

# Angular Motion

AH Physics

All you've done in Higher Physics but in circles.

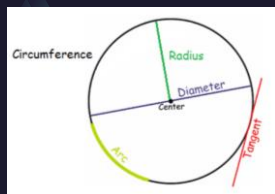


If you need additional help try these....

## Angular Motion

- <https://youtu.be/mn6NKAs6tbk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNc25fIU9U>
- [https://isaacphysics.org/concepts/cp\\_ang\\_eq\\_of\\_motion](https://isaacphysics.org/concepts/cp_ang_eq_of_motion)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RHmrcxQCbwg>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vfy3bChh8nk>

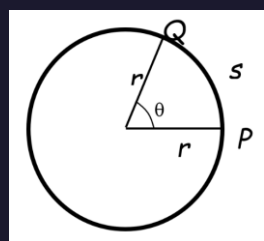
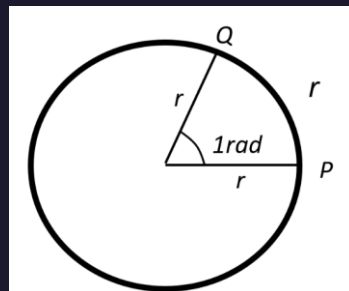
## Basic terms



- Circumference - The Length of the Perimeter of a Circle
- Arc - The length of a section of the Circumference of a Circle
- Diameter - The Length of the Line connecting opposite sides of a Circle through its centre
- Radius - The Length of the Line connecting the Edge of a Circle to its centre
- Tangent - A Line at a right angle to the Radius that 'touches' the edge of a Circle.

## MEASURING ANGLES

Angles are measured in radians (rad) on the SI system



## How far!

- 1 radian is equal to the angle subtended at the centre of a circle when an object moves around the circle a distance equal to the radius of the circle.
- If we move round the circle a distance,  $r$ , we subtend 1 rad.
- If we move round the circle a distance,  $2r$ , we subtend 2 rad.
- If we move round the circle a distance,  $1.76r$ , we subtend 1.76 rad.
- If we move round the circle a distance,  $2\pi r$ , we subtend  $2\pi$  rad.

If we move round the circle a distance,  $2\pi r$ , we subtend  $2\pi$  rad.

But....

But  $2\pi =$  circumference of a circle

$$2\pi r = 360^\circ$$

$$1^\circ = \frac{2\pi}{360} \text{ rad}$$

If we move a distance,  $s$ , we subtend  $\frac{s}{r}$  rads.

$$\bullet \text{i.e. } \theta = \frac{s}{r} \quad \therefore s = r\theta$$

So what are the units of  $s$ ,  $r$  and  $\theta$ ?

## Compendium Questions

Convert the following from degrees to radians:

$30^\circ$ ,  $60^\circ$ ,  $90^\circ$ ,  $180^\circ$ ,  $270^\circ$ ,  $360^\circ$ ,  $720^\circ$ .

Convert the following from degrees into radians

$30^\circ$ ,  $14^\circ$ ,  $5^\circ$

Convert the following from degrees into radians:

$45^\circ$ ,  $14^\circ$ ,  $1^\circ$

Convert the following from radians to degrees:

$1 \text{ rad}$ ,  $10 \text{ rad}$ ,  $0.1 \text{ rad}$ ,  $\pi \text{ rad}$ ,  $2\pi \text{ rad}$ ,  $\frac{\pi}{6} \text{ rad}$ .

Convert the following from radians to degrees:

$\frac{1}{2} \pi \text{ rad}$ ,  $5 \text{ rad}$ ,  $0.1 \text{ rad}$ ,  $0.01 \text{ rad}$

Convert the following from revolutions per minute to radians per second:

$33 \text{ rpm}$ ,  $45 \text{ rpm}$ ,  $78 \text{ rpm}$ ,  $300 \text{ rpm}$ .

## Answers

## Angular Velocity

- To describe how quickly an object moves around a circle we measure the angular velocity.
- The angular velocity is the rate at which an object turns through an angle. If, in  $t$  seconds the object subtends  $\theta$  rads then:

Angular velocity,  $\omega$

$$\omega = \frac{\theta}{t}$$

$$\{\text{rad s}^{-1}\} = \left\{ \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}} \right\}$$

NB Watch the unit!

**An electric drill rotates at 800 rpm, find its angular velocity.**

In 1 rev there are  $2\pi$  radians.

$\therefore$  in 800 revs there are  $2\pi \times 800$  radians.

$$\therefore \omega = \frac{\theta}{t}$$

$$\omega = \frac{800 \times 2\pi}{60} = 83.8 \text{ rad s}^{-1}$$

Determine the angular velocity of the Earth.

