PC3261: Classical Mechanics II

Kenneth HONG Chong Ming

Office: S16-07-06 Email: phyhcmk@nus.edu.sg

Semester I, 2023/24

Latest update: August 14, 2023 10:46am



Lecture 2: Newton's Laws of Motion

Newton's first law and inertia

- **Newton's first law**: a particle remains at rest or in uniform motion unless acted upon a force
- **Inertia** is the *resistance* of any particle to any change in its velocity and the quantitative measure of inertia is **mass**
- A mathematical description of the motion of a particle requires the choice of a frame of reference – a set of coordinates in space that can be used to specify the position, velocity and acceleration of the particle at any given instant of time
- A frame of reference at which Newton's first law is valid is called an inertial frame of reference

Newton's second law

• Linear momentum of a particle is defined as the product of its mass and velocity

$$\mathbf{p}(t) \equiv m\mathbf{v}(t)$$

 Newton's second law: a particle acted upon a force moves in such a manner that the time rate of change of linear momentum equals the force

$$\mathbf{F}(t) = \frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{p}(t)}{\mathrm{d}t}$$

• Both Newton's first and second laws remain exactly true in special relativity with a *suitably* redefinition of linear momentum

Newton's third law

- **Newton's third law**: if two particles exert forces on each other, these forces are equal in magnitude and opposite in direction
- Central forces are the forces acting along the line connecting two particles
- Velocity-dependent forces are non-central and Newton's third law may not apply
- Newton's third law is not valid in special relativity as the concept of absolute time is abandoned

Galilean relativity

• Two inertial frames, $\mathcal O$ and $\mathcal O'$, are oriented such that their spatial coordinate axes are parallel, their spatial origins are coincided when t=t'=0 and $\mathcal O'$ moves at *uniform velocity* $\mathbf V$ with respect to $\mathcal O$

• Galilean boost:

$$\begin{cases} t' = t \\ \mathbf{r}'(t) = \mathbf{r}(t) - \mathbf{V}t \end{cases}$$

• Galilean velocity transformation:

$$\mathbf{v}'(t) = \mathbf{v}(t) - \mathbf{V}$$

Newton's laws are Galilean invariance

Equation of motion

• Second order ordinary differential equation: $\mathbf{r}(0) = \mathbf{r}_0$, $\dot{\mathbf{r}}(0) = \mathbf{v}_0$

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}}(t) = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t), \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t), t)$$
 \rightarrow
$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{r}(t) = ? \\ \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t) = ?? \end{cases}$$

Cartesian coordinates:

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}}(t) = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t), \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t), t) \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} m\ddot{x}(t) = F_x(\mathbf{r}(t), \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t), t) \\ m\ddot{y}(t) = F_y(\mathbf{r}(t), \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t), t) \\ m\ddot{z}(t) = F_z(\mathbf{r}(t), \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t), t) \end{array} \right.$$

Polar coordinates:

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}}(t) = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t), \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t), t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{c} m \left[\ddot{\rho}(t) - \rho(t) \, \dot{\phi}^2(t) \right] = F_{\rho}(\mathbf{r}(t), \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t), t) \\ m \left[\rho(t) \, \ddot{\phi}(t) + 2 \dot{\rho}(t) \, \dot{\phi}(t) \right] = F_{\phi}(\mathbf{r}(t), \dot{\mathbf{r}}(t), t) \end{array} \right.$$

First order separable ordinary differential equation

• General form:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}y(x)}{\mathrm{d}x} = f(x)\,g(y)$$

• Implicit general solution: existence of an arbitrary constant in the solution

$$\int \frac{1}{g(y)} \, \mathrm{d}y = \int f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x$$

First order linear ordinary differential equation

• Standard form: $a_1(x) \neq 0$

$$a_1(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}y(x)}{\mathrm{d}x} + a_0(x)y(x) = f(x)$$

