

Rocket Dynamics and Kinetic Energy Derivation

We start by defining the variables used in our derivation:

- m_i is the initial mass of the rocket, including both the rocket and its fuel (constant).
- R is the rate at which the fuel is burned, in units of mass per time (constant).
- u is the exhaust velocity of the expelled gas relative to the rocket (constant).
- t is the time elapsed.
- $m(t) = m_i - Rt$ is the mass of the rocket at time t .
- $v(t)$ is the velocity of the rocket at time t .
- $f(t)$ is the force (thrust) acting on the rocket at time t .
- $K(t)$ is the kinetic energy of the rocket at time t .

Tsiolkovsky Rocket Equation

The Tsiolkovsky rocket equation relates the change in velocity Δv of a rocket to the exhaust velocity u and the initial and final masses of the rocket. It is given by:

$$\Delta v = u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_f} \right)$$

where: - m_f is the final mass of the rocket after expelling fuel. - m_i is the initial mass of the rocket before expelling fuel.

In our case, $m_f = m_i - Rt$, so the velocity $v(t)$ at time t is:

$$v(t) = u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right)$$

Derivation of the Force $f(t)$

The force (thrust) $f(t)$ can be derived from the change in momentum of the rocket. The momentum $p(t)$ of the rocket is given by:

$$p(t) = m(t)v(t)$$

where $m(t) = m_i - Rt$ and $v(t) = u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right)$.

Thus:

$$p(t) = (m_i - Rt) \cdot u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right)$$

To find the force $f(t)$, we take the time derivative of the momentum $p(t)$:

$$f(t) = \frac{d}{dt} p(t)$$

Applying the product rule:

$$\frac{d}{dt}[m(t)v(t)] = m'(t)v(t) + m(t)v'(t)$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} m'(t) &= -R \\ v'(t) &= u \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) = u \cdot \frac{R}{m_i - Rt} \end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$f(t) = (-R) \cdot u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) + (m_i - Rt) \cdot u \cdot \frac{R}{m_i - Rt}$$

Simplifying:

$$f(t) = -Ru \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) + Ru$$

Kinetic Energy Derivation

The kinetic energy $K(t)$ of the rocket at time t is given by:

$$K(t) = \frac{1}{2} m(t) v(t)^2$$

Substituting $m(t) = m_i - Rt$ and $v(t) = u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right)$:

$$K(t) = \frac{1}{2} (m_i - Rt) \left(u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) \right)^2$$

Work-Energy Theorem Approach

The total work done by the force $f(t)$ on the rocket and fuel over time t is:

$$W = \int_0^t f(t) \cdot v(t) dt$$

Substituting $f(t)$ and $v(t)$:

$$f(t) = Ru - Ru \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right)$$

$$v(t) = u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right)$$

$$W = \int_0^t \left[Ru - Ru \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) \right] \cdot u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) dt$$

Expanding the integrand:

$$W = Ru \int_0^t u \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) dt - Ru \int_0^t u \ln^2 \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) dt$$

First Integral

$$W_1 = Ru^2 \int_0^t \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) dt$$

Substitute $x = m_i - Rt$. Then $dx = -R dt$ or $dt = -\frac{dx}{R}$.

When $t = 0$, $x = m_i$. When $t = t$, $x = m_i - Rt$.

The integral becomes:

$$W_1 = -\frac{u^2}{R} \int_{m_i}^{m_i - Rt} \ln \left(\frac{m_i}{x} \right) dx$$

Simplify $\ln \left(\frac{m_i}{x} \right)$:

$$\ln \left(\frac{m_i}{x} \right) = \ln(m_i) - \ln(x)$$

Thus:

$$W_1 = -\frac{u^2}{R} \left[\int_{m_i}^{m_i - Rt} \ln(m_i) dx - \int_{m_i}^{m_i - Rt} \ln(x) dx \right]$$

The first integral is straightforward:

$$\int_{m_i}^{m_i - Rt} \ln(m_i) dx = \ln(m_i) \cdot (m_i - Rt - m_i) = -\ln(m_i) \cdot Rt$$

For the second integral:

$$\int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln(x) dx$$

Use integration by parts where $u = \ln(x)$ and $dv = dx$. Then $du = \frac{1}{x} dx$ and $v = x$:

$$\int \ln(x) dx = x \ln(x) - \int x \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx = x \ln(x) - x$$

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln(x) dx &= [x \ln(x) - x]_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \\ &= (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) - (m_i - Rt) - (m_i \ln(m_i) - m_i) \\ &= (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln(m_i) + m_i - (m_i - Rt) \\ &= (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln(m_i) + Rt \end{aligned}$$

Combining both results:

$$\begin{aligned} W_1 &= -\frac{u^2}{R} [-\ln(m_i) \cdot Rt - ((m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln(m_i) + Rt)] \\ &= \frac{u^2}{R} [\ln(m_i) \cdot Rt - (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + m_i \ln(m_i) - Rt] \end{aligned}$$

Second Integral

$$W_2 = -Ru^2 \int_0^t \ln^2 \left(\frac{m_i}{m_i - Rt} \right) dt$$

Substitute $x = m_i - Rt$:

$$\begin{aligned} W_2 &= \frac{u^2}{R} \int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln^2 \left(\frac{m_i}{x} \right) dx \\ \ln^2 \left(\frac{m_i}{x} \right) &= [\ln(m_i) - \ln(x)]^