

12.4 General (Particle) Kinematics

- “curvilinear” is still one-dimensional, but not necessarily straight
- we now need vector quantities:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r} &= x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k} \\ \vec{v} &= \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \\ \vec{a} &= \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2}\end{aligned}$$

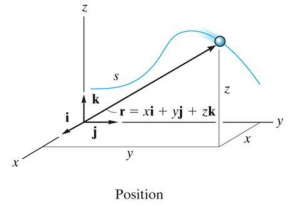


1

12.5 Rectangular Components

- note the book's vector notation

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r} &= x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k} \\ \mathbf{v} &= \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \\ \mathbf{a} &= \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = \frac{d^2\mathbf{r}}{dt^2}\end{aligned}$$



2

12.5 Rectangular Components

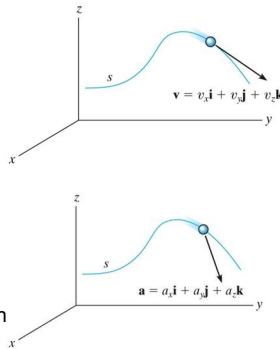
- unit vectors are constants

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r} &= x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k} \\ \vec{v} &= v_x\hat{i} + v_y\hat{j} + v_z\hat{k} \\ &= \dot{x}\hat{i} + \dot{y}\hat{j} + \dot{z}\hat{k}\end{aligned}$$

- velocity always tangent to path

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{a} &= a_x\hat{i} + a_y\hat{j} + a_z\hat{k} \\ &= \dot{v}_x\hat{i} + \dot{v}_y\hat{j} + \dot{v}_z\hat{k} \\ &= \ddot{x}\hat{i} + \ddot{y}\hat{j} + \ddot{z}\hat{k}\end{aligned}$$

- acceleration usually not tangent to the path

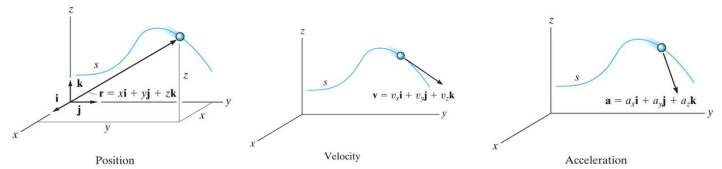


3

12.5 Rectangular Components

$$\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k} \quad \vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \quad \vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$$

- \vec{v} points in the direction of changing \vec{r}
- \vec{a} points in the direction of changing \vec{v}

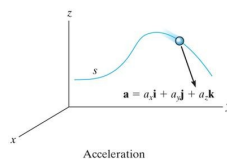


4

12.5 Rectangular Components

$$\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k} \quad \vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \quad \vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$$

- \vec{v} points in the direction of changing \vec{r}
- \vec{a} points in the direction of changing \vec{v}
- acceleration tangent to the path represents speeding up (+) & slowing down (-)
- acceleration perpendicular to the path points in the direction it's turning



5

12.5 Rectangular Components

The 1D kinematic equations may be used individually for each component:

$$v_x = \frac{dx}{dt} \quad a_x = \frac{dv_x}{dt} \quad v_x dt = dx \quad a_x dt = dv_x$$

$$a_x dx = v_x dv_x$$

1D kinematics also apply to distance along the curved path, s (as long as the acceleration refers only to the tangential component):

$$v = \frac{ds}{dt} \quad a_t = \frac{dv}{dt} \quad v dt = ds \quad a_t dt = dv$$

$$a_t ds = v dv$$

6

12.5 Rectangular Components

Many solutions will require that you're comfortable with the chain rule (see Appendix C). For example:

$$\begin{aligned} y = f(x) \quad \dot{y} &= \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{df}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt} & \ddot{y} &= \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{df}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt} \right) \\ &= \frac{df}{dx} \dot{x} & &= \frac{df}{dx} \ddot{x} + \dot{x} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{df}{dx} \right) \end{aligned}$$