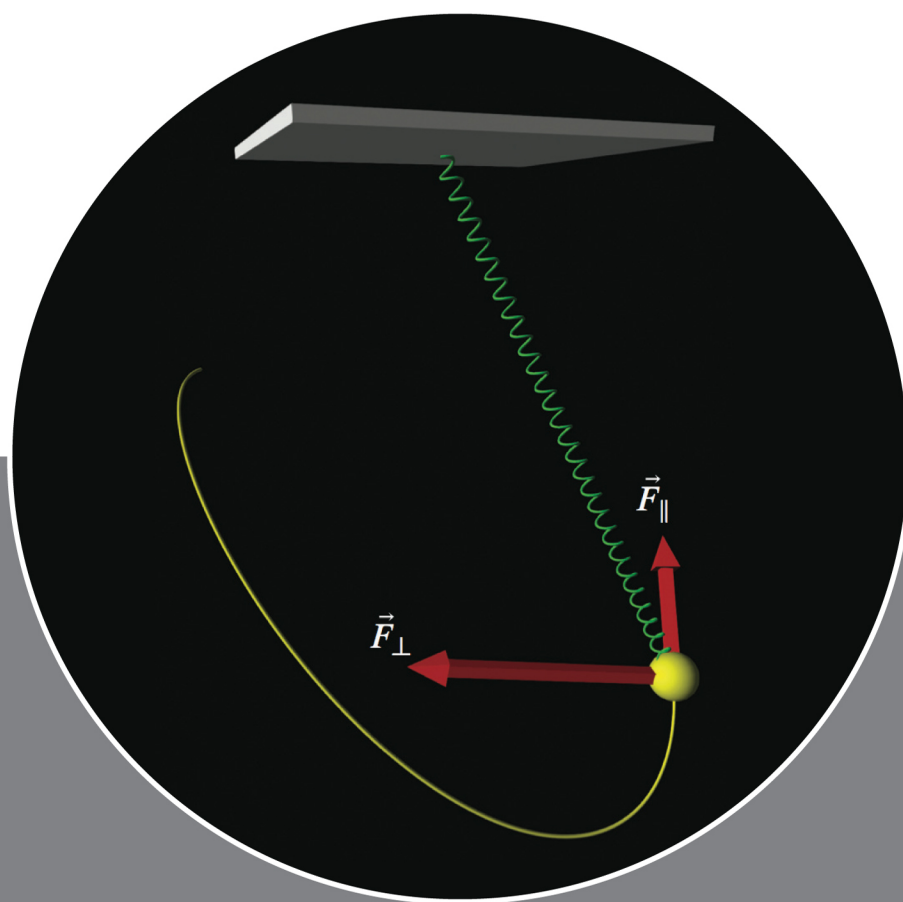


MATTER & INTERACTIONS



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Matter & Interactions

VOLUME I

Modern Mechanics

VOLUME II

Electric and Magnetic Interactions

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Preface

TO THE STUDENT

This textbook emphasizes a 20th-century perspective on introductory physics. Contemporary physicists build models of the natural world that are based on a small set of fundamental physics principles and on an understanding of the microscopic structure of matter, and they apply these models to explain and predict a very broad range of physical phenomena. In order to involve students of introductory physics in the contemporary physics enterprise, this textbook emphasizes:

- Reasoning directly from a small number of fundamental physics principles, rather than from a large set of special-case equations.
- Integrating contemporary insights, such as atomic models of matter, quantized energy, and relativistic dynamics, throughout the curriculum.
- Engaging in the full process of creating and refining physical models (idealizing, making approximations, explicitly stating assumptions, and estimating quantities).
- Reasoning iteratively about the time-evolution of system behavior, both on paper and through the construction and application of computational models.

Because the physical world is 3-dimensional, we work in 3D throughout the text. Many students find the approach to 3D vectors used in this book easier than standard treatments of 2D vectors.

Textbook and Supplemental Resources

Modern Mechanics (Volume 1, Chapters 1–12) focuses on the atomic structure of matter and interactions between material objects. It emphasizes the wide applicability and utility of a small number of fundamental principles: the Momentum Principle, the Energy Principle, and the Angular Momentum Principle, and the Fundamental Assumption of Statistical Mechanics. We study how to explain and predict the behavior of systems as different as elementary particles, molecules, solid metals, and galaxies.

Electric and Magnetic Interactions (Volume 2, Chapters 13–23) emphasizes the somewhat more abstract concepts of electric and magnetic fields and extends the study of the atomic structure of matter to include the role of electrons. The principles of electricity and magnetism are the foundation for much of today's technology, from cell phones to medical imaging.

Additional resources for students are freely available at this site:

www.wiley.com/college/chabay

The web resources include several supplements. A copy of Chapter 1 is provided for students who are currently using Volume 2 but whose previous physics course did not use Volume 1. This chapter introduces 3D vectors and vector algebra, and includes an introduction to computational modeling in VPython, which is used throughout the textbook.

Supplement S1 treats the kinetic theory of gases and heat engines, and can be used by students who have completed Chapter 12 on Entropy. Supplement S2 explains the basic principles of PN junctions in semiconductor devices, and can be used by students who have completed Chapter 21: Patterns of Field in Space. Supplement S3 includes a more mathematically sophisticated treatment of mechanical and electromagnetic waves and wave phenomena, and

can be used by students who have completed Chapter 23 on Electromagnetic Radiation.

Answers to odd-numbered problems may be found at the end of the book.

The new Student Solutions Manual is available for purchase as a printed supplement and contains fully worked solutions for a subset of end of chapter problems.

Prerequisites

This book is intended for introductory calculus-based college physics courses taken by science and engineering students. It requires a basic knowledge of derivatives and integrals, which can be obtained by studying calculus concurrently.

Modeling

Matter & Interactions places a major emphasis on constructing and using physical models. A central aspect of science is the modeling of complex real-world phenomena. A physical model is based on what we believe to be fundamental principles; its intent is to predict or explain the most important aspects of an actual situation. Modeling necessarily involves making approximations and simplifying assumptions that make it possible to analyze a system in detail.

Computational Modeling

Computational modeling is now as important as theory and experiment in contemporary science and engineering. We introduce you to serious computer modeling right away to help you build a strong foundation in the use of this important tool.

In this course you will construct simple computational models based on fundamental physics principles. You do not need any prior programming experience—this course will teach you the small number of computational concepts you will need. Using VPython, a computational environment based on the Python programming language, you will find that after less than an hour you can write a simple computational model that produces a navigable 3D animation as a side effect of your physics code.

