

Engineering Mechanics

# DYNAMICS

Fourteenth Edition



R. C. Hibbeler

ENGINEERING MECHANICS

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FOURTEENTH EDITION

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R. C. HIBBELER

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*Art Editor:* Gregory Dulles  
*Senior Digital Producer:* Felipe Gonzalez  
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## To the Student

With the hope that this work will stimulate  
an interest in Engineering Mechanics  
and provide an acceptable guide to its understanding.

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The main purpose of this book is to provide the student with a clear and thorough presentation of the theory and application of engineering mechanics. To achieve this objective, this work has been shaped by the comments and suggestions of hundreds of reviewers in the teaching profession, as well as many of the author's students.

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## New to this Edition

**Preliminary Problems.** This new feature can be found throughout the text, and is given just before the Fundamental Problems. The intent here is to test the student's conceptual understanding of the theory. Normally the solutions require little or no calculation, and as such, these problems provide a basic understanding of the concepts before they are applied numerically. All the solutions are given in the back of the text.

**Expanded Important Points Sections.** Summaries have been added which reinforces the reading material and highlights the important definitions and concepts of the sections.

**Re-writing of Text Material.** Further clarification of concepts has been included in this edition, and important definitions are now in boldface throughout the text to highlight their importance.

**End-of-the-Chapter Review Problems.** All the review problems now have solutions given in the back, so that students can check their work when studying for exams, and reviewing their skills when the chapter is finished.

**New Photos.** The relevance of knowing the subject matter is reflected by the real-world applications depicted in the over 30 new or updated photos placed throughout the book. These photos generally are used to explain how the relevant principles apply to real-world situations and how materials behave under load.

**New Problems.** There are approximately 30% new problems that have been added to this edition, which involve applications to many different fields of engineering.



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## Hallmark Features

Besides the new features mentioned above, other outstanding features that define the contents of the text include the following.

**Organization and Approach.** Each chapter is organized into well-defined sections that contain an explanation of specific topics, illustrative example problems, and a set of homework problems. The topics within each section are placed into subgroups defined by boldface titles. The purpose of this is to present a structured method for introducing each new definition or concept and to make the book convenient for later reference and review.

**Chapter Contents.** Each chapter begins with an illustration demonstrating a broad-range application of the material within the chapter. A bulleted list of the chapter contents is provided to give a general overview of the material that will be covered.

**Emphasis on Free-Body Diagrams.** Drawing a free-body diagram is particularly important when solving problems, and for this reason this step is strongly emphasized throughout the book. In particular, special sections and examples are devoted to show how to draw free-body diagrams. Specific homework problems have also been added to develop this practice.

**Procedures for Analysis.** A general procedure for analyzing any mechanical problem is presented at the end of the first chapter. Then this procedure is customized to relate to specific types of problems that are covered throughout the book. This unique feature provides the student with a logical and orderly method to follow when applying the theory. The example problems are solved using this outlined method in order to clarify its numerical application. Realize, however, that once the relevant principles have been mastered and enough confidence and judgment have been obtained, the student can then develop his or her own procedures for solving problems.

**Important Points.** This feature provides a review or summary of the most important concepts in a section and highlights the most significant points that should be realized when applying the theory to solve problems.

**Fundamental Problems.** These problem sets are selectively located just after most of the example problems. They provide students with simple applications of the concepts, and therefore, the chance to develop their problem-solving skills before attempting to solve any of the standard problems that follow. In addition, they can be used for preparing for exams, and they can be used at a later time when preparing for the Fundamentals in Engineering Exam.

**Conceptual Understanding.** Through the use of photographs placed throughout the book, theory is applied in a simplified way in order to illustrate some of its more important conceptual features and instill the physical meaning of many of the terms

used in the equations. These simplified applications increase interest in the subject matter and better prepare the student to understand the examples and solve problems.

**Homework Problems.** Apart from the Fundamental and Conceptual type problems mentioned previously, other types of problems contained in the book include the following:

- **Free-Body Diagram Problems.** Some sections of the book contain introductory problems that only require drawing the free-body diagram for the specific problems within a problem set. These assignments will impress upon the student the importance of mastering this skill as a requirement for a complete solution of any equilibrium problem.
- **General Analysis and Design Problems.** The majority of problems in the book depict realistic situations encountered in engineering practice. Some of these problems come from actual products used in industry. It is hoped that this realism will both stimulate the student's interest in engineering mechanics and provide a means for developing the skill to reduce any such problem from its physical description to a model or symbolic representation to which the principles of mechanics may be applied.

