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Math 189

May 20, 1995

Final Project : "Unconditionally Stable Algorithms for Rigid Body Dynamics that Exactly Preserve Energy and Momentum", by J.C. Simo and K.K. Wong.

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# PART 1: The Rotation Group and Rigid Body Dynamics.

Let  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  be the reference placement of a solid body, with material particles labelled by  $\underline{\Sigma}$ . A motion of the body is a one parameter family of mappings

$$\underline{\Phi}_t : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \text{ for } t \in [0, T] \subset \mathbb{R}_+.$$

The motion is rigid if

$$\| \underline{\Phi}_t(\underline{\Sigma}_1) - \underline{\Phi}_t(\underline{\Sigma}_2) \| = \| \underline{\Sigma}_1 - \underline{\Sigma}_2 \| \quad \forall \underline{\Sigma}_1, \underline{\Sigma}_2 \in \mathcal{B} \text{ and } t \in [0, T].$$

This condition holds if and only if  $\underline{\Phi}_t$  is of the form

$$\underline{x} = \underline{\Phi}_t := \underline{f}(t) + \underline{\Delta}(t) \underline{\Sigma}$$

where  $\underline{\Delta}(t) \in SO(3)$ , the special orthogonal group,  $\forall t \in [0, T]$  and  $t \mapsto \underline{f}(t)$  is a time dependent vector-valued function. Thus, any mapping

$$t \in [0, T] \mapsto (\underline{f}(t), \underline{\Delta}(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \times SO(3)$$

defines a rigid motion of the body. We thus refer to  $\mathcal{Q} := \mathbb{R}^3 \times SO(3)$  as the abstract configuration manifold of the rigid body.

Let  $\rho_0 : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the reference density of the body in the placement  $\mathcal{B}$ . Choose coordinates in  $\mathcal{B}$  so that the center of mass is at the origin. We then have

$$\int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\Sigma} d\underline{\Sigma} = \underline{0}.$$

Let  $\{\underline{E}_1, \underline{E}_2, \underline{E}_3\}$  denote the basis vectors for the reference frame  $\mathcal{B}$ . Let  $\{\underline{e}_1, \underline{e}_2, \underline{e}_3\}$  denote the basis vectors for the current configuration  $\underline{\Phi}_t(\mathcal{B})$ . We refer to  $\{\underline{e}_1, \underline{e}_2, \underline{e}_3\}$  as the inertial frame. We shall assume  $\underline{e}_i = \underline{E}_i$  for convenience.

By our choice of coordinate systems, the map  $t \mapsto \underline{f}(t)$  defines the center of mass at time  $t$  (we assume  $\underline{f}(t)|_{t=0} = \underline{0}$ ). Additionally, the map  $t \mapsto \underline{\Delta}(t)$  defines the orientation of the frame  $\{\underline{E}_1, \underline{E}_2, \underline{E}_3\}$  according to the relationship

$$\underline{e}_A(t) := \underline{\Delta}(t) \underline{E}_A, \quad A = 1, 2, 3.$$

We call  $\{\underline{e}_A(t)\}_{A=1,2,3}$ , with  $\underline{e}_A(0) = \underline{E}_A$ , the body frame. We also have the relationship

$$\underline{\Delta}(t) = \underline{e}_A(t) \otimes \underline{E}_A$$

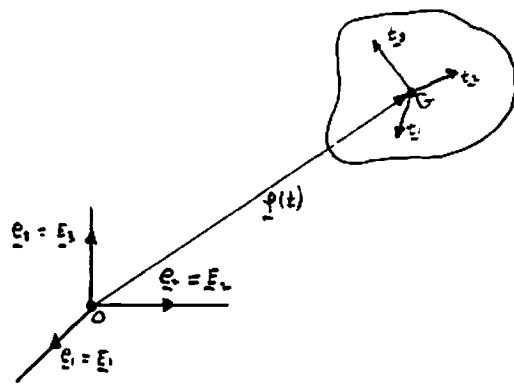


Figure : Kinematics of the Rigid Body.

For the rigid body motion, the velocity field is given by

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = \dot{\underline{\Phi}}_t = \dot{\underline{p}}(t) + \dot{\underline{\Delta}}(t) \underline{X}, \quad (\underline{X}, t) \in \mathcal{B} \times [0, T].$$

In this case,  $\dot{\underline{p}}(t)$  is the translational velocity of the center of mass. Since  $\underline{\Delta}(t) \in \text{SO}(3) \forall t \in [0, T]$  we have  $\dot{\underline{\Delta}}(t) \underline{\Delta}^T(t) = \dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T(t) \underline{\Delta}(t) = \underline{0}$  and we can write

$$\dot{\underline{\Delta}}(t) = \dot{\underline{\Delta}}(t) \underline{\Delta}^T(t) \underline{\Delta}(t) = \underline{\Delta}(t) \dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T(t) \underline{\Delta}(t).$$

$$\dot{\underline{\Delta}}(t) = \hat{\underline{w}}(t) \underline{\Delta}(t) = \underline{\Delta}(t) \hat{\underline{W}}(t)$$

where  $\hat{\underline{w}}(t) = \dot{\underline{\Delta}}(t) \underline{\Delta}^T(t)$  and  $\hat{\underline{W}} = \underline{\Delta}^T(t) \dot{\underline{\Delta}}(t)$ .

Lemma 1:  $\hat{\underline{w}}$  and  $\hat{\underline{W}}$  are skew symmetric.

