




School of Engineering
Brown University

EN40: Dynamics and Vibrations

Homework 2: Kinematics and Dynamics of Particles Due Friday Feb 8, 2013 Max Score 67 Points

Model 5340



**DYTRAN
7543A**
USB
MEMS

VibraScout Measurement System

Included in the VibraScout:

- Triaxial DC accelerometer, model 7543A
- Windows compatible analysis software (no license required)
- 15 foot USB cable, model 6330A15

Features:

- Triaxial
- DC to 1600 Hz bandwidth
- Continuous logging of XYZ acceleration data, temperature, roll and pitch to .txt file
- Display of pitch and roll data
- Embedded micro-controller
- Hermetically sealed
- USB and variable capacitance MEMS technology

Applications:

- Quick, easy, field data collection
- Airbag testing
- Crash testing
- Flight testing
- Noise, Vibration and Harshness (NVH)
- Seismic monitoring
- Ride quality
- Roll-over studies
- Tilt measurement

Specifications	Units	7543A
Weight	oz (gm)	0.60 (17)
Housing		titanium
Range	g (m/s ²)	16 (157)
Frequency Response, 3dB	Hz	0-1,600
Output Noise	µg/√Hz (µm/s ² /√Hz)	X&Y: 290; Z: 430 (X&Y: 2,845; Z: 4,218)
Maximum Shock	g (m/s ²)	10,000 (98,067)
Temperature Range	°F (°C)	-40 to +185 (-40 to +85)

1. A specification sheet for a representative MEMS accelerometer (from [here](#)) is shown in the figure.

1.1 Suppose that the accelerometer measures a harmonic vibration with displacement $x(t) = X_0 \sin(\omega t)$, where X_0 is the amplitude of the vibration, and ω is its frequency. Find formulas for the velocity and acceleration as a function of time.

[2 POINTS]

1.2 Hence, determine the maximum displacement amplitude that the accelerometer can measure at its maximum operating frequency (note that the max acceleration amplitude is given in the row labeled 'Range' in the table; the frequency range is the 'Frequency Response' row).

[2 POINTS]

2. The goal of this problem is to do a rough preliminary design calculation for [Felix Baumgartner's space jump](#) (or you could check out [this](#) reconstruction at 1/125 scale in Lego). The objectives are (i) to estimate the total duration of the jump; and (ii) to estimate his maximum speed.

We will divide the drop into two parts (i) an initial phase $0 < t < t_1$ during which Felix accelerates until he reaches his terminal velocity; and (ii) a second phase $t_1 < t < t_2$ during which he maintains his terminal velocity. Throughout this calculation y will denote Felix's height above the ground; $v = dy/dt$ and $a = dv/dt = d^2y/dt^2$ are his velocity and acceleration.



2.1 During the first phase, we will approximate his acceleration using the formula $a(t) = -g + \beta t$, where g is the gravitational acceleration, and β is a constant that we will calculate later. Find expressions for his velocity and altitude in terms of g and β , given that $y = y_0, v = 0$ at time $t = 0$.

[2 POINTS]

2.2 When Felix is at his terminal velocity, the air drag force just balances his weight $F_D = mg$. The air drag will be approximated as

$$F_D = \frac{1}{2} \rho C_D A v^2$$

where C_D is the drag coefficient, ρ is the air density, A is Felix's projected cross-sectional area, and v is his speed. We will approximate the variation of air density with altitude by

$\rho = \rho_0 \exp(-y/d)$, where ρ_0 is the air density at the earth's surface. Show that this means that during the second phase of the jump

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{\alpha}{\exp(-y/2d)} \quad \alpha = \sqrt{\frac{2mg}{A\rho_0 C_D}}$$

Hence find a formula for y as a function of t , d and α (you can separate variables and integrate by hand, or use Mupad). Assume that $y = y_1$ at time $t = t_1$.

[3 POINTS]

2.3 To complete the calculation we need to find β, t_1 and y_1 . For this purpose we will assume that at the end of the acceleration phase, $a(t_1) = 0$, and $v(t_1) = -\alpha / \exp(-y_1/2d)$. Hence show that β can be calculated from $\beta = \sqrt{g^3 / 6x^2 d}$, where x is the solution to the equation $x = \lambda \exp(-x^2)$ $\lambda = 2\alpha \exp(y_0/2d) / \sqrt{6gd}$.

