

# Spaceflight Dynamics

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# Outline

1 Orbital Mechanics

2 Attitude Dynamics

# Introduction

- Space engineering
  - ▶ Supports astronomy, astrophysics, space sciences, telecommunications, military, meteorology
- Through spacecraft such as
  - ▶ Interplanetary spacecraft
  - ▶ Earth satellites
    - ★ Unmanned satellites
    - ★ Manned space stations
  - ▶ Reusable space vehicles
- This course — earth satellites

# Where to put them?

- Orbit dictated by mission
- Orbit described in terms of shape, size and orientation
- Orbit depends on position and velocity at the start of orbital motion
- Orbital mechanics
  - ▶ Description and prediction of orbital motion



**Aristotle 384BC-322BC**



**Ptolemy 85AD-165AD**

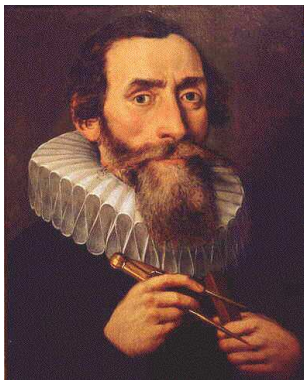


**Copernicus 1473-1543**

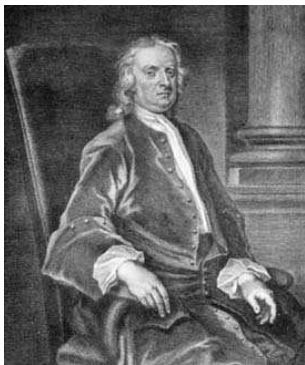


**Galileo 1564-1642**





**Kepler 1571-1630**



**Newton 1643-1727**

# What do they do up there?

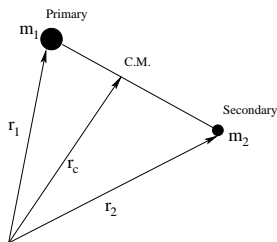
- Attitude dynamics (rotational motion)
  - ▶ Description
    - ★ Variables
    - ★ Equations of motion
    - ★ Solutions
- Attitude control

# How to put them there?

- Satellites injected by launch vehicles
- Initial conditions for orbital motion decided by burnout position and velocity
- Rocket performance
  - ▶ Limited by structural mass
  - ▶ Leads to staging
- Rocket trajectories
  - ▶ Predict burnout conditions

# Two-Body Problem

- Motion of two bodies moving under mutual gravitational acceleration



$$m_1 \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_1 = -\frac{Gm_1m_2}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|^3}(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$$

$$m_2 \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_2 = -\frac{Gm_1m_2}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|^3}(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1)$$

# Translation of Center of Mass

- Six degrees of freedom
  - ▶ Three for motion of center of mass
  - ▶ Three for relative motion

$$(m_1 + m_2)\ddot{\mathbf{r}}_c = m_1\ddot{\mathbf{r}}_1 + m_2\ddot{\mathbf{r}}_2 = 0$$

- Center of mass moves along a straight line with uniform velocity

# Relative Motion

- In terms of displacement vector  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1$  of secondary relative to primary

$m_1 \times \text{second equation} - m_2 \times \text{first equation} \implies$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = -\frac{\mu \mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|^3}, \quad \mu = G(m_1 + m_2)$$

- Central force motion with inverse square attraction
- Cannot be derived by using Newton's law directly

# Energy Integral

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{r}} = -\frac{\mu}{r^3}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}), \quad r = |\mathbf{r}| = \sqrt{\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}}$$

$$\text{LHS} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{1}{2}(\dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}) \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{1}{2}v^2 \right)$$

$$\text{RHS} = -\frac{\mu}{r^3} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}) \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\mu}{r^3} \frac{d}{dt} (r^2) = -\frac{\mu}{r^3} r \dot{r} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\mu}{r} \right)$$

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dt} \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{2}v^2 - \frac{\mu}{r} \right)}_{\mathcal{E}} = 0$$

- Specific energy  $\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2}v^2 - \mu r^{-1} = \text{constant}$

Note:  $\mathcal{E} \neq$  total mechanical energy of the two-body system



# Conclusions from the Energy Integral

$$v = \sqrt{2\mathcal{E} + 2\frac{\mu}{r}}$$

- If  $\mathcal{E} < 0$ , then  $v = 0$  at  $r = -\mu^{-1}\mathcal{E}$ 
  - ▶ Satellite falls back, orbit is bounded
- If  $\mathcal{E} \geq 0$ , satellite can be in motion at any distance
  - ▶ Satellite escapes ??
- Escape speed at distance  $r$

$$v_{\text{esc}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\frac{2\mu}{r}}$$

Note: Escape verified as possible but not guaranteed

# Angular Momentum

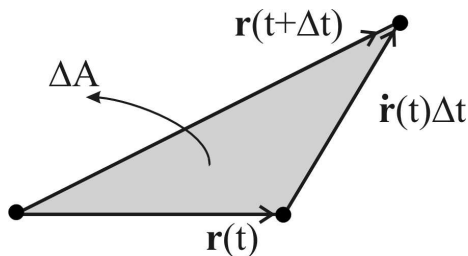
- Specific angular momentum  $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{r} \times \dot{\mathbf{r}}$

$$\dot{\mathbf{H}} = \dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \dot{\mathbf{r}} + \mathbf{r} \times \ddot{\mathbf{r}} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \text{Constant along the orbit}$$

- $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\dot{\mathbf{r}}$  lie in a fixed plane perpendicular to the constant  $\mathbf{H}$
- Orbit lies in a plane
  - ▶ Only uses the fact that  $\mathbf{H}$  has a constant direction

# Areal Rate



- Area swept out by the radius vector in a small time increment  $\Delta t$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta A &= \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{r}(t) \times \mathbf{r}(t + \Delta t)| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \Delta t |\mathbf{r}(t) \times \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t)| = \frac{1}{2} \Delta t |\mathbf{H}|\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{H}| = \frac{1}{2} H = \text{constant}$$

# Areal Rate

- **Kepler's law of areas:** Radius vector sweeps out equal areas in equal interval of time
- So far: Speed as function of radius
  - Planar nature of orbit
  - Motion along the orbit
- Next: Shape

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# Eccentricity Vector

- Define eccentricity vector

$$\mathbf{e} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mu^{-1}(\dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{H}) - r^{-1}\mathbf{r}$$

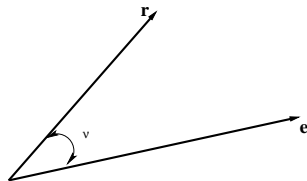
- ▶ Lies in the plane of motion
  - ▶  $\dot{\mathbf{e}} = 0$  along motion
- Define *true anomaly*  $\nu$  to be angle between  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{e}$

- Eccentricity  $e \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{e}}$

$$\mu r e \cos \nu = \mu \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{r} \cdot (\dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{H}) \mu r$$

$$= H^2 - \mu r$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{H^2/\mu}{1 + e \cos \nu}$$

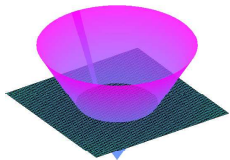


# Nature of the Orbit

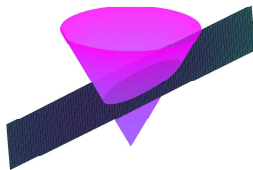
$$r = \frac{H^2/\mu}{1 + e \cos \nu}$$

- Polar equation of the orbit with
  - ▶  $e$  as the positive  $x$ -axis
  - ▶ Primary body as the origin
- Orbit bounded if and only if  $e < 1$
- Also the polar equation of a conic section of eccentricity  $e$  with origin at its focus
- **Kepler's law of orbits**: Orbit is a conic section with focus at its primary
- Conic section: curve of intersection between a right circular cone and a plane

