

B.Sc. Part I Physics

Experiment Name / No.: Dr. Shiva Kant Mishra
Dept of Physics HDJC

Camlin / Page No.
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Galilean Transformation of the velocity of a particle :-

Consider two systems S & S' . S' is moving with velocity $\vec{v} = i\vec{v}_x + j\vec{v}_y + k\vec{v}_z$ relative to S . If $\vec{r}(t)$ and $\vec{r}'(t')$ are the co-ordinates of any particle as observed by observer in system S & S' . Then the Galilean transformation equations of space and time may be expressed as.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \vec{r}' &= \vec{r} - \vec{v}t & \text{--- (A)} \\ t' &= t & \text{--- (B)} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{--- (i)}$$

Now differentiating equⁿ (1A) with respect to t , we get $\frac{d\vec{r}'}{dt} = \frac{d(\vec{r} - \vec{v}t)}{dt}$

$$= \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} - \frac{d(\vec{v}t)}{dt}$$

$$\frac{d\vec{r}'}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} - \vec{v} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

from equⁿ (1B) $dt' = dt$

$$\therefore \text{from equⁿ (2)} \quad \frac{d\vec{r}'}{dt'} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} - \vec{v}$$

$$\text{or; } \boxed{\vec{u}' = \vec{u} - \vec{v}} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Where $\frac{d\vec{r}'}{dt'} = \vec{u}'$ = velocity vector of particle in S' .

and $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \vec{u}$ = velocity vector of particle in S .

equⁿ (3) represents the Galilean transformation of the velocity of the particle = 0

Galilean transformation of the acceleration of the

Particle :- we have Galilean transformation for velocity of particle is $\vec{u}' = \vec{u} - \vec{v}$

Differentiating above equⁿ with respect to t , we get,

$$\frac{d\vec{u}'}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(\vec{u} - \vec{v})$$
$$= \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} - \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = 0$$

$$\text{or; } \frac{d\vec{u}'}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} \quad \text{or } \frac{d\vec{u}'}{dt'} = \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt}$$

Since $dt' = dt$

where $\vec{a}' = \frac{d\vec{u}'}{dt} =$ Rate of change of velocity of particle in system S'

and $\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} =$ Rate of change of velocity of particle in system S .
 $=$ acceleration of the particle in system S .

Thus the acceleration observed by the observer in different inertial frame is same i.e., acceleration is invariant under Galilean transformation.

As mass is also invariant

$$\text{So, } \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$

is invariant in inertial frame

in other words we may say that Newton's second law is valid in every inertial system, i.e. it is invariant under Galilean transformation.

Example - Show that Newtonian fundamental equations are invariant under Galilean transformation.

Soln :-

From Newton's 2nd law of motion. In the absolute system of coordinate the particle acted upon by a force having an acceleration $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$ is given by

$$F = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Now according to Galilean transformation

$$u'_x = u - v$$

$$\frac{dx'}{dt'} = \frac{dx}{dt} = v$$

Differentiating equation we get

$$\frac{d^2x'}{dt'^2} = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 0$$

In Newtonian mechanics since force and masses are absolute quantities.

$$\text{So, } F = F'$$

$$m = m'$$

$$\therefore F' = m' \frac{d^2x'}{dt'^2}$$

i.e. w.r.t. other

frame of reference the second law has the same form. i.e. 2nd law is valid for every inertial system.

Thus we may say that Newtonian fundamental equations are invariant under Galilean transformations.