

# Inertial Navigation System

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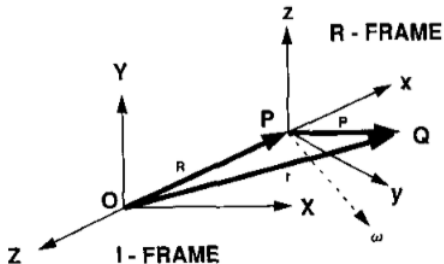




- **Navigation:** Science of directing a vehicle to the destination by determining its position from observation of landmarks, celestial bodies, or radio beams.
- **Inertial Navigation Systems:**
  - ☐ **Self-contained** determination of the instantaneous position and other parameters of motion of a vehicle
  - ☐ Using measuring specific force, angular velocity, and time in a selected coordinate system.
  - ☐ Velocity and position are determined through real-time integration of the governing differential equations, with **measured specific force** as an input.
- **Errors in INS**
  - ☐ Initial condition errors
  - ☐ Gravitational mass attraction compensation errors
  - ☐ Coordinate frame transformation errors
  - ☐ Sensor errors such as accelerometers, gyroscopes, and external navigation aids
- Complicated error equations due to the **different coordinate frames** involved and the many **error sources inherent in the instruments**.

# Inertial Navigation System

## General Relative Motion Equations



- Consider a rigid body fixed at point  $O$  of fixed Cartesian coordinate system  $XYZ$ , called as  $I$ -frame.
- Assume a point in body with position  $r$  and velocity  $\dot{r}$  relative to origin  $O$ .

$$r = XI + YJ + ZK$$

$$\dot{r} = \frac{dr}{dt} = \dot{X}I + \dot{Y}J + \dot{Z}K$$

- For a rigid body with fixed point,

$$\dot{r} = \omega \times r$$

where, angular velocity  $\omega$  is given by

$$\omega = \Omega_X I + \Omega_Y J + \Omega_Z K$$



- Components of velocity vector in fixed frame

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r} &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{J} & \mathbf{K} \\ \Omega_X & \Omega_Y & \Omega_Z \\ X & Y & Z \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \underbrace{(\Omega_Y Z - \Omega_Z Y)}_{v_X} \mathbf{I} + \underbrace{(\Omega_Z X - \Omega_X Z)}_{v_Y} \mathbf{J} + \underbrace{(\Omega_X Y - \Omega_Y X)}_{v_Z} \mathbf{K}\end{aligned}$$

- Assume a second coordinate system  $R$ -frame.
- Consider  $P$  at any point in the body and  $O$  the origin of space axes.
- Velocity of any point  $Q$  in the body w.r.t. space axes at  $O$  is given by

$$\mathbf{v}_Q = \mathbf{v}_P + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}_{Q/P}$$

where,  $\mathbf{r}_{Q/P}$  is the relative distance of  $Q$  w.r.t.  $P$ .

- Relative velocity of  $Q$  w.r.t.  $P$  is defined as

$$\mathbf{v}_{Q/P} = \mathbf{v}_Q - \mathbf{v}_P = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}_{Q/P}$$



- Vector function  $\mathbf{A}(t)$  can be expressed in two coordinate frames as

$$\mathbf{A}(t) = \mathbf{A}_X \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{A}_Y \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{A}_Z \mathbf{K} = A_x \mathbf{i} + A_y \mathbf{j} + A_z \mathbf{k}$$

- Its derivatives are given by

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{A}}(t) &= \frac{d\mathbf{A}(t)}{dt} = \dot{\mathbf{A}}_X \mathbf{I} + \dot{\mathbf{A}}_Y \mathbf{J} + \dot{\mathbf{A}}_Z \mathbf{K} \\ &= \underbrace{\dot{A}_x \mathbf{i} + \dot{A}_y \mathbf{j} + \dot{A}_z \mathbf{k}}_{\frac{\delta \mathbf{A}}{\delta t}} + A_x \dot{\mathbf{i}} + A_y \dot{\mathbf{j}} + A_z \dot{\mathbf{k}} \\ &= \frac{\delta \mathbf{A}}{\delta t} + A_x \dot{\mathbf{i}} + A_y \dot{\mathbf{j}} + A_z \dot{\mathbf{k}}\end{aligned}$$

- Derivative of unit vector in fixed frame

$$\frac{d\mathbf{i}}{dt} = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{i}, \quad \frac{d\mathbf{j}}{dt} = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{j}, \quad \frac{d\mathbf{k}}{dt} = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{k}$$

where,  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  is the angular velocity of coordinate axes.



