

**PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and  
Mathematical Methods  
10-10:50 AM MWF Olin 103**

**Plan for Lecture 24:**

**Rigid body rotational motion (Chap. 5)**

- 1. Torque free**
- 2. Euler angles**
- 3. Motion of a symmetric top**

## Course schedule

(Preliminary schedule -- subject to frequent adjustment.)

	Date	F&W Reading	Topic	Assignment
1	Wed, 8/29/2012	Chap. 1	Review of basic principles; Scattering theory	<a href="#">#1</a>
2	Fri, 8/31/2012	Chap. 1	Scattering theory continued	<a href="#">#2</a>
3	Mon, 9/03/2012	Chap. 1	Scattering theory continued	<a href="#">#3</a>
4	Wed, 9/05/2012	Chap. 1 & 2	Scattering theory/Accelerated coordinate frame	<a href="#">#4</a>
5	Fri, 9/07/2012	Chap. 2	Accelerated coordinate frame	<a href="#">#5</a>
6	Mon, 9/10/2012	Chap. 3	Calculus of Variation	<a href="#">#6</a>
7	Wed, 9/12/2012	Chap. 3	Calculus of Variation continued	
8	Fri, 9/14/2012	Chap. 3	Lagrangian	<a href="#">#7</a>
9	Mon, 9/17/2012	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian	<a href="#">#8</a>
10	Wed, 9/19/2012	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian	<a href="#">#9</a>
11	Fri, 9/21/2012	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian	<a href="#">#10</a>
12	Mon, 9/24/2012	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian and Hamiltonian	<a href="#">#11</a>
13	Wed, 9/26/2012	Chap. 6	Lagrangian and Hamiltonian	<a href="#">#12</a>
14	Fri, 9/28/2012	Chap. 6	Lagrangian and Hamiltonian	<a href="#">#13</a>
15	Mon, 10/01/2012	Chap. 4	Small oscillations	<a href="#">#14</a>
16	Wed, 10/03/2012	Chap. 4	Small oscillations	<a href="#">#15</a>
17	Fri, 10/05/2012	Chap. 4	Small oscillations	
18	Mon, 10/08/2012	Chap. 7	Wave equation	Take Home Exam
19	Wed, 10/10/2012	Chap. 7	Wave equation	Take Home Exam
20	Fri, 10/12/2012	Chap. 7	Wave equation	Take Home Exam
21	Mon, 10/15/2012	Chap. 7	Wave equation	Exam due
22	Wed, 10/17/2012	Chap. 7, 5	Moment of inertia	
	Fri, 10/19/2012		Fall break	
23	Mon, 10/22/2012	Chap. 5	Rigid body rotation	<a href="#">#16</a>
24	Wed, 10/24/2012	Chap. 5	Rigid body rotation	<a href="#">#17</a>





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## News



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Proteopedia from JBSD](#)

## Events

Wed Oct 24, 2012

[Prof. Pablo Laguna](#)

**Georgia Tech**

**Black Holes**

4:00 PM in Olin 101

Refreshments at 3:30 in  
Lobby

Wed Oct 31, 2012

[Dr. Paul Kent](#)

**ORNL**

**Lithium Ion Batteries**

4:00 PM in Olin 101

Refreshments at 3:30 in  
Lobby

Oct 29-30, 2012

[Stuttgart NanoDays](#)

**NanoCarbon Technology  
Conference**

## WFU Physics Colloquium

**TITLE:** Black holes and gravitational waves: The quest to show if Einstein was right

**SPEAKER:** [Professor Pablo Laguna](#) ,

*Center for Relativistic Astrophysics  
School of Physics  
Georgia Institute of Technology*

**TIME:** Wednesday October 24, 2012

**PLACE:** Room 101 Olin Physical Laboratory

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Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in the Olin Lounge. All interested persons are cordially invited to attend.