Computational modeling allows us to analyze complex systems that would otherwise require very sophisticated mathematics or that could not be analyzed at all without a computer. Numerical calculations based on the Momentum Principle give us the opportunity to watch the dynamical evolution of the behavior of a system. Simple models frequently need to be refined and extended. This can be done straightforwardly with a computer model but is often impossible with a purely analytical (non-numerical) model.

VPython is free, and runs on Windows, MacOS, and Linux. Instructions in Chapter 1 tell you how to install it on your own computer, and how to find a set of instructional videos that will help you learn to use VPython.

Questions

As you read the text, you will frequently come to a question that looks like this:














QUESTION What should I do when I encounter a question in the text?

A question invites you to stop and think, to make a prediction, to carry out a step in a derivation or analysis, or to apply a principle. These questions are answered in the following paragraphs, but it is important that you make a serious effort to answer the questions on your own before reading further. Be honest in comparing your answers to those in the text. Paying attention to surprising or counterintuitive results can be a useful learning strategy.

Checkpoints

Checkpoints at the end of some sections ask you to apply new concepts or techniques. These may involve qualitative reasoning or simple calculations. You should complete these checkpoints when you come to them, before reading further. The goal of a checkpoint is to help you consolidate your understanding of the material you have just read, and to make sure you are ready to continue reading. Answers to checkpoints are found at the end of each chapter.

Conventions Used in Diagrams

	Force
	Component of force
	Velocity
	Momentum
	Electric field
	Component of electric field
	Magnetic field
	Component of magnetic field
	Position
	Angular momentum
	Torque
	Distance
	A path

The conventions most commonly used to represent vectors and scalars in diagrams in this text are shown in the margin. In equations and text, a vector will be written with an arrow above it: \vec{p} .

TO THE INSTRUCTOR

The approach to introductory physics in this textbook differs significantly from that in most textbooks. Key emphases of the approach include:

- Starting from fundamental principles rather than secondary formulas
- Atomic-level description and analysis
- Modeling the real world through idealizations and approximations
- Computational modeling of physical systems
- Unification of mechanics and thermal physics
- Unification of electrostatics and circuits
- The use of 3D vectors throughout

Web Resources for Instructors

Instructor resources are available at this web site:

www.wiley.com/college/chabay

Resources on this site include lecture-demo software, textbook figures, clicker questions, test questions, lab activities including experiments and computational modeling, a computational modeling guide, and a full solutions manual. Contact your Wiley representative for information about this site.

Electronic versions of the homework problems are available in WebAssign:

www.webassign.net

Some instructor resources are available through WebAssign as well.

Other information may be found on the authors' *Matter & Interactions* web site:

matterandinteractions.org

Also on the authors' website are reprints of published articles about *Matter & Interactions*, including these:

- Chabay, R. & Sherwood, B. (1999). Bringing atoms into first-year physics. *American Journal of Physics* 67, 1045–1050.
- Chabay, R. W. & Sherwood, B. (2004). Modern mechanics. *American Journal of Physics* 72, 439–445.
- Chabay, R. W. & Sherwood, B. (2006). Restructuring Introductory E&M. *American Journal of Physics* 74, 329–336.
- Chabay, R. & Sherwood, B. (2008) Computational physics in the introductory calculus-based course. *American Journal of Physics* 76(4&5), 307–313.
- Beichner, R., Chabay, R., & Sherwood, B. (2010) Labs for the Matter & Interactions curriculum. *American Journal of Physics* 78(5), 456–460.

Computational Homework Problems

Some important homework problems require the student to write a simple computer program. The textbook and associated instructional videos teach VPython, which is based on the Python programming language, and which generates real-time 3D animations as a side effect of simple physics code written by students. Such animations provide powerfully motivating and instructive visualizations of fields and motions. VPython supports true vector computations, which encourages students to begin thinking about vectors as much more than mere components. VPython can be obtained at no cost for Windows, Macintosh, and Linux at vpython.org.

In the instructor resources section of matterandinteractions.org is “A Brief Guide to Computational Modeling in Matter & Interactions” which explains how to incorporate computation into the curriculum in a way that is easy for instructors to manage and which is entirely accessible to students with no prior programming experience. There you will also find a growing list of advanced computational physics textbooks that use VPython, which means that introducing students to Python and VPython in the introductory physics course can be of direct utility in later courses. Python itself is now widely used in technical fields.

Desktop Experiment Kit for Volume 2

On the authors’ web site mentioned above is information about a desktop experiment kit for E&M that is distributed by PASCO. The simple equipment in this kit allows students to make key observations of electrostatic, circuit, and magnetic phenomena, tightly integrated with the theory (www.pasco.com, search for EM-8675). Several chapters contain optional experiments that can be done with this kit. This does not preclude having other, more complex laboratory experiences associated with the curriculum. For example, one such lab that we use deals with Faraday’s law and requires signal generators, large coils, and oscilloscopes. You may have lab experiments already in place that will go well with this textbook.

What’s New in the 4th Edition

The 4th edition of this text includes the following major new features:

- Increased support for computational modeling throughout, including sample code.
- Discussion throughout the text contrasting iterative and analytical problem solutions.
- Many new computational modeling problems (small and large).
- Improved discussion throughout the text of the contrast between models of a system as a point particle and as an extended system.
- An improved discussion of the Momentum Principle throughout Volume 1, emphasizing that the future momentum depends on two elements: the momentum now, and the impulse applied.
- Improved treatment of polarization surface charge in electrostatics (Chapter 14) and circuits (Chapter 18) based on the results of detailed 3D computational models.
- A more extensive set of problems at the end of each chapter, with improved indication of difficulty level.

In order to reduce cost and weight, some materials that have seen little use by instructors have been moved to the Wiley web site (www.wiley.com/college/chabay) where they are freely available. These materials include Supplement S1 (Chapter 13 in the 3rd Edition: kinetic theory of gases, thermal processes, and heat engines), Supplement S2 on PN

junctions (formerly an optional section in Chapter 22 in the 3rd Edition), and Supplement S3 (a significantly extended version of Chapter 25 in the 3rd Edition: electromagnetic interference and diffraction, wave-particle duality, and a new section on mechanical waves and the wave equation).