Throughout the book, there is an approximate balance of problems using either SI or FPS units. Furthermore, in any set, an attempt has been made to arrange the problems in order of increasing difficulty except for the end of chapter review problems, which are presented in random order.

- **Computer Problems.** An effort has been made to include some problems that may be solved using a numerical procedure executed on either a desktop computer or a programmable pocket calculator. The intent here is to broaden the student's capacity for using other forms of mathematical analysis without sacrificing the time needed to focus on the application of the principles of mechanics. Problems of this type, which either can or must be solved using numerical procedures, are identified by a "square" symbol (■) preceding the problem number.

The many homework problems in this edition, have been placed into two different categories. Problems that are simply indicated by a problem number have an answer and in some cases an additional numerical result given in the back of the book. An asterisk (\*) before every fourth problem number indicates a problem without an answer.

**Accuracy.** As with the previous editions, apart from the author, the accuracy of the text and problem solutions has been thoroughly checked by four other parties: Scott Hendricks, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Karim Nohra, University of South Florida; Kurt Norlin, Bittner Development Group; and finally Kai Beng, a practicing engineer, who in addition to accuracy review provided suggestions for problem development.

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## Contents

The book is divided into 11 chapters, in which the principles are first applied to simple, then to more complicated situations.

The kinematics of a particle is discussed in Chapter 12, followed by a discussion of particle kinetics in Chapter 13 (Equation of Motion), Chapter 14 (Work and Energy), and Chapter 15 (Impulse and Momentum). The concepts of particle dynamics contained in these four chapters are then summarized in a “review” section, and the student is given the chance to identify and solve a variety of problems. A similar sequence of presentation is given for the planar motion of a rigid body: Chapter 16 (Planar Kinematics), Chapter 17 (Equations of Motion), Chapter 18 (Work and Energy), and Chapter 19 (Impulse and Momentum), followed by a summary and review set of problems for these chapters.

If time permits, some of the material involving three-dimensional rigid-body motion may be included in the course. The kinematics and kinetics of this motion are discussed in Chapters 20 and 21, respectively. Chapter 22 (Vibrations) may be included if the student has the necessary mathematical background. Sections of the book that are considered to be beyond the scope of the basic dynamics course are indicated by a star (★) and may be omitted. Note that this material also provides a suitable reference for basic principles when it is discussed in more advanced courses. Finally, Appendix A provides a list of mathematical formulas needed to solve the problems in the book, Appendix B provides a brief review of vector analysis, and Appendix C reviews application of the chain rule.

**Alternative Coverage.** At the discretion of the instructor, it is possible to cover Chapters 12 through 19 in the following order with no loss in continuity: Chapters 12 and 16 (Kinematics), Chapters 13 and 17 (Equations of Motion), Chapter 14 and 18 (Work and Energy), and Chapters 15 and 19 (Impulse and Momentum).

---

## Acknowledgments

The author has endeavored to write this book so that it will appeal to both the student and instructor. Through the years, many people have helped in its development, and I will always be grateful for their valued suggestions and comments. Specifically, I wish to thank all the individuals who have contributed their comments relative to preparing the fourteenth edition of this work, and in particular, R. Bankhead of Highline Community College, K. Cook-Chennault of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, E. Erisman, College of Lake County Illinois, M. Freeman of the University of Alabama, H. Lu of University of Texas at Dallas, J. Morgan of Texas A & M University, R. Neptune of the University of Texas, I. Orabi of the University of New Haven, T. Tan, University of Memphis, R. Viesca of Tufts University, and G. Young, Oklahoma State University.

