

Theory of 2D-Rockets basically

Zhao H.Q.

January 30, 2026

1 Assumption

1. 2Dimensional motion: Our rockets only consider 2Dimension, x-z flat (The z-axis points upward, and the x-axis is horizontal.)
2. rigid body: The rocket is treated as a rigid body, meaning it does not deform during flight.
3. Translation and rotation: The rocket's motion includes both translation (movement through space) and rotation (spinning around its center of mass).
4. Aerodynamic force only acts as drag.
5. Gravity acts downward along the z-axis with a constant acceleration of $g = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$.
6. constant air density of $\rho = 1.225 \text{ kg/m}^3$ (sea level standard conditions).

2 Coordinate system and state variables

2.1 1. Definition of system coordinate

1. Inertial frame of reference: origin at launch point 2.