Additional changes in the 4th Edition include:

- In Chapter 5, improved treatment of curving motion and an added section on the dynamics of multiobject systems.
- An improved sequence of topics in Chapter 6, with an explicit discussion of the role of energy in computational models, and an improved treatment of path independence, highlighting its limitation to point particles.
- A new section in Chapter 7 on the effect of the choice of reference frame on the form of the Energy Principle, and explicit instruction on how to model several kinds of friction in a computational model.
- In Chapter 8, discussion of the lifetime of excited states and on the probabilistic nature of energy transitions.
- In Chapter 9, now renamed “Translational, Rotational, and Vibrational Energy,” improved treatment of the energetics of deformable systems.
- In Chapter 11, analysis of a physical pendulum.
- A detailed discussion in Chapter 16 of how to calculate potential difference by numerical path integration.
- An improved treatment of motional emf in the case of a bar dragged along rails (Chapter 20).

Suggestions for Condensed Courses

In a large course for engineering and science students with three 50-minute lectures and one 110-minute small-group studio lab per week, or in a studio format with five 50-minute sessions per week, it is possible to complete most but not all of the mechanics and E&M material in two 15-week semesters. In an honors course, or a course for physics majors, it is possible to do almost everything. You may be able to go further or deeper if your course has a weekly recitation session in addition to lecture and lab.

What can be omitted if there is not enough time to do everything? In mechanics, the one thing we feel should not be omitted is the introduction to entropy in terms of the statistical mechanics of the Einstein solid (Chapter 12). This is a climax of the integration of mechanics and thermal physics. One approach to deciding what mechanics topics can be omitted is to be guided by what foundation is required for Chapter 12. See other detailed suggestions below.

In E&M, one should not omit electromagnetic radiation and its effects on matter (Chapter 23). This is the climax of the whole E&M enterprise. One way to decide what E&M topics can be omitted is to be guided by what foundation is required for Chapter 23. See other detailed suggestions below.

Any starred section (*) can safely be omitted. Material in these sections is not referenced in later work. In addition, the following sections may be omitted:

Chapter 3 (The Fundamental Interactions): The section on determinism may be omitted.

Chapter 4 (Contact Interactions): Buoyancy and pressure may be omitted (one can return to these topics by using Supplement S1 on gases).

Chapter 7 (Internal Energy): If you are pressed for time, you might choose to omit the second half of the chapter on energy dissipation, beginning with Section 7.10.

Chapter 9 (Translational, Rotational, and Vibrational Energy): The formalism of finding the center of mass may be skipped, because the important

applications have obvious locations of the center of mass. Although they are very instructive, it is possible to omit the sections contrasting point-particle with extended system models; you may also omit the analysis of sliding friction.

Chapter 10 (Collisions): A good candidate for omission is the analysis of collisions in the center-of-mass frame. Since there is a basic introduction to collisions in Chapter 3 (before energy is introduced), one could omit all of Chapter 10. On the other hand, the combined use of the Momentum Principle and the Energy Principle can illuminate both fundamental principles.

Chapter 11 (Angular Momentum): The main content of this chapter should not be omitted, as it introduces the third fundamental principle of mechanics, the Angular Momentum Principle. One might choose to omit most applications involving nonzero torque.

Chapter 12 (Entropy: Limits on the Possible): The second half of this chapter, on the Boltzmann distribution, may be omitted if necessary.

Chapter 15 (Electric Field of Distributed Charges): It is important that students acquire a good working knowledge of the patterns of electric field around some standard charged objects (rod, ring, disk, capacitor, sphere). If however they themselves are to acquire significant expertise in setting up physical integrals, they need extensive practice, and you might decide that the amount of time necessary for acquiring this expertise is not an appropriate use of the available course time.

Chapter 16 (Electric Potential): The section on dielectric constant can be omitted if necessary.

Chapter 17 (Magnetic Field): In the sections on the atomic structure of magnets, you might choose to discuss only the first part, in which one finds that the magnetic moment of a bar magnet is consistent with an atomic model. Omitting the remaining sections on spin and domains will not cause significant difficulties later.

Chapter 19 (Circuit Elements): The sections on series and parallel resistors and on internal resistance, meters, quantitative analysis of RC circuits, and multiloop circuits can be omitted. Physics and engineering students who need to analyze complex multiloop circuits will later take specialized courses on the topic; in the introductory physics course the emphasis should be on giving all students a good grounding in the fundamental mechanisms underlying circuit behavior.

Chapter 20 (Magnetic Force): We recommend discussing Alice and Bob and Einstein, but it is safe to omit the sections on relativistic field transformations. However, students often express high interest in the relationship between electric fields and magnetic fields, and here is an opportunity to satisfy some aspects of their curiosity. Motors and generators may be omitted or downplayed. The case study on sparks in air can be omitted, because nothing later depends critically on this topic, though it provides an introductory-level example of a phenomenon where an intuitively appealing model fails utterly, while a different model predicts several key features of the phenomenon. Another possibility is to discuss sparks near the end of the course, because it can be a useful review of many aspects of E&M.

Chapter 22 (Faraday's Law): Though it can safely be omitted, we recommend retaining the section on superconductors, because students are curious about this topic. The section on inductance may be omitted.

Chapter 23 (Electromagnetic Radiation): The treatment of geometrical optics may be omitted.

Acknowledgments

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Much of Chapter 12 on quantum statistical mechanics is based on an article by Thomas A. Moore and Daniel V. Schroeder, “A different approach to introducing statistical mechanics,” *American Journal of Physics*, vol. 65, pp. 26–36 (January 1997). We have benefited from many stimulating conversations with Thomas Moore, author of another introductory textbook that takes a contemporary view of physics, *Six Ideas that Shaped Physics*. Michael Weissman and Robert Swendsen provided particularly helpful critiques on some aspects of our implementation of Chapter 12.

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How the Figures Were Made

Almost all of the figures in this book were produced by us (for the third edition the Aptara studio created the figures that show human figures, and the studio added full color to our two-color versions from the second edition). Our main tool was Adobe Illustrator. The many 3D computer-generated images were made using VPython, with optional processing in POV-Ray using a module written by Ruth Chabay to generate a POV-Ray scene description file corresponding to a VPython scene, followed by editing in Adobe Photoshop before exporting to Illustrator. We used TeXstudio for editing LaTeX, with a package due in part to the work of Aptara. All the computer work was done on Windows computers.

