

Motion of a rigid body

§ 31. Angular Velocity

Fixed / Inertial: XYZ

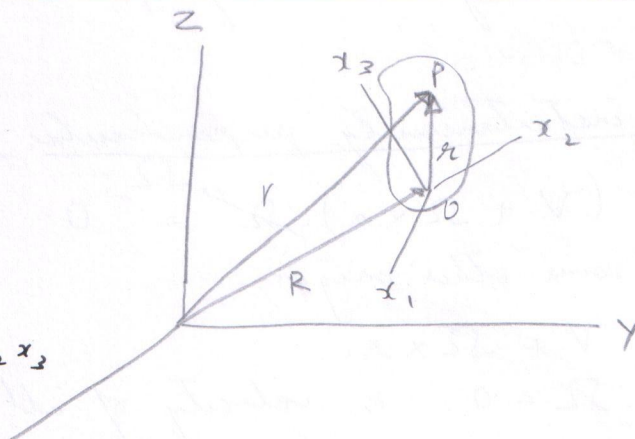
Moving System: x_1, x_2, x_3

(Body Fixed) $= x, y, z$

r : Position vector of P in x_1, x_2, x_3

R : Position " " " XYZ

R : Centre of Mass, Origin of x_1, x_2, x_3



Let us now consider an infinitesimal arbitrary displacement of the rigid body. The infinitesimal displacement of P consists of a displacement dR (same as that of the COM), and $d\phi \times r$, relative to the COM as a result of an infinitesimal rotation.

$$\Rightarrow dR = dR + d\phi \times r$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dt} + \frac{d\Omega}{dt} \times r$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} \quad \frac{dR}{dt} \quad \frac{d\phi}{dt} \text{ --- Angular Velocity}$$

Velocity of the centre of Mass is called the translational velocity. (Here, this has no name)

Let us now assume that the Body Fixed coordinate is not originated at the COM, O , but at O' (position a).

The corresponding labels are as shown.

Now let $\frac{dR'}{dt} = V'$ & the angular velocity of the new system be Ω' ($= \frac{d\phi'}{dt}$)

Observe $r = r' + a$. Substituting this yields

$$dV = dV + d\Omega \times (r' + a)$$

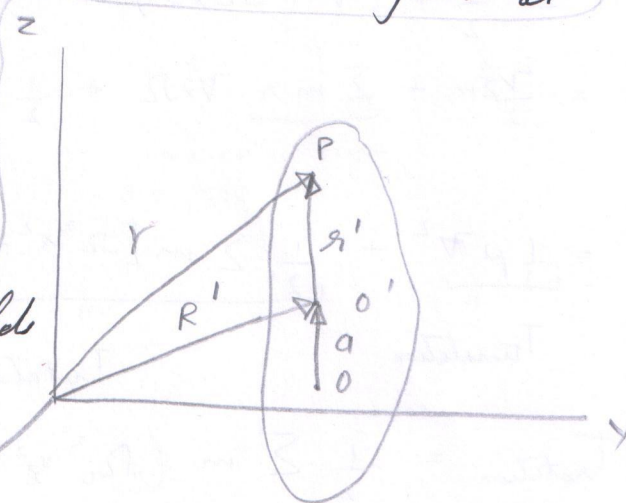
From the defⁿ of V' & Ω' we also have

$$dV = dV' + \Omega' \times r'$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{V' = V + \Omega \times a}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Omega \times r' = \Omega' \times r'$$

$$\hookrightarrow \boxed{\Omega = \Omega'}$$



Physics: Angular Velocity of any frame attached to a rigid body, is the same at a given instant.

Now as all such frames have the same $\vec{\Omega}$ (dir & magnitude), thus we call $\vec{\Omega}$ the angular velocity of the body.

Instantaneous Axis of Rotation

If \vec{V} & $\vec{\Omega}$ are instantaneously perpendicular, then

1) $\vec{V}' \cdot \vec{\Omega}' = (\vec{V} + \vec{\Omega} \times \vec{a}) \cdot \vec{\Omega} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{V}' \cdot \vec{\Omega}' = 0$ $\Rightarrow \vec{V}'$ & $\vec{\Omega}'$ are also perpendicular for some other origin.

