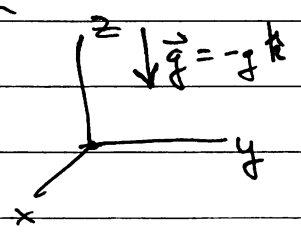


In order to obtain a deeper intuitive feeling for Newton's laws, let's study the trajectory of a particle when subject to various types of forces.

Example 1 Consider single particle motion under a constant gravitational force aligned in the z-direction

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{g} = -mg\vec{k}$$



$$m\vec{\ddot{x}} = \vec{F} = -mg\vec{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{x} = 0 = \ddot{y} \Rightarrow x = x_0 + v_x t$$
$$y = y_0 + v_y t$$

$$\ddot{z} = -g \Rightarrow z = z_0 + v_z t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

In general we desire to predict the position of ~~any~~ the particle ~~at~~ the next instant given the present position. Since  $\vec{x}(t+dt) = \vec{x}(t) + \dot{\vec{x}}(t)dt$  we need also to specify  $\dot{\vec{x}}(t)$  as well as  $\vec{x}(t)$ . But to know  $\dot{\vec{x}}(t)$  at the following instant we need  $\ddot{\vec{x}}(t)$  and of course this is what is specified by Newton's ~~2nd~~ 2nd law. So in order to ~~speci~~ predict the

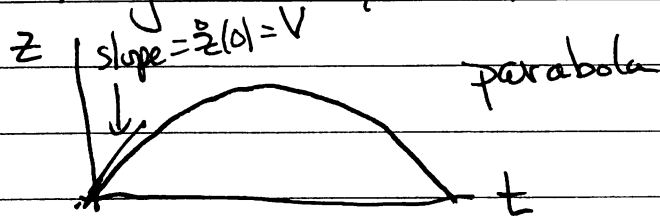
position of the particle at any later time we must specify at an earlier time the 3 position <sup>coordinates</sup> and 3 velocity components. These are called the initial conditions. The state of the particle is specified by  $\vec{x}$  and  $\dot{\vec{x}}$  (at some  $t$ ),  $\{\vec{x}, \dot{\vec{x}}\}$  are called points in configuration space.

So let's consider various initial conditions

1) Let at  $t=0$   $x_0 = y_0 = z_0 = 0$   
 $v_y = v_x = 0$   
 $v_z = V$

ie. we throw a baseball straight up  
 $\Rightarrow$

$x(t) = y(t) = 0$  ;  $z(t) = Vt - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$



The duration of flight  $T$  is the time at which  $z(T) = 0$  again

$z(T) = VT - \frac{1}{2}gT^2 = T(V - \frac{1}{2}gT) = 0$

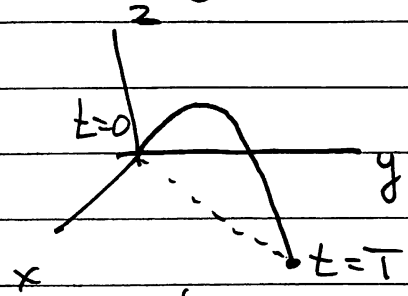
$\rightarrow$   $T = 0$  initial point on ground  
 $T = \frac{2V}{g}$  duration of flight.

2) General  $x_0 = y_0 = z_0 = 0$  but  $v_x, v_y, v_z \neq 0$   
 $\Rightarrow$

$$x = v_x t$$

$$y = v_y t$$

$$z = v_z t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2$$



Just uniform motion in  $x, y$  directions, with parabola in  $z$ .  $T$  duration the same ( $v \rightarrow v_z$ )

Example 2: Suppose we consider air resistance or drag and assume that this "frictional" force retards the particle's motion with a magnitude proportional to the speed of the particle. More specifically

$$\vec{F}_{\text{drag}} = -b\vec{v} = -b\vec{x}$$

(Let's in general use  $\vec{v} = \vec{x}$ )

The total external force acting on the projectile is gravity + drag  
(vector sum)

$$\vec{F} = +m\vec{g} - b\vec{v}$$

let  $b = km$ . The equations of motion are given by Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> law

$$m \ddot{\vec{r}} = m \vec{g} - b \dot{\vec{r}} = -mg \hat{z} - mk \dot{\vec{r}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 1) \ddot{x} + k \dot{x} = 0 \\ 2) \ddot{y} + k \dot{y} = 0 \\ 3) \ddot{z} + k \dot{z} + g = 0 \end{cases}$$