Proof :  $\underline{\Delta} \underline{\Delta}^T = \underline{I}$ . Then,  $\dot{\underline{\Delta}} \underline{\Delta}^T + \underline{\Delta} \dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T = \underline{0}$ . So  $\dot{\underline{\Delta}} \underline{\Delta}^T = -\underline{\Delta} \dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T$

$$\hat{\underline{w}}^T = (\dot{\underline{\Delta}} \underline{\Delta}^T)^T = \underline{\Delta} \dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T = -\underline{\Delta} \dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T = -\hat{\underline{w}} \quad \checkmark$$

$\underline{\Delta}^T \underline{\Delta} = \underline{I}$ . Then,  $\dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T \underline{\Delta} + \underline{\Delta}^T \dot{\underline{\Delta}} = \underline{0}$ . So  $\dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T \underline{\Delta} = -\underline{\Delta}^T \dot{\underline{\Delta}}$

$$\hat{\underline{W}}^T = (\underline{\Delta}^T \dot{\underline{\Delta}})^T = \dot{\underline{\Delta}}^T \underline{\Delta} = -\underline{\Delta}^T \dot{\underline{\Delta}} = -\hat{\underline{W}} \quad \checkmark$$

□

Denote by  $\text{so}(3)$  the vector space of skew-symmetric matrices.  
 $\text{so}(3) = \{ \hat{\underline{w}} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \text{linear and } \hat{\underline{w}} + \hat{\underline{w}}^T = \underline{0} \}$ .

Define the hat map  $\wedge : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \text{so}(3)$  by

$$\{w\} = \begin{Bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{Bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \longmapsto [\hat{\underline{w}}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -w_3 & w_2 \\ w_3 & 0 & -w_1 \\ -w_2 & w_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{so}(3).$$

We refer to  $\underline{w}$  as the axial vector associated with  $\hat{\underline{w}}$ .

Define the wedge map  $\vee : \mathfrak{so}(3) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  as the inverse of the map  $\wedge$ .  
 $\hat{W}$  and its associated axial vector are also related by

$$\hat{W}h = \underline{w} \times h \quad \forall h \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

where  $\times$  is the ordinary cross product on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The axial vectors  $\underline{w}(t)$  and  $\underline{W}(t)$  associated with  $\hat{W}(t)$  and  $\hat{\underline{W}}(t)$  are referred to as spatial and convected angular velocities, respectively.

Lemma 2: The spatial angular velocity  $\underline{w}$  is the angular velocity of the body frame.

$$\text{Proof: } \dot{\underline{e}}_A = \underline{\Delta} \dot{\underline{e}}_A = \underline{\Delta} \underline{\Delta}^T \dot{\underline{e}}_A = \hat{W} \underline{e}_A = \underline{w} \times \underline{e}_A. \quad \square$$

Lemma 3:  $\hat{W} = \underline{\Delta} \hat{\underline{W}} \underline{\Delta}^T$  and  $\underline{w} = \underline{\Delta} \underline{W}$ .

$$\text{Proof: } \hat{W} = \underline{\Delta} \hat{\underline{W}} \underline{\Delta}^T \quad \checkmark$$

Since  $\hat{w}h = w \times h$ , we know  $\hat{W}\underline{w} = \underline{w} \times \underline{w} = \underline{0}$ .  
 Then,

$$\underline{\Delta} \hat{W} \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{w} = \underline{0}$$

$$\hat{W} \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{w} = \underline{0}$$

$$\underline{w} \times \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{w} = \underline{0}.$$

So  $\underline{w} = \alpha \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{w}$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \underline{w} \cdot \underline{w} &= \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\hat{W}^T \hat{W}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\underline{\Delta}^T \hat{\underline{W}}^T \underline{\Delta} \underline{\Delta}^T \hat{\underline{W}} \underline{\Delta}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\underline{\Delta}^T \hat{\underline{W}}^T \hat{\underline{W}} \underline{\Delta}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\underline{\Delta}^T)_{Ai} (\hat{\underline{W}}^T)_{ij} \hat{\underline{W}}_{jk} \underline{\Delta}_{kA} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \underline{\Delta}_{iA} \hat{\underline{W}}_{ji} \hat{\underline{W}}_{jk} \underline{\Delta}_{kA} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \hat{\underline{W}}_{ji} \hat{\underline{W}}_{ji} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\hat{\underline{W}}^T \hat{\underline{W}}) = \underline{w} \cdot \underline{w}. \end{aligned}$$

This means  $\underline{w} \cdot \underline{w} = \alpha^2 \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{w} \cdot \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{w} = \alpha^2 \underline{v} \cdot \underline{v}$ .

So  $\alpha = \pm 1$ . But when  $\underline{\Delta} = \underline{I}$ ,  $\hat{\underline{W}} = \hat{W}$  which implies that  $\underline{w} = \underline{W}$  by the wedge map. Thus,  $\alpha = +1$ . □

Lemma 4: The components of the spatial angular velocity relative to the body frame equal the components of the convected angular velocity relative to the reference frame  $\{E_1, E_2, E_3\}$ .

