

**PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and  
Mathematical Methods**  
**10-10:50 AM MWF Olin 103**

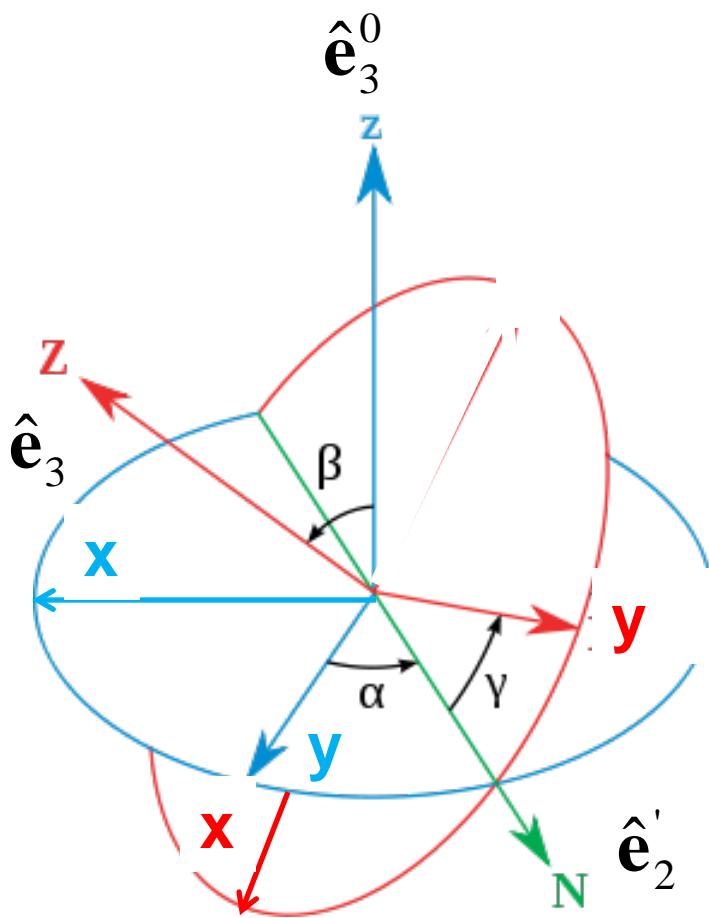
**Plan for Lecture 25:**

**Rigid body rotational motion (Chap. 5)**

**1. Motion of a symmetric top**

<b>11</b>	Fri, 9/21/2012	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian	<a href="#">#10</a>
<b>12</b>	Mon, 9/24/2012	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian and Hamiltonian	<a href="#">#11</a>
<b>13</b>	Wed, 9/26/2012	Chap. 6	Lagrangian and Hamiltonian	<a href="#">#12</a>
<b>14</b>	Fri, 9/28/2012	Chap. 6	Lagrangian and Hamiltonian	<a href="#">#13</a>
<b>15</b>	Mon, 10/01/2012	Chap. 4	Small oscillations	<a href="#">#14</a>
<b>16</b>	Wed, 10/03/2012	Chap. 4	Small oscillations	<a href="#">#15</a>
<b>17</b>	Fri, 10/05/2012	Chap. 4	Small oscillations	
<b>18</b>	Mon, 10/08/2012	Chap. 7	Wave equation	Take Home Exam
<b>19</b>	Wed, 10/10/2012	Chap. 7	Wave equation	Take Home Exam
<b>20</b>	Fri, 10/12/2012	Chap. 7	Wave equation	Take Home Exam
<b>21</b>	Mon, 10/15/2012	Chap. 7	Wave equation	Exam due
<b>22</b>	Wed, 10/17/2012	Chap. 7, 5	Moment of inertia	
	Fri, 10/19/2012		Fall break	
<b>23</b>	Mon, 10/22/2012	Chap. 5	Rigid body rotation	<a href="#">#16</a>
<b>24</b>	Wed, 10/24/2012	Chap. 5	Rigid body rotation	<a href="#">#17</a>
<b>25</b>	Fri, 10/26/2012	Chap. 5	Rigid body rotation	<a href="#">#18</a>