We first solve 1 & 2

$$\ddot{x} = -k \dot{x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \dot{x} \Rightarrow \frac{d\dot{x}}{\dot{x}} = -k dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{\dot{x}}{\dot{x}_0}\right) = -k(t-t_0)$$

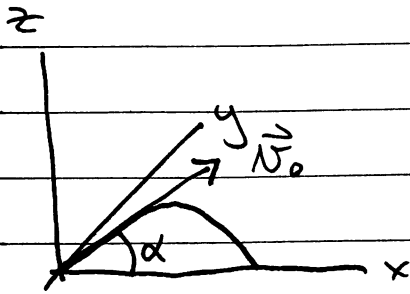
$$\Rightarrow \dot{x}(t) = \dot{x}_0 e^{-k(t-t_0)}$$

where at  $t = t_0$   $\dot{x}(t_0) = \dot{x}_0$

The initial condition for the speed in the x-direction

$$\text{Similarly } \dot{y}(t) = \dot{y}_0 e^{-k(t-t_0)}$$

Wlog we can rotate our coordinate system so that  $\dot{y}_0 = 0$  and  $\dot{x}_0 = v \cos \alpha$  at  $t_0$ ; where  $\alpha$  is  $\angle$  of inclination of projectile's velocity wrt to the x-axis



$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t=t_0) &= V \cos \alpha = \dot{x}_0 \\ \dot{y}(t=t_0) &= 0 \\ \dot{z}(t=t_0) &= V \sin \alpha \end{aligned}$$

} i.c.

Similarly, we have chosen the origin of the coordinate system  $\Rightarrow \vec{r}(t=t_0) = 0$

Now we can integrate the  $\dot{x}(t)$  equation once again

$$\dot{x}(t) = V \cos \alpha e^{-k(t-t_0)}$$

$$\Rightarrow dx = V \cos \alpha e^{-k(t-t_0)} dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{x_0(t_0)=x_0}^{x(t)} dx = V \cos \alpha \int_{t_0}^t dt' e^{-k(t'-t_0)}$$

$$\Rightarrow x(t) - x(t_0) = V \cos \alpha \left[ -\frac{1}{k} e^{-k(t-t_0)} + \frac{1}{k} e^{-k t_0} \right]$$

$$x(t) = x_0 + \frac{V \cos \alpha}{k} \left[ 1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)} \right]$$

i.c.  $x(t_0) = 0 = x_0$

and  $\dot{x}(t_0) = V \cos \alpha \checkmark$

So we find

$$x(t) = \frac{V \cos \alpha}{k} [1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)}]$$

The  $y$ -motion is trivial  $\dot{y}(t) = 0 \Rightarrow y(t) = y_0$   
 $y_0 = 0$

$$y(t) = 0$$

Finally the vertical equation of motion can be integrated twice: first for the  $z$  component of  $\vec{r}$

$$\frac{d\dot{z}}{dt} = -(g + k\dot{z}) \Rightarrow \frac{d\dot{z}}{g + k\dot{z}} = -dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{\dot{z}(t_0)}^{\dot{z}(t)} \frac{d\dot{z}}{g + k\dot{z}} = - \int_{t_0}^t dt' = -(t - t_0)$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \ln(k\dot{z}(t) + g) - \frac{1}{k} \ln(k\dot{z}(t_0) + g)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{k\dot{z}(t) + g = [k\dot{z}(t_0) + g] e^{-k(t-t_0)}}$$

So

$$\dot{z}(t) = -\frac{g}{k}(1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)}) + \dot{z}(t_0)e^{-k(t-t_0)}$$

Now we apply the i.c.  $\dot{z}(t_0) = V \sin \alpha$   
 $\Rightarrow$

$$\dot{z}(t) = V \sin \alpha e^{-k(t-t_0)} - \frac{g}{k}(1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)})$$

Now we can integrate once more

$$z(t) - z(t_0) = \frac{V \sin \alpha}{k} (1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)}) - \frac{g}{k^2} (t-t_0) + \frac{g}{k^2} (1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)})$$

Imposing the i.c.  $z(t_0) = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$z(t) = -\frac{g}{k^2} (t-t_0) + \frac{kV \sin \alpha + g}{k^2} (1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)})$$

