

**PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and
Mathematical Methods**

**10-10:50 AM MWF online or (occasionally) in
Olin 103**

Plan for Lecture 23: Rigid bodies -- Chap. 5 (F &W)

- 1. Rigid body motion**
- 2. Moment of inertia tensor**
- 3. Torque free motion**

6	Mon, 9/07/2020	Chap. 2	Non-inertial coordinate systems		
7	Wed, 9/09/2020	Chap. 3	Calculus of Variation	#5	9/11/2020
8	Fri, 9/11/2020	Chap. 3	Calculus of Variation	#6	9/14/2020
9	Mon, 9/14/2020	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian Mechanics	#7	9/18/2020
10	Wed, 9/16/2020	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian & constraints	#8	9/21/2020
11	Fri, 9/18/2020	Chap. 3 & 6	Constants of the motion		
12	Mon, 9/21/2020	Chap. 3 & 6	Hamiltonian equations of motion	#9	9/23/2020
13	Wed, 9/23/2020	Chap. 3 & 6	Liouville theorem	#10	9/25/2020
14	Fri, 9/25/2020	Chap. 3 & 6	Canonical transformations		
15	Mon, 9/28/2020	Chap. 4	Small oscillations about equilibrium	#11	10/02/2020
16	Wed, 9/30/2020	Chap. 4	Normal modes of vibration	#12	10/05/2020
17	Fri, 10/02/2020	Chap. 4	Normal modes of vibration		
18	Mon, 10/05/2020	Chap. 7	Motion of strings	#13	10/07/2020
19	Wed, 10/07/2020	Chap. 7	Sturm-Liouville equations	#14	10/09/2020
20	Fri, 10/09/2020	Chap. 7	Sturm-Liouville equations		
21	Mon, 10/12/2020	Chap. 7	Fourier transforms and Laplace transforms		
22	Wed, 10/14/2020	Chap. 7	Complex variables and contour integration		
23	Fri, 10/16/2020	Chap. 5	Rigid body motion		
24	Mon, 10/19/2020	Chap. 5	Rigid body motion		



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In this lecture we will consider the rotational motion of rigid bodies as presented in Chapter 5 of your textbook.

Comparison of analysis in “inertial frame” versus “non-inertial frame”

Denote by \hat{e}_i^0 a fixed coordinate system

Denote by \hat{e}_i a moving coordinate system

$$\text{For an arbitrary vector } \mathbf{V}: \quad \mathbf{V} = \sum_{i=1}^3 V_i^0 \hat{e}_i^0 = \sum_{i=1}^3 V_i \hat{e}_i$$

$$\left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{dV_i^0}{dt} \hat{e}_i^0 = \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{dV_i}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \sum_{i=1}^3 V_i \frac{d\hat{e}_i}{dt}$$

$$\text{Define: } \left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{body} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{dV_i}{dt} \hat{e}_i$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \sum_{i=1}^3 V_i \frac{d\hat{e}_i}{dt}$$

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Recall our previous discussion of rotating frames of reference.

The physics of rigid body motion; body fixed frame vs inertial frame; results from Chapter 2:

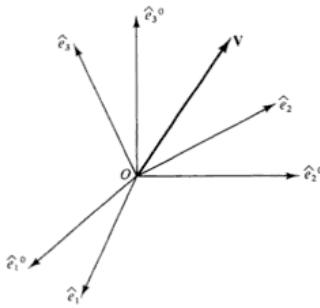


Figure 6.1 Transformation to a rotating coordinate system.

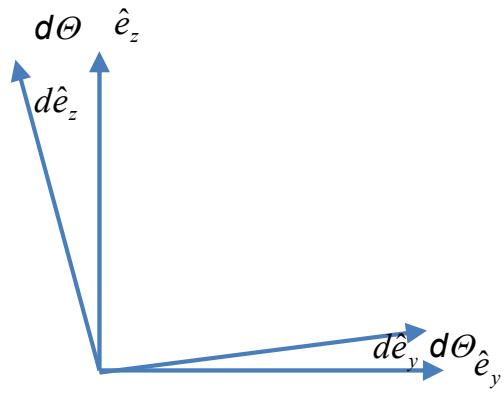
Let \mathbf{V} be a general vector, e.g., the position of a particle. This vector can be characterized by its components with respect to either orthonormal triad. Thus we can write

$$\mathbf{V} = \sum_{i=1}^3 V_i^0 \hat{e}_i^0 \quad (6.1a)$$

$$\mathbf{V} = \sum_{i=1}^3 V_i \hat{e}_i \quad (6.1b)$$

Determining the relationship between the inertial and body frames.