[3 POINTS]

2.4 Assume the following values for parameters: $y_0 = 39\text{km}$, $g = 9.81\text{ms}^{-2}$, $d = 5\text{km}$ (this value is smaller than is usually used to model the atmosphere in the troposphere – the usual estimate is $d = 8\text{km}$ - but our number gives better values in the stratosphere), $\rho_0 = 1.2\text{kg m}^{-3}$, $A = 1.1\text{m}^2$, $C_D = 0.8$, $m = 80\text{kg}$. Use Mupad to calculate values for $\alpha, \lambda, x, \beta, t_1, y_1$. To solve the equation $x = \lambda \exp(-x^2)$ in Mupad use

```
x := numeric::solve(xx = `&lambda;`*exp(-xx^2),xx) [1]
```

Hence, calculate the time required for Felix to drop to 5000ft (that's where the parachute was deployed), find his maximum velocity, and plot graphs showing his altitude and velocity as functions of time.

[4 POINTS]

3. [This paper](#) describes experimental measurements of the trajectory and wing movements of a dragonfly in flight. The authors report that the position vector of the dragonfly with respect to a fixed origin can be fit by the following formulas



(a) During forward flight:

$$x = 10^{-3}(-0.3t^3 + 16.6t^2 - 52.3t - 10832.6)$$

$$y = 10^{-3}(-9.4t^2 - 1049.8t + 27657.5)$$

$$z = 10^{-3}(-1.3t^3 + 72.7t^2 - 1373.6t - 16116.6)$$

(b) During a turning maneuver

$$x = 10^{-3}(0.1t^3 - 19.3t^2 + 441.8t - 6669)$$

$$y = 10^{-3}(-1.1t^3 + 44.1t^2 - 1885.4t + 26309.8)$$

$$z = 10^{-3}(0.4t^3 - 34.2t^2 + 868.2t + 11029.6)$$

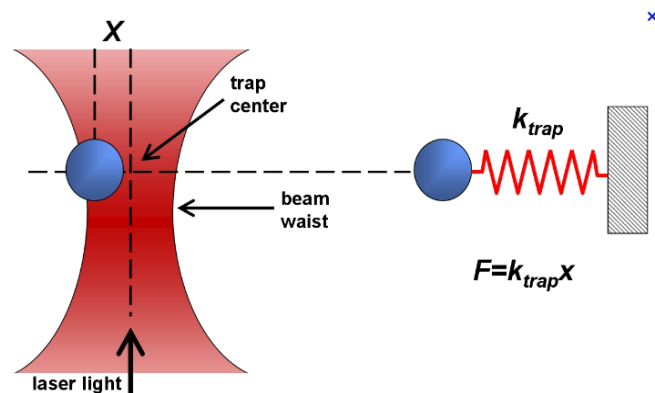
where time t is in milliseconds (during a time period $0 < t < 30\text{ms}$) and position is in mm. The z direction points vertically upwards. The dragonfly mass was reported as 0.29grams.

Using Mupad, plot graphs showing the following quantities, for each type of motion:

- The speed of the dragonfly (in m/s) as a function of time
- The magnitude of the acceleration (in m/s^2) of the dragonfly as a function of time. Why is the magnitude of the acceleration not zero when the slope of the speed graph is zero?
- The tangential and transverse (normal) components of the acceleration of the dragonfly. What are the times in the two experiments that best approximate straight line motion at constant acceleration, and motion along a circular path at constant speed?
- The aerodynamic force acting on the dragonfly (don't forget to account for gravity).

You only need to submit the plots and answers to the questions for grading (cut and paste the plots onto a single page if possible to minimize printing), there is no need to submit the Mupad file. **[10 POINTS]**

4. Over the past two decades, people have developed a variety of techniques for manipulating very small objects.¹ One such device is an 'optical trap,' which holds small particles in place using one or more laser beams. The underlying theory is rather complicated (a rough qualitative discussion can be found [here](#)) but essentially a particle in a light beam tends to experience a force that pushes it towards the point where the light is brightest. A particle can therefore be trapped by focusing light at a point. The particle then experiences a force $F = kr$ that is proportional to its distance r from the focal point, and acts towards the focal point.



Measuring the force exerted by an optical trap is an important problem. One way to do this is to introduce a small harmonic disturbance in the position of the focal point, so that the trapped particle moves around in a circle. If the time T for one orbit can be measured, the constant k can be determined.