Proof :  $\underline{t}_A \cdot \underline{w} = \underline{\Delta} \underline{E}_A \cdot \underline{w} = \underline{E}_A \cdot \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{w} = \underline{E}_A \cdot \underline{v}$

Then,  $\underline{w} = (\underline{t}_A \cdot \underline{w}) \underline{t}_A = (\underline{E}_A \cdot \underline{v}) \underline{t}_A = \underline{w}_A \underline{t}_A$  □

Denote by  $\underline{J}(t)$  the total angular momentum of the body. We define  $\underline{\pi}(t)$  with the following expression:

$$\underline{\pi}(t) := \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\hat{Q}}_t(\underline{x}) \times \underline{\hat{Q}}_t(\underline{x}) \, d\underline{x}.$$

Theorem 1: For the rigid body,  $\underline{\pi}(t) = \underline{p}(t) \times \underline{p}(t) + \underline{\Pi}(t)$ , where

$$\underline{p}(t) = M \underline{\dot{p}}(t), \quad M = \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \, d\underline{x}, \quad \underline{\Pi}(t) = \underline{\Delta}(t) \underline{J} \underline{\Delta}^T(t) \underline{w}(t)$$

$$\text{and } \underline{\Pi} = \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 [ \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{\Delta} \underline{I} - \underline{x} \otimes \underline{x} ] \, d\underline{x}.$$

Proof: For the rigid body,

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{J}(t) &= \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{p}(t) \times [ \underline{\dot{p}}(t) + \underline{\dot{\Delta}}(t) \underline{x} ] \, d\underline{x} \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\Delta}(t) \underline{x} \times [ \underline{\dot{p}}(t) + \underline{\dot{\Delta}}(t) \underline{x} ] \, d\underline{x}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that  $\int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{x} \, d\underline{x} = \underline{0}$  by our choice of coordinate systems, we may reduce the above result to

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{J}(t) &= \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{p}(t) \times \underline{\dot{p}}(t) \, d\underline{x} + \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\Delta}(t) \underline{x} \times \underline{\dot{\Delta}}(t) \underline{x} \, d\underline{x} \\ &= \underline{p}(t) \times \underline{\dot{p}}(t) \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \, d\underline{x} + \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\Delta} \underline{x} \times \underline{\Delta} \underline{\dot{w}} \underline{x} \, d\underline{x} \\ &= \underline{p}(t) \times M \underline{\dot{p}}(t) + \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\Delta} \underline{x} \times [ \underline{\Delta} (\underline{w} \times \underline{x}) ] \, d\underline{x} \\ &= \underline{p}(t) \times \underline{p}(t) + \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\Delta} \underline{x} \times [ \underline{\Delta} (\underline{w} \times \underline{x}) ] \, d\underline{x}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\underline{\xi}(t) = \underline{J}(t) - \underline{p}(t) \times \underline{p}(t)$ .

Then, we have the expression



$$\underline{S}(t) = \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\Lambda} \underline{X} \times [ \underline{\Lambda} (\underline{W} \times \underline{X}) ] d\underline{X}.$$

Choose  $\underline{y} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . We now write

$$\underline{\Lambda} \underline{y} \cdot \underline{S}(t) = \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{\Lambda} \underline{y} \cdot [ \underline{\Lambda} \underline{X} \times \underline{\Lambda} (\underline{W} \times \underline{X}) ] d\underline{X}$$

Making use of the identity  $(\det \underline{\Lambda}) [ \underline{a} \cdot (\underline{b} \times \underline{c}) ] = [ \underline{\Lambda} \underline{a} \cdot (\underline{\Lambda} \underline{b} \times \underline{\Lambda} \underline{c}) ]$  and the fact that  $\det \underline{\Lambda} = 1$ ,

$$\underline{\Lambda} \underline{y} \cdot \underline{S}(t) = \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 \underline{y} \cdot [ \underline{X} \times (\underline{W} \times \underline{X}) ] d\underline{X}$$

$$\underline{y} \cdot \underline{\Lambda}^T \underline{S}(t) = \underline{y} \cdot \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 [ \underline{X} \times (\underline{W} \times \underline{X}) ] d\underline{X}$$

$$\underline{\Lambda}^T \underline{S}(t) = \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 [ \underline{X} \times (\underline{W} \times \underline{X}) ] d\underline{X}$$

Now, we have the identity  $\underline{a} \times (\underline{b} \times \underline{c}) = (\underline{a} \cdot \underline{c}) \underline{b} - (\underline{a} \cdot \underline{b}) \underline{c}$

$$\underline{\Lambda}^T \underline{S}(t) = \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 [ (\underline{X} \cdot \underline{X}) \underline{W} - (\underline{X} \cdot \underline{W}) \underline{X} ] d\underline{X}$$

$$\underline{\Lambda}^T \underline{S}(t) = \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 [ \|\underline{X}\|^2 - \underline{X} \otimes \underline{X} ] d\underline{X} \underline{W}$$

$$\underline{S}(t) = \underline{\Lambda} \int_{\mathcal{B}} \rho_0 [ \|\underline{X}\|^2 - \underline{X} \otimes \underline{X} ] d\underline{X} \underline{\Lambda}^T \underline{W}$$

Finally, this yields

$$\underline{J}(t) - \underline{I}(t) \times \underline{p}(t) = \underline{\Lambda}(t) \underline{J} \underline{\Lambda}^T(t) \underline{W}(t)$$

$$\underline{J} = \underline{I} \times \underline{p} + \underline{\Pi}.$$



$M$  is the total mass of the body, and  $\underline{p}(t)$  is the total linear momentum,  $\underline{\Pi}(t)$  is the total spatial angular momentum relative to the center of mass and  $\underline{J}$  is the constant convected inertia tensor (or inertia dyadic).

