

Satellite Attitude Dynamics and Control
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Lecture – 27
Stability of Torque Free Rotation (Contd)

Welcome to the 26th, 27th lecture. We have been discussing about stability of torque free rotation of the satellite. So, we will continue with that of some last portion it is remaining. So, we will finish up that and then we will go to the gravity gradient satellite.

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lecture - 27

stability of Rotation (Torque Free case)
about Principal axes

$I_1 \dot{\omega}_1 - (I_2 - I_3) \omega_2 \omega_3 = T_1 = 0$
 $I_2 \dot{\omega}_2 - (I_3 - I_1) \omega_3 \omega_1 = T_2 = 0$
 $I_3 \dot{\omega}_3 - (I_1 - I_2) \omega_1 \omega_2 = T_3 = 0$

$\omega_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \omega_2 = 0, \omega_3 = 0$
 $\omega_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \omega_3 = 0, \omega_1 = 0$
 $\omega_3 = 0 \Rightarrow \omega_1 = 0, \omega_2 = 0$

if these conditions are satisfied

let us assume that body is rotating about the $(1) x_1 - e_1$

Torque on the body is zero

$\ddot{x} = f(\tilde{x}) \stackrel{x \rightarrow 0}{=} 0$

$f(\tilde{x}) = 0$

$f(\tilde{x}_e) = 0$

Equilibrium state

So, what we have observed that Euler equation we have $I_2 \omega_2 - (I_3 - I_1) \omega_3 \omega_1 = 0$, and for the torque free case we have written this quantity as 0 ok. So, as we have learned last time we got the equilibrium and other things. So, you can see that. So, first let us write like this $\ddot{x} = f(\tilde{x})$, say this is non-linear system.

So, if we are looking for the equilibrium point, so that at the equilibrium point we must solve this for 0. So, we have to solve it, because it is a stationary state of the system means the state of the system defined by \tilde{x} , these are the states ok. So, and the stationary states implies \tilde{x} will be equal to 0. So, \tilde{x} setting it to 0, and then we have to solve for this, and the solution then we get here out of this say this is we will write this as x_e .

So, once we solve this, so this gives you the equilibrium state. So, here in this case if we look into this equation. So, it is already torque free case ok. So, when the equilibrium solution will exist. So, for that obviously you need to set it to $\omega_1 = 0$, $\dot{\omega}_1 = 0$. Once you set it to 0, and then we need to solve it for this part. So, this implies either $\omega_2 = 0$ and $\omega_3 = 0$ ok.

So, if suppose we want to so continuously rotate what I mean here that is it possible to rotate about the first axis, the first principle axis this is your I_1 . So, about the once we have taken the case of the cylinder and this we have written as 1, 2 and along this the 3. So, can we sustain rotation along this axis or along this axis or along this axis, this is the question.

So, similarly if we look for $\dot{\omega}_2$ ok, if we are looking for the equilibrium along this axis. So, $\dot{\omega}_2 = 0$ and this implies $\omega_3 = 0$ and $\omega_1 = 0$. Similarly, $\dot{\omega}_3 = 0$, this implies from here. So, this itself tell that $\dot{\omega}_1 = 0$ means ω_1 is not varying. So, ω_2 we can keep it $\omega_2 = 0$ and ω_1 is having certain value $\omega_1 = \text{constant}$ ok. So, this condition is satisfied for the equilibrium.

Now, similarly we look for this one $\dot{\omega}_2$, we get the $\omega_2 = \text{constant}$, $\omega_3 = \text{constant}$. So, we can maintain either a constant angular velocity along the 1 axis or the 2 axis or the 3 axis as shown here in this place. If it is a torque free case and for that what is the condition required that if these conditions are satisfied. Satisfied, this implies that if you have $\omega_2 = 0$, $\omega_3 = 0$ means it is not rotating along the second and the third axis, then it is a possible to maintain a constant rotation about the first axis.

Similarly, this implies that if $\omega_1 = 0$ and $\omega_3 = 0$. So, it is possible to continuously rotate this body about the second axis, their own thereby we are writing here $\omega_2 = \text{constant}$. In the same way, if $\omega_1 = \omega_2 = 0$ along this axis, then we can rotate the body along the third axis.

