

Arvind Borde / PHY 17, Week 3: Projectiles; Charged Particles

§3.1 Gravitational Force Near Earth

The gravitational force on an object of mass m near the earth is given to a very good approximation by $m\vec{g}$, where the direction of \vec{g} is _____ and its magnitude is _____.

This arises from a more fundamental force law.

(1) What law?

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(2) With

$$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2,$$

$$M_E = 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg},$$

$$r = R_E = 6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m},$$

calculate to four decimal places

$$a = \left[G \frac{M_E}{r^2} \right]$$

(i.e., mag. of grav. acc. of m at surface of earth)

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(3) Calculate the same quantity 1 km above the surface of the earth.

$$a =$$

So, the magnitude of the acceleration of a mass, m , due to the earth's gravitational pull is constant to a very good approximation over vertical distances small compared to the radius of the earth.

What about the direction?

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ADDITIONAL NOTES

Consider two points a distance s apart on the earth's surface. Let the angle between the directions of \vec{g} at the two points be θ , as shown.



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(4) If θ is in radians, what's the connection between it, s and R_E ?

(5) If $s = 1$ km, what's θ in radians and degrees?

Rad: _____.

Deg: _____.

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The differences in both magnitude and direction of \vec{g} across ~ 1 km are negligible for many problems.

A particle dropping through a distance of 1 km will land $10^3 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-4} = 0.16$ m from the predicted spot. That's 16 cm, good enough for many purposes, such as artillery. If our region of interest had dimensions of 10^2 m, the accuracy would improve by a factor 10^{-2} , good enough for baseball.

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§3.2 Projectile Motion

We'll use the assumption of constant \vec{g} to study

_____.

A projectile is a point particle moving close enough to the surface of the earth, and over small enough horizontal distances, that our assumption of constant \vec{g} is reasonable.

10 Call the mass of the particle m .

We'll take $t = 0$ as our initial time, and $\vec{v}_0 \equiv \vec{v}(0)$ as the initial velocity of the particle.

Decomposing \vec{v}_0 into horizontal and vertical components, we pick the y axis to be vertical (positive upward), and the x axis in the direction of the horizontal component of \vec{v}_0 . If there is no horizontal component, we chose the x axis in an arbitrary horizontal direction.

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We'll pick the initial position, $\vec{r}_0 = \vec{r}(0)$ to be some arbitrary point. That is,

$$(x(0), y(0), z(0)) \equiv (x_0, y_0, z_0).$$

The forces in the problem are that of gravity, $-m\vec{g}$ (constant by our assumption), acting in the downward y direction, and possible other forces \vec{F}_{other} .

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ADDITIONAL NOTES

These other forces are usually frictional, because of resistance from the medium, often air.

From NSL, and our coordinate setup, etc.,

$$\begin{aligned}
 m\ddot{x} &= F_{\text{other},x}, & v_x(0) &= v_{0x}, & x(0) &= x_0 \\
 m\ddot{y} &= -mg + F_{\text{other},y}, & v_y(0) &= v_{0y}, & y(0) &= y_0 \\
 m\ddot{z} &= F_{\text{other},z}, & v_z(0) &= 0, & z(0) &= z_0
 \end{aligned}$$

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§3.3 Projectiles Without Resistance

The only force here is the force of gravity exerted by the earth on a particle of mass m ; we assume $\vec{F}_{\text{other}} = \vec{0}$.

§3.3.1 z motion: It follows that $z(t) = 0 \forall t$, so we have a 2-d, x - y problem.

To get the x and y motions, we use $v_x(t) \equiv \dot{x}(t)$ and $v_y \equiv \dot{y}(t)$, and integrate NSL twice.

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§3.3.2 x motion:

$$m\ddot{x} = m \frac{dv_x(t)}{dt} = 0$$

(6) Get $x(t)$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{x}(t) &= v_x(t) = \\
 x(t) &=
 \end{aligned}$$

Since there are no forces in the x direction Newton's _____ law holds.

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§3.3.3 y motion:

$$m\ddot{y} = m \frac{dv_y(t)}{dt} = -mg$$

(7) Get $y(t)$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{y}(t) &= v_y(t) = \\
 y(t) &=
 \end{aligned}$$

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(8) You're standing on a building that's 40 m high. You throw a water balloon at an angle of 27° with the horizontal, at a speed of 22.0 m/s (roughly 50 mi/hr).