Define the convected angular momentum relative to the center of mass by

$$\underline{\Pi}(t) = \underline{\Lambda}^T(t) \underline{\Pi}(t) = \underline{J} \underline{W}.$$

Let  $\bar{m}(t)$  be the applied torque and let  $\bar{r}(t)$  be the applied force at the center of mass. The classical equations of balance of angular and linear momentum are

$$\frac{d\bar{\pi}}{dt} = \dot{\bar{\pi}} = \bar{m}, \quad \frac{d\bar{p}}{dt} = \dot{\bar{p}} = \bar{r}.$$

Let  $\underline{a} = \dot{\underline{w}}$  and let  $\underline{A} = \dot{\underline{W}}$ . Then,

$$\underline{a} = \frac{d}{dt} [\underline{\Lambda} \underline{W}] = \underline{\dot{\Lambda}} \underline{W} + \underline{\Lambda} \underline{\dot{W}} = \underline{\dot{\Lambda}} \underline{W} \underline{W}^T + \underline{\Lambda} \underline{\dot{W}} = \underline{\Lambda} \underline{A}.$$

Now, we may express the balance of angular momentum equation in alternative ways.

$$\dot{\bar{\pi}} = \bar{m}$$

$$(\underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{W}) = \bar{m}$$

$$\underline{\dot{\Lambda}} \underline{J} \underline{W} + \underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{\dot{W}} = \bar{m}.$$

$$\underline{\Lambda} \underline{\dot{W}} \underline{J} \underline{W} + \underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{A} = \bar{m}.$$

$$\text{Then, } \underline{W} \times \underline{J} \underline{W} + \underline{J} \underline{A} = \underline{\Lambda}^T \bar{m}.$$

$$\underline{\dot{\Lambda}} \underline{J} \underline{W} + \underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{\dot{W}} = \bar{m}.$$

$$\underline{\dot{W}} \underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{\Lambda}^T \underline{W} + \underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{\Lambda}^T \underline{a} = \bar{m}.$$

$$\text{Then, } \underline{w} \times (\underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{\Lambda}^T) \underline{w} + (\underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{\Lambda}^T) \underline{a} = \bar{m}.$$

We now have two (2) alternative formulations for the angular motion of a rigid body.

Convected (Reference)

$$\underline{\dot{\Lambda}} = \underline{\Lambda} \underline{\dot{W}}$$

$$\underline{\dot{W}} = \underline{A}$$

$$\underline{J} \underline{A} + \underline{W} \times \underline{J} \underline{W} = \underline{\Lambda}^T \bar{m}.$$

Spatial

$$\underline{\dot{\Lambda}} = \underline{\dot{W}} \underline{\Lambda}$$

$$\underline{\dot{w}} = \underline{a}$$

$$(\underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{\Lambda}^T) \underline{a} + \underline{w} \times (\underline{\Lambda} \underline{J} \underline{\Lambda}^T) \underline{w} = \bar{m}.$$

We observe that we may pass from the convected representation to the spatial representation by transforming  $(\underline{W}, \underline{A}) \mapsto (\underline{w}, \underline{a})$ .

In subsequent developments, we shall assume  $\bar{r} = \underline{0}$  so that the center of mass moves with constant linear velocity. We shall concern ourselves with only the rotational dynamics. The configuration manifold is simply  $\mathcal{Q} = SO(3)$ .

PART 2: The Exponential Map. Optimal Parameterizations.

One views the rotation group as a "curved surface" whose points,  $\underline{\Lambda} \in SO(3)$ , represent finite rotations. An infinitesimal rotation is a skew-symmetric matrix  $\hat{\Theta} \in so(3)$  with associated axial vector  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , which is interpreted as defining at tangent vector the surface  $SO(3)$ .  
More concretely,

$$so(3) = T_{\underline{I}} SO(3).$$

Consider a one-parameter family of infinitesimal rotations  $\varepsilon \mapsto \varepsilon \hat{\Theta} \in so(3)$  interpreted geometrically as a line tangent to  $SO(3)$ . This straight line is tangent at the identity  $\underline{I}$  to the curve  $\varepsilon \mapsto \underline{\Lambda}_\varepsilon \in SO(3)$ , which is defined by the exponential map as

$$\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R} \mapsto \underline{\Lambda}_\varepsilon = \exp[\varepsilon \hat{\Theta}] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} [\varepsilon \hat{\Theta}]^n \in SO(3).$$

This series has a closed form expression

$$\underline{\Lambda} = \exp[\hat{\Theta}] = \underline{I} + \frac{\sin \|\Theta\|}{\|\Theta\|} \hat{\Theta} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sin^2 \|\Theta\|}{[\frac{1}{2} \|\Theta\|]^2} \hat{\Theta}^2.$$

By setting  $\varepsilon = 1$ , we define the proper orthogonal matrix  $\underline{\Lambda} = \exp[\hat{\Theta}]$  associated with a given skew-symmetric matrix  $\hat{\Theta} \in so(3)$ . Additionally, since  $\hat{\Theta}\Theta = 0$ , we see that  $\exp[\hat{\Theta}]\Theta = \underline{I}\Theta$ . Thus,  $\Theta$  is an eigenvector of  $\exp[\hat{\Theta}]$  with eigenvalue 1. We interpret  $\exp[\hat{\Theta}]$  as a finite rotation, with rotation vector  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and rotation angle  $\|\Theta\|$ .