1 rev takes 24 hours

$\therefore$  1 rev takes  $24 \times 60 \times 60$  seconds = 86400 seconds

1 rev is  $2\pi$  radians

$$\therefore \omega = \frac{\theta}{t}$$

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{86400} = 7.3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ rad s}^{-1}$$

Converting rpm to  $\text{rad s}^{-1}$

• 1 revolution is  $2\pi$  radians

$$\bullet 1 \text{ rev per min} = \frac{2\pi}{60} \text{ rad s}^{-1}$$

$$\bullet N \text{ rev per min} = N \times \frac{2\pi}{60} \text{ rad s}^{-1}$$

Find the angular velocity of a washing machine which spins at 1300 rpm.

$$\omega = \frac{\theta}{t} = \frac{1300 \times 2\pi}{60} = 136 \text{ rad s}^{-1}$$

• Determine the angular velocity of a geostationary satellite.

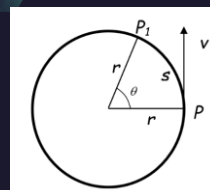
*NB. radians have no dimensions.*

## Compendium Questions

Calculate the angular velocity of each of the following:

- A bicycle spoke turning through 5.8 rad in 3.6 s.
- A playground roundabout rotating once every 4 s.
- An electric drill bit rotating at 3000 revolutions per minute (rpm).
- An electric drill bit rotating at 40 revolutions per second.
- The second hand of an analogue watch.
- The Moon orbiting the Earth with a period of 27.3 days.
- The Earth spinning about its polar axis.
- A rotating object whose angular displacement,  $\theta$ , is given by  $\theta = 5t + 4$  radians, where  $t$  is the time in seconds.

To relate linear speed,  $v$ , to angular speed



- To relate linear speed,  $v$ , to angular speed take an object,  $P$ , moving around a circle of radius,  $r$ .
- In time,  $t$ ,  $P$  moves a distance,  $s$ , and reaches point  $P$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{speed} &= \frac{s}{t} \\ \text{but we know } s &= r\theta \\ \therefore \text{speed} &= v = \frac{r\theta}{t} \\ \therefore v &= r\omega \end{aligned}$$

Look back at the three questions from before calculate the linear speed on the outer circumference of each object:

	$\omega$ (rad s <sup>-1</sup> )	radius (m)
Drill	83.8	0.005
Earth	$7.3 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.4 \times 10^6$
Washing machine	136	0.2
Geostationary satellite	$7.3 \times 10^{-5}$	36 000 km above the Earth!!

(467 m s<sup>-1</sup> represents the speed at the Earth's equator, and is equivalent to 1045 mph!)

1. Angular displacement  $\theta$  and arc length  $s = r\theta$ .

2. Tangential distance  $s = r\theta$ .

3. Tangential speed,  $v_T = r\omega$ .

4. Tangential speed,  $v_T = r\omega$ .

Where  $\theta$  = angular displacement, rad  
 $\omega$  = angular velocity, rad s<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\omega_0$  = initial angular velocity, rad s<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\omega$  = final angular velocity, rad s<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\alpha$  = angular acceleration, rad s<sup>-2</sup>  
 $t$  = time s

## Compendium Questions

A propeller rotates at 95 rpm.

- Calculate the angular velocity of the propeller.
- Each propeller blade has a length of 0.35 m. Calculate the linear speed of the tip of a propeller.

A CD of diameter 120 mm rotates inside a CD player.



The linear speed of point A on the circumference of the CD is 1.4 m s<sup>-1</sup>. Calculate the angular velocity of the CD:

- In rad s<sup>-1</sup>
- In rpm.

## Angular Motion

Concept	Translational	Rotational	Comments
Displacement	$s$	$\theta$	$s = r\theta$
Velocity	$v = \frac{ds}{dt}$	$\omega = \frac{d\theta}{dt}$	$v = r\omega$
Acceleration	$a = \frac{dv}{dt}$	$\alpha = \frac{d\omega}{dt}$	$a_T = r\alpha$
Equations of motion for constant acceleration.	$v = u + at$ $s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$ $v^2 = u^2 + 2as$	$\omega = \omega_0 + \alpha t$ $\theta = \omega_0 t + \frac{1}{2}\alpha t^2$ $\omega^2 = \omega_0^2 + 2\alpha\theta$	

Where  $\theta$  = angular displacement, rad  
 $\omega$  = angular velocity, rad s<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\omega_0$  = initial angular velocity, rad s<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\omega$  = final angular velocity, rad s<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\alpha$  = angular acceleration, rad s<sup>-2</sup>  
 $t$  = time s

NB  $a_t$  in  $a_T = r\alpha$  is the tangential acceleration

## Angular Acceleration

### Something to be aware of!

Acceleration is a vector quantity-  
change the direction you change the acceleration

## ANGULAR ACCELERATION

$\alpha$   
(Rate of change of angular velocity)

$$\text{Angular acceleration } \alpha = \frac{d\omega}{dt}$$

This is the rate of change of angular velocity.