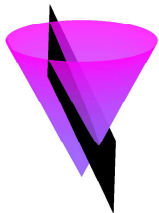
# Conic Sections



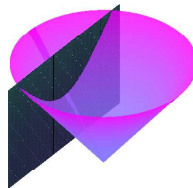
Circle



Ellipse



Parabola



Hyperbola



# Shape and Size of the Orbit

- Shape determined by the eccentricity  $e$

$$e = \sqrt{\frac{2H^2\mathcal{E}}{\mu^2} + 1}$$

- ▶  $e = 0 \Rightarrow$  circular orbit
  - ▶  $0 < e < 1 \Rightarrow$  elliptic orbit
  - ▶  $e = 1 \Rightarrow$  parabolic orbit
  - ▶  $e > 1 \Rightarrow$  hyperbolic orbit
- Size determined by the semilatus rectum  $H^2/\mu$

# Circular Orbits

- Zero eccentricity  $\Rightarrow r = H^2/\mu = \text{constant}$
- For a circular orbit,  $H = rv$

$$\Rightarrow \text{orbital speed at radius } r \quad v = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r}}$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2}v^2 - \frac{\mu}{r} = -\frac{1}{2}\frac{\mu}{r} < 0$$

# Elliptic Orbits

- $0 < e < 1$ , orbit is elliptical with one focus at the primary
- Periapsis (perigee/perihelion) point of closest approach at  $\nu = 0$

$$r_p = \frac{H^2/\mu}{1+e}$$

- Apoapsis (apogee/aphelion) farthest point from the primary at  $\nu = \pi$

$$r_a = \frac{H^2/\mu}{1-e}$$

- Semimajor axis

$$a = \frac{r_p + r_a}{2} = \frac{H^2/\mu}{1-e^2}$$

$$H = \sqrt{\mu a(1-e^2)}$$

- Speed at periapsis

$$v_p = \frac{H}{r_p} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a} \frac{(1+e)}{(1-e)}}$$

- Total specific energy

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2}v_p^2 - \frac{\mu}{r_p} = -\frac{\mu}{2a}$$

# Geometrical and Mechanical Description

$$H = \sqrt{\mu a(1 - e^2)} \quad a = -\frac{\mu}{2\mathcal{E}}$$

$$\mathcal{E} = -\frac{\mu}{2a} \quad e = \sqrt{\frac{2H^2\mathcal{E}}{\mu^2} + 1}$$

$$r_p = a(1 - e) \quad r_a = a(1 + e)$$

$$v_p = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a} \frac{1+e}{1-e}} \quad v_a = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a} \frac{(1-e)}{(1+e)}}$$

$$\text{Semiminor axis} \quad b = a\sqrt{1 - e^2}$$

# Parabolic Orbits

- $e = 1$ ,  $r = \frac{H^2/\mu}{1 + \cos \nu}$

- Periapsis distance  $r_p = \frac{H^2}{2\mu}$ ,  $v_p = \frac{H}{r_p} = \frac{2\mu}{H}$

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2}v_p^2 - \frac{\mu}{r_p} = 0$$

$$\therefore v = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu}{r}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty$$

▶ Just enough energy to reach  $\infty$  at rest

- $v_{\text{esc}} = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu}{r}}$  is sufficient for escape.  $v \geq v_{\text{esc}}$  guarantees escape

# Hyperbolic Orbits

- $e > 1$ , orbit is one branch of a hyperbola with its focus at the primary

$$r \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } v \rightarrow v_\infty \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi - \cos^{-1} 1/e$$

$$\text{speed } v = \sqrt{2\left(\mathcal{E} + \frac{\mu}{r}\right)} \rightarrow \text{hyperbolic excess velocity } v_\infty \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{2\mathcal{E}} \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty$$

- Periapsis distance

$$r_p = \frac{H^2/\mu}{1+e}$$

$$v_p = \frac{H}{r_p} = \frac{\mu(1+e)}{H}$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{\mu^2(e^2 - 1)}{2H^2}$$

$$v_\infty = \frac{\mu}{H} \sqrt{e^2 - 1}$$

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- Periapsis distance

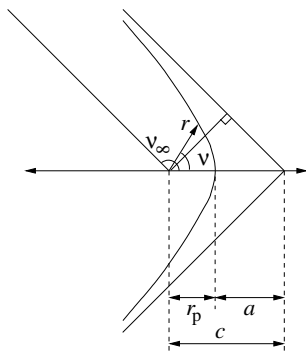
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# Geometric Description of Hyperbolic Orbits



$$H = v_\infty c \sin \nu_\infty = c \frac{\mu}{H} \sqrt{e^2 - 1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{e^2 - 1}}{e} \right)$$

$$c = \frac{H^2}{\mu} \frac{e}{e^2 - 1}$$

$$\text{Semimajor axis } a = c - r_p = \frac{H^2}{\mu(e^2 - 1)} = \frac{c}{e}$$

# Geometric versus Mechanical Description

$$H = \sqrt{\mu a(e^2 - 1)} \quad a = \frac{\mu}{2\mathcal{E}}$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{\mu}{2a} \quad e = \sqrt{\frac{2H^2\mathcal{E}}{\mu^2} + 1}$$

$$r_p = a(e - 1)$$

$$v_p = \sqrt{\frac{\mu(e+1)}{a(e-1)}}$$

$$v_\infty = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a}}$$

# Motion Along an Elliptic Orbit: Orbital Period

- Total area of orbit =  $\pi ab = \pi a^2 \sqrt{1 - e^2}$

- Areal rate  $\frac{dA}{dt} = \frac{H}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\mu a (1 - e^2)}$

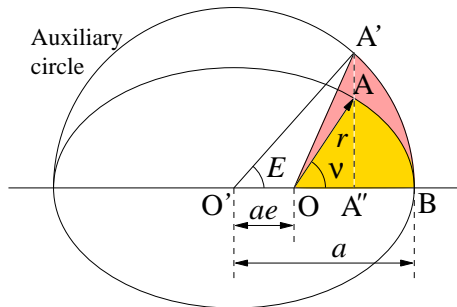
- ▶ Orbital period  $T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{a^3}{\mu}}$

- Kepler's law of periods

$$(\text{period})^2 \propto (\text{semimajor axis})^3$$

# Motion along an Elliptic Orbit: Kepler's Equation

- Need position along the orbit as function of time
- Use Kepler's law of areas — need area of a sector of an ellipse



$$\text{Area}(OAB) = \frac{b}{a} \text{Area}(OA'B) = \frac{b}{a} [\text{Area}(O'A'B) - \text{Area}(O'A'O)]$$

$$\text{Area}(O'A'B) = \frac{1}{2} a^2 E, \quad \text{Area}(O'A'O) = \frac{1}{2} (ae) a \sin E = \frac{1}{2} a^2 e \sin E$$

$$\text{Area}(OAB) = \frac{1}{2} ab(E - e \sin E)$$

# Kepler's Equation

- Let  $t_p$  be the instant of periapsis passage

$$\left. \frac{\text{Area(OAB)}}{t - t_p} = \frac{1}{2}H \right\} \text{ Law of areas}$$

$$E - e \sin E = \frac{H(t - t_p)}{ab} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a^3}}(t - t_p)$$

- Define *mean motion*

$$n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{2\pi}{T} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a^3}}$$

- Kepler's equation:

$$E - e \sin E = \underbrace{n(t - t_p)}_{\text{Mean anomaly } M}$$

# True and Eccentric Anomalies

- Need to relate  $E$  and  $\nu$

$$\begin{aligned}O'A'' &= OO' + OA'' \\ a \cos E &= ae + r \cos \nu\end{aligned}$$

- Use polar equation of the orbit

$$\cos E = \frac{(e + \cos \nu)}{(1 + e \cos \nu)}$$

$$2 \sin^2 (E/2) = 1 - \cos E = \frac{(1 - e)2 \sin^2 (\nu/2)}{(1 + e \cos \nu)}$$

$$2 \cos^2 (E/2) = 1 + \cos E = \frac{(1 + e)2 \cos^2 (\nu/2)}{(1 + e \cos \nu)}$$

$$\tan (E/2) = \sqrt{\frac{(1 - e)}{(1 + e)}} \tan (\nu/2)$$

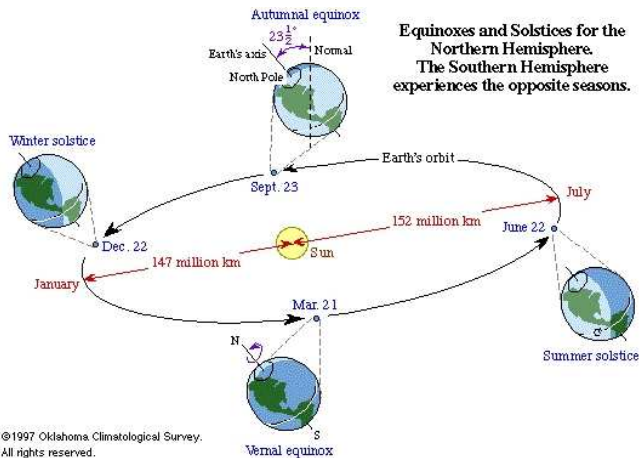
- Use along with Kepler's equation to find  $\nu$  as function of time