Again, wlog we can take the initial conditions to be at  $t_0 = 0$  (shift zero of time)

$\Rightarrow$

$$x(t) = \frac{V \cos \alpha}{k} [1 - e^{-kt}]$$

$$y(t) = 0$$

$$z(t) = -\frac{gt}{k} + \frac{kV \sin \alpha + g}{k^2} [1 - e^{-kt}]$$

i.c.  $\vec{r}(0) = 0$  ;  $\dot{x}(0) = V \cos \alpha$   
 $\dot{y}(0) = 0$   
 $\dot{z}(0) = V \sin \alpha$

As mentioned earlier Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> law involves 3 second order DE. Integrating each twice for the trajectory as a function of time  $\Rightarrow$  6 integration constants. Thus we need 6 i.c. in order to prescribe the state of the particle in the future - 3 coordinates  
 3 speeds.

Rather than plot each coordinate as a function of time we can eliminate the time and solve for a Spatial Trajectory  
 that is  $t = t(x)$  and  $z = z(t(x))$



So the X(t) solution  $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{kx}{V \cos \alpha} - 1 = -e^{-kt}$$

$$\Rightarrow -kt = \ln \left[ 1 - \frac{kx}{V \cos \alpha} \right]$$

hence

$$Z = \frac{g}{k^2} \ln \left( 1 - \frac{kx}{V \cos \alpha} \right) + \frac{kV \sin \alpha + g}{k^2} \frac{kx}{V \cos \alpha}$$

So

$$Z = \left[ \tan \alpha + \frac{g}{kV \cos \alpha} \right] x + \frac{g}{k^2} \ln \left( 1 - \frac{kx}{V \cos \alpha} \right)$$

Now let's study this trajectory in various limits to understand the effects of the different terms.

a.) Suppose  $\frac{kx}{V \cos \alpha} \ll 1$  is small then

we can expand the logarithm:

$$\ln(1+\epsilon) = \epsilon - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^2 + \frac{1}{3}\epsilon^3 + \dots$$

$$= - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \epsilon^n}{n}$$

This is just found from the Taylor expansion

$$f(\epsilon) = f(0) + \epsilon f'(0) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} f''(0) + \frac{\epsilon^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \dots$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon^n f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}$$

Now  $f(\epsilon) = \ln(1+\epsilon) \Rightarrow f(0) = 0$

$$f'(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{1+\epsilon} \Rightarrow f'(0) = +1$$

$$f''(\epsilon) = \frac{-1}{(1+\epsilon)^2} \Rightarrow f''(0) = -1$$

$$f'''(\epsilon) = \frac{2}{(1+\epsilon)^3} \Rightarrow f'''(0) = +2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$f^{(n)}(\epsilon) = \frac{(-1)^{n-1} (n-1)!}{(1+\epsilon)^n} \Rightarrow f^{(n)}(0) = (-1)^{n-1} (n-1)!$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\ln(1+\epsilon) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} \epsilon^n \checkmark$$

Two for  $\frac{kx}{\sqrt{\cos \alpha}} \ll 1$  we find

$$Z \approx \left[ \tan \alpha + \cancel{\frac{g}{k\sqrt{\cos \alpha}}} \right] x$$

$$+ \frac{g}{k^2} \left[ -\cancel{\frac{kx}{\sqrt{\cos \alpha}}} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{k^2 x^2}{\sqrt{\cos^3 \alpha}} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{k^3 x^3}{\sqrt{\cos^5 \alpha}} + \dots \right]$$