The optimal singularity-free parameterization of  $SO(3)$  is defined in terms of the four unit quaternion parameters, denoted by  $(q_0, \underline{q})$ . Unit quaternion parameters are elements of the 3-sphere  $S^3 \subset \mathbb{R}^4$ . Thus,  $q_0^2 + \underline{q} \cdot \underline{q} = 1$ . The parameterization  $(q_0, \underline{q}) \mapsto \underline{\Lambda} \in SO(3)$  is defined by the standard formula

$$\underline{\Lambda} = (2q_0^2 - 1) \underline{I} + 2q_0 \hat{\underline{q}} + 2\underline{q} \otimes \underline{q}.$$

The inverse parameterization  $\underline{\Lambda} \in SO(3) \mapsto (q_0, \underline{q}) \in S^3$  is defined by

$$q_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 + \text{tr} \underline{\Lambda}} ; \quad \underline{q} = \frac{1}{4q_0} (\underline{\Lambda} - \underline{\Lambda}^T).$$

Given quaternion parameters  $(p_0, \underline{p}), (q_0, \underline{q}), (r_0, \underline{r})$  associated with  $\underline{P}, \underline{Q}, \underline{R} \in SO(3)$ , matrix multiplication and quaternion multiplication are in one-to-one correspondence

$$\underline{R} = \underline{P} \underline{Q} \iff (r_0, \underline{r}) = (p_0, \underline{p}) \circ (q_0, \underline{q})$$

$$r_0 := p_0 q_0 - \underline{p} \cdot \underline{q}$$

$$\underline{r} := p_0 \underline{q} + q_0 \underline{p} + \underline{p} \times \underline{q}.$$

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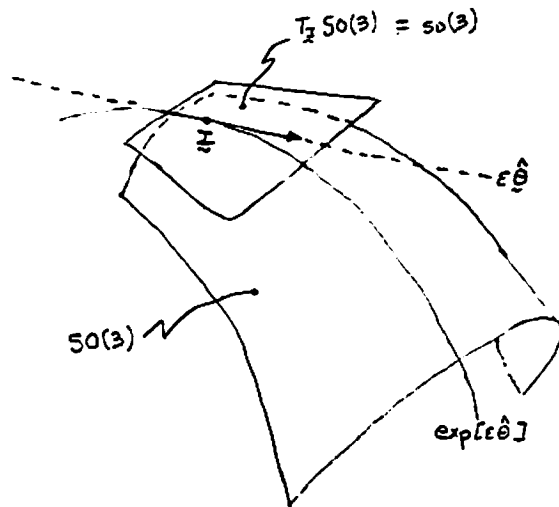


Figure : Graphical Interpretation of  $SO(3)$ ,  $so(3)$  and  $\exp[\hat{\xi}]$ .

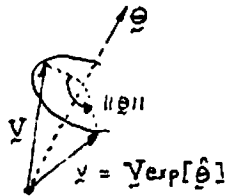


Figure : Interpretation of  $\exp[\hat{\xi}]$  in terms of a rotation through angle  $\|\hat{\xi}\|$ .

### PART 3 : A Generalized Newmark Algorithm for $SO(3)$ .

Let  $[t_n, t_{n+1}] \subseteq [0, T]$  be a typical time interval, where

$$[0, T] = \bigcup_{n=1}^N [t_n, t_{n+1}] .$$

Let  $h = t_{n+1} - t_n$  be the time step interval. Assume that at  $t_n$  the following initial data are known :

$$(\underline{\Lambda}_n, \underline{W}_n, \underline{A}_n) \in SO(3) \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 .$$

Our objective is to obtain an algorithmic approximation

$$(\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1}, \underline{W}_{n+1}, \underline{A}_{n+1}) \in SO(3) \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3$$

to the actual solution  $(\underline{\Lambda}(t_{n+1}), \underline{W}(t_{n+1}), \underline{A}(t_{n+1}))$  of the evolution equations governing the rotational dynamics of the rigid body. We shall use the convected representation of the motion in our algorithm.

Consider the following algorithm ALGO-1 :

Step 1. Define the updated configuration via the exponential map as

$$\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} = \underline{\Lambda}_n \exp[\underline{\Theta}]$$

where  $\underline{\Theta} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is the convected relative incremental rotation vector.

Step 2. Define  $\underline{\Theta} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  in terms of  $(\underline{W}_n, \underline{A}_n, \underline{A}_{n+1})$  by the formula

$$\underline{\Theta} = h \underline{W}_n + h^2 [(\frac{1}{2} - \beta) \underline{A}_n + \beta \underline{A}_{n+1}]$$

where  $\beta \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$  is a parameter with identical significance as in the classical Newmark algorithm.

Step 3. Define the updated convected angular velocity  $\underline{W}_{n+1}$  by the formula

$$\underline{W}_{n+1} = \underline{W}_n + h [(1 - \gamma) \underline{A}_n + \gamma \underline{A}_{n+1}]$$

where  $\gamma \in [0, 1]$  is a parameter with identical significance as in the classical Newmark algorithm.

