:

- Last time: minor + major axes are stable when there is no energy dissipation

$$\|h\| = \text{constant}, \quad T = \frac{1}{2} \omega^T J \omega = \frac{1}{2} h^T J^{-1} h$$

* Maximum and minimum kinetic energy for a given momentum:

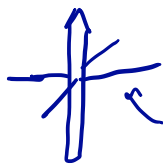
$$T_{\max} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{J_{11}} \|h\|^2, \quad T_{\min} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{J_{33}} \|h\|^2$$

⇒ If there is any energy dissipation, only the maximum axis is stable since it is the minimum energy state

* When does energy dissipation come from?

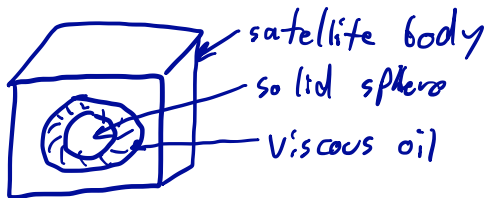
- Fluid slosh
- Damping associated with structural modes

* Explorer 1



- First US satellite
- Designed as a minor-axis spinner
- Entered a flat spin due to damping from flexible antennas

* A Simple Model of Internal Damping



coupled system of ODEs

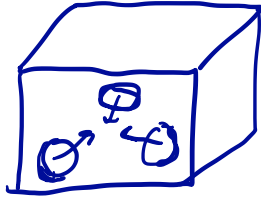
$${}^B \tau_d = c_d ({}^B \omega_d - {}^B \omega)$$

$$\begin{cases} {}^B J \dot{\omega} + {}^B \omega \times J \omega = c_d ({}^B \omega_d - {}^B \omega) \\ J_d \dot{\omega}_d = c_d ({}^B \omega - {}^B \omega_d) \end{cases}$$

- Known as a "Kane Damper"
- 2 parameters: J_d (scalar) and c_d (damping constant)
These can be fit to data to model e.g. fluid damping

Gyrostats:

- A system of rigid bodies whose relative motion does not change the total system moment of inertia
- Think of a box (spacecraft bus) with spinning rotors (momentum/reaction wheels) inside



- Spacecraft pointing and spin can be chosen arbitrarily
- Attitude disturbances can be handled with active control

* Gyrostat Dynamics

- Modify Euler's equation to include rotors

$$\underbrace{h}_{\text{total momentum}} = \underbrace{J\omega}_{\text{body momentum}} + \underbrace{p}_{\text{rotor momentum}}$$

$${}^N\dot{h} = {}^N\tau = {}^N Q^B ({}^B\dot{h} + {}^B\omega \times {}^B h)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{{}^B J \dot{\omega} + \dot{p} + {}^B \omega \times ({}^B J \omega + {}^B p) = {}^B \tau} \quad \text{"gyrostat equation"}$$

- We get to pick p and \dot{p}

Superspin:

- What if we want to spin a satellite about its minor or intermediate axis?

~ Assume a nominal spin ${}^p\omega = \begin{bmatrix} {}^p\omega_1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$${}^p h_1 = {}^p J_{11} {}^p \omega_1 + {}^p \rho_1 = \underbrace{\left(J_{11} + \frac{\rho_1}{\omega_1} \right)}_{\text{"Effective Inertia"}} \omega_1$$

- Given a desired ω_1 , choose ρ so that $J_{\text{eff}} > J_{33}$

- A good engineering rule is $J_{\text{eff}} = 1.2 J_{33}$ (20% margin)