Ruth Chabay and Bruce Sherwood
Santa Fe, New Mexico, July 2014

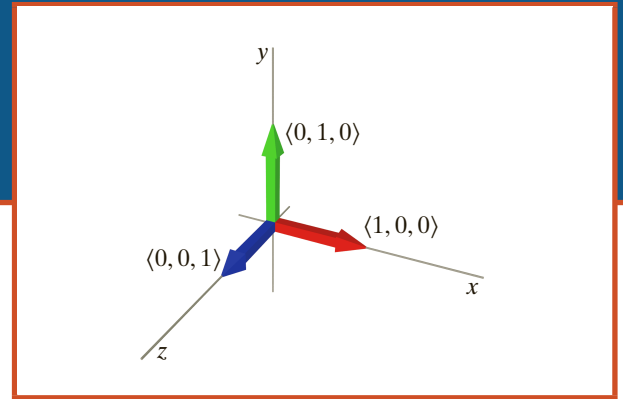
Biographical Background

Ruth Chabay earned a Ph.D in physical chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; her undergraduate degree was in chemistry from the University of Chicago. She is Professor Emerita in the Department of Physics at North Carolina State University and was Weston Visiting Professor, Department of Science Teaching, at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel. She has also taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Carnegie Mellon University. She is a Fellow of the American Physical Society.

Bruce Sherwood's Ph.D is in experimental particle physics from the University of Chicago; his undergraduate degree was in engineering science from Purdue University, after which he studied physics for one year at the University of Padua, Italy. He is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Physics at North Carolina State University. He has also taught at Caltech, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Carnegie Mellon University. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Chabay and Sherwood have been joint recipients of several educational awards. At Carnegie Mellon University they received the Ashkin Award for Teaching in the Mellon College of Science in 1999 and the Teaching Award of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars in 2001. At North Carolina State University they received the Margaret Cox Award for excellence in teaching and learning with technology in 2005. In 2014 the American Association of Physics Teachers presented them with the David Halliday and Robert Resnick Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Physics Teaching.

Interactions and Motion



This textbook deals with the nature of matter and its interactions. The main goal of this textbook is to have you engage in a process central to science: constructing and applying physical models based on a small set of powerful fundamental physical principles and the atomic structure of matter. The variety of phenomena that we will be able to model, explain, and predict is very wide, including the orbit of stars around a black hole, nuclear fusion, the formation of sparks in air, and the speed of sound in a solid. This first chapter deals with the physical idea of interactions.

OBJECTIVES

After studying this chapter you should be able to

- Deduce from observations of an object's motion whether or not it has interacted with its surroundings.
- Mathematically describe position and motion in three dimensions.
- Mathematically describe momentum and change of momentum in three dimensions.
- Read and modify a simple computational model of motion at constant velocity.

1.1 KINDS OF MATTER

We will deal with material objects of many sizes, from subatomic particles to galaxies. All of these objects have certain things in common.

Atoms and Nuclei

Ordinary matter is made up of tiny atoms. An atom isn't the smallest type of matter, for it is composed of even smaller objects (electrons, protons, and neutrons), but many of the ordinary everyday properties of ordinary matter can be understood in terms of atomic properties and interactions. As you probably know from studying chemistry, atoms have a very small, very dense core, called the nucleus, around which is found a cloud of electrons. The nucleus contains protons and neutrons, collectively called nucleons. Electrons are kept close to the nucleus by electric attraction to the protons (the neutrons hardly interact with the electrons).

QUESTION Recall your previous studies of chemistry. How many protons and electrons are there in a hydrogen atom? In a helium or carbon atom?

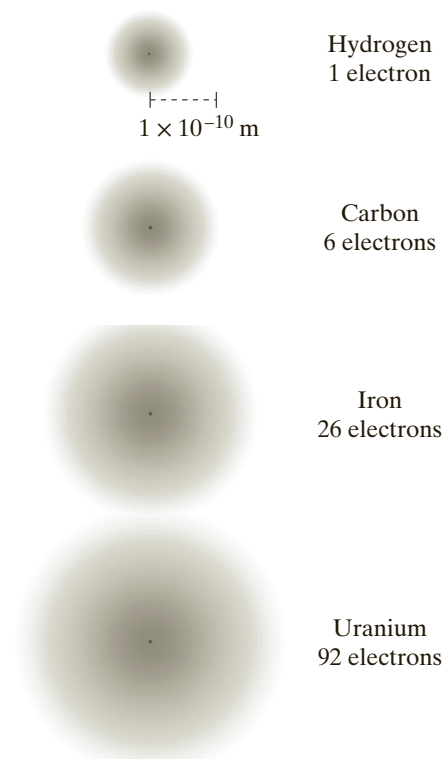


Figure 1.1 Atoms of hydrogen, carbon, iron, and uranium. The gray blur represents the electron cloud surrounding the nucleus. The black dot shows the location of the nucleus. On this scale, however, the nucleus would be much too small to see.

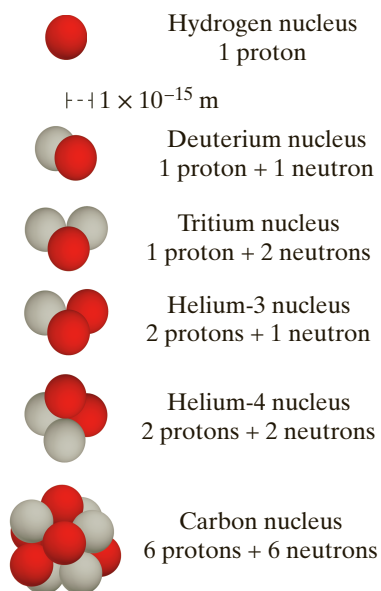


Figure 1.2 Nuclei of hydrogen, helium, and carbon. Note the *very* much smaller scale than in Figure 1.1!

When you encounter a question in the text, you should think for a moment before reading on. Active reading contributes to significantly greater understanding. In the case of the questions posed above, if you don't remember the properties of these atoms, it may help to refer to the periodic table on the inside front cover of this textbook.

Hydrogen is the simplest atom, with just one proton and one electron. A helium atom has two protons and two electrons. A carbon atom has six protons and six electrons. Near the other end of the chemical periodic table, a uranium atom has 92 protons and 92 electrons. Figure 1.1 shows the relative sizes of the electron clouds in atoms of several elements but cannot show the nucleus to the same scale; the tiny dot marking the nucleus in the figure is much larger than the actual nucleus.

The radius of the electron cloud for a typical atom is about 1×10^{-10} meter. The reason for this size can be understood using the principles of quantum mechanics, a major development in physics in the early 20th century. The radius of a proton is about 1×10^{-15} meter, very much smaller than the radius of the electron cloud.

Nuclei contain neutrons as well as protons (Figure 1.2). The most common form or “isotope” of hydrogen has no neutrons in the nucleus. However, there exist isotopes of hydrogen with one or two neutrons in the nucleus (in addition to the proton). Hydrogen atoms containing one or two neutrons are called deuterium or tritium. The most common isotope of helium has two neutrons (and two protons) in its nucleus, but a rare isotope has only one neutron; this is called helium-3.