Step 4. Enforce rate of momentum balance at  $t_n + \gamma h$

$$\underline{J} \underline{\Lambda}_{n+\gamma} + \underline{W}_{n+\gamma} \times \underline{J} \underline{W}_{n+\gamma} = \underline{\Lambda}_{n+\gamma}^T \underline{M}_{n+\gamma}$$

where

NEXT  $\rightarrow$

$$\underline{A}_{n+\delta} = (1-\delta)\underline{A}_n + \delta\underline{A}_{n+1}.$$

$$\underline{W}_{n+\delta} = (1-\delta)\underline{W}_n + \delta\underline{W}_{n+1}.$$

$$\underline{m}_{n+\delta} = (1-\delta)\underline{m}_n + \delta\underline{m}_{n+1}.$$

$$\underline{\Lambda}_{n+\delta} = \underline{\Lambda}_n \exp[\delta\hat{\Theta}].$$

Theorem 2: Let the applied torque in the interval  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$  be zero. Then, the total energy and the norm of the angular momentum are conserved by ALGO-1 if and only if  $\delta = 1/2$ , regardless of the choice of the parameter  $\beta$ .

Proof: We have angular velocity update formulas

$$\underline{W}_{n+1} = \underline{W}_n + h[(1-\delta)\underline{\Lambda}_n + \delta\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1}]$$

$$\underline{W}_{n+\delta} = \underline{W}_n + h\underline{A}_{n+\delta}$$

$$\text{Then, } \underline{A}_{n+\delta} = \frac{1}{h}(\underline{W}_{n+1} - \underline{W}_n).$$

We have the rate of momentum balance equation

$$\mathbb{J}\underline{A}_{n+\delta} + \underline{W}_{n+\delta} \times \mathbb{J}\underline{W}_{n+\delta} = \underline{0}.$$

$$\mathbb{J}\frac{1}{h}(\underline{W}_{n+1} - \underline{W}_n) + [(1-\delta)\underline{W}_n + \delta\underline{W}_{n+1}] \times \mathbb{J}[(1-\delta)\underline{W}_n + \delta\underline{W}_{n+1}] = \underline{0}.$$

$$[\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} - \mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n] + h[(1-\delta)\underline{W}_n + \delta\underline{W}_{n+1}] \times [(1-\delta)\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n + \delta\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1}] = \underline{0}.$$

• Angular Momentum. We shall take the dot product of the above equation with  $[(1-\delta)\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n + \delta\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1}]$ , yielding

$$[\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} - \mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n] \cdot [(1-\delta)\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n + \delta\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1}] = 0.$$

$$(1-\delta)\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} \cdot \mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n + \delta\|\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1}\|^2 - (1-\delta)\|\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n\|^2 - \delta\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n \cdot \mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} = 0$$

$$\delta\|\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1}\|^2 = (1-\delta)\|\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n\|^2 + (2\delta-1)\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n \cdot \mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1}.$$

Clearly,  $\|\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1}\|^2 = \|\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n\|^2$  iff  $\delta = 1/2$ . ✓

• Energy. We shall take the dot product of the same equation with  $[(1-\delta)\underline{W}_n + \delta\underline{W}_{n+1}]$ , yielding

$$[\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} - \mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n] \cdot [(1-\delta)\underline{W}_n + \delta\underline{W}_{n+1}] = 0$$

$$(1-\delta)\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} \cdot \underline{W}_n + \delta\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} \cdot \underline{W}_{n+1} - (1-\delta)\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n \cdot \underline{W}_n - \delta\mathbb{J}\underline{\Pi}_n \cdot \underline{W}_{n+1} = 0$$

Now, the kinetic energy of the system is  $H = \frac{1}{2}\underline{W} \cdot \mathbb{J}\underline{W}$ .

NEXT →



Thus, we have

$$2\delta H_{n+1} = 2(1-\delta)H_n + \delta \underline{I}_n \cdot \underline{W}_{n+1} - (1-\delta) \underline{I}_{n+1} \cdot \underline{W}_n$$

$$2\delta H_{n+1} = 2(1-\delta)H_n + \delta \underline{J} \underline{W}_n \cdot \underline{W}_{n+1} + (\delta-1) \underline{J} \underline{W}_{n+1} \cdot \underline{W}_n$$

Now,  $\underline{J}$  is symmetric so  $\underline{J} \underline{W}_n \cdot \underline{W}_{n+1} = \underline{W}_n \cdot \underline{J} \underline{W}_{n+1}$ . Thus,

$$2\delta H_{n+1} = 2(1-\delta)H_n + (2\delta-1) \underline{W}_n \cdot \underline{I}_{n+1}$$

Clearly,  $H_{n+1} = H_n$  iff  $\delta = 1/2$ . ✓



This result is in slight contradiction with the paper of SIMO & WONG [1991] where it is stated that the only choice of parameters leading to both conservation of energy and conservation of the norm of angular momentum is  $\delta = 1/2$  and  $\beta = 1/4$ . However, we have shown that the choice of  $\beta$  has no effect on these conservation properties.

SIMO & WONG [1991] also claim the following:

1. The algorithm is convergent, and second order accurate for  $\delta = 1/2$ .
2. The algorithm is unconditionally stable for  $\delta \geq 1/2$  and  $\beta \geq 1/4$ .

These claims are not proven in the paper, but appear to be based on results for a similar algorithm presented in SIMO & VU-QUOC [1988].

While we have shown that certain conservation properties exist independent of the choice of  $\beta$ , it may still be the case that the  $\beta$ -parameter is critical to the convergence and accuracy of the algorithm. The choice of  $\beta$  directly affects the  $\underline{Q}$ -variable, and thus directly affects the configuration update for  $\underline{\Delta}_{n+1}$ . It is possible that a choice of  $\beta \neq 1/4$  will result in a loss of accuracy and convergence for  $\underline{Q}$  and  $\underline{\Delta}$ , and thus produce an algorithm which yields quite poor results.

