

7. How \underline{I} Transforms under Rotations of BCS

Dynamics of RB is most simply analyzed w.r.t. a BCS in which the inertia tensor is diagonal; i.e., $I_{ij} = I_i \delta_{ij}$. For a general I_{ij} , there always exists a rotation matrix λ_{ij} that aligns the BCS with the principal axes of inertia. We need to know how a 2nd rank tensor transforms under a general rotation. Here, I merely state the result, which is derived in TM, Sec. 11.7.

If \vec{X} is the original BCS.

\vec{X}' is the rotated BCS

and λ_{ij} is the rotation matrix s.t.

$$X'_i = \sum_j \lambda_{ij} X_j \quad (1)$$

And, if I_{ij} is the I.T. in \vec{X} BCS
 I'_{ij} " " " " \vec{X}' "

Then

$$I'_{ij} = \sum_{k,l} \lambda_{ik} \lambda_{jl} I_{kl} \quad (2)$$

Just as ① is the general expression for how vectors transform under rotation, so is ② the general expression for how a 2nd rank tensor transforms.

Using ②, we can ask under what conditions, can we diagonalize $\underline{\underline{I}}$?

We require

$$I'_{ij} = I_i \delta_{ij} = \sum_{k,l} \lambda_{ik} \lambda_{jl} I_{kl}$$

Following the steps in TM, Eqs. 11.67-72b, we arrive at the condition

$$\sum_e (I_{me} - I_j \delta_{me}) \lambda_{je} = 0$$

This is a set of simultaneous linear alg. eq^s; for each value of j , there are 3 equations, one for each value of m .

E.g. $j=1$

$$m=1 \quad (I_{11} - I_1) \lambda_{11} + I_{12} \lambda_{12} + I_{13} \lambda_{13} = 0$$

$$m=2 \quad I_{21} \lambda_{11} + (I_{22} - I_1) \lambda_{12} + I_{23} \lambda_{13} = 0$$

$$m=3 \quad I_{31} \lambda_{11} + I_{32} \lambda_{12} + (I_{33} - I_1) \lambda_{13} = 0$$

and similarly for $j=2,3$. In total, we have 9 equations for the 9 unknowns

λ_{ij} .

For each j , the Eq. 11.72b has the form

$$M_j \vec{\lambda}_j = 0$$

For a nontrivial solution to exist for $\vec{\lambda}_j$ we require

$$\det(M_j) = 0$$

or $\det |I_{me} - I \delta_{me}| = 0$

This is cubic equation for I , whose roots are the PAI. I_1, I_2, I_3 .

8. Euler angles

Armed with the above results, we now begin our assault on the dynamics of RB in full 3D. As we recall, a RB has 6 d.o.f. - 3 translational, and 3 rotational. We can always transform the translational d.o.f. away, leaving the 3 rotational. For these we need to define 3 angles to be our dynamical coordinates. How to define?

Answer: Eulerian angles (ϕ, θ, ψ) .

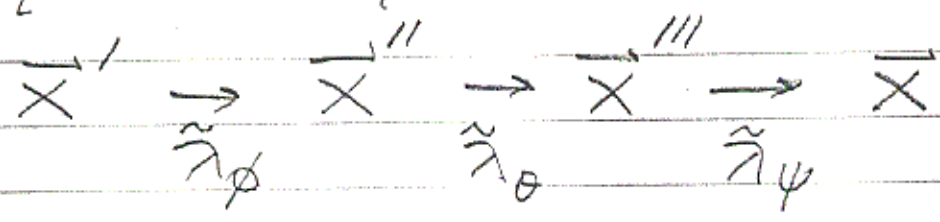
Let \vec{X}' be a CS with fixed orientation attached to the body

Let \vec{X} be a CS which rotates with the body

In general, we know a rotation matrix $\tilde{\lambda}_{3D}$ exists s.t.

$$\vec{X} = \tilde{\lambda}_{3D} \vec{X}'$$

The Eulerian angles are generated by a series of 3 1D rotations, which take X'_i to X_i



$\tilde{\lambda}_\phi, \tilde{\lambda}_\theta, \tilde{\lambda}_\psi$ are each rotation matrices with a simple rotation about ϕ, θ, ψ (See Fig 11-9)