2) Since $\vec{v} = \vec{V} + \vec{\Omega} \times \vec{r}$

$\Rightarrow \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\Omega} = 0 \Rightarrow$ velocity of all points of the body are $\perp \vec{\Omega}$.

end if \Downarrow

\exists some point O' s.t. $\vec{v}' = 0$. Motion through this point may be considered as a pure rotation with the axis passing through this point.

end if

§ 32. The Inertia Tensor

Henceforth, the origin is on the COM (of the moving frame) & $\vec{\Omega}$ may vary during the motion.

$T = \sum \frac{1}{2} m v^2$ (we simply add the contribution from all points making the body.)

$$= \sum \frac{1}{2} m (\vec{V} + \vec{\Omega} \times \vec{r})^2 = \sum \frac{1}{2} m V^2 + \sum m \vec{V} \cdot \vec{\Omega} \times \vec{r} + \sum \frac{1}{2} m (\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{r})^2$$

$$= \frac{V^2}{2} \sum m + \sum m \vec{r} \cdot \vec{V} \times \vec{\Omega} + \frac{1}{2} \sum m [\Omega^2 r^2 - (\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{r})^2]$$

since we're on the COM, $= 0$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \mu V^2}_{T_{\text{translation}}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum m [\Omega^2 r^2 - (\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{r})^2]}_{T_{\text{rotation}}}$$

Figure the expansion of (can do this using tensors)

$$\begin{aligned} (\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{r})^2 &= \epsilon_{ijk} \Omega_i \Omega_j \epsilon_{lmk} r_l r_m \\ &= (\delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}) \Omega_i \Omega_j r_l r_m \\ &= \Omega_i^2 r_j^2 - \Omega_i \Omega_j r_i r_j \\ &= \Omega^2 r^2 - (\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{r})^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$T_{\text{rotation}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum m (\Omega_i^2 x_i^2 - \Omega_i x_i \Omega_k x_k)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum m (\Omega_i \Omega_k x_i^2 \delta_{ik} - \Omega_i \Omega_k x_i x_k)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Omega_i \Omega_k \underbrace{\sum m (x_i^2 \delta_{ik} - x_i x_k)}_{I_{ik}}$$

So then we have: $T = \frac{1}{2} \mu V^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_{ik} \Omega_i \Omega_k$

We can get $L = T - U$.

I_{ik} is the Inertia Tensor & it is symmetric ($I_{ik} = I_{ki}$).
Explicitly

$$I_{ik} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum m(y^2 + z^2) & -\sum mxy & -\sum mxz \\ -\sum mxy & \sum m(x^2 + z^2) & -\sum myz \\ -\sum mxz & -\sum myz & \sum m(x^2 + y^2) \end{bmatrix}$$

I_{xx} , I_{yy} & I_{zz} are called moments of Inertia about the corresponding axis.

NOTE: The Inertia Tensor is additive: for a body, it is sum of its parts.
For the continuous case we have

$$I_{ik} = \int \rho (x_l^2 \delta_{ik} - x_i x_k) dV.$$

The tensor can be diagonalized by an appropriate x_1, x_2, x_3 . In such a case, the diagonal components are called the principal moments of Inertia.

Then $T_{rot} = \frac{1}{2} (I_1 \Omega_1^2 + I_2 \Omega_2^2 + I_3 \Omega_3^2)$

NOTE: $I_1 + I_2 = \sum m(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + 2x_3^2) \geq \sum m(x_1^2 + x_2^2) = I_3$

Asymmetrical Top: $I_1 \neq I_2 \neq I_3$

Symmetric Top: $I_1 = I_2 \neq I_3$

Spherical Top: $I_1 = I_2 = I_3$ (This will hold for any arbitrary mutually perpendicular axes. Can easily prove this (think of it as cI and transform it to a different basis))

Tip: You may calculate a 'similar tensor' at a point O'

$$I'_{ik} = \sum m (x_i'^2 \delta_{ik} - x_i' x_k')$$

Now let OO' be \vec{a} , then $\vec{r} = \vec{r}' + \vec{a} \Rightarrow x_i = x_i' + a_i$.