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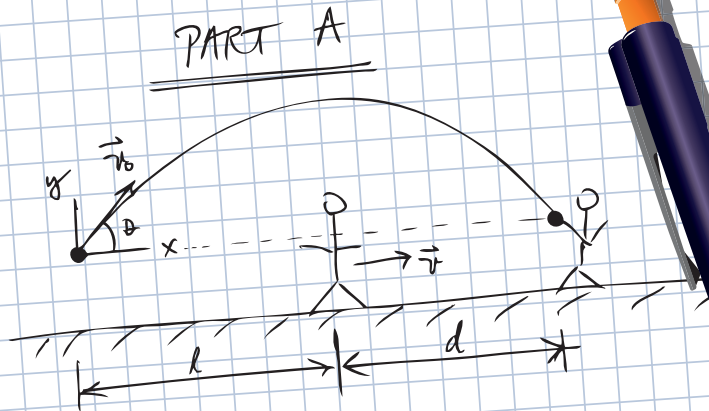
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Lastly, many thanks are extended to all my students and to members of the teaching profession who have freely taken the time to e-mail me their suggestions and comments. Since this list is too long to mention, it is hoped that those who have given help in this manner will accept this anonymous recognition.

I would greatly appreciate hearing from you if at any time you have any comments, suggestions, or problems related to any matters regarding this edition.

*Russell Charles Hibbeler*  
*hibbeler@bellsouth.net*

# your work...



$$\text{given} = v = 7.000 \text{ m/s}; t = 2.000 \text{ s}; l = 18.00 \text{ m}$$

$$d = v \cdot t \Rightarrow d = (7.000 \text{ m/s})(2.000 \text{ s}) = 14.00 \text{ m}$$

$$x = l + d \Rightarrow x = 18.00 \text{ m} + 14.00 \text{ m} = 32.00 \text{ m}$$

$$g = 9.807 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$v_{0x} = \frac{x}{t} = \frac{32.00 \text{ m}}{2.000 \text{ s}} = 16.00 \text{ m/s (COMP. X)}$$

$$v_{0y} = \frac{1}{2}gt = \frac{1}{2}(9.807 \text{ m/s}^2)(2.000 \text{ s}) = 9.80 \text{ m/s (COMP. Y)}$$

$$v_0 = v_{0x} + v_{0y} = 16.00 \text{ m/s} + 9.80 \text{ m/s} = 25.80 \text{ m/s (TOTAL)}$$

$$\boxed{v_0 = 25.80 \text{ m/s}}$$

# your answer **specific feedback**

Express the initial speed to four significant figures in meters per second.

$v_0 =$   m/s

Calculator toolbar:  $\sqrt{\square}$ ,  $\Delta\Sigma\phi$ ,  $\updownarrow$ ,  $\text{vec}$ ,  $\leftarrow$ ,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\text{refresh}$ ,  $\text{input}$ ,  $?$

**Submit** [Hints](#) [My Answers](#) [Give Up](#) [Review Part](#)

**Incorrect; Try Again; 5 attempts remaining**

This is the sum of the components of the velocity. You need to use the Pythagorean theorem to find the total velocity.  
You may need to review [Vector Magnitudes](#).

---

## Resources for Instructors

- **MasteringEngineering.** This online Tutorial Homework program allows you to integrate dynamic homework with automatic grading and adaptive tutoring. MasteringEngineering allows you to easily track the performance of your entire class on an assignment-by-assignment basis, or the detailed work of an individual student.
- **Instructor's Solutions Manual.** This supplement provides complete solutions supported by problem statements and problem figures. The fourteenth edition manual was revised to improve readability and was triple accuracy checked. The Instructor's Solutions Manual is available on Pearson Higher Education website: [www.pearsonhighered.com](http://www.pearsonhighered.com).
- **Instructor's Resource.** Visual resources to accompany the text are located on the Pearson Higher Education website: [www.pearsonhighered.com](http://www.pearsonhighered.com). If you are in need of a login and password for this site, please contact your local Pearson representative. Visual resources include all art from the text, available in PowerPoint slide and JPEG format.
- **Video Solutions.** Developed by Professor Edward Berger, Purdue University, video solutions are located in the study area of MasteringEngineering and offer step-by-step solution walkthroughs of representative homework problems from each section of the text. Make efficient use of class time and office hours by showing students the complete and concise problem-solving approaches that they can access any time and view at their own pace. The videos are designed to be a flexible resource to be used however each instructor and student prefers. A valuable tutorial resource, the videos are also helpful for student self-evaluation as students can pause the videos to check their understanding and work alongside the video. Access the videos at [www.masteringengineering.com](http://www.masteringengineering.com)

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## Resources for Students

- **MasteringEngineering.** Tutorial homework problems emulate the instructor's office-hour environment, guiding students through engineering concepts with self-paced individualized coaching. These in-depth tutorial homework problems are designed to coach students with feedback specific to their errors and optional hints that break problems down into simpler steps.
- **Dynamics Study Pack.** This supplement contains chapter-by-chapter study materials and a Free-Body Diagram Workbook.
- **Video Solutions** Complete, step-by-step solution walkthroughs of representative homework problems from each section. Videos offer fully worked solutions that show every step of representative homework problems—this helps students make vital connections between concepts.
- **Dynamics Practice Problems Workbook.** This workbook contains additional worked problems. The problems are partially solved and are designed to help guide students through difficult topics.

