

Physics 101H

General Physics 1 - Honors



Lecture 5 - 9/8/22

1D motion



Summary

Topics

Today: vectors [chapter 2]

- Products

Kinematics in 1D [chapter 3]

- Describing motion in 1D
- Position, velocity, acceleration

Announcements

Yesterday: Problem set 1 assigned



In one dimensional kinematics, vectors are distinguished from scalars by having a direction that is denoted by positive or negative values.

**The boiling point of nitrogen is -195.795 C .
Is temperature a vector or a scalar quantity?**

Cartesian and other coordinates



In two dimensions

- **Cartesian coordinates** defined by (x,y) axes
- **Polar coordinates** defined by magnitude and angle (r,θ)

In three dimensions

- **Cartesian coordinates** defined by (x,y,z) axes
- **Spherical coordinates** defined by magnitude and two angles (r,θ,φ)
- **Cylindrical coordinates** defined by radius, one angle and one height (r,θ,z)

Products of vectors



Dot product (or **scalar product**) of two vectors gives a number

Cross product (**vector product**) of two vectors can be thought of as giving another vector

Want more practice?



Check out the following problems in the [textbook](#)

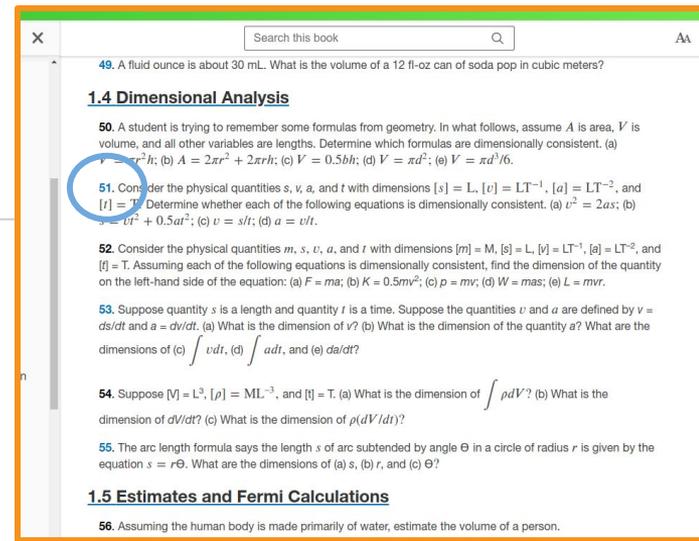
In Chapter 2:

- Conceptual questions: 5, 13, 21
- Problems: 25, 31, 45, 53, 65, **91**

Note that answers are provided for questions with **blue** numbers (odd numbered)

Click on the number to be taken to the answer.

But make sure you at least **try** the problem first!





Kinematics in 1D

Chapter 3

Kinematics



Kinematics is the description of the motion of objects

Dynamics is the explanation of the cause of the motion of objects

We will start with kinematics in one dimension (1D)

We are chiefly concerned with the **position** of an object **as a function of time**

Question: What is the difference between distance and displacement?

Position, displacement, and distance



Position – vector describing where object is relative to some reference frame

Displacement – change in position [a vector]

Distance travelled – total length of journey [a scalar]

Velocity



Velocity – a vector describing the **rate of change** of **position**

Speed – the magnitude of the velocity [a scalar]

Instantaneous velocity – the time derivative of position

Acceleration



Acceleration – a vector describing the **rate of change** of **velocity**

Instantaneous acceleration – the time derivative of velocity

Example: The position of a particle as a function of time is given by $x(t) = \sin(t)$. Find the instantaneous velocity and acceleration as a function of time. Determine the average velocity and average acceleration over the period $t = 0$ to $t = 2\pi$.

Free fall



Question: Why do we have to specify “near the Earth’s surface” in our definition of free fall?

Constant acceleration is a special case that we will revisit regularly

Free fall (falling under the influence of gravity and no other forces) is a special case of the special case of constant acceleration

In the absence of air resistance, all objects dropped near the Earth’s surface fall with a constant acceleration (g), directed towards the Earth



When is Problem Set 1 due? And how do you submit it?



Summary

Vectors [chapter 2]

- Scalar products determine the projection of one vector on another
- Vector products produce a vector perpendicular to the original two vectors

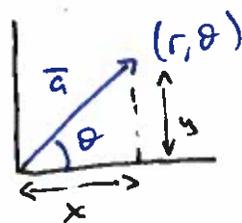
Kinematics in 1D [chapter 3]

- Quantities characterising motion can be scalars or vectors
- Distance and speed are scalars
- Displacement, velocity, and acceleration are vectors
- Instantaneous and average velocity and acceleration are different!

Tomorrow: kinematics in 2D

- Describing motion in 2D
- Generalising position, velocity, and acceleration to 2D

Lecture 5 9/8/22



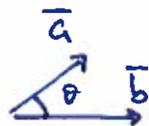
$$r = |\vec{a}| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\tan \theta = y/x$$

$$x = r \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta$$

Scalar product (slide 4)

Denoted $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$ and given by $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta$



In coordinate/component form $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = a_x b_x + a_y b_y + a_z b_z$

$$\vec{a} = (a_x \hat{i} + a_y \hat{j} + a_z \hat{k})$$

$$\vec{b} = (b_x \hat{i} + b_y \hat{j} + b_z \hat{k})$$

Maps two vectors to a scalar

If \vec{a} is perpendicular to \vec{b} then $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos 90^\circ = 0$

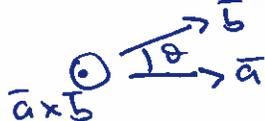
Gives us the component of \vec{a} pointed in the direction of \vec{b}

Vector product (slide 5)

Denoted $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ - gives another vector with magnitude

$$|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin \theta$$

and direction perpendicular to both



Not commutative $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} \neq \vec{b} \times \vec{a}$

N.B. cross product of parallel vectors is zero!

