

Lect 4 Rigid body (I) fixed axis rotation

{ What's rigid body?



The distance r between any two points is a constant during motion, i.e. no shape deformation.

No elasticity!

how many continuous degrees of freedom: 3 translational } = 6.
3 rotational }

We can check

N	# degrees of freedom
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1	3
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2	$2 \times 3 - 1 = 5$
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3	$3 \times 3 - 3 = 6$
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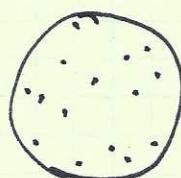
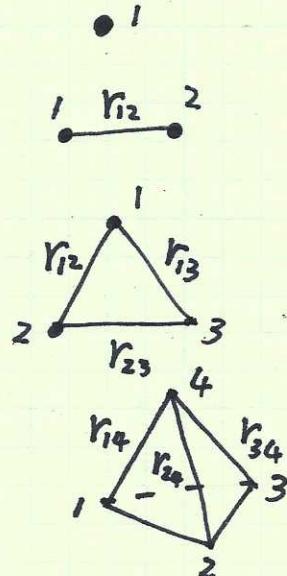
4 no extra continuous degrees
of freedom, remain 6.

(please prove).

5	6
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⋮	⋮
---	---

N	6
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{ center of mass: (CM) → not necessarily rigid body
 A collection of particles $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, N$ with masses m_α , and location \vec{r}_α . Define their center of mass

$$\vec{R} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N m_\alpha \vec{r}_\alpha,$$

where $M = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N m_\alpha$.

- then total linear momentum

and

$$\vec{F}^{\text{ext}} = M \ddot{\vec{R}}$$

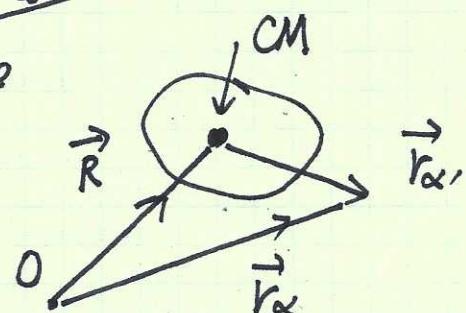
(internal forces cancel due to Newton's third law).



not true for charged particles.

- total angular momentum

$$\vec{r}_\alpha = \vec{R} + \vec{r}'_\alpha \quad \begin{matrix} \text{coordinate} \\ \text{respect to} \\ \text{the} \\ \text{CM} \end{matrix}$$



$$\vec{l}_\alpha = \vec{r}_\alpha \times \vec{p}_\alpha = \vec{R} \times \vec{p}_\alpha + \vec{r}'_\alpha \times \vec{p}_\alpha$$

$$\vec{l}_{\text{tot}} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{l}_\alpha = \vec{R} \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{p}_\alpha + \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{r}'_\alpha \times m_\alpha \dot{\vec{r}}_\alpha$$

$$= \vec{R} \times \vec{p}_{\text{tot}} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{r}'_\alpha \times m_\alpha (\dot{\vec{r}}'_\alpha + \dot{\vec{R}})$$

$$= \vec{R} \times \vec{p}_{\text{tot}} + \underbrace{\sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{r}'_\alpha \times m_\alpha \dot{\vec{r}}'_\alpha}_{\vec{L}_{\text{orbit}}} + \underbrace{\left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^N m_\alpha \vec{r}'_\alpha \right)}_{\vec{L}_{\text{spin}}} \times \dot{\vec{R}}$$

↑

\vec{L}_{orbit}

internal angular momentum with respect to CM \vec{L}_{spin}

↑
0

(please prove it!)

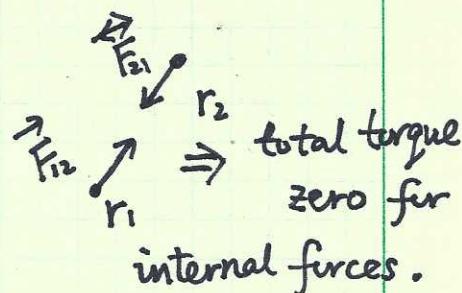
$$\dot{\vec{L}}_{\text{orbit}} = \underbrace{\vec{R} \times \vec{P}}_0 + \vec{R} \times \dot{\vec{P}} = \vec{R} \times \vec{F}_{\text{ext}}$$

$$\dot{\vec{L}}_{\text{tot}} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{r}_\alpha \times \vec{F}_{\alpha}^{\text{ext}} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N (\vec{r}'_\alpha + \vec{R}) \times \vec{F}_\alpha^{\text{ext}}$$

$$= \dot{\vec{L}}_{\text{orbit}} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{r}'_\alpha \times \vec{F}_\alpha^{\text{ext}}$$

Contributions from internal forces

vanish due to Newton 3rd law. (why?)



$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\dot{\vec{L}}_{\text{spin}} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{r}'_\alpha \times \vec{F}_\alpha^{\text{ext}}} \quad \text{torque respect to CM.}$$

QM: electron also has orbital angular momentum + spin.

angular momentum quanta $\frac{\hbar}{2}$.

§ Kinetic energy (KE)

$$T = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \frac{1}{2} m_\alpha \dot{\vec{r}}_\alpha^2 = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \frac{1}{2} m_\alpha (\dot{\vec{R}}^2 + 2\dot{\vec{R}} \cdot \dot{\vec{r}}'_\alpha + \dot{\vec{r}}'^2_\alpha)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^N m_\alpha \right) \dot{\vec{R}}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N m_\alpha \dot{\vec{r}}'^2_\alpha + \left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^N m_\alpha \dot{\vec{r}}'_\alpha \right) \cdot \dot{\vec{R}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{T = \frac{1}{2} M \dot{\vec{R}}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N m_\alpha \dot{\vec{r}}'^2_\alpha}$$

// 0, please prove.

Center of mass KE

internal KE

This decomposition is also valid when \vec{R} is not the center of mass if $\dot{\vec{R}} = 0$ (even instantly)

$$\dot{\vec{R}} = 0 \Rightarrow T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N m \dot{r}_{\alpha}^2 \quad \text{useful for describing rolling, and fixed point rotation.}$$

§ potential energy

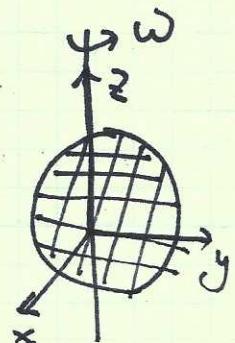
$$U = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{sum of all potential energy of every particle}}}{U^{\text{ext}}} + U^{\text{int}} \leftarrow \text{const for a rigid body}$$

§ laws of rotation around a fixed axis

$$\vec{L} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{l}_{\alpha} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \vec{r}_{\alpha} \times m_{\alpha} \vec{v}_{\alpha}$$

$$\vec{v}_{\alpha} = \vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}_{\alpha} \quad \text{where} \quad \vec{\omega} = (0, 0, \omega) \\ \vec{r}_{\alpha} = (x_{\alpha}, y_{\alpha}, z_{\alpha})$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{r}_{\alpha} \times \vec{v}_{\alpha} = \vec{r}_{\alpha} \times (\vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}_{\alpha}) = \vec{\omega} r_{\alpha}^2 - \vec{r}_{\alpha} (\vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{r}_{\alpha}) \\ = (0, 0, \omega(x_{\alpha}^2 + y_{\alpha}^2 + z_{\alpha}^2)) - \omega z_{\alpha} (x_{\alpha}, y_{\alpha}, z_{\alpha}) \\ = \omega (-z_{\alpha} x_{\alpha}, -z_{\alpha} y_{\alpha}, x_{\alpha}^2 + y_{\alpha}^2)$$



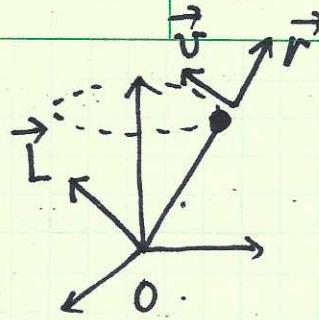
$$L_z = \sum \ell_{\alpha, z} = \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha} (x_{\alpha}^2 + y_{\alpha}^2) \cdot \omega = I_z \omega$$

$$\text{where } I_z = \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha} (x_{\alpha}^2 + y_{\alpha}^2) \rightarrow \int dx dy dz \rho (x^2 + y^2) \text{ for continuum}$$

$$L_x = - \left(\sum m_{\alpha} x_{\alpha} z_{\alpha} \right) \omega \neq 0, L_y = - \left(\sum m_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} z_{\alpha} \right) \omega \neq 0.$$

Generally speaking. $\vec{L} \neq \vec{\omega}$

a simple example.



(5)

§ Kinetic energy

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha} v_{\alpha}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha} \omega^2 (x_{\alpha}^2 + y_{\alpha}^2) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2} I_z \omega^2 = T}$$

$$\vec{v}_{\alpha} = \vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}_{\alpha} = -\omega(y_{\alpha}, x_{\alpha}, 0)$$

§ Example: precession of a top due to a weak torque

the top is symmetric around its axis \hat{e}_3 , and its spinning fast around \hat{e}_3 . And in this case

$$\vec{L} \approx I_3 \vec{\omega} \text{ if we neglect}$$

the slow precession described below.

$$\text{The gravity has a torque } \vec{R} \times M\vec{g} \approx \frac{d\vec{L}}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{L}_{||}}{dt}$$

$$\Rightarrow R Mg \sin\theta = I_3 \omega \sin\theta \sqrt{2}$$

$\sqrt{2}$ is along \hat{z} , $d\vec{L}$ is into the page

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{\Omega} = \frac{RM}{I_3 \omega} g \hat{z}}$$

