

Section 13.4 - Motion in Space

We can use vector functions to describe particle motion:

- Position: $\vec{r}(t)$
- Velocity: $\vec{v}(t) = \vec{r}'(t)$
- Acceleration: $\vec{a}(t) = \vec{v}'(t) = \vec{r}''(t)$
- Speed: $|\vec{v}(t)| = v$

• Particle Motion is Cool: [youtube.com/watch?v=FG_11oacW6Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FG_11oacW6Q)

Each water droplet can be thought of as a particle, each only given acceleration due to gravity.

Example 3 A moving particle starts at an initial position $\vec{r}(0) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$ with initial velocity $\vec{v}(0) = \langle 1, -1, 1 \rangle$. Its acceleration is $\vec{a}(t) = \langle 4t, 6t, 1 \rangle$. Find its velocity and position at time t .

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}(t) &= \int \vec{a}(t) dt \\ &= \langle 2t^2, 3t^2, t \rangle + \vec{C} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}(t) &= \langle 2t^2 + 1, 3t^2 - 1, t + 1 \rangle \\ \vec{C} &= \langle 1, -1, 1 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r}(t) &= \int \vec{v}(t) dt \\ &= \langle \frac{2}{3}t^3 + t, t^3 - t, \frac{1}{2}t^2 + t \rangle + \vec{C} \\ \vec{C} &= \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle \frac{2}{3}t^3 + t, t^3 - t, \frac{1}{2}t^2 + t \rangle$$

• Newton's Second Law of Motion: $\vec{F}(t) = m\vec{a}(t)$

\vec{F} Force acting on an object of mass m produces acceleration \vec{a}

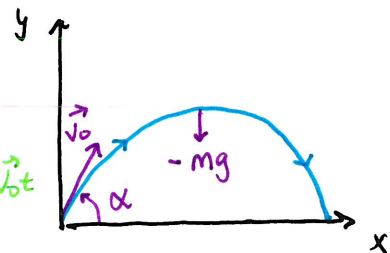
Example 5 A projectile is fired with an angle of elevation α and initial velocity \vec{v}_0 . Assume air resistance is negligible and the only external force is gravity. Find $\vec{r}(t)$ and α that maximizes the horizontal range.

$$\vec{F} = -mg\vec{j} \Rightarrow \vec{a}(t) = \langle 0, -g \rangle$$

$$\vec{v}(t) = \langle 0, -gt \rangle + \vec{v}_0 \quad \vec{r}(t) = \langle 0, -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 \rangle + \vec{v}_0 t$$

$$\vec{v}_0 = \langle v_0 \cos \alpha, v_0 \sin \alpha \rangle \quad \text{since } \vec{r}(0) = 0$$

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle (v_0 \cos \alpha)t, (v_0 \sin \alpha)t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \rangle$$



Horizontal Range: $y=0 \quad t = \frac{2v_0 \sin \alpha}{g} \quad X(t_{\max}) = v_0 \cos \alpha \left(\frac{2v_0 \sin \alpha}{g} \right) \quad \text{Max at } \alpha = \frac{\pi}{4}$

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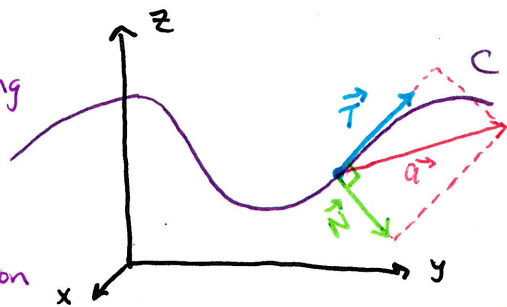
• Tangential & Normal Components of acceleration:

Rate of Change in Speed

Tangential Acceleration: Acceleration acting in the direction of motion

Rate of Change of velocity direction

Normal Acceleration: Acceleration orthogonal to the tangential acceleration



$$\vec{T} = \frac{\vec{r}'}{|\vec{r}'|} = \frac{\vec{v}}{v} \quad \text{where } v = |\vec{v}| \quad \text{so } \vec{v} = v\vec{T}$$

velocity in terms of speed & unit tangent

Differentiate both sides wrt t : $\vec{a} = v'\vec{T} + v\vec{T}'$

$$\vec{N} = \frac{\vec{T}'}{|\vec{T}'|} \quad \text{so } \vec{T}' = \vec{N}|\vec{T}'| \quad \text{also } k = \frac{|\vec{T}'|}{v} \quad \text{so } \vec{T}' = \vec{N}vk$$

Thus

$$\vec{a} = \underbrace{v'\vec{T}}_{\text{Tangential Component}} + \underbrace{v^2k\vec{N}}_{\text{Normal Component}}$$

Example #36

(a) If a particle moves along a straight line, what can be said about its acceleration vector?

Moving in a straight line $\Rightarrow k = 0$

Thus $\vec{a} = v'\vec{T}$ acceleration only in direction of motion

(b) If a particle moves with constant speed along a curve, what can be said about its acceleration vector?

$v' = 0$ since v is constant

Thus $\vec{a} = v^2k\vec{N}$ acceleration only orthogonal to tangent vector

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MVC

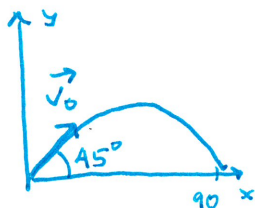
• Extra Examples

#22 Show that if a particle moves with constant speed, then the velocity and acceleration vectors are orthogonal.

$$C = |\vec{r}'(t)| = |\vec{v}(t)| \quad \text{WTS: } \vec{v}(t) \cdot \vec{a}(t) = \vec{r}''(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) = 0$$

$$C^2 = \vec{v}(t) \cdot \vec{v}(t) \quad \text{by Product Rule} \quad 0 = \frac{d}{dt}(\vec{v}(t) \cdot \vec{v}(t)) = 2\vec{v}(t) \cdot \vec{a}(t)$$

#25 A ball is thrown at 45° to the ground. If the ball lands 90m away, what was the initial speed?



time t : $y=0$ $x=90$

$$\textcircled{1} t(V_0 \sin 45^\circ) - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 = 0 \quad \textcircled{2} t(V_0 \cos 45^\circ) = 90$$

$$t(V_0 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{g}{2}t) = 0$$

$$t = \frac{V_0 \sqrt{2}}{g}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{2}V_0^2 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}{g} = 90$$

$$V_0 = \sqrt{90 \cdot g} \text{ m/s}$$

#45 The position of a spaceship is: $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 3+t, 2+\ln t, (7 - \frac{4}{t^2+1}) \rangle$ and the coordinates of a space station are $(6, 4, 9)$. The Captain wants the spaceship lined up with the space station so it can coast in with engines off. When should he turn off the engines?

Need:

$$\vec{r}(t_{\text{off}}) + \vec{r}'(t_{\text{off}}) \cdot t = \langle 6, 4, 9 \rangle$$

$$\left\langle 3+t_{\text{off}} + t, 2+\ln t_{\text{off}} + \frac{t}{t_{\text{off}}}, 7 - \frac{4}{t_{\text{off}}^2+1} + \frac{8t t_{\text{off}}}{(t_{\text{off}}^2+1)^2} \right\rangle = \langle 6, 4, 9 \rangle$$

$$\textcircled{1} 3+s+t = 6 \quad s=t_{\text{off}} \Rightarrow t = 3-s$$

$$\textcircled{2} 2+\ln s + \frac{t}{s} = 4$$

$$\textcircled{3} \frac{7(s^2+1)^2 - 4(s^2+1) + 8ts}{(s^2+1)^2} = 9$$

$$7(s^2+1)^2 - 4(s^2+1) + 8(3-s)s = 9(s^2+1)^2$$

$$t_{\text{off}} = s = 1 \quad \text{so } t = 2$$