Step 1 $\vec{X}'' = \tilde{\lambda}_\phi \vec{X}'$, $\tilde{\lambda}_\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\phi & \sin\phi & 0 \\ -\sin\phi & \cos\phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Step 2 $\vec{X}''' = \tilde{\lambda}_\theta \vec{X}''$, $\tilde{\lambda}_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ 0 & -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$

step 3 $\vec{x} = \tilde{\lambda}_\psi \vec{x}''', \tilde{\lambda}_\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi & \sin \psi & 0 \\ -\sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Putting all this together

$$\vec{x} = \tilde{\lambda}_\psi \tilde{\lambda}_\theta \tilde{\lambda}_\phi \vec{x}'$$

$\therefore \tilde{\lambda}_{3D} = \tilde{\lambda}_\psi \tilde{\lambda}_\theta \tilde{\lambda}_\phi$

The components of $\tilde{\lambda}_{3D} = \{ \lambda_{ij} \}$ are obtained by matrix multiplication, and are given in Eg. 11.99.

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Kinematics of a RB

As a RB tumbles in space, its Euler angles are continuously changing. We can define Eulerian angular velocities, as

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \omega_\phi &= \dot{\phi} \\ \omega_\theta &= \dot{\theta} \\ \omega_\psi &= \dot{\psi} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

simple enough!

Unfortunately, these angular velocities are not what we want, because they are w.r.t. a mixture of fixed and body CS axes:

$\dot{\phi}$ along X_3' axis (fixed)

$\dot{\theta}$ along line of nodes

$\dot{\psi}$ along X_3 axis (body)

We want angular velocities w.r.t. to body CS axes. These are obtained by projecting out components of $\dot{\phi}$, $\dot{\theta}$, $\dot{\psi}$ onto \hat{X}_1 , \hat{X}_2 , \hat{X}_3

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{\phi}_1 &= \dot{\phi} \cdot \hat{X}_1 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \sin \psi \\ \dot{\phi}_2 &= \dot{\phi} \cdot \hat{X}_2 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \cos \psi \\ \dot{\phi}_3 &= \dot{\phi} \cdot \hat{X}_3 = \dot{\phi} \cos \theta \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{\theta}_1 &= \dot{\theta} \cdot \hat{X}_1 = \dot{\theta} \cos \psi \\ \dot{\theta}_2 &= \dot{\theta} \cdot \hat{X}_2 = -\dot{\theta} \sin \psi \\ \dot{\theta}_3 &= \dot{\theta} \cdot \hat{X}_3 = 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{\psi}_1 &= \dot{\psi} \cdot \hat{X}_1 = 0 \\ \dot{\psi}_2 &= \dot{\psi} \cdot \hat{X}_2 = 0 \\ \dot{\psi}_3 &= \dot{\psi} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Collecting the components of $\vec{\omega}$, we have (finally)

$$\omega_1 = \dot{\phi}_1 + \dot{\theta}_1 + \dot{\psi}_1 = \dot{\phi} \sin\theta \sin\psi + \dot{\theta} \cos\psi$$

$$\omega_2 = \dot{\phi}_2 + \dot{\theta}_2 + \dot{\psi}_2 = \dot{\phi} \sin\theta \cos\psi - \dot{\theta} \sin\psi$$

$$\omega_3 = \dot{\phi}_3 + \dot{\theta}_3 + \dot{\psi}_3 = \dot{\phi} \cos\theta + \dot{\psi}$$

Using the above, we can relate the Eulerian angles and angular velocity magnitudes $(\dot{\phi}, \dot{\theta}, \dot{\psi})$ to angular velocity in the BCS. We need this because, when we do dynamics, we will be working with \vec{L} and T in BCS:

$$L_i = I_i \omega_i$$

$$T_{\text{rot}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i I_i \omega_i^2$$