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \dot{\alpha} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^0 + \dot{\beta} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2' + \dot{\gamma} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$



$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = & [\dot{\alpha}(-\sin \beta \cos \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \sin \gamma] \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \\ & + [\dot{\alpha}(\sin \beta \sin \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \cos \gamma] \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \\ & + [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}] \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3\end{aligned}$$

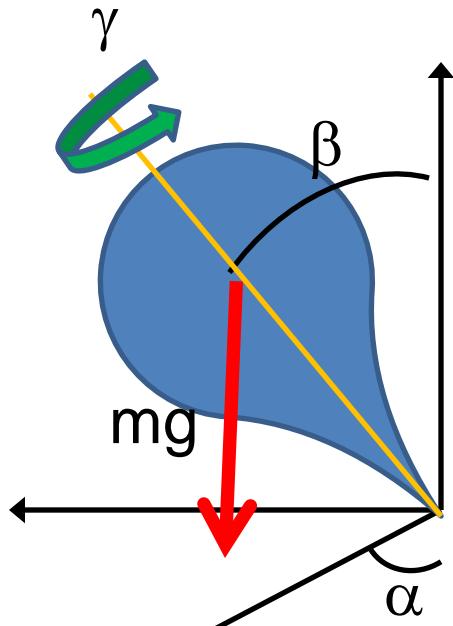
# Rotational kinetic energy

$$\begin{aligned} T(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}) &= \frac{1}{2} I_1 \tilde{\omega}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_2 \tilde{\omega}_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_3 \tilde{\omega}_3^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} I_1 [\dot{\alpha}(-\sin \beta \cos \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \sin \gamma]^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} I_2 [\dot{\alpha}(\sin \beta \sin \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \cos \gamma]^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} I_3 [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}]^2 \end{aligned}$$

If  $I_1 = I_2$ :

$$T(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}) = \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\beta}^2) + \frac{1}{2} I_3 [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}]^2$$

Motion of a symmetric top under the influence of the torque of gravity:



$$L(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}) = \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\beta}^2) + \frac{1}{2} I_3 [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}]^2 - Mgl \cos \beta$$

$$L(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}) = \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\beta}^2) +$$

$$\frac{1}{2} I_3 [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}]^2 - Mgl \cos \beta$$

Constants of the motion :

$$p_\alpha = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\alpha}} = I_1 \dot{\alpha} \sin^2 \beta + I_3 [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}] \cos \beta$$

$$p_\gamma = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\gamma}} = I_3 [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}]$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} I_1 \dot{\beta}^2 + \frac{p_\gamma^2}{2I_3} + V_{eff}(\beta)$$