The most common isotope of carbon has six neutrons together with the six protons in the nucleus (carbon-12), whereas carbon-14 with eight neutrons is an isotope that plays an important role in dating archaeological objects.

Near the other end of the periodic table, uranium-235, which can undergo a fission chain reaction, has 92 protons and 143 neutrons, whereas uranium-238, which does not undergo a fission chain reaction, has 92 protons and 146 neutrons.

Molecules and Solids

When atoms come in contact with each other, they may stick to each other (“bond” to each other). Several atoms bonded together can form a molecule—a substance whose physical and chemical properties differ from those of the constituent atoms. For example, water molecules (H_2O) have properties quite different from the properties of hydrogen atoms or oxygen atoms.

An ordinary-sized rigid object made of bound-together atoms and big enough to see and handle is called a solid, such as a bar of aluminum. A new kind of microscope, the scanning tunneling microscope (STM), is able to map the locations of atoms on the surface of a solid, which has provided new techniques for investigating matter at the atomic level. Two such images appear in Figure 1.3. You can see that atoms in a crystalline solid are arranged in a regular three-dimensional array. The arrangement of atoms on the surface depends on the direction along which the crystal is cut. The irregularities in the bottom image reflect “defects,” such as missing atoms, in the crystal structure.

Liquids and Gases

When a solid is heated to a higher temperature, the atoms in the solid vibrate more vigorously about their normal positions. If the temperature is raised high enough, this thermal agitation may destroy the rigid structure of the

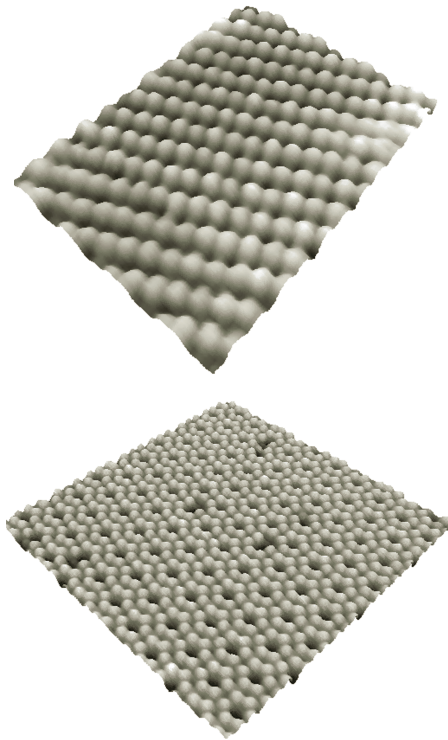


Figure 1.3 Two different surfaces of a crystal of pure silicon. The images were made with a scanning tunneling microscope. (Images courtesy of Randall Feenstra, IBM Corp.)

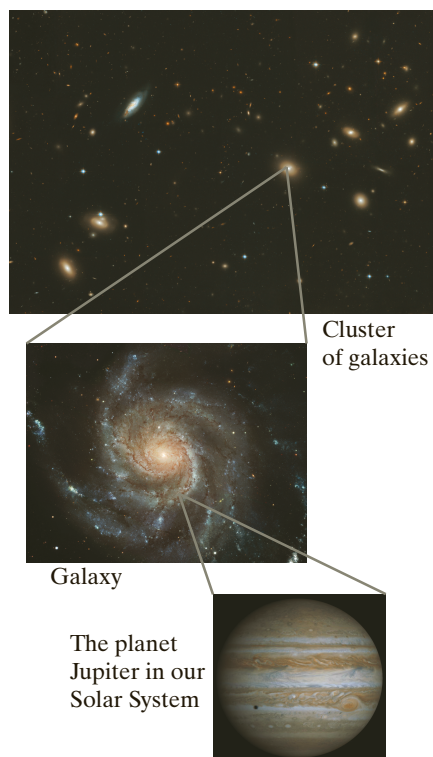


Figure 1.4 Our Solar System exists inside a galaxy, which itself is a member of a cluster of galaxies. (Photos courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech)

solid. The atoms may become able to slide over each other, in which case the substance is a liquid.

At even higher temperatures the thermal motion of the atoms or molecules may be so large as to break the interatomic or intermolecular bonds completely, and the liquid turns into a gas. In a gas the atoms or molecules are quite free to move around, only occasionally colliding with each other or the walls of their container.

We will learn how to analyze many aspects of the behavior of solids and gases. We won't have much to say about liquids, because their properties are much harder to analyze. Solids are simpler to analyze than liquids because the atoms stay in one place (though with thermal vibration about their usual positions). Gases are simpler to analyze than liquids because between collisions the gas molecules are approximately unaffected by the other molecules. Liquids are the awkward intermediate state, where the atoms move around rather freely but are always in contact with other atoms. This makes the analysis of liquids very complex.

Planets, Stars, Solar Systems, and Galaxies

In our brief survey of the kinds of matter that we will study, we make a giant leap in scale from atoms all the way up to planets and stars, such as our Earth and Sun. We will see that many of the same principles that apply to atoms apply to planets and stars. By making this leap we bypass an important physical science, geology, whose domain of interest includes the formation of mountains and continents. We will study objects that are much bigger than mountains, and we will study objects that are much smaller than mountains, but we don't have time to apply the principles of physics to every important kind of matter.

Our Sun and its accompanying planets constitute our Solar System. It is located in the Milky Way galaxy, a giant rotating disk-shaped system of stars. On a clear dark night you can see a band of light (the Milky Way) coming from the huge number of stars lying in this disk, which you are looking at from a position in the disk, about two-thirds of the way out from the center of the disk. Our galaxy is a member of a cluster of galaxies that move around each other much as the planets of our Solar System move around the Sun (Figure 1.4). The Universe contains many such clusters of galaxies.

Point Particles

It is common in physics to talk about the motion of a “point particle.” What we mean by a particle is an object whose size, shape, and internal structure are not important to us in the current context, and which we can consider to be located at a single point in space. In modeling the motion of a real object (whether it is a galaxy or a proton), we often choose to make the simplifying assumption that it is a point particle, as if Superman or a giant space alien had come along and squeezed the object until it was compressed into a very tiny, structureless microscopic speck with the full mass of the original object.