- Derivative of a vector in two frames  $XYZ$  and  $xyz$  are related as

$$\left[ \frac{d\mathbf{A}(t)}{dt} \right]_{XYZ} = \frac{d\mathbf{A}(t)}{dt} = \frac{\delta \mathbf{A}}{\delta t} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{A}$$

$$\boxed{\left[ \frac{d\mathbf{A}(t)}{dt} \right]_{XYZ} = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{A}(t)}{dt} \right]_{xyz} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{A}}$$

where,  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  is the angular velocity of  $xyz$  w.r.t.  $XYZ$ .

- Alternatively,

$$\frac{\delta \mathbf{A}}{\delta t} = \frac{d\mathbf{A}(t)}{dt} - \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{A} = \frac{d\mathbf{A}(t)}{dt} + (-\boldsymbol{\omega}) \times \mathbf{A}$$

where,  $(-\boldsymbol{\omega})$  is the angular velocity of  $XYZ$  w.r.t.  $xyz$ .

- From a kinematic point of view, it makes no difference which system is considered as fixed and which one as rotating.



- Consider two points  $P$  and  $Q$  with position vectors denoted by  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{r}$ , respectively, w.r.t. the point  $O$ .
- Relative position of  $Q$  w.r.t.  $P$  is denoted by  $\mathbf{p}$ .
- Relative equation of motion

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{p}, \quad \dot{\mathbf{r}} = \dot{\mathbf{R}} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}, \quad \ddot{\mathbf{r}} = \ddot{\mathbf{R}} + \ddot{\mathbf{p}}$$

- Let  $XYZ$  with origin at  $O$  be **fixed** and  $xyz$  with origin at  $P$  is **moving with the angular velocity  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$** .
- Derivative of relative position vector  $\mathbf{p}$

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = \frac{\delta \mathbf{p}}{\delta t} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{p}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{\mathbf{p}} &= \frac{d\dot{\mathbf{p}}}{dt} = \frac{\delta \dot{\mathbf{p}}}{\delta t} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \dot{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{\delta^2 \mathbf{p}}{\delta t^2} + \frac{\delta(\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{p})}{\delta t} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \left( \frac{\delta \mathbf{p}}{\delta t} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{p} \right) \\ &= \frac{\delta^2 \mathbf{p}}{\delta t^2} + \frac{\delta \boldsymbol{\omega}}{\delta t} \times \mathbf{p} + 2\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \frac{\delta \mathbf{p}}{\delta t} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{p}) \end{aligned}$$



- As  $\frac{d\omega}{dt} = \frac{\delta\omega}{\delta t} = \dot{\omega}$ , we have

$$\ddot{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{\delta^2 \mathbf{p}}{\delta t^2} + \dot{\omega} \times \mathbf{p} + 2\omega \times \frac{\delta \mathbf{p}}{\delta t} + \omega \times (\omega \times \mathbf{p})$$

- Complete relative equation of motion

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r} &= \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{p} \\ \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} &= \frac{d\mathbf{R}}{dt} + \frac{\delta \mathbf{p}}{\delta t} + \omega \times \mathbf{p} \\ \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}}{dt^2} &= \underbrace{\frac{d^2 \mathbf{R}}{dt^2} + \frac{\delta^2 \mathbf{p}}{\delta t^2}}_{\text{Linear acceleration terms}} + \underbrace{\dot{\omega} \times \mathbf{p}}_{\text{Tangential component due to } \dot{\omega}} + \underbrace{2\omega \times \frac{\delta \mathbf{p}}{\delta t}}_{\text{Coriolis acceleration}} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\omega \times (\omega \times \mathbf{p})}_{\text{centripetal acceleration}} \end{aligned}$$





- Differential equation of motion of inertial navigation of vehicle **relative to inertial frame**

$$\dot{\mathbf{R}} = \mathbf{V}$$
$$\left. \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right|_I = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{g}_m(\mathbf{R})$$

where,

$\mathbf{R}$  = Geocentric position vector

$\mathbf{V}$  = **Velocity of the vehicle relative to the inertial frame**

$\mathbf{A}$  = Non-gravitational specific force

$\mathbf{g}_m(\mathbf{R})$  = Gravitational acceleration due to mass attraction,  
**considered positive toward the center of the Earth**

- Gravity effect of Moon, Sun, and other stars are neglected.**



- We can rewrite previous equation as

$$\mathbf{A} = \left. \frac{d^2 \mathbf{R}}{dt^2} \right|_I - \mathbf{g}_m(\mathbf{R})$$