Now, suppose that the body is let us assume let us assume that body is rotating along rotating about the 1 axis ok, often we have written this as the e_1 , e_2 and e_3 . So, this is the body as fixed. So, if the 1 axis means, this is e_1 axis. So, if it is rotating about this e

1 axis about this axis. So, in this condition if we perturb about keep some deviation in the angular velocity ok.

And also displacement in the angle about the 1, 2 and the 3 axis, but those displacements are small ok, angular displacements are small. if we give this angular displacement, so what will happen to such kind of system; whether this rotation will way bounded or this will explored over a period of time. So, we can look from the equations we have written. So, this equation we are already having.

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The slide contains the following handwritten content:

- Initial condition = Complete:**
 - $\omega_1 = \omega_0$ → rotation about the e_1 axis (2)
 - $\omega_2 = 0$
 - $\omega_3 = 0$
- Initial condition:**
 - $\omega_1 = \omega_0 \rightarrow \omega_0 + \alpha$ → angular velocity perturbation along the e_1 axis
 - $\omega_2 = 0 \rightarrow \beta$
 - $\omega_3 = 0 \rightarrow \gamma$
- Equations:**
 - $I_1(\dot{\omega}_0 + \alpha) - (I_2 - I_3)\beta\gamma = 0$
 - $I_1\dot{\alpha} = (I_2 - I_3)\beta\gamma$ — (1)
 - $I_2\dot{\beta} = (I_3 - I_1)\gamma(\omega_0 + \alpha)$ — (2) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma\alpha = 2^{nd} \text{ order term.} \\ \end{array} \right.$
 - $I_2\dot{\beta} = (I_3 - I_1)\gamma\omega_0$
 - $I_3\dot{\gamma} = (I_1 - I_2)(\omega_0 + \alpha)\beta$ — (3)
 - $I_3\dot{\gamma} = (I_1 - I_2)\omega_0\beta$
- Final Equation:**
 - $\ddot{\gamma} = \frac{(I_1 - I_2)}{I_3}\omega_0\dot{\beta}$
 - $= \omega_0^2 \frac{(I_1 - I_2)(I_2 - I_1)}{I_3 I_2} \gamma$
 - $\Rightarrow \ddot{\gamma} + \left[\omega_0^2 \frac{(I_1 - I_2)(I_2 - I_1)}{I_2 I_3} \right] \gamma = 0$

So, we will utilize this equations and write the necessary other necessary equations for this. So, we have $I_1 \omega_1$ let us say that ω_1 this equal to we can write this as $\omega_0 + \alpha$, ω_2 this is 0, ω_3 this is 0. So, it is rotating about the e_1 axis, rotation about the e_1 axis. And the other one we will assume, ω_2 this is 0, and ω_3 this equal to 0. So, this is initial condition, this also initially.

Now, from this value the system is perturbed or maybe we can put it this as something like ω_0 . Now, a perturbation is given, so ω_1 which is equal to ω_0 , this is perturbed to $\omega_0 + \alpha$, where α is the angular velocity perturbation along the e_1 axis. Similarly, ω_2 which equal to 0, this is perturbed to β . And ω_3 which is also initially 0, this is perturbed to γ .

Now, we can write our equation $I_1 \dot{\omega}_1$. So, $\dot{\omega}_1 = \dot{\omega}_0 + \alpha$. This quantity is 0 because ω_0 is a constant. So, this quantity will be $0 - I_2 \dot{\omega}_2 - I_3 \dot{\omega}_3$. So, ω_2 here was initially 0, it has got perturbed to β . So, we write here β and this is $\omega_3 = \gamma$ and there is no torque acting on the system, so we make it 0.

