

Rigid Body Dynamics

- perspective based on a "physics engine"
- model of how objects move in response to forces
 - "passive phenomena": move only according to external forces (as opposed to animals which can move of their own accord)
- objects are non-deformable, don't change size or shape
- uses Newton's laws of motion

Two categories (this class)

① Particle Systems

- rigid bodies are points/spheres
- only translational dynamics matter

② 3D object simulation

- both translation & rotation dynamics

Particles Systems:

- simple & versatile
- used for snow, rain, dust, fire, fireworks, confetti, hair, cloth

Simulating a particle system:

Each simulation step

① Accumulate forces (compute net force: $F = \sum f_i$)

② Take derivatives

→ compute how quantities change over time
 $- F_i \rightarrow$ compute acceleration a from net force

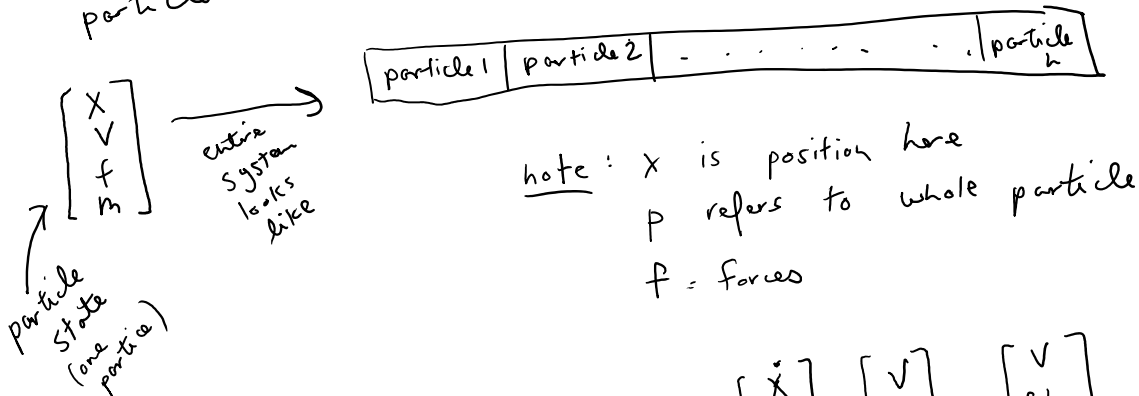
→ compute how quantities change over time
 $a = F/m$ ← compute acceleration a from net force F and particle mass m
 $v = f(a)$
 $p = f(v)$ ← approximation called "Euler's Method"

3a Get particle state (pos, mass, vel)

3b Set particle state

Typically, particles will be stored together in big array
 position, velocity, mass, and forces for each

EX Suppose we have particle



note: x is position here
 p refers to whole particle
 f = forces

If $p = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ v \end{bmatrix}$, then the derivative $\dot{p} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v \\ a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v \\ f/m \end{bmatrix}$

To update p each frame

$p^{t+1} = p^t + \Delta t \dot{p}^t$ where t is current frame
 Δt is the time since the last frame ($dt()$)

$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ v \end{bmatrix}^{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ v \end{bmatrix}^t + \begin{bmatrix} v \\ f/m \end{bmatrix}^t \Delta t$

This process of updating based on derivatives is called numerical integration

We are using Euler's Method (first order approximation) in this class but more accurate methods exist (Midpoint Method, Runge-Kutta)

Examples of Force Types

Examples of Force Types:

- ① Constant: ex gravity, wind
- ② Pos/time dependent: flow fields, force fields (such as a wall), penalty forces (which prevents particles from intersecting)
- ③ Velocity dependent: drag, e.g. $f = -c v$ ($c \in \mathbb{R}$ is a constant)
- ④ N-ary: ex. Springs, forces where nearby particles exert forces on each other

EX Particle under gravity

Suppose we have a particle w/ initial position $x = (-2, 0)$ & vel = $(0, 3)$. Suppose gravity is $(0, -5)$ and mass = 1.0