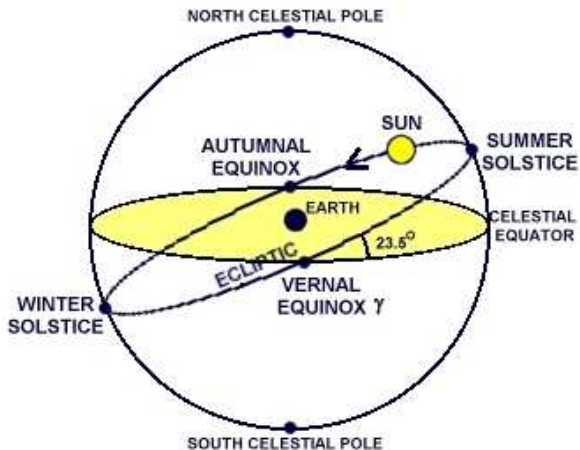
# Geocentric Frame

- Need to describe orientation of the orbit or position of the satellite
  - ▶ With respect to an earth/inertial frame
  - ▶ Using quantities that help to visualize the orbit
- Define a non-rotating geocentric frame with
  - ▶ Origin at earth's center
  - ▶ Axes directions fixed with respect to solar system
- $Z$  axis along earth's axis of rotation pointing north
  - ▶ Precesses with a period of 25,800 years
  - ▶ Nutates with an amplitude  $9''$  and period 18.6 years
- $X$  axis along the line of intersection of earth's orbital plane (ecliptic) and earth's equatorial plane
  - ▶ Along line joining the equinoxes, pointing along the vernal equinox
  - ▶ Along the first point of Aries

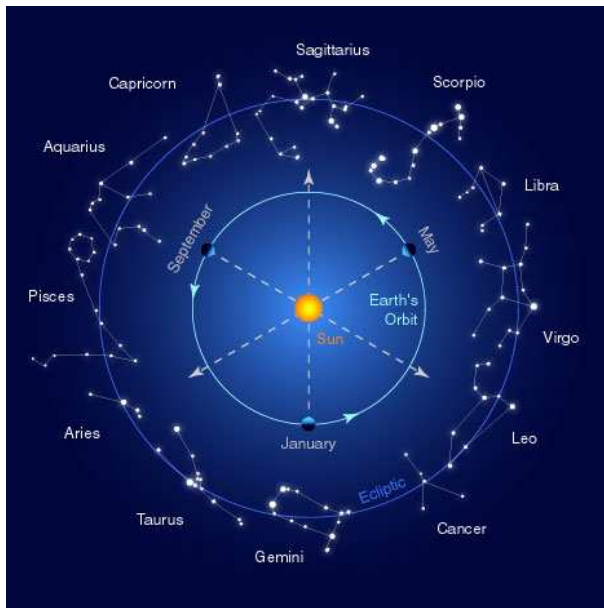
# The Ecliptic



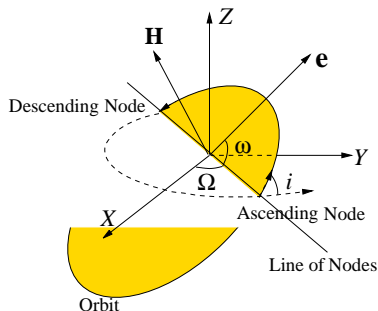
# The Ecliptic: View from Earth



# First Point of Aries



# Orientation of the Orbit: Right Ascension



- Ascending node — point where the orbit crosses equatorial plane from S to N
- *Right ascension* of ascending node  $\Omega$ 
  - ▶ Eastward from the  $X$  axis to the ascending node

$$0 \leq \Omega < 2\pi$$

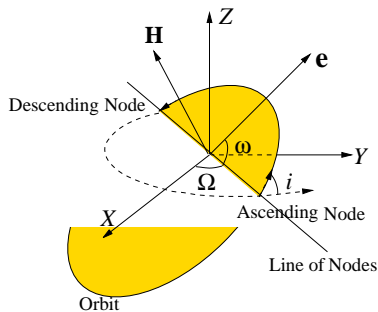
# Orientation of the Orbit: Inclination

- Inclination of the orbit  $i$ 
  - ▶ Measured at the ascending node between east and direction of motion

$$0 \leq i < \pi$$

- ★  $i < 90^\circ$  — prograde orbit, orbital motion in the same direction as earth's rotation
- ★  $i > 90^\circ$  — retrograde orbit
- ★  $i \simeq 90^\circ$  — polar orbit
- ★  $i = 0^\circ$  — equatorial orbit
- ★ Inclination determines north and south limits of visibility

# Orientation of the Orbit: Argument of Perigee



- Argument of perigee  $\omega$  — measured in the orbital plane from the ascending node along the motion  $0 \leq \omega < 2\pi$
- $\Omega$ ,  $i$ ,  $\omega$  describe the orientation of the orbit with respect to the geocentric frame
- In addition,  $a$  determines the size,  $e$  the shape
- Six classical orbital elements  $a$ ,  $e$ ,  $i$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\Omega$ ,  $t_p$

# Determination of Classical Elements from Initial Conditions

- Given  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \dot{\mathbf{r}}$ 
  - ▶ Compute  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  $H$ ,  $\mathbf{e}$ ,  $e$
- Line of nodes is perpendicular to  $\mathbf{H}$  and  $\mathbf{k}$ 
  - ▶ Unit vector along the line of nodes (pointing to the ascending node)

$$\mathbf{n} = |\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{H}|^{-1} (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{H})$$

- ▶  $\Omega \in [0, 2\pi)$  from  $\mathbf{n} = \cos(\Omega)\mathbf{i} + \sin(\Omega)\mathbf{j}$
- Compute  $i \in [0, \pi]$  from  $\cos i = \frac{\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{H}}{H}$

- Compute  $\omega \in [0, 2\pi)$ , the angle between  $\mathbf{n}$  and  $\mathbf{e}$ , by  $\cos \omega = \frac{\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{e}}{e}$

$$\begin{aligned}\omega &= \cos^{-1} \frac{\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{e}}{e}, & \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{k} &\geq 0 \\ &= 2\pi - \cos^{-1} \frac{\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{e}}{e}, & \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{k} &< 0\end{aligned}$$



## Determination of Classical Elements (continued)

- To find  $t_p$ , first find initial anomaly  $\nu$  from  $\cos \nu = \frac{\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{r}}{er}$

$$\nu = \cos^{-1} \frac{\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{r}}{er}, \quad \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{e} \leq 0 \quad (\text{satellite traveling from perigee to apogee})$$

$$= 2\pi - \cos^{-1} \frac{\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{r}}{er}, \quad \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{e} > 0 \quad (\text{satellite traveling from apogee to perigee})$$

- Compute initial eccentric anomaly

$$\tan(E/2) = \sqrt{\frac{1-e}{1+e}} \tan(\nu/2)$$

- Compute  $t_p$  from Kepler's equation

$$\sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a^3}}(t_0 - t_p) = E - e \sin E$$

# Determination of Position and Velocity

- Given  $t, a, e, i, \Omega, \omega, t_p$
- Compute eccentric anomaly at  $t$

$$E - e \sin E = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a^3}}(t - t_p)$$

- Compute true anomaly at  $t$

$$\sqrt{\frac{(1-e)}{(1+e)}} \tan(\nu/2) = \tan(E/2)$$

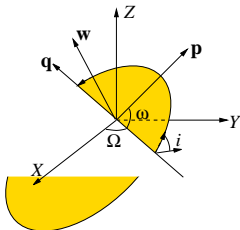
- Compute geocentric distance at  $t$

$$r = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cos \nu}$$

- ▶ Position in the orbital plane determined
- ▶ Need to transform to geocentric coordinates

