

Chapter 13S Symmetric top
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Lagrange's equation
 Euler's angles
 First integral
 Symmetric top
 Precession
 Nutation

13S1 Angular velocity

This part is already discussed in **Chapter 1S**.

We derive the angular velocity in the new coordinate (x', y', z') . The rotation matrix is given by

$$\mathfrak{R}(t) = \mathfrak{R}_z(-\psi(t))\mathfrak{R}_x(-\theta(t))\mathfrak{R}_z(-\phi(t))$$

where the Euler angles are dependent on time t .

$$\mathbf{\Omega}_\phi = \mathfrak{R}(t) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \dot{\phi}(t) \end{pmatrix}_{x,y,z} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \theta(t) \sin \psi(t) \dot{\phi}(t) \\ \sin \theta(t) \cos \psi(t) \dot{\phi}(t) \\ \cos \theta(t) \dot{\phi}(t) \end{pmatrix}_{x',y',z'}$$

where $\dot{\phi}(t)$ is directed along the z axis.

$$\mathbf{\Omega}_\theta = \mathfrak{R}_x(-\theta(t))\mathfrak{R}_z(-\phi(t)) \begin{pmatrix} \dot{\theta}(t) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}_{\xi,\eta,\varsigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi(t) \dot{\theta}(t) \\ -\sin \psi(t) \dot{\theta}(t) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}_{x',y',z'}$$

where $\dot{\theta}(t)$ is directed along the ξ axis.

$$\mathbf{\Omega}_{\psi} = \mathfrak{R}_z(-\psi(t)) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \dot{\psi}(t) \end{pmatrix}_{\xi', \eta', \zeta'} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \dot{\psi}(t) \end{pmatrix}_{x', y, z'}$$

where $\dot{\psi}(t)$ is directed along the ζ' axis. Then we have the angular velocity in the new coordiante (x', y', z') as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{\Omega}_{x'y'z'} &= \mathbf{\Omega}_{\phi} + \mathbf{\Omega}_{\theta} + \mathbf{\Omega}_{\psi} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \Omega_{x'} \\ \Omega_{y'} \\ \Omega_{z'} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi(t) \dot{\theta}(t) + \sin \theta(t) \sin \psi(t) \dot{\phi}(t) \\ -\sin \psi(t) \dot{\theta}(t) + \sin \theta(t) \cos \psi(t) \dot{\phi}(t) \\ \cos \theta(t) \dot{\phi}(t) + \dot{\psi}(t) \end{pmatrix}_{x', y', z'} \end{aligned}$$

The angular velocity in the original (x, y, z) coordinate is obtained as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{\Omega}_{x,y,z} &= \begin{pmatrix} \Omega_x \\ \Omega_y \\ \Omega_z \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \mathfrak{R}^{-1}(t) \mathbf{\Omega}_{x'y'z'} = \mathfrak{R}^T(t) \mathbf{\Omega}_{x'y'z'} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi(t) \dot{\theta}(t) + \sin \theta(t) \sin \phi(t) \dot{\psi}(t) \\ \sin \phi(t) \dot{\theta}(t) - \sin \theta(t) \cos \phi(t) \dot{\psi}(t) \\ \dot{\phi}(t) + \cos \theta(t) \dot{\psi}(t) \end{pmatrix}_{x,y,z} \end{aligned}$$

13S.2 Kinetic energy

The kinetic energy is given by

$$T = T_1 + T_3$$

with

$$T_1 = \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\Omega_{1x'}^2 + \Omega_{1y'}^2) = \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\dot{\theta}^2 + \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi}^2)$$

and

$$T_3 = \frac{1}{2} I_3 \Omega_{1z'}^2 = \frac{1}{2} I_3 (\cos \theta \dot{\phi} + \dot{\psi})^2.$$

What is the potential energy? The center of mass of the symmetrical top is l from the bottom. In other words, we have

$$\mathbf{r}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ l \end{pmatrix}_{x', y', z'}$$

This vector \mathbf{r}' is transformed to the position vector \mathbf{r} in the original (x, y, z) coordinate system. Using the rotation matrix

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{R} &= \mathfrak{R}_z(-\psi) \mathfrak{R}_x(-\theta) \mathfrak{R}_z(-\phi) = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi \cos \psi - \sin \phi \cos \theta \sin \psi & \sin \phi \cos \psi + \cos \phi \cos \theta \sin \psi & \sin \theta \sin \psi \\ -\cos \theta \sin \phi \cos \psi - \cos \phi \sin \psi & \cos \phi \cos \theta \cos \psi - \sin \phi \sin \psi & \sin \theta \cos \psi \\ \sin \phi \sin \theta & -\cos \phi \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathfrak{R}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ l \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} l \sin \theta \sin \phi \\ -l \cos \phi \sin \theta \\ l \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}_{x, y, z}$$

Then the potential energy V is given by

$$V = mgz = mgl \cos \theta.$$

13S.3 Lagrange's equation

The Lagrangian L is obtained as

$$L = T - V = \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\dot{\theta}^2 + \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi}^2) + \frac{1}{2} I_3 (\cos \theta \dot{\phi} + \dot{\psi})^2 - mgl \cos \theta$$

((The Lagrange's equation))

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta}.$$

$$\sin \theta [mgl + (I_1 - I_3) \dot{\phi}^2 \cos \theta] = I_3 \dot{\phi} \dot{\psi} \sin \theta + I_1 \ddot{\theta}.$$

((First integral)):

We note that ϕ and ψ are cyclic. In other words, L is independent of ϕ and ψ . So the corresponding angular momenta are constant

$$P_{\phi} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\phi}} = (I_3 \cos^2 \theta + I_1 \sin^2 \theta) \dot{\phi} + I_3 \dot{\psi} \cos \theta \quad \text{for } \phi.$$

$$P_{\psi} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\psi}} = I_3 (\dot{\phi} \cos \theta + \dot{\psi}) = I_3 \Omega_z, \quad \text{for } \psi$$

Energy conservation:

$$E = mgl \cos \theta + \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\dot{\theta}^2 + \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta) + \frac{1}{2} I_3 (\dot{\phi}^2 \cos^2 \theta + 2 \dot{\theta} \dot{\psi} \cos \theta) + \frac{1}{2} I_3 \dot{\psi}^2$$

13S.3 Solution

Here we put

$$P_{\psi} = I_3 \omega_3 = I_1 a, \quad P_{\phi} = I_1 b$$

where a , b , and ω_3 are constants. From the first integral, we have

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{b - a \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$$

$$\dot{\psi} = a \frac{I_1}{I_3} - \frac{(b - a \cos \theta) \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$$

From the Lagrange's equation and the first integral, we get

$$I_1 \ddot{\theta} = I_1(a^2 + b^2) \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin^3 \theta} - I_1 ab \frac{3 + \cos(2\theta)}{2 \sin^3 \theta} + mgl \sin \theta$$

13.S4 Effective potential energy V_{eff}

The energy conservation law can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &= mgl \cos \theta + \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\dot{\theta}^2 + \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta) \\ &= mgl \cos \theta + \frac{1}{2} I_1 \left[\dot{\theta}^2 + \left(\frac{b - a \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

where

$$E_1 = E - \frac{a^2 I_1^2}{2 I_3} = E - \frac{1}{2} I_3 \omega_3^2,$$

$$\alpha = \frac{2E}{I_1} - \frac{a^2 I_1}{I_3} = \frac{2(E - \frac{a^2 I_1^2}{2 I_3})}{I_1} = \frac{2E_1}{I_1}, \quad \beta = \frac{2mgl}{I_1}.$$

$$a = \frac{P_\psi}{I_1} = \frac{I_3}{I_1} \omega_3, \quad b = \frac{P_\phi}{I_1}$$

Here E is the total energy (constant) and E_1 is also constant. Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &= \frac{I_1}{2} \dot{\theta}^2 + \frac{I_1}{2} \left(\frac{b - a \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right)^2 + mgl \cos \theta \\ &= \frac{I_1}{2} \dot{\theta}^2 + V_{\text{eff}}(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

where $V_{\text{eff}}(\theta)$ is an effective potential, given by

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\theta) = \frac{I_1}{2} \left(\frac{b - a \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right)^2 + mgl \cos \theta.$$

The above equation is similar to that for the motion of a particle in a central-force field. The figure shown below indicates that for the value of E_1 the motion is limited by two extreme values of θ_1 and θ_2 , which correspond to the turning points of the central-force problem. For $E_1 = E_0$, θ is limited to the single value θ_0 . The motion is a steady precession at a fixed angle of inclination (θ_0). The condition that $V_{\text{eff}}(\theta)$ has a local minimum at $\theta = \theta_0$, is obtained from

$$\left. \frac{\partial V_{\text{eff}}}{\partial \theta} \right|_{\theta=\theta_0} = 0,$$

or

$$(-b + a \cos \theta_0)(-a + b \cos \theta_0) - \frac{mg}{I_1} L \sin^4 \theta_0 = 0$$

or

$$(-b + a \cos \theta_0)(-a + b \cos \theta_0) - \frac{\beta}{2} \sin^4 \theta_0 = 0$$

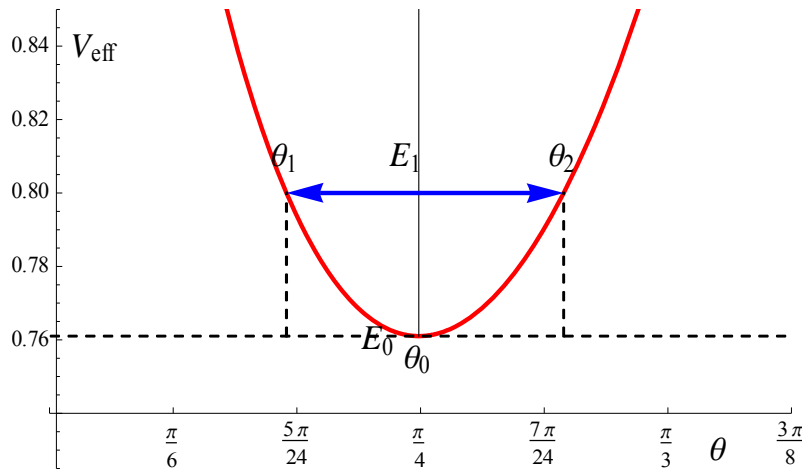


Fig. The plot of V_{eff} as a function of θ . $I_1 = 1$. $m = 1$. $g = 1$. $L = 1$. $a = 2.5$. $b = 2$. V_{eff} has a local minimum at $\theta = \theta_0$.