¹ Many of these have yet to find commercial applications beyond basic science, so those of you with an interest in getting rich might like to try to come up with some bright ideas

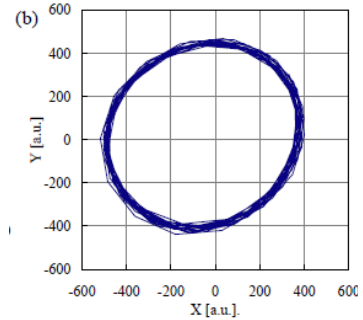
4.1 Show that T and k are related by

$$k = m \left(\frac{2\pi}{T} \right)^2$$

(neglect the motion of the focal point – just assume circular motion)

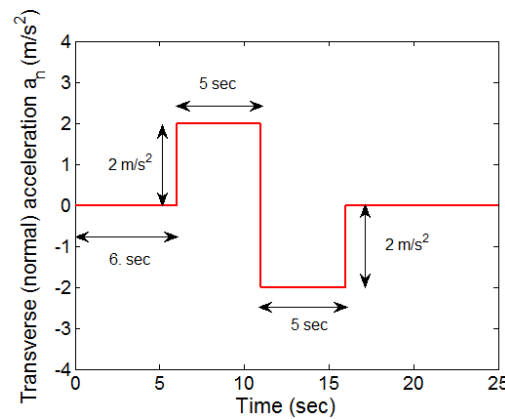
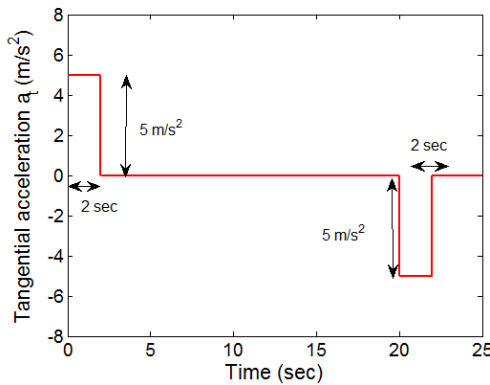
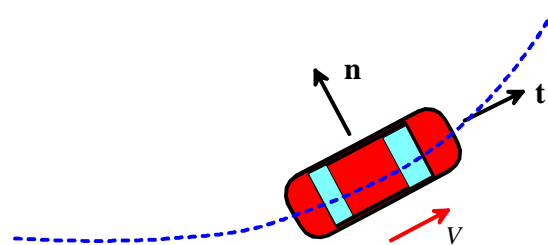
[3 POINTS]

4.2 As a representative example, consider the system described in Nagasaka *et al* Proc. Of SPIE Vol. 6644, who measured the orbital frequency of an 8 micrometer diameter silica sphere to be 1800 Hz (the measured orbit of the sphere is shown in the figure). Calculate the value of the constant k for the optical trap.



[2 POINTS]

5. A car is instrumented with accelerometers that measure acceleration components a_t, a_n in directions parallel and perpendicular to the car's direction of motion, respectively. (A positive value for a_n means the car accelerates to the left). The graphs below show the variation of a_t, a_n measured in an experiment.



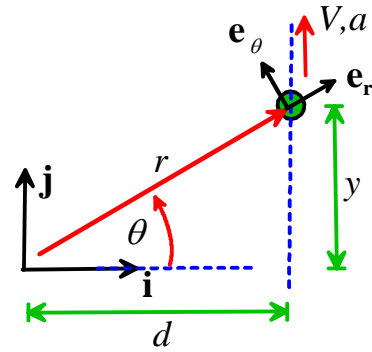
3.1 Assuming the car is at rest at time $t=0$, sketch a graph showing the car's speed as a function of time. Explain how you determined values for relevant quantities.

[2 POINTS]

3.2 Assume that at time $t=0$ the car is at the origin, and facing in the positive x direction. Sketch the subsequent path of the vehicle. Provide as much quantitative information regarding the geometry of the path as possible. Explain how you arrived at your conclusions.

[8 POINTS]

6. This is a math-oriented problem that is meant to help you to interpret the physical significance of the various terms in the formulas for velocity and acceleration in the cylindrical-polar coordinate system. The figure shows a particle moving at instantaneous speed V and acceleration a along the line $x=d$. We could describe this motion using x,y coordinates in the $\{\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}\}$ basis (in which case the velocity and acceleration are just $\mathbf{v}=V\mathbf{j}$ $\mathbf{a}=a\mathbf{j}$, or could use polar coordinates r, θ and the basis vectors $\{\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta\}$.