Properties of the frame motion (rotation):



$$\begin{aligned}
 d\hat{e}_y &= d\Theta \hat{e}_z \\
 d\hat{e}_z &= -d\Theta \hat{e}_y \\
 \Rightarrow d\hat{\mathbf{e}} &= d\Theta \times \hat{\mathbf{e}} \\
 \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{e}}}{dt} &= \frac{d\Theta}{dt} \times \hat{\mathbf{e}} \\
 \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{e}}}{dt} &= \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \hat{\mathbf{e}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} d\hat{e}_x \\ d\hat{e}_y \\ d\hat{e}_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(d\Theta) & \sin(d\Theta) \\ -\sin(d\Theta) & \cos(d\Theta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{e}_x \\ \hat{e}_y \\ \hat{e}_z \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \hat{e}_x \\ \hat{e}_y \\ \hat{e}_z \end{pmatrix}$$

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Consider an infinitesimal rotation.

$$\left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \sum_{i=1}^3 V_i \frac{d\hat{e}_i}{dt}$$

$$\left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{V}$$

Effects on acceleration:

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt} \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \left(\left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \right) \left(\left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{V} \right)$$

$$\left(\frac{d^2\mathbf{V}}{dt^2} \right)_{inertial} = \left(\frac{d^2\mathbf{V}}{dt^2} \right)_{body} + 2\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \left(\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \frac{d\boldsymbol{\omega}}{dt} \times \mathbf{V} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{V}$$

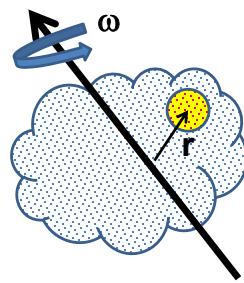
Rotational acceleration.

Kinetic energy of rigid body :

$$\left(\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \left(\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}$$

=0 for rigid body

$$\rightarrow \left(\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}$$



$$T = \sum_p \frac{1}{2} m_p v_p^2 = \sum_p \frac{1}{2} m_p (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}_p)^2$$
$$= \sum_p \frac{1}{2} m_p (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}_p) \cdot (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}_p)$$
$$= \sum_p \frac{1}{2} m_p [(\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega})(\mathbf{r}_p \cdot \mathbf{r}_p) - (\mathbf{r}_p \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega})^2]$$

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For a rigid body, internal motions are negligible.

$$T = \sum_p \frac{1}{2} m_p \left[(\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega}) (\mathbf{r}_p \cdot \mathbf{r}_p) - (\mathbf{r}_p \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega})^2 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{I}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega}$$

Moment of inertia tensor:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{I}} \equiv \sum_p m_p (\mathbf{1} r_p^2 - \mathbf{r}_p \mathbf{r}_p) \quad (\text{dyad notation})$$

Matrix notation :

$$\tilde{\mathbf{I}} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} I_{xx} & I_{xy} & I_{xz} \\ I_{yx} & I_{yy} & I_{yz} \\ I_{zx} & I_{zy} & I_{zz} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$I_{ij} \equiv \sum_p m_p (\delta_{ij} r_p^2 - r_{pi} r_{pj})$$

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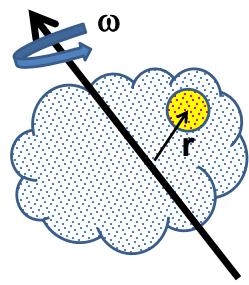
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It is convenient to group terms that depend on the body geometry – leading to the definition of the moment of inertia tensor.