Of course, there are many situations in which it would be absurd to use this approximation. The Earth, for example, is a large, complex object, with a core of turbulent molten rock, huge moving continents, and massive sloshing oceans. Radioactivity keeps its core hot; electromagnetic radiation from the Sun warms its surface; and thermal energy is also radiated away into space. If we are interested in energy flows or continental motion or earthquakes we need to consider the detailed structure and composition of the Earth. However, if what we want to do is model the motion of the Earth as it interacts with other objects in our Solar System, it works quite well to ignore this complexity, and to

treat the Earth, the Sun, the Moon, and the other planets as if they were point particles.

Even most very tiny objects, such as atoms, protons, and neutrons, are not truly point particles—they do have finite size, and they have internal structure, which can influence their interactions with other objects. By contrast, electrons may really be point particles—they appear to have no internal structure, and attempts to measure the radius of an electron have not produced a definite number (recent experiments indicate only that the radius of an electron is less than 2×10^{-20} m, much smaller than a proton).

As we consider various aspects of matter and its interactions, it will be important for us to state explicitly whether or not we are modeling material objects as point particles, or as extended and perhaps deformable macroscopic chunks of matter. In Chapters 1–3 we will emphasize systems that can usefully be modeled as particles. In Chapter 4 we will begin to consider the detailed internal structure of material objects.

1.2 DETECTING INTERACTIONS

Objects made of different kinds of matter interact with each other in various ways: gravitationally, electrically, magnetically, and through nuclear interactions. How can we detect that an interaction has occurred? In this section we consider various kinds of observations that indicate the presence of interactions.

QUESTION Before you read further, take a moment to think about your own ideas of interactions. How can you tell that two objects are interacting with each other?



Figure 1.5 A proton moves through space, far from almost all other objects. The initial direction of the proton's motion is upward, as indicated by the arrow. The \times 's represent the position of the proton at equal time intervals.

Change of Direction of Motion

Suppose that you observe a proton moving through a region of outer space, far from almost all other objects. The proton moves along a path like the one shown in Figure 1.5. The arrow indicates the initial direction of the proton's motion, and the \times 's in the diagram indicate the position of the proton at equal time intervals.

QUESTION Do you see evidence in Figure 1.5 that the proton is interacting with another object?

Evidently a change in direction is a vivid indicator of interactions. If you observe a change in direction of the motion of a proton, you will find another object somewhere that has interacted with this proton.

QUESTION Suppose that the only other object nearby was another proton. What was the approximate initial location of this second proton?

Since two protons repel each other electrically, the second proton must have been located to the right of the bend in the first proton's path.

Change of Speed

Suppose that you observe an electron traveling in a straight line through outer space far from almost all other objects (Figure 1.6). The path of the electron is shown as though a camera had taken multiple exposures at equal time intervals.

QUESTION Where is the electron's speed largest? Where is the electron's speed smallest?

The speed is largest at the upper left, where the \times 's are farther apart, which means that the electron has moved farthest during the time interval between

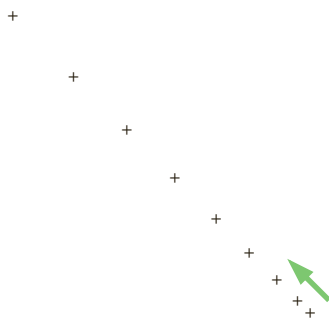


Figure 1.6 An electron moves through space, far from almost all other objects. The initial direction of the electron's motion is upward and to the left, as indicated by the arrow. The \times 's represent the position of the electron at equal time intervals.

exposures. The speed is smallest at the bottom right, where the \times 's are closer together, which means that the electron has moved the least distance during the time interval between exposures.

QUESTION Suppose that the only other object nearby was another electron. What was the approximate initial location of this other electron?

The other electron must have been located directly just below and to the right of the starting location, since electrons repel each other electrically.

Evidently a change in speed is an indicator of interactions. If you observe a change in speed of an electron, you will find another object somewhere that has interacted with the electron.

Velocity Includes Both Speed and Direction

In physics, the word “velocity” has a special technical meaning that is different from its meaning in everyday speech. In physics, the quantity called “velocity” denotes a combination of speed and direction. Even if the speed or direction of motion is changing, the velocity has a precise value (speed and direction) at any instant. In contrast, in everyday speech, “speed” and “velocity” are often used as synonyms. In physics and other sciences, however, words have rather precise meanings and there are few synonyms.

For example, consider an airplane that at a particular moment is flying with a speed of 1000 kilometers/hour in a direction that is due east. We say the velocity is 1000 km/h, east, where we specify both speed and direction. An airplane flying west with a speed of 1000 km/h would have the same speed but a different velocity.

We have seen that a change in an object’s speed, or a change in the direction of its motion, indicates that the object has interacted with at least one other object. The two indicators of interaction, change of speed and change of direction, can be combined into one compact statement:

A change of velocity (speed or direction or both) indicates the existence of an interaction.

In physics diagrams, the velocity of an object is represented by an arrow: a line with an arrowhead. The tail of the arrow is placed at the location of the object at a particular instant, and the arrow points in the direction of the motion of the object at that instant. The length of the arrow is proportional to the speed of the object. Figure 1.7 shows two successive positions of a particle at two different times, with velocity arrows indicating a change in speed of the particle (it’s slowing down). Figure 1.8 shows three successive positions of a different particle at three different times, with velocity arrows indicating a change in direction but no change in speed. Note that the arrows themselves are straight; even if the path of the particle curves over time, at any instant the particle may be considered to be traveling in a specific direction.

We will see a little later that velocity is only one example of a physical quantity that has a “magnitude” (an amount or a size) and a direction. Other examples of such quantities are position relative to an origin in 3D space, changes in position or velocity, and force. In Section 1.4 we will see how to represent such quantities as vectors: single mathematical entities that combine information about magnitude and direction.

Uniform Motion

Suppose that you observe a rock moving along in outer space far from all other objects. We don’t know what made it start moving in the first place; presumably a long time ago an interaction gave it some velocity and it has been coasting through the vacuum of space ever since.



Figure 1.7 Two successive positions of a particle (indicated by a dot), with arrows indicating the velocity of the particle at each location. The shorter arrow indicates that the speed of the particle at location 2 is less than its speed at location 1.

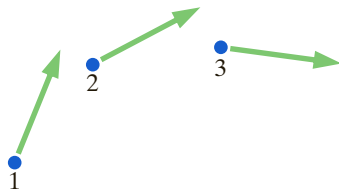


Figure 1.8 Three successive positions of a particle (indicated by a dot), with arrows indicating the velocity of the particle at each location. The arrows are the same length, indicating the same speed, but they point in different directions, indicating a change in direction and therefore a change in velocity.



