

Section 26.1: Applications of the Indefinite Integral

Thursday, January 10, 2013
11:02 AM

note: we will be omitting the electrical circuit applications (voltage, current, etc) in this class

kinematics:

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt}$$

a = acceleration

v = velocity

t = time

$$v = \int \frac{dv}{dt} dt$$

$$v = \int a dt$$

similarly

$$s = \int v dt$$

s = position

note: if s = displacement, then there is an additional constraint that at $t=0$, $s=0$

example:

what is the displacement at time t for an object moving in a straight line with constant acceleration a , starting from initial velocity v_0 ?

$$v = \int a \, dt \quad \text{where } a \text{ is a constant}$$

$$v = at + C$$

but at $t=0$, $v=v_0$

$$v_0 = a \cdot 0 + C \quad \therefore C = v_0$$

$$v = at + v_0$$

displacement

$$\begin{aligned} s &= \int v \, dt \\ &= \int (at + v_0) \, dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t + C_1 \end{aligned}$$

at $t=0$, $s=0$

$$0 = 0 + 0 + C_1 \quad \text{so } C_1 = 0$$

$$s = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t$$