---

## Ordering Options

The *Dynamics Study Pack* and MasteringEngineering resources are available as stand-alone items for student purchase and are also available packaged with the texts. The ISBN for each valuepack is as follows:

- *Engineering Mechanics: Dynamics* with Study Pack: ISBN: 0134116658
- *Engineering Mechanics: Dynamics Plus MasteringEngineering* with Pearson eText — Access Card Package: ISBN: 0134116992

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# CONTENTS



## 12 Kinematics of a Particle 3

- Chapter Objectives 3
- 12.1 Introduction 3
- 12.2 Rectilinear Kinematics: Continuous Motion 5
- 12.3 Rectilinear Kinematics: Erratic Motion 20
- 12.4 General Curvilinear Motion 34
- 12.5 Curvilinear Motion: Rectangular Components 36
- 12.6 Motion of a Projectile 41
- 12.7 Curvilinear Motion: Normal and Tangential Components 56
- 12.8 Curvilinear Motion: Cylindrical Components 71
- 12.9 Absolute Dependent Motion Analysis of Two Particles 85
- 12.10 Relative-Motion of Two Particles Using Translating Axes 91



## 13 Kinetics of a Particle: Force and Acceleration 113

- Chapter Objectives 113
- 13.1 Newton's Second Law of Motion 113
- 13.2 The Equation of Motion 116
- 13.3 Equation of Motion for a System of Particles 118
- 13.4 Equations of Motion: Rectangular Coordinates 120
- 13.5 Equations of Motion: Normal and Tangential Coordinates 138
- 13.6 Equations of Motion: Cylindrical Coordinates 152
- \*13.7 Central-Force Motion and Space Mechanics 164



## 14

### Kinetics of a Particle: Work and Energy 179

- Chapter Objectives 179
- 14.1 The Work of a Force 179
- 14.2 Principle of Work and Energy 184
- 14.3 Principle of Work and Energy for a System of Particles 186
- 14.4 Power and Efficiency 204
- 14.5 Conservative Forces and Potential Energy 213
- 14.6 Conservation of Energy 217

## 15

### Kinetics of a Particle: Impulse and Momentum 237

- Chapter Objectives 237
- 15.1 Principle of Linear Impulse and Momentum 237
- 15.2 Principle of Linear Impulse and Momentum for a System of Particles 240
- 15.3 Conservation of Linear Momentum for a System of Particles 254
- 15.4 Impact 266
- 15.5 Angular Momentum 280
- 15.6 Relation Between Moment of a Force and Angular Momentum 281
- 15.7 Principle of Angular Impulse and Momentum 284
- 15.8 Steady Flow of a Fluid Stream 295
- \*15.9 Propulsion with Variable Mass 300



## 16 Planar Kinematics of a Rigid Body 319

- Chapter Objectives 319
- 16.1 Planar Rigid-Body Motion 319
- 16.2 Translation 321
- 16.3 Rotation about a Fixed Axis 322
- 16.4 Absolute Motion Analysis 338
- 16.5 Relative-Motion Analysis: Velocity 346
- 16.6 Instantaneous Center of Zero Velocity 360
- 16.7 Relative-Motion Analysis:  
Acceleration 373
- 16.8 Relative-Motion Analysis using Rotating  
Axes 389



## 17 Planar Kinetics of a Rigid Body: Force and Acceleration 409

- Chapter Objectives 409
- 17.1 Mass Moment of Inertia 409
- 17.2 Planar Kinetic Equations of Motion 423
- 17.3 Equations of Motion: Translation 426
- 17.4 Equations of Motion: Rotation about a  
Fixed Axis 441
- 17.5 Equations of Motion: General Plane  
Motion 456



