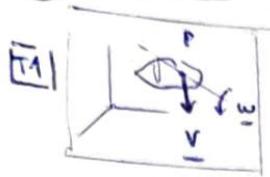


3D rotation (Morin)

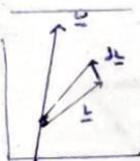
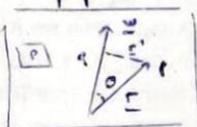
1. Preliminaries



For any point in a ^{rigid} body P, the instantaneous motion can be decomposed into - the translational motion of P - a rotation around some axis through P

ω on rod , no rotation the rod; still, there's a third axis

If an object rotates with ω, the velocity of any point on the object is given as $v = \omega \times r$ (more meaningfully $\frac{dr}{dt}$)



the same holds for any object fixed to the body frame

Let S_1 rotate with ω_{12} wrt S_2
 Let S_2 rotate with ω_{23} wrt S_3
 Then S_1 rotates with ω_{13} wrt S_3
 $\omega_{13} = \omega_{12} + \omega_{23}$

all share origins ω_{12}, ω_{23} have same ω

pick points P_1, P_2

$$v_{P_2} = \omega_{12} \times r$$

$$v_{P_3} = \omega_{23} \times r$$

$$v_{P_3} = (\omega_{12} + \omega_{23}) \times r$$

holds for any r of S_1 wrt S_3 , at rest

$\Rightarrow S_1$ must rotate with $(\omega_{12} + \omega_{23})$ wrt S_3

rotation about an axis through origin

$$x\hat{x} + y\hat{y} + z\hat{z}$$

$$\omega_x\hat{x} + \omega_y\hat{y} + \omega_z\hat{z}$$

$$L = \int r \times (\omega \times r) dm$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} L_x \\ L_y \\ L_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \int (y^2+z^2) dm & -\int xy dm & -\int xz dm \\ -\int xy dm & \int (x^2+z^2) dm & -\int yz dm \\ -\int xz dm & -\int yz dm & \int (x^2+y^2) dm \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{[bushy]}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_x \\ L_y \\ L_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I_{xx} & I_{xy} & I_{xz} \\ I_{xy} & I_{yy} & I_{yz} \\ I_{xz} & I_{yz} & I_{zz} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{[1960 2018]} \\ \text{[Polarization]} \\ \text{[normal modes]} \end{array}$$

$$L = I \cdot \omega$$

\rightarrow real symmetric

$\rightarrow \sum m(x_i^2 + y_i^2)$ discrete, etc.

\rightarrow only in orthonormal bases (due to cross product properties)

\rightarrow obviously L depends on the origin and what the body does

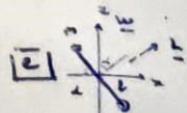
\rightarrow however, the axes will change the perceived $\omega_x, \omega_y, \omega_z$, but for observers with the same L_x, L_y, L_z origin have the same vector

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_x \\ L_y \\ L_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I_{xx} & I_{xy} & I_{xz} \\ I_{xy} & I_{yy} & I_{yz} \\ I_{xz} & I_{yz} & I_{zz} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_x \\ \omega_y \\ \omega_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I_{xx}\omega_x \\ I_{yy}\omega_y \\ I_{zz}\omega_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

inertial, freeze the system and you wouldn't know if it rotates about y or z

$$L = 2muy(0, 0, r^2)$$

$[I_{xx}, I_{yy}]$ vanish due to 2-axis symmetry



$$2muy^2 \text{ and } (muy^2 + m_0a^2)$$

ω misspelled - ball around

consider the motion relative to P,

imagine a sphere centered at P.

