

Fri: HW Ex: 104, 117, 119, 121, 122, 123, 128, 130  
5pm

Mon: Warm Up 5 (D2L)

Thurs: Seminar 12:30pm WS 203

Fri: SPS Meeting 12noon Wubben 218

### Circular motion

Objects often move in circles and we need to assess kinematics (velocity, acceleration,...) for such circular motion. Examples include:

- 1) object swinging on the end of a string
- 2) orbital motion of celestial objects.

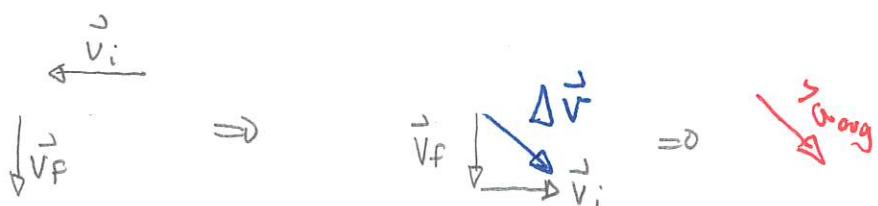
### DEMO: The Sky 3D - Solar System Simulator

The tools for analyzing circular motion rest on the same general definitions for two-dimensional motion but they provide specific results.

**Quiz 1** 70% - 90%  $\notin$  80%

We analyze this using

$$\vec{a}_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta \vec{r}}{\Delta t} \quad \text{AND}$$



This suggests that

For an object moving in a circle with constant speed, the acceleration points radially inward.

## Uniform circular motion

An important, special case of circular motion is uniform circular motion. Here:

- 1) the object moves in a circle
- 2) the speed of the object is constant

The acceleration can be analyzed using

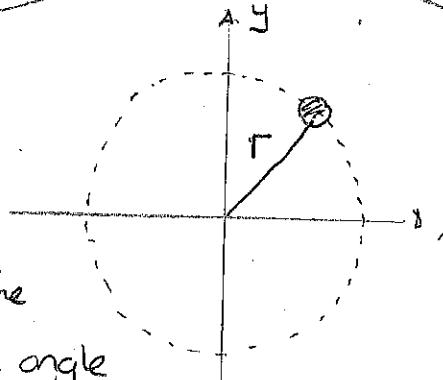
$$\vec{a} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} = \frac{d^2 \vec{x}}{dt^2} \hat{i} + \frac{d^2 \vec{y}}{dt^2} \hat{j}$$

$$x = R \cos(\omega t)$$

$$y = R \sin(\omega t)$$

where  $\omega$  is the rate at which angle is covered in rad/s and

$$\omega = \frac{V}{r}$$



These produce:

For uniform circular motion the acceleration (centripetal acceleration):

- 1) points radially inward
- 2) has magnitude

$$a_c = \frac{V^2}{r}$$

where  $r$  = radius of orbit

$V$  = speed

## 125 Merry-go-round

A merry-go-round is a large flat disk that spins around a vertical axis through its center. A child is at the edge of a merry-go-round with radius 3.0 m. The merry-go-round spins so that the child's acceleration is  $1.5g$ . Determine the period and frequency of orbit for this to occur. (131F2024)

Answer: \* Get speed from acceleration via  $a = \frac{v^2}{r}$

\* Period = time for one rotation,  $T$

$\Rightarrow$  covers distance  $2\pi r$  in time  $T$

\* Get speed  $v = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{period}} = \frac{2\pi r}{T}$

\* Frequency  $f = \frac{1}{T}$

So

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r} \Rightarrow v^2 = ar \Rightarrow v = \sqrt{ar}$$

$$\Rightarrow v = \sqrt{1.5g r} = \sqrt{1.5 \times 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \times 3.0 \text{ m}} = 6.6 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\text{Then } v = \frac{2\pi r}{T} \Rightarrow T = \frac{2\pi r}{v} = \frac{2\pi \times 3.0 \text{ m}}{6.6 \text{ m/s}}$$