• Integrating factor $\mu(x)$: integration constant is irrelevant

$$\mu(x) a_1(x) \frac{\mathrm{d}y(x)}{\mathrm{d}x} + \mu(x) a_0(x) y(x) \equiv \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}x} \left[\mu(x) a_1(x) y(x) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \mu(x) = \frac{1}{a_1(x)} \exp \left[\int_0^x \frac{a_0(\xi)}{a_1(\xi)} \, \mathrm{d}\xi \right]$$

ullet General solution: c is an arbitrary integration constant

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}x} \left[\mu(x) \, a_1(x) \, y(x) \right] = \mu(x) \, f(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad y(x) = \frac{1}{\mu(x) \, a_1(x)} \left[\int_0^x \mu(\xi) \, f(\xi) \, \mathrm{d}\xi + c \right]$$

Special case: $F_x = F_x(t)$

• Solving for $v_x(t)$: $v_x(0) = v_{x0}$

$$m\ddot{x}(t) = F_x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m \frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = F_x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m \int_{v_x'=v_{x0}}^{v_x} \mathrm{d}v_x' = \int_{t'=0}^{t} F_x(t') \,\mathrm{d}t'$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad v_x(t) = v_{x0} + \frac{1}{m} \int_{t'=0}^{t} F_x(t') \,\mathrm{d}t'$$

• Solving for x(t): $x(0) = x_0$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = v_x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_{x'=x_0}^x \mathrm{d}x' = \int_{t'=0}^t v_x(t') \,\mathrm{d}t'$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad x(t) = x_0 + v_{x0}t + \frac{1}{m} \int_{t'=0}^t \left[\int_{t''=0}^{t'} F_x(t'') \,\mathrm{d}t'' \right] \,\mathrm{d}t'$$

Special case: $F_x = F_x(x)$

• Solving for $v_x(x)$: $x = x(t) \leftrightarrow t = t(x)$

$$m\ddot{x}(t) = F_x(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m \frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = F_x(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m \frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(x)}{\mathrm{d}x} \frac{\mathrm{d}x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = F_x(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad mv_x(x) \frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(x)}{\mathrm{d}x} = F_x(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m \int_{v_x'=v_{x0}}^{v_x} v_x' \, \mathrm{d}v_x' = \int_{x'=x_0}^{x} F_x(x') \, \mathrm{d}x'$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad v_x^2(x) = v_{x0}^2 + \frac{2}{m} \int_{x'=x_0}^{x} F_x(x') \, \mathrm{d}x'$$

• Solving for x(t): $x = x(t) \leftrightarrow t = t(x)$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = v_x(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_{x'=x_0}^x \frac{\mathrm{d}x'}{v_x(x')} = \int_{t'=0}^t \mathrm{d}t'$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad t = \int_{x'=x_0}^x \frac{\mathrm{d}x'}{v_x(x')} \quad \Rightarrow \quad x(t)$$

Special case: $F_x = F_x(v_x)$

• Solving for $v_x(t)$:

$$m\ddot{x}(t) = F_x(v_x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m \frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = F_x(v_x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad m \int_{v'_x = v_{x0}}^{v_x} \frac{\mathrm{d}v'_x}{F_x(v'_x)} = \int_{t'=0}^{t} \mathrm{d}t' \quad \Rightarrow \quad v_x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad x(t)$$

• Solving for $v_x(x)$:

$$m\ddot{x}(t) = F_x(v_x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m\frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = F_x(v_x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m\frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(x)}{\mathrm{d}x} \frac{\mathrm{d}x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = F_x(v_x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad mv_x(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(x)}{\mathrm{d}x} = F_x(v_x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad m\int_{v_x'=v_{x0}}^{v_x} \frac{v_x'}{F_x(v_x')} \, \mathrm{d}v_x' = \int_{x'=x_0}^{x} \mathrm{d}x'$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad v_x(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad x(t)$$

Example: Double Atwood machine

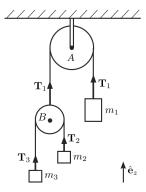
• A mass m_1 hangs at one end of a string that is led over a pulley A. The other end carries another pulley B which in tern carries a string with the masses m_2 and m_3 fixed to its ends. All pulleys and strings are assumed to be massless. Also, all strings are inextensible.