13.S5 Summary

(1) Energy conservation law:

$$\dot{\theta}^2 \sin^2 \theta = \left(\frac{2E}{I_1} - \frac{a^2 I_1}{I_3} - \frac{2mgl}{I_1} \cos \theta \right) \sin^2 \theta - (b - a \cos \theta)^2$$

or

$$\dot{\theta}^2 \sin^2 \theta = (\alpha - \beta \cos \theta) \sin^2 \theta - (b - a \cos \theta)^2 \quad (1)$$

When $u = \cos \theta$, the energy conservation law can be rewritten as

$$\dot{u}^2 = f(u) = (1 - u^2)(\alpha - \beta u) - (b - au)^2.$$

The formal solution of the above equation is obtained as

$$t - t_0 = \int_{u_0}^u \frac{du}{\sqrt{f(u)}} = \int_{u_0}^u \frac{du}{\sqrt{(1 - u^2)(\alpha - \beta u) - (b - au)^2}}$$

(2) Equations of motion:

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{b - a \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = \frac{b - au}{1 - u^2}, \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{\psi} = a \frac{I_1}{I_3} - \frac{(b - a \cos \theta) \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = a \frac{I_1}{I_3} - \frac{(b - au)u}{1 - u^2}, \quad (3)$$

$$\ddot{\theta} = (a^2 + b^2) \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin^3 \theta} - ab \frac{3 + \cos(2\theta)}{2 \sin^3 \theta} + \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \theta. \quad (4)$$

The equations (2), (3), and (4) will be solved numerically by using the Mathematica. We do not use Eq.(1) for the solution of the problem here.

13.S6 Characteristic motion

(a) **Roots of $f(u) = 0$**

We are interested in the roots of

$$f(u) = (1 - u^2)(\alpha - \beta u) - (b - au)^2 = 0$$

Since $\beta > 0$, the solution must go to positive infinity for $u \rightarrow \infty$, and to negative infinity for $u \rightarrow -\infty$. At the physical limits ($u = \pm 1$),

$$f(u = \pm 1) = -(b - au)^2 \leq 0$$

So these conditions constrain the functional form of the solution $f(u) = 0$ to the three roots

$$-1 \leq u_1 \leq u_2 \leq 1 \leq u_3$$

The physical motion is bounded to the range $u_1 \leq u \leq u_2$.

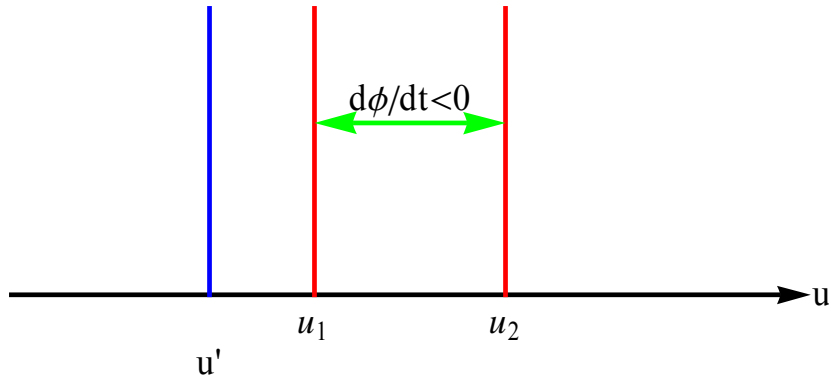
(b) Precession with nutation

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{b - a \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = \frac{b - au}{1 - u^2}$$

The precession $\phi(t)$ reverses direction when $\dot{\phi} = 0$. This corresponds to the turning point at

$$u' = \frac{b}{a}.$$

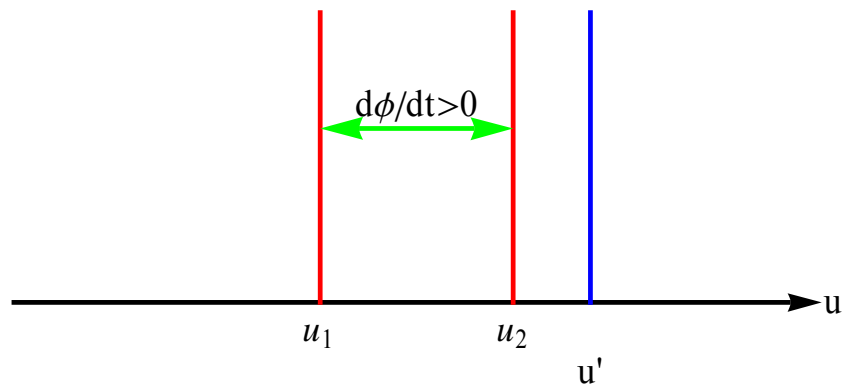
(i) $u' < u_1 < u_2$



$$\dot{\phi} < 0$$

ϕ monotonically increases with time. The turning point is not in the allowed region ($u_1 < u < u_2$).

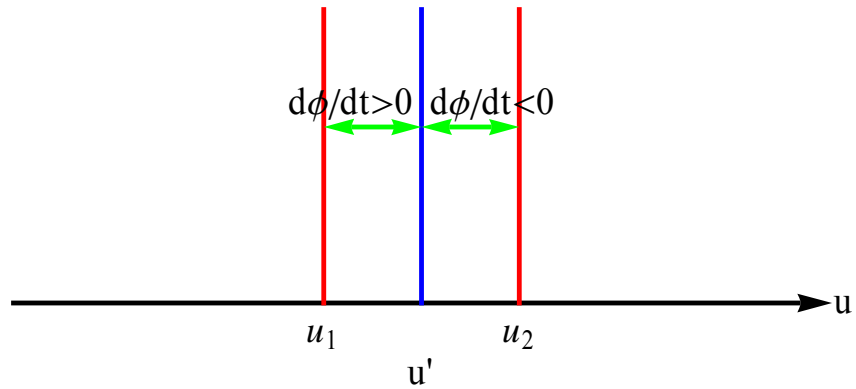
$$(ii) \quad u_1 < u_2 < u'$$



$$\dot{\phi} > 0$$

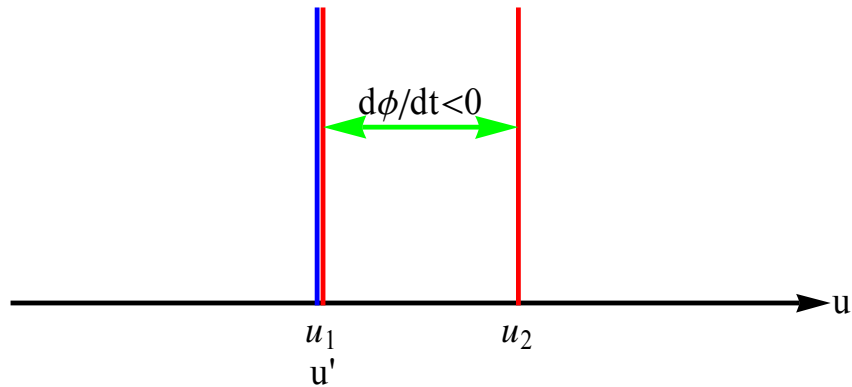
ϕ monotonically increases with time. The turning point is not in the allowed region ($u_1 < u < u_2$).

$$(iii) \quad u_1 < u' < u_2$$



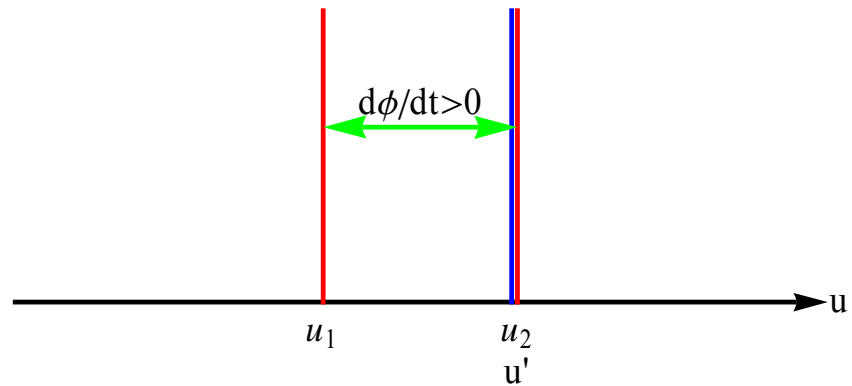
ϕ reverses the direction. $\dot{\phi} > 0$ for $u < u'$. $\dot{\phi} < 0$ for $u > u'$.

(iv) $u' = u_1 < u_2$



If the turning point is at $u' = u_1$, one get a cusp.

(v) $u_1 < u_2 = u'$



If the turning point is at $u' = u_2$, one get a cusp.

13.S6 Initial conditions

Suppose that the top is set spinning about its symmetry axis and released with zero initial precession and nutation;

$$\theta(t=0) = \theta_0 \quad (u = u_2 = \cos \theta_0)$$

$$\dot{\theta}(t=0) = 0, \quad \dot{\phi}(t=0) = 0, \quad \dot{\psi}(t=0) = \omega_3 \quad (\text{initial conditions})$$

From the energy conservation law, we have

$$E_1 = mgl \cos \theta_0 = E - \frac{1}{2} I_3 \omega_3^2$$

or

$$E = mgl \cos \theta_0 + \frac{1}{2} I_3 \omega_3^2$$

From the two relations

$$\sin^2 \theta \dot{\theta}^2 = \dot{u}^2 = f(u) = (1-u^2)(\alpha - \beta u) - (b - au)^2,$$

and

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{b - au}{1 - u^2},$$

we have

$$u(0) = \cos \theta_0 = u_2 = u' = \frac{b}{a},$$

which leads to the cusp motion ($u_1 < u_2 = u'$). Since u_2 is one of the roots in $f(u) = 0$

$$f(u_2) = (1 - u_2^2)(\alpha - \beta u_2) - (b - au_2)^2 = (1 - u_2^2)(\alpha - \beta u_2) = 0$$

or

$$u_2 = u' = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{b}{a}$$

Note that

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{E_1}{mgl} = \cos \theta_0 = u_2 = u' = u_0$$

13.S7 Fast top

In the above case, the total energy E is given by

$$E = mgl \cos \theta_0 + \frac{1}{2} I_3 \omega_3^2.$$

Here we assume that the initial kinetic energy of rotation about the z axis is assumed large compared to the maximum change in the potential energy.

$$\frac{1}{2} I_3 \omega_3^2 \gg 2mgl$$

What is the other root u_1 ?

$$\begin{aligned} f(u) &= (\alpha - \beta u)(1 - u^2) - (b - au)^2 \\ &= \beta \left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} - u \right) (1 - u^2) - a^2 \left(\frac{b}{a} - u \right)^2 \\ &= \beta(u_0 - u)[(1 - u^2) - a^2(u_0 - u)^2] \\ &= \beta(u_0 - u) \left[(1 - u^2) - \frac{a^2}{\beta} (u_0 - u) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Then u_1 is the root of the quadratic equation

$$(1 - u_1^2) - \frac{a^2}{\beta} (u_0 - u_1) = 0$$

We put

$$u_0 - u_1 = x.$$

Then we have

$$x^2 + px - q = 0$$

with

$$p = -2u_0 + \frac{a^2}{\beta} \approx \frac{a^2}{\beta} > 0, \quad q = 1 - u_0^2 = \sin^2 \theta_0 > 0$$