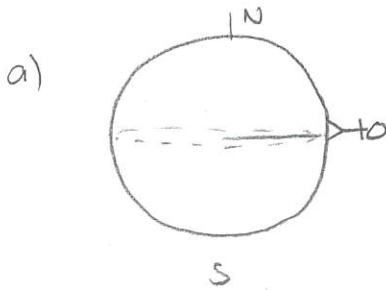
$$\Rightarrow T = 2.8 \text{ s}$$

Quiz 2 10% - mix

### 132 Acceleration on Earth's surface

People stand on Earth's surface and are at rest relative to Earth. Earth has a radius of  $6.4 \times 10^3$  km and spins about its poles at a rate of one revolution every 24 hrs. (131F2024)

- Determine the acceleration of a person at Earth's equator.
- Another person stands at a location much closer to the North pole. Is this person's acceleration the same as, larger than or smaller than that of a person at the equator? Explain your answer.



The person orbits in a circle with radius  $R =$  radius of Earth.

The time taken to complete one orbit is

$$T = 24 \text{ hrs} \times 3600 \text{ s/hr} = 86400 \text{ s}$$

$$a = \frac{v^2}{R} \quad \text{and} \quad v = \frac{2\pi R}{T}$$

$$\Rightarrow a = \frac{(2\pi R/T)^2}{R} = \frac{4\pi^2 R^2}{T^2 R} \Rightarrow a = \frac{4\pi^2 R}{T^2}$$

$$\text{Thus } a = \frac{4\pi^2 \times 6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m}}{(86400 \text{ s})^2} = 0.034 \text{ m/s}^2$$



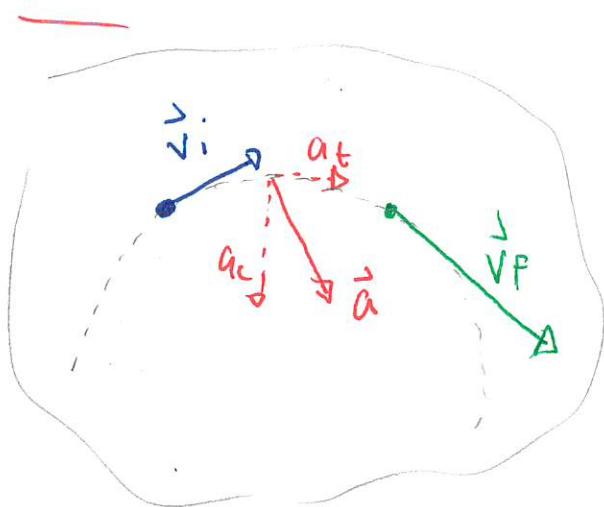
At higher latitudes  $R$  is smaller

$\Rightarrow a$  is smaller

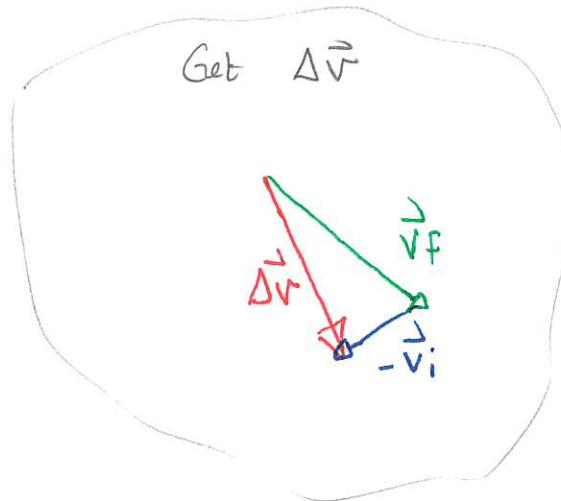
## Non-uniform circular motion

An object moving in a circle can speed up or slow down. The usual methods will yield acceleration

### Quiz 3



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gives acceleration



Then  $\vec{a}$  has two components:

$a_c$  = centripetal accel (radially inward)  $\rightarrow$  describes circular motion

$a_t$  = tangential accel (tangent to circle)  $\rightarrow$  describes speed change