

Formulas for Physics 1A

$\alpha \equiv$ angular acceleration ($1/s^2$)

$F \equiv$ force ($N \equiv kg \cdot m/s^2$)

$G \equiv$ gravitational constant = $6.67 \times 10^{-11} m^3/(kg \cdot s^3)$

$k \equiv$ spring constant (kg/s^2)

$\mu \equiv$ coefficient of friction

$N \equiv$ normal force

$P \equiv$ pressure ($Pa \equiv kg/m \cdot s^2$)

$\tau \equiv$ torque ($N \cdot m \equiv kg \cdot m^2/s^2$)

$\theta \equiv$ angular displacement or rotation

$\omega \equiv$ angular velocity ($1/s$)

$X \equiv$ displacement (m)

$A \equiv$ acceleration (m/s^2)

$g \equiv$ gravitat. acceleration at Earth's surface = $9.81 m/s^2$

$I \equiv$ moment of inertia ($kg \cdot m^2$)

$L \equiv$ angular momentum ($kg \cdot m^2/s$)

$m \equiv$ mass (kg)

$P \equiv$ momentum ($kg \cdot m/s$)

$\rho \equiv$ density (kg/m^3)

$T \equiv$ period of orbit

$V \equiv$ velocity (m/s)

$W \equiv$ work ($J = N \cdot m = kg \cdot m^2/s^2$)

$Y \equiv$ displacement (m)

Kinematics

For $A = \text{Constant}$: $V(t) = V_0 + A \cdot t$ and $X(t) = X_0 + V_0 \cdot t + (1/2) \cdot A \cdot t^2$

The above two equations lead to: $V^2(t) = V_0^2 + 2 \cdot A \cdot [X(t) - X_0]$

Forces

$F(t) = m(t) \cdot A(t)$ (where we explicitly note that both mass and acceleration can change with time)

$P(t) = m(t) \cdot V(t)$ (where $F = \Delta P / \Delta t$ or $\Delta P = F \Delta t$; the change in momentum ΔP is also referred to as impulse)

Friction models

$f_{\text{static friction}} \leq \mu_s \cdot N$ (opposes the direction of motion up to a maximum value of $\mu_s \cdot N$)

$f_{\text{kinetic friction}} = \mu_k \cdot N$ (opposes the direction of motion)

Rocket equation

$V = \mu_{\text{exhaust}} \cdot \ln(M_{\text{initial}}/M_{\text{final}})$

Spring equation

$F(t) = k \cdot [x(t) - x_0]$

Gravitational formula

$F = (G \cdot M_1 \cdot M_2) / R_{12}^2$ (points radially inward)

$T^2 = [(4\pi^2)/(G \cdot M_{\text{sun}})] \cdot R^3$ (Kepler's third law, where $T = 2\pi/\omega$)

Rotational motion

For $\alpha = \text{Constant}$ $\omega(t) = \omega_0 + \alpha \cdot t$ and $\theta(t) = \theta_0 + \omega_0 \cdot t + (1/2) \cdot \alpha \cdot t^2$

$A_{\text{tangent}} = R \cdot \alpha$ and $V_{\text{tangent}}(t) = R \cdot \omega(t)$

$A_{\text{centrifugal}}(t) = R \cdot \omega^2(t) = V_{\text{tangent}}^2(t) / R$ (points radially inward)

$\tau(t) = R \cdot F(t) \cdot \sin\theta$ (where the angle extends from the radius vector to the force vector)

$\tau(t) = I \cdot \alpha(t)$

$L(t) = I \cdot \omega(t)$ (where $\tau = \Delta L / \Delta t$)

$I \equiv \sum m_i r_i^2 = M \cdot R^2$ (point mass); $M \cdot R^2$ (thin cylindrical shell); $(2/3) \cdot M \cdot R^2$ (thin spherical shell); $(1/2) \cdot M \cdot R^2$ (solid cylinder rotated on axis); $(1/3) \cdot M \cdot L^2$ (rod rotated about end); $(1/5) \cdot M \cdot R^2$ (solid sphere); $(1/12) \cdot M \cdot L^2$ (rod rotated about center); where R is the radius and L is the length

Work and Energy

$W = F \cdot (X_{\text{final}} - X_{\text{initial}}) \cdot \cos\theta$ (where the angle is between the force vector and the displacement vector)

Conservative forces: $KE + PE = \text{Constant}$

Nonconservative forces: $KE + PE \neq \text{Constant}$

Translation: $KE = (1/2) \cdot m \cdot V^2$

Rotation: $KE = (1/2) \cdot I \cdot \omega^2$

Gravitational: $PE = - (G \cdot M_1 \cdot M_2) / R_{12}$

Spring: $PE = (1/2) \cdot k \cdot [X(t) - X_0]^2$

Fluids

Continuity: $A \cdot V = A' \cdot V'$

Bernoulli: $P + \rho \cdot g \cdot Y + (1/2) \cdot \rho \cdot V^2 = \text{Constant}$