Now, we can write this as $I_1 \alpha = I_2 \dot{\omega}_2 - I_3 \dot{\omega}_3$. This is my equation 1. Similarly, we will have $I_2 \dot{\omega}_2$. So, $\dot{\omega}_2 = \dot{\omega}_0 + \beta$. This part is 0. So, only what we get here this equal to β dot this will be equal to $I_3 \dot{\omega}_3 - I_1 \alpha$, and $\omega_3 = \gamma$ and $\omega_1 = \omega_0 + \alpha$. And this we can approximate as $\gamma \dot{\omega}_0$, $\gamma \alpha$ this term we are ignoring.

Here, we can write $\gamma \alpha$ this is a second order term. So, we are ignoring it $\gamma \alpha$ and writing like this. So, $I_2 \dot{\omega}_2 = I_3 \dot{\omega}_3 - I_1 \alpha$. In the same way $I_3 \dot{\omega}_3$ this can be written as $I_1 \dot{\omega}_1 - I_2 \dot{\omega}_2$ and $\omega_1 = \omega_0 + \alpha$ and $\omega_2 = \omega_0 + \beta$. So, $\dot{\omega}_1 = \dot{\omega}_0 + \alpha$ and $\dot{\omega}_2 = \dot{\omega}_0 + \beta$. So, this gets reduced to $I_1 \dot{\omega}_0 - I_2 \beta$. Here also, $\alpha \beta$ this is a second order term. So, it is a ignore second order or second order term, hence ignore ok.

So, we have this three equations finally. We get $I_1 \alpha = I_2 \dot{\omega}_2 - I_3 \dot{\omega}_3$, this is a equation A; and $I_2 \dot{\omega}_2 = I_3 \dot{\omega}_3 - I_1 \alpha$ this is equation B; and this is equation C. Now, we can utilize these three equations to study the stability of the system. So, the second and the third equation we chose. So, second equation we have here, we go back this one and this one, these two equations we differentiate them ok. So, once we differentiate this quantity.

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$$I_2 \ddot{\beta} = (I_3 - I_1) \omega_0 \dot{\gamma}$$

$$= (I_3 - I_1) \omega_0 \frac{(I_1 - I_2)}{I_3} \omega_0 \beta$$

$$\ddot{\beta} = \frac{(I_3 - I_1)(I_1 - I_2)}{I_2 I_3} \omega_0^2 \beta$$

$$\ddot{\beta} + \frac{(I_1 - I_2)(I_1 - I_3)}{I_2 I_3} \omega_0^2 \beta = 0$$

$$\ddot{\beta} + K\beta = 0 \text{ when } K = \omega_0^2 \frac{(I_1 - I_2)(I_1 - I_3)}{I_2 I_3}$$
 if $K > 0$ then a stable system.

$$\Rightarrow (I_1 - I_2)(I_1 - I_3) > 0 \Rightarrow I_1 > I_2, I_1 > I_3$$

or

$$I_1 < I_2, I_1 < I_3$$

Rotation about the major axis

$$I_1 > I_2, I_1 > I_3$$

Cylinder

$$I_1 > I_2, I_1 > I_3$$

So, the b. So, I 2 times that will be I 2 times beta double dot this equal to I 3 minus I 1, I 3 minus I 1 omega 0 this is a constant, so this will not get differentiated and then we have gamma here. So, we write here gamma dot and this gamma dot we can insert from this place equation C ok. So, I 3 times gamma dot, this we can rewrite so I 1 minus I 2 divided by I 3 ok, I 1 minus I 2 divided by 3 omega 0 times beta, this is omega 0 times beta.

And this I 2 also we can remove from this place, and we can bring it on the right hand side. So, if you look here in this equation this is nothing but I 1 minus I 2 times I 1 minus I 3 divided by I 2, I 3 times omega 0 square beta this equal to 0. So, this is the equation of simple harmonic motion, simple harmonic motion equation format you are getting.

Provided this quantity is positive. If this quantity, if this greater than 0, then you will get a simple harmonic motion equation; if this quantity turns out to be less than 0, then what will happen this equation will indicate on unstable system ok. So, we have here beta double dot we can write this as K plus beta equal to 0, where K equal to omega 0 square I 1 minus I 2, I 1 minus I 3 divided by I 2 I 3.