Angular momentum of rigid body:

$$\left(\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \left(\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}$$

=0 for rigid body



$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \right)_{inertial} = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{L} = \sum_p \mathbf{r}_p \times (m_p \mathbf{v}_p) = \sum_p m_p \mathbf{r}_p \times (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}_p)$$

$$= \sum_p m_p (\boldsymbol{\omega} r_p^2 - \mathbf{r}_p (\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \mathbf{r}_p)) = \tilde{\mathbf{I}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega}$$

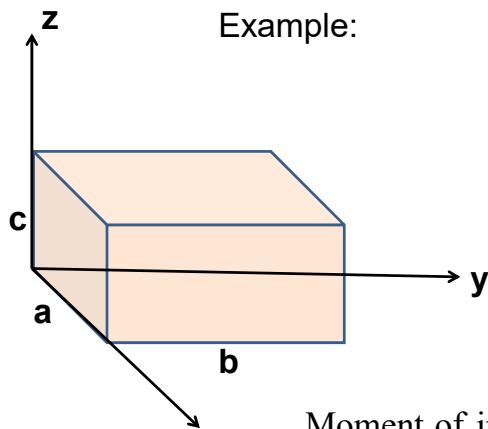
$$\text{where } \tilde{\mathbf{I}} \equiv \sum_p m_p (1 r_p^2 - \mathbf{r}_p \mathbf{r}_p)$$

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The angular momentum can also be calculated.



Moment of inertia tensor :

$$\vec{I} = M \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3}(b^2 + c^2) & -\frac{1}{4}ab & -\frac{1}{4}ac \\ -\frac{1}{4}ab & \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + c^2) & -\frac{1}{4}bc \\ -\frac{1}{4}ac & -\frac{1}{4}bc & \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + b^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

Consider a simple rectangular solid with a coordinate system at the edge of the system.

Properties of moment of inertia tensor:

- Symmetric matrix ➔ real eigenvalues I_1, I_2, I_3
- ➔ orthogonal eigenvectors

$$\vec{\mathbf{I}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i = I_i \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

Moment of inertia tensor :

$$\vec{\mathbf{I}} = M \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3}(b^2 + c^2) & -\frac{1}{4}ab & -\frac{1}{4}ac \\ -\frac{1}{4}ab & \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + c^2) & -\frac{1}{4}bc \\ -\frac{1}{4}ac & -\frac{1}{4}bc & \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + b^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

For $a = b = c$:

$$I_1 = \frac{1}{6}Ma^2 \quad I_2 = \frac{11}{12}Ma^2 \quad I_3 = \frac{11}{12}Ma^2$$

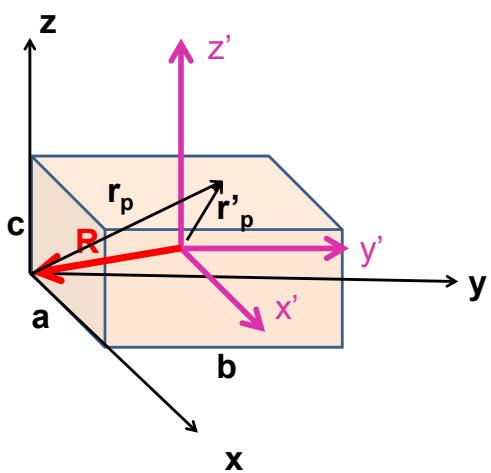
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The moment of inertia tensor in matrix form is a symmetric matrix and therefore can be diagonalized. The eigenvalues are known as principal moments of inertia and the eigenvectors are known as principal axes.

Changing origin of rotation



$$I_{ij} \equiv \sum_p m_p (\delta_{ij} r_p^2 - r_{pi} r_{pj})$$

$$I'_{ij} \equiv \sum_p m_p (\delta_{ij} r'_p{}^2 - r'_{pi} r'_{pj})$$

$$\mathbf{r}'_p = \mathbf{r}_p + \mathbf{R}$$

Define the center of mass :

$$\mathbf{r}_{CM} = \frac{\sum_p m_p \mathbf{r}_p}{\sum_p m_p} \equiv \frac{\sum_p m_p \mathbf{r}_p}{M}$$

$$I'_{ij} = I_{ij} + M(R^2 \delta_{ij} - R_i R_j) + M(2 \mathbf{r}_{CM} \cdot \mathbf{R} \delta_{ij} - r_{CMi} R_j - R_i r_{CMj})$$

