

$$= \mathbf{v}_0 t + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a} t^2$$

$$\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0 = \vec{v}_0 t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} t^2$$

$$\text{Or, } \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{v}_0 t + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a} t^2 \quad (4.34a)$$

It can be easily verified that the derivative of Eq. (4.34a), i.e. $\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt}$ gives Eq.(4.33a) and it also satisfies the condition that at $t=0$, $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0$. Equation (4.34a) can be written in component form as

$$x - x_0 = u_x t + \frac{1}{2} a_x t^2$$

$$s_x = u_x t + \frac{1}{2} a_x t^2 \rightarrow$$

$$y = y_0 + v_{oy} t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2$$

$$s_y = u_y t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2 \rightarrow$$

$$(4.34b)$$

One immediate interpretation of Eq.(4.34b) is that the motions in x - and y -directions can be treated independently of each other. **That is, motion in a plane (two-dimensions) can be treated as two separate simultaneous one-dimensional motions with constant acceleration along two perpendicular directions.** This is an important result and is useful in analysing motion of objects in two dimensions. A similar result holds for three dimensions. The choice of perpendicular directions is convenient in many physical situations, as we shall see in section 4.10 for projectile motion.

Example 4.5 A particle starts from origin at $t = 0$ with a velocity $5.0 \hat{i}$ m/s and moves in x - y plane under action of a force which produces a constant acceleration of $(3.0\hat{i} + 2.0\hat{j})$ m/s². (a) What is the y -coordinate of the particle at the instant its x -coordinate is 84 m ? (b) What is the speed of the particle at this time ?

Answer From Eq. (4.34a) for $\mathbf{r}_0 = 0$, the position of the particle is given by

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{v}_0 t + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a} t^2$$

$$= 5.0\hat{i}t + (1/2)(3.0\hat{i} + 2.0\hat{j})t^2$$

$$= (5.0t + 1.5t^2)\hat{i} + 1.0t^2\hat{j}$$

Therefore, $x(t) = 5.0t + 1.5t^2$

$$y(t) = +1.0t^2$$

Given $x(t) = 84$ m, $t = ?$

$$5.0t + 1.5t^2 = 84 \Rightarrow t = 6 \text{ s}$$

At $t = 6$ s, $y = 1.0(6)^2 = 36.0$ m

Now, the velocity $\mathbf{v} = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = (5.0 + 3.0t)\hat{i} + 2.0t\hat{j}$

At $t = 6$ s, $\mathbf{v} = 23.0\hat{i} + 12.0\hat{j}$

speed $= |\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{23^2 + 12^2} \approx 26 \text{ m s}^{-1}$

4.9 RELATIVE VELOCITY IN TWO DIMENSIONS

The concept of relative velocity, introduced in section 3.7 for motion along a straight line, can be easily extended to include motion in a plane or in three dimensions. Suppose that two objects A and B are moving with velocities \mathbf{v}_A and \mathbf{v}_B (each with respect to some common frame of reference, say ground.). Then, **velocity of object A relative to that of B is :**

$$\mathbf{v}_{AB} = \mathbf{v}_A - \mathbf{v}_B \quad (4.35a)$$

and similarly, the **velocity of object B relative to that of A is :**

$$\mathbf{v}_{BA} = \mathbf{v}_B - \mathbf{v}_A$$

Therefore, $\mathbf{v}_{AB} = -\mathbf{v}_{BA}$

and, $|\mathbf{v}_{AB}| = |\mathbf{v}_{BA}|$ (4.35c)

Example 4.6 Rain is falling vertically with a speed of 35 m s^{-1} . A woman rides a bicycle with a speed of 12 m s^{-1} in east to west direction. What is the direction in which she should hold her umbrella ?

Answer In Fig. 4.16 \mathbf{v}_r represents the velocity of rain and \mathbf{v}_b , the velocity of the bicycle, the woman is riding. Both these velocities are with respect to the ground. Since the woman is riding a bicycle, the velocity of rain as experienced by

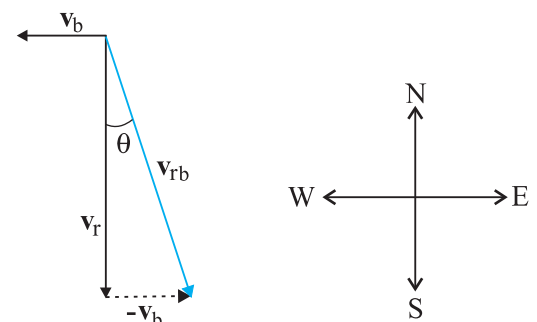


Fig. 4.16

her is the velocity of rain relative to the velocity of the bicycle she is riding. That is $\mathbf{v}_{rb} = \mathbf{v}_r - \mathbf{v}_b$