Rigid \Rightarrow it must be sent into itself

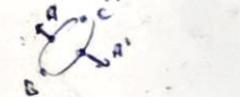
then to points on the sphere must remain where they are

consider the great circle of A after an infinitesimal step

All points move \perp to the circle, otherwise distances to A change (\neq rigid)

step \propto change ω^2

cannot move in same direction or centre will shift \Rightarrow at least one point moves opposite to A



B and C remain fixed by continuity

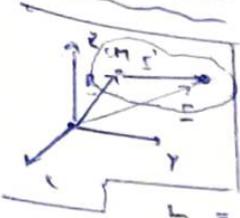
this direction remains stationary

is fixed with a rotation

$$T = \int dm \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 r^2 = \frac{1}{2} \omega \cdot \underline{L} = \frac{1}{2} \underline{\omega} \cdot \underline{L} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \text{ if parallel}$$

P2

General motion



use [T1], only useful expansion is about CM

Angular momentum ω w.r.t. about CM

$$\underline{L} = \int (\underline{r}' + \underline{r}_{CM}) \times (\underline{v}_{CM} + \underline{\omega}' \times \underline{r}') dm$$

$$\underline{L} = \int (\underline{r}' \times \underline{v}_{CM}) dm + \int \underline{r}' \times (\underline{\omega}' \times \underline{r}') dm$$

vanish
 $\int dm \underline{r}' = 0$
 $\int dm \underline{v}' = 0$

$$\underline{L} = M(\underline{R} \times \underline{V}) + \underline{L}_{CM}$$

parallel axis theorem

$$\underline{L} = (I_P + I_{CM}) \underline{\omega}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} M(y^2+z^2) & -Mxy & -Mxz \\ -Mxy & M(z^2+x^2) & -Myz \\ -Mxz & -Myz & M(x^2+y^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

Principal axes

(radius unimportant)
(radius important)

Because \underline{I} is real symmetric

[T4] For any origin there is a set of orthogonal basis vectors $\hat{e}_1, \hat{e}_2, \hat{e}_3$ s.t.

$$\underline{I} = \begin{pmatrix} I_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_3 \end{pmatrix}; \text{ i.e. s.t.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{L}_1 &= I_1 \underline{\omega}_1 \\ \underline{L}_2 &= I_2 \underline{\omega}_2 \\ \underline{L}_3 &= I_3 \underline{\omega}_3 \end{aligned}$$

components of the ω w.r.t. along these axes

The principal axes are those around which an object can rotate with constant speed w/o any extra torque.

[P] Assume an object is spinning round a fixed axis w constant speed, s.t. $\underline{\omega} = \omega \hat{e}_3$.

if it is a principal axis, $\underline{L} = I_3 \omega \hat{e}_3$; then $\frac{d\underline{L}}{dt} = d_t(I_3 \omega \hat{e}_3) = 0$

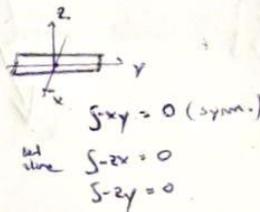
For the principal axes

$$\underline{L} = (I_1 \omega_1, I_2 \omega_2, I_3 \omega_3)$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} (I_1 \omega_1^2 + I_2 \omega_2^2 + I_3 \omega_3^2)$$

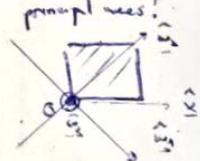
connected with the body, which rotates round. But the benefits outweigh the drawbacks.

no proof, too much linear algebra



principal axes? obvious by symmetry happy to spin round indefinitely

[C]



to be rigorous, show \underline{L} doesn't point along rot. axis, meaning it traces out a cone around it, meaning a torque is required, &

[TS] If two principal moments are equal, any axis in their plane is also a principal axis

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} I_1 &= I_2 \\ I_3 & \end{aligned} \right. \Rightarrow \text{freedom in picking the axes}$$

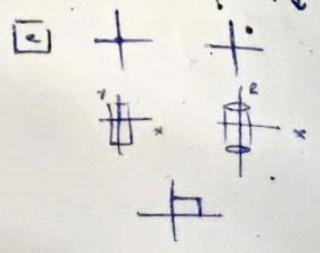
[TC] if a flat object is symmetric w.r.t. a rotation of π in the plane,

$$\Rightarrow \underline{L} = (a \hat{e}_1 + b \hat{e}_2) = 0 \Rightarrow (a \hat{e}_1 + b \hat{e}_2)$$

spins whole plane

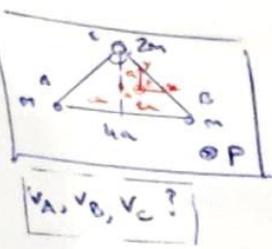
[E] (change) any axis in the plane is a principal axis.