We note that

$$\frac{a^2}{\beta} = \frac{I_3}{I_1} \frac{1}{2} \frac{I_3 \omega_3^2}{mgl} \gg 2.$$

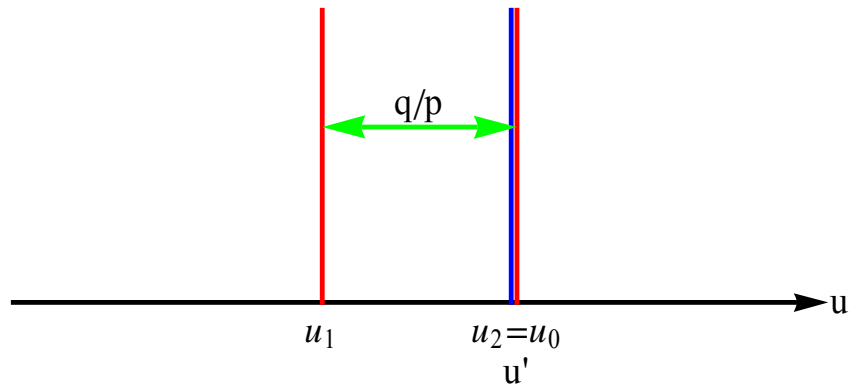
The solution of the quadratic equation is given by

$$x_1 = \frac{q}{p} = \frac{\beta \sin^2 \theta_0}{a^2} \quad \text{or} \quad x_3 = -p - \frac{q}{p},$$

where $p^2 \gg 4q$. Since $0 < x_1 < 1$ and $x_3 < -1$, we have

$$u_1 = u_0 - \frac{q}{p} = u_0 - \frac{I_1}{I_3} \frac{2mgl}{I_3 \omega_3^2} \sin^2 \theta_0$$

The extent of the nutation, as measured by $u_0 - u_1$, goes down as $1/\omega_3^2$. The faster the top is spun, the less is the nutation.



13.S.7 Angular frequency of fast top

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{u}^2 &= f(u) = \beta(u_0 - u)[(1 - u^2) - \frac{a^2}{\beta}(u_0 - u)] \\
 &\approx \beta(u_0 - u)[\sin^2 \theta_0 - \frac{a^2}{\beta}(u_0 - u)] \\
 &= (u_0 - u)a^2 x_1 - a^2(u_0 - u)^2 \\
 &= a^2 x(x_1 - x)
 \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\dot{x}^2 = a^2 x(x_1 - x)$$

where $x = u_0 - u$ and the initial condition is $x(0) = 0$. The solution for $x(t)$ is given by

$$x = x_1 \sin^2 \frac{at}{2} = \frac{x_1}{2}(1 - \cos at)$$

The angular frequency of nutation is

$$a = \frac{P_{\psi}}{I_1} = \frac{I_3}{I_1} \omega_3$$

((Mathematica))

```

eq1 = x'[t]^2 == a^2 x[t] (x1 - x[t]);
eq2 =
DSolve[{eq1, x[0] == 0}, x[t], t] // Simplify[#, a > 0] & //
FullSimplify;
x[t_] = x[t] /. eq2[[1]]

x1 Sin[ $\frac{a t}{2}$ ]^2

```

13S.8 Precession of fast top

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{b-au}{1-u^2} = \frac{a(\frac{b}{a}-u)}{\sin^2 \theta} \approx \frac{a(u_0-u)}{\sin^2 \theta_0} \approx \frac{ax}{\sin^2 \theta_0} = \frac{ax_1}{2\sin^2 \theta_0} (1 - \cos at)$$

or

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{\beta}{2a} (1 - \cos at).$$

The average angular frequency for the precession is

$$\langle \dot{\phi} \rangle = \frac{\beta}{2a} = \frac{mgl}{I_3 \omega_3}.$$

13S.9 True regular precession

What is the condition for the regular precession without any nutation? In this case, the angle θ remains constant; $\ddot{\theta} = \dot{\theta} = 0$, and $\theta = \theta_0$. This condition is equivalent to the condition that $f(u)$ has double roots; $u_1 = u_2$.

We return to the Lagrange's equation,

$$\sin \theta [mgl + (I_1 - I_3) \dot{\phi}^2 \cos \theta] = I_3 \dot{\phi} \dot{\psi} \sin \theta + I_1 \ddot{\theta}$$

When $\ddot{\theta} = 0$, we have

$$(I_1 - I_3) \dot{\phi}^2 \cos \theta_0 - I_3 \dot{\phi} \dot{\psi} + mgl = 0, \quad (1)$$

or

$$mgl = \dot{\phi} [I_3 \dot{\psi} - (I_1 - I_3) \dot{\phi} \cos \theta_0]. \quad (2)$$

Equation (1) is a quadratic equation for $\dot{\phi}$. The discriminant should be positive,

$$D = (I_3 \dot{\psi})^2 - 4mgl \cos \theta_0 (I_1 - I_3) \geq 0$$

It is evident that from Eq.(2), $\dot{\phi} = 0$ is not a solution. From Eq.(1), there are two roots for $\dot{\phi}$, fast precession (large $\dot{\phi}$) and slow precession (small $\dot{\phi}$).

For the slow precession (small $\dot{\phi}$), we have

$$mgl = \dot{\phi}[I_3\dot{\psi} - (I_1 - I_3)\dot{\phi}\cos\theta_0] \approx I_3\dot{\phi}\dot{\psi}$$

or

$$\dot{\phi} \approx \frac{mgl}{I_3\dot{\psi}} \approx \frac{mgl}{I_3\omega_3} = \frac{\beta}{2a}. \quad (\text{slow}).$$

For the fast precession (large $\dot{\phi}$), we have

$$I_3\dot{\psi} \approx (I_1 - I_3)\dot{\phi}\cos\theta_0 \approx I_1\dot{\phi}\cos\theta_0$$

or

$$\dot{\phi} \approx \frac{I_3\omega_3}{I_1\cos\theta_0} \quad (\text{fast})$$

13S.10 $u = 1$.

A top is set spinning with its figure axis initially vertical; $\theta = 0$ and $\dot{\theta} = 0$ at $t = 0$.

$$\sin^2\theta\dot{\phi} = b - a\cos\theta = 0$$

When $\theta = 0$ at $t = 0$, we have $u_2 = 1$,

$$a = b.$$

The energy E_1 is given by

$$E_1 = E - \frac{1}{2}I_3\omega_3^2 = mgl$$

$$\alpha = \frac{2E_1}{I_1}, \quad \beta = \frac{2mgl}{I_1}.$$

Then we have

$$\alpha = \beta.$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{u}^2 = f(u) &= (1-u^2)(\alpha - \beta u) - (b - au)^2 \\ &= (1-u^2)\beta(1-u) - a^2(1-u)^2 \\ &= (1-u)^2[\beta(1+u) - a^2] \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

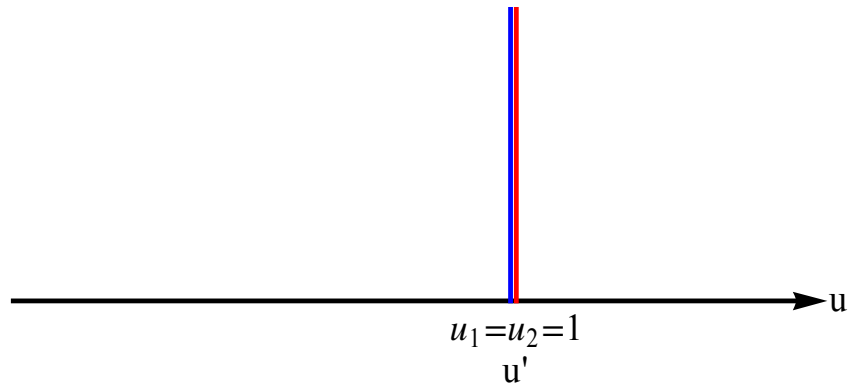
$$u_1 = u_2 = 1$$

The third root is

$$u_3 = \frac{a^2}{\beta} - 1.$$

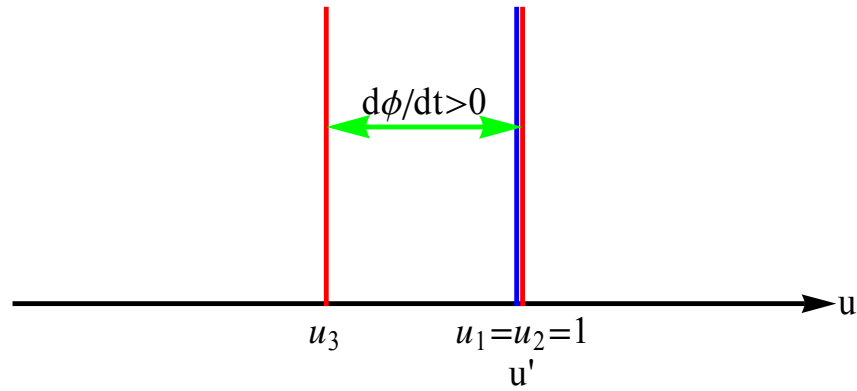
(i) For $\frac{a^2}{\beta} > 2$, we have $u_3 > 1$.

The top continues to spin about the vertical.



(ii) For $\frac{a^2}{\beta} < 2$, we have $u_3 < 1$.

The top will nutate between $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = \theta_3$.



The critical angular velocity, ω_{3c} , above which only vertical motion is possible, is given by

$$\omega_{3c} = \frac{4mglI_1}{I_3^2}$$

13.S 11 Differential equations for symmetric top

We solve the following differential equations

$$\ddot{\theta} = (a^2 + b^2) \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin^3 \theta} - ab \frac{3 + \cos(2\theta)}{2\sin^3 \theta} + \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \theta. \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{b - a \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = \frac{b - au}{1 - u^2}, \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{\psi} = a \frac{I_1}{I_3} - \frac{(b - a \cos \theta) \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = a \frac{I_1}{I_3} - \frac{(b - au)u}{1 - u^2}, \quad (3)$$

with the initial conditions given by

$$\theta(0) = 0. \quad \phi(0) = 0^\circ. \quad \psi(0) = 0^\circ.$$

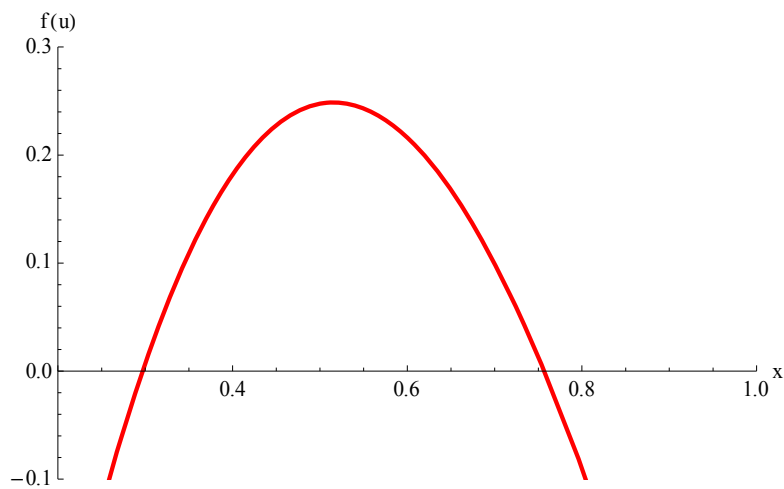
$\theta(0)$ is changed as a parameter.