So, if K is greater than 0, then a stable system. So, this implies the condition that must be satisfied is I 1 minus I 2 times I 1 minus I 3 this should be greater than 0; and this implies I 1 should be greater than I 2, and I 1 should be greater than I 3 or I 1 should be less than I 2 or I 1 should be less than I 3.

So, if we look here that I_1 is less than I_2 , I_1 is less than I_3 . So, this implies this is the particular case, this is pertaining to say p if you have a cylinder e , you are taking this e_1 , e_2 , e_3 . So, if you look here in this case this is your I_1 , this is I_2 , and this is I_3 . So, here this one is the axis of list moment of inertia while these two are equal. So, obviously this is not related to this.

So, I_1 will be list in which case, so what we can do that we can change the axis, say we define the axis e_1 along this direction and in the same way e_1 , e_2 we can define e_2 along this direction, and then e_1 , e_2 , e_3 along this direction, so that makes a right handed system, and this is the body axis you were fixed. So, if we discard this, and we look here in this figure.

So, even here in this case you can see that the moment of inertia this is a cylinder. So, moment of inertia about this axis it is a minimum in e_2 , e_3 they are equal. So, there many may be many cases, you can make many cases where this condition is satisfied, but what it says that this two together ok, and this one refers to the case where I_1 is greater than I_2 and I_1 also greater than I_3 ; so that you can indicate like this, this is a disk and here you have e_1 and this is e_2 , e_1 , e_2 , and this is e_3 .

So, here in this case your I_1 is greater than I_2 and also I_1 is greater than I_3 . It is so happens in this case that I_2 and I_3 are equal, here in this case I_1 is less than I_2 and I_1 is less than I_3 also. It so happens that I_2 equal to I_3 here in this case I_2 equal to I_3 . So, this equation we have just do not get confuse by the equation we have written here. We have just tagged here e_1 , e_2 , e_3 we could have equally tagged here; instead of writing here e_1 , we could have written here the e_2 , this we could have replaced by e_3 and this we could have replaced by e_1 ok. So, e_1 , e_2 , e_3 it does not matter the same equation applies. So, there is nothing to get confused about.

So, it is says that the beta will remain bounded means if this happens so you know that in your from your linear, this is the real axis, this is the imaginary axis, this is origin. So, linear control system you know that if the poles are lying over the imaginary axis. So, it is marginally stable system means the, if the oscillations are there. So, oscillation will be continuously be at the same level, it will not spread out, it will not grow over period of time ok.

In the same way, if you look for this equation this particular one. So, if you differentiate this may be I will take this space and write here itself. So, $I_3 \ddot{\gamma} + \omega_0^2 (I_1 - I_2) \gamma = 0$ will make move to I will like move to I_3 is moved to the right hand side. So, this is $I_1 - I_2$ divided by $I_3 \omega_0^2$ beta dot. And then beta dot will just insert from this place, so $I_1 - I_2$ divided by I_3 and ω_0^2 , we will put it here in the front and beta dot we need to replace from this place which is $I_3 - I_1$ times ω_0 .

So, we will make this as ω_0^2 and then gamma. So, this implies $\ddot{\gamma} + \omega_0^2 \frac{I_1 - I_2}{I_3} \gamma = 0$. So, this implies gamma double dot plus ω_0^2 times $I_1 - I_2$ divided by I_3 times gamma equal to 0. And this is exactly of the same form you will see that if this quantity is if the quantity here if this turns out to be positive, then this will indicate is simple harmonic motion equation; if this quantity turns out to be negative, then this will be simply an unstable system. So, for the stability it is required that as we have discussed here in this place.