## Comment about Exam problem #1:

Consider a Rutherford scattering experiment analyzed in the center of mass frame of reference in which the ratio of the (repulsive) potential to the center-of-mass energy is described by a modified interaction of the form:

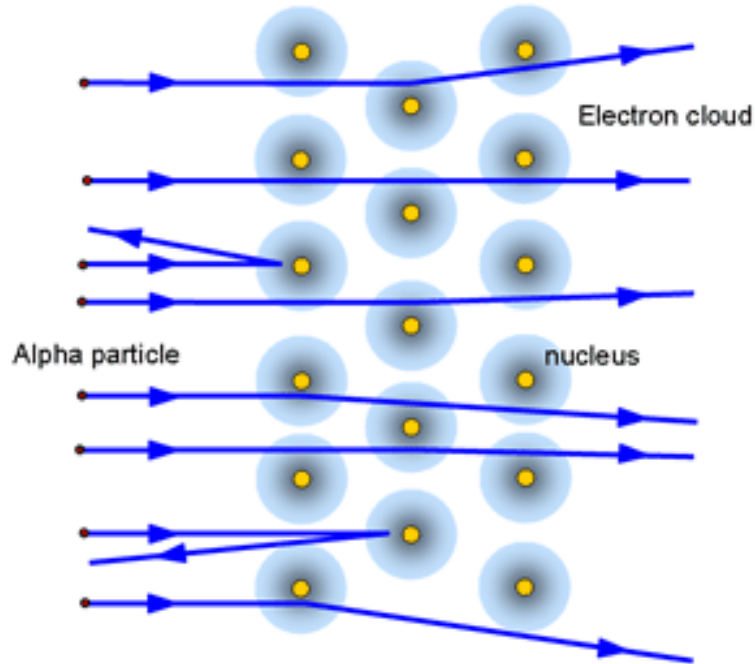
$$\frac{V(r)}{E} = \begin{cases} \frac{\kappa}{r} & \text{for } r < r_{\max} \\ 0 & \text{for } r > r_{\max}. \end{cases}$$

- Using the approach described in Problem 1.15 of your textbook, find an expression for  $\theta(b)$ , the scattering angle  $\theta$  as a function of the impact parameter  $b$ . (Simplify the expression, but you need not explicitly solve for  $b$ .)
- Show that in the limit  $r_{\max} \rightarrow \infty$ , your result is consistent with the Rutherford scattering result.
- For the modified interaction, assume that

$$\frac{\kappa}{r_{\max}} \gg \frac{b}{r_{\max}},$$

so that terms including  $(b/r_{\max})$  may be neglected. Find the form of the scattering cross section for this case and compare it with the pure Rutherford scattering cross section.

## Motivation for model:



Au target particles consist of Au nuclei which are screened by electrons.

[http://tap.iop.org/atoms/rutherford/img\\_full\\_47190.gif](http://tap.iop.org/atoms/rutherford/img_full_47190.gif)

Calculation of the scattering angle as a function of impact parameter  $b$  :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta(b) &= \pi - 2b \int_{r_{\min}}^{r_{\max}} dr \frac{1}{r\sqrt{r^2 - \kappa r - b^2}} - 2b \int_{r_{\max}}^{\infty} dr \frac{1}{r\sqrt{r^2 - b^2}} \\
 &= \pi - 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{-2b^2 - \kappa r}{2b\sqrt{r^2 - \kappa r - b^2}} \right) \Bigg|_{r_{\min}}^{r_{\max}} - 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{-2b^2}{2b\sqrt{r^2 - b^2}} \right) \Bigg|_{r_{\max}}^{\infty} \\
 &= 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2b^2 + \kappa r_{\max}}{2b\sqrt{r_{\max}^2 - \kappa r_{\max} - b^2}} \right) + 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2b^2}{2b\sqrt{r_{\max}^2 - b^2}} \right) \\
 &= 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{(b/r_{\max}) + (\kappa/2b)}{\sqrt{1 - (\kappa/r_{\max}) - (b/r_{\max})^2}} \right) + 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{(b/r_{\max})}{\sqrt{1 - (b/r_{\max})^2}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2} - \alpha\right) = \frac{(b/r_{\max}) + (\kappa/2b)}{\sqrt{1 - (\kappa/r_{\max}) - (b/r_{\max})^2}}$$

$$\tan^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2} - \alpha\right) = \frac{(b/r_{\max})^2 + (\kappa/r_{\max}) + (\kappa/2b)^2}{1 - (\kappa/r_{\max}) - (b/r_{\max})^2}$$

where  $\tan \alpha = \frac{(b/r_{\max})}{\sqrt{1 - (b/r_{\max})^2}}$



Back to rotational motion

Time rate of change of angular momentum

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} = \left( \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{L}$$

For (body fixed) coordinate system that diagonalizes moment of inertia tensor :

$$\vec{\mathbf{I}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i = I_i \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \quad \boldsymbol{\omega} = \tilde{\omega}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$

$$\mathbf{L} = I_1 \tilde{\omega}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + I_2 \tilde{\omega}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + I_3 \tilde{\omega}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} = & I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \\ & + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \end{aligned}$$

## Descriptions of rotation about a given origin -- continued

Note that the torque equation

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} = \left( \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} \right)_{body} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{L} = \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

is very difficult to solve directly in the body fixed frame.

