

[In 2018, these notes immediately followed U.
 In 2024, I think I will defer V, W, X, Y, Z
 later in course, after doing Lagrangians, but I might
 omit it (we lost two classes due to infection + eclipse)]

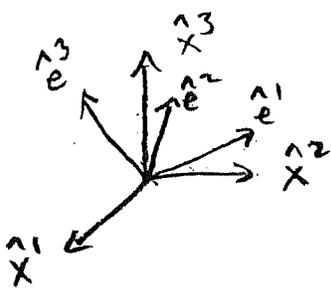
V1

To understand rotational motion in space-fixed frame,

need a set of coordinates to describe orientation

of object relative to space-fixed axes \hat{x}^m

⇒ Euler angles



$$\hat{e}^k = \int_m R_{km} \hat{x}^m \quad \text{where } R_{km} = e_m^k$$

How many free parameters?

R_{km} has 9.

$$\hat{e}^1 \cdot \hat{e}^1 = \hat{e}^2 \cdot \hat{e}^2 = \hat{e}^3 \cdot \hat{e}^3 = 1$$

$$\hat{e}^1 \cdot \hat{e}^2 = \hat{e}^2 \cdot \hat{e}^3 = \hat{e}^3 \cdot \hat{e}^1 = 0$$

6 conditions

⇒ 3 free parameters

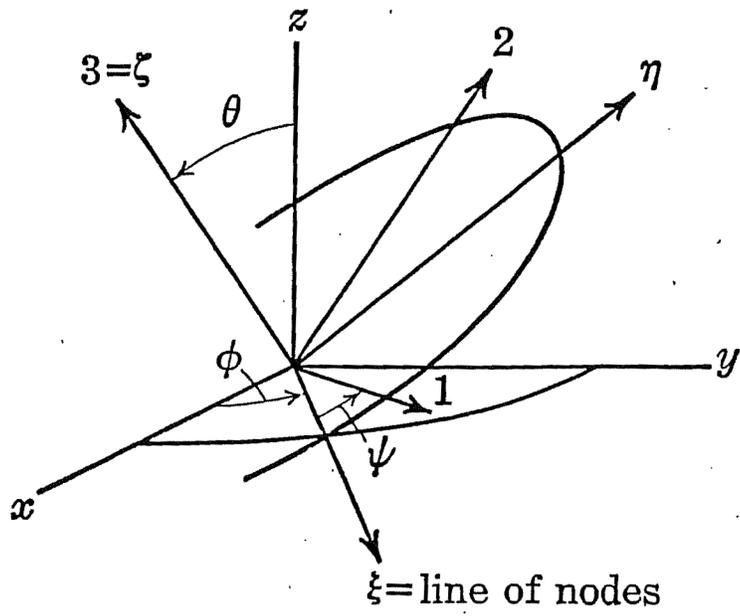
We use Euler angles (ϕ, θ, ψ)

convention of: Slater + Frank
 ECh

Goldstein

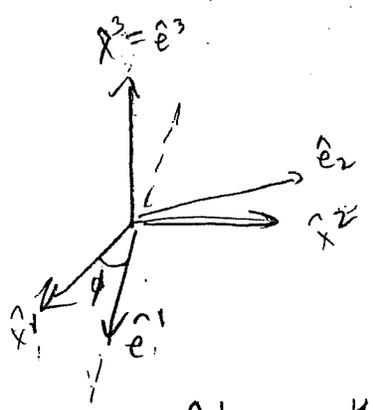
⇒ Tong

differs from: Taylor
 Fetter & Walecka



Start w/ \hat{x}^m and \hat{e}^k aligned.

① rotate through ϕ about the $\hat{x}^3 = \hat{e}^3$ axis

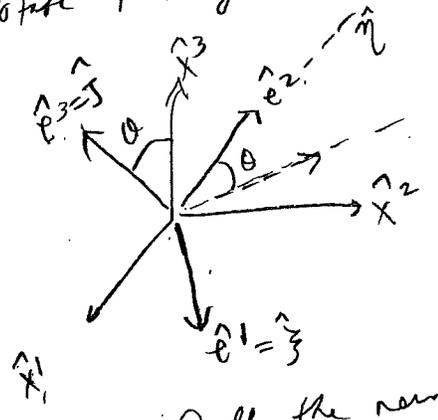


$$R_3(\phi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\phi & \sin\phi & 0 \\ -\sin\phi & \cos\phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R_3 \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}^1 \\ \hat{x}^2 \\ \hat{x}^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{e}^1 \\ \hat{e}^2 \\ \hat{e}^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Call the new \hat{e}^1 axis the line of nodes $\hat{\eta}$