This may have the effect of increasing the velocity of the orbit.

$$\text{Angular acceleration } \alpha = \frac{\omega - \omega_0}{t}$$

where  $\omega - \omega_0$  is the change in angular velocity during the time interval  $t$ .

## TANGENTIAL ACCELERATION

$$a_{\perp}$$

(only experienced by objects whose angular velocity is changing)

a measure of how the tangential velocity of a point at a certain radius changes with time

Tangential acceleration

angular acceleration  $\alpha = \frac{d\omega}{dt}$  but  $v = r\omega$

$$a_{\perp} = r\alpha$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = r \cdot \frac{d\omega}{dt}$$

tangential acceleration  $a_{\perp} = r\alpha$

As an aside  
Linking angular acceleration and tangential acceleration

$$\begin{aligned} \text{But } \omega &= \frac{v}{r} \\ \therefore \alpha &= \frac{\frac{v}{r} - \frac{u}{r}}{t} = \frac{v-u}{rt} \\ \text{or } \alpha &= \frac{v-u}{t} \\ \text{but } \frac{v-u}{t} &= a \\ \therefore r\alpha &= a \\ a_{\perp} &= r\alpha \end{aligned}$$

From the formula for tangential acceleration it can be seen that angular acceleration and tangential acceleration are related by the radius of the circle of motion.

## ACCELERATION IN CIRCLES

Acceleration is a vector quantity-  
change the direction you change the acceleration

- All particles travelling in a circular motion experience centripetal (radial acceleration). Only those whose angular velocity is changing experience tangential acceleration.
- Any particle moving in a circular path has radial acceleration (although the linear velocity maybe constant). A particle may have angular acceleration which is described as the rate of change of angular velocity.

## RADIAL OR CENTRIPETAL/ CENTRAL ACCELERATION

a

(IF OBJECTS ARE MOVING IN CIRCLES THEIR DIRECTION IS CHANGING AND HENCE THEY ARE ACCELERATING)

Radial (centripetal acceleration)  $a = v^2/r$ . This is the rate of change of the direction of motion.

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r} = \omega^2 r$$

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r} = \omega^2 r$$

### • Radial Acceleration

- $a = v^2 / r$  but  $v = r\omega$
- therefore  $v^2 = r^2 \omega^2$
- so  $a = r^2 \omega^2 / r = r\omega^2$

A 150g ball at the end of a string is swinging in a horizontal circle of radius 0.60m. The ball makes exactly 2.00 revs per second. What is its centripetal acceleration?

$$\bullet a = \frac{v^2}{r} \quad \text{therefore first find } v$$

$$\bullet v = \frac{2\pi r}{t} = \frac{2 \times 3.14 \times 0.6}{0.5} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{2 \times 2 \times 3.14 \times 0.6}{1} = 7.5 \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

$$\bullet a = \frac{v^2}{r} = \frac{(7.5)^2}{0.6} = 95 \text{ ms}^{-2} \quad (\text{note the units of centripetal acceleration are ms}^{-2})$$

The moon's nearly circular orbit about the earth has a radius of about 385000 km and a period  $T$  of 27.3 days. Determine the acceleration of the moon towards the earth.

- In orbit the moon travels a distance of  $2\pi r$  where  $r = 3.85 \times 10^8$  m
- $v = 2\pi r / T = 1.02 \times 10^3 \text{ ms}^{-1}$
- $a = v^2 / r = (1.02 \times 10^3)^2 / 3.85 \times 10^8 = 2.73 \times 10^{-3} \text{ ms}^{-2}$
- or  $\omega = 2\pi / T \text{ rad s}^{-1} = 2.66 \times 10^{-6}$
- $a = r\omega^2 = 3.85 \times 10^8 \times (2.66 \times 10^{-6})^2 = 2.73 \times 10^{-3} \text{ ms}^{-2}$

## CENTRAL FORCE

- A CENTRIPETAL FORCE IS A FORCE THAT MAKES A BODY FOLLOW A CURVED PATH. ITS DIRECTION IS ALWAYS TOWARDS THE CENTRE OF CURVATURE OF THE PATH.
- TO CALCULATE THE SIZE OF A CENTRAL ACCELERATION

Do these with the turntable or  
<https://physicsflashrepo.cyou/ah-physics-experiments/>

- **AH Exp – Mechanics 01: Measurement of angular velocity**

Aim – To measure the angular velocity of a rotating turntable

- **AH Exp – Mechanics 02: Measurement of angular acceleration**

Aim – To measure the angular acceleration of a rotating turntable

- **AH Exp – Mechanics 03A: Variation of central force with angular velocity**

Aim – To investigate the relationship between the central force required to maintain circular motion of a rubber stopper and the angular velocity of the stopper.

- **AH Exp – Mechanics 03B: Central force and angular velocity**

Aim – To investigate the relationship between the central force maintaining the circular motion of a ball and the angular velocity of the ball.