

Rotation of \vec{x} by angle θ about axis \vec{n} transforms \vec{x} to

$$\vec{x}_{\theta\vec{n}} = \underbrace{\vec{n} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n}}_{\text{Component of } \vec{x} \parallel \text{to } \vec{n}} + \underbrace{(\vec{x} - \vec{n} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n})}_{\text{Component } \perp \text{ to } \vec{n}} \text{ rotated by } \theta$$

$$= \vec{n} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n} + (\vec{x} - \vec{n} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n}) \cos \theta$$

$$+ \vec{n} \times (\vec{x} - \vec{n} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n}) \sin \theta$$

↑ vector product

$$= \vec{x} \cos \theta + \vec{n} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n} (1 - \cos \theta) + \vec{n} \times \vec{x} \sin \theta,$$

since $\vec{n} \cdot \vec{n} = 1$.

We use $\vec{\omega} = \theta \vec{n}$ to represent the three parameters of the transformation

Any function of \vec{x}^2 is invariant & similarly for \vec{x}'^2 .

We can see this explicitly from the above formula by noting that

$$\left(\vec{x}_{\theta\vec{n}}\right)^2 = \vec{x}^2 \cos^2 \theta + 2 \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n} (1 - \cos \theta) \cos \theta + (\vec{n} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n})^2 (1 - \cos \theta)^2 + (\vec{n} \times \vec{x})^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

(where we used the fact that \vec{x} & \vec{n} are orthogonal to $\vec{n} \times \vec{x}$)

$$= \vec{x}^2 \cos^2 \theta + \vec{x} \cdot \vec{n}^2 (1 - \cos^2 \theta) + (\vec{n} \times \vec{x})^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

$$= \vec{x}^2 \cos^2 \theta + [(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{n})^2 + (\vec{n} \times \vec{x})^2] \sin^2 \theta.$$

Now note that $|\vec{n} \cdot \vec{x}| = |\vec{n}| |\vec{x}| \cos \alpha = |\vec{x}| \cos \alpha$

$$|\vec{n} \times \vec{x}| = |\vec{n}| |\vec{x}| \sin \alpha = |\vec{x}| \sin \alpha,$$

where α is the angle between \vec{n} & \vec{x} .

Hence $|\vec{x}_{\perp}| = |\vec{x}|.$

The linearized part of the transformation with $\vec{\omega} = \partial \vec{n}$ is

$$\vec{x}_{\perp} = \vec{x} + \vec{n} \times \vec{x} \partial + O(\partial^2)$$

$$= \vec{x} + \vec{\omega} \times \vec{x} + O(\omega^2)$$

Thus $\omega_i D^i x^j = (\vec{\omega} \times \vec{x})^j = \epsilon_{jck} \omega_i x^k$ (with summation convention).

So $D^i x^j = \epsilon_{jck} x^k.$

The Lagrangian $L = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{\vec{x}}^2 - V(|\vec{x}|)$ is

invariant under rotations & we can verify the linearized

form $D^i L = 0$ by

$$D^i L = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^j} D^i \dot{x}^j + \frac{\partial L}{\partial |\vec{x}|} \frac{\partial |\vec{x}|}{\partial x^j} D^i x^j$$

$$= \dot{x}^j \epsilon_{jck} \dot{x}^k - \frac{\partial V}{\partial |\vec{x}|} \frac{x^j}{|\vec{x}|} \epsilon_{jck} x^k$$

$$= 0 \text{ by antisymmetry of } \epsilon$$

From problem 4, the Noether charges are

$$Q^i = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^j} D^i x^j$$

$$= m \dot{x}^j \epsilon_{jlk} x^k \quad R$$

$$= \epsilon_{ikj} x^k p^j$$

So $\vec{Q} = \vec{x} \times \vec{p}$, which is the angular momentum

(N.B. in QM the operator ordering of x & p doesn't matter:

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{lkj} x^k p^j &= \epsilon_{lkj} (p^j x^k + [p^j, x^k]) \\ &= \epsilon_{lkj} p^j x^k - i\hbar \delta^{jk} \epsilon_{lkj} \\ &= \epsilon_{lkj} p^j x^k, \end{aligned}$$

because $[p^j, x^k]$ is symmetric under exchange of j & k ,
but ϵ_{lkj} is antisymmetric