For  $\boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$  we can solve the Euler equations :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} = & I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \\ & + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Euler equations for rotation in body fixed frame :

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) = 0$$

$$I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) = 0$$

$$I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) = 0$$

Solution for asymmetric top --  $I_3 \neq I_2 \neq I_1$  :

Suppose :  $\dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \approx 0$       Define :  $\Omega_1 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_2}{I_1}$

Define :  $\Omega_2 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_2}$

$$I_1 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \tilde{\omega}_3 (I_3 - I_2) = 0$$

$$I_2 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \tilde{\omega}_1 (I_1 - I_3) = 0$$

$$I_3 \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 + \tilde{\omega}_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 (I_2 - I_1) = 0$$

$$\dot{\tilde{\omega}}_3 \approx 0 \quad \text{Define: } \Omega_1 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_2}{I_1} \quad \Omega_2 \equiv \tilde{\omega}_3 \frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_2}$$

$$\dot{\tilde{\omega}}_1 = -\Omega_1 \tilde{\omega}_2 \quad \dot{\tilde{\omega}}_2 = \Omega_2 \tilde{\omega}_1$$

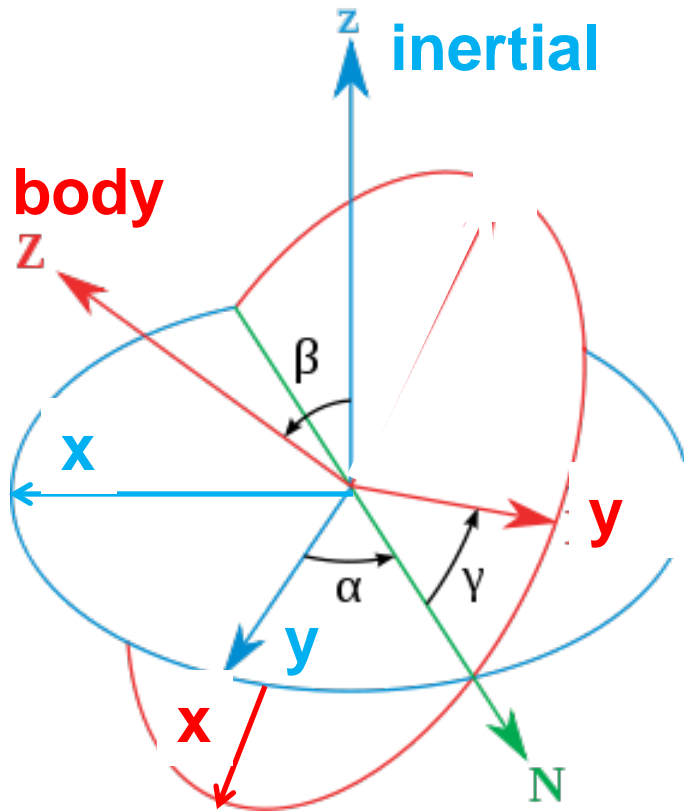
If  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  are both positive or both negative:

$$\tilde{\omega}_1(t) \approx A \cos(\sqrt{\Omega_1 \Omega_2} t + \varphi)$$

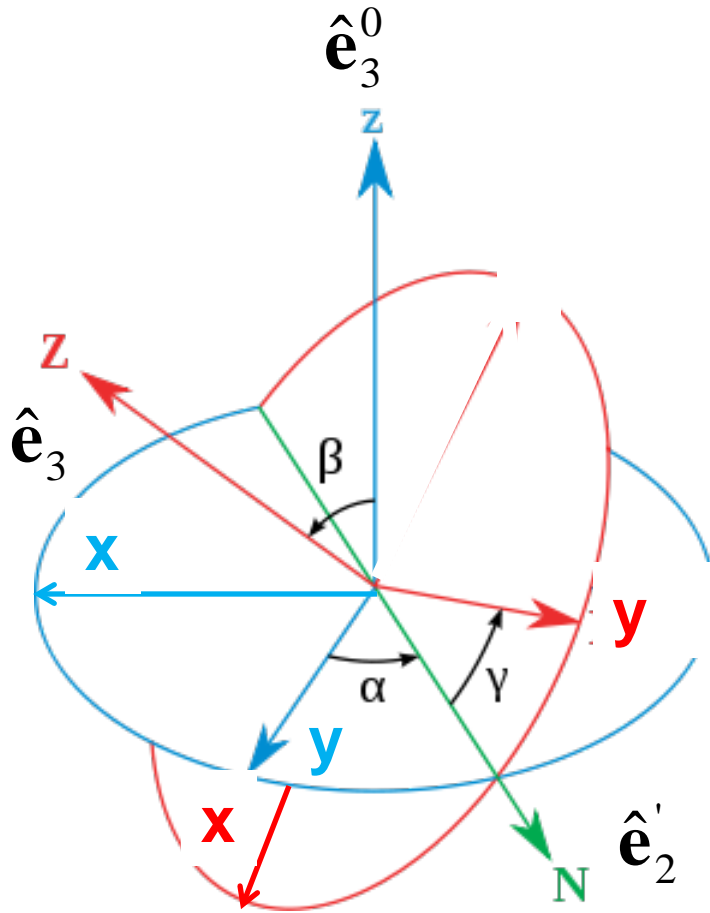
$$\tilde{\omega}_2(t) \approx A \sqrt{\frac{\Omega_2}{\Omega_1}} \sin(\sqrt{\Omega_1 \Omega_2} t + \varphi)$$

$\Rightarrow$  If  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  have opposite signs, solution is unstable.

# Transformation between body-fixed and inertial coordinate systems – Euler angles



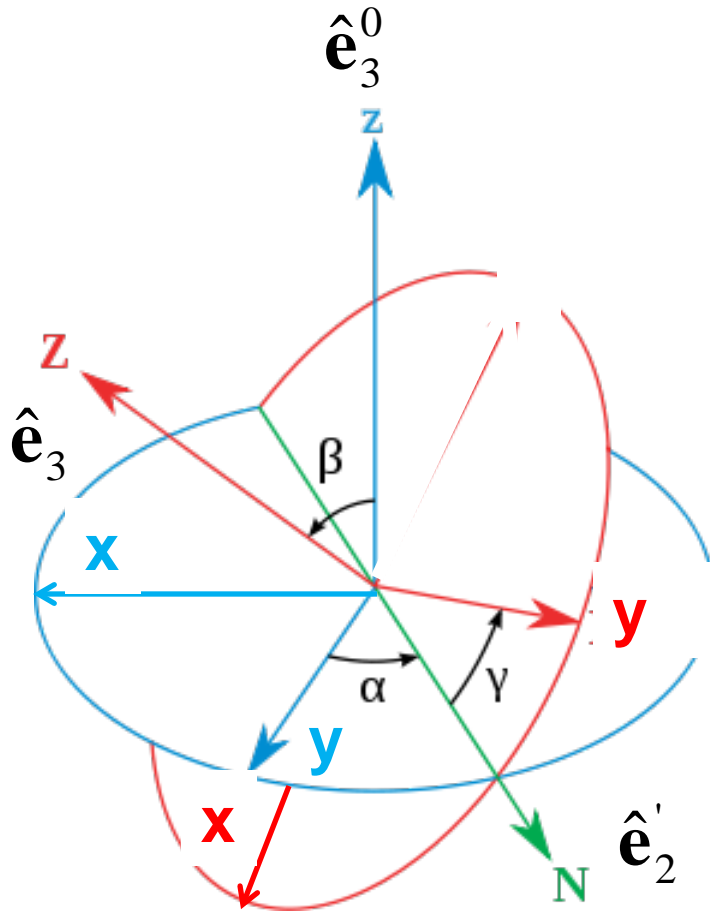
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euler\\_angles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euler_angles)



$$\tilde{\omega} = \dot{\alpha} \hat{e}_3^0 + \dot{\beta} \hat{e}_2^1 + \dot{\gamma} \hat{e}_3^2$$

Need to express all components in body-fixed frame:

$$\tilde{\omega} = \dot{\alpha} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^0 + \dot{\beta} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2' + \dot{\gamma} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$



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

Matrix representation :

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_2' = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \gamma & \sin \gamma & 0 \\ -\sin \gamma & \cos \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \gamma \\ \cos \gamma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \dot{\alpha} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^0 + \dot{\beta} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2' + \dot{\gamma} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3'$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^0 = -\sin \beta \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1' + \cos \beta \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3'$$

Matrix representation :