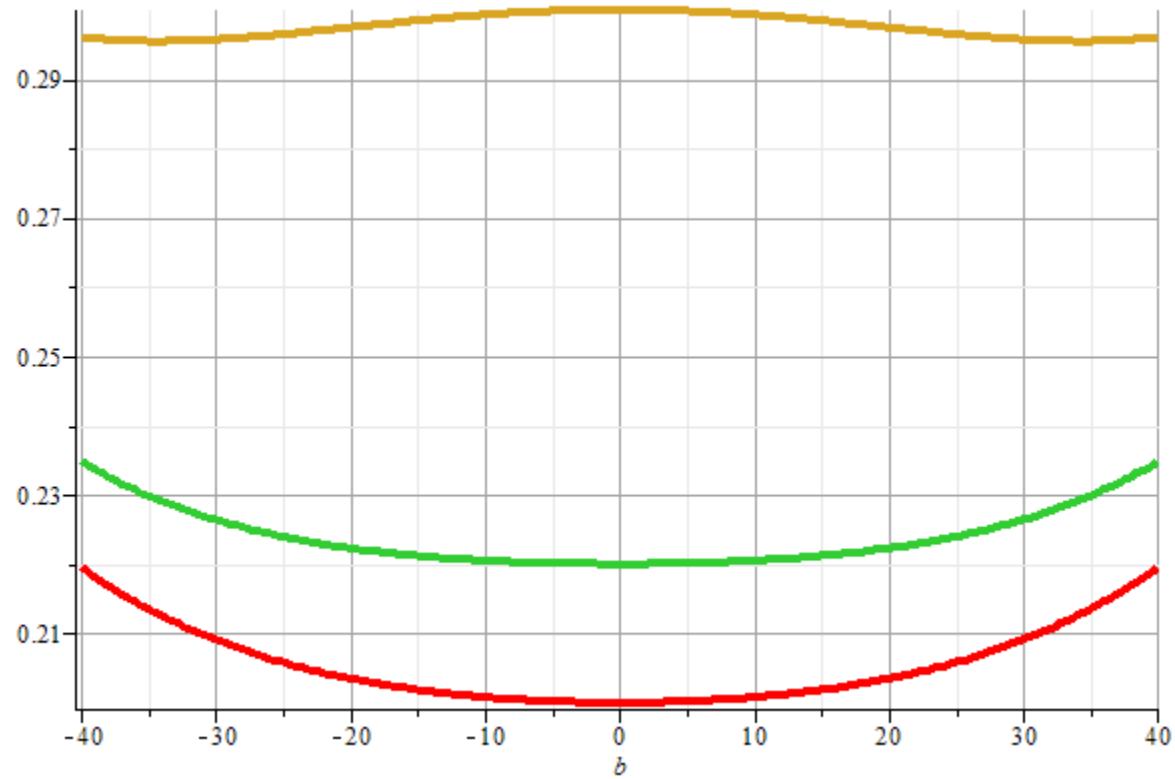
$$L(\beta, \dot{\beta}) = \frac{1}{2} I_1 \dot{\beta}^2 + \frac{(p_\alpha - p_\gamma \cos \beta)^2}{2I_1 \sin^2 \beta} + \frac{p_\gamma^2}{2I_3} - Mgl \cos \beta$$

$$V_{eff}(\beta) = \frac{(p_\alpha - p_\gamma \cos \beta)^2}{2I_1 \sin^2 \beta} + Mgl \cos \beta$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} I_1 \dot{\beta}^2 + \frac{p_\gamma^2}{2I_3} + \frac{(p_\alpha - p_\gamma \cos \beta)^2}{2I_1 \sin^2 \beta} + Mgl \cos \beta$$

$$E' = E - \frac{p_\gamma^2}{2I_3} = \frac{1}{2} I_1 \dot{\beta}^2 + \frac{(p_\alpha - p_\gamma \cos \beta)^2}{2I_1 \sin^2 \beta} + Mgl \cos \beta$$

Stable/unstable  
solutions near  
 $\beta=0$



Suppose  $p_\alpha = p_\gamma$  and  $\beta \approx 0$

$$E' = E - \frac{p_\gamma^2}{2I_3} = \frac{1}{2} I_1 \dot{\beta}^2 + \frac{(p_\alpha - p_\gamma \cos \beta)^2}{2I_1 \sin^2 \beta} + Mgl \cos \beta$$

$$E' \approx \frac{1}{2} I_1 \dot{\beta}^2 + \frac{p_\gamma^2}{2I_1} \frac{(1 - 1 + \frac{1}{2} \beta^2)^2}{\beta^2} + Mgl(1 - \frac{1}{2} \beta^2)$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{2} I_1 \dot{\beta}^2 + \left( \frac{p_\gamma^2}{8I_1} - \frac{Mgl}{2} \right) \beta^2 + Mgl$$

$\Rightarrow$  Stable solution if

$$p_\gamma \geq \sqrt{4MglI_1}$$

More general case:

