

# Lect 7 Euler angles, spinning top

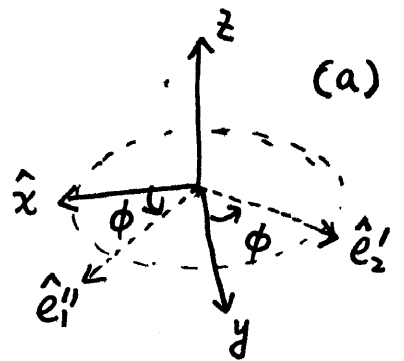
We first define a set of convenient coordinate  $(\phi, \theta, \psi)$  to describe rotation. as the following steps a) b), c)

a) Starting from aligning body axes and space axes together, rotate around  $\hat{z}$  at the angle of  $\phi$ . the body axis

fram S:  $(\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z}) \longrightarrow (\hat{e}_1'', \hat{e}_2', \hat{z})$

} frame B(a)

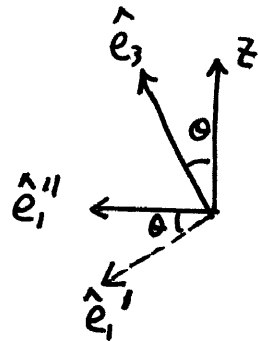
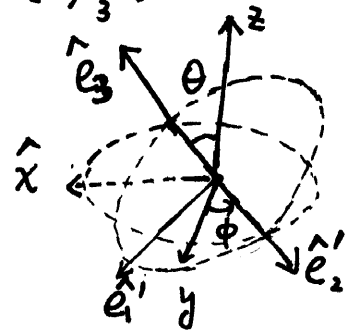
$$\left. \begin{aligned} \hat{e}_1'' &= \cos\phi \hat{x} + \sin\phi \hat{y} \\ \hat{e}_2' &= -\sin\phi \hat{x} + \cos\phi \hat{y} \end{aligned} \right\}$$



b) around  $\hat{e}_2'$ , rotate  $\theta$  angle. Then the body axis

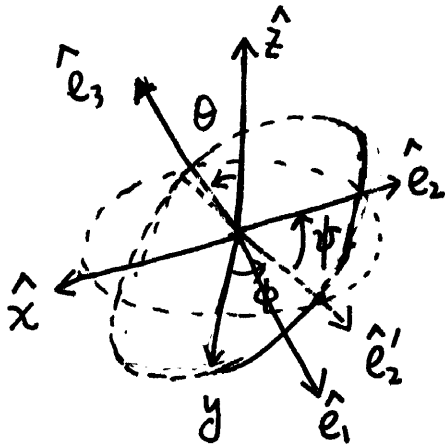
from B(a)  $(\hat{e}_1'', \hat{e}_2', \hat{z}) \longrightarrow B(b): [\hat{e}_1', \hat{e}_2', \hat{e}_3']$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \hat{e}_3 &= \cos\theta \hat{z} + \sin\theta \hat{e}_1'' \\ &= \cos\theta \hat{z} + \sin\theta \cos\phi \hat{x} + \sin\theta \sin\phi \hat{y} \\ \hat{e}_1' &= -\sin\theta \hat{z} + \cos\theta \hat{e}_1'' \end{aligned} \right\}$$

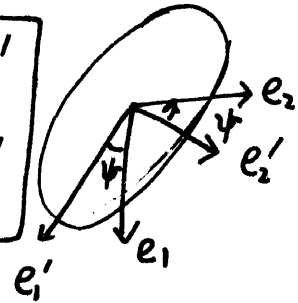


c) Around  $\hat{e}_3$ , rotate  $\psi$  angle, then the body axis

$$B(b) [\hat{e}'_1, \hat{e}'_2, \hat{e}_3] \longrightarrow B(c) [\hat{e}_1, \hat{e}_2, \hat{e}_3]$$



$$\begin{aligned} \hat{e}_1 &= \cos\psi \hat{e}'_1 + \sin\psi \hat{e}'_2 \\ \hat{e}_2 &= -\sin\psi \hat{e}'_1 + \cos\psi \hat{e}'_2 \end{aligned}$$



Now let  $\phi, \theta, \psi$  change with time.  $\dot{\psi} \hat{e}_3, \dot{\theta} \hat{e}'_2, \dot{\phi} \hat{z}$  describes the relative angular velocities of frames

$$B(c) \rightarrow B(b) \rightarrow B(a) \rightarrow S.$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\omega} = \dot{\psi} \hat{e}_3 + \dot{\theta} \hat{e}'_2 + \dot{\phi} \hat{z}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi \ \& \ \psi \ \text{take } (0, 2\pi) \\ \theta \ \text{takes } (0, \pi) \end{aligned}$$

using the above transformation  $\Rightarrow$

$$\hat{e}'_2 = \cos\psi \hat{e}_2 + \sin\psi \hat{e}_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{z} &= \cos\theta \hat{e}_3 - \sin\theta \hat{e}'_1 = \cos\theta \hat{e}_3 - \sin\theta [\cos\psi \hat{e}_1 - \sin\psi \hat{e}_2] \\ &= -\sin\theta \cos\psi \hat{e}_1 + \sin\theta \sin\psi \hat{e}_2 + \cos\theta \hat{e}_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \vec{\omega} &= (-\dot{\phi} \sin\theta \cos\psi + \dot{\theta} \sin\psi) \hat{e}_1 + [\dot{\phi} \sin\theta \sin\psi + \dot{\theta} \cos\psi] \hat{e}_2 \\ &+ (\dot{\phi} \cos\theta + \dot{\psi}) \hat{e}_3 \end{aligned}$$

Let us also find the transformation between  $e_i$  &  $x y z$

(3)

$$\hat{e}_3 = \sin\theta \cos\phi \hat{x} + \sin\theta \sin\phi \hat{y} + \cos\theta \hat{z}$$

$$\hat{e}_2 = -\sin\psi \hat{e}'_1 + \cos\psi \hat{e}'_2$$

$$= -\sin\psi (-\sin\theta \hat{z} + \cos\theta \hat{e}'_1) + \cos\psi (-\sin\phi \hat{x} + \cos\phi \hat{y})$$

$$= -\sin\psi (-\sin\theta \hat{z} + \cos\theta \cos\phi \hat{x} + \cos\theta \sin\phi \hat{y}) + \cos\psi (-\sin\phi \hat{x} + \cos\phi \hat{y})$$

$$= (-\sin\psi \cos\theta \cos\phi - \cos\psi \sin\phi) \hat{x} + (-\sin\psi \cos\theta \sin\phi + \cos\psi \cos\phi) \hat{y} + \sin\psi \sin\theta \hat{z}$$

$$\hat{e}_1 = \cos\psi \hat{e}'_1 + \sin\psi \hat{e}'_2$$

$$= \cos\psi (-\sin\theta \hat{z} + \cos\theta \cos\phi \hat{x} + \cos\theta \sin\phi \hat{y}) + \sin\psi (-\sin\phi \hat{x} + \cos\phi \hat{y})$$

$$= [\cos\psi \cos\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi \sin\phi] \hat{x} + [\cos\psi \cos\theta \sin\phi + \sin\psi \cos\phi] \hat{y}$$

$$- \cos\psi \sin\theta \hat{z}$$

$$(e_1 e_2 e_3) = (x y z) \begin{bmatrix} \cos\psi \cos\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi \sin\phi, & -\sin\psi \cos\theta \cos\phi - \cos\psi \sin\phi, & \sin\theta \cos\phi \\ \cos\psi \cos\theta \sin\phi + \sin\psi \cos\phi, & -\sin\psi \cos\theta \sin\phi + \cos\psi \cos\phi, & \sin\theta \sin\phi \\ -\cos\psi \sin\theta, & \sin\psi \sin\theta, & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Let us also find the transformation between  $e_i$  &  $x y z$

(3)

$$\hat{e}_3 = \sin\theta \cos\phi \hat{x} + \sin\theta \sin\phi \hat{y} + \cos\theta \hat{z}$$

$$\hat{e}_2 = -\sin\psi \hat{e}'_1 + \cos\psi \hat{e}'_2$$

$$= -\sin\psi (-\sin\theta \hat{z} + \cos\theta \hat{e}''_1) + \cos\psi (-\sin\phi \hat{x} + \cos\phi \hat{y})$$

$$= -\sin\psi (-\sin\theta \hat{z} + \cos\theta \cos\phi \hat{x} + \cos\theta \sin\phi \hat{y}) + \cos\psi (-\sin\phi \hat{x} + \cos\phi \hat{y})$$

$$= (-\sin\psi \cos\theta \cos\phi - \cos\psi \sin\phi) \hat{x} + (-\sin\psi \cos\theta \sin\phi + \cos\psi \cos\phi) \hat{y} + \sin\psi \sin\theta \hat{z}$$

$$\hat{e}_1 = \cos\psi \hat{e}'_1 + \sin\psi \hat{e}'_2$$

$$= \cos\psi (-\sin\theta \hat{z} + \cos\theta \cos\phi \hat{x} + \cos\theta \sin\phi \hat{y}) + \sin\psi (-\sin\phi \hat{x} + \cos\phi \hat{y})$$

$$= [\cos\psi \cos\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi \sin\phi] \hat{x} + [\cos\psi \cos\theta \sin\phi + \sin\psi \cos\phi] \hat{y} - \cos\psi \sin\theta \hat{z}$$

$$(e_1 e_2 e_3) = (x y z) \begin{bmatrix} \cos\psi \cos\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi \sin\phi, & -\sin\psi \cos\theta \cos\phi - \cos\psi \sin\phi, & \sin\theta \cos\phi \\ \cos\psi \cos\theta \sin\phi + \sin\psi \cos\phi, & -\sin\psi \cos\theta \sin\phi + \cos\psi \cos\phi, & \sin\theta \sin\phi \\ -\cos\psi \sin\theta, & \sin\psi \sin\theta, & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

(4)

$$\vec{I} = \lambda_1 \omega_1 \hat{e}_1 + \lambda_2 \omega_2 \hat{e}_2 + \lambda_3 \omega_3 \hat{e}_3$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1 \omega_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_2 \omega_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_3 \omega_3^2 \xrightarrow{\text{symmetric}} \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{\lambda}{2} [\dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta + \dot{\theta}^2] + \frac{\lambda}{2} (\dot{\phi} \omega_s \theta + \dot{\psi})^2$$

$$\omega_1 = -\dot{\phi} \sin \theta \omega_s \psi + \dot{\theta} \sin \psi$$

$$\omega_2 = \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \sin \psi + \dot{\theta} \omega_s \psi$$

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

We can also express  $\vec{\omega}$  in terms of  $\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z}$

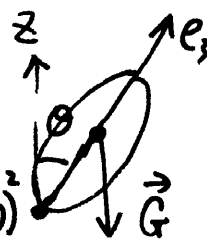
$$\dot{\phi} \hat{z}, \quad \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_2' = -[\dot{\theta} \sin \phi \hat{x} + \omega_s \phi \hat{y}]$$

$$\dot{\psi} \hat{e}_3 = \dot{\psi} \omega_s \theta \hat{z} + \dot{\psi} \sin \theta \omega_s \phi \hat{x} + \dot{\psi} \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{y}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\omega} = (-\dot{\theta} \sin \phi + \dot{\psi} \sin \theta \omega_s \phi) \hat{x} \\ + (\dot{\theta} \cos \phi + \dot{\psi} \sin \theta \sin \phi) \hat{y} \\ + \dot{\psi} \omega_s \theta \hat{z}$$

(5)

§ Lagrange's equation



$$\mathcal{L} = T - U = \frac{1}{2} \lambda (\dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta + \dot{\theta}^2) + \frac{\lambda_3}{2} (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \omega \sin \theta)^2 - M g R \omega \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}} \right) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial q} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\phi}} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\psi}} \right) = 0$$

$$P_{\phi} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\phi}} = \lambda \dot{\phi} \sin^2 \theta + \lambda_3 (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \omega \sin \theta) \omega \sin \theta = \omega \sin \theta$$

$$\text{we have } \mathcal{L}_z = \vec{L} \cdot \hat{z} = \lambda \omega_1 (-\omega \sin \psi \sin \theta) + \lambda \omega_2 \sin \psi \sin \theta + \lambda_3 \omega_3 \omega \sin \theta$$

$$= \left[ (-\dot{\phi} \sin \theta \omega \sin \psi + \dot{\theta} \sin \psi \omega \sin \theta) + (\dot{\phi} \sin \theta \sin \psi + \dot{\theta} \omega \sin \psi) \sin \psi \right] \lambda \sin \theta$$

$$+ \lambda_3 (\dot{\phi} \omega \sin \theta + \dot{\psi}) \omega \sin \theta$$

$$= [\lambda \dot{\phi} \sin^2 \theta] + \mathcal{L}_3 \omega \sin \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{P_{\phi} = \mathcal{L}_z = \omega \sin \theta \leftarrow \lambda_3 \omega_3}$$

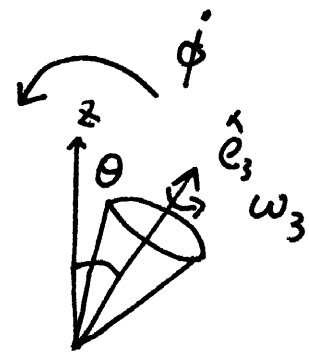
$$\boxed{P_{\psi} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\psi}} = \lambda_3 (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \omega \sin \theta) = \omega \sin \theta \mathcal{L}_3 = \omega \sin \theta}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\theta}} \right) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta} \Rightarrow$$

$$\lambda \ddot{\theta} = \lambda \dot{\phi}^2 \sin\theta \cos\theta - \underbrace{\lambda_3 (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos\theta)}_{L_3 = \lambda_3 \omega_3} \dot{\phi} \sin\theta + M_g R \sin\theta$$

{ Steady precession

if we fix  $\theta = \text{const.}$



From  $L_z = \lambda \dot{\phi} \sin^2\theta + L_3 \omega_3$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\phi} = \frac{L_z - L_3 \omega_3}{\lambda \sin^2\theta} = \Omega \leftarrow \text{const}$$

From  $L_3 = \lambda_3 (\dot{\psi} + \dot{\phi} \cos\theta) = \text{const} \Rightarrow \dot{\psi}$  is also const

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \Omega^2 \cos\theta - \lambda_3 \omega_3 \Omega + M_g R = 0$$

2 real roots at  $\lambda_3^2 \omega_3^2 \geq 4 \lambda M_g R \cos\theta$ .

If  $\omega_3$  is large  $\gg \Omega \Rightarrow \Omega_1 \approx \frac{M_g R}{\lambda_3 \omega_3}$  ← precess mode due to gravity

$$\Omega_2 \approx \frac{M_g R}{\lambda \cos\theta} \cdot \frac{\lambda_3 \omega_3}{M_g R} \approx \frac{\lambda_3 \omega_3}{\lambda_1 \cos\theta} = \Omega_s$$

fast mode of free precession

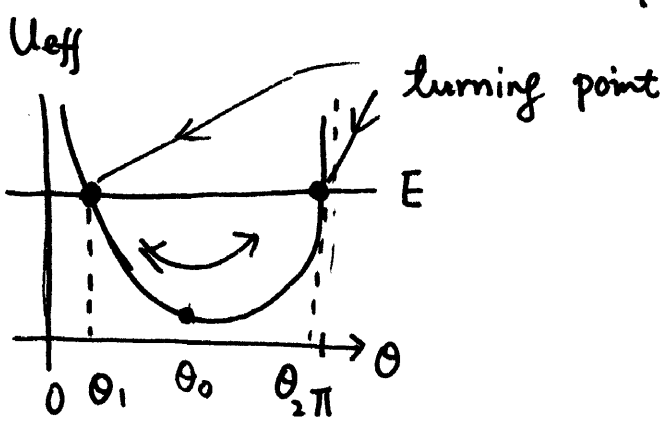
**Nutation:** we consider if  $\theta$  varies, how to consider the motion of a top.

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \lambda \left[ \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta + (\dot{\theta})^2 \right] + \frac{L_3^2}{2\lambda_3}$$

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{L_2 - L_3 \omega \sin \theta}{\lambda \sin^2 \theta} \Rightarrow \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta = \frac{(L_2 - L_3 \omega \sin \theta)^2}{\lambda \sin^2 \theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow E = T + M_g R \omega \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1 \dot{\theta}^2 + \frac{(L_2 - L_3 \omega \sin \theta)^2}{2\lambda \sin^2 \theta} + \frac{L_3^2}{2\lambda_3}$$

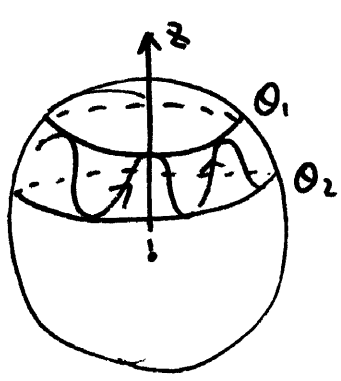
$$+ M_g R \omega \sin \theta$$



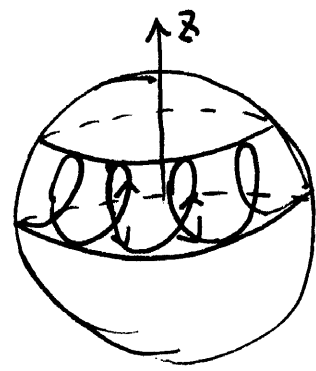
$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{L_2 - L_3 \omega \sin \theta}{\lambda \sin^2 \theta}$$

a) if  $|L_2| > |L_3| \Rightarrow \dot{\phi} \neq 0$ , top precess in a the same direction

b) if  $L_2 < L_3 \Rightarrow \dot{\phi} = 0$  at  $\omega \sin \theta_0 = \frac{L_2}{L_3}$ . if  $\theta_0$  is between  $\theta_1$  &  $\theta_2$



(a)



(b)

$\Rightarrow \dot{\phi}$  change sign twice in each oscillation between  $\theta_1$  &  $\theta_2$ .