13S.12 Numerical simulation -1

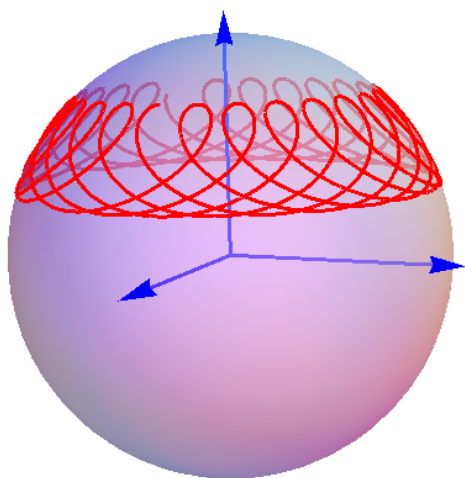
$$\alpha = 1.6. \quad \beta = 2.0. \quad a = 2.5. \quad b = 1.7.$$

Note that since $b/a = 1.7/2.5 = 0.68$, there is an angle θ satisfying $u' = \cos\theta = 0.68$ ($\theta = 47.16^\circ$). The values of u where $f(u) = 0$, are given by

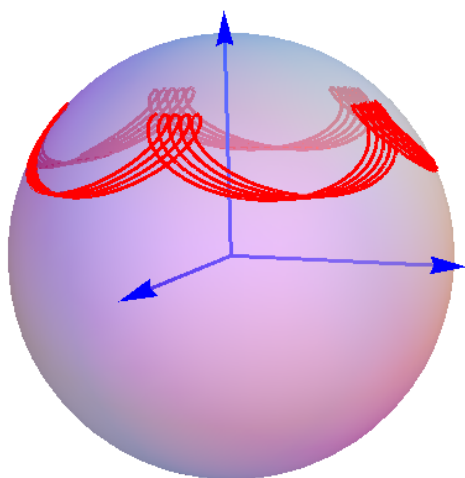
$$u_1 = 0.29068 \ (\theta_1 = 73.10^\circ) \quad u_2 = 0.757826 \ (\theta_2 = 40.7278^\circ)$$



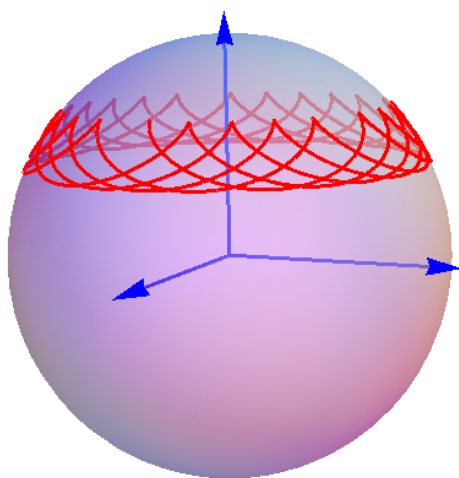
$$\theta(0)=42^\circ$$



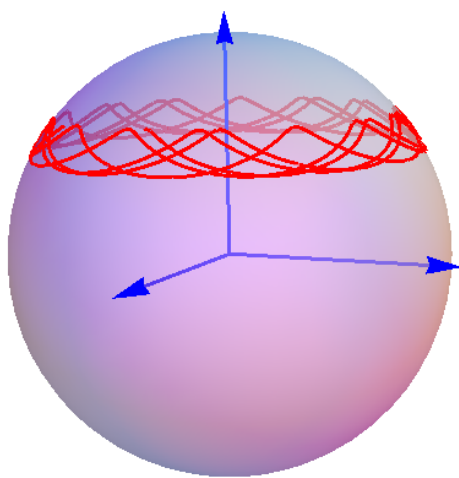
$$\theta(0)=45^\circ$$



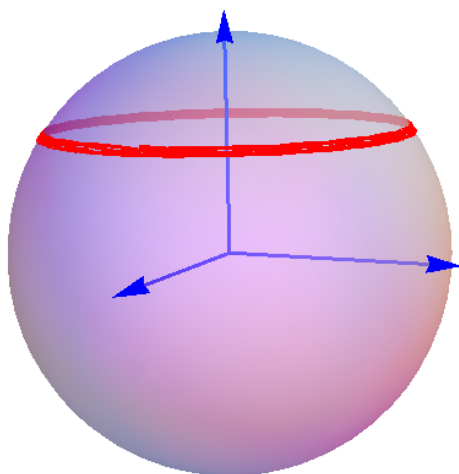
$$\theta(0)=47.16^\circ$$



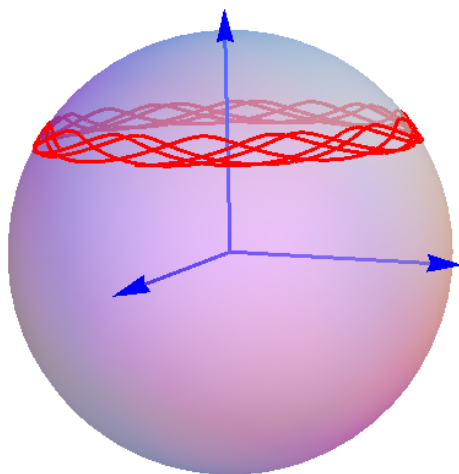
$$\theta(0)=50^\circ$$



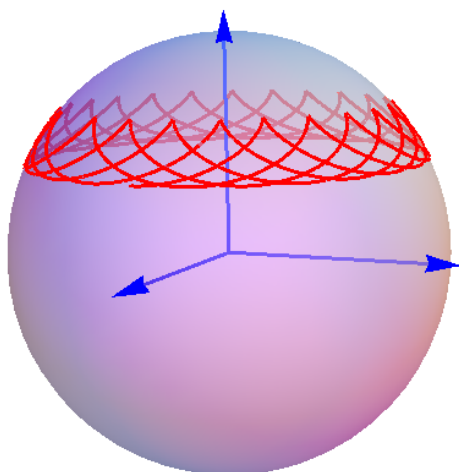
$$\theta(0)=55^\circ$$



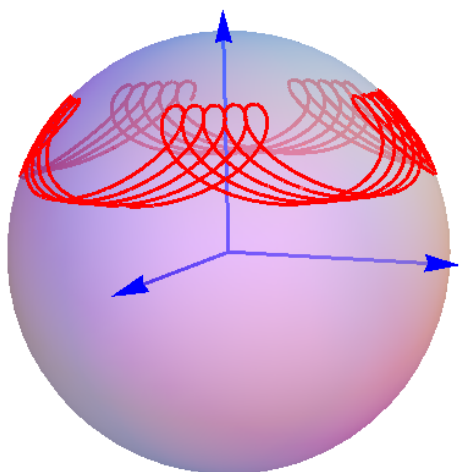
$$\theta(0)=60^\circ$$



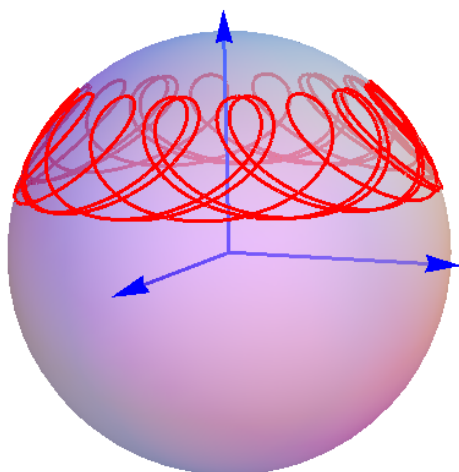
$$\theta(0)=65^\circ$$



$$\theta(0)=70^\circ$$



$$\theta(0)=73.10^\circ$$



((Mathematica))


```

Clear["Global`*"]

Firsteq =  $\theta''[t] == (a^2 + b^2) \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]]^2 - \frac{1}{2} a b (3 + \cos[2 \theta[t]]) \csc[\theta[t]]^3 + \frac{\beta}{2} \sin[\theta[t]]$ ;

Secondeg =  $\phi'[t] == \csc[\theta[t]] (-a \cot[\theta[t]] + b \csc[\theta[t]])$ ;

Thirdeg =  $\psi'[t] == \frac{a I1}{I3} + a \cot[\theta[t]]^2 - b \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]]$ ;

rule1 = {I1 → 2, I3 → 1};

 $\alpha = 1.6$ ;  $\beta = 2$ ;  $a = 2.5$ ;  $b = 1.7$ ;

def1 = {Firsteq, Secondeg, Thirdeg} /. rule1;
Initial = { $\theta[0] == 43^\circ$ ,  $\theta'[0] == 0$ ,  $\phi[0] == 0^\circ$ ,  $\psi[0] == 0^\circ$ };

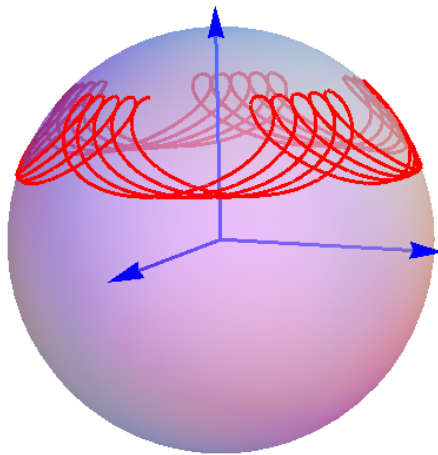
def2 = Join[def1, Initial]; eq1 = NDSolve[def2, { $\theta[t]$ ,  $\phi[t]$ ,  $\psi[t]$ }, {t, 0, 70}];

 $\theta[t\_]$  =  $\theta[t]$  /. eq1[[1]];  $\phi[t\_]$  =  $\phi[t]$  /. eq1[[1]];  $\psi[t\_]$  =  $\psi[t]$  /. eq1[[1]];

p1 = ParametricPlot3D[{Sin[ $\theta[t]$ ] Cos[ $\phi[t]$ ], Sin[ $\theta[t]$ ] Sin[ $\phi[t]$ ], Cos[ $\theta[t]$ ]},
  {t, 0, 70}, PlotStyle → {{Red, Thick}}, Boxed → False, Axes → False];
p2 = Graphics3D[{Opacity[0.5], Sphere[{0, 0, 0}, 1]}];
p3 = Graphics3D[{Blue, Thick, Arrow[{{0, 0, 0}, {1.1, 0, 0}}], Arrow[{{0, 0, 0}, {0, 1.1, 0}}],
  Arrow[{{0, 0, 0}, {0, 0, 1.1}}], Text[Style[" $\theta(0)=43^\circ$ ", Black, 15], {0, 0, 1.3}]}];
Show[p1, p2, p3, PlotRange → All]