all higher order terms vanish as  $k \rightarrow 0$   
-34-

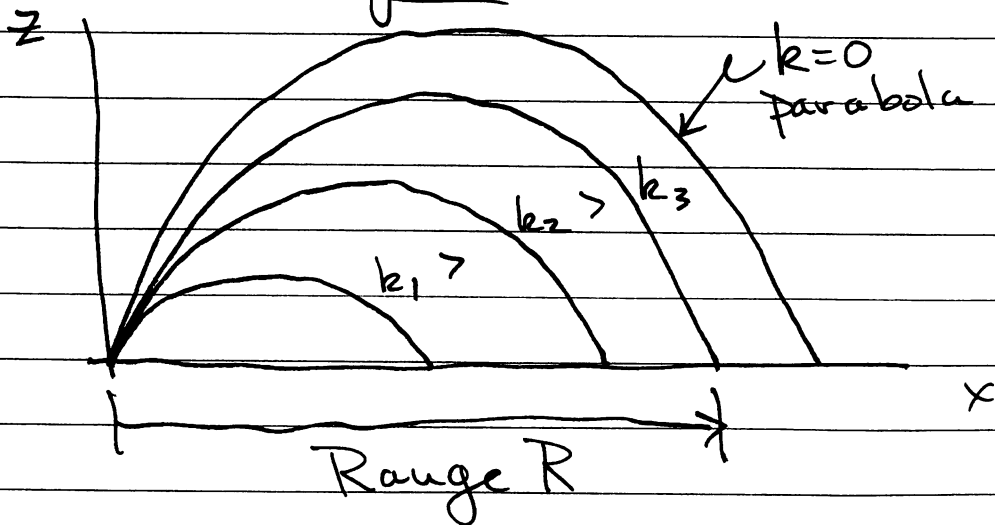
$$z \approx x \tan \alpha - \frac{1}{2} \frac{g x^2}{V^2 \cos^2 \alpha} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{g k x^3}{V^3 \cos^3 \alpha} + \dots$$

So as expected for  $k \ll 1$  or for small  $x$  the projectile starts off with a parabolic trajectory

(Same as  $k=0$  result)

$$z \approx x \tan \alpha - \frac{1}{2} \frac{g x^2}{V^2 \cos^2 \alpha} \quad (\text{indep. of } k)$$

The air resistance force has not had time to build up. As it does build up the trajectory starts to drop off - we leave a negative  $x^3$  term



The range  $R$  is the value of  $x$  where the projectile hits the ground again  $z=0$

For  $k=0$  Range  $\equiv R_0 = x(z=0)$

$$\text{So for } z=0 = R_0 \tan \alpha - \frac{1}{2} \frac{g R_0^2}{V^2 \cos^2 \alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{R_0 \frac{1}{2} g}{V^2 \cos^2 \alpha} \left[ R_0 + \frac{2V^2 \cos^2 \alpha}{g} \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow R_0 = \frac{V^2}{g} \underbrace{2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha}_{= \sin 2\alpha}$$

$$R_0 = \frac{V^2}{g} \sin 2\alpha$$

Note  $R_0$  is greatest for  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{4} = 45^\circ$ .

For small air resistance  $k \ll 1$  we can use our approximation for the trajectory to find the range ( $\frac{kR}{V \cos \alpha} \ll 1$ )  
 Thus we will find linear in  $k$  correction to  $R_0$ .

$$0 = R \tan \alpha - \frac{1}{2} \frac{g R^2}{V^2 \cos^2 \alpha} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{g k R^3}{V^3 \cos^3 \alpha}$$

$$= R \left[ \tan \alpha - \frac{1}{2} \frac{g R}{V^2 \cos^2 \alpha} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{g k R^2}{V^3 \cos^3 \alpha} \right]$$

as usual  $R=0$  is the initial point we are interested in

$$R = R_0 - \beta k$$

already 1 power of  $k$   
-36-

$$0 = \left[ \tan \alpha - \frac{1}{2} \frac{g}{V^2 \cos^2 \alpha} (R_0 - \beta k) - \frac{1}{3} \frac{gk}{V^3 \cos^3 \alpha} (R_0 - \beta k) \right]$$

$\Rightarrow$

ignore these - only first order in  $k$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{g}{V^2 \cos^2 \alpha} \beta k = \frac{1}{3} \frac{g R_0^2}{V^3 \cos^3 \alpha} k$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\beta = \frac{2}{3} \frac{R_0^2}{V \cos \alpha}$$

Thus

$$R \approx R_0 \left( 1 - \frac{2}{3} \frac{k R_0}{V \cos \alpha} \right)$$

$$R \approx R_0 \left( 1 - \frac{4}{3} \frac{kV}{g} \sin \alpha \right)$$

The change in the range  $\Delta R \equiv R_0 - R$

$$= \frac{4}{3} \frac{kV}{g} \sin \alpha R_0$$

$$\Delta R = \frac{4}{3} \frac{kV^3}{g^2} \sin \alpha \sin^2 \alpha \geq 0$$

as expected  $R < R_0$  the range decreases.

b.) For  $\frac{kx}{v \cos \alpha} \approx 1$  the full trajectory equation must be used to find the range  $z=0$  at  $x=R$

$$0 = \left[ \tan \alpha + \frac{g}{kv \cos \alpha} \right] R + \frac{g}{k^2} \ln \left( 1 - \frac{kR}{v \cos \alpha} \right)$$

This is a transcendental equation which must be solved numerically.