[P] $\hat{e}_1 \omega_1 \Rightarrow \hat{e}_2 \omega_2 \Rightarrow$ spin all principal



1. Examples

I Motion about a fixed CM



work in CM frame (i.e. fixed CM);

$L = \sum r \times p = (2m, -m, 0) \times (-P, 0, 0) = mP(1, 2, 0)$

Principal moments $I_x = 2m^2$
 $I_y = 8m^2$
 $I_z = I_x + I_y = 10m^2$

Angular velocities $\omega = \frac{L_i}{I_i} \Rightarrow \omega = \frac{P}{4m} (1, 2, 0)$

Speeds relative to CM $u_i = \omega \times r_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0, 0, P/4m \\ 0, 0, -3P/4m \\ 0, 0, P/4m \end{pmatrix}$

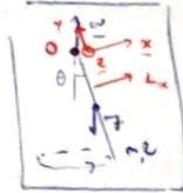
Speeds in lab frame

$v_{CM} = -\frac{P}{4m}$

$\Rightarrow v_B = \begin{pmatrix} 0, 0, -\frac{P}{4m} \end{pmatrix}$, rest are zero

→ intuitive
 → pivot case: use pivot as origin

II Motion due to a torque



no fixed stable motion?

$I_x = mL^2/3$
 $I_y = 0$
 $I_z = mL^2/3$

$L_x = I_x \omega_x = \frac{mL^2}{3} \sin \theta$
 $L_y = I_y \omega_y = 0$
 $L_z = I_z \omega_z = 0$

$\frac{dL}{dt} = (-\frac{2}{3}) \frac{mL^2}{3} \omega \sin \theta = (\omega \cos \theta)$

$\Rightarrow \frac{dL}{dt} \sin \theta = \frac{dL}{dt}$
 direction with

$\Rightarrow \omega = \sqrt{\frac{3g}{2L \cos \theta}}$

→ limits

5. Euler's equations

use unit to know how the coordinates of L change in the lab frame where there are only physical torques.

Again, stick the steps together.

let the angular velocity of the body in the lab frame be ω .

$\frac{dL}{dt}$ due to its coordinates in the body frame and due to the movement of the body frame

write this as $\frac{dL}{dt} = \frac{\delta L}{\delta t} + \omega \times L$ a vector equation which holds in any coordinates, use the same frame on both sides, instantaneous frames

$\frac{dL}{dt} = \sum \frac{\delta L}{\delta t} (1, u_2, 1/2 u_2, 1/3 u_3) + (u_1, u_2, u_3) \times (1, u_1, 1/2 u_2, 1/3 u_3)$

$\frac{dL}{dt} = 1 \dot{\omega}_1 + (1/3 - 1/2) \omega_3 \omega_2$ Euler's equations

well, this is interpreted as the rate of change in the body frame

READ THE EXTRA NOTE FOR CLARIFICATION

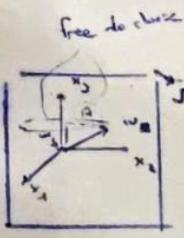
6. Free symmetric top

$I_1 = I_2 = 1$
 I_3 → work in principal axes passing through CM

Body frame

$0 = 1 \dot{\omega}_1 + (1/3 - 1) \omega_3 \omega_2 \Rightarrow \omega_3 = \cos t \Rightarrow \Omega$
 $0 = 1 \dot{\omega}_2 + (1 - 1/3) \omega_3 \omega_1$
 $0 = 1 \dot{\omega}_3$

$\Rightarrow \omega_1 = A \cos(\Omega t + \phi)$
 $\omega_2 = A \sin(\Omega t + \phi)$



free to choose $\Omega < 0$ → just a different direction

→ this is what a gyroscope on a spinning object will see!

