

Summary of Mechanics for Physics 2A and 4A

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Quantity	Linear Motion		Rotational Motion	
Position	\mathbf{r}	Meters (m)	θ	Radians
Average Velocity	$\mathbf{v}_{av} = (\mathbf{r}_f - \mathbf{r}_i) / (t_f - t_i)$	Meters /Second (m/s)	$\omega_{av} = (\theta_f - \theta_i) / (t_f - t_i)$	Radians/Second (rad/s)
Average Acceleration	$\mathbf{a}_{av} = (\mathbf{v}_f - \mathbf{v}_i) / (t_f - t_i)$	Meters /Second ² (m/s ²)	$\alpha_{av} = (\omega_f - \omega_i) / (t_f - t_i)$	Radians/Second ² (rad/s ²)
Instantaneous Velocity. or Acceleration	$\mathbf{v} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \Delta \mathbf{r} / \Delta t = d\mathbf{r}/dt$; $\mathbf{a} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \Delta \mathbf{v} / \Delta t = d\mathbf{v}/dt$;		$\omega = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \Delta \theta / \Delta t = d\theta/dt$; $\alpha = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \Delta \omega / \Delta t = d\omega/dt$;	
Position under constant acceleration	$\mathbf{r}_f = \mathbf{r}_o + \mathbf{v}_o (t_f - t_i) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a} (t_f - t_i)^2$ $\mathbf{r}_f = \mathbf{r}_o + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{v}_o + \mathbf{v}_f) (t_f - t_i)$	Meters (m)	$\theta_f = \theta_o + \omega_o (t_f - t_i) + \frac{1}{2} \alpha (t_f - t_i)^2$ $\theta_f = \theta_o + \frac{1}{2} (\omega_o + \omega_f) (t_f - t_i)$	$\theta_f = \theta_o + \omega_o (t_f - t_i) + \frac{1}{2} \alpha (t_f - t_i)^2$
Velocity under constant acceleration	$\mathbf{v}_f = \mathbf{v}_o + \mathbf{a} t$; $\mathbf{v}_f^2 = \mathbf{v}_o^2 + 2 \mathbf{a} \bullet (\mathbf{r}_f - \mathbf{r}_i)$	Meters/Second (m/s)	$\omega_f = \omega_o + \alpha t$ $\omega_f^2 = \omega_o^2 + 2 \alpha \bullet (\theta_f - \theta_o)$	Radians/Second (rad/s)
Action >> Equal & Opposite Reaction	$\mathbf{F}_{12} = - \mathbf{F}_{21}$	Newton = kg · m/s ² Kilogram =kg	$\tau_{12} = - \tau_{21}$	Newton –meter (N·m)
Force = Mass x Acceleration	$\mathbf{F} = m \mathbf{a}$	Newton = N = kg · m/s ²	$\tau = I \alpha$ (I & α same axis) $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F}$; $\tau = F D \sin \theta$	Newton –meter (N·m)
Impulse	$\mathbf{I} = \int \mathbf{F} dt = \mathbf{F}_{av} (t_f - t_i)$	N·s = Kg·m/s	Not Used	
Momentum Conservation	$\mathbf{p} = m \mathbf{v}$ $\Sigma \mathbf{p} = \Sigma \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{I}$ (conserved)	kg·m/s	$\mathbf{L} = I \omega$ $\Sigma \mathbf{L} = \Sigma \mathbf{L} + \int \boldsymbol{\tau} dt$ (conserved)	Kg·m ² /s
Kinetic Energy (KE) (Energy of Motion)	$KE = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$	Joule (J) = N·m	$KE = \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$	Joule (J) = N·m
Potential Energy (PE) (Energy associated with position)	PE = mgh (gravity near earth) PE = - G m ₁ m ₂ /r (between spheres or points) PE = $\frac{1}{2} kx^2$ (Spring with compression constant k)	Joule (J) = N·m	PE = $\frac{1}{2} k\theta^2$ (Torsion spring with compression constant k)	Joule (J) = N·m
Work Done	$W = \int \mathbf{F} \bullet d\mathbf{s} = F_{av} D \sin \theta$	Joule (J) = N·m	$W = \int \boldsymbol{\tau} \bullet d\boldsymbol{\theta} = \tau (\theta_f - \theta_i)$	Joule (J) = N·m
Conservation of Energy	Sum of KE _i + PE _i + Work by Outside Force = KE _f + PE _f		Rotational KE and PE must be included in energy equation where applicable. Rolling Objects: $\omega r = v$	
Force Gravity Near Earth	$F_g = m g$; $g = 9.8 \text{ m/sec}^2$ Force of gravity is down.		Rotational Parameters: Moment of Inertia and Torque	
Force Gravity Between Two Objects	$F = G m_1 m_2 / r^2$; $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^2 \text{kg}^{-2}$ Force is attractive between the objects (points or uniform spheres).		$I = \Sigma m_i r_i^2$ (kg – m ²)($r_i \perp$ distance from axis); $\tau = F r \sin \theta$ Center of Mass (or Gravity) $\mathbf{r}_{cm} = (\Sigma m_i \mathbf{r}_i) / (\Sigma m_i)$	