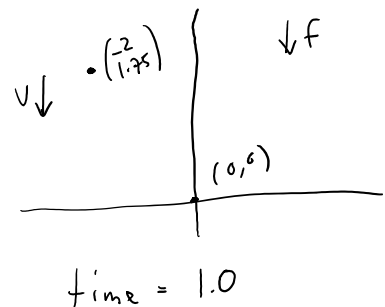
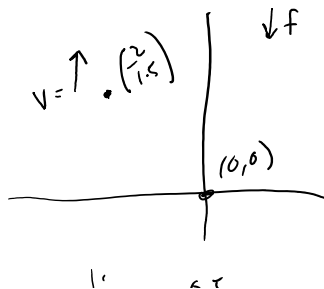
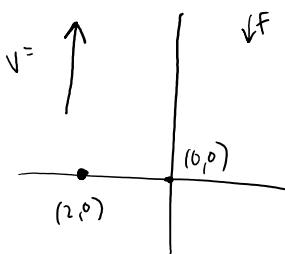
What is the state $p = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ v \end{bmatrix}$ if $\Delta t = 0.5s$?

$$\text{time} = 0, p = \begin{bmatrix} (-2) \\ (0) \\ (0) \\ (3) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{time} = 0.5, \dot{p} = \begin{bmatrix} (0) \\ (3) \\ (0) \\ (-5) \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow p = p + \dot{p} \Delta t = \begin{bmatrix} (-2) \\ (0) \\ (0) \\ (3) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} (0) \\ (3) \\ (0) \\ (-5) \end{bmatrix} 0.5 = \begin{bmatrix} (-2) \\ (1.5) \\ (0) \\ (1.5) \end{bmatrix}$$

\swarrow old v
 \nwarrow f/m

$$\text{time} = 1.0, \dot{p} = \begin{bmatrix} (0) \\ (1.5) \\ (0) \\ (3) \end{bmatrix}, p = \begin{bmatrix} (-2) \\ (1.5) \\ (0) \\ (1.5) \end{bmatrix} + (0.5) \begin{bmatrix} (0) \\ (1.5) \\ (0) \\ (-5) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (-2) \\ (1.75) \\ (0) \\ (-2) \end{bmatrix}$$



time = 0

time = 0.5

time

Spring forces (N-ary):

$$f_i = -k_s \left(\|\Delta x\| - r \right) \frac{\Delta x}{\|\Delta x\|}$$

$$f_j = -f_i$$

forces exerted between particles P_i & P_j

where $\frac{k_s}{r}$ is a spring constant & controls how "stiff" the spring is.

r is a rest length

$\|\Delta x\|$ is the distance between

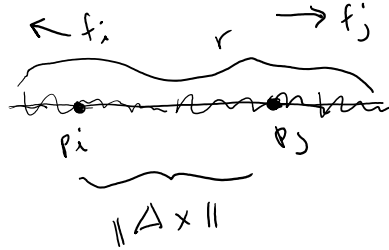
P_i & P_j

$$\|\Delta x\| = \|P_i - P_j\|$$

When $\|\Delta x\| > r$, we push inwards



When $\|\Delta x\| < r$, we push outwards



EX Two particles connected by a spring



Let $r=1$ and $k_s=1$

Compute f_i & f_j
where

$$f_i = - \left[k_s (\|\Delta x\| - r) \right] \frac{\Delta x}{\|\Delta x\|}$$

where $\Delta x_i = P_i - P_j$

$$\Delta x_1 = P_1 - P_2 = (-2, 0)^T$$

$$\|\Delta x_1\| = \sqrt{(-2)^2} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\Delta x_1}{\|\Delta x_1\|} = (-1, 0)^T$$

$$\therefore f_1 = -1 \cdot (-1, 0)^T = (1, 0)^T$$

$$\| \Delta x_1 \| = \sqrt{(-2)^2} = 2 \Rightarrow \| \Delta x_1 \|$$

$$f_1 = - [1 \cdot (2-1)] \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (1, 0)^T$$

$$f_2 = -f_1 = (-1, 0)^T$$