



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863



Spacecraft Attitude
Dynamics and Control

Spacecraft Attitude Dynamics and Control

Lab 2 - Attitude Kinematics

Labs – Modelling in Simulink

Lab 1: Analysis of the Euler equations

Lab 2: Numerically integrating the attitude kinematic equations

Lab 3: Modelling spacecraft attitude in Earth orbit

Lab 4: Numerical stability analysis in the LVLH frame with gravity gradient

Lab 5: disturbance modelling: air drag, SRP, Earth's magnetic field.

Lab 6: Attitude de-tumbling implementation

Lab 7: Attitude pointing and stabilization implementation

Lab 8: Magnetic attitude control

Lab 9: Control with reaction wheels and thrusters.

Lab 10: Function minimization for attitude determination.

Lab 11: q-method v's TRIAD method for attitude determination

Lab 12: Attitude control with uncertainties



Tasks for the Lab.

Task 1: Set up the kinematics using DCM representation

Task 2: Test the orthonormality of the solution

Task 3: Plot the pointing vector and look at the behaviour by perturbing from the equilibrium solutions.

Task 4: Integrate the kinematics using Euler angles and map to the DCM.

Task 5: Set up a simple PD controller using Euler angles.



Task 1: Simulate the dynamics and kinematics using the direct Cosine matrix

Dynamics

$$\dot{\omega}_1 = \frac{I_2 - I_3}{I_1} \omega_2 \omega_3$$

$$\dot{\omega}_2 = \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_2} \omega_1 \omega_3$$

$$\dot{\omega}_3 = \frac{I_1 - I_2}{I_3} \omega_2 \omega_1$$

Kinematics

$$\frac{dA(t)}{dt} = -[\omega^\wedge]A(t)$$

$$[\omega^\wedge] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Dynamics

Kinematics

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Test if the integration gives an (approximate) orthonormal matrix



Numerical Integration of the system

Iterative formulas for orthonormalization

$$A_{k+1}(t) = A_k(t) * 3/2 - A_k(t) * A_k^T(t) * A_k(t) / 2$$

converges rapidly, with increasing k , to the exact value of A . In a first order approximation it is possible to adopt a single step iteration

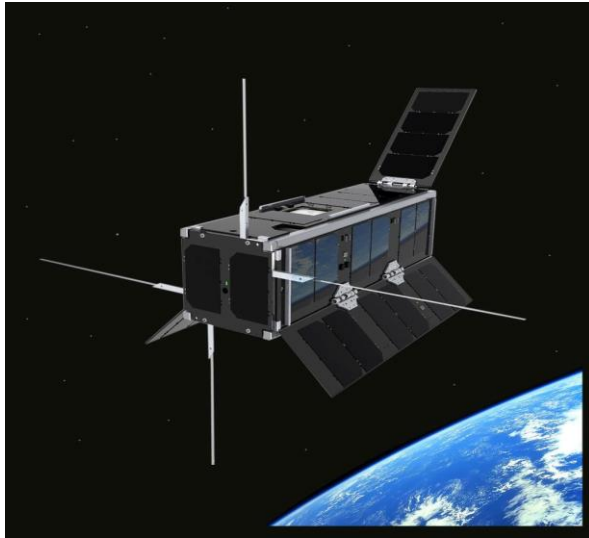
$$A(t) = A_0(t) * 3/2 - A_0(t) * A_0^T(t) * A_0(t) / 2$$



Task 2: Numerically assess the stability of the equilibrium points by observing the pointing axis

Principal moments of Inertia

$$I_1 = 0.0109 \text{kgm}^2, I_2 = 0.0504 \text{kgm}^2, I_3 = 0.055 \text{kgm}^2$$



$$\omega_1 = 0, \omega_2 = 0, \omega_3 = 0$$

$$\omega_1 = \omega_1(0), \omega_2 = 0, \omega_3 = 0$$

$$\omega_1 = 0, \omega_2 = \omega_2(0), \omega_3 = 0$$

$$\omega_1 = 0, \omega_2 = 0, \omega_3 = \omega_3(0)$$

$$\omega_i(0) = 15 \text{deg/sec}$$

$$\frac{(I_1 - I_3)(I_1 - I_2)}{I_2 I_3} \omega_1^2(0) > 0$$

$$\frac{dA(t)}{dt} = -[\omega^\wedge]A(t)$$



Task 3: Integrate the system using Euler angles

$$\text{sequence 123} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{\phi} = \frac{(\omega_u \cos \psi - \omega_v \sin \psi)}{\cos \vartheta} \\ \dot{\vartheta} = \omega_v \cos \psi + \omega_u \sin \psi \\ \dot{\psi} = \omega_w - (\omega_u \cos \psi - \omega_v \sin \psi) \frac{\sin \vartheta}{\cos \vartheta} \end{array} \right.$$

Map the solution back to the DCM

$$A_{123} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \psi \cos \vartheta & \cos \psi \sin \vartheta \sin \varphi + \sin \psi \cos \varphi & -\cos \psi \sin \vartheta \cos \varphi + \sin \psi \sin \varphi \\ -\sin \psi \cos \vartheta & -\sin \psi \sin \vartheta \sin \varphi + \cos \psi \cos \varphi & \sin \psi \sin \vartheta \cos \varphi + \cos \psi \sin \varphi \\ \sin \vartheta & -\cos \vartheta \sin \varphi & \cos \vartheta \cos \varphi \end{bmatrix}$$

Test the orthonormality conditions of the matrix



Task 4: Implement a simple control law:

Dynamics

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\omega}_u &= \frac{I_2 - I_3}{I_1} \omega_v \omega_w + u_1 \\ \dot{\omega}_v &= \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_2} \omega_u \omega_w + u_2 \\ \dot{\omega}_w &= \frac{I_1 - I_2}{I_3} \omega_v \omega_u + u_3\end{aligned}$$

Kinematics

sequence 123

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\varphi} = \frac{(\omega_u \cos \psi - \omega_v \sin \psi)}{\cos \vartheta} \\ \dot{\vartheta} = \omega_v \cos \psi + \omega_u \sin \psi \\ \dot{\psi} = \omega_w - (\omega_u \cos \psi - \omega_v \sin \psi) \frac{\sin \vartheta}{\cos \vartheta} \end{cases}$$

$$u_1 = -k_{11} \omega_u - k_{12} (\varphi - \varphi_d)$$

$$u_2 = -k_{21} \omega_v - k_{22} (\vartheta - \vartheta_d)$$

$$u_3 = -k_{31} \omega_w - k_{32} (\psi - \psi_d)$$



Learning objectives

- Numerically integrate the Euler equations along with kinematics in DCM and Euler angle representations.
- Understand pointing stability.
- Set up a simple closed-loop control.