```

$\theta(0)=43^\circ$

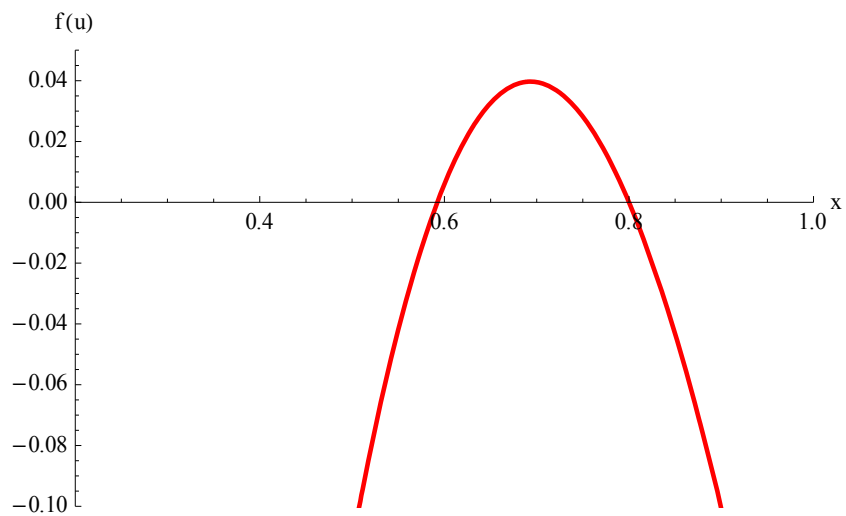


13.S13 Numerical simulation-2

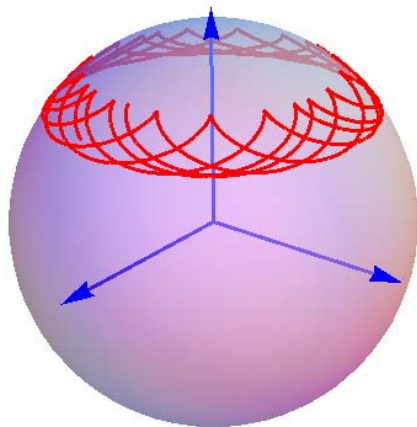
$$\alpha = 1.6. \quad \beta = 2.0. \quad a = 2.5. \quad b = 2.$$

Note that since $b/a = 2/2.5 < 1$, there is an angle θ satisfying $\cos\theta = 2/2.5 = 0.8$ ($\theta = 36.87^\circ$).
 The values of u where $f(u) = 0$, are given by

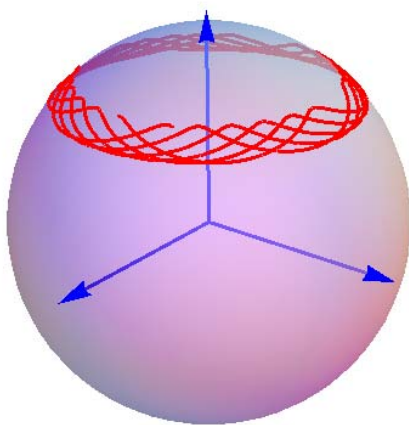
$$u_1 = 0.592 \ (\theta_1 = 53.70^\circ) \quad u_2 = 0.8 \ (\theta_2 = 36.87^\circ)$$



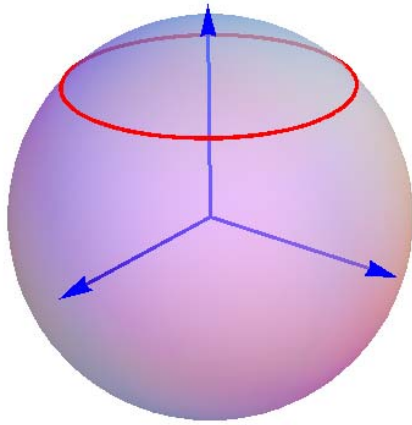
$$\theta(0)=36.869^\circ$$



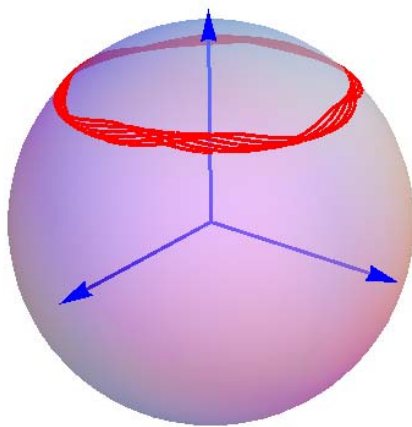
$$\theta(0)=40^\circ$$



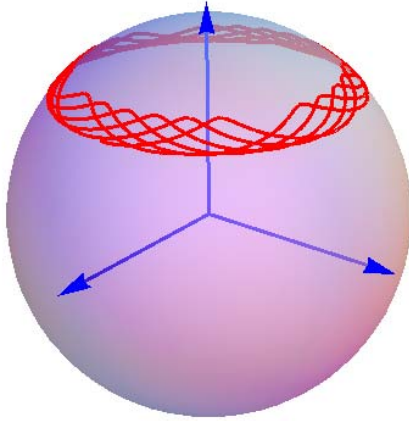
$$\theta(0)=45^\circ$$



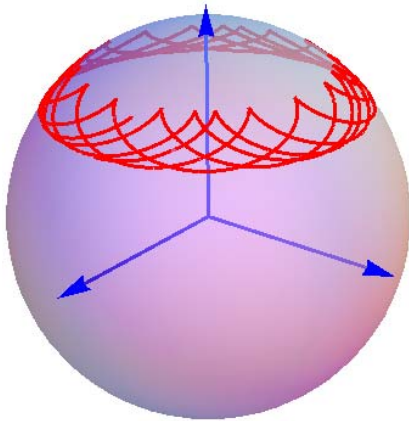
$$\theta(0)=47.5^\circ$$



$$\theta(0)=50^\circ$$



$$\theta(0)=53.70^\circ$$

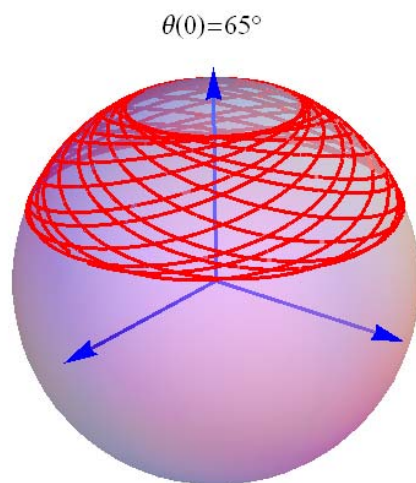
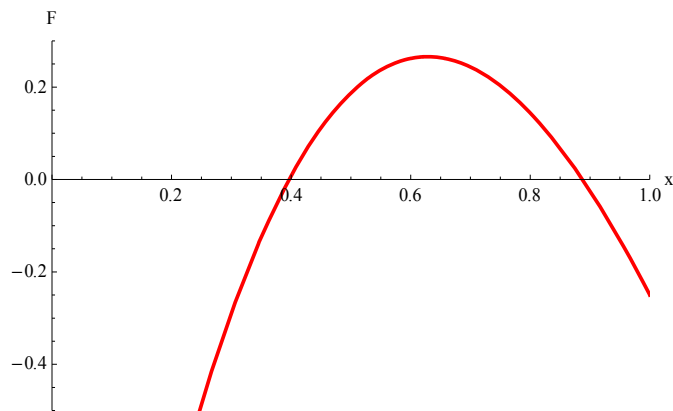


Parameters:

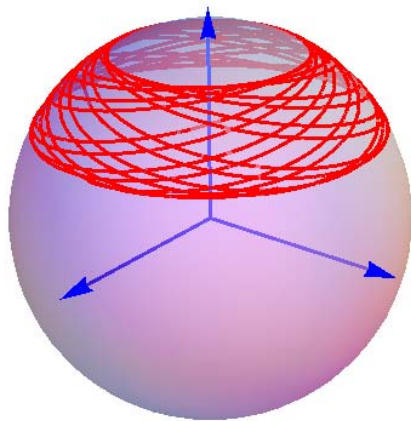
$$\alpha = 2.8. \quad \beta = 2.0. \quad a = 1.75. \quad b = 2.$$

Note that since $b/a = 2/1.75 > 1$, there is no angle θ satisfying $\cos\theta = b/a$. The values of u where $f(u) = 0$, are

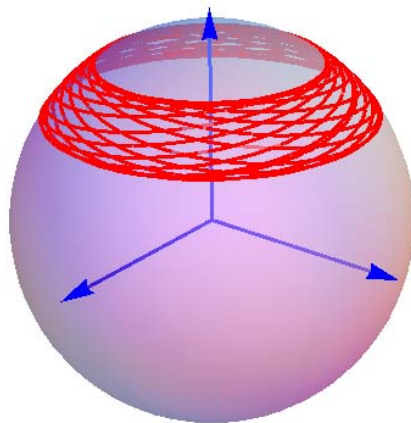
$$u_1 = 0.408 \text{ (} 65.92^\circ \text{)} \quad u_2 = 0.914 \text{ (} 23.94^\circ \text{)}$$