- Specific force (accelerometer's output)  $\mathbf{A}$  is proportional to the inertial acceleration of the system due to all forces, except gravity.
- Since the Earth is rotating and moving w.r.t. inertial space, a transformation is necessary to relate measurements taken in inertial space to observations of position, velocity, and acceleration in a moving vehicle.
- An ideal accelerometer measures the specific force, that is, the difference between the inertial acceleration and gravitational acceleration.
- For Earth-centered inertial (ECI) system,

$$\mathbf{A}^P = \mathbf{C}_I^P \left[ \ddot{\mathbf{R}}^I - \mathbf{g}_m^I(\mathbf{R}) \right]$$

where  $\mathbf{C}_I^P$  is the transformation matrix from inertial to platform coordinates.

# Inertial Navigation System

## General Navigation Equations

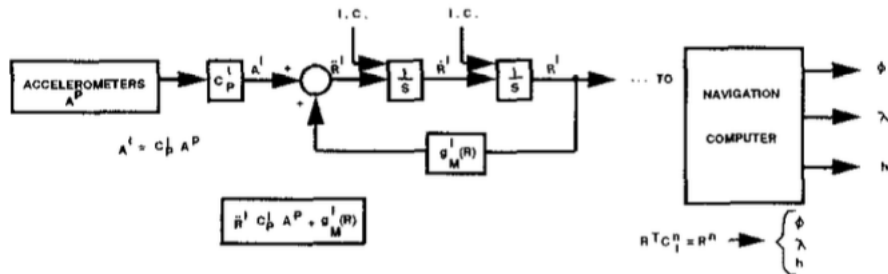


- Earth-centered inertial (ECI) acceleration in terms of specific force and gravity can be written as

$$\ddot{\mathbf{R}}^I = \mathbf{C}_P^I \mathbf{A}^P + \mathbf{g}_m^I(\mathbf{R})$$

where  $\mathbf{C}_P^I$  is the transformation matrix from platform to inertial coordinates.

- Block diagram representation





- For navigation at or near the surface of the earth, the position and velocity of vehicle should be referred in an ECEF coordinate system.
- From the Law of Coriolis, the expression relating ECI and ECEF velocities,

$$\left[ \frac{d\mathbf{R}}{dt} \right]_I = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{R}}{dt} \right]_E + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{V} + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{R}$$

where,  $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$  is the angular rate of Earth relative to the inertial frame, and  $\mathbf{V}$  is true velocity of vehicle w.r.t. the Earth.

- As angular rate of earth is constant, we have  $d\boldsymbol{\Omega}/dt = 0$ .
- Differentiating w.r.t. inertial coordinates,

$$\left[ \frac{d^2\mathbf{R}}{dt^2} \right]_I = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_I + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{R}}{dt} \right]_I$$



- On substituting for  $[d\mathbf{R}/dt]_I$ ,

$$\left[ \frac{d^2 \mathbf{R}}{dt^2} \right]_I = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_I + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{V} + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times (\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{R})$$

- As output of accelerometer gives measurements in platform frame, differentiation and integration need to be carried out in same frame.
- Relation between derivatives of  $\mathbf{V}$  w.r.t. platform and inertial space is

$$\left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_I = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_P + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{V}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  is the angular rate of platform w.r.t. inertial space (*spatial rate*).

$$\left[ \frac{d^2 \mathbf{R}}{dt^2} \right]_I = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_P + (\boldsymbol{\Omega} + \boldsymbol{\omega}) \times \mathbf{V} + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times (\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{R})$$



- Finally, we have

$$\mathbf{A} = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_P + (\boldsymbol{\Omega} + \boldsymbol{\omega}) \times \mathbf{V} + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times (\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{R}) - \mathbf{g}_m(\mathbf{R})$$

- As the centripetal acceleration of Earth is a function of position of Earth only, it can be combined with gravity term.

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R}) = \mathbf{g}_m(\mathbf{R}) - \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times (\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{R}) = \omega_s^2 \mathbf{R}$$

where  $\omega_s = \sqrt{g(R)/R}$  is the Schuler angular frequency.

- $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R})$  is dominant feedback term for principal mode of behavior of INS.
- Generalized mechanization equation

$$\mathbf{A} = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_P + (\boldsymbol{\Omega} + \boldsymbol{\omega}) \times \mathbf{V} - \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R})$$

- It does not refer to any particular type of system coordinate frame.



