

COURSE NAME: THEORITICAL MECHANICS

COUSRE CODE: MA 278

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INDEX NUMBER: xxxxxxxxxxxx

ASSIGNMENT 3

1. According to the theory of relativity the mass of a particle is given by

$$m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}}$$

v where v is the speed, m_0 the rest mass, c the speed of light

and $\beta = \frac{v}{c}$

a) Show that the time rate of doing work is given by $m_0 c^2 \frac{d}{dt} (1 - \beta^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

b) Deduce from (a) that the kinetic energy is $T = (m - m_0)c^2 =$

$$m_0 c^2 \left\{ (1 - \beta^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 1 \right\}$$

c) If v is much less than c , show that $T = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$

Answer

a) From Newtons second la;

$$\Rightarrow F = \frac{d}{dt} (mv)$$

$$\text{If; } m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow F = \frac{d}{dt}(mv) = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{m_0 v}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$$

If W is the work done,

Then

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dW}{dt} = F \cdot v$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dW}{dt} = v \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \frac{m_0 v}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dW}{dt} = m_0 \beta c \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\beta c}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dW}{dt} = m_0 \beta c^2 \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\beta}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right)$$

$$= m_0 c^2 \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dW}{dt} = m_0 c^2 \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \quad \text{as proved.}$$

b) Since Work done = change in kinetic energy, we have

⇒ Time rate of doing work = time rate of change in kinetic energy

But from part (a),

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = m_0 c^2 \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{dT}{dt} = m_0 c^2 \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dT}{dt} = m_0 c^2 \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right)$$

Integrating both sides;

$$\int \frac{dT}{dt} dt = \int m_0 c^2 \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right) dt$$

$$\Rightarrow T = m_0 c^2 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right) + c_1, \text{ where } C_1 \text{ is constant}$$

$$\bullet \Rightarrow T = \left(\frac{0^2}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right) + m_0 c^2 c_1,$$

To find, note that, from the definition $T = 0$ if $v = 0$ or $\beta = 0$

So that we have,

$$0 = \left(\frac{0}{\sqrt{1-(0)^2}} \right) + \frac{m_0 c^2}{\Rightarrow c_1},$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = m_0 c^2 + c_1,$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1 = -m_0 c^2$$

Now,

$$\Rightarrow T = \left(\frac{m_0 c^2}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right) - m_0 c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow T = m_0 c^2 \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right) - 1 \right\}$$

Or

$$\text{From } T = \left(\frac{m_0 c^2}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right) - m_0 c^2$$

$$T = m_0 c^2 \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right) - 1 \right\}$$

But

$$m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow T = (m - m_0) c^2$$

$$\therefore T = m_0 c^2 \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \right) - 1 \right\} = (m - m_0) c^2$$

Hence showed.

c) For $\beta < 1$ we have ,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} = (1-\beta^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}\beta^2 + \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 4}\beta^4 + \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6}\beta^6 + \dots$$

From

$$m_0 c^2$$

$$T = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}} \right) m_0 c^2$$

$$T = m_0 c^2 \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 + \dots \right] - m_0 c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow T = m_0 c^2 \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{v^2}{c^2} + \dots \right] - m_0 c^2$$

$$T = m_0 c^2 + \frac{m_0 c^2 v^2}{2} - m_0 c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

2. From *Figure 2.1* below

- a) show that the Center of Mass (CM) of the uniform thin rod of length ℓ and mass M is at its center.
- b) Determine the CM of the rod assuming its linear mass density λ (its mass per unit length) varies linearly from $\lambda =$

λ_0 at the left end to double that value, $\lambda = 2\lambda_0$, at the right end.

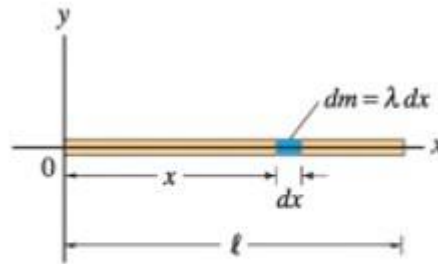


Fig 2.1

Solution

a)

$$\text{Centre of mass } (x_{CM}) = \frac{1}{M} \int_{x=0}^{\ell} x dm$$

$$\text{But } dm = \lambda dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{M} \int_{x=0}^{\ell} x \lambda dx$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{M} \int_{x=0}^{\ell} x dx$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{M} \left[\frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^{\ell}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{M} \left[\frac{\ell^2}{2} - 0 \right]$$

$$= \frac{\lambda \ell^2}{2M}$$

$$\text{But } \lambda = \frac{M}{\ell}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{CM} = \frac{1}{M} \cdot \frac{M \ell}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{CM} = \frac{\ell}{2}$$

Hence shown.

b) Now we have $\lambda = \lambda_0$ at $x = 0$ and we are told that λ increases linearly to $\lambda = 2\lambda_0$ at $x = \ell$. So we write

$$\lambda = \lambda_0(1 + ax)$$

which satisfies $\lambda = \lambda_0$ at $x = 0$, increases linearly, and gives $\lambda = 2\lambda_0$ at $x = \ell$ if $(1 + a\ell) = 2$. In other words, $a = \frac{1}{\ell}$. Let $\lambda = \lambda_0(1 + \frac{x}{\ell})$:

$$\Rightarrow x_{CM} = \frac{1}{M} \int_{x=0}^{\ell} \lambda x (1 + \frac{x}{\ell}) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{CM} = \frac{1}{M} \int_{x=0}^{\ell} \lambda_0 x (1 + \frac{x}{\ell}) dx$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_0}{M} \int_{x=0}^{\ell} (x + \frac{x^2}{\ell}) dx$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_0}{M} \left[\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3\ell} \right]_0^{\ell}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_0}{M} \left[\frac{\ell^2}{2} + \frac{\ell^3}{3\ell} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_0 \ell}{M} \left[\frac{\ell}{2} + \frac{\ell^2}{3} \right]$$

$$\frac{\lambda_0 5\ell^2}{M 6}$$

Now let us write M in terms of λ_0 and ℓ . We can write

$$\begin{aligned} M &= \int_{x=0}^{\ell} dm \\ &= \int_{x=0}^{\ell} \lambda dx \\ &= \lambda_0 \int_{x=0}^{\ell} \left(1 + \frac{x}{\ell}\right) dx \\ &= \lambda_0 \left[x + \frac{x^2}{2\ell} \right]_0^{\ell} \\ &= \lambda_0 \left[\ell + \frac{\ell^2}{2\ell} \right] \\ &= \lambda_0 \left(\ell + \frac{\ell}{2} \right) \\ M &= \frac{3\lambda_0 \ell}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\Rightarrow x_{CM} = \frac{\lambda_0 5\ell^2}{M 6}$$

$$x_{CM} = \frac{5\ell^2}{6 \cdot \frac{3\lambda_0 \ell}{2}} = 5\ell^2 \lambda_0 \cdot 2$$

$$x_{CM} = \frac{10\ell}{18}$$

$$x_{CM} = \frac{5\ell}{9}$$

Is greater than halfway along the rod, as we want since there is more mass to the right.

