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Analytical Mechanics

2023-2024

Lec.14: lagrangian mechanics

Constrained motion of a particle

--- When a moving particle is restricted geometrically in the sense that it must stay on a certain definite surface or curve, the motion is said to be constrained.

The eq. of motion for a particle moving under constraint may be written as

$$m \frac{d^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2} = \vec{F} + \vec{R} \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{force of constraint} \\ \text{(reaction of the constraining} \\ \text{agent upon the particle)} \end{array}$$

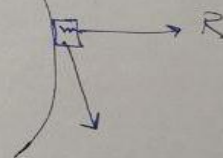
total force external force

Take the dot product with velocity $\vec{v}$

$$m \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v} + \vec{R} \cdot \vec{v} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\vec{R} \cdot \vec{v} = Rv \cos 90^\circ$$

smooth



$R \perp$ to the surface or curve
& $\vec{v}$ is tangent to the surface

$$\text{then } \vec{R} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

Eq. (1) reduces to

$$m \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{2} m \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} \right) = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}$$

If +b

If $\vec{F}$ is conservative, then

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{2} m \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} \right) = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v} \, dt$$

$$\int dT = \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$\int dT = - \int dV$$

$$\frac{1}{2} m v^2 + V(x, y, z) = \text{constant} = E$$

Although the particle remaining moves on the surface or curve, it move in such away that E constant.

Ex/ A particle is placed on top of a smooth sphere of radius a . If the particle is slightly disturbed, at what point will it leave the sphere?

Sol. $F_t = mg + R$

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = mg + R \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

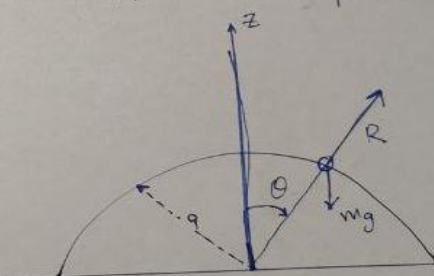
$$\frac{1}{2} m v^2 + mgz = E \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

In case ($v=0$ for $z=a$)

$$E = mga \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

sub. eq. (3) in eq. (2), we get

$$\frac{1}{2} m v^2 + mgz = mga \Rightarrow v^2 = 2g(a-z)$$



If we take radial components of the equation of motion, we can write the force equation as

قوة الجاذبية $\rightarrow -\frac{m v^2}{a} = -mg \cos \theta + R$
 $= -mg \frac{z}{a} + R$

$$R = mg \frac{z}{a} - m \frac{v^2}{a} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$v^2 = 2g(a - z)$$

$$R = mg \frac{z}{a} - \frac{m}{a} 2g(a - z)$$

$$R = \frac{mg}{a} (3z - 2a)$$

When $R = 0$ $\rightarrow$ $\frac{3z - 2a}{a} = 0$

$$0 = \frac{mg}{a} (3z - 2a)$$

$$3z - 2a = 0$$

$$z = \frac{2}{3} a$$