## 18 Planar Kinetics of a Rigid Body: Work and Energy 473

- Chapter Objectives 473
- 18.1 Kinetic Energy 473
- 18.2 The Work of a Force 476
- 18.3 The Work of a Couple Moment 478
- 18.4 Principle of Work and Energy 480
- 18.5 Conservation of Energy 496



## 19 Planar Kinetics of a Rigid Body: Impulse and Momentum 517

- Chapter Objectives 517
- 19.1 Linear and Angular Momentum 517
- 19.2 Principle of Impulse and Momentum 523
- 19.3 Conservation of Momentum 540
- \*19.4 Eccentric Impact 544





## 20 Three-Dimensional Kinematics of a Rigid Body 561

- Chapter Objectives 561
- 20.1 Rotation About a Fixed Point 561
  - \*20.2 The Time Derivative of a Vector Measured from Either a Fixed or Translating-Rotating System 564
  - 20.3 General Motion 569
  - \*20.4 Relative-Motion Analysis Using Translating and Rotating Axes 578



## 21 Three-Dimensional Kinetics of a Rigid Body 591

- Chapter Objectives 591
- \*21.1 Moments and Products of Inertia 591
  - 21.2 Angular Momentum 601
  - 21.3 Kinetic Energy 604
  - \*21.4 Equations of Motion 612
  - \*21.5 Gyroscopic Motion 626
  - 21.6 Torque-Free Motion 632



## 22 Vibrations 643

- Chapter Objectives 643
- \*22.1 Undamped Free Vibration 643
- \*22.2 Energy Methods 657
- \*22.3 Undamped Forced Vibration 663
- \*22.4 Viscous Damped Free Vibration 667
- \*22.5 Viscous Damped Forced Vibration 670
- \*22.6 Electrical Circuit Analogs 673

### Appendix

- A. Mathematical Expressions 682
- B. Vector Analysis 684
- C. The Chain Rule 689

### Fundamental Problems Partial Solutions And Answers 692

### Preliminary Problems Dynamics Solutions 713

### Review Problem Solutions 723

### Answers to Selected Problems 733

### Index 745

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ENGINEERING MECHANICS

# DYNAMICS

FOURTEENTH EDITION

# Chapter 12



(© Lars Johansson/Fotolia)

Although each of these boats is rather large, from a distance their motion can be analyzed as if each were a particle.

# Kinematics of a Particle

## CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

- To introduce the concepts of position, displacement, velocity, and acceleration.
- To study particle motion along a straight line and represent this motion graphically.
- To investigate particle motion along a curved path using different coordinate systems.
- To present an analysis of dependent motion of two particles.
- To examine the principles of relative motion of two particles using translating axes.

---

## 12.1 Introduction

**Mechanics** is a branch of the physical sciences that is concerned with the state of rest or motion of bodies subjected to the action of forces. Engineering mechanics is divided into two areas of study, namely, statics and dynamics. **Statics** is concerned with the equilibrium of a body that is either at rest or moves with constant velocity. Here we will consider **dynamics**, which deals with the accelerated motion of a body. The subject of dynamics will be presented in two parts: *kinematics*, which treats only the geometric aspects of the motion, and *kinetics*, which is the analysis of the forces causing the motion. To develop these principles, the dynamics of a particle will be discussed first, followed by topics in rigid-body dynamics in two and then three dimensions.

Historically, the principles of dynamics developed when it was possible to make an accurate measurement of time. Galileo Galilei (1564–1642) was one of the first major contributors to this field. His work consisted of experiments using pendulums and falling bodies. The most significant contributions in dynamics, however, were made by Isaac Newton (1642–1727), who is noted for his formulation of the three fundamental laws of motion and the law of universal gravitational attraction. Shortly after these laws were postulated, important techniques for their application were developed by Euler, D’Alembert, Lagrange, and others.

There are many problems in engineering whose solutions require application of the principles of dynamics. Typically the structural design of any vehicle, such as an automobile or airplane, requires consideration of the motion to which it is subjected. This is also true for many mechanical devices, such as motors, pumps, movable tools, industrial manipulators, and machinery. Furthermore, predictions of the motions of artificial satellites, projectiles, and spacecraft are based on the theory of dynamics. With further advances in technology, there will be an even greater need for knowing how to apply the principles of this subject.