# Position in Perifocal Frame

- Introduce a perifocal coordinate system, origin at earth's center and unit vectors
  - ▶  $\mathbf{p}$  pointing to the perigee
  - ▶  $\mathbf{q}$  along the position  $\nu = 90^\circ$
  - ▶  $\mathbf{w}$  orthogonal to the orbital frame such that  $\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{w}$



$$\mathbf{r} = r \cos \nu \mathbf{p} + r \sin \nu \mathbf{q}$$

# Velocity in perifocal frame

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = (\dot{r} \cos \nu - r\dot{\nu} \sin \nu) \mathbf{p} + (\dot{r} \sin \nu + r\dot{\nu} \cos \nu) \mathbf{q}$$

- To find  $r\dot{\nu}$ , note  $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{r} \times \dot{\mathbf{r}} = r^2 \dot{\nu} \mathbf{w}$

$$r\dot{\nu} = \frac{H}{r} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a(1-e^2)}} (1 + e \cos \nu)$$

- To find  $\dot{r}$ , differentiate polar equation

$$\dot{r} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a(1-e^2)}} e \sin \nu$$

- Perifocal components of velocity

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a(1-e^2)}} [-\sin \nu \mathbf{p} + (e + \cos \nu) \mathbf{q}]$$

- Need to transform to geocentric frame

# Transformation to Geocentric Frame

- To obtain the transformation, perform a sequence of 3 rotations on  $G$  to get  $P$ 
  - ▶ Rotate  $G$  about  $Z$  through  $\Omega$  to get  $G_1$
  - ▶ Rotate  $G_1$  about  $X$  through  $i$  to get  $G_2$
  - ▶ Rotate  $G_2$  about  $Z$  through  $\omega$  to get  $P$
- For any vector  $\mathbf{r}$

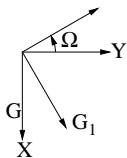
$$\mathbf{r}_G = R_1(\Omega)(\mathbf{r}_{G_1})$$

$$\mathbf{r}_{G_1} = R_2(i)(\mathbf{r}_{G_2})$$

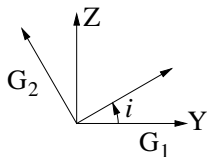
$$\mathbf{r}_{G_2} = R_3(\omega)(\mathbf{r}_P)$$

$$\mathbf{r}_G = R_1(\Omega)R_2(i)R_3(\omega)\mathbf{r}_P$$

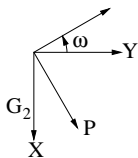
# Transformation Matrices



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



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



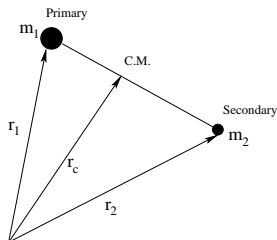
$$R_1(\omega) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \omega & -\sin \omega & 0 \\ \sin \omega & \cos \omega & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Geocentric Components of Position and Velocity

$$\mathbf{r}_G = R_1(\Omega)R_2(i)R_3(\omega) \begin{bmatrix} r \cos \nu \\ r \sin \nu \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_G = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a(1-e^2)}} R_1(\Omega)R_2(i)R_3(\omega) \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \nu \\ e + \cos \nu \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Complete Solution of the Two-Body Problem



$$\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_c = \frac{m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \mathbf{r}$$
$$\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_c = -\frac{m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \mathbf{r}$$

- Each body moves along a conic section with focus at the center of mass



# Satellite Tracking and Orbit Determination

- Predicting orbit from measured position and velocity data
- Position and velocity known only at injection point from launch vehicle INS
- Optical tracking
  - ▶ Each observation yields right ascension and declination, no range information
  - ▶ Three observations required to determine orbit
  - ▶ Observations made from rotating, translating earth
  - ▶ Approximate method by Laplace, exact method by Gauss
- Radar tracking for low-earth satellites
  - ▶ Azimuth, elevation, range in each observation
  - ▶ Some method interpolate between closely spaced observations, differentiate to get velocity
  - ▶ Other use two position measurement with elapsed time
- Range–range–rate tracking for deep space craft
  - ▶ Range-rate measured by using Doppler shift
  - ▶ No angular information available

# Errors in Orbit Determination

- Measurement errors lead to errors in estimated orbital parameters
- Errors between actual position and estimated position grows with time
  - ▶ Example: error in period
  - ▶ Need for improving accuracy by making new observations and updating the orbit
  - ▶ Need for correcting the orbit
- Body of observations increases with time
  - ▶ Use all data rather than the minimum amount required
  - ▶ Best fit — method of least squares

# Carl Friedrich Gauss

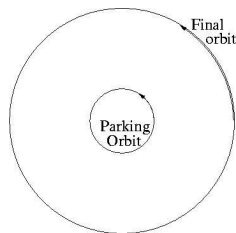


**Carl Friedrich Gauss**  
**1777-1855**

- Number theory
- Astronomy
- Statistics
- Analysis
- Differential geometry
- Geodesy
- Geomagnetism

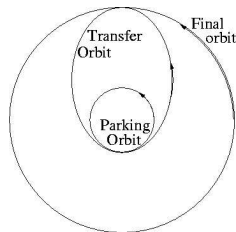
# Orbital Maneuvers

- Needed to transfer a geostationary satellite from its low earth parking orbit to its final high altitude geostationary orbit
- Needed to correct changes in orbital elements due to perturbing forces
- Impulsive thrust maneuvers
  - ▶ Velocity changes instantaneously without change in position
  - ▶ Thrust duration (burn times) small compared to orbital period (coast time)
- Hohmann transfer between two coplanar circular orbits

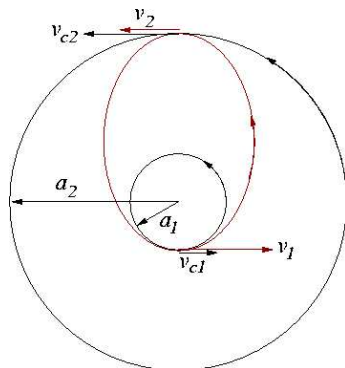


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# Hohmann Transfer



- Two impulsive maneuvers

- ▶ Apogee boost: increase speed from  $v_{c1}$  to  $v_1$  so that the satellite enters an elliptical transfer orbit with apogee on the final orbit
- ▶ Circularization: increase speed at the apogee of the transfer orbit to enter the final circular orbit

## Hohmann Transfer (cont'd)

- Circular orbits

$$v_{c_1} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a_1}}, \quad v_{c_2} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a_2}}$$

- Transfer orbit

$$a = \frac{a_1 + a_2}{2}, \quad v_1 = \sqrt{2 \left( \frac{\mu}{a_1} - \frac{\mu}{a_1 + a_2} \right)}, \quad v_2 = \sqrt{2 \left( \frac{\mu}{a_2} - \frac{\mu}{a_1 + a_2} \right)}$$

- Impulse magnitudes

$$\Delta v_1 = v_1 - v_{c_1}$$

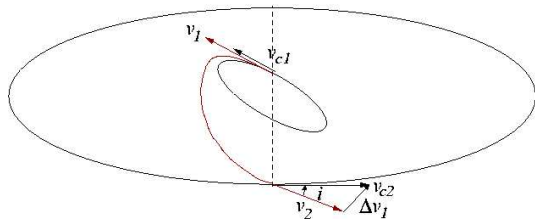
$$\Delta v_2 = v_{c_2} - v_2$$

- Minimum duration between maneuvers

$$= \frac{T}{2} = \pi \sqrt{\frac{a^3}{\mu}}$$

# Inclination Change Maneuver

- Needed if geostationary satellite is not launched from the equator
- Combined with one of the maneuvers (usually second) of the Hohmann transfer
  - ▶ To calculate magnitude and direction of the impulse required



$$|\Delta \mathbf{v}_2|^2 = v_{c2}^2 + v_2^2 - 2v_{c2}v_2 \cos i$$



# Coordinate Transformation

- View classical elements as new coordinates

$$x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [r_x \quad r_y \quad r_z \quad v_x \quad v_y \quad v_z]^T = \Phi(a, e, i, \Omega, w, M)$$