→ Earth $I_3 > 1$ $\Omega \sim \frac{1}{200} \omega \Rightarrow$ period 200 d but amplitude (40°)

→ had to observe shift

Fixed frame

$$\underline{\omega} = \omega_1 \hat{x}_1 + \omega_2 \hat{x}_2 + \omega_3 \hat{x}_3 \quad (1)$$

$$\underline{L} = I(\omega_1 \hat{x}_1 + \omega_2 \hat{x}_2 + \omega_3 \hat{x}_3) = I(\underline{\omega} + \frac{I_3 - 1}{I} \omega_3 \hat{x}_3) = I(\underline{\omega} + \Omega \hat{x}_3) \Rightarrow \underline{\omega} = \frac{L}{I} - \Omega \hat{x}_3$$

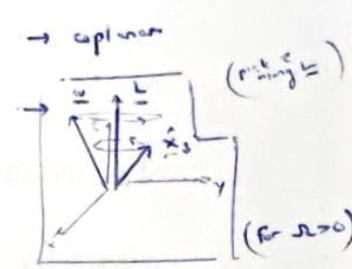
instead of a torque

is the fixed frame!

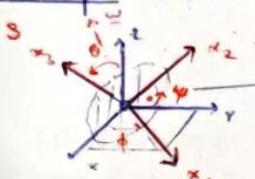
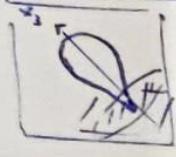
Note the fixed angle w.r.t $\underline{\omega}$ and \hat{x}_3 , which implies that these are only able to precess around \underline{L} .

To find the precession frequency, note $\frac{d\hat{x}_3}{dt} = \underline{\omega} \times \hat{x}_3 = \left(\frac{L}{I} \hat{x}_3 - \Omega \hat{x}_3 \right) \times \hat{x}_3 = \left(\frac{L}{I} \hat{x}_3 \right) \times \hat{x}_3$

14



7. Heavy symmetric top



→ work in principal axes passing through fixed point

rotation along the body axis $(\omega_3 = \dot{\psi})$

Euler angles θ, ϕ nice in spherical polar coordinates

intersection with xy plane
READ EXTRA NOTE

→ ang. vel. of S is not fixed frame

$$\dot{\theta} \hat{x}_1 + \dot{\phi} \hat{z} \quad \text{add by } \dot{\psi}$$

→ total ang. vel. of body is

$$\underline{\omega} = \dot{\psi} \hat{x}_3 + \dot{\theta} \hat{x}_1 + \dot{\phi} \hat{z} = (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos \theta) \hat{x}_3 + \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \hat{x}_2 + \dot{\theta} \hat{x}_1$$

(1a) \hat{z} precesses along \hat{x}_3, \hat{x}_1 (1b)

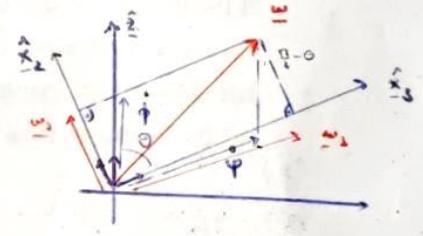
$$\underline{\omega} = \frac{L}{I} \hat{x}_3$$

total!
always

Earth $\underline{\omega} \sim \omega_3$ and gravity in plane will see

→ $\underline{\omega}$ and \underline{L} are constant, they are not different things

(Interpretations and Diagrams) (for $\theta = 0$)



$$\omega_3 = \dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos \theta$$

$$\omega_2 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta$$

→ $\dot{\phi}$ is the precession frequency of the top about \hat{z}

obvious, but here's a proof

$$\frac{d\hat{x}_3}{dt} = \underline{\omega} \times \hat{x}_3 = (\dot{\psi} \hat{x}_3 + \dot{\phi} \hat{z}) \times \hat{x}_3$$

however complicated it is!