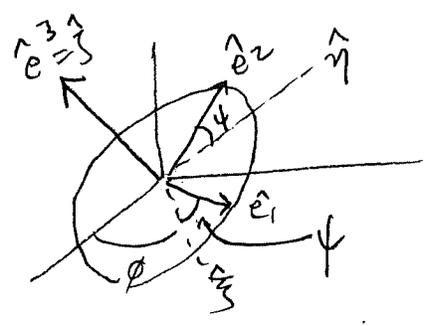
② rotate through θ about the line of nodes



$$R_1(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ 0 & -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Call the new \hat{e}^2 axis η , and new \hat{e}^3 axis J

③ rotate through ψ about the \hat{e}^3 axis



$$R_3(\psi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\psi & \sin\psi & 0 \\ -\sin\psi & \cos\psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

[hand out extra angle]

$$R = R_3(\psi) R_1(\theta) R_3(\phi)$$

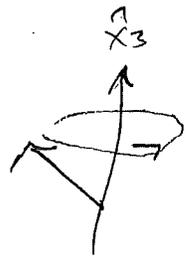
How do we describe the motion when Euler angles change?

Consider a figure of revolution about \hat{e}^3 axis ($\Rightarrow I_1 = I_2$)

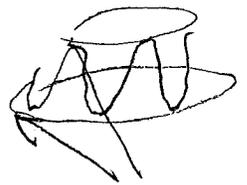
(eg a disk)

$\dot{\psi} \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ spinning about $\hat{S} = \hat{e}^3$

$\dot{\phi} \neq 0 \Rightarrow \hat{e}^3$ axis circles the \hat{x}_3 axis
precession ("wobble")



$\dot{\theta} \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ angle of tip is changing
if $\dot{\theta}$ periodic,
called nutation (noddling)



Let's write $\vec{\omega}$ in terms of Euler angles

From figure

$$\vec{\omega} = \dot{\psi} \hat{e}^3 + \dot{\phi} \hat{x}_3 + \dot{\theta} \hat{\xi}^1$$

← spin rate
← precession rate
← "tilting" rate

↑
↑
↑

not orthogonal!

$$\hat{x}_3 = \hat{e}^3 \cos\theta + \hat{\eta} \sin\theta$$

$$\vec{\omega} = (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos\theta) \hat{e}^3 + \dot{\phi} \sin\theta \hat{\eta} + \dot{\theta} \hat{\xi}^1$$

$$\hat{\eta} = \hat{e}^1 \sin\psi + \hat{e}^2 \cos\psi$$

$$\hat{\xi}^1 = -\hat{e}^1 \cos\psi - \hat{e}^2 \sin\psi$$

$$\vec{\omega} = (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos\theta) \hat{e}^3 + (\dot{\phi} \sin\theta \sin\psi + \dot{\theta} \cos\psi) \hat{e}^1$$

$$+ (\dot{\phi} \sin\theta \cos\psi - \dot{\theta} \sin\psi) \hat{e}^2$$

• Slater & Frank
• Tong

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_1 &= \dot{\phi} \sin\theta \sin\psi + \dot{\theta} \cos\psi \\ \omega_2 &= \dot{\phi} \sin\theta \cos\psi - \dot{\theta} \sin\psi \\ \omega_3 &= \dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos\theta \end{aligned}$$

← NB. We have are components in the body fixed frame (should have primes but we continue to omit them)

Euler angles and angular velocity

In[61]:= R1 = {{Cos[ph[t]], Sin[ph[t]], 0}, {-Sin[ph[t]], Cos[ph[t]], 0}, {0, 0, 1}};

In[62]:= R2 = {{1, 0, 0}, {0, Cos[th[t]], Sin[th[t]]}, {0, -Sin[th[t]], Cos[th[t]}}};

In[63]:= R3 = {{Cos[ps[t]], Sin[ps[t]], 0}, {-Sin[ps[t]], Cos[ps[t]], 0}, {0, 0, 1}};