Inextensible strings:

$$\mathbf{a}_{1A} = -\mathbf{a}_{BA} \,, \qquad \mathbf{a}_{2B} = -\mathbf{a}_{3B}$$

Massless strings and pulleys:

$$T_2 = T_3 = T$$
, $T_1 = 2T_2 = 2T_3 = 2T$



EXERCISE 2.1: Find the acceleration of all masses.

Example: Two masses on inclined plane

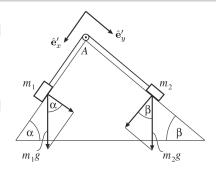
• Two masses m_1 and m_2 are lying each on one of two joined inclined planes with angles α and β with the horizontal. Both inclined planes and the horizontal make a right-angle triangle. The two masses are connected by a massless and inextensible string running over a massless and fixed pulley. The coefficients of kinetic friction of both planes are μ_k .

Inextensible string:

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = a\,\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x'\,, \qquad \mathbf{a}_2 = -a\,\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y'$$

Massless string and pulley:

$$\mathbf{T}_1 = -T \,\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x', \qquad \mathbf{T}_2 = -T \,\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y'$$

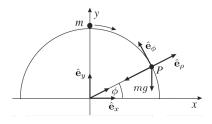


EXERCISE 2.2: Find the acceleration of the masses.

Example: Particle on a hemisphere

- ullet A particle of mass m is located at the "North pole" of a smooth hemisphere of radius R fixed on the ground. The particle slides down the hemisphere after a small kick.
- Particle is constrained to move on the hemisphere before breaking off:

$$\rho(t) = R \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{cases} \dot{\rho}(t) = 0 \\ \ddot{\rho}(t) = 0 \end{cases}$$



EXERCISE 2.3: Find the angle and the speed at which the particle breaks off from the hemisphere.

Projectile with resistance

- Linear resistance: $\mathbf{F} = -mk\mathbf{v}, \ k \ge 0$
- Equation of motion:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \mathbf{r}(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = -g\,\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z - k\mathbf{v}(t)$$

• Initial conditions:

$$\mathbf{r}(0) = (x_0, y_0, z_0), \quad \mathbf{v}(0) = (0, v_0 \cos \theta_0, v_0 \sin \theta_0)$$

• Equation of motion in Cartesian coordinates:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = -k v_x(t), \qquad \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 y(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = -k v_y(t), \qquad \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 z(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = -g - k v_z(t)$$

Projectile with resistance: x-direction

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = -kv_x(t), \qquad x(0) = x_0, \qquad v_x(0) = 0$$

• Solving for $v_x(t)$:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}v_x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = -kv_x(t) \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad v_x(t) = 0$$

• Solving for x(t):

$$v_x(t) = 0$$
 \Rightarrow $\frac{\mathrm{d}x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = 0$ \Rightarrow $x(t) = x_0$

ullet Motion along the x-direction is essentially stationary

Projectile with resistance: *y***-direction**

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 y(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = -k v_y(t) \,, \qquad y(0) = y_0 \,, \qquad v_y(0) = v_0 \cos \theta_0$$

Solving:

$$v_y(t) = v_0 \cos \theta_0 e^{-kt}, \qquad y(t) = y_0 + \frac{v_0 \cos \theta_0}{k} (1 - e^{-kt})$$

• Zero-friction limit: $k \to 0$

$$v_y(t) \to v_0 \cos \theta_0$$
, $y(t) \to y_0 + v_0 (\cos \theta_0) t$

EXERCISE 2.4: Obtain short-time and long-time behaviours for $v_y(t)$ and y(t).

Projectile with resistance: *z***-direction**

$$\frac{d^2 z(t)}{dt^2} = -g - k v_z(t), \qquad z(0) = z_0, \qquad v_z(0) = v_0 \sin \theta_0$$

Solving:

$$v_z(t) = \left(v_0 \sin \theta_0 + \frac{g}{k}\right) e^{-kt} - \frac{g}{k}, \qquad z(t) = z_0 + \frac{1}{k} \left(v_0 \sin \theta_0 + \frac{g}{k}\right) \left(1 - e^{-kt}\right) - \frac{gt}{k}$$