→ $\dot{\psi}$ is the rotation frequency about \hat{x}_3 ; only rotation if you remove the precession

Torque method

$$\underline{L} = I_3 \dot{\psi} \hat{x}_3 + I_1 \dot{\theta} \hat{x}_1 + I_2 \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \hat{x}_2 \quad \text{all change} \quad \left| \frac{d\hat{x}_3}{dt} = -\dot{\theta} \hat{x}_2 + \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \hat{x}_1 \right|$$

$$\frac{d\underline{L}}{dt} = I_3 \ddot{\psi} \hat{x}_3 + (I_1 \ddot{\theta} \sin \theta + 2I_1 \dot{\theta} \dot{\phi} \cos \theta - I_3 \dot{\psi} \dot{\theta}) \hat{x}_2 + (I_2 \ddot{\phi} \sin \theta + 2I_2 \dot{\phi} \dot{\theta} \cos \theta + I_3 \dot{\psi} \dot{\phi} \sin \theta) \hat{x}_1$$

$$\underline{\tau} = Mgl \sin \theta \hat{x}_1$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\psi} = \omega_3 = \text{const} & (3) \\ I_1 \ddot{\theta} \sin \theta + 2I_1 \dot{\theta} \dot{\phi} \cos \theta - I_3 \dot{\psi} \dot{\theta} = 0 & (4) \\ (Mgl + I_1 \dot{\phi}^2 \cos \theta - I_3 \omega_3 \dot{\phi}) \sin \theta = I_2 \ddot{\theta} & (5) \end{cases}$$

Gyroscope $\dot{\theta} = 0$ (i.e. if set up + precess)

$$\dot{\phi} = \Omega = \text{const}$$

fast-precession freq.
slow-precession freq.

$$I_2 \Omega^2 \cos \theta - I_3 \omega_3 \Omega + Mgl = 0 \Rightarrow \Omega_{\pm} = \frac{I_3 \omega_3}{2I_2 \cos \theta} \left(1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{4Mgl \cos \theta}{I_3 \omega_3^2}} \right)$$

$$\Omega_{-} \approx \frac{Mgl}{I_3 \omega_3}$$

→ horizontal gyroscopes are assisted

→ high ω_3 stabilises

Revolution
 ω_s large (i.e. very stable)
 $\dot{\theta}$ small
 $\dot{\phi}$ small (slow precession)

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{\phi} \sin \theta - I_3 \omega_s \dot{\theta} = 0 \\ (Mgl - I_3 \omega_s \dot{\phi}) \sin \theta = I \ddot{\theta} \end{cases} \xrightarrow{d/dt} \begin{cases} \ddot{\theta} = \frac{I_3 \sin \theta}{I_3 \omega_s} \dot{\phi} < 0 > \\ \ddot{\theta} = \frac{I_3 \sin \theta}{I_3 \omega_s} \frac{d(\dot{\phi})}{dt} \end{cases}$$

PS

$$\frac{I^2}{I_3 \omega_s} \frac{d^2 \dot{\phi}}{dt^2} + I_3 \omega_s \dot{\phi} = Mgl$$

$$\frac{d^2 \dot{\phi}}{dt^2} + \left(\frac{I_3 \omega_s}{I} \right)^2 \dot{\phi} = \frac{Mgl I_3 \omega_s}{I^2}$$

$$= \frac{Mgl}{I_3 \omega_s} \omega_n^2$$

$$\omega_n^2 = \frac{I_3 \omega_s}{I}$$

$$\frac{d(\dot{\phi} - \omega_s)}{dt^2} \times \omega_n^2 (\dot{\phi} - \omega_s) = 0$$