- **Locally level platform coordinate frame:** spatial rate being equal to sum of Earth rate and vehicle (or platform) angular rate  $\rho$  w.r.t. Earth-fixed frame.
- Term  $\rho$  is called as **transport rate** and mathematically,  $\omega = \rho + \Omega$ .
- On rearranging, we get

$$\left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_P = \mathbf{A} - (\rho + 2\Omega) \times \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R})$$

- Generalized navigation equation of a vehicle, expressed in the platform or computational frame, which is referenced to the Earth.
- On expanding this equation,

$$\dot{V}_x = A_x - (\rho_y + 2\Omega_y)V_z + (\rho_z + 2\Omega_z)V_y + g_x$$

$$\dot{V}_y = A_y - (\rho_z + 2\Omega_z)V_x + (\rho_x + 2\Omega_x)V_z + g_y$$

$$\dot{V}_z = A_z - (\rho_x + 2\Omega_x)V_y + (\rho_y + 2\Omega_y)V_x + g_z$$



- Gravitational model is based on a spherical harmonic expansion of the gravitational potential.
- Two commonly used expansions of the gravitational potential
  - Spherical or zonal harmonics: depend on the geocentric latitude only.
  - Tesseral and sectoral harmonics: depend on both latitude and longitude.
- Tesseral and sectoral harmonics
  - Indicate deviations from rotational symmetry
  - Can be neglected without compromising system performance or accuracy
- Derivation of the gravitational potential is based on the reference ellipsoid.
- Assumptions
  - Earth's mass distribution is symmetric about the polar axis.
  - Gravitational potential  $U(R, \phi)$  in ECEF is at distance  $R$  from Earth's center, independent of longitude.





- Gravitational potential in ECEF frame in terms of spherical harmonics

$$U(R, \phi) = -\frac{\mu}{R} \left[ 1 - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} J_n \left( \frac{a}{R} \right)^n P_n(\sin \phi) \right]$$

$\mu$  = Earth's gravitational constant

$a$  = Mean equatorial radius of the Earth (or semimajor axis)

$R$  = Magnitude of the geocentric position vector

$\phi$  = Geocentric latitude

$J_n$  = Coefficients of zonal harmonics of the Earth potential function

$P_n(\sin \phi)$  = Associated Legendre polynomials of the first kind as functions of  $\phi$  and degree  $n$



- $\frac{\mu}{R}$  denotes mean value and is simplified gravitational potential of the Earth.
- It is due to spherically mass symmetric body.
- Remaining terms account for asymmetry of the Earth.
- **Second harmonics**  $J_2$ : Earth flattening, the meridional cross-section being an ellipse rather than a circle
- **Third harmonics**  $J_3$ : tendency toward a triangular shape
- **Fourth harmonics**  $J_4$ : tendency toward a square shape
- If the symmetry w.r.t. equator is assumed then

$$J_1 = J_3 = J_5 \cdots = 0$$

- As  $R$  is very large, all the terms within the are small as compared with unity.



- Gravitation vector is given as the gradient of gravitational potential as

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R}) = [g_x \ g_y \ g_z]^T, \quad g_x = \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \quad g_y = \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \quad g_z = \frac{\partial U}{\partial z}$$

- Assumptions: Direction of the gravity vector  $\mathbf{g} \perp$  the reference ellipsoid, positive in the downward direction.

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R}) = -g_z \mathbf{1}_z$$

- For a spherical Earth model,  $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R}) = -\mu \mathbf{R} / R^3$  and  $\mathbf{R} = [x \ y \ z]^T$ .
- Components of the apparent gravity vector along the platform  $x$ ,  $y$  axes can be neglected because their magnitude is less than  $10^{-5} g$ .

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ g_z \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$



- Navigation in ECI coordinates involves integration of a simple set of differential equations driven by the measured specific force  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- For most terrestrial applications, it is more convenient to refer the position and velocity of the vehicle to ECEF, which rotates with the earth.
- Equations of motion must account for the rotation of the coordinate frame.
- In north-east-up (NEU) coordinate system,

$$\mathbf{\Omega} = \underbrace{0}_{\Omega_x, \Omega_E} \mathbf{i} + \underbrace{\Omega \cos \phi}_{\Omega_y, \Omega_N} \mathbf{j} + \underbrace{\Omega \sin \phi}_{\Omega_z, \Omega_U} \mathbf{k}$$