Figure 1.9 “Uniform motion”—no change in speed or direction.

It is an observational fact that such an isolated object moves at constant, unchanging speed, in a straight line. Its velocity does not change (neither its direction nor its speed changes). We call motion with unchanging velocity “uniform motion” (Figure 1.9). Other terms for uniform motion include “uniform velocity” and “constant velocity,” since velocity refers to both speed and direction.

QUESTION Is an object at rest in uniform motion?

If an object remains at rest, then neither the speed nor direction of the object’s velocity changes. This is a special case of uniform motion: the object’s speed is constant (zero is a valid value of speed) and the direction of motion, while undefined, is not changing.

QUESTION If we observe an object in uniform motion, can we conclude that it has no interactions with its surroundings?

When we observe an object in uniform motion, one possibility is that it has no interactions at all with its surroundings. However, there is another possibility: the object may be experiencing multiple interactions that cancel each other out. In either case, we can correctly deduce that the “net” (total) interaction of the object with its surroundings is zero.

Checkpoint 1 (a) Which of the following do you see moving with constant velocity? (1) A ship sailing northeast at a speed of 5 meters per second (2) The Moon orbiting the Earth (3) A tennis ball traveling across the court after having been hit by a tennis racket (4) A can of soda sitting on a table (5) A person riding on a Ferris wheel that is turning at a constant rate. **(b)** In which of the following situations is there observational evidence for significant interaction between two objects? How can you tell? (1) A ball bounces off a wall with no change in speed. (2) A baseball that was hit by a batter flies toward the outfield. (3) A communications satellite orbits the Earth. (4) A space probe travels at constant speed toward a distant star. (5) A charged particle leaves a curving track in a particle detector.

1.3 NEWTON’S FIRST LAW OF MOTION

The basic relationship between change of velocity and interaction is summarized qualitatively by what is known as Newton’s “first law of motion,” though it was originally discovered by Galileo. In his original Latin, Newton said, “Corpus omne perseverare in statu suo quiescendi vel movendi uniformiter in directum, nisi quatenus a viribus impressis cogitur statum illum mutare.” A literal translation is “Every body persists in its state of resting or of moving uniformly in a direction, except to the extent that it is compelled to change that state by forces pressed upon it.” Expressing this in more modern language, we have this:

NEWTON’S FIRST LAW OF MOTION

Every body persists in its state of rest or of moving with constant speed in a constant direction, except to the extent that it is compelled to change that state by forces acting on it.

“Force” is the way in which the amount of interaction is quantified, and we’ll discuss force in detail in Chapter 2. The words “except to the extent” imply that the stronger the interaction, the more change there will be in direction and/or speed. The weaker the interaction, the less change. If there is no net (total) interaction at all, the object’s motion will be uniform (constant speed and direction); this could happen either because there are no interactions or because there are interactions that cancel each other, such as equally strong pushes to the left and right. It is important to remember that if an object is not

moving at all, its velocity is not changing, so it too may be considered to be in uniform motion.

Newton's first law of motion is only qualitative, because it doesn't give us a way to calculate quantitatively how much change in speed or direction will be produced by a certain amount of interaction, a subject we will take up in the next chapter. Nevertheless, Newton's first law of motion is important in providing a conceptual framework for thinking about the relationship between interaction and motion.

This law represented a major break with ancient tradition, which assumed that constant pushing was required to keep something moving. This law says something radically different: no interactions at all are needed to keep something moving!

QUESTION To move a box across a table at constant speed in a straight line, you must keep pushing it. Does this contradict Newton's first law?

Since a constant interaction is required to keep the box moving, we might be tempted to conclude that Newton's first law of motion does not apply in many everyday situations. However, what matters is the *net* interaction of the box with its surroundings, which could be zero if there are multiple interactions that cancel each other out.

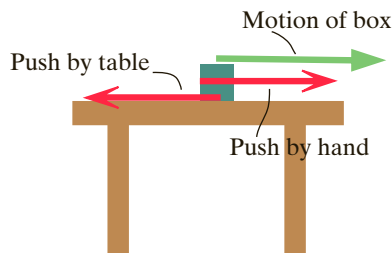


Figure 1.10 The red arrows represent the magnitude and direction of the pushes the box gets from your hand and from the friction with the table. If these pushes add up to zero, the box moves with constant speed in a straight line, indicated by the green arrow.

QUESTION In addition to your hand, what other objects in the surroundings interact with the box?

The table also interacts with the box, in a way that we call friction. If you push just hard enough to compensate exactly for the table friction, the sum of all the interactions is zero, and the box moves at constant speed as predicted by Newton's first law (Figure 1.10). (If you push harder than the table does, the box's speed steadily increases.)

It is difficult to observe motion without friction in everyday life, because objects almost always interact with many other objects, including air, flat surfaces, and so on. You may be able to think of situations in which you have seen an object keep moving at constant (or nearly constant) velocity, without being pushed or pulled. One example of a nearly friction-free situation is a hockey puck sliding on ice. The puck slides a long way at nearly constant speed in a straight line (constant velocity) because there is little friction with the ice. An even better example is the uniform motion of an object in outer space, far from all other objects.

QUESTION Is a change of position an indicator of an interaction?

Not necessarily. If the change of position occurs simply because a particle is moving at constant speed and direction, then a mere change of position is not an indicator of an interaction, since uniform motion is an indicator of zero net interaction. We need to know the object's velocity at each observation to be able to make further deductions.

QUESTION If you observe an object at rest in one location, and later you observe it again at rest but in a different location, can you conclude that an interaction took place?

Yes. You can infer that there must have been an interaction to give the object some velocity to move the object toward the new position, and another interaction to slow the object to a stop in its new position.

QUESTION Is it possible to deduce the existence of an interaction even though you do not observe a change?

As we saw when we considered pushing a box across a table at constant speed, sometimes we may find indirect evidence for an additional interaction.

When something doesn't change although we would normally expect a change due to a known interaction, we can logically deduce that an additional interaction must be occurring. For example, consider a helium-filled balloon that hovers motionless in the air despite the downward gravitational pull of the Earth. Evidently there is some additional kind of interaction that opposes the gravitational interaction. In this case, interactions with air molecules have the net effect of pushing up on the balloon ("buoyancy"). The lack of change implies that the effect of the air molecules exactly compensates for the gravitational interaction with the Earth.