Mulls
 $\underline{a} \times \underline{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ a_x & a_y & a_z \\ b_x & b_y & b_z \end{vmatrix}$
 $\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{pmatrix}$ just table
 $\hookrightarrow \det \dots$
 Vectors are vectors

Personal notes

$$\dot{\phi} = \omega_s + A \cos(\omega_n t + \delta)$$

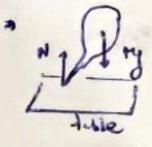
$$\phi = \omega_s t + \frac{A}{\omega_n} \sin(\omega_n t + \delta) + \text{const}$$

$$\vec{\omega} = - \left| \frac{I \sin \theta}{I_3 \omega_s} \right| A \omega_n \sin(\omega_n t + \delta) = - \frac{A \sin \theta}{\omega_n} \sin(\omega_n t + \delta)$$

$$\rightarrow \theta(t) = B + \frac{A}{\omega_n} \sin \theta_0 \cos(\omega_n t + \delta)$$

$$\rightarrow \text{larger } \omega_s \Rightarrow \text{larger } \omega_n, \text{ and more stable}$$

- e) Marin 8 principal axis & TS (axis cylinder)
- e) Marin 11 not pivoted
- e) Marin 13 \rightarrow cm always legal!



take everything w/ CM now;
 pivot accelerates \Rightarrow not allowed;
 $N = Mg$ & torque $Mgl \sin \theta$ happens to be the same;
 only modify $I_1 = I_2 = I$ [Now they are $I_{cm} = I - MR^2$]
 $\theta \rightarrow 0$ special cases after given surprising results

Personal notes

- e) 15 always figure out $\underline{\omega}$ first
- e) 20

$\underline{L} = I \underline{\omega}$ if
 any axis is principal axis
 If there is a symmetry axis parallel to $\underline{\omega}$
 $\underline{\omega} = \omega_{\parallel} \underline{e}_{\parallel} + \omega_{\perp} \underline{e}_{\perp}$
 $\underline{L} = I_{\parallel} \omega_{\parallel} \underline{e}_{\parallel} + I_{\perp} \omega_{\perp} \underline{e}_{\perp}$
 (rotation)

You can use rotating frames to find the lab frame angular velocity.

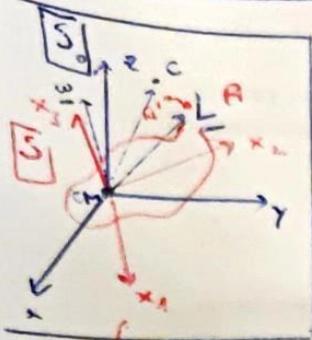
$$\underline{L} = I_{cm} \underline{\omega}_{cm} + I_{\parallel} \omega_{\parallel} \underline{e}_{\parallel} + I_{\perp} \omega_{\perp} \underline{e}_{\perp}$$

$$K = \frac{1}{2} M R^2 \omega_{cm}^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_{\parallel} \omega_{\parallel}^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_{\perp} \omega_{\perp}^2$$

(Fictitious forces and torques)

But do not use them for dynamics.

Extra note on Euler's quaternions



principal axes which define the body frame because they're affixed to the body

Remember that the motion of the body at any instant is just a pure rotation about some axis $\underline{\omega}$ (which will change) (in the lab frame)

In the lab frame the body has some vectors $\underline{\omega}$ and \underline{L} . In the body frame the body obviously has no $\underline{\omega}$ and \underline{L} of its own as it is static there. However the physical (lab) $\underline{\omega}$ and \underline{L} still have some projections along x_1, x_2, x_3 .

We seek to find $\frac{d\underline{L}}{dt}$ in the lab frame: no inertial torques there, so ($= \underline{\tau}$)

it will be easy to match $\frac{d\underline{L}}{dt}$ to the external torques.

However, we'll need the projection of this $\frac{d\underline{L}}{dt}$ along x_1, x_2, x_3 anyway. Always better to work along x_1, x_2, x_3 if possible. (1)

In theory you could just write $\frac{d\underline{L}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} (I_1 \omega_1 \hat{x}_1 + I_2 \omega_2 \hat{x}_2 + I_3 \omega_3 \hat{x}_3)$

and hush it out. However, this will involve the derivatives $\frac{d\hat{x}_i}{dt} (= \underline{\omega} \times \hat{x}_i)$ so we could save ourselves the effort with a trick.

Let the endpoint of \underline{L} lie at some fixed point called A in S

After time Δt A ends up at position A' because S rotates as a whole wrt S_0 .

The endpoint of \underline{L} is now at C. (see diagram)

The total shift $d\underline{L}$ can be decomposed as the shift of C wrt A (i.e. $\underline{A'C}$)

and the shift of A itself

The total velocity $\frac{d\underline{L}}{dt}$ is due the velocity of C wrt A ($\frac{d\underline{L}}{dt}$) (i.e. wrt body frame and its axes x_1, x_2, x_3) and the velocity of A itself (\underline{v}_A)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\underline{L}}{dt} = \frac{d\underline{L}}{dt} + \underline{\omega} \times \underline{L}$$

[and the components here will be taken about x_1, x_2, x_3 , as mentioned in (1)]

A is affixed to S, so this is $\underline{\omega} \times \underline{L}$ by (1) distance from CM to A

$\frac{\delta L}{\delta t}$ is not basis (x_1, x_2, x_3) , not (x, y, z) .

So this is simply $(I_1 \dot{\omega}_1, I_2 \dot{\omega}_2, I_3 \dot{\omega}_3)$

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = (I_1 \dot{\omega}_1, I_2 \dot{\omega}_2, I_3 \dot{\omega}_3) + (\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3) \times (I_1 \omega_1, I_2 \omega_2, I_3 \omega_3)$$

$$\hookrightarrow \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x}_1 & \hat{x}_2 & \hat{x}_3 \\ \omega_1 & \omega_2 & \omega_3 \\ I_1 \omega_1 & I_2 \omega_2 & I_3 \omega_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

gives e.g. $\hat{x}_1 (I_3 \omega_3 - I_2 \omega_2)$ etc.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dL}{dt} = I_1 \dot{\omega}_1 + (I_3 - I_2) \omega_3 \omega_2 \text{ } \curvearrowright \text{ cyclic}$$

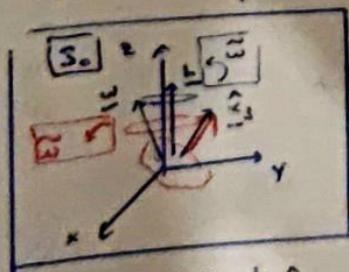
Extra note on free symmetric top

Solve Euler's eqs for no torque \Rightarrow

$$\begin{cases} \omega_3 = \text{const} \\ \omega_1 = A \cos(\Omega t + \phi) \\ \omega_2 = A \sin(\Omega t + \phi) \end{cases}$$

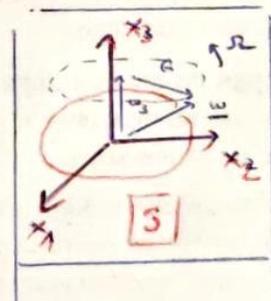
this is how the lab $\underline{\omega}$'s projections on $\hat{x}_1, \hat{x}_2, \hat{x}_3$ will look

More useful to check how $\underline{\omega}$ will move around in the lab frame. Align the z-axis of the lab frame with \underline{L} , which is constant for a free symmetric top.



turns out $\underline{\omega} = \frac{L}{I} \hat{z}$

A guy in space sees the Earth ~~precess~~ (with its \hat{x}_3) about \hat{z} .



in body frame (doesn't move here)

$$\Omega = \frac{I_3 - I}{I} \omega_3 = \text{const}$$

for the lab $\underline{\omega}$ and \underline{L} :

$$\begin{cases} \underline{\omega} = \omega_1 \hat{x}_1 + \omega_2 \hat{x}_2 + \omega_3 \hat{x}_3 \\ \underline{L} = I_1 \omega_1 \hat{x}_1 + I_2 \omega_2 \hat{x}_2 + I_3 \omega_3 \hat{x}_3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \underline{\omega} = \frac{L}{I} \hat{z} - \Omega \hat{x}_3$$

linear relation \Rightarrow coplanar and in a fixed configuration w.r.t \hat{z} (i.e. \hat{z})

$\Rightarrow \underline{\omega}$ and \hat{x}_3 can ONLY precess about \hat{z} (with some frequency $\Omega \hat{z}$)

This makes it obvious that the Earth's rotation axis doesn't always precess it at the same physical point \Rightarrow north pole will move round the Earth's x_3 with a period of $2\pi/\Omega$

- the following tricks don't work for the heavy symm. top, for $L \neq \text{const}$.

You'll have to introduce Euler angles and bash it out.

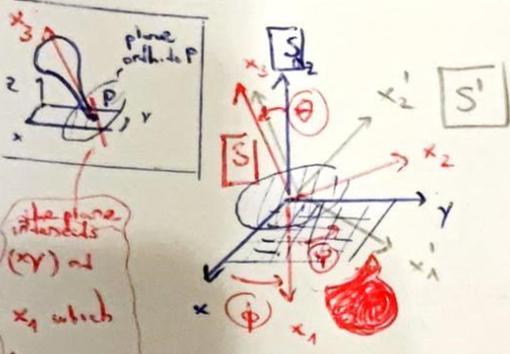
Extra note on heavy symmetric top (Euler angles)

- No conservation laws \Rightarrow you're doomed unless you solve it generally.
- This means you need to parametrise $\underline{\omega}$ in terms of some angular coordinates

\hookrightarrow Euler angles θ, ϕ, ψ

Introduce S_0 (lab frame), S , S' (body frame)

(obviously defined using some ~~of~~ principal axes)



the plane intersects (xy) of x_1 which is a principal axis (since it is a part of \hat{x}_3)

- S is some frame with 3 principal axes, but is not affixed to the body. It is instead defined by the intersection x_1 and x_3 .

The body frame is S' with axes (x'_1, x'_2, x'_3) (in the air). S' is rotated by ψ wrt S along x_3 (same as before). S itself is related to S_0 by θ and ϕ .

The total $\underline{\omega}$ for S' wrt S_0 can be built up

as $\underline{\omega} = \underline{\omega}_{S'S} + \underline{\omega}_{SS_0}$ by [T3]

these are just easier to imagine

$\underline{\omega}_{S'S} = \dot{\psi} \hat{x}_3$ (obvious)

$\underline{\omega}_{SS_0} = \dot{\theta} \hat{x}_1 + \dot{\phi} \hat{z}$
 from some rotation which changes θ (this will be about \hat{x}_1)
 from some rotation which changes ϕ (this will be about \hat{z})

this spans all scenarios

In total, $\underline{\omega} = \dot{\psi} \hat{x}_3 + \dot{\theta} \hat{x}_1 + \dot{\phi} \hat{z}$ project into \hat{x}_2, \hat{x}_3

no projection along \hat{z} , because we chose it horizontal

$\underline{\omega} = (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos \theta) \hat{x}_3 + \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \hat{x}_2 + \dot{\theta} \hat{x}_1$
 $\equiv \dot{\beta}$

(gyroscope)
 θ, ϕ, ψ are simply convenient; if $\dot{\theta} = 0$:
 \rightarrow eg. $\dot{\phi}$ is just the precession frequency ω_p about \hat{z}
 \rightarrow $\dot{\psi}$ is the rotation frequency about \hat{x}_3 . This is the only motion left if you remove the precession.