- By using gravity and angular rate components,

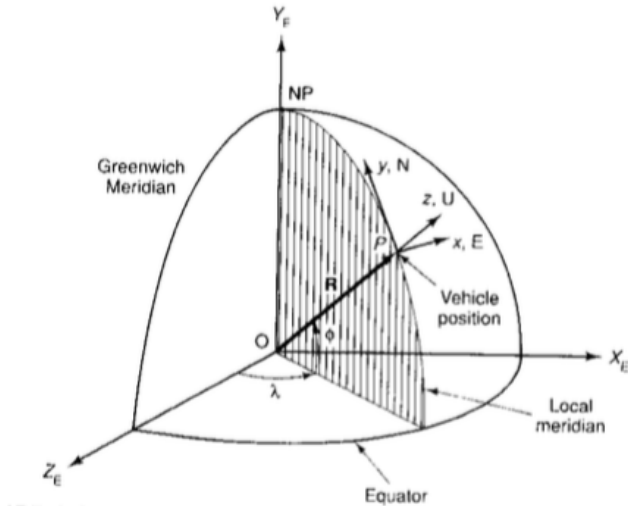
$$\dot{V}_x = A_x - (\rho_y + 2\Omega_y)V_z + (\rho_z + 2\Omega_z)V_y$$

$$\dot{V}_y = A_y - (\rho_z + 2\Omega_z)V_x + \rho_x V_z$$

$$\dot{V}_z = A_z - \rho_x V_y + (\rho_y + 2\Omega_y)V_x - g_z$$

# Inertial Navigation System

## Latitude-Longitude Mechanization





- Gyroscope torquing rate w.r.t inertial space

$$\omega_x = \omega_E = \rho_E$$

$$\omega_y = \omega_N = \rho_N + \Omega \cos \phi$$

$$\omega_z = \omega_z = \rho_z + \Omega \sin \phi$$

- $\omega_x, \omega_y$ : level angular rates of platform required to maintain platform level
- $\omega_z$ : platform azimuth rate to maintain platform orientation to north
- To maintain platform level, gimbal axes must have

$$\dot{\phi} = -\rho_E, \quad \dot{\lambda} \cos \phi = \rho_N$$

- Generalized mechanization equation

$$\mathbf{A} = \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_P + (\boldsymbol{\Omega} + \boldsymbol{\omega}) \times \mathbf{V} - \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R})$$
$$\Rightarrow \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right]_P = \mathbf{A} - (\boldsymbol{\Omega} + \boldsymbol{\omega}) \times \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{R})$$



- Level and vertical velocity equations

$$\dot{V}_E = A_E - (\omega_N + \Omega \cos \phi)V_z + (\omega_z + \Omega \sin \phi)V_N$$

$$\dot{V}_N = A_N - (\omega_z + \Omega \sin \phi)V_E + \omega_E V_z$$

$$\dot{V}_z = A_z - \omega_E V_N + (\omega_N + \Omega \sin \phi)V_E - g_z + K_2(h_B - h)$$

where,  $\dot{h} = V_z + K_1(h_B - h)$  and  $h_B$  is barometric altitude.

- For a spherical Earth model,

$$\omega_x = \omega_E = -\dot{\phi}$$

$$\omega_y = \omega_N = \dot{\lambda} \cos \phi + \Omega \cos \phi = \frac{V_x}{R} + \Omega \cos \phi$$

$$\omega_z = \omega_z = \dot{\lambda} \sin \phi + \Omega \sin \phi = \frac{V_x}{R} \tan \phi + \Omega \sin \phi$$

- To maintain platform level, longitude and latitude gimbal axes rates

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{V_y}{R} = \frac{V_N}{R}, \quad \dot{\lambda} = \frac{V_x}{R \cos \phi} = \frac{V_E}{R} \sec \phi$$



- Longitude and latitude computations

$$\phi = \phi(0) + \frac{V_y}{R}t, \quad \lambda = \lambda(0) + \int_0^t \dot{\lambda} dt$$

- Now torquing rate becomes

$$\omega_x = -\frac{V_y}{R}$$

$$\omega_y = \frac{V_x}{R} + \Omega \cos \left( \phi(0) + \frac{V_y}{R}t \right)$$

$$\omega_z = \frac{V_x}{R} \tan \left( \phi(0) + \frac{V_y}{R}t \right) + \Omega \sin \left( \phi(0) + \frac{V_y}{R}t \right)$$

- Platform rotation rate relative to Earth,  $\rho = \omega - \Omega$

$$\rho_x = -\frac{V_y}{R} \quad \rho_y = \frac{V_x}{R}, \quad \rho_z = \frac{V_x}{R} \tan \left( \phi(0) + \frac{V_y}{R}t \right)$$





## Reference

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- 2 D. H. Titterton and J. L. Weston, *Strapdown Inertial Navigation Technology*, Progress in Astronautics and Aeronautics, Vol. 207, ed. 2, ch. 4.

Thank you for your attention !!!