

Discussion notes. July 3, 2006. ENGR 80 (Dynamics)

Nasser Abbasi

June 24, 2013

1 Review of basic mechanics

Basic concepts of Mechanics

Mass

Time

Space

Fundamental principles of mechanics

Parallelogram
law for force
addition

Transmissibility
of force

Newton
first law

Newton
third law

Newton
second
law

Statics

Dynamics

Newton first law: $\sum F = 0 \Rightarrow$ the body is at rest or will remain at rest (object is in equilibrium)

Newton second law: $\sum F = ma$

Newton third law: For every action, there is a reaction, equal and opposite

1.1 Miscellaneous Items to remember

1. Difference between effect of forces on a particle and on a rigid body: When a force is applied on a particle, the particle will be displaced and move in a straight line. However, a force applied on a rigid body can cause a moment to be generated about a point. The moment is given by $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F}$
2. A force can always be replaced by a couple and a displaced force.
3. A particle is in equilibrium if it is at rest or if it is moving in a straight line at constant speed.
4. Any system of forces acting on a rigid body can be reduced to a single force and a moment.
5. two systems of force are equivalent if $\sum \mathbf{F} = \sum \mathbf{F}'$ and $\sum \mathbf{M} = \sum \mathbf{M}'$
6. laws of sines for a triangle. The ratio of the length of each triangle side to the sine of the angle opposite to it is the same.
7. Learn how to cross multiply and dot multiply vectors. How to use the determinant to find cross products of vectors.

2 Derivation of the kinematics equations for motion on a line. Constant acceleration case

Kinematics: The word is derived from a Greek word meaning 'motion'. Kinematics is the study of motion of objects without direct reference to the forces causing the motion. Kinematics is also the study of the geometry of motion.

In kinematics, we study of the relationship between the displacement, velocity, and acceleration.

In Dynamics, Forces are added. We study the motion of objects, and the affect and interaction of forces on this motion.

The object whose motion we study can be a particle, or a large body. Its motion can be in a straight line, or it can be rotational.

Notations: v_0 is initial velocity. v_f is final velocity. Δt is elapsed time. a is acceleration.

Now we derive the compete set of equations of motion to describe motion of a particle in a straight line when the acceleration is constant.

Since we assume that acceleration is constant, then the instantaneous acceleration is the same as the average acceleration and is given by

$$a = \frac{v_f - v_0}{\Delta t} \quad (1)$$

And since the acceleration is constant, then the average velocity is

$$v_{av} = \frac{v_f + v_0}{2} \quad (2)$$

From the above 2 equations, we can now derive the 4 kinematics equations for motion on a straight line with constant acceleration as follows

We obtain the first kinematic equation from (1) by solving for v_f

$$v_f = v_0 + a \Delta t \quad (1A)$$

Now, suppose we are given $v_f, v_o, \Delta t$, how can we find d , the displacement?
By definition,

$$d = v_{av} \Delta t$$

Now substitute (2) in the above we obtain the second kinematic equation

$$d = \left(\frac{v_f + v_o}{2} \right) \Delta t \quad (2A)$$

Now, suppose we want to find displacement, but are not given the final velocity v_f ?
Substitute (1A) in (2A) we obtain the third kinematic equation

$$d = v_0 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} a (\Delta t)^2 \quad (3A)$$

Now, suppose we want to find final velocity v_f but are not given Δt ?

From (1) we solve for Δt

$$\Delta t = \frac{v_f - v_o}{a}$$

Substitute the above in (2A) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d &= \left(\frac{v_f + v_o}{2} \right) \Delta t \\ &= \left(\frac{v_f + v_o}{2} \right) \left(\frac{v_f - v_o}{a} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2a} (v_f^2 - v_o^2) \end{aligned}$$

Solve the above for v_f

$$v_f^2 = 2ad + v_o^2 \quad (4A)$$

This completes the derivation of the 4 kinematic equations for linear motion with constant acceleration. The equations are (1A), (2A), (3A), and (4A)