• Short-time behaviour:

$$v_z(t) \to v_0 \sin \theta_0 - (g + kv_0 \sin \theta_0) t$$
, $z(t) \to z_0 + v_0 (\sin \theta_0) t - \frac{1}{2} (g + kv_0 \sin \theta_0) t^2$

Long-time behaviour:

$$v_z(t) \to -\frac{g}{k}$$
, $z(t) \to z_0 + \frac{1}{k} \left(v_0 \sin \theta_0 + \frac{g}{k} \right) - \frac{gt}{k}$

Projectile with resistance: horizontal range

• Time of the flight: $z_0 = 0$

$$z(T) = 0$$
 \Rightarrow $(kv_0 \sin \theta_0 + g) (1 - e^{-kT}) - kgT = 0$

• Dimensionless resistance parameter:

$$\epsilon \equiv \frac{kv_0}{g} \quad \Rightarrow \quad (\epsilon \sin \theta_0 + 1) \left(1 - e^{-kT} \right) - kT = 0$$

• Perturbation calculation for weak friction: $\epsilon \ll 1$

$$T = \frac{2v_0 \sin \theta_0}{g} \left[1 + c_1 \epsilon + c_2 \epsilon^2 + \mathcal{O}\left(\epsilon^3\right) \right]$$

ullet Values for c_1 and c_2 are to be determined

Projectile with resistance: horizontal range - cont'd

• Substitution, series expansion and solving:

$$T = \frac{2v_0 \sin \theta_0}{g} \left[1 - \frac{1}{3} \epsilon \sin \theta_0 + \frac{2}{9} \epsilon^2 \sin^2 \theta_0 + \mathcal{O}\left(\epsilon^3\right) \right]$$

• Horizontal range: $y_0 = 0$

$$R \equiv y(T) = \frac{v_0 \cos \theta_0}{k} \left(1 - e^{-kT} \right)$$

• Substitutions and series expansion:

$$R = \frac{2v_0^2 \sin \theta_0 \cos \theta_0}{g} \left[1 - \frac{4}{3} \epsilon \sin \theta_0 + \frac{14}{9} \epsilon^2 \sin^2 \theta_0 + \mathcal{O}\left(\epsilon^3\right) \right]$$

EXERCISE 2.5: Complete the perturbation calculations to obtain the expression for R up to ϵ^2 .

Linear homogeneous ODEs

• n-order homogeneous equation with constant coefficients: $a_n \neq 0$

$$a_n y^{(n)}(x) + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)}(x) + \dots + a_1 y^{(1)}(x) + a_0 y^{(0)}(x) = 0$$

ullet Characteristics equation: n-degree polynomial of λ

$$y(x) = e^{\lambda x}$$
 \Rightarrow $a_n \lambda^n + a_{n-1} \lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 \lambda + a_0 = 0$

- Characteristic roots give linearly independent solutions:
 - λ is a real root with no degeneracy: $e^{\lambda x}$ is the solution
 - λ is a real root with doubly degeneracy: $\mathrm{e}^{\lambda x}$ and $x\mathrm{e}^{\lambda x}$ are solutions
 - $\lambda=\alpha\pm \mathrm{i}\beta$ are complex root with no degeneracy: $\mathrm{e}^{\alpha x}\sin\beta x$ and $\mathrm{e}^{\alpha x}\cos\beta x$ are solutions
 - $\lambda = \alpha \pm \mathrm{i}\beta$ are complex root with doubly degeneracy: $\mathrm{e}^{\alpha x}\sin\beta x$, $x\mathrm{e}^{\alpha x}\sin\beta x$, $e^{\alpha x}\cos\beta x$ and $x\mathrm{e}^{\alpha x}\cos\beta x$ are solutions