The stability of the nucleus of an atom is another example of indirect evidence for an additional interaction. The nucleus contains positively charged protons that repel each other electrically, yet the nucleus remains intact. We conclude that there must be some other kind of interaction present, a nonelectric attractive interaction that overcomes the electric repulsion. This is evidence for a nonelectric interaction called the "strong interaction," which as we will see acts among protons and neutrons to hold the nucleus together. We will discuss the strong interaction in Chapter 3.

Other Indicators of Interaction

Change of velocity is not the only indication that an object has interacted with its surroundings, but it is the only change possible for a single object that is modeled as a point particle, which has neither shape nor internal structure. In later chapters we will examine other kinds of changes, such as change of temperature, change of shape or configuration, and change of identity (for example, in nuclear reactions). In Chapters 1–3, however, we will concentrate on how interactions change motion.

Checkpoint 2 (a) Apply Newton's first law to each of the following situations. In which situations can you conclude that the object is undergoing a net interaction with one or more other objects? (1) A book slides across the table and comes to a stop. (2) A proton in a particle accelerator moves faster and faster. (3) A car travels at constant speed around a circular race track. (4) A spacecraft travels at a constant speed toward a distant star. (5) A hydrogen atom remains at rest in outer space. **(b)** A spaceship far from all other objects uses its rockets to attain a speed of 1×10^4 m/s. The crew then shuts off the power. According to Newton's first law, which of the following statements about the motion of the spaceship after the power is shut off are correct? (Choose all statements that are correct.) (1) The spaceship will move in a straight line. (2) The spaceship will travel on a curving path. (3) The spaceship will enter a circular orbit. (4) The speed of the spaceship will not change. (5) The spaceship will gradually slow down. (6) The spaceship will stop suddenly.

1.4 DESCRIBING THE 3D WORLD: VECTORS

Physical phenomena take place in the 3D world around us. In order to be able to make quantitative predictions and give detailed, quantitative explanations, we need tools for describing precisely the positions and velocities of objects in 3D, and the changes in position and velocity due to interactions. These tools are mathematical entities called 3D "vectors." A symbol denoting a vector is written with an arrow over it:

\vec{r} is a vector

In three dimensions a vector is a triple of numbers $\langle x, y, z \rangle$. Quantities like the position or velocity of an object can be represented as vectors:

$$\vec{r}_1 = \langle 3.2, -9.2, 66.3 \rangle \text{ m} \quad (\text{a position vector})$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = \langle -22.3, 0.4, -19.5 \rangle \text{ m/s} \quad (\text{a velocity vector})$$

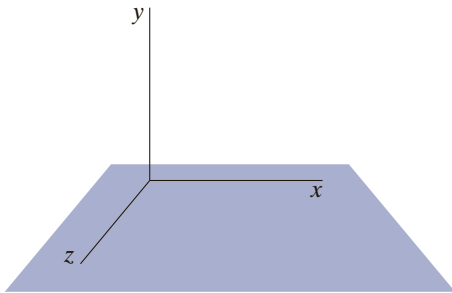


Figure 1.11 Right-handed 3D coordinate system. The xy plane is in the plane of the page, and the z axis projects out of the page, toward you.

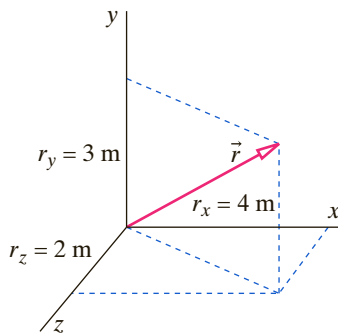


Figure 1.12 A position vector $\vec{r} = \langle 4, 3, 2 \rangle$ m and its x , y , and z components.

Many vectors have units associated with them, such as meters or meters per second. In this course, we will work with the following important physical quantities that are vectors: position, velocity, rate of change of velocity (acceleration), momentum, rate of change of momentum, force, angular momentum, torque, electric field, magnetic field, energy flow, and momentum flow. All of these vectors have associated physical units.

We use the notation $\langle x, y, z \rangle$ for vectors because it emphasizes the fact that a vector is a single entity, and because it is easy to work with. This notation appears in many calculus textbooks; you will probably encounter other ways of expressing vectors mathematically as well.

Position Vectors

A position vector is a simple example of a physical vector quantity. We will use a 3D Cartesian coordinate system to specify positions in space and other vector quantities. Usually we will orient the axes of the coordinate system as shown in Figure 1.11: $+x$ axis to the right, $+y$ axis upward, and $+z$ axis coming out of the page, toward you. This is a “right-handed” coordinate system: if you hold the thumb, first, and second fingers of your right hand perpendicular to each other, and align your thumb with the x axis and your first finger with the y axis, your second finger points along the z axis. In some math textbook discussions of 3D coordinate systems, the x axis points out, the y axis points to the right, and the z axis points up. This is the same right-handed coordinate system, viewed from a different “camera position.” Since we will sometimes consider motion in a single plane, it makes sense to orient the xy plane in the plane of a vertical page or computer display, so we will use the viewpoint in which the y axis points up.

A position in 3D space can be considered to be a vector, called a *position vector*, pointing from an origin to that location. Figure 1.12 shows a position vector, represented by an arrow with its tail at the origin, that might represent your final position if you started at the origin and walked 4 meters along the x axis, then 2 meters parallel to the z axis, then climbed a ladder so you were 3 meters above the ground. Your new position relative to the origin is a vector that can be written like this:

$$\vec{r} = \langle 4, 3, 2 \rangle \text{ m}$$

Each of the numbers in the triple is called a “component” of the vector, and is associated with a particular axis. Usually the components of a vector are denoted symbolically by the subscripts x , y , and z :

$$\vec{v} = \langle v_x, v_y, v_z \rangle \quad (\text{a velocity vector})$$

$$\vec{r} = \langle r_x, r_y, r_z \rangle \quad (\text{a position vector})$$

$$\vec{r} = \langle x, y, z \rangle \quad (\text{alternative notation for a position vector})$$

The components of the position vector $\vec{r} = \langle 4, 3, 2 \rangle$ m are:

$$r_x = 4 \text{ m} \quad (\text{the } x \text{ component})$$

$$r_y = 3 \text{ m} \quad (\text{the } y \text{ component})$$

$$r_z = 2 \text{ m} \quad (\text{the } z \text{ component})$$

The x component of the vector \vec{v} is the number v_x . The z component of the vector $\vec{v}_1 = \langle -22.3, 0.4, -19.5 \rangle$ m/s is -19.5 m/s. A component such as v_x is not a vector, since it is only one number.

QUESTION Can a vector be zero?