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{a} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{a}| \sin 0 = 0$$

$$\text{And } \hat{i} \times \hat{j} = \hat{k}, \hat{j} \times \hat{k} = \hat{i}, \hat{k} \times \hat{i} = \hat{j}$$

Vector product (slide 6)

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ a_x & a_y & a_z \\ b_x & b_y & b_z \end{vmatrix} = \hat{i}(a_y b_z - a_z b_y) - \hat{j}(a_x b_z - a_z b_x) + \hat{k}(a_x b_y - a_y b_x)$$

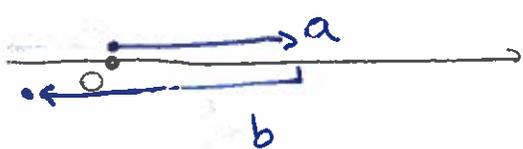
Position, displacement and distance (slide 9)

Positive or negative \Rightarrow vector



change in position $\Delta x = x_f - x_i$

Distance is not a vector, just a magnitude (scalar)



$$\text{displacement} = a - b (< 0)$$

$$\text{distance} = |a - b| (> 0)$$

$$\text{distance travelled} = |a| + |b| (> 0)$$

Velocity (slide 10)

Measure an object's position at two times, subtract, then divide by time elapsed

$$v_{\text{ave}} = \frac{x_f - x_i}{t_f - t_i} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$

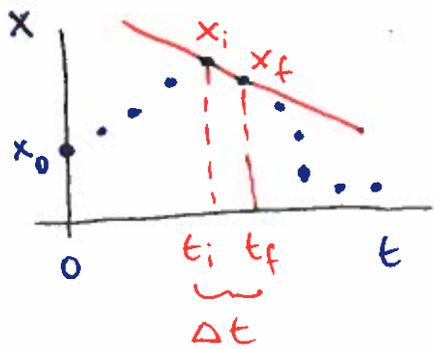
Velocity can be positive or negative \Rightarrow vector

speed is magnitude of velocity \Rightarrow scalar

units m/s

Instantaneous velocity (slide 11)

Let's say that we can measure the position of an object over shorter and shorter time intervals



let Δt get really, really small
(infinitesimal) : $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$

$$v_{\text{inst}} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{x_f - x_i}{t_f - t_i} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$

In other words $v_{\text{inst}} = \frac{dx}{dt}$!

↑
time derivative of the position function $x(t)$
slope of the position vs time graph

Acceleration (slide 12)

$$a_{\text{ave}} = \frac{v_f - v_i}{t_f - t_i} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} \quad \leftarrow \text{units } m/s^2 \text{ vector!}$$

$$\text{let } \Delta t \rightarrow 0 \quad a_{\text{inst}} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} = \frac{dv}{dt} \quad \leftarrow \text{time derivative of velocity}$$

$$\text{But } v_{\text{inst}} = \frac{dx}{dt} \Rightarrow a_{\text{inst}} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right) = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \quad \leftarrow \text{second time derivative of position}$$

Acceleration example

$$v(t) = \frac{d}{dt} x(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \sin(t) = \cos(t)$$

$$a(t) = \frac{d}{dt} v(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \cos(t) = -\sin(t)$$

$$v_{\text{ave}} = \frac{x_f - x_i}{t_f - t_i} = \frac{\sin(0) - \sin(2\pi)}{2\pi - 0} = 0$$

$$a_{\text{ave}} = \frac{v_f - v_i}{t_f - t_i} = \frac{\cos(0) - \cos(2\pi)}{2\pi - 0} = 0$$

Constant acceleration (slide 14)

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \text{constant} (= a_0)$$

Note that $v(t) = at + v_0$ is exactly the right kind of function! $\leftarrow \frac{d}{dt} v(t) = a_0 \checkmark$

This can be obtained by integrating our equation $\frac{dv}{dt} = a_0$

$$\int \frac{dv}{dt} dt = \int a_0 dt = a_0 \int dt \quad \rightarrow \quad \int dv = a_0 \int dt$$

$$v = a_0 t + v_0$$

\uparrow
initial velocity
or constant of
integration

Constant acceleration (slide 15)

$$v(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} = a_0 t + v_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x(t) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 t^2 + v_0 t + x_0$$

↑
constant
acceleration

↑
obtained by integrating

$$\int \frac{dx}{dt} dt = a_0 \int t dt + v_0 \int dt$$

If $a_0 = 0$ then $x(t) = v_0 t + x_0$
 $v(t) = v_0$

Free fall (slide 16)

$|a_0| = g \leftarrow$ acceleration due to gravity $g = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$
towards the Earth

\uparrow +ve
 \downarrow g

$$a = -g$$

$$v(t) = -gt + v_0$$

$$y(t) = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0 t + y_0$$