**Problem Solving.** Dynamics is considered to be more involved than statics since both the forces applied to a body and its motion must be taken into account. Also, many applications require using calculus, rather than just algebra and trigonometry. In any case, the most effective way of learning the principles of dynamics is *to solve problems*. To be successful at this, it is necessary to present the work in a logical and orderly manner as suggested by the following sequence of steps:

1. Read the problem carefully and try to correlate the actual physical situation with the theory you have studied.
2. Draw any necessary diagrams and tabulate the problem data.
3. Establish a coordinate system and apply the relevant principles, generally in mathematical form.
4. Solve the necessary equations algebraically as far as practical; then, use a consistent set of units and complete the solution numerically. Report the answer with no more significant figures than the accuracy of the given data.
5. Study the answer using technical judgment and common sense to determine whether or not it seems reasonable.
6. Once the solution has been completed, review the problem. Try to think of other ways of obtaining the same solution.

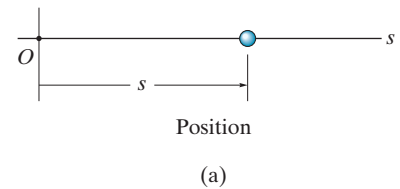
In applying this general procedure, do the work as neatly as possible. Being neat generally stimulates clear and orderly thinking, and vice versa.

## 12.2 Rectilinear Kinematics: Continuous Motion

We will begin our study of dynamics by discussing the kinematics of a particle that moves along a rectilinear or straight-line path. Recall that a *particle* has a mass but negligible size and shape. Therefore we must limit application to those objects that have dimensions that are of no consequence in the analysis of the motion. In most problems, we will be interested in bodies of finite size, such as rockets, projectiles, or vehicles. Each of these objects can be considered as a particle, as long as the motion is characterized by the motion of its mass center and any rotation of the body is neglected.

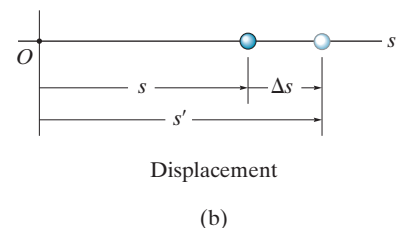
**Rectilinear Kinematics.** The kinematics of a particle is characterized by specifying, at any given instant, the particle's position, velocity, and acceleration.

**Position.** The straight-line path of a particle will be defined using a single coordinate axis  $s$ , Fig. 12-1a. The origin  $O$  on the path is a fixed point, and from this point the **position coordinate**  $s$  is used to specify the location of the particle at any given instant. The magnitude of  $s$  is the distance from  $O$  to the particle, usually measured in meters (m) or feet (ft), and the sense of direction is defined by the algebraic sign on  $s$ . Although the choice is arbitrary, in this case  $s$  is positive since the coordinate axis is positive to the right of the origin. Likewise, it is negative if the particle is located to the left of  $O$ . Realize that *position is a vector quantity* since it has both magnitude and direction. Here, however, it is being represented by the algebraic scalar  $s$ , rather than in boldface  $\mathbf{s}$ , since the direction always remains along the coordinate axis.



**Displacement.** The **displacement** of the particle is defined as the *change in its position*. For example, if the particle moves from one point to another, Fig. 12-1b, the displacement is

$$\Delta s = s' - s$$



**Fig. 12-1**

In this case  $\Delta s$  is *positive* since the particle's final position is to the *right* of its initial position, i.e.,  $s' > s$ . Likewise, if the final position were to the *left* of its initial position,  $\Delta s$  would be *negative*.

The displacement of a particle is also a *vector quantity*, and it should be distinguished from the distance the particle travels. Specifically, the *distance traveled* is a *positive scalar* that represents the total length of path over which the particle travels.