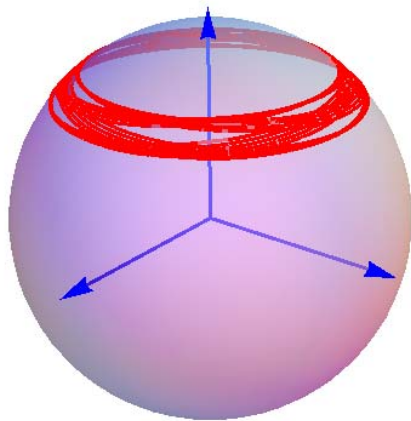
$$\theta(0)=60^\circ$$



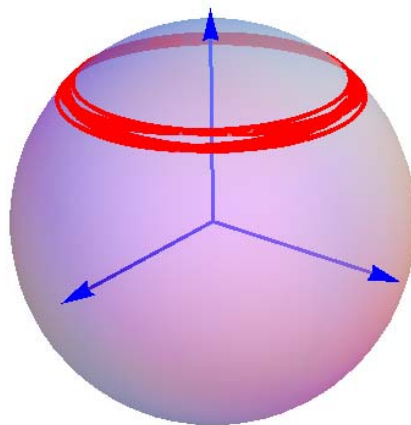
$$\theta(0)=55^\circ$$



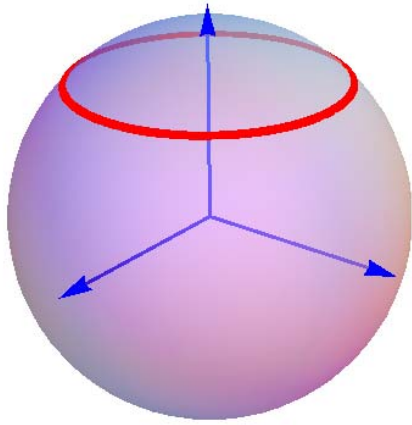
$$\theta(0)=50^\circ$$



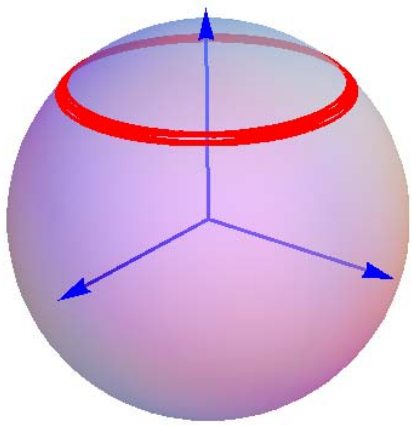
$$\theta(0)=47.5^\circ$$



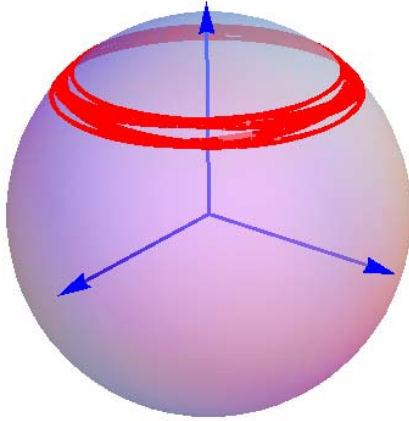
$$\theta(0)=45^\circ$$



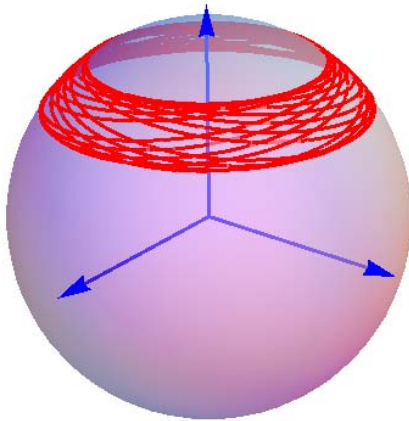
$$\theta(0)=42.5^\circ$$



$$\theta(0)=40^\circ$$

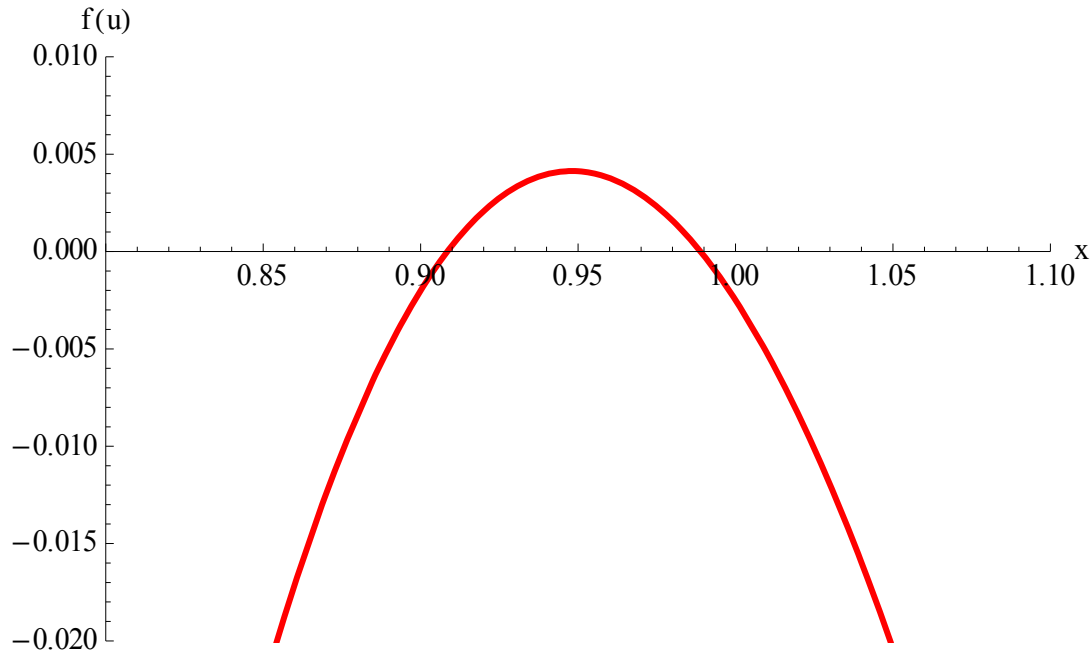


$$\theta(0)=35^\circ$$



Parameters:

$$\alpha = 2.0. \quad \beta = 2.0. \quad a = 2.5. \quad b = 2.45$$



The values of u where $f(u) = 0$, are

$$u_1 = 0.908475 \ (\theta_1 = 24.705^\circ). \quad u_2 = 0.988875 \ (\theta_2 = 8.554^\circ).$$

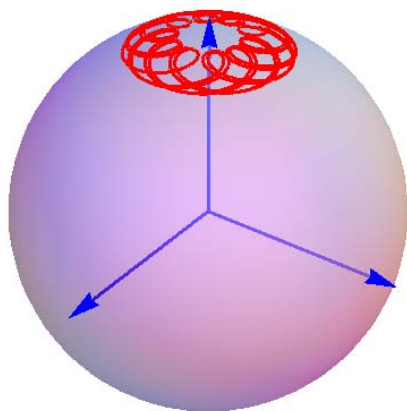
Note that there is an angle θ satisfying $\cos\theta = 2.45/2.5 = 0.98$ ($\theta = 11.478^\circ$).

Initial conditions:

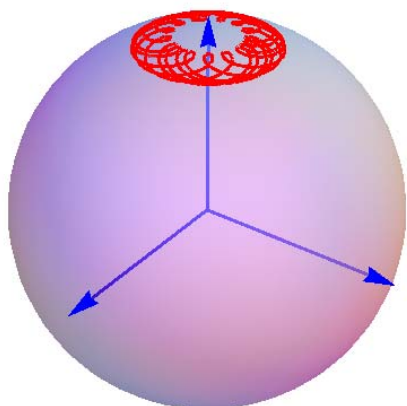
$$\theta'(0) = 0. \quad \phi(0) = 0^\circ. \quad \psi(0) = 0^\circ.$$

$\theta(0)$ is changed as a parameter.