Example 3: Consider the same projectile problem as above but now with the wind having a velocity w.r.t the earth (from). Assume the frictional force is proportional to the relative velocity of the projectile to the wind, so

$$m \ddot{\vec{r}} = +m\vec{g} - b(\dot{\vec{r}} - \vec{v}_w)$$

For constant  $\vec{v}_w$ , this simply adds a constant force  $+b\vec{v}_w$  to  $m\vec{g}$  and we can solve as in ex. 2.

### Example 4: Effects of altitude

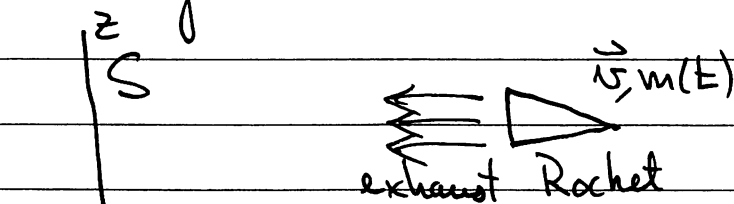
Because the air density decreases exponentially with height, a more accurate equation of motion is

$$m \ddot{\vec{r}} = m \vec{g} - b e^{-\lambda z} \dot{\vec{r}} \quad \text{with } \lambda \approx \frac{1}{5 \text{ miles}}$$

This leads to coupled differential equations since  $z$  appears in both the  $x$  and  $y$  equations.

### Example 5: Motion With Variable Mass: The Rocket Equation (see R&H p.198)

Our system is the rocket + exhaust material



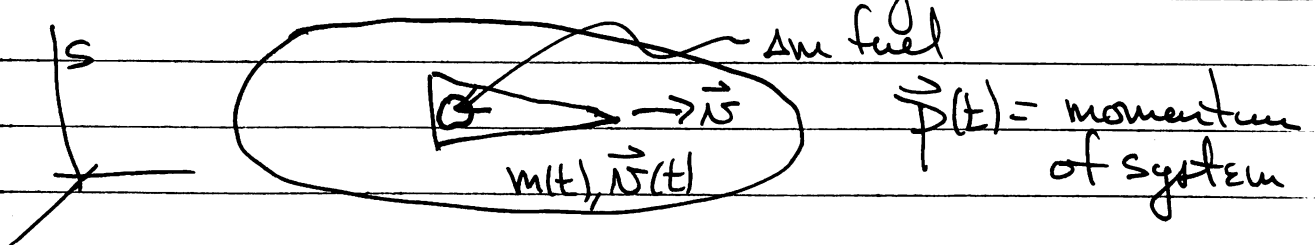
i) The velocity of the rocket wrt inertial frame  $S = \vec{v}_r(t)$

ii) The velocity of exhaust gas relative to the rocket  $= \vec{v} = \text{constant}$

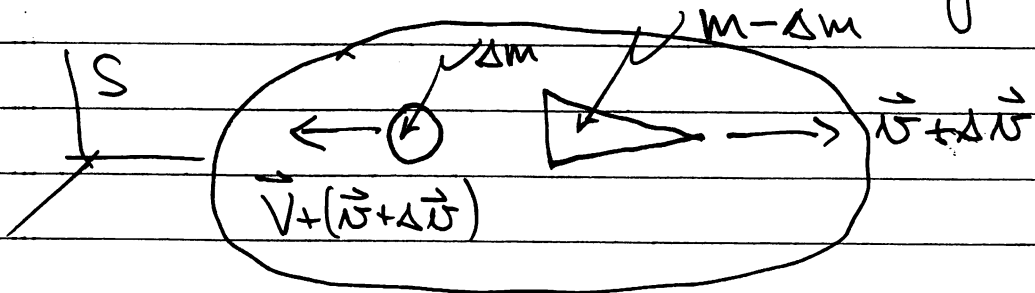
iii) The velocity of exhaust gas relative to  $S = \vec{v} + \vec{v}_r(t)$