Use $\sum m x_i = 0$ (as O is the COM), we have

$$I'_{ik} = I_{ik} + \mu (a^2 \delta_{ik} - a_i a_k)$$

§ 33. Angular Momentum of a rigid body

M : Angular momentum defined about the origin of the moving frame (COM of the body)

Unproved assertion: When the origin is at the COM, the angular momentum is due to the motion relative to the COM. use $A \times (B \times C) = B(A \cdot C) - C(A \cdot B)$

$$M = \sum m \mathbf{r} \times (\mathbf{v}) = \sum m \mathbf{r} \times (\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{r}) = \sum m [\mathbf{r}^2 \boldsymbol{\Omega} - \mathbf{r}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega})]$$

WRONG! INCOMPLETE

$$= \sum m (x_l^2 \Omega_i - x_i x_k \Omega_k) = \sum m (x_l^2 \Omega_k \delta_{ik} - x_i x_k \Omega_k)$$

$$= \Omega_k \sum m (x_l^2 \delta_{ik} - x_i x_k) = I_{ik} \Omega_k$$

$$\equiv M_i$$

If the axes x_1, x_2, x_3 are principal, then

$$M_1 = I_1 \Omega_1, \quad M_2 = I_2 \Omega_2, \quad M_3 = I_3 \Omega_3 \quad (K)$$

Specifically further if $I_1 = I_2 = I_3$ (symmetrical top)

$$M = I \boldsymbol{\Omega}$$

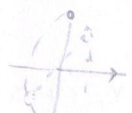
NOTE: In general, M is not in the same direction as $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$. That happens when the rotation is along one of the principal axes of inertia.

Free Rotation of the Body (no external forces)

(Ignore any uniform translation motion)

Thus $M = \text{const.}$

→ For a spherical top, $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$ is const.

→ For a rotator,  here too $M = I \omega$ (one of the I is zero)

(Why not some other axis)

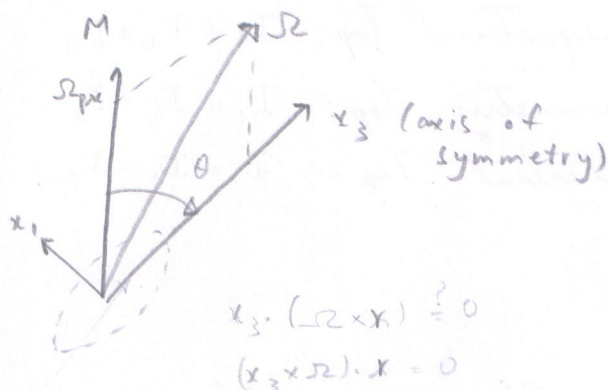
→ For a symmetric top (symmetry axis x_3), we choose x_2 to be along $M \times x_3 \times M$.

consequently $M_2 = 0$

and also (since x_1, x_2, x_3 are principal)

$$\Omega_2 = 0$$

(not clear)



$$x_3 \cdot (\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times x_1) = 0$$

$$(x_3 \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}) \cdot x_1 = 0$$

CLARIFY LATER: (Most likely the origin is at the COM)

$$\Omega_3 = \frac{M_3}{I_3} = \frac{M \cos \theta}{I_3}$$

Now we resolve Ω along M & x_3 . Ω along x_3 wouldn't affect the axis x_3 . Thus Ω_{prec} must change the axis x_3 (thus the term precession).

$$\text{Now } \Omega_{\text{prec}} \sin \theta = \Omega_1$$

$$\text{also } \Omega_1 = \frac{M_1}{I_1} = \frac{M \sin \theta}{I_1} \Rightarrow \boxed{\Omega_{\text{prec}} = \frac{M}{I_1}}$$

§ 34. The equations of motion of a rigid body



§ 35. Eulerian Angles

Note:

$$ON \perp Z \text{ \& } x_3$$

$$ON \equiv Z \times x_3$$

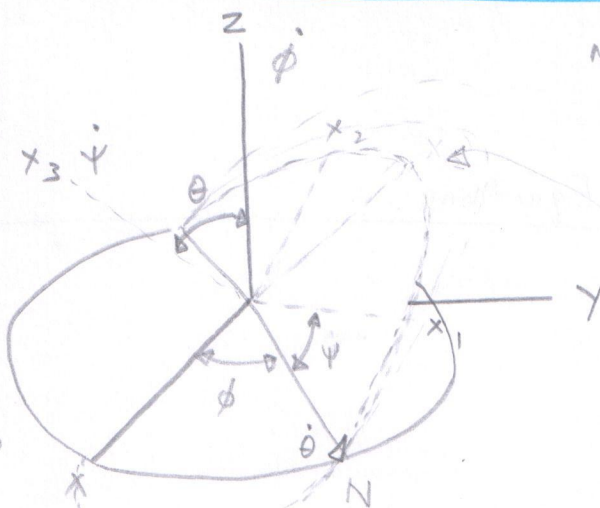
$$\theta \equiv \angle \text{ b/w } Z \text{ \& } x_3 - \text{ along } ON$$