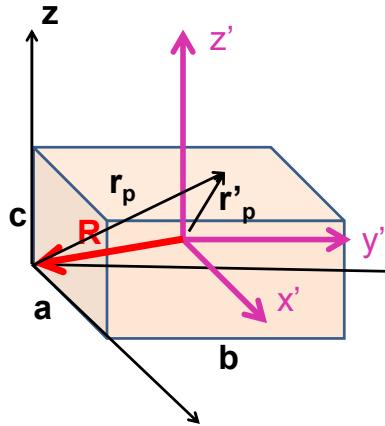
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Here we consider what happens when we evaluate the moment of inertia tensor about a different origin. In this case, the new origin happens to be at the center of mass.

$$I'_{ij} = I_{ij} + M(R^2 \delta_{ij} - R_i R_j) + M(2\mathbf{r}_{CM} \cdot \mathbf{R} \delta_{ij} - r_{CMi} R_j - R_i r_{CMj})$$



Suppose that $\mathbf{R} = -\frac{a}{2}\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{b}{2}\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \frac{c}{2}\hat{\mathbf{z}}$
and $\mathbf{r}_{CM} = -\mathbf{R}$

$$I'_{ij} = I_{ij} - M(R^2 \delta_{ij} - R_i R_j)$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{I}}' = M \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3}(b^2 + c^2) & -\frac{1}{4}ab & -\frac{1}{4}ac \\ -\frac{1}{4}ab & \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + c^2) & -\frac{1}{4}bc \\ -\frac{1}{4}ac & -\frac{1}{4}bc & \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + b^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

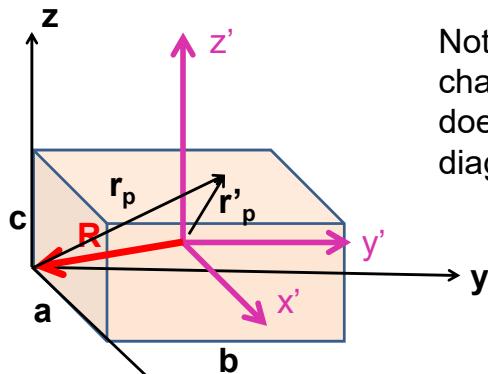
$$- M \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4}(b^2 + c^2) & -\frac{1}{4}ab & -\frac{1}{4}ac \\ -\frac{1}{4}ab & \frac{1}{4}(a^2 + c^2) & -\frac{1}{4}bc \\ -\frac{1}{4}ac & -\frac{1}{4}bc & \frac{1}{4}(a^2 + b^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

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Some details.



Note: This is a special case;
changing the center of rotation
does not necessarily result in a
diagonal $\tilde{\mathbf{I}}'$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{I}}' = M \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{12}(b^2 + c^2) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{12}(a^2 + c^2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{12}(a^2 + b^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

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When the dust clears for this case. Note that \mathbf{I}' happens to be diagonal already, however it is not generally true that shifting the origin for the moment of inertia would result in a diagonal matrix.

Descriptions of rotation about a given origin

For general coordinate system

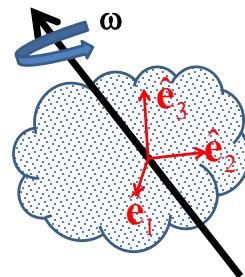
$$T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} I_{ij} \omega_i \omega_j$$

For (body fixed) coordinate system that diagonalizes moment of inertia tensor :

$$\vec{I} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i = I_i \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = \tilde{\omega}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i I_i \tilde{\omega}_i^2$$



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In the next slides we will focus on the fact that each rigid body has 3 principal axes and 3 moments of inertia for a given origin. It is often convenient to use that coordinate system to analyze rigid body motion.

