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Analytical Mechanics

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**Lec.14: Drill exercises**

1. A gun is fired straight up. Assuming that the air drag on the bullet varies quadratically with speed, show that the speed varies with height according to the equations:

$$v^2 = Ae^{-2kx} - \frac{g}{k} \quad (\text{upward motion})$$

$$v^2 = \frac{g}{k} - Be^{2kx} \quad (\text{downward motion})$$

in which A and B are constants of integration, g is the acceleration of gravity, and  $k = c_2/m$  where  $c_2$  is the drag constant and m is the mass of the bullet. (Note: x is measured positive upward, and the gravitational force is assumed to be constant.)

sol.

$$\text{Going up: } F_x = -mg - c_2 v^2$$

$$a = v \frac{dv}{dx} = -g - kv^2, \quad k = \frac{c_2}{m}$$

$$\int_{v_0}^v \frac{v dv}{-g - kv^2} = \int_0^x dx$$

$$-\frac{1}{2k} \ln(-g - kv^2) \Big|_{v_0}^v = x$$

$$\frac{g + kv^2}{g + kv_0^2} = e^{-2kx}$$

$$v^2 = \left( \frac{g}{k} + v_0^2 \right) e^{-2kx} - \frac{g}{k}$$

$$\text{Going down: } F_x = -mg + c_2 v^2$$

$$v \frac{dv}{dx} = -g + kv^2$$

$$\int_0^v \frac{v dv}{-g + kv^2} = \int_0^x dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2k} \ln(-g + kv^2) \Big|_0^v = x - x_0$$

$$1 - \frac{k}{g} v^2 = e^{2kx} e^{-2kx_0}$$

$$v^2 = \frac{g}{k} - \left( \frac{g}{k} e^{-2kx_0} \right) e^{2kx}$$

2. Given that the velocity of a particle in rectilinear motion varies with the displacement  $x$  according to the equation

$$\dot{x} = bx^{-3}$$

Where  $b$  is a positive constant, find the force acting on the particle as a function of  $x$ .

$$F = m\ddot{x} = m\dot{x} \frac{d\dot{x}}{dx}$$

$$\dot{x} = bx^{-3}$$

$$\frac{d\dot{x}}{dx} = -3bx^{-4}$$

$$F = m(bx^{-3})(-3bx^{-4})$$

$$F = -3mb^2x^{-7}$$

3. A metal block of mass  $m$  slides on a horizontal surface that has been lubricated with a heavy oil so that the block suffers a viscous resistance that varies as the  $3/2$  power of the speed:

$$F(v) = -cv^{3/2}$$

If the initial speed of the block is  $v_0$  at  $x = 0$ , show that the block cannot travel farther than

$$2mv_0^{1/2}/c.$$

Sol.

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{dv}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = v \cdot \frac{dv}{dx} = -\frac{c}{m} v^{3/2}$$

$$v^{-1/2} dv = -\frac{c}{m} dx$$

$$\int_{v_0}^v v^{-1/2} dv = \int_0^{x_{\max}} -\frac{c}{m} dx$$

$$-2v_0^{1/2} = -\frac{c}{m} x_{\max}$$

$$x_{\max} = \frac{2mv_0^{1/2}}{c}$$