- Inverse transformation known

$$[a \quad e \quad i \quad \Omega \quad w \quad M]^T = \Phi^{-1}(x)$$

- Equations of motion in the two-body problem

$$\dot{x} = [\dot{r}_x \quad \dot{r}_y \quad \dot{r}_z \quad \dot{v}_x \quad \dot{v}_y \quad \dot{v}_z]^T = f(r_x, r_y, r_z, v_x, v_y, v_z) = f(x)$$

- Use transformation to write equation of motion in terms of classical elements

$$[\dot{a} \quad \dot{e} \quad \dot{i} \quad \dot{\Omega} \quad \dot{w} \quad \dot{M}]^T = \frac{\partial \Phi^{-1}}{\partial x} f(\Phi(a, e, i, \Omega, w, M))$$

- In the two-body problem

$$[\dot{a} \quad \dot{e} \quad \dot{i} \quad \dot{\Omega} \quad \dot{w} \quad \dot{M}]^T = [0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad n]^T$$

# Perturbation Forces

- Inhomogeneity and oblateness of earth
- Third body gravitational influence, eg. sun, moon
- Solar wind
- Solar radiation pressure
- Atmospheric drag in low earth orbit

$$\dot{x} = f(x) + \underbrace{p(x, t)}_{\text{perturbation}}$$

$$[\dot{a} \quad \dot{e} \quad \dot{i} \quad \dot{\Omega} \quad \dot{w} \quad \dot{M}]^T = [0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad n]^T + \text{perturbation}$$

- Trajectory no longer a conic section
  - ▶ Can be thought of as path traced by a point on an ellipse that is *osculating*, that is, changing shape, size and orientation

$$x(t) = \Phi(a(t), e(t), i(t), \Omega(t), w(t), M(t))$$

# Gauss's Planetary Equation

- Resolve perturbation force along perifocal frame

$$\text{Perturbation force} = P\mathbf{p} + Q\mathbf{q} + W\mathbf{w}$$

$$\dot{a} = \frac{2}{n\sqrt{1-e^2}} [eP \sin \nu + (1 + e \cos \nu) Q]$$

$$\dot{e} = \frac{\sqrt{1-e^2}}{na} [P \sin \nu + (\cos E + \cos \nu) Q]$$

$$\dot{i} = \frac{1}{na\sqrt{1-e^2}} \frac{rW}{a} \cos(\nu + \omega)$$

$$\dot{\Omega} = \frac{1}{na\sqrt{1-e^2}} \frac{rW}{a} \frac{\sin(\nu + \omega)}{\sin i}$$

$$\dot{\omega} =$$

$$\dot{M} =$$

# Earth Inhomogeneity and Oblateness

- Gravitational potential due to earth in spherical coordinates

$$U(r, \lambda, \phi) = -\frac{\mu}{r} + \underbrace{B(r, \lambda, \phi)}_{\text{perturbation}}$$

$$B(r, \lambda, \phi) = \frac{\mu}{r} \left\{ \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left[ \underbrace{\left( \frac{R_e}{r} \right)^n J_n P_n(\sin \lambda)}_{\text{oblateness}} + \sum_{m=1}^n J_{mn} \left( \frac{R_e}{r} \right)^n \underbrace{(C_{nm} \cos m\phi + S_{nm} \sin m\phi)}_{\text{asymmetry}} P_{nm}(\sin \lambda) \right] \right\}$$

- ▶  $R_e$  = mean equatorial radius
- ▶  $P_n$  = Legendre polynomials
- ▶  $P_{nm}$  = Legendre functions of the first kind
- ▶  $J_n, C_{nm}, S_{nm}$  = coefficients

## Effect of $J_2$ Perturbation

- $J_2$  is two orders of magnitude larger than others
  - ▶ Arises from the first-order deviation of the oblate earth from a sphere
- Small periodic changes in  $a$ ,  $e$ ,  $i$  with

$$\dot{a} \simeq 0, \quad \dot{e} \simeq 0, \quad \dot{i} \simeq 0$$

- Secular changes in  $\Omega$ ,  $w$ ,  $M$

- ▶ Regression of nodes: 
$$\frac{d\Omega}{dt} = -\frac{3}{2} n \frac{J_2 \cos i}{(1 - e^2)^2} \left( \frac{R_e}{a} \right)^2$$

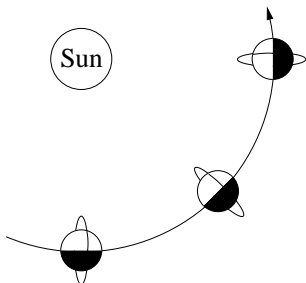
- ▶ Advance of perigee: 
$$\frac{dw}{dt} = -\frac{3}{4} n J_2 \frac{(1 - 5 \cos^2 i)}{(1 - e^2)^2} \left( \frac{R_e}{a} \right)^2$$

- ▶ Change in mean anomaly: 
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = n + \frac{3nJ_2(3 \cos^2 i - 1)}{4(1 - e^2)^{3/2}} \left( \frac{R_e}{a} \right)^2$$

- Superimposed periodic variations + secular and periodic variations due to higher order terms

# Application: Sun Synchronous Orbits

- Orbits that have a nodal regression rate of  $360^\circ$  per year
- Orbital plane makes a constant angle with respect to sun



- Satellite revisits any point at the same local time
  - ▶ Useful for earth observation satellites
  - ▶ Solar illumination the same in pictures takes at different times

# Launch to Rendezvous

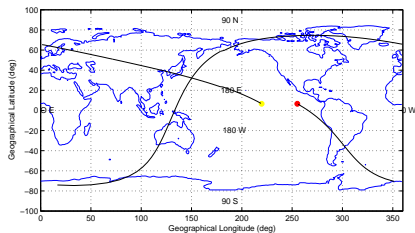
- Launch a spacecraft to rendezvous with a space station already in the orbit
- Problem: Find time of launch so that both orbits are coplanar
  - ▶ Orbital plane changes after injection is expensive
  - ▶ Turning the launch vehicle into the required plane is also expensive
- - ▶

# Launch to Rendezvous

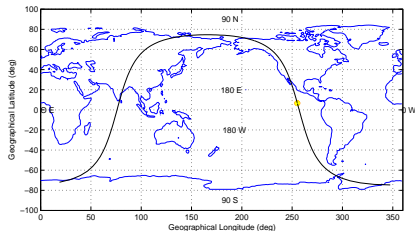
- Launch a spacecraft to rendezvous with a space station already in the orbit
- Problem: Find time of launch so that both orbits are coplanar
  - ▶ Orbital plane changes after injection is expensive
  - ▶ Turning the launch vehicle into the required plane is also expensive
- Solution: Launch when launch site lies in the space station orbital plane
  - ▶ For a given latitude, this occurs at most twice in every sidereal day



# Projection of the Orbit

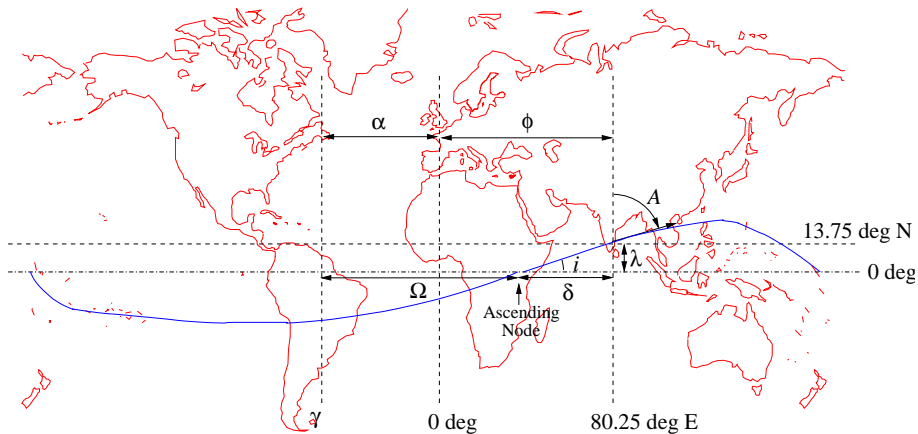


Ground Trace



Orbital Projection

# Geometry of Coplanar Launch to Rendezvous



# Launch Times for Rendezvous

$$\sin \delta = \tan \lambda \cot i$$

- Two solutions which add up to  $180^\circ$
- Right ascension of launch site

$$= \alpha + \phi = \Omega + \delta$$

- Right ascension of Greenwich meridian

$$\alpha = \alpha_0 + \frac{2\pi}{T_{\text{sidereal}}}(t - t_0)$$

- Launch time

$$t = t_0 + \frac{T_{\text{sidereal}}}{2\pi}(\Omega + \delta - \phi - \alpha_0)$$