- (a) How high does it go?
- (c) How long does it take to hit the ground?
- (b) How far does it go before it hits the ground?

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Step 1: Resolve initial velocity into components:

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_{x0} &= \\
 v_{y0} &=
 \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Get maximum height:

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ADDITIONAL NOTES

Step 3: Get time to get to the ground.

(9) Which of these t s is relevant to the balloon hitting the ground after launch? _____

(10) What's with the negative answer?

Step 4: Get total horizontal distance.

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(11) If you threw your balloon *horizontally* from the 40 m building at a speed of 27 m/s, get a formula for how far it would drop vertically after t s.

We have $v_{x0} =$ _____ and $v_{y0} =$ _____

So, $y =$

(12) In the previous situation, would it make a difference to the formula for y had you thrown the balloon at a horizontal speed of 2.7 m/s? _____

2,700,000 m/s? _____ 0 m/s? _____

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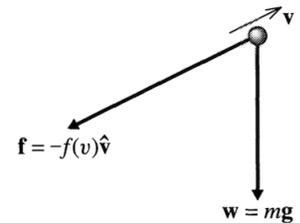
§3.4 Projectiles With Resistance

The resistance, as said above, is usually a frictional force, called drag, \vec{f} , exerted by the medium.

Drag is, in general, very complicated. In the simplest case, it opposes the velocity, $\vec{f} \propto -\vec{v}$, and that's all we'll look at.

Curveballs, airplane lift, etc., won't be discussed.

We assume the magnitude of the drag force depends only on the magnitude, v , of the velocity. Expanding $f(v)$ in powers of v , the lowest order terms are



$$f(v) = bv + cv^2 \equiv f_{\text{lin}} + f_{\text{quad}}$$

(No constant term 'cause _____.)

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ADDITIONAL NOTES

§3.4.1 The origin of f_{lin}

Arises from the viscous drag of the medium, and is proportional to the viscosity of the medium, and the linear dimensions of the particle:

$$f_{\text{lin}} \equiv bv = (3\pi\eta D)v,$$

where η is the viscosity of the medium, and D is a measure of the linear size of the particle.

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Dimensions: $[D]=L$, so $[\eta]=M\cdot L^{-1}\cdot S^{-1}$.

In SI units, the units are $\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1} \equiv \text{u}$.

Values (under “standard conditions”):

Air: $1.7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ u}$

Water: 1.00 u

Milk: 2.12 u

Vinegar: $\sim 13 \text{ u}$

Honey: $\sim 6 \times 10^3 \text{ u}$

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§3.4.2 The origin of f_{quad}

OK, so f_{lin} arises from viscosity. What of f_{quad} ?

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Depending on the situation one, or the other, force is dominant – or both are equally important.

These are not easy problems, but we can look at a few simple examples.

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§3.5 **Linear resistance**

$$m\ddot{\vec{r}} = m\dot{\vec{v}} = -m\vec{g} - b\vec{v}$$

Splitting into x and y components:

$$m\dot{v}_x = -bv_x$$

$$m\dot{v}_y = -mg - bv_y$$

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§3.5.1 Horizontal motion

$$\dot{v}_x(t) = -(b/m)v_x(t)$$

(13) Solve $\frac{dv_x(t)}{dt} = -\frac{b}{m}v_x(t)$.

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ADDITIONAL NOTES

(14) What's A in terms of the initial variables?

So

Remembering $v_x(t) = \dot{x}(t)$, what do we ask?

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(15) What's $x(t)$?

$$x(t) =$$

=

(16) What's $x(0)$?

$$x(0) = x_0 =$$

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Assume that $x_0 = 0$. Then,

(17) What's $x(t)$?

$$x(t) =$$

=

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(18) What's $v_{x_\infty} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v_x(t)$?

In other words, under these assumptions, your speed slows not just to a crawl, but to 0.

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(19) What's $x_\infty = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t)$?

$$x_\infty =$$

Therefore, you can go "this far and no further."

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ADDITIONAL NOTES