In[64]:= R[t_] := R3.R2.R1

In[65]:= MatrixForm[R[t]]

Out[65]/MatrixForm=

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Cos[ph[t]] Cos[ps[t]] - Cos[th[t]] Sin[ph[t]] Sin[ps[t]] & \text{Cos[ps[t]] Sin[ph[t]] + Cos[th[t]] Sin[ps[t]] Sin[ph[t]]} \\ -\text{Cos[ps[t]] Cos[th[t]] Sin[ph[t]] - Cos[ph[t]] Sin[ps[t]] & \text{Cos[ph[t]] Cos[ps[t]] Cos[th[t]] - Cos[ps[t]] Sin[th[t]] Sin[ph[t]]} \\ \text{Sin[ph[t]] Sin[th[t]]} & -\text{Cos[ph[t]] Sin[th[t]]} \end{pmatrix}$$

In[66]:= omega = Simplify[D[R[t], t].Transpose[R[t]]];

In[67]:= omega[[2, 3]]

Out[67]= Sin[ps[t]] Sin[th[t]] ph'[t] + Cos[ps[t]] th'[t] = ω_1

In[68]:= omega[[3, 1]]

Out[68]= Cos[ps[t]] Sin[th[t]] ph'[t] - Sin[ps[t]] th'[t] = ω_2

In[69]:= omega[[1, 2]]

Out[69]= Cos[th[t]] ph'[t] + ps'[t] = ω_3

$$(\omega)_{kl} = (\dot{R} R^T)_{kl}$$

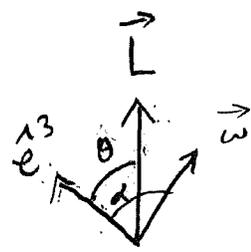
$$\omega_{kl} = \epsilon_{kla} \omega_a$$

Revisit motion of free symmetric top,
now in the space-fixed frame.

In space fixed (inertial) frame, \vec{L} is conserved, since $\vec{\tau}_{ext} = 0$.

For convenience choose \vec{L} along \hat{x}^3 axis

Recall that $\hat{e}^3, \vec{\omega}, \vec{L}$ are coplanar
w/ fixed angles α, θ between them.



N.B. θ is same as Euler angle θ

Since θ is const, $\dot{\theta} = 0$ and so body-fixed components of $\vec{\omega}$ are

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_1 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \sin \psi \\ \omega_2 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \cos \psi \\ \omega_3 = \dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos \theta \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 = \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

But we know

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_1 = \omega_{\perp} \sin \Omega t \\ \omega_2 = -\omega_{\perp} \cos \Omega t \\ \omega_3 = \omega_3 = \text{const} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 = \omega_{\perp}^2 = \text{const}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \omega_{\perp} &= \dot{\phi} \sin \theta & \Rightarrow \dot{\phi} & \text{is constant} \\ \dot{\psi} &= \omega_3 - \dot{\phi} \cos \theta & \Rightarrow \dot{\psi} & \text{is constant} \\ \psi &= \Omega t & \Rightarrow \dot{\psi} &= \Omega = \left(\frac{I_{\perp} - I_3}{I_{\perp}} \right) \omega_3 \end{aligned}$$

From picture $\frac{\omega_{\perp}}{\omega_3} = \tan \alpha$

Also recall $I_{\perp} \tan \alpha = I_3 \tan \theta$

Thus $\dot{\phi} = \frac{\omega_{\perp}}{\sin \theta} = \frac{\tan \alpha}{\sin \theta} \omega_3 = \left(\frac{I_3}{I_{\perp} \cos \theta} \right) \omega_3$ (precession rate)

Finally, check $\dot{\psi} = \omega_3 - \dot{\phi} \cos \theta$

$$= \left(1 - \frac{I_3}{I_{\perp}} \right) \omega_3$$

$$= \left(\frac{I_{\perp} - I_3}{I_{\perp}} \right) \omega_3$$

agrees w/ previous
(spin rate)

[makes sense: Ω is rotation rate of $\vec{\omega} + \vec{\zeta}$ about body fixed axes
If $\dot{\psi} = 0 \Rightarrow$ pure precession $\Rightarrow \vec{\zeta} + \vec{\omega}$ remain fixed in body-fixed frame]