In general, this algorithm does not conserve the total spatial angular momentum relative to the center of mass. While  $\|\underline{I}_{n+1}\| = \|\underline{I}_n\|$  under zero external torque incremental motions, in general  $\underline{I}_{n+1} \neq \underline{I}_n$ .



## PART 4: A Modified Energy and Momentum Conserving Algorithm.

Recall that we have the balance equation

$$\dot{\underline{\Pi}} = \underline{\Lambda} \dot{\underline{W}} = \underline{\bar{m}}$$

We may integrate this expression over  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$  which yields the discrete conservation law

$$\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} - \underline{\Pi}_n = \underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \underline{W}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{W}_n = \int_{t_n}^{t_{n+1}} \underline{\bar{m}}(t) dt.$$

The evaluation of the integral on the right-hand side of the above equation by a generalized type of mid-point rule leads to the algorithm presented below.

Consider the following algorithm ALGO-C1:

Step 1. Define the configuration update exactly as in ALGO-1 by

$$\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} = \underline{\Lambda}_n \exp[\underline{\hat{\Theta}}].$$

Step 2. Define the convected angular velocity in terms of the rotation vector  $\underline{\Theta}$  as

$$\underline{W}_{n+1} = \frac{\alpha}{\beta h} \underline{\Theta} - \underline{W}_n + (2 - \frac{\alpha}{\beta})(\underline{W}_n + \frac{1}{2} h \underline{A}_n)$$

Step 3. Formulate the momentum balance equation in conservation form

$$\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \underline{W}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{W}_n = h \underline{\bar{m}}_{n+\alpha}$$

where a possible choice for  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  is

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} \beta/\gamma, & \text{if } \beta/\gamma \leq 1 \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Step 4. Update the convected angular acceleration as

$$\underline{A}_{n+1} = \frac{1}{\gamma h} [\underline{W}_{n+1} - \underline{W}_n] + (1 - \frac{1}{\gamma}) \underline{A}_n.$$

SIMO & WONG [1991] state the following:

1. By construction, for zero external applied torque in the interval  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ , the algorithm ALGO-C1 conserves the total spatial angular momentum relative to the center of mass ( $\mathbb{I}$ ) in the interval  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ . This is clear from momentum balance equation in conservation form.

$$\mathbb{I} \underline{\dot{\theta}}_{n+1} - \mathbb{I} \underline{\dot{\theta}}_n = \underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \mathbb{I} \underline{W}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_n \mathbb{I} \underline{W}_n = h \bar{m}_{nsd} = 0$$

when  $\bar{m}_{nsd} = 0$ .

2. For  $\beta/\delta = 1/2$ , the algorithm conserves energy when the applied torque in the time interval is zero. We prove this below.
3. For a choice of parameters  $\alpha = \beta/\delta = 1/2$ , the configuration and velocity updates, as well as the momentum balance equation, are independent of the convected angular accelerations  $\underline{A}_n$  and  $\underline{A}_{n+1}$ . The algorithm becomes defined entirely in terms of  $\{\underline{\theta}, \underline{W}\}$  and we simply have a decoupled update procedure for the convected acceleration. Thus, choosing  $\alpha = 1/2$  would appear to reduce the complexity of the numerical implementation of the algorithm.
4. For  $\alpha = 1/2$ , numerical experiments indicate that the value  $\delta = 1$  (which implies  $\beta = 1/2$ ) yields the best results for the convected acceleration. This choice gives

$$\underline{A}_{n+1} = \frac{1}{h} [\underline{W}_{n+1} - \underline{W}_n]$$

- making the acceleration update insensitive to error propagation via  $\underline{A}_n$ .
5. The algorithm is second order accurate in configuration and velocities for the optimal choice  $\alpha = 1/2$ . They prove this by comparing ALGO-C to ALGO-1 (with  $\beta = 1/4, \delta = 1/2$ ) and showing that the two differ by terms of  $\mathcal{O}(h^3)$ . Since ALGO-1 is second order accurate when  $\beta = 1/4$  and  $\delta = 1/2$ , ALGO-C1 must be second order accurate when  $\alpha = 1/2$ .

Theorem 3: Let the applied torque in the interval  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$  be zero. Then the total energy is conserved by ALGO-C1 if and only if  $\beta/\delta = 1/2$ . (Note:  $\beta \neq 0$  and  $\delta \neq 0$ ).

Proof: First, for simplicity we write the velocity update as

$$\underline{W}_{n+1} = \frac{\delta}{\beta h} \underline{\theta} - \underline{W}_n + (2 - \delta/\beta) \underline{W}_n^*$$

$$\underline{W}_n^* = \underline{W}_n + \frac{1}{2} h \underline{A}_n.$$

Now, we write

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{W}_{n+1} &= \underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \underline{W}_{n+1} \\ &= \underline{\Lambda}_n \exp[\underline{\hat{\theta}}] \left[ \frac{\delta}{\beta h} \underline{\theta} - \underline{W}_n + (2 - \delta/\beta) \underline{W}_n^* \right] \\ &= \underline{\Lambda}_n \left[ \frac{\delta}{\beta h} \underline{\theta} - \exp[\underline{\hat{\theta}}] \underline{W}_n + (2 - \delta/\beta) \exp[\underline{\hat{\theta}}] \underline{W}_n^* \right]. \end{aligned}$$

