

PHYSICS 121 EQUATIONS

Chapter 2: Kinematic in one dimension

$$x_f = x_i + v_i \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} a \Delta t^2$$

$$v_f = v_i + a \Delta t$$

$$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2a \Delta x$$

Kinematic equations for linear motion when the acceleration is constant.

$$v_x = \frac{dx}{dt}$$

Calculus of the velocity function.

$$a_x = \frac{dv_x}{dt}$$

Calculus of the acceleration function.

$$x_f = x_i + \int_{t_i}^{t_f} v_x dt$$

Calculus of the velocity/position functions.

$$v_f = v_i + \int_{t_i}^{t_f} a_x dt$$

Calculus of the velocity/acceleration function.

$$a = g \sin \theta$$

Acceleration of object on frictionless incline.

$$\omega = \frac{d\theta}{dt}$$

Definition of angular velocity.

Chapter 3: Vectors

$$\vec{A} + \vec{B} = (A_x + B_x)\hat{i} + (A_y + B_y)\hat{j}$$

Adding vectors using components.

$$|\vec{A}| = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2}$$

Magnitude of a vector.

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{A_y}{A_x}$$

Angle a vector makes with the x-axis.

$$A_x = A \cos \theta$$
$$A_y = A \sin \theta$$

Vector components (When θ is measured from the x-axis)

Chapter 4: Kinematic in two dimensions

$$\omega = \frac{d\theta}{dt}$$

Definition of angular velocity.

$$\alpha = \frac{d\omega}{dt}$$

Definition of angular acceleration.

$$a_c = \frac{v^2}{r} = \omega^2 r$$

Definition of centripetal acceleration.

$$T = \frac{2\pi r}{v} = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$$

Definition of period.

$$\omega_f = \omega_i + \alpha \Delta t$$

$$\theta_f = \theta_i + \omega_i \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \alpha \Delta t^2$$

$$\omega_f^2 = \omega_i^2 + 2\alpha \Delta \theta$$

Kinematic equations for rotating objects when the acceleration is constant.

$$s = r\theta$$

Conversion from angular position to position along the arc.

$$v = r\omega$$

Conversion from angular velocity to tangential velocity.

$a = r\alpha$ Conversion from angular acceleration to tangential acceleration.

$\vec{v}_{CB} = \vec{v}_{CA} + \vec{v}_{AB}$ Relative motion conversion. (Given an object's velocity in one frame of reference, what is that object's velocity in another frame of reference)

Chapter 6: Newton's Second Law

$\vec{F}_{\text{net}} = m\vec{a}$ Newton's Second Law.

$\vec{F}_{\text{B on A}} = -\vec{F}_{\text{A on B}}$ Newton's Third Law.

$\sum F_x = 0 \quad \sum F_y = 0$ Conditions for equilibrium.

$F_G = mg$ Force of gravity

$f_{s \text{ max}} = \mu_s N$ Static Friction.

$f_k = \mu_k N$ Kinetic Friction.

$f_R = \mu_R N$ Rolling Friction.

$\vec{D} = \frac{1}{2}C\rho Av^2$ Air Drag (resistance).

$v = \sqrt{\frac{2mg}{C\rho A}}$ Terminal velocity.

Chapter 8: Newton's Second Law for circular motion

$\sum F_r = ma_r = m\frac{v^2}{r} = m\omega^2 r$ Newton's Second Law in radial direction.

$\sum F_t = ma_t$ Newton's Second Law in tangential direction.

$v = \sqrt{rg}$ Speed of orbiting object

Chapter 9: Work and Energy

$W = \int_{s_i}^{s_f} F_s ds$ Work (non constant force)

$W = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta\vec{r}$ Work (constant force)

$W_{\text{net}} = \Delta K$ Work-Kinetic Energy theorem

$K_i + U_i + W_{\text{ext}} = K_f + U_f + \Delta E_{\text{th}}$ Conservation of energy including work and friction

$\Delta E_{\text{th}} = f_k \Delta s$ Thermal Energy

$F_s = -\frac{dU}{ds}$ Relation between force and potential energy (conservative force)