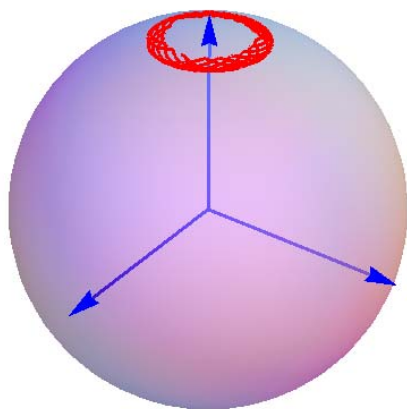
$$\theta(0)=8.7^\circ$$



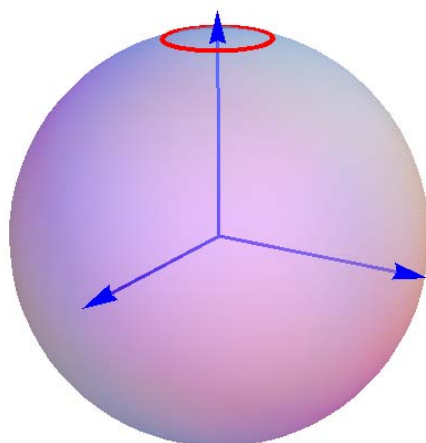
$$\theta(0)=10^\circ$$



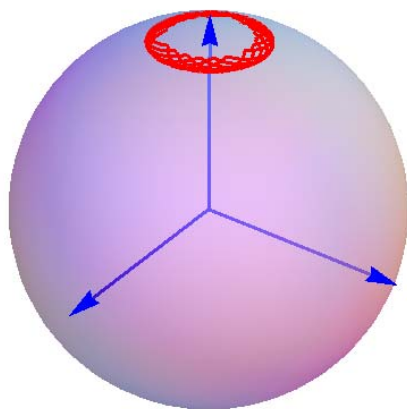
$$\theta(0)=12.5^\circ$$



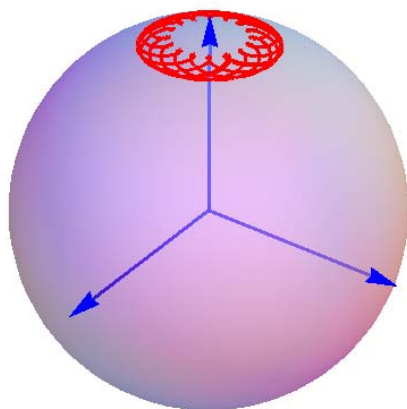
$$\theta(0)=15^\circ$$

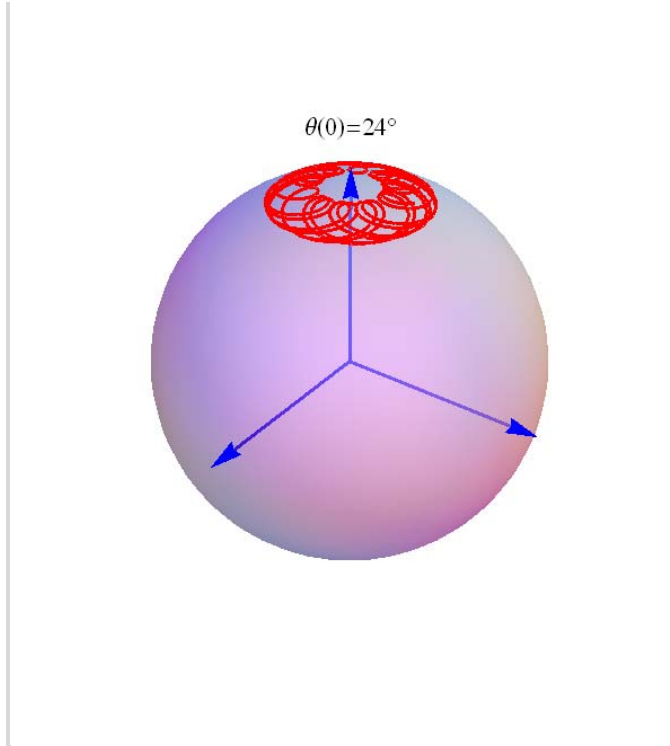


$$\theta(0)=17.5^\circ$$



$$\theta(0)=20^\circ$$

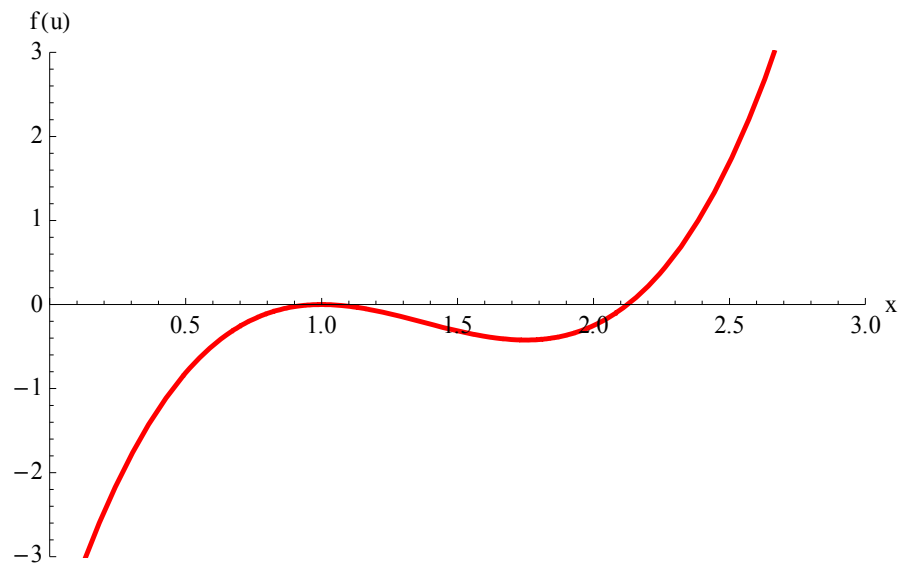




13S.13 Numerical calculations Example-5

Parameters:

$$\alpha = 2.0. \quad \beta = 2.0. \quad a = 2.5. \quad b = 2.5$$



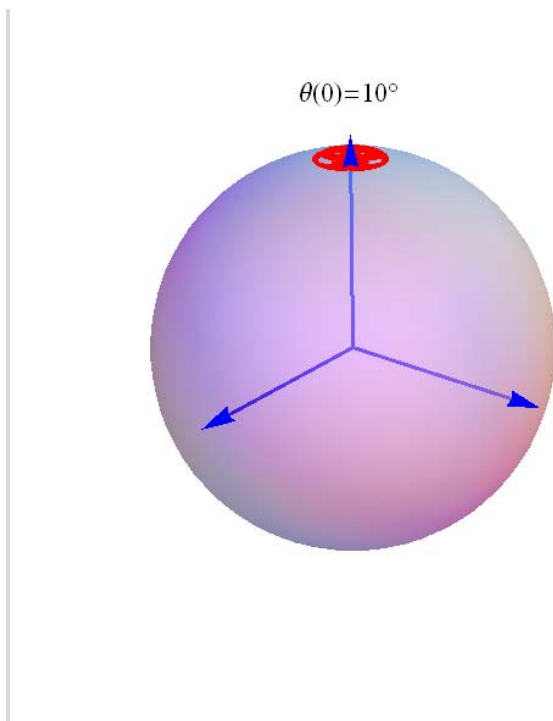
The values of u where $f(u) = 0$, are

$$u_2 = u_1 = 1$$

Initial conditions:

$$\theta'(0) = 0. \quad \phi(0) = 0^\circ. \quad \psi(0) = 0^\circ.$$

$\theta(0)$ is changed as a parameter.

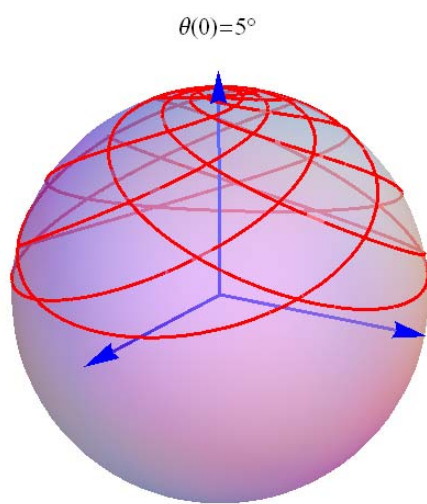
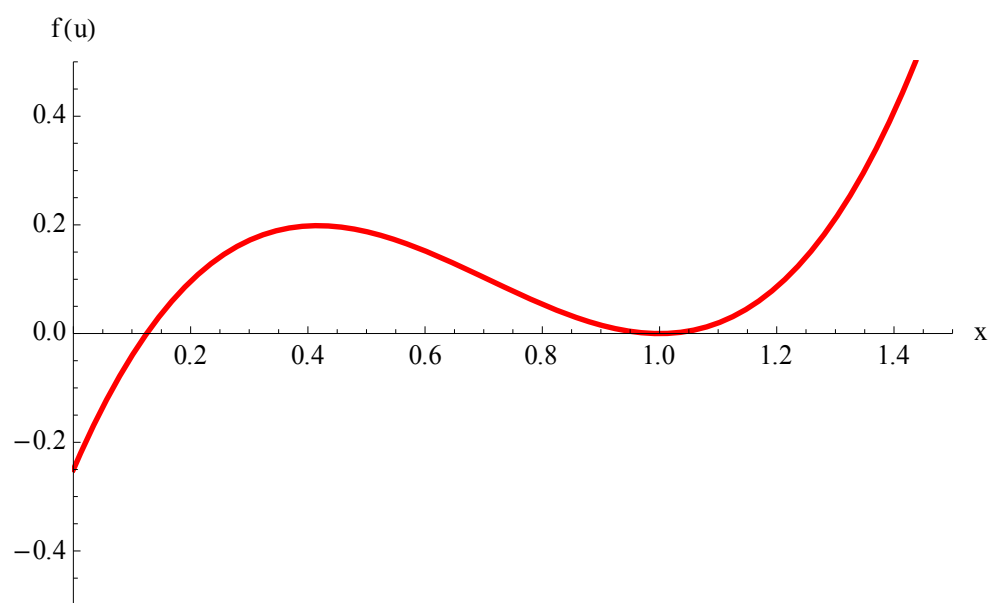


13S.14 Numerical calculations Example-6

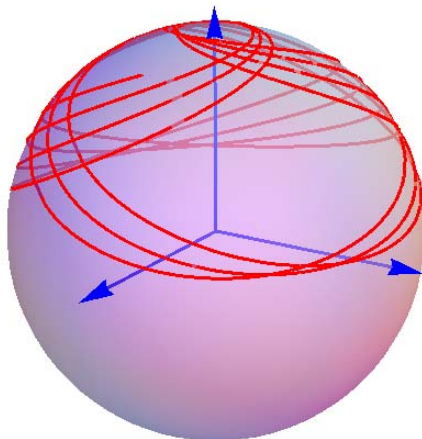
Parameters:

$$\alpha = 2.0. \quad \beta = 2.0. \quad a = 1.5. \quad b = 1.5$$

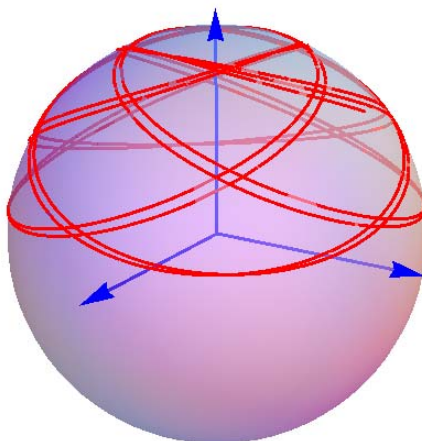
$$u_1 = u_2 = 1 \text{ (} 0^\circ \text{)}. \quad u_3 = 0.125 \text{ (} 82.82^\circ \text{)}.$$



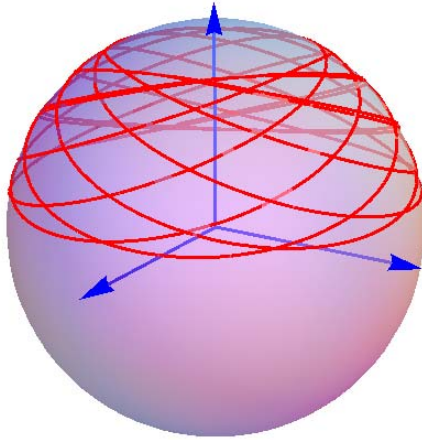
$$\theta(0)=10^\circ$$



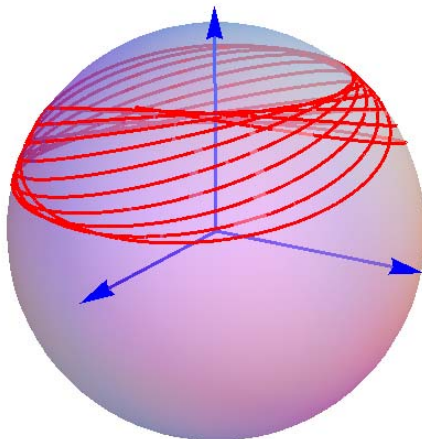
$$\theta(0)=20^\circ$$



$$\theta(0)=30^\circ$$



$$\theta(0)=40^\circ$$



REFERENCES

H. Goldstein, C.P. Poole, and J.L.Safko, *Classical Mechanics*, 3rd edition (Addison Wesley, San Francisco, 2002).

- J.M. Finn, *Classical Mechanics* (Infinity Science Press LLC, Hingham, Massachusetts, 2008).
- P. Hamill, *Intermediate Dynamics* (Jones and Bartlett Publisher Sudbury, Massachusetts, 2010).
- J.E. Hasbun, *Classical Mechanics with Matlab Applications* (Jones and Bartlett Publishers, Sundbury Massachusetts, 2009).
- Jerry B. Marion, *Classical Dynamic s of Particles and Systems*, 2nd edition (Academic Press, New York, 1970).

