

## Ch 6

### Linear momentum of multiparticle systems

N2L for particle  $j$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( m_j \vec{v}_{j/o} \right) = \vec{F}_j^{(ext)} + \sum_{i=1}^N \vec{F}_{j,i}$$

linear momentum for particle  $j$ ,  $\vec{p}_{j/o}$

Summing over all particles  $j=1$  to  $N$  in the system,

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \frac{d}{dt} \left( \vec{p}_{j/o} \right) = \sum_{j=1}^N \vec{F}_j^{(ext)} + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^N \vec{F}_{j,i}$$

The differentiation and summation can be swapped here

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \frac{d}{dt} \left( \vec{p}_{j/o} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \sum_{j=1}^N \vec{p}_{j/o} \right)$$

Let's introduce a new quantity:

$$\vec{P}_o \triangleq \sum_{j=1}^N \vec{p}_{j/o} \quad \text{Total linear momentum}$$

Now, the summed version of N2L can be rewritten:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\vec{P}_0) = \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^N \vec{F}_j^{(ext)}}_{\triangleq \vec{F}^{(ext)}} + \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^N \vec{F}_{ji}}_{=0}$$

Since  $\vec{F}_{ji} = -\vec{F}_{ij}$

Finally,

$$\boxed{\frac{d}{dt}(\vec{P}_0) = \vec{F}^{(ext)}}$$

One form of  
N2L for a  
multiparticle  
system.

Conservation?

$\Rightarrow \vec{P}_0$  is conserved if  $\vec{F}^{(ext)} = 0$

Notes: *shows*

① This is the Law of conservation of linear momentum for a multiparticle system:

$$\vec{P}_0(t_1) = \vec{P}_0(t_2) \text{ if } \vec{F}^{(ext)} = 0$$

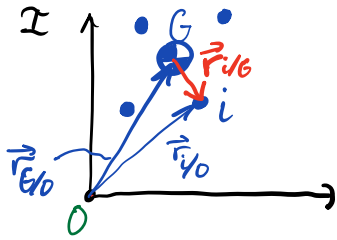
② It's also possible to get conservation laws on individual components since this is a vector equation.

③ The total change in linear momentum has nothing to do with internal forces

④ The book's derivation in Section 6.1.2 uses Linear Impulse

Useful concept:

Center of Mass of a multi particle system



$$m_G \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^N m_i$$

$$\vec{r}_{G/O} \triangleq \frac{1}{m_G} \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \vec{r}_{i/O}$$

But  $\vec{r}_{i/O} = \vec{r}_{G/O} + \vec{r}_{i/G}$

Then plugging in, (into the definition of  $\vec{r}_{G/O}$ )

$$m_G \vec{r}_{G/O} = \sum_{i=1}^N m_i (\vec{r}_{G/O} + \vec{r}_{i/G})$$

$$= \left( \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \right) \vec{r}_{G/O} + \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \vec{r}_{i/G}$$

$$\cancel{m_G \vec{r}_{G/O}} = \cancel{m_G \vec{r}_{G/O}} + \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \vec{r}_{i/G}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\sum_{i=1}^N m_i \vec{r}_{i/G} = 0}$$

"(center of mass corollary)"

What can we say about the motion of the center of mass?

Let's start with N2L for each particle j

$$m_j \vec{a}_{j/O} = \vec{F}_j$$

and sum over j

$$\text{RHS: } \sum_{j=1}^N \left( \vec{F}_j^{(ext)} + \sum_{i=1}^N \vec{F}_{ji} \right) = \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^N \vec{F}_j^{(ext)}}_{\triangleq \vec{F}_G^{(ext)}} + \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^N \vec{F}_{ji}}_{= 0 \text{ by N3L}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS: } \sum_{j=1}^N m_j \frac{d}{dt} (\vec{v}_{j/G}) &= \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{j=1}^N m_j (\vec{v}_{j/G} + \vec{v}_{G/O}) \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \left( \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^N m_j \vec{v}_{j/G}}_{= \vec{P}_{G/O}} + \underbrace{m_G \vec{v}_{G/O}}_{= \vec{P}_{G/O}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N m_j \frac{d}{dt} \vec{r}_{j/G} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \sum_{j=1}^N m_j \vec{r}_{j/G} \right) = 0 \quad (\text{By center of mass corollary})$$

In Summary,

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\vec{P}_{G/O}) = \vec{F}_G^{(ext)}$$

N2L for a multiparticle system.

To study the translational motion of a multiparticle system, treat the c.o.m. as a particle and **ignore internal forces**.

Conservation?

$$\Rightarrow \vec{P}_{G/O} \text{ is conserved if } \vec{F}_G^{(ext)} = \sum_{j=1}^N \vec{F}_j^{(ext)} = 0$$

How does  $\vec{P}_O$  relate to  $\vec{P}_{G/O}$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{P}_O &= \sum_{j=1}^N \vec{p}_{j/O} = \sum_{j=1}^N m_j \vec{v}_{j/O} = \sum_{j=1}^N m_j (\vec{v}_{j/G} + \vec{v}_{G/O}) \\ &= 0 + m_G \vec{v}_{G/O} = \vec{P}_{G/O} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{P}_O = \vec{P}_{G/O}}$$

Note: This will not be true for angular momentum.