**Velocity.** If the particle moves through a displacement  $\Delta s$  during the time interval  $\Delta t$ , the **average velocity** of the particle during this time interval is

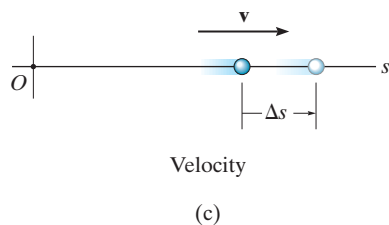
$$v_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta s}{\Delta t}$$

If we take smaller and smaller values of  $\Delta t$ , the magnitude of  $\Delta s$  becomes smaller and smaller. Consequently, the **instantaneous velocity** is a vector defined as  $v = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} (\Delta s / \Delta t)$ , or

( $\pm$ )

$$v = \frac{ds}{dt}$$

(12-1)

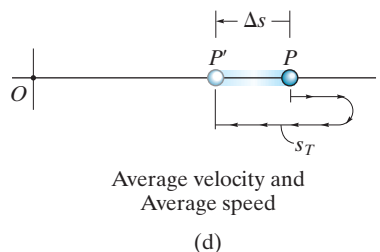


Since  $\Delta t$  or  $dt$  is always positive, the sign used to define the *sense* of the velocity is the same as that of  $\Delta s$  or  $ds$ . For example, if the particle is moving to the *right*, Fig. 12-1c, the velocity is *positive*; whereas if it is moving to the *left*, the velocity is *negative*. (This is emphasized here by the arrow written at the left of Eq. 12-1.) The *magnitude* of the velocity is known as the **speed**, and it is generally expressed in units of m/s or ft/s.

Occasionally, the term “average speed” is used. The **average speed** is always a positive scalar and is defined as the total distance traveled by a particle,  $s_T$ , divided by the elapsed time  $\Delta t$ ; i.e.,

$$(v_{\text{sp}})_{\text{avg}} = \frac{s_T}{\Delta t}$$

For example, the particle in Fig. 12-1d travels along the path of length  $s_T$  in time  $\Delta t$ , so its average speed is  $(v_{\text{sp}})_{\text{avg}} = s_T / \Delta t$ , but its average velocity is  $v_{\text{avg}} = -\Delta s / \Delta t$ .



**Fig. 12-1 (cont.)**

**Acceleration.** Provided the velocity of the particle is known at two points, the **average acceleration** of the particle during the time interval  $\Delta t$  is defined as

$$a_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$

Here  $\Delta v$  represents the difference in the velocity during the time interval  $\Delta t$ , i.e.,  $\Delta v = v' - v$ , Fig. 12-1e.

The **instantaneous acceleration** at time  $t$  is a *vector* that is found by taking smaller and smaller values of  $\Delta t$  and corresponding smaller and smaller values of  $\Delta v$ , so that  $a = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} (\Delta v / \Delta t)$ , or

$$(\pm) \quad \boxed{a = \frac{dv}{dt}} \quad (12-2)$$

Substituting Eq. 12-1 into this result, we can also write

$$(\pm) \quad a = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2}$$

Both the average and instantaneous acceleration can be either positive or negative. In particular, when the particle is *slowing down*, or its speed is decreasing, the particle is said to be **decelerating**. In this case,  $v'$  in Fig. 12-1f is *less* than  $v$ , and so  $\Delta v = v' - v$  will be negative. Consequently,  $a$  will also be negative, and therefore it will act to the *left*, in the *opposite sense* to  $v$ . Also, notice that if the particle is originally at rest, then it can have an acceleration if a moment later it has a velocity  $v'$ ; and, if the *velocity* is *constant*, then the *acceleration is zero* since  $\Delta v = v - v = 0$ . Units commonly used to express the magnitude of acceleration are  $\text{m/s}^2$  or  $\text{ft/s}^2$ .

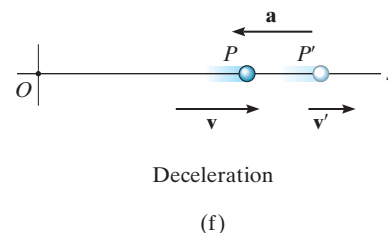
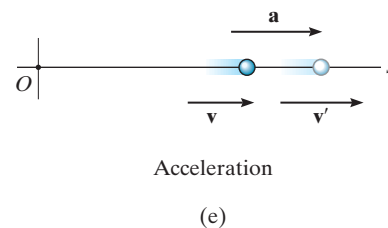
Finally, an important differential relation involving the displacement, velocity, and acceleration along the path may be obtained by eliminating the time differential  $dt$  between Eqs. 12-1 and 12-2. We have

$$dt = \frac{ds}{v} = \frac{dv}{a}$$

or

$$(\pm) \quad \boxed{a ds = v dv} \quad (12-3)$$

Although we have now produced three important kinematic equations, realize that the above equation is not independent of Eqs. 12-1 and 12-2.



