Non-inertial Frame of Reference

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Assignment II

Q.1) Show that for a single particle with constant mass, the equation of motion implies the following differential equation for the kinetic energy:

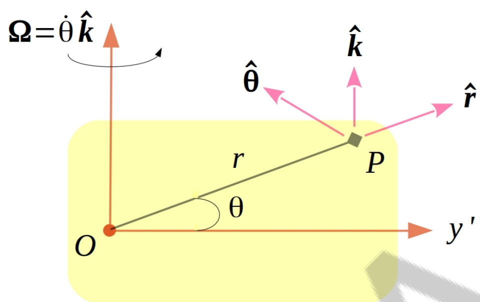
$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{v},$$

while if the mass varies with time, the corresponding equation is

$$\frac{d(mE)}{dt} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{p}.$$

Q.2) Calculate the rate of rotation of the plane of oscillation of a Foucault pendulum at latitude 30 degrees and hence determine the time it will take to turn through a complete right angle.

Q.3)



In figure beside, the polar coordinates (r, θ) are measured relative to an inertial frame $\mathcal{F}$, while $\mathcal{F}'$ is a frame rotating about the z-axis passing through $\mathcal{O}$ with angular velocity $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$. By using the velocity and acceleration transformation formula between inertial and rotating coordinate system, show that

$$\mathbf{v} = \dot{r}\hat{\mathbf{r}} + r\dot{\theta}\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \quad \mathbf{a} = (\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2)\hat{\mathbf{r}} + (r\ddot{\theta} + 2\dot{r}\dot{\theta})\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}.$$

[Note here as $\dot{\boldsymbol{\Omega}} \neq 0$, therefore unlike our derivation in class, you also have to consider $\dot{\boldsymbol{\Omega}} \times \mathbf{r}'$ term along with fictitious acceleration terms in the rotating coordinate system.]

Q.4) An ocean current circulating counter-clockwise when viewed from directly overhead was discovered in a well-isolated layer beneath the surface. The period of rotation was 14 hours ($\omega = \frac{2\pi}{14}$ hr^{-1}). In Earth's surface fixed coordinate frame, the ocean current is x-axis pointing south, y-axis pointing east, z-axis pointing vertically upward and $\boldsymbol{\Omega} = -\Omega \sin\lambda \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \Omega \cos\lambda \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ where λ is colatitude ($\Omega = \frac{2\pi}{24}$ hr^{-1}). At what latitude and in which hemisphere was the current detected?

Q.5)

A turn-table marked with three orthogonal axes (x', y', z') is rotating on the Earth, assumed to be an inertial frame (x, y, z), with constant angular velocity $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ about z-axis. At $t = 0$, both frames coincide with each other. A ball of mass m is rolling outward without slipping along the x'-axis with a constant velocity v. What is the total force exerted by the turn-table on the ball? Find out the total force as measured in the Earth frame coordinates (x, y, z).