

# CHAPTER 3 SUMMARY

**Position, velocity, and acceleration vectors:** The position vector  $\vec{r}$  of a point  $P$  in space is the vector from the origin to  $P$ . Its components are the coordinates  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ .

The average velocity vector  $\vec{v}_{av}$  during the time interval  $\Delta t$  is the displacement  $\Delta\vec{r}$  (the change in position vector  $\vec{r}$ ) divided by  $\Delta t$ . The instantaneous velocity vector  $\vec{v}$  is the time derivative of  $\vec{r}$ , and its components are the time derivatives of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ . The instantaneous speed is the magnitude of  $\vec{v}$ . The velocity  $\vec{v}$  of a particle is always tangent to the particle's path. (See Example 3.1.)

The average acceleration vector  $\vec{a}_{av}$  during the time interval  $\Delta t$  equals  $\Delta\vec{v}$  (the change in velocity vector  $\vec{v}$ ) divided by  $\Delta t$ . The instantaneous acceleration vector  $\vec{a}$  is the time derivative of  $\vec{v}$ , and its components are the time derivatives of  $v_x$ ,  $v_y$ , and  $v_z$ . (See Example 3.2.)

The component of acceleration parallel to the direction of the instantaneous velocity affects the speed, while the component of  $\vec{a}$  perpendicular to  $\vec{v}$  affects the direction of motion. (See Examples 3.3 and 3.4.)

$$\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k} \quad (3.1)$$

$$\vec{v}_{av} = \frac{\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1}{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{\Delta\vec{r}}{\Delta t} \quad (3.2)$$

$$\vec{v} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta\vec{r}}{\Delta t} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \quad (3.3)$$

$$v_x = \frac{dx}{dt} \quad v_y = \frac{dy}{dt} \quad v_z = \frac{dz}{dt} \quad (3.4)$$

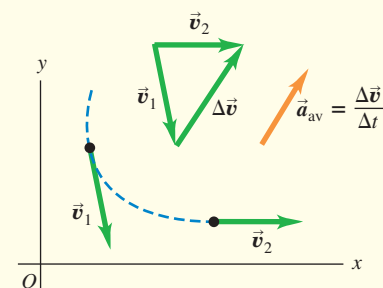
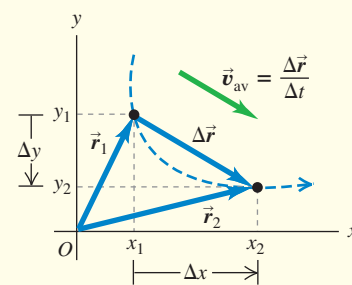
$$\vec{a}_{av} = \frac{\vec{v}_2 - \vec{v}_1}{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{\Delta\vec{v}}{\Delta t} \quad (3.8)$$

$$\vec{a} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta\vec{v}}{\Delta t} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} \quad (3.9)$$

$$a_x = \frac{dv_x}{dt} \quad (3.10)$$

$$a_y = \frac{dv_y}{dt}$$

$$a_z = \frac{dv_z}{dt}$$



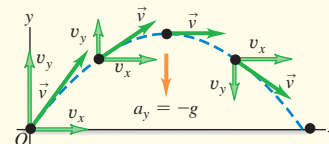
**Projectile motion:** In projectile motion with no air resistance,  $a_x = 0$  and  $a_y = -g$ . The coordinates and velocity components are simple functions of time, and the shape of the path is always a parabola. We usually choose the origin to be at the initial position of the projectile. (See Examples 3.5 –3.10.)

$$x = (v_0 \cos \alpha_0)t \quad (3.19)$$

$$y = (v_0 \sin \alpha_0)t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \quad (3.20)$$

$$v_x = v_0 \cos \alpha_0 \quad (3.21)$$

$$v_y = v_0 \sin \alpha_0 - gt \quad (3.22)$$

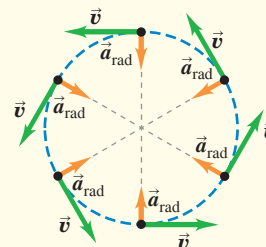


**Uniform and nonuniform circular motion:** When a particle moves in a circular path of radius  $R$  with constant speed  $v$  (uniform circular motion), its acceleration  $\vec{a}$  is directed toward the center of the circle and perpendicular to  $\vec{v}$ . The magnitude  $a_{rad}$  of this radial acceleration can be expressed in terms of  $v$  and  $R$  or in terms of  $R$  and the period  $T$  (the time for one revolution), where  $v = 2\pi R/T$ . (See Examples 3.11 and 3.12.)

If the speed is not constant in circular motion (nonuniform circular motion), there is still a radial component of  $\vec{a}$  given by Eq. (3.27) or (3.29), but there is also a component of  $\vec{a}$  parallel (tangential) to the path. This tangential component is equal to the rate of change of speed,  $dv/dt$ .

$$a_{rad} = \frac{v^2}{R} \quad (3.27)$$

$$a_{rad} = \frac{4\pi^2 R}{T^2} \quad (3.29)$$



**Relative velocity:** When an object  $P$  moves relative to an object (or reference frame)  $B$ , and  $B$  moves relative to an object (or reference frame)  $A$ , we denote the velocity of  $P$  relative to  $B$  by  $\vec{v}_{P/B}$ , the velocity of  $P$  relative to  $A$  by  $\vec{v}_{P/A}$ , and the velocity of  $B$  relative to  $A$  by  $\vec{v}_{B/A}$ . If these velocities are all along the same line, their components along that line are related by Eq. (3.32). More generally, these velocities are related by Eq. (3.35). (See Examples 3.13 –3.15.)

$$v_{P/A-x} = v_{P/B-x} + v_{B/A-x} \quad (3.32)$$

(relative velocity along a line)

$$\vec{v}_{P/A} = \vec{v}_{P/B} + \vec{v}_{B/A} \quad (3.35)$$

(relative velocity in space)

