

Types of MOTION OF A RIGID BODY

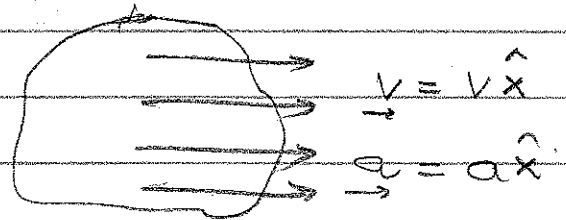
As you know a rigid body consists of many mass points (m_i) located at different points (\vec{r}_i) but $(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)$ is fixed so it neither changes shape nor size as it moves. This buys considerable simplification in describing the two types of motion it can have:

Translation: All the masses have the same linear velocity and the same linear acceleration

$$\sum \vec{F}_i \neq 0$$

$$\sum \vec{\tau}_i = 0$$

[Indeed $\vec{v} = \vec{v}_{c.m.}$]

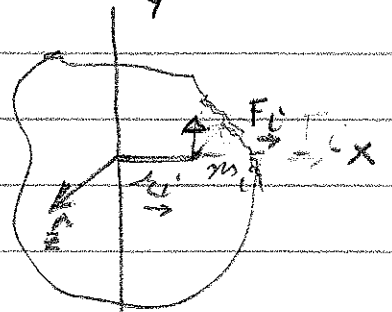


Rotation about a fixed axis: Now the angular velocity and the angular acceleration are the same for all m_i .

Now

$$\sum \vec{F}_i = 0$$

$$\sum \vec{\tau}_i \neq 0$$



For equilibrium we need two conditions

$$\vec{a} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{\alpha} = 0 \quad \text{so} \quad \sum \vec{F}_i = 0$$

$$\sum \vec{\tau}_i = 0$$

All torques taken about a single axis.

The Table below summarizes the equations when $\vec{a} \neq 0$, $\vec{\alpha} \neq 0$. (Dynamics)

Translation (one dim. \hat{x})

\hat{x}

\hat{v}

$$\vec{a} = a \hat{x}$$

$$\vec{v} = (v_i + at) \hat{x}$$

$$x = (v_i t + \frac{1}{2} at^2) \hat{x}$$

$$v^2 = v_i^2 + 2a(x - x_i)$$

M (Mass)

$$M \vec{a} = \sum \vec{F}_i$$

at what pt.

at what time.

ROTATION (fixed axis \hat{z})

$\hat{\theta}$

$\hat{\omega}$

$$\vec{a} = a \hat{z}, \quad a_{\perp} = \omega r_i \hat{e}_{\perp}^*$$

$$\vec{\omega} = (\omega_i + dt) \hat{z}, \quad \vec{v}_{\perp} = \omega r_i \hat{e}_{\perp}^*$$

$$\theta = (\theta_i + \omega_i t + \frac{1}{2} \alpha t^2) \hat{z}$$

$$\omega^2 = \omega_i^2 + 2\alpha(\theta - \theta_i) \hat{z}$$

Displacement along arc

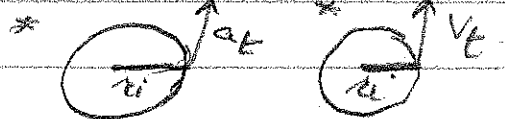
$$\Delta s = r \Delta \theta$$

$$I = \sum m_i r_i^2 \text{ (Moment of Inertia)}^{**}$$

$$I \vec{\alpha} = \sum \vec{\tau}_i$$

about same axis as

I^{**}



**

I measures the manner in which the mass is distributed around the axis so $\sum \vec{\tau}_i$ must also be calculated using the same axis.