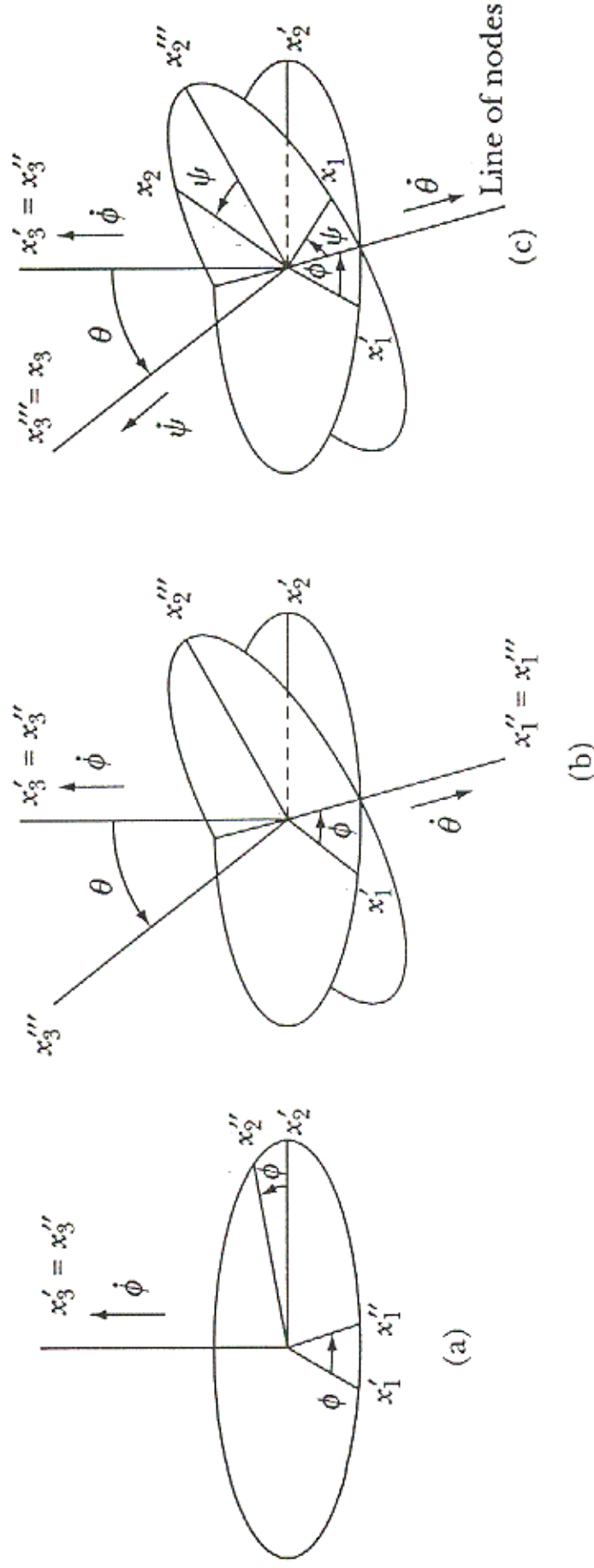


FIGURE 11-9 The Eulerian angles are used to rotate from the x_i' system to the x_i system. (a) First rotation is counterclockwise through an angle ϕ about the x_3' -axis. (b) Second rotation is counterclockwise through an angle θ about the x_1'' -axis. (c) Third rotation is counterclockwise through an angle ψ about the x_3''' -axis.

choices for these angles; we find it convenient to use the **Eulerian angles*** ϕ , θ , and ψ .

The Eulerian angles are generated in the following series of rotations, which takes the x_i' system into the x_i system.[†]

$$\mathbf{x} = \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\psi \mathbf{x}''' \quad (11.9)$$

line common to the planes containing the x_1 - and x_2 -axes and the x_3 -axis is called the **line of nodes**. The complete transformation from the x_i system to the x_i' system is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\psi \mathbf{x}''' = \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\psi \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\theta \mathbf{x}'' \\ &= \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\psi \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\theta \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\phi \mathbf{x}' \end{aligned} \quad (11.9)$$

Transformation matrix $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ is

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\psi \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\theta \boldsymbol{\lambda}_\phi \quad (11.9)$$

Components of this matrix are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \lambda_{11} &= \cos \psi \cos \phi - \cos \theta \sin \phi \sin \psi \\ \lambda_{21} &= -\sin \psi \cos \phi - \cos \theta \sin \phi \cos \psi \\ \lambda_{31} &= \sin \theta \sin \phi \\ \lambda_{12} &= \cos \psi \sin \phi + \cos \theta \cos \phi \sin \psi \\ \lambda_{22} &= -\sin \psi \sin \phi + \cos \theta \cos \phi \cos \psi \\ \lambda_{32} &= -\sin \theta \cos \phi \\ \lambda_{13} &= \sin \psi \sin \theta \\ \lambda_{23} &= \cos \psi \sin \theta \\ \lambda_{33} &= \cos \theta \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (11.9)$$

Components λ_{ij} are offset in the preceding equation to assist in the visualization of the complete $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ matrix.)

Since we can associate a vector with an infinitesimal rotation, we can associate the time derivatives of these rotation angles with the components of the angular velocity vector $\boldsymbol{\omega}$. Thus,

$$\boldsymbol{\omega}_\phi = \dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \quad \left. \vphantom{\boldsymbol{\omega}_\phi} \right\}$$