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| <p>What is the gravitational force?</p> | <p>An attractive force that exists between any two objects; it acts along a line between the two objects.</p> <p>The formula for the gravitational force exerted by object 1 on object 2 is:</p> $\vec{F}_{2,1} = -G \frac{(m_1 m_2)}{ \vec{r} ^2} \hat{r}$ <p>\vec{r} represents the distance between the two objects; when determining the force exerted by object 1 on object 2 it is evaluated as $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1$. The direction of the gravitational force is $-\hat{r}$ because this is an attractive force; the force is in the opposite direction of \vec{r}. The gravitational force is proportional to the inverse square of \vec{r}; if \vec{r} is doubled, the entire force is reduced by 4. G is the gravitational constant; it is applicable to any objects in any location. It is equal to $6.7 \cdot 10^{-11} \frac{N \cdot m^2}{kg^2}$.</p> <p>It is often easier to evaluate gravitational force like this:</p> $\vec{F}_{grav} = \vec{F}_{grav} \hat{F}_{grav}$ <p>where $\vec{F}_{grav} = G \frac{(m_1 m_2)}{ \vec{r} ^2}$, $\hat{F}_{grav} = -\hat{r}$</p> |
| <p>What is Newton's third law?</p> | <p>The law of reciprocity.</p> <p>This means that $\vec{F}_{2,1} = -\vec{F}_{1,2}$</p> <p>Because of this, we can know that all internal forces within a system cancel each other out (because they are all equal and opposite to one another).</p> |
| <p>What is conservation of momentum?</p> | <p>Momentum cannot be destroyed; it is "conserved". The momentum gained by a system is lost by the surroundings, or vice versa: $\Delta \vec{p}_{sys} + \Delta \vec{p}_{surr} = 0$. When evaluating an isolated system, the momentum inside the system does not change:</p> $\Delta \vec{p}_{sys} = 0 = \Delta \vec{p}_1 + \Delta \vec{p}_2 + \Delta \vec{p}_3 + \Delta \vec{p}_n \dots$ <p>This helps apply the momentum principle to a system with more than one component. If the momentum of the system is the sum of the momentums of the components of the system ($\vec{P}_{sys} = \vec{P}_1 + \vec{P}_2 + \vec{P}_3 + \dots$) and the net force of the system is the sum of all external forces acting on components of the system (internal forces always add up to zero) ($\vec{F}_{Net} = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 + \vec{F}_3 + \dots$), then</p> $\Delta \vec{P}_{sys} = \vec{F}_{net} \Delta t$ <p>This idea tells us that $\vec{P}_{(total, f)} = \vec{P}_{(total, i)}$ within a system.</p> $\vec{p}_{1f} + \vec{p}_{2f} = \vec{p}_{1i} + \vec{p}_{2i}$ |
| <p>What is the center of mass?</p> | <p>A point representing the average position of a system's mass.</p> $\vec{r}_{CM} = \frac{(m_1 \vec{r}_1 + m_2 \vec{r}_2 + m_3 \vec{r}_3 + \dots)}{M_{total}}$ <p>The velocity of the center of mass is $\vec{v}_{CM} = \frac{(m_1 \vec{v}_1 + m_2 \vec{v}_2 + m_3 \vec{v}_3 + \dots)}{M_{total}}$.</p> <p>The momentum of a system is equal to the product of the total mass and the velocity of the center of mass (really, just the sum of the momentums of the components).</p> <p>This can be applied to the momentum principle: $\Delta \vec{P}_{sys} = \vec{F}_{net} \Delta t = M_{total} \Delta \vec{v}_{CM}$; also, $M_{total} \vec{a}_{cm} = \vec{F}_{net}$.</p> |