Linear homogeneous ODEs - cont'd

• Wronskian of a set of n functions $\{f_1(x), \dots, f_n(x)\}$:

$$W[f_1, f_2, \cdots, f_n](x) \equiv \begin{vmatrix} f_1(x) & f_2(x) & \cdots & f_n(x) \\ f'_1(x) & f'_2(x) & \cdots & f'_n(x) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ f_1^{(n-1)}(x) & f_2^{(n-1)}(x) & \cdots & f_n^{(n-1)}(x) \end{vmatrix}$$

ullet General solution: $\{y_n(x)\}$ is a set of linearly independent solutions

$$W[y_1, y_2, \cdots, y_n](x) \neq 0$$

$$y(x) = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x) + \dots + C_{n-1} y_{n-1}(x) + C_n y_n(x)$$

ullet Constants C_i are to be determined from initial/boundary conditions

Charge in magnetic field

- \bullet A point charge of mass m and charge q is moving in a region of uniform magnetic field ${\bf B}=B_0\,\hat{\bf e}_y$
- Equation of motion in Cartesian coordinates: $\omega \equiv qB_0/m$

$$m \frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}\mathbf{r}(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^{2}} = q \mathbf{v}(t) \times \mathbf{B} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^{2}} = -\omega \frac{\mathrm{d}z(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} \\ \frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}y(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^{2}} = 0 \\ \frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}z(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^{2}} = \omega \frac{\mathrm{d}x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} \end{cases}$$

Initial conditions:

$$\mathbf{r}(0) = (x_0, y_0, z_0) , \quad \mathbf{v}(0) = (0, v_{y0}, v_{z0})$$

Charge in magnetic field: y-direction

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 y(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = 0$$
, $y(0) = y_0$, $v_y(0) = v_{y0}$

• Solving for $v_y(t)$:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}v_y(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad v_y(t) = v_{y0}$$

• Solving for y(t):

$$v_y(t) = v_{y0}$$
 \Rightarrow $\frac{\mathrm{d}y(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = v_{y0}$ \Rightarrow $v_y(t) = v_{y0}t + y_0$

• Motion along the y-direction is essentially uniform

Charge in magnetic field: x and z-directions

Coupled differential equations:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = -\omega \frac{\mathrm{d}z(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} \\ \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 z(t)}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = \omega \frac{\mathrm{d}x(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} \end{cases}, \qquad \begin{cases} x(0) = x_0, & v_x(0) = 0 \\ z(0) = z_0, & v_z(0) = v_{z0} \end{cases}$$

Decoupling and solving:

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = C_1 \cos \omega t + C_2 \sin \omega t + C_0 \\ z(t) = D_1 \cos \omega t + D_2 \sin \omega t + D_0 \end{cases}$$

• Question: Are C_1 , C_2 , C_0 , D_1 , D_2 and D_0 all independent from each other?

EXERCISE 2.6: Obtain the general solutions for the coupled differential equations for x(t) and z(t).

Charge in magnetic field: x and z-directions – cont'd

• Eliminating dependencies:

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = C_1 \cos \omega t + C_2 \sin \omega t + C_0 \\ z(t) = -C_2 \cos \omega t + C_1 \sin \omega t + D_0 \end{cases}$$

• Imposing initial conditions for x(t) and z(t):

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x_0 & \Rightarrow & C_0 = x_0 - C_1 \\ z(0) = z_0 & \Rightarrow & D_0 = z_0 \end{cases}$$

• Imposing initial conditions for $\dot{x}(t)$ and $\dot{z}(t)$:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \dot{x}(0)=0 & \Rightarrow & C_2=0 \\ \\ \dot{z}(0)=v_{z0} & \Rightarrow & C_1=\frac{v_{z0}}{\omega} \end{array} \right.$$

Charge in magnetic field: trajectory

• Position and velocity:

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = \frac{v_{z0}}{\omega} \cos \omega t + x_0 - \frac{v_{z0}}{\omega} \\ y(t) = v_{y0}t + y_0 \\ z(t) = \frac{v_{z0}}{\omega} \sin \omega t + z_0 \end{cases}, \qquad \begin{cases} v_x(t) = -v_{z0} \sin \omega t \\ v_y(t) = v_{y0} \\ v_z(t) = v_{z0} \cos \omega t \end{cases}$$

• Trajectory of the point charge is a circular helix of radius mv_{z0}/qB_0 centered at $(x,z)=(x_0-mv_{z0}/qB_0,z_0)$

$$\left[x(t) - \left(x_0 - \frac{mv_{z0}}{qB_0}\right)\right]^2 + \left[z(t) - z_0\right]^2 = \left(\frac{mv_{z0}}{qB_0}\right)^2$$