6.1 Write down formulas for the distance r and the angle θ in terms of y,d . Hence, show that

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = V \frac{y}{r} = V \sin \theta \quad \frac{d^2r}{dt^2} = V^2 \frac{d^2}{r^3} + \frac{y}{r} a = \frac{V^2}{r} \cos^2 \theta + a \sin \theta$$

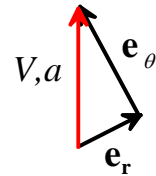
$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = V \frac{d}{r^2} = \frac{V}{r} \cos \theta \quad \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} = -2V^2 \frac{yd}{r^4} + a \frac{d}{r^2} = \left(\frac{a}{r} - \frac{2V^2}{r^2} \sin \theta \right) \cos \theta$$

[4 POINTS]

6.2 Use the formulas for velocity and acceleration in cylindrical-polar coordinates to write down the velocity and acceleration vectors as components in $\{\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta\}$ in terms of v, a and θ .

[2 POINTS]

6.3 Verify your answer by using the vector triangles shown in the figure below to write down the velocity and acceleration vectors as components in $\{\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta\}$ directly.



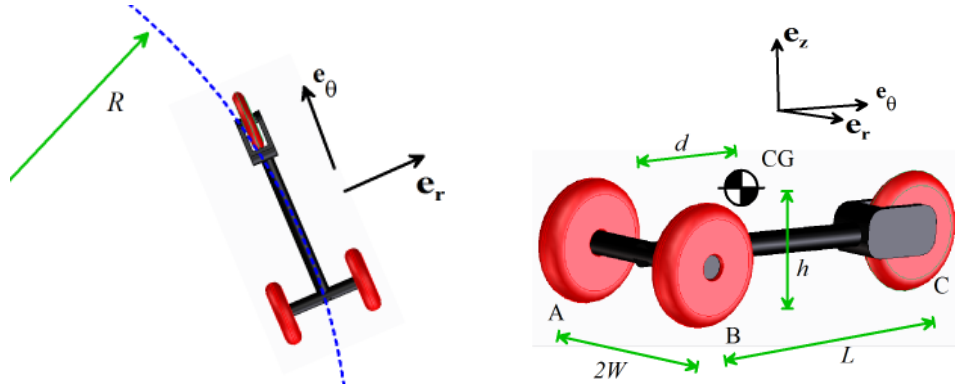
[2 POINTS]

7. For safety, a tricycle should be designed so that it does not tip over in a sharp curve ([tricycle riders appear to enjoy testing the design limits of their vehicles](#)). The goal of this problem is to find the constraint relating the wheelbase L , width



$2W$, and CG location of a tricycle to ensure that it will not tip (assume that the CG is a height h above the ground and a distance d ahead of the rear axle (or in many high end designs the two wheels are at the front)).

Suppose that the tricycle moves around a circular path with radius R at constant speed V . Write down its acceleration as components in the cylindrical-polar basis $\{\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta, \mathbf{e}_z\}$ shown in the figure.



7.1 Draw a free body diagram showing the forces acting on the tricycle. Include friction forces at the wheels, but assume that the wheels roll without sliding. [3 POINTS]

7.2 Hence, write down Newton's law of motion for the vehicle. [2 POINTS]

7.3 Write down the position vectors of the three contact points A, B, C with respect to the center of mass. Hence, write down the equation of rotational motion. [3 POINTS]

7.4 Solve the equations of motion for the unknown horizontal and vertical reaction forces at the wheels (You can do this calculation very easily using the vector and equation solving capabilities of mupad). Note that the horizontal forces at the rear wheel cannot be determined uniquely (mupad gives the solution in terms of an arbitrary (complex!) number z .) [4 POINTS]

7.5 Assume that the contact points all have coefficient of friction μ . Find a formula for the critical speed V at which the wheels will skid. [3 POINTS]

7.6 Assume that the wheels do *not* skid. Find formulas for the reaction forces at the two wheels at A and B. Hence, find a formula for the critical speed required to flip the tricycle. Explain what your formula tells you about the best location for the COM of the tricycle. [2 POINTS]

7.7 Finally, find a formula for the maximum allowable height of the CG so that the tricycle will skid out of a turn before flipping over. [2 POINTS]