Descriptions of rotation about a given origin -- continued

Time rate of change of angular momentum

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} = \left(\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{L}$$

For (body fixed) coordinate system that diagonalizes moment of inertia tensor:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{I}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i = I_i \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \quad \boldsymbol{\omega} = \tilde{\omega}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$

$$\mathbf{L} = I_1 \tilde{\omega}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + I_2 \tilde{\omega}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + I_3 \tilde{\omega}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} = & I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \\ & + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \end{aligned}$$

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Here we consider the angular momentum expressed in the diagonalized body fixed frame of reference.

Descriptions of rotation about a given origin -- continued

Note that the torque equation

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} = \left(\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{L} = \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

is very difficult to solve directly in the body fixed frame.

For $\boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$ we can solve the Euler equations :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} &= I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \\ &\quad + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

While it is very difficult to express torque in this reference frame, we can readily solve problems with zero torque.

Torqueless Euler equations for rotation in body fixed frame:

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) = 0$$

$$I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) = 0$$

$$I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) = 0$$

→ Solution for symmetric top -- $I_2 = I_1$:

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_1) = 0$$

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) = 0$$

$$I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \tilde{\omega}_3 = (\text{constant})$$

$$\text{Define : } \Omega \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_1} \quad \begin{aligned} \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 &= -\tilde{\omega}_2 \Omega \\ \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 &= \tilde{\omega}_1 \Omega \end{aligned}$$

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For the general system with three distinct moment of inertia, the solutions are difficult, but simplifications occur when two moments are the same, in this $I_1=I_2$.

Solution of Euler equations for a symmetric top -- continued

$$\dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 = -\tilde{\omega}_2 \Omega \quad \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 = \tilde{\omega}_1 \Omega$$

$$\text{where } \Omega \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_1}$$

$$\text{Solution: } \tilde{\omega}_1(t) = A \cos(\Omega t + \phi)$$

$$\tilde{\omega}_2(t) = A \sin(\Omega t + \phi)$$

$$\tilde{\omega}_3(t) = \tilde{\omega}_3 \text{ (constant)}$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i I_i \tilde{\omega}_i^2 = \frac{1}{2} I_1 A^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_3 \tilde{\omega}_3^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{L} &= I_1 \tilde{\omega}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + I_2 \tilde{\omega}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + I_3 \tilde{\omega}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \\ &= I_1 A (\cos(\Omega t + \varphi) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + \sin(\Omega t + \varphi) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2) + I_3 \tilde{\omega}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \end{aligned}$$

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Time dependence of the symmetric top in free space

Torqueless Euler equations for rotation in body fixed frame:

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) = 0$$

$$I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) = 0$$

$$I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) = 0$$

→ Solution for asymmetric top -- $I_3 \neq I_2 \neq I_1$:

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) = 0$$

$$I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) = 0$$

$$I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) = 0$$

$$\text{Suppose : } \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \approx 0 \quad \text{Define : } \Omega_1 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_2}{I_1}$$

$$\text{Define : } \Omega_2 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_2}$$

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Now consider the more general case.

Euler equations for rotation in body fixed frame :

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) = 0$$

$$I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) = 0$$

$$I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) = 0$$

Solution for asymmetric top -- $I_3 \neq I_2 \neq I_1$:

Approximate solution --

$$\text{Suppose: } \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \approx 0 \quad \text{Define: } \Omega_1 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_2}{I_1}$$

$$\text{Define: } \Omega_2 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_2}$$

Reasonable approximations.

Euler equations for asymmetric top -- continued

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) = 0$$

$$I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) = 0$$

$$I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) = 0$$

If $\dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \approx 0$, Define: $\Omega_1 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_2}{I_1}$ $\Omega_2 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_2}$

$$\dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 = -\Omega_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 \quad \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 = \Omega_2 \tilde{\omega}_1$$

If Ω_1 and Ω_2 are both positive or both negative :

$$\tilde{\omega}_1(t) \approx A \cos(\sqrt{\Omega_1 \Omega_2} t + \varphi)$$

$$\tilde{\omega}_2(t) \approx A \sqrt{\frac{\Omega_2}{\Omega_1}} \sin(\sqrt{\Omega_1 \Omega_2} t + \varphi)$$

\Rightarrow If Ω_1 and Ω_2 have opposite signs, solution is unstable.

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We see that there are conditions that allow stability for this system,. --- to be continued.