$P = \frac{dE}{dt}$
 $P = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}$ Power

Chapter 10: Energy

$$K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$
 Kinetic Energy.

$$U_g = mgy$$
 Gravitational Potential Energy.

$$U_s = \frac{1}{2}k\Delta s^2$$
 Elastic Potential Energy.

$$K + U_g + U_s$$
 Mechanical Energy.

$$K_f + U_f = K_i + U_i$$
 Conservation of Mechanical Energy.

$$F = -k\Delta s$$
 Hooke's Law.

$$(v_{fx})_1 = \frac{m_1 - m_2}{m_1 + m_2}(v_{ix})_1$$
$$(v_{fx})_2 = \frac{2m_1}{m_1 + m_2}(v_{ix})_1$$
 Perfectly elastic collisions

Chapter 11: Momentum

$$\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$$
 Linear momentum.

$$J = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} F(t)dt$$
 Impulse.

$$\Delta p_x = J_x \quad \Delta p_y = J_y$$
 Impulse-momentum theorem.

$$\vec{F} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}$$
 Newton's Second Law.

$$(p_{fx})_1 + (p_{fx})_2 + \dots = (p_{fx})_1 + (p_{fx})_2$$
 Conservation of momentum.

Chapter 12: Rotational Motion

$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$$
 Torque

$$x_{\text{cm}} = \frac{m_1x_1 + m_2x_2 + \dots}{m_1 + m_2 + \dots}$$
 Center of Mass

$$x_{\text{cm}} = \frac{1}{M} \int x dm$$
 Center of Mass

$$I = m_1r_1^2 + m_2r_2^2 + \dots$$
 Moment of Inertia

$$I = \int r^2 dm$$
 Moment of Inertia

$$\vec{\tau} = I\alpha$$
 Newton's Second law for rotational situation

$$\vec{\tau} = \frac{d\vec{L}}{dt}$$
 Newton's Second law for rotational situation

$$L = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$$
 Angular Momentum of collection of point masses

$$L = I\omega$$
 Angular Momentum of solid object

$I = I_{\text{cm}} + md^2$	Parallel-axis theorem
$I = \frac{2}{5}mR^2$	Moment of Inertia for solid sphere rotated about its center
$I = \frac{2}{3}mR^2$	Moment of Inertia for a hollow sphere rotated about its center.
$I = mR^2$	Moment of Inertia for hoop or thin cylindrical shell rotated about center
$I = \frac{1}{2}mR^2$	Moment of Inertia for solid cylinder or disk rotated about its center
$I = \frac{1}{12}mL^2$	Moment of Inertia for long rod rotated about its center.
$I = \frac{1}{3}mL^2$	Moment of Inertia for long rod rotated about its end.
$K_{\text{rot}} = \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2$	Rotational kinetic energy.

Chapter 13: Gravitation

$\vec{F}_{\text{Monm}} = -\vec{F}_{\text{monM}} = \frac{GMm}{r^2}$	Force of gravity between two objects.
$v = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{r}}$	speed an orbiting object must have.
$T^2 = \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{GM}\right)r^3$	Kepler's third law.
$U = -\frac{GMm}{r}$	Gravitational potential energy.
$v = \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{r}}$	Escape speed.
$g = \frac{GM}{R^2}$	free-fall acceleration at surface of planet.

Useful Math equations

quadratic formula: $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

Trigonometric functions:

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$$

Dot Product: $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y = |A||B| \cos \alpha$ (α is the angle between the two vectors)

Cross Product: $\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = |A||B| \sin \alpha$ (α is the angle between \vec{A} and \vec{B} . Direction given by the right-hand rule)

Constants

Mass of Earth: 5.98×10^{24} kg

Radius of Earth: 6.37×10^6 m

Free fall acceleration: $g = 9.80$ m/s²

Gravitational constant: $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11}$ N m²/kg²

Conversions

1 in = 2.54 cm

1 mile = 1.609 km
1 meter = 39.37 in
1 mph = 0.447 m/s
1 rad = $180^\circ/\pi = 57.3^\circ$
1 rev = $360^\circ = 2\pi$ rad