- ▶ Two solutions

- Launch azimuth

$$\sin A = \frac{\cos i}{\cos \lambda}$$

# Rotational Motion of Satellites

- Orbital dynamics: satellites treated as point masses
- Rotational motion as extended bodies has to be considered
- Attitude maneuvering
  - ▶ Pointing requirements of optical, communications, imaging payload
  - ▶ Solar panel orientation
  - ▶ Thruster orientation for orbital maneuvers and station keeping
- Treat satellite as a rigid body
  - ▶ Collection of particles such that the distance between any two remains fixed
  - ▶ Six degrees of freedom, 3 translational + 3 rotational

# Translational Dynamics of a Rigid Body

- Consider a rigid arrangement of a finite number of particles
- For the  $i^{\text{th}}$  particle

$$\mathbf{F}_{i \text{ ext}} + \sum_{j \neq i}^N \mathbf{F}_{ij} = m_i \mathbf{a}_i$$

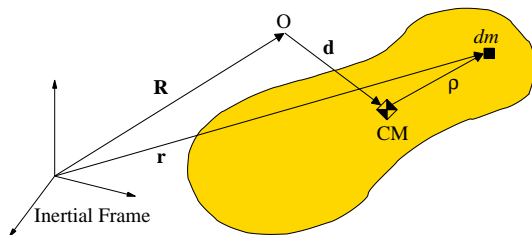
$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{ext}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{F}_{i \text{ ext}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i}^N \mathbf{F}_{ij}}_{=0} = \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \mathbf{a}_i$$

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{ext}} = M \mathbf{a}_{\text{cm}}, \quad \mathbf{a}_{\text{cm}} = \frac{\sum m_i \mathbf{a}_i}{\sum m_i}$$

- Translates as a point particle of mass  $M$  located at center of mass under  $\mathbf{F}_{\text{ext}}$
- Rotational and translational motions decoupled?

# Rotational Dynamics of a Rigid Body

- Take moments of Newton's law about some convenient point



$$d\mathbf{F} = dm \ddot{\mathbf{r}} = dm (\ddot{\mathbf{R}} + \ddot{\mathbf{d}} + \ddot{\boldsymbol{\rho}})$$

$$d\mathbf{M}_O = (\mathbf{d} + \boldsymbol{\rho}) \times d\mathbf{F} = (\mathbf{d} + \boldsymbol{\rho}) \times (\ddot{\mathbf{R}} + \ddot{\mathbf{d}} + \ddot{\boldsymbol{\rho}})dm$$

## Rotational Dynamics of a Rigid Body (cont'd)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}_O &= \int [(\mathbf{d} + \boldsymbol{\rho}) \times (\ddot{\mathbf{d}} + \ddot{\boldsymbol{\rho}})] dm + \int (\mathbf{d} \times \ddot{\mathbf{R}}) dm + \int (\boldsymbol{\rho} \times \ddot{\mathbf{R}}) dm \\ &= \int \frac{d}{dt} \underbrace{[(\mathbf{d} + \boldsymbol{\rho}) \times (\dot{\mathbf{d}} + \dot{\boldsymbol{\rho}})]}_{d\mathbf{H}_O} dm + (\mathbf{d} \times \ddot{\mathbf{R}}) \underbrace{\int dm}_M \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\left( \int \boldsymbol{\rho} dm \right)}_{=0} \times \ddot{\mathbf{R}} \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{H}_O + m(\mathbf{d} \times \ddot{\mathbf{R}}) \end{aligned}$$

- If  $O$  is inertially fixed ( $\ddot{\mathbf{R}} = 0$ ) or the center of mass ( $\mathbf{d} = 0$ ) then

$$\boxed{\mathbf{M}_O = \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{H}_O} \text{ Attitude dynamics equation}$$

- ▶  $\mathbf{H}_O$  = moment about  $O$  of linear momentum relative to  $O$

# Attitude Representation

- Consider two right handed orthonormal frames
  - ▶ I with unit vectors  $\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}$ , B with unit vectors  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$
- Components of any vector  $\mathbf{v}$  along I and B

$$(\mathbf{v})_I = [\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{l} \quad \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{m} \quad \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}]^T, \quad (\mathbf{v})_B = [\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{i} \quad \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{j} \quad \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{k}]^T$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{v})_I &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_B^1 \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{l} + \mathbf{v}_B^2 \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{l} + \mathbf{v}_B^3 \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{l} \\ \mathbf{v}_B^1 \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{v}_B^2 \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{v}_B^3 \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{m} \\ \mathbf{v}_B^1 \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{v}_B^2 \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{v}_B^3 \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{l} & \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{l} & \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{l} \\ \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{m} & \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{m} & \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{m} \\ \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{n} & \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{n} & \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_B^1 \\ \mathbf{v}_B^2 \\ \mathbf{v}_B^3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= [(\mathbf{i})_I \quad (\mathbf{j})_I \quad (\mathbf{k})_I] (\mathbf{v})_B \end{aligned}$$

- There exists a unique matrix  $R$  such that  $R(\mathbf{v})_B = (\mathbf{v})_I$  for every  $\mathbf{v}$
- $R$  determined solely by orientation of B relative to I
- $R$ — special orthogonal matrix, rotation matrix, direction cosine matrix

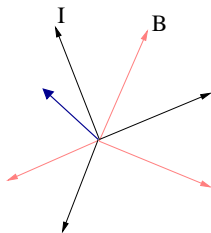
$$R^T R = I$$

$$\det R = 1$$



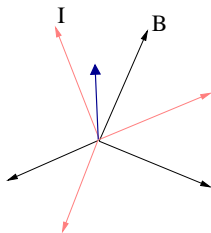
# An Alternative Situation

- Rotate a frame to go from I to B
- What are the new I-components of a vector fixed to the moving frame?



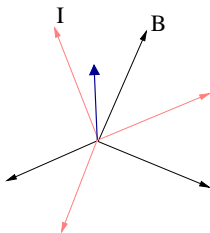
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- What are the new I-components of a vector fixed to the moving frame?



$$\begin{aligned} \text{old I components} &= \text{new B components} \\ \text{new I components} &= R \cdot (\text{new B components}) \\ &= R \cdot (\text{old I components}) \end{aligned}$$

- $R$  relates
  - ▶ Components of a given vector in two frames
  - ▶ Components of a rotated vector to its original components in the same frame

# Rotation Matrix for an Elementary Rotation

- Rotate  $\mathbf{I}$  about a unit vector  $\mathbf{v}$  through an angle  $\theta$  to obtain  $\mathbf{B}$

$$(\mathbf{v})_{\mathbf{I}} = (\mathbf{v})_{\mathbf{B}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} v \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

- Transformation matrix

$$R(v, \theta) = I + (1 - \cos \theta)(v \times)^2 + \sin \theta(v \times)$$

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (v \times) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -v_3 & v_2 \\ v_3 & 0 & -v_1 \\ -v_2 & v_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ If  $(\mathbf{u})_{\mathbf{B}} = u \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , then

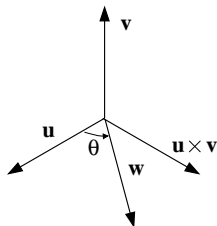
$$(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{u})_{\mathbf{B}} = (v \times)u$$

# Elementary Rotation (cont'd)

- Check:

- ▶  $Rv = v$

- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{u} \perp \mathbf{v}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 1$ . Let  $\mathbf{w}$  be obtained from  $\mathbf{u}$  by rotation about  $\mathbf{v}$



$$(\mathbf{w})_{\mathbf{B}} = (\mathbf{u})_{\mathbf{I}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{u}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{w} &= \cos \theta \mathbf{u} + \sin \theta (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{u}) \\ &= \mathbf{u} + (1 - \cos \theta) (\mathbf{v} \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{u})) + \sin \theta (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{u}) \\ (\mathbf{w})_{\mathbf{I}} &= [I + (1 - \cos \theta)(\mathbf{v} \times)^2 + \sin \theta (\mathbf{v} \times)] \mathbf{u} \\ &= R(\mathbf{w})_{\mathbf{B}}\end{aligned}$$

# Composite Rotations

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \alpha & \xrightarrow{\psi/u} & C & \xrightarrow{\theta/v} & A & \xrightarrow{\phi/w} & B \\ (\mathbf{x})_I & \xleftarrow{R_1(u,\psi)} & (\mathbf{x})_C & \xleftarrow{R_2(v,\theta)} & (\mathbf{x})_A & \xleftarrow{R_3(w,\phi)} & (\mathbf{x})_B \end{array}$$

$$R_{\text{composite}} = R_1(u, \psi)R_2(v, \theta)R_3(w, \phi)$$

- Composition of rotations  $\sim$  matrix multiplication on the right
- Noncommutativity of matrix multiplication  $\sim$  non commutativity of rotations

## Relative Motion Between Frames

- Frame B rotates relative to I (not necessarily about a fixed axis)
- $\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3$  vectors fixed in B,  $\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2$  linearly independent
- $\dot{\mathbf{r}}_1, \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2, \dot{\mathbf{r}}_3$  instantaneous derivatives with respect to I
  - ▶  $\mathbf{r}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 = \text{constant} \Rightarrow \dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 = 0$
  - ▶  $\mathbf{r}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2 = \text{constant} \Rightarrow \dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2 + \mathbf{r}_1 \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2 = 0$

$$\mathbf{r}_3 = \alpha_1 \mathbf{r}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{r}_2 + \alpha_3 (\mathbf{r}_1 \times \mathbf{r}_2)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_3 = \alpha_1 \dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 + \alpha_2 \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2 + \alpha_3 (\dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 \times \mathbf{r}_2 + \mathbf{r}_1 \times \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2)$$

$$\implies (\dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 \times \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}_3 = 0$$

- Instantaneous derivative of every vector fixed in B lies in the plane perpendicular to  $(\dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 \times \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2)$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = \alpha(\mathbf{r})(\mathbf{e} \times \mathbf{r})$$

- ▶  $\mathbf{e} =$  unit vector along  $(\dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 \times \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2)$

## Relative Motion (cont'd)

- $\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2$  vectors fixed in B, linearly independent from  $\mathbf{e}$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 = \alpha(\mathbf{r}_1)(\mathbf{e} \times \mathbf{r}_1)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_2 = \alpha(\mathbf{r}_2)(\mathbf{e} \times \mathbf{r}_2)$$

$$\mathbf{r}_2 \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 + \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 = 0 \implies \alpha(\mathbf{r}_1) = \alpha(\mathbf{r}_2) = \text{constant}$$

- There exists a vector  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  such that instantaneous derivatives of vectors in B are given by

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}$$

$\boldsymbol{\omega}$  = instantaneous angular velocity of B relative to I



# Attitude Kinematics

- B rotates relative to I
- Instantaneous relative orientation described by rotation matrix  $R(t)$ 
  - ▶ How does  $R$  vary?
- For any vector fixed in B,

$$(\dot{\mathbf{r}})_I = \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{r})_I = \frac{d}{dt}R(\mathbf{r})_B = \dot{R}(\mathbf{r})_B + R \underbrace{\frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{r})_B}_{=0}$$

$$(\dot{\mathbf{r}})_I = (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r})_I = R(\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r})_B = R(\boldsymbol{\omega} \times)(\mathbf{r})_B$$

$$\boxed{\dot{R} = R(\boldsymbol{\omega} \times)} \quad \text{Attitude kinematics equation}$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\omega} \times) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  = column vector of B components of instantaneous angular velocity of B relative to I

# Attitude Kinematics Equation

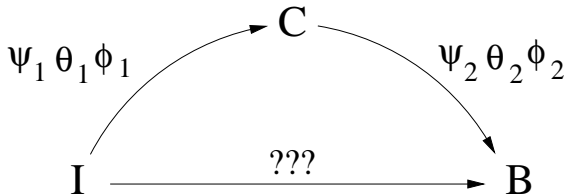
- Used for
  - ▶ Navigation
  - ▶ Control design
  - ▶ Simulation
- Solution involves integrating 9 differential equations
  - ▶  $R$  contains 9 elements subject to 6 constraints, only 3 free parameters
- **Question:** Is it possible to parametrize rotation matrices with fewer parameters?
  - ▶ If yes, rewrite attitude kinematics in terms of fewer parameters

# Euler Angles

- **Fact:** Given a sequence of unit vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$  fixed in I such that no two consecutive vectors are linearly dependent, I can be rotated to any desired orientation by a sequence of three rotations, one each about  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$ 
  - ▶ For every rotation matrix  $R$ , there exist  $\psi, \theta, \phi$  such that

$$R = R_1(v_1, \psi)R_2(v_2, \theta)R_3(v_3, \phi)$$

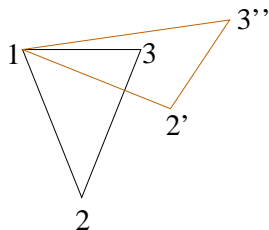
- Examples:
  - ▶ 3-2-1 Euler angles used in aircraft;  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{l}$
  - ▶ 3-1-3 Euler angles;  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{n}$
- Problem: Euler angles do not combine well for successive rotations



# Axis-Angle Variables

- **Euler's Theorem:** Given two frames  $I$  and  $B$ , there exists an axis-angle pair  $(\mathbf{v}, \theta)$  such that  $I$  coincides with  $B$  when rotated about  $\mathbf{v}$  through  $\theta$ 
  - ▶ For every rotation matrix  $R$ , there exist  $v \in \mathbb{R}^3, \theta \in [0, 2\pi)$  such that

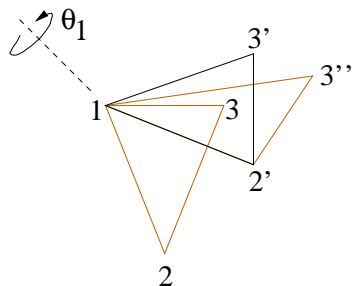
$$R = R(v, \theta) = I + (1 - \cos \theta)(v \times)^2 + \sin \theta(v \times)$$



# Axis-Angle Variables

- **Euler's Theorem:** Given two frames I and B, there exists an axis-angle pair  $(\mathbf{v}, \theta)$  such that I coincides with B when rotated about  $\mathbf{v}$  through  $\theta$ 
  - ▶ For every rotation matrix  $R$ , there exist  $v \in \mathbb{R}^3, \theta \in [0, 2\pi)$  such that

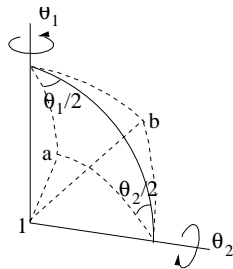
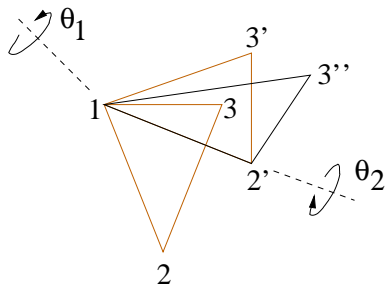
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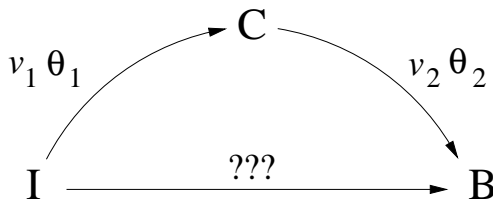
# Axis-Angle Variables

- **Euler's Theorem:** Given two frames I and B, there exists an axis-angle pair  $(\mathbf{v}, \theta)$  such that I coincides with B when rotated about  $\mathbf{v}$  through  $\theta$

- ▶ For every rotation matrix  $R$ , there exist  $v \in \mathbb{R}^3, \theta \in [0, 2\pi)$  such that

$$R = R(v, \theta) = I + (1 - \cos \theta)(v \times)^2 + \sin \theta(v \times)$$

- **Problem:** Axis angle variables do not combine well for successive rotations



# Leonhard Euler



**Leonhard Euler**  
**1707-1783**

- Rigid body motion
- Fluid mechanics
- Solid mechanics
- Number theory
- Real and complex analysis
- Calculus of variations
- Differential geometry and topology
- Differential equations
- Mathematical notation



# Attitude Kinematics with Euler Angle

- To obtain attitude kinematics in terms of  $\psi, \theta, \phi$ , substitute

$$R = R_1(v_1, \psi)R_2(v_2, \theta)R_3(v_3, \phi) \quad \text{in} \quad \dot{R} = R(w \times)$$

- ▶ Solve for  $\dot{\psi}, \dot{\theta}, \dot{\phi}$

- Example: 3-2-1 Euler angles

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi} \\ \dot{\theta} \\ \dot{\psi} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \cos \phi & \sin \phi \cos \theta \\ 0 & -\sin \phi & \cos \phi \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}^{-1}}_{\text{singular at } \theta = \pm 90^\circ} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_3 \\ \omega_2 \\ \omega_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Fact:** Every three-parameter representation of attitude possesses a kinematic singularity
  - ▶ Euler angles suitable only for simulating limited angular motion

# Quaternions

$$q = \underbrace{q_0}_{\text{Real part}} + \underbrace{q_1i + q_2j + q_3k}_{\text{Imaginary part}}$$

- To multiply quaternions, use

$$ii = jj = kk = -1, \quad ij = -ji = k, \quad jk = -kj = i, \quad ki = -ik = j$$

- ▶ Multiplication noncommutative

- Conjugate

$$\bar{q} = q_0 - q_1i - q_2j - q_3k$$

- Magnitude =  $\sqrt{q\bar{q}} = \sqrt{q_1^2 + q_2^2 + q_3^2 + q_4^2}$

- If  $v = [v_1 \ v_2 \ v_3]^T$ , then define  $\hat{v} = v_1i + v_2j + v_3k$

# Quaternion Representation of Rotations

- If I is rotated through  $\theta$  about unit vector  $v$  to obtain B, set

$$q = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \hat{v}$$

- ▶ Unit quaternion

- If  $x_B = (\mathbf{x})_B$  and  $x_I = (\mathbf{x})_I$  then

$$\hat{x}_I = q \hat{x}_B \bar{q}$$

- ▶ No trigonometric formulae

$$q_{B \rightarrow I}^{-1} = \bar{q}_{B \rightarrow I} = q_{I \rightarrow B}$$

$$q_{B \rightarrow I} = q_{C \rightarrow I} q_{B \rightarrow C}$$

# William Rowan Hamilton



**William Rowan Hamilton**  
**1805-1865**

- Algebra
- Optics
- Mechanics

# Attitude Dynamics Revisited

$$\mathbf{M} = \dot{\mathbf{H}}$$

- ▶  $\mathbf{M}$  = moment of external forces about center of mass
  - ▶  $\mathbf{H}$  = angular momentum of body about center of mass
  - ▶ Derivative with respect to inertial frame
- Let B be a body fixed frame with unit vectors  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$

$$\mathbf{H} = H_1 \mathbf{i} + H_2 \mathbf{j} + H_3 \mathbf{k}, \quad H_B = [H_1 \ H_2 \ H_3]^T$$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = \omega_1 \hat{i} + \omega_2 \hat{j} + \omega_3 \hat{k}, \quad \omega_B = [\omega_1 \ \omega_2 \ \omega_3]^T$$

$$\mathbf{M} = M_1 \hat{i} + M_2 \hat{j} + M_3 \hat{k}, \quad M_B = [M_1 \ M_2 \ M_3]^T$$

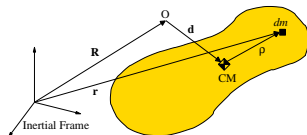
$$\dot{\mathbf{H}} = \dot{H}_1 \hat{i} + \dot{H}_2 \hat{j} + \dot{H}_3 \hat{k} + (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{H})$$

$$(\mathbf{M})_B = (\dot{\mathbf{H}})_B = \frac{d}{dt} H_B + (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{H})_B = \frac{d}{dt} H_B + (\omega_B \times) H_B$$

$$\boxed{\frac{d}{dt} H_B = -(\omega_B \times) H_B + M_B}$$

- Attitude dynamics equation in terms of body components

# Body Component of Angular Momentum



$$\int (\boldsymbol{\rho} \times \dot{\boldsymbol{\rho}}) dm = \int \boldsymbol{\rho} \times (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \boldsymbol{\rho}) dm = - \int (\boldsymbol{\rho} \times (\boldsymbol{\rho} \times \boldsymbol{\omega})) dm$$

Let

$$\boldsymbol{\rho} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}, \quad \boldsymbol{\rho}_B = [x \ y \ z]^T, \quad (\boldsymbol{\rho}_B \times) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -z & y \\ z & 0 & -x \\ -y & x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H_B = - \int (\boldsymbol{\rho} \times (\boldsymbol{\rho} \times \boldsymbol{\omega}))_B dm = \int (\boldsymbol{\rho}_B \times) (\boldsymbol{\rho} \times \boldsymbol{\omega})_B dm = - \int ((\boldsymbol{\rho}_B \times)^2 \boldsymbol{\omega}_B) dm$$

$$I_B = - \int (\boldsymbol{\rho}_B \times)^2 dm = \begin{bmatrix} \int (y^2 + z^2) dm & - \int xy dm & - \int xz dm \\ - \int xy dm & \int (x^2 + z^2) dm & - \int yz dm \\ - \int xz dm & - \int yz dm & \int (x^2 + y^2) dm \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{H_B = I_B \boldsymbol{\omega}_B}$$

- $I_B$  = moment-of-inertia matrix about body axes

# Principal Axes of Inertia

- Moment-of-inertia matrix about inertial axes

$$H_I = RH_B = RI_B\omega_B = RI_BR^T\omega_I = I_I = RI_BR^T$$

- ▶  $I_I$  varies as body rotates
- Two body frames,  $B$  and  $B'$ , related by rotation matrix  $R$

$$H_B = I_B\omega_B, \quad H_{B'} = I_{B'}\omega_{B'}$$

$$H_B = RH_B = RI_B\omega_B = RI_BR^T\omega_{B'}, \quad I_{B'} = RI_BR^T$$

- **Fact:** There exists a rotation matrix  $R$  such that  $RI_BR^T = \begin{bmatrix} I_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_3 \end{bmatrix}$
- There exists a body frame  $B'$  such that  $I_{B'} = \text{diagonal}$ 
  - ▶ Corresponding axes are principal axes of inertia,  $I_1, I_2, I_3$  are principal moment of inertia
  - ▶ Principal axes are along eigenvectors of  $I_B$
  - ▶ Principal moments of inertia are eigenvalues of  $I_B$

# Euler's Equation for Rotational Dynamics

$$\frac{d}{dt}H_B = -(\omega_B \times)H_B + M_B$$

- Put  $H_B = I_B \omega_B$ ,  $I_B$  constant

$$I_B \dot{\omega}_B = -(\omega_B \times)I_B \omega_B + M_B$$

- ▶ Determine evolution of angular velocity component
  - ▶ Determine rotational motion together with attitude kinematics equation
- Euler's equation written for principal axes of inertia

$$\dot{\omega}_1 = -\frac{(I_3 - I_2)}{I_1} \omega_2 \omega_3 + \frac{1}{I_1} M_1$$

$$\dot{\omega}_2 = -\frac{(I_1 - I_3)}{I_1} \omega_1 \omega_3 + \frac{1}{I_2} M_2$$

$$\dot{\omega}_3 = -\frac{(I_2 - I_1)}{I_3} \omega_1 \omega_2 + \frac{1}{I_3} M_3$$