

## ROTATING COORDINATE SYSTEMS.

- obvious local coordinates - not an inertial frame
- "fictitious" forces: centrifugal  
Coriolis
- projectile trajectories; Foucault's pendulum; weather systems; ocean currents

Recall result that for a vector  $A$  of fixed length, rotating about origin with angular velocity  $\underline{\omega}$ ,

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \underline{\omega} \times A. \quad (2.1) \text{ p10.}$$

Apply this to the unit vectors  $\hat{i}', \hat{j}', \hat{k}'$  of a rotating frame:

$$\frac{d\hat{i}'}{dt} = \underline{\omega} \times \hat{i}' \quad \text{etc.}$$

Consider an arbitrary vector  $\underline{a}$  and express it in terms of unit vectors of an inertial frame  $\{\hat{i}, \hat{j}, \hat{k}\}$  and the rotating frame  $\{\hat{i}', \hat{j}', \hat{k}'\}$ :

$$\underline{a} = \underbrace{a_i \hat{i} + a_j \hat{j} + a_k \hat{k}}_{\text{inertial}} = \underbrace{a'_i \hat{i}' + a'_j \hat{j}' + a'_k \hat{k}'}_{\text{eg. northings, eastings, altitude}}$$

Now find equations of motion for 'vector'  $\begin{pmatrix} a_i' \\ a_j' \\ a_k' \end{pmatrix}$ , distinct from  $a_i' \hat{e}_i + a_j' \hat{e}_j + a_k' \hat{e}_k$ :

Differentiate  $\underline{a}$  wrt  $t$ , noting that  $\hat{e}_i, \hat{e}_j, \hat{e}_k$  vary:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\underline{a}}{dt} &= \frac{da_i'}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \hat{e}_j + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \hat{e}_k \\ &= \frac{da_i'}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \hat{e}_j + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \hat{e}_k + a_i' \frac{d\hat{e}_i}{dt} + a_j' \frac{d\hat{e}_j}{dt} + a_k' \frac{d\hat{e}_k}{dt} \\ &= \frac{da_i'}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \hat{e}_j + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \hat{e}_k + a_i' (\underline{\omega} \times \hat{e}_i) + a_j' (\underline{\omega} \times \hat{e}_j) + a_k' (\underline{\omega} \times \hat{e}_k) \\ &= \frac{da_i'}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \hat{e}_j + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \hat{e}_k + \underline{\omega} \times (a_i' \hat{e}_i + a_j' \hat{e}_j + a_k' \hat{e}_k) \\ &= \frac{da_i'}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \hat{e}_j + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \hat{e}_k + \underline{\omega} \times \underline{a}. \end{aligned}$$

Differentiate a second time:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2 \underline{a}}{dt^2} &= \frac{d^2 a_i'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_i + \frac{d^2 a_j'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_j + \frac{d^2 a_k'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_k + \frac{da_i'}{dt} \frac{d\hat{e}_i}{dt} + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \frac{d\hat{e}_j}{dt} + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \frac{d\hat{e}_k}{dt} + \underline{\omega} \times \frac{d\underline{a}}{dt} \\ &= \frac{d^2 a_i'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_i + \frac{d^2 a_j'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_j + \frac{d^2 a_k'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_k + \underline{\omega} \times \left( \frac{da_i'}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \hat{e}_j + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \hat{e}_k \right) \\ &\quad + \underline{\omega} \times \left( \frac{da_i'}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \hat{e}_j + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \hat{e}_k + \underline{\omega} \times \underline{a} \right) \\ \Rightarrow \underline{F} = m \frac{d^2 \underline{a}}{dt^2} &= m \left\{ \underbrace{\left( \frac{d^2 a_i'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_i + \frac{d^2 a_j'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_j + \frac{d^2 a_k'}{dt^2} \hat{e}_k \right)}_{\text{apparent acceleration}} + 2 \underline{\omega} \times \underbrace{\left( \frac{da_i'}{dt} \hat{e}_i + \frac{da_j'}{dt} \hat{e}_j + \frac{da_k'}{dt} \hat{e}_k \right)}_{\text{apparent velocity}} + \underbrace{\underline{\omega} \times \underline{a}}_{\text{apparent = real force}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  if  $\underline{r}$  is apparent position in rotating frame, defined by  $\begin{pmatrix} a_i' \\ a_j' \\ a_k' \end{pmatrix}$ ,

$$\underline{F} = m \left\{ \underline{\ddot{r}} + 2 \underline{\omega} \times \underline{\dot{r}} + \underline{\omega} \times (\underline{\omega} \times \underline{r}) \right\}$$

$$\text{e.} \quad \underline{m \ddot{r}} = \underline{F} - \underbrace{2m \underline{\omega} \times \underline{\dot{r}}}_{\text{Coriolis}} - \underbrace{m \underline{\omega} \times (\underline{\omega} \times \underline{r})}_{\text{centrifugal}}.$$