NEXT →



$$\begin{aligned}
\underline{w}_{n+1} &= \underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} [\underline{w}_{n+1} + \underline{w}_n - (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{w}_n^* - \exp[\hat{\Theta}] \underline{w}_n + (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \exp[\hat{\Theta}] \underline{w}_n^*] \\
&= \underline{\Lambda}_n [\underline{w}_{n+1} + \underline{w}_n - \exp[\hat{\Theta}] \underline{w}_n + (\exp[\hat{\Theta}] - 1) (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{w}_n^*] \\
&= \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{w}_{n+1} + \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{w}_n - \underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \underline{w}_n + (\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_n) (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{w}_n^* \\
&= \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{w}_{n+1} + \underline{w}_n - \underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \underline{w}_n + (\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_n) (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{w}_n^*
\end{aligned}$$

Next, from the above we write

$$\underline{w}_{n+1} - \underline{w}_n = \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{w}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \underline{w}_n + [\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_n] (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{w}_n^*$$

Now, we have the energy and momentum relationships

$$\begin{aligned}
2(H_{n+1} - H_n) &= \underline{\Pi}_{n+1} \cdot \underline{w}_{n+1} - \underline{\Pi}_n \cdot \underline{w}_n \\
\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} &= \underline{\Pi}_n \text{ (by construction)}
\end{aligned}$$

We next can write, noting that  $\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} = \underline{\Pi}_n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
2(H_{n+1} - H_n) &= \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{w}_{n+1} \cdot \underline{\Pi}_n - \underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \underline{w}_n \cdot \underline{\Pi}_{n+1} + (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{\Pi}_{n+1} \cdot [\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_n] \underline{w}_n^* \\
&= \underline{w}_{n+1} \cdot \underline{\Pi}_n - \underline{w}_n \cdot \underline{\Pi}_{n+1} + (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) [\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} - \underline{\Pi}_n] \cdot \underline{w}_n^* \\
&= \underline{w}_{n+1} \cdot \underline{\Pi}_n - \underline{w}_n \cdot \underline{\Pi}_n + (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) [\underline{\Pi}_{n+1} - \underline{\Pi}_n] \cdot \underline{w}_n^* \\
&= (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) (\underline{\Pi}_n \underline{w}_{n+1} - \underline{\Pi}_n \underline{w}_n) \cdot \underline{w}_n^*
\end{aligned}$$

Clearly,  $H_{n+1} = H_n$  iff  $\alpha/\beta = 2$ . □

We now include, for completeness, the simplifications gained in ALGO-C1 if we choose  $\alpha = \beta/\delta = 1/2$ . Recall that, for ALGO-C1,

$$\begin{aligned}
\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} &= \underline{\Lambda}_n \exp[\hat{\Theta}] \\
\underline{w}_{n+1} &= \frac{\delta}{\beta h} \underline{\Theta} - \underline{w}_n + (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{w}_n^* \\
\underline{\Lambda}_{n+1} \underline{\Pi} \underline{w}_{n+1} - \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{\Pi} \underline{w}_n &= h \bar{m}_{n+1/2}
\end{aligned}$$

We may substitute the update equations in the momentum balance equation.

$$\begin{aligned}
\underline{\Lambda}_n \exp[\hat{\Theta}] \underline{\Pi} \left[ \frac{\delta}{\beta h} \underline{\Theta} - \underline{w}_n + (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{w}_n^* \right] - \underline{\Lambda}_n \underline{\Pi} \underline{w}_n &= h \bar{m}_{n+1/2} \\
\exp[\hat{\Theta}] \underline{\Pi} \left[ \frac{\delta}{\beta h} \underline{\Theta} - \underline{w}_n + (2^{-\alpha/\beta}) \underline{w}_n^* \right] - \underline{\Pi} \underline{w}_n &= \underline{\Lambda}_n^{-1} h \bar{m}_{n+1/2}
\end{aligned}$$

This is clearly a non-linear equation in  $\underline{\Theta}$ . If we choose  $\alpha = \beta/\delta = 1/2$ , it simplifies to

$$\exp[\hat{\Theta}] \underline{\Pi} \left[ \frac{1}{2h} \underline{\Theta} - \underline{w}_n \right] - \underline{\Pi} \underline{w}_n - \underline{\Lambda}_n^{-1} h \bar{m}_{n+1/2} = 0.$$

The algorithm ALGO-C1 would appear to be superior to the algorithm ALGO-1. It possesses all the properties of ALGO-1, but in addition conserves the angular momentum vector as well as the norm of the angular momentum.

We see that the fundamental difference between the two algorithms is that ALGO-1 uses the rate of momentum balance equation

$$\underline{J} \underline{A} + \underline{W} \times \underline{J} \underline{W} = \underline{\Delta}^T \underline{m}$$

while ALGO-C1 uses the momentum balance equation in conservation form

$$\underline{\Delta}_{n+1} \underline{J} \underline{W}_{n+1} - \underline{\Delta}_n \underline{J} \underline{W}_n = \int_{t_n}^{t_{n+1}} \underline{m} dt.$$

The fact that ALGO-C1 uses the conservation equation rather than the rate equation is what enables the algorithm to conserve the spatial angular momentum during torque-free incremental motions.

Finally, with respect to the numerical implementation of the algorithm, the quaternion parameterization of  $SO(3)$  appears to be the simplest and most efficient method for manipulating rotation vectors and elements of  $SO(3)$ . This fact is elaborated upon in appendices I and II of SIMO & WONG [1991]. See also SIMO & VU-QUOC [1988].



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