5.) iv) The mass of the rocket + fuel =  $m(t)$

So at time  $t$  we have the system in state



At time  $t + \Delta t$  we have the system in state



momentum of system =  $\vec{p}(t + \Delta t)$   
of the system

Hence the momentum at  $t$  and  $t + \Delta t$  is

$$\vec{p}(t) = m(t) \vec{v}(t)$$

$$\vec{p}(t + \Delta t) = (m - \Delta m)(\vec{v} + \Delta \vec{v}) + \Delta m (\vec{V} + \vec{v} + \Delta \vec{v})$$

So the rate of change of momentum is

$$\frac{\vec{p}(t + \Delta t) - \vec{p}(t)}{\Delta t} = \cancel{m \vec{v}} + m \Delta \vec{v} - \cancel{\Delta m \vec{v}} - \cancel{\Delta m \Delta \vec{v}} + \Delta m \vec{V} + \Delta m \vec{v} + \Delta m \Delta \vec{v} - \cancel{m \vec{v}}$$

$$= m \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} - \frac{\Delta m}{\Delta t} \vec{v} + \frac{\Delta m}{\Delta t} (\vec{V} + \vec{v}) \Delta t$$



Now the quantity  $\Delta m$  is positive here  
 So that the final mass of the rocket is

$m - \Delta m$ . It is more convenient to let

$\frac{dm}{dt}$  be the actual change (decrease) in

the mass of the rocket

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = \frac{m(t+\Delta t) - m(t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{m(t) - \Delta m - m(t)}{\Delta t}$$

$$= - \frac{\Delta m}{\Delta t}$$

We could equally let  $\frac{dM_g}{dt}$  be the  
 rate of increase of exhaust gases

$\frac{dM_g}{dt} = + \frac{\Delta m}{\Delta t}$ , but usually we refer

everything to the rocket.

With these conventions in mind

$$\boxed{\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = m \dot{\vec{v}} - \dot{m} \vec{v}}$$

(where  $\vec{v}(t+\Delta t) = \vec{v}(t) + \Delta \vec{v}$

so  $\dot{\vec{v}} = \frac{\vec{v}(t+\Delta t) - \vec{v}(t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t}$ )

By Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law this is just equal to the sum of the external forces acting on the rocket (system)

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F} &= \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = m\dot{\vec{v}} - \dot{m}\vec{v} \\ &= m\dot{\vec{v}} + \dot{m}\vec{v} - \dot{m}(\vec{V} + \vec{v})\end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{F} = \frac{d}{dt}(m\vec{v}) - \dot{m}(\vec{V} + \vec{v})}$$

Note: We cannot simply write  $\vec{F} = \frac{d}{dt}(m\vec{v})$

for a variable mass system, since this excludes the last term above and does not correspond to a choice of an inertial reference frame in which the 2<sup>nd</sup> law is valid, but to a special frame in which  $\vec{V} + \vec{v} = 0$  (exhaust gas frame; not inertial!).

Physically we are most interested in the acceleration of the rocket so

$$m\dot{\vec{v}} = \vec{F} + \underbrace{\dot{m}\vec{v}}_{\text{thrust of rocket}}$$

Suppose now we are in free space (no gravity, no friction) where  $\vec{F} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow m \dot{\vec{v}} = \dot{m} \vec{v}$$

$$\text{or } d\vec{v} = \vec{v} \frac{dm}{m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{v} - \vec{v}_0 = \vec{v} \ln \frac{m}{m_0}$$

Now  $\vec{v}_0 = \vec{v}(t=0)$        $\vec{v} = \vec{v}(t)$   
 $m_0 = m(t=0)$        $m = m(t)$  and  $m_0 > m(t)$

$$So \quad \boxed{\vec{v} - \vec{v}_0 = -\vec{v} \ln \frac{m_0}{m}}$$

Hence the change in velocity during a given time interval depends only on the exhaust velocity  $\vec{v}$  and the total amount of fuel exhausted and not on the rate at which the fuel is exhausted. ( $\dot{m}$ )

Having studied Newton's laws in the specific cases above; let's step back and derive some ~~special cases~~ general consequences of Newton's laws and Properties of Forces.