APPENDIX

((Mathematica))

```
Clear["Global`*"];
```

The rotation with the angle ϕ around the z axis

```
D1 = RotationMatrix[- $\phi$ , {0, 0, 1}]; D1 // MatrixForm
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos[\phi] & \sin[\phi] & 0 \\ -\sin[\phi] & \cos[\phi] & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The rotation with the angle θ around the ξ axis

```
C1 = RotationMatrix[- $\theta$ , {1, 0, 0}]; C1 // MatrixForm
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos[\theta] & \sin[\theta] \\ 0 & -\sin[\theta] & \cos[\theta] \end{pmatrix}$$

The rotation with the angle ψ around the ζ' axis

```
B1 = RotationMatrix[- $\psi$ , {0, 0, 1}]; B1 // MatrixForm
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos[\psi] & \sin[\psi] & 0 \\ -\sin[\psi] & \cos[\psi] & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The resultant rotation is described by a matrix $A1 = B1 C1 D1$

```

A1 = B1.C1.D1 // Simplify; A1 // MatrixForm

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos[\phi] \cos[\psi] - \cos[\theta] \sin[\phi] \sin[\psi] & \cos[\psi] \sin[\phi] + \cos[\theta] \cos[\phi] \sin[\psi] & \sin[\theta] \sin[\psi] \\ -\cos[\theta] \cos[\psi] \sin[\phi] - \cos[\phi] \sin[\psi] & \cos[\theta] \cos[\phi] \cos[\psi] - \sin[\phi] \sin[\psi] & \cos[\psi] \sin[\theta] \\ \sin[\theta] \sin[\phi] & -\cos[\phi] \sin[\theta] & \cos[\theta] \end{pmatrix}$$


D11 = D1 /. {φ → φ[t], θ → θ[t], ψ → ψ[t]}; C11 = C1 /. {φ → φ[t], θ → θ[t], ψ → ψ[t]};
B11 = B1 /. {φ → φ[t], θ → θ[t], ψ → ψ[t]};
A11 = B11.C11.D11;

Ωφ1 = A11.{0, 0, φ'[t]}
{Sin[θ[t]] Sin[ψ[t]] φ'[t], Cos[ψ[t]] Sin[θ[t]] φ'[t], Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t]}

Ωθ1 = B11.C11.{θ'[t], 0, 0}
{Cos[ψ[t]] θ'[t], -Sin[ψ[t]] θ'[t], 0}

Ωψ1 = B11.{0, 0, ψ'[t]}
{0, 0, ψ'[t]}

Ω1 = Ωφ1 + Ωθ1 + Ωψ1
{Cos[ψ[t]] θ'[t] + Sin[θ[t]] Sin[ψ[t]] φ'[t],
 -Sin[ψ[t]] θ'[t] + Cos[ψ[t]] Sin[θ[t]] φ'[t], Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] + ψ'[t]}

```

The angular velocity with respect to the body axes (x, y, z)

```

Ω = Inverse[A11].Ω1 // Simplify
{Cos[φ[t]] θ'[t] + Sin[θ[t]] Sin[φ[t]] ψ'[t],
 Sin[φ[t]] θ'[t] - Cos[φ[t]] Sin[θ[t]] ψ'[t], φ'[t] + Cos[θ[t]] ψ'[t]}

```

Let the axis of symmetry be taken as the z axis fixed in the top. The moment of inertia is I3 about the z axis, and symmetry requires I1 = I2. The kinetic rotational energy is T.

```

T1 = 1/2 I1 ((Ω1[[1]])^2 + (Ω1[[2]])^2) // Simplify
1/2 I1 (θ'[t]^2 + Sin[θ[t]]^2 φ'[t]^2)

T3 = 1/2 I3 (Ω1[[3]])^2 // Simplify
1/2 I3 (Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] + ψ'[t])^2

T = T1 + T3
1/2 I1 (θ'[t]^2 + Sin[θ[t]]^2 φ'[t]^2) + 1/2 I3 (Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] + ψ'[t])^2

```

The potential energy V is

```
Inverse[A1].{0, 0, 1} // Simplify
{1 Sin[θ] Sin[φ], -1 Cos[φ] Sin[θ], 1 Cos[θ]}

V = m g l Cos[θ[t]];
```

The Lagrangian L is equal to L = T - V

```
L = T - V

-g l m Cos[θ[t]] +  $\frac{1}{2}$  I1 (θ'[t]2 + Sin[θ[t]]2 φ'[t]2) +  $\frac{1}{2}$  I3 (Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] + ψ'[t])2
```

Here we use the variational method.

```
<< "VariationalMethods`"

eq11 = VariationalD[L, {φ[t], θ[t], ψ[t]}, t] // Simplify
{θ'[t] (- (I1 - I3) Sin[2 θ[t]] φ'[t] + I3 Sin[θ[t]] ψ'[t]) -
 (I3 Cos[θ[t]]2 + I1 Sin[θ[t]]2) φ''[t] - I3 Cos[θ[t]] ψ''[t],
 g l m Sin[θ[t]] + (I1 - I3) Cos[θ[t]] Sin[θ[t]] φ'[t]2 - I3 Sin[θ[t]] φ'[t] ψ'[t] - I1 θ''[t],
 -I3 (-Sin[θ[t]] θ'[t] φ'[t] + Cos[θ[t]] φ''[t] + ψ''[t])}

eq21 = EulerEquations[L, {φ[t], θ[t], ψ[t]}, t] // Simplify
{Sin[θ[t]] θ'[t] (2 (I1 - I3) Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] - I3 ψ'[t]) +
 (I3 Cos[θ[t]]2 + I1 Sin[θ[t]]2) φ''[t] + I3 Cos[θ[t]] ψ''[t] == 0,
 Sin[θ[t]] (g l m + (I1 - I3) Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t]2) == I3 Sin[θ[t]] φ'[t] ψ'[t] + I1 θ''[t],
 I3 Sin[θ[t]] θ'[t] φ'[t] == I3 (Cos[θ[t]] φ''[t] + ψ''[t])}

eq31 = FirstIntegrals[L, {φ[t], θ[t], ψ[t]}, t] // Simplify
{FirstIntegral[φ] → - (I3 Cos[θ[t]]2 + I1 Sin[θ[t]]2) φ'[t] - I3 Cos[θ[t]] ψ'[t],
 FirstIntegral[ψ] → -I3 (Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] + ψ'[t]),
 FirstIntegral[t] →  $\frac{1}{2}$  (2 g l m Cos[θ[t]] + I1 θ'[t]2 +
 (I3 Cos[θ[t]]2 + I1 Sin[θ[t]]2) φ'[t]2 + 2 I3 Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] ψ'[t] + I3 ψ'[t]2)}
```

Lagrangian L is a function of θ[t], θ'[t], φ'[t], ψ'[t]. In other words, φ[t], ψ[t], and t are the cyclic coordinates.

(1) $\partial L / \partial \phi'[t] = P\phi = \text{constant}$. (2) $\partial L / \partial \psi'[t] = P\psi = \text{constant}$. (3) Energy conservation.

(4) Lagrange equation.

a, b, and E1 are constants.

```

Pφ = -(FirstIntegral[φ] /. eq31)
(I3 Cos[θ[t]]2 + I1 Sin[θ[t]]2) φ'[t] + I3 Cos[θ[t]] ψ'[t]

Pψ = -(FirstIntegral[ψ] /. eq31)
I3 (Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] + ψ'[t])

E1 = (FirstIntegral[t] /. eq31) // Expand
g l m Cos[θ[t]] +  $\frac{1}{2}$  I1 θ'[t]2 +  $\frac{1}{2}$  I3 Cos[θ[t]]2 φ'[t]2 +
 $\frac{1}{2}$  I1 Sin[θ[t]]2 φ'[t]2 + I3 Cos[θ[t]] φ'[t] ψ'[t] +  $\frac{1}{2}$  I3 ψ'[t]2

```

Differential equations derived from the First Integrals
We put $P\psi = I1 a$, $P\phi = I1 b$. where a and b are constants.

```

s1 = Solve[{Pψ == I1 a, Pφ == I1 b}, {φ'[t], ψ'[t]}] // Simplify
{{φ'[t] → Csc[θ[t]] (-a Cot[θ[t]] + b Csc[θ[t]]),
  ψ'[t] →  $\frac{a I1}{I3} + a \cot[\theta[t]]^2 - b \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]]$ }}
Secondeq = s1[[1, 1]] /. Rule → Equal
φ'[t] == Csc[θ[t]] (-a Cot[θ[t]] + b Csc[θ[t]])

Thirdeq = s1[[1, 2]] /. Rule → Equal
ψ'[t] ==  $\frac{a I1}{I3} + a \cot[\theta[t]]^2 - b \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]]$ 

```

Third differential equation from the Lagrange's (or Euler) equation

```

seq11 = eq21[[2]] /. s1[[1]] // FullSimplify
(a2 + b2) I1 Cot[θ[t]] Csc[θ[t]]2 + g l m Sin[θ[t]] == I1 (a b (1 + 2 Cot[θ[t]]2) Csc[θ[t]] + θ''[t])

seq12 = Solve[seq11, θ''[t]] // Simplify
{{θ''[t] →  $\frac{(a^2 + b^2) I1 \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]]^2 - \frac{1}{2} a b I1 (3 + \cos[2 \theta[t]]) \csc[\theta[t]]^3 + g l m \sin[\theta[t]]}{I1}$ }}

seq13 = seq12 /. Rule → Equal
{{θ''[t] ==  $\frac{(a^2 + b^2) I1 \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]]^2 - \frac{1}{2} a b I1 (3 + \cos[2 \theta[t]]) \csc[\theta[t]]^3 + g l m \sin[\theta[t]]}{I1}$ }}

```



```
Firsteq = seq13[[1, 1]]
```

$$\theta''[t] = \frac{(a^2 + b^2) I1 \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]]^2 - \frac{1}{2} a b I1 (3 + \cos[2\theta[t]]) \csc[\theta[t]]^3 + g l m \sin[\theta[t]]}{I1}$$

Energy conservation from the FirstIntegrals

Etot is the total energy and is constant.

```
s2 = (E1) /. s1[[1]] // Simplify
```

$$\frac{1}{2 I3} (2 g I3 l m \cos[\theta[t]] + I1 (a^2 I1 + a^2 I3 \cot[\theta[t]]^2 - 2 a b I3 \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]] + b^2 I3 \csc[\theta[t]]^2) + I1 I3 \theta'[t]^2)$$

```
Energy = s2 == Etot
```

$$\frac{1}{2 I3} (2 g I3 l m \cos[\theta[t]] + I1 (a^2 I1 + a^2 I3 \cot[\theta[t]]^2 - 2 a b I3 \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]] + b^2 I3 \csc[\theta[t]]^2) + I1 I3 \theta'[t]^2) = \text{Etot}$$

```
en11 = Solve[Energy /. \theta'[t]^2 -> x, x]
```

$$\left\{ \left\{ x \rightarrow \frac{1}{I1 I3} \left(-a^2 I1^2 + 2 \text{Etot} I3 - 2 g I3 l m \cos[\theta[t]] - a^2 I1 I3 \cot[\theta[t]]^2 + 2 a b I1 I3 \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]] - b^2 I1 I3 \csc[\theta[t]]^2 \right) \right\} \right\}$$

```
Energyeq = \theta'[t]^2 == x /. en11[[1]] // Simplify
```

$$\frac{a^2 I1}{I3} + \frac{2 g l m \cos[\theta[t]]}{I1} + a^2 \cot[\theta[t]]^2 + b^2 \csc[\theta[t]]^2 + \theta'[t]^2 = \frac{2 \text{Etot}}{I1} + 2 a b \cot[\theta[t]] \csc[\theta[t]]$$