**Fig. 12-1 (cont.)**





When the ball is released, it has zero velocity but an acceleration of  $9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$ .  
(© R.C. Hibbeler)

**Constant Acceleration,  $a = a_c$ .** When the acceleration is constant, each of the three kinematic equations  $a_c = dv/dt$ ,  $v = ds/dt$ , and  $a_c ds = v dv$  can be integrated to obtain formulas that relate  $a_c$ ,  $v$ ,  $s$ , and  $t$ .

**Velocity as a Function of Time.** Integrate  $a_c = dv/dt$ , assuming that initially  $v = v_0$  when  $t = 0$ .

$$\int_{v_0}^v dv = \int_0^t a_c dt$$

$$v = v_0 + a_c t \quad (12-4)$$

Constant Acceleration

**Position as a Function of Time.** Integrate  $v = ds/dt = v_0 + a_c t$ , assuming that initially  $s = s_0$  when  $t = 0$ .

$$\int_{s_0}^s ds = \int_0^t (v_0 + a_c t) dt$$

$$s = s_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} a_c t^2 \quad (12-5)$$

Constant Acceleration

**Velocity as a Function of Position.** Either solve for  $t$  in Eq. 12-4 and substitute into Eq. 12-5, or integrate  $v dv = a_c ds$ , assuming that initially  $v = v_0$  at  $s = s_0$ .

$$\int_{v_0}^v v dv = \int_{s_0}^s a_c ds$$

$$v^2 = v_0^2 + 2a_c(s - s_0) \quad (12-6)$$

Constant Acceleration

The algebraic signs of  $s_0$ ,  $v_0$ , and  $a_c$ , used in the above three equations, are determined from the positive direction of the  $s$  axis as indicated by the arrow written at the left of each equation. Remember that these equations are useful *only when the acceleration is constant and when*  $t = 0$ ,  $s = s_0$ ,  $v = v_0$ . A typical example of constant accelerated motion occurs when a body falls freely toward the earth. If air resistance is neglected and the distance of fall is short, then the *downward* acceleration of the body when it is close to the earth is constant and approximately  $9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$  or  $32.2 \text{ ft/s}^2$ . The proof of this is given in Example 13.2.

## Important Points

- Dynamics is concerned with bodies that have accelerated motion.
- Kinematics is a study of the geometry of the motion.
- Kinetics is a study of the forces that cause the motion.
- Rectilinear kinematics refers to straight-line motion.
- Speed refers to the magnitude of velocity.
- Average speed is the total distance traveled divided by the total time. This is different from the average velocity, which is the displacement divided by the time.
- A particle that is slowing down is decelerating.
- A particle can have an acceleration and yet have zero velocity.
- The relationship  $a ds = v dv$  is derived from  $a = dv/dt$  and  $v = ds/dt$ , by eliminating  $dt$ .



During the time this rocket undergoes rectilinear motion, its altitude as a function of time can be measured and expressed as  $s = s(t)$ . Its velocity can then be found using  $v = ds/dt$ , and its acceleration can be determined from  $a = dv/dt$ . (© NASA)

## Procedure for Analysis

### Coordinate System.

- Establish a position coordinate  $s$  along the path and specify its *fixed origin* and positive direction.
- Since motion is along a straight line, the vector quantities position, velocity, and acceleration can be represented as algebraic scalars. For analytical work the sense of  $s$ ,  $v$ , and  $a$  is then defined by their *algebraic signs*.
- The positive sense for each of these scalars can be indicated by an arrow shown alongside each kinematic equation as it is applied.

### Kinematic Equations.

- If a relation is known between any *two* of the four variables  $a$ ,  $v$ ,  $s$ , and  $t$ , then a third variable can be obtained by using one of the kinematic equations,  $a = dv/dt$ ,  $v = ds/dt$  or  $a ds = v dv$ , since each equation relates all three variables.\*
- Whenever integration is performed, it is important that the position and velocity be known at a given instant in order to evaluate either the constant of integration if an indefinite integral is used, or the limits of integration if a definite integral is used.
- Remember that Eqs. 12–4 through 12–6 have only limited use. These equations apply *only* when the *acceleration is constant* and the initial conditions are  $s = s_0$  and  $v = v_0$  when  $t = 0$ .

\*Some standard differentiation and integration formulas are given in Appendix A.