$$\phi \equiv \angle \text{ b/w } X \text{ \& } ON - \text{ along } Z$$

$$\psi \equiv \angle \text{ b/w } x_1 \text{ \& } ON - \text{ along } x_3$$

$$0 \leq \theta \leq \pi, \quad 0 \leq \phi, \psi \leq 2\pi$$

directions are given by the corkscrew rule.



Note: x_1 & x_2 are identical

To find Ω along x_1, x_2, x_3 we just need to express $\dot{\theta}, \dot{\phi}$ & $\dot{\psi}$ in x_1, x_2, x_3 .

$$\dot{\theta}_1 = \dot{\theta} \cos \psi \quad \dot{\theta}_2 = \dot{\theta} \sin \psi \quad \dot{\theta}_3 = 0 \quad (\because \dot{\theta} \text{ is along } ON)$$

$$\dot{\phi}_1 = \dot{\phi} \cos \theta \quad (\dot{\phi} \text{ is along } Z)$$

in the x_1, x_2 plane then $\dot{\phi}$ will have a $\dot{\phi} \sin \theta$ component

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\phi}_1 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \sin \psi \quad \dot{\phi}_2 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \cos \psi$$

$\dot{\psi}$ is going to be along x_3 as is anyway clear

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\psi}_3 = \dot{\psi} \quad \dot{\psi}_2 = 0 \quad \dot{\psi}_1 = 0$$

So finally then, collecting components along each axis.

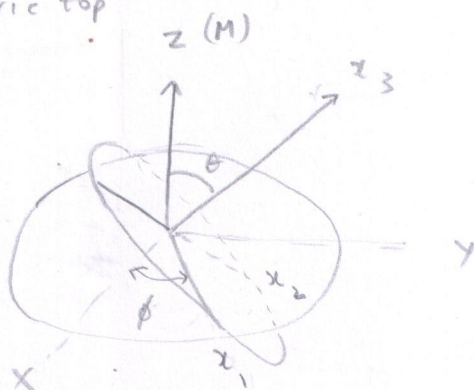
$$\Omega_1 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \sin \psi + \dot{\theta} \cos \psi$$

$$\Omega_2 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \cos \psi - \dot{\theta} \sin \psi$$

$$\Omega_3 = \dot{\phi} \cos \theta + \dot{\psi}$$

If x_1, x_2, x_3 are principal, then $T_{rot} = \frac{1}{2} \sum I_i \Omega_i^2$

Eg. The symmetric top again



So then for $\psi = 0$, we have

$$\Omega_1 = \dot{\theta}$$

$$\Omega_2 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta$$

$$\Omega_3 = \dot{\phi} \cos \theta + \dot{\psi}$$

$$\Rightarrow M_1 = I_1 \Omega_1 = I_1 \dot{\theta}$$

$$M_2 = I_2 \Omega_2 = I_2 \dot{\phi} \sin \theta$$

$$M_3 = I_3 \Omega_3 = I_3 (\dot{\phi} \cos \theta + \dot{\psi})$$

Since $M \perp x_1$, thus

$$M_1 = 0, \quad M_2 = M \sin \theta, \quad M_3 = M \cos \theta$$

on comparing we get $\dot{\theta} = 0, \quad I_2 \dot{\phi} = M$
 $\& \quad I_3 (\dot{\phi} \cos \theta + \dot{\psi}) = M \cos \theta$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \text{const}$$

$$\dot{\phi} = M/I_1 \quad (\text{precession}) \quad [\text{same as before!}]$$

$$\& \Omega_3 = \frac{M \cos \theta}{I_3} \quad (\text{angular vel. with which the top rotates about its axis})$$

§ 36. Euler's Equations