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$\ddot{\gamma} + \omega_0^2 \frac{(I_1 - I_2)(I_1 - I_3)}{I_2 I_3} \gamma = 0$

If the body is rotating about the major axis and there is K.E. dissipation then still the rotation will be stable (i.e. disturbance remains bounded)

Stability conditions:

- $I_1 > I_2$ and $I_1 > I_3$ (Rotation about the major axis)
- or $I_2 > I_1$ and $I_3 > I_1$ (Rotation about the minor axis)

If the body is rotating about the minor axis, and moreover if there is K.E. dissipation then rotation about the minor axis will not be stable (disturbance increase)

Kinetic energy: $T = \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2 = \frac{I^2 \omega^2}{2I} = \frac{h^2}{2I}$

So, from this equation $\ddot{\gamma} + \omega_0^2 \frac{(I_1 - I_2)(I_1 - I_3)}{I_2 I_3} \gamma = 0$, here in the denominator I_2, I_3 are there. So, $\ddot{\gamma} + \omega_0^2 \frac{I_1 - I_2}{I_2} \frac{I_1 - I_3}{I_3} \gamma = 0$. And this also exactly gives you the same condition that is for stability, we must have $I_1 > I_2$ and $I_1 > I_3$ or $I_2 > I_1$ and $I_3 > I_1$. So, this is rotation about

the about the major axis. And this gives you rotation about the, because you are rotating about the first axis ok. So, rotation about the minor axis.

The same way here also, this set is rotation about the major axis about the major axis and this set refers to rotation about the minor axis about the minor axis. So, if you remember that already we have discussed that if the body is rotating, what we have earlier concluded that if the body is rotating about the minor axis, then and more over and more over, if body is rotating about the minor axis that means, this is the situation.

And more over if there is kinetic energy there is kinetic energy dissipation kinetic energy is dissipating, then rotation about the minor axis will not be stable; this we have concluded earlier in the last lecture, in the 26th lecture ok, so that implies though here what we are getting that even if the rotation is about the minor axis system will be stable, because this is of the simple harmonic motion format means the disturbance remains bounded.

But what if we look back into the system, where the there is dissipation of energy also, this is not giving you any information about dissipation of energy. So, if there is dissipation of energy then the rotation about the minor axis will not be a stable as concluded from this place, it is centenary to this ok. So, here because we have not considered the kinetic energy dissipation and therefore we got this condition.

On the other hand, if the body is rotating about the major axis as we have shown in this place ok. So, if the body is rotating about the major axis and there is kinetic energy dissipation, then still the rotation will be stable that is disturbance remains bounded ok. Here in this case, this is not the situation this disturbance increases ok.

The body will deviate from its original situation, as we have looked into this T this equal to we have written as $\frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$, and then we wrote this as $\frac{I \omega^2}{2}$, which equal to $\frac{h^2}{2I}$. So, if this dissipates is, if this decreases so obviously this quantity this is a constant in the torque free condition, this is constant; constant if torque is 0 ok, if torque is 0.

If torque is 0, this quantity remains constant. And if this is decreasing means, this must increase. So, if the rotation is taking about the minor axis, then it is bound to flip the axis of rotation means as you have seen in the case of the explorer, it was rotating about the

minor axis. And there were four turn style antenna of during course of time because of this vibration in the turn style antenna, energy the kinetic energy got dissipated. and then this explorer started instead of rotating about this axis, it started rotating about this major axis ok, it has started rotating about this axis.

So, this was a big lesson learned. And so as we design certain thing and when find that after while it is put into the work. So, then we find that the certain thing it is not working properly, then we learn a lesson from that observation. And then we go back to the theory, and look into what we have done the mistake, where that lacking was there and then we try to correct it.

And this way the science and the engineering both of both these extreme; obviously, the engineering basis is the science and mathematics so but itself the science and engineering both of them they evolve from the observation ok. Sometimes in the science some assumptions are made and based on that, then you can do certain derivation, you can say that this is happening, but it may be the case that whatever the assumption you have made that may not be correct ok, so that has to be verified through the experiments. So, whatever the hypothesis you make, you if you verify through the experiment and then only it becomes a theory.

And similarly here in the case of the engineering also, we start with scratch, we do some simple modelling and we see that whether my system is working according to my theory or not, whatever the model we have developed. So, if it does not work properly, then if the model developed and the actual system. If they are not matching, then the correction is done the in the model the mathematical model of the system, and this way the things progresses. So, we will continue in the next lecture.

Thank you very much.