

# FOUCAULT'S PENDULUM

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We should start our discussion by recapitulating the concept of rotating frames & inertial frames (i.e. the frame w.r.t. which rotation is considered). If the frame rotates with angular velocity  $\vec{\omega}$  then  $\frac{d}{dt}\Big|_{\text{inertial}} = \frac{d}{dt}\Big|_{\text{rotating}} + \vec{\omega} \times$

If we symbolise  $\frac{d}{dt}$  in rotating frame by  $\frac{d'}{dt}$  then

$$\frac{d\vec{A}}{dt} = \frac{d'\vec{A}}{dt} + \vec{\omega} \times \vec{A} \quad (\text{where } \vec{A} \text{ is any quantity})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right) &= \left( \frac{d'}{dt} + \vec{\omega} \times \right) \left( \frac{d'\vec{r}}{dt} + \vec{\omega} \times \vec{r} \right) \\ &= \frac{d'^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2} + 2\vec{\omega} \times \frac{d'\vec{r}}{dt} + \vec{\omega} \times (\vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}) \end{aligned}$$

we have neglected the term due to non uniform rotation.  $\left( \frac{d'\vec{\omega}}{dt} \times \vec{r} \right)$

The term  $2m\vec{\omega} \times \frac{d'\vec{r}}{dt}$  is called Coriolis force &  $2\vec{\omega} \times \frac{d'\vec{r}}{dt}$  is called Coriolis acceleration.

$$\text{The equation of motion } m \frac{d'^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2} = \vec{F} - 2m(\vec{\omega} \times \frac{d'\vec{r}}{dt}) - m\vec{\omega} \times (\vec{\omega} \times \vec{r})$$

(in this equation of motion the term  $m \frac{d'\vec{\omega}}{dt} \times \vec{r}$  is neglected as it is a term due to non uniform rotation)

The term  $m\vec{\omega} \times (\vec{\omega} \times \vec{r})$  is called centrifugal force.

Thus in a frame rotating relative to an inertial frame additional

forces like **CORIOLES FORCE AND CENTRIFUGAL FORCE** appear.

In deed mechanics, electromagnetism & all other phenomena make no distinction between two frames in uniform relative velocity.