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^0 = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \gamma & \sin \gamma & 0 \\ -\sin \gamma & \cos \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \beta & 0 & -\sin \beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sin \beta & 0 & \cos \beta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \beta \cos \gamma \\ \sin \beta \sin \gamma \\ \cos \beta \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \dot{\alpha} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^0 + \dot{\beta} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2' + \dot{\gamma} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \dot{\alpha} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \beta \cos \gamma \\ \sin \beta \sin \gamma \\ \cos \beta \end{pmatrix} + \dot{\beta} \begin{pmatrix} \sin \gamma \\ \cos \gamma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \dot{\gamma} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \tilde{\omega}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + \tilde{\omega}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + \tilde{\omega}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$

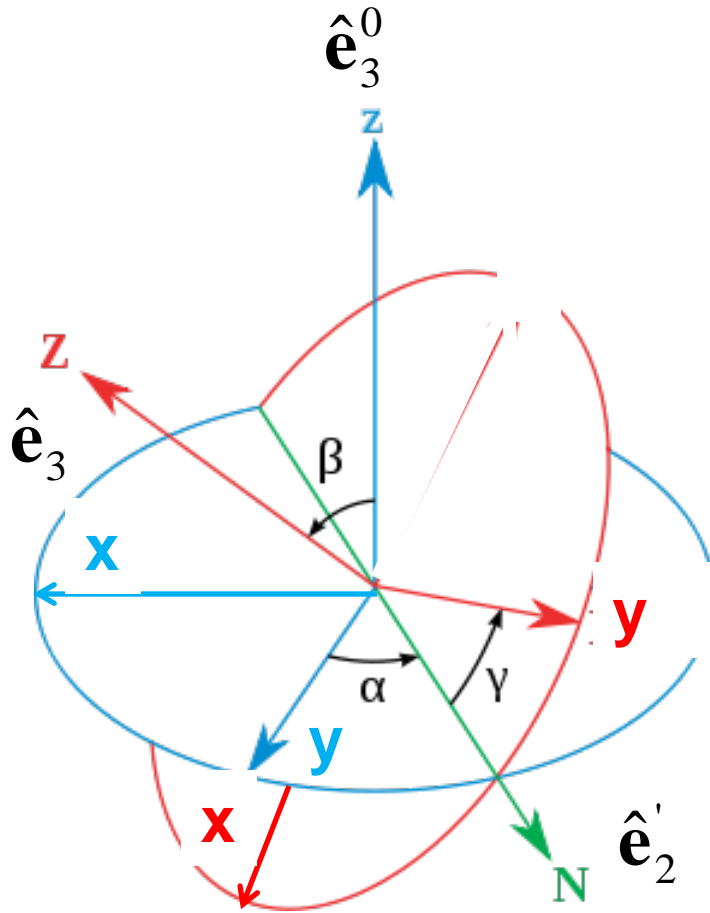
$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \dot{\alpha} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \beta \cos \gamma \\ \sin \beta \sin \gamma \\ \cos \beta \end{pmatrix} + \dot{\beta} \begin{pmatrix} \sin \gamma \\ \cos \gamma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \dot{\gamma} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{\omega}_1 = \dot{\alpha}(-\sin \beta \cos \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \sin \gamma$$

$$\tilde{\omega}_2 = \dot{\alpha}(\sin \beta \sin \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \cos \gamma$$

$$\tilde{\omega}_3 = \dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}$$

$$\tilde{\omega} = \dot{\alpha} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^0 + \dot{\beta} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2' + \dot{\gamma} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$$



$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\omega} = & [\dot{\alpha}(-\sin \beta \cos \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \sin \gamma] \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \\ & + [\dot{\alpha}(\sin \beta \sin \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \cos \gamma] \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \\ & + [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}] \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \end{aligned}$$

## Rotational kinetic energy

$$\begin{aligned} T(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}) &= \frac{1}{2} I_1 \tilde{\omega}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_2 \tilde{\omega}_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_3 \tilde{\omega}_3^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} I_1 [\dot{\alpha}(-\sin \beta \cos \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \sin \gamma]^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} I_2 [\dot{\alpha}(\sin \beta \sin \gamma) + \dot{\beta} \cos \gamma]^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} I_3 [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}]^2 \end{aligned}$$

If  $I_1 = I_2$  :

$$T(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}) = \frac{1}{2} I_1 (\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\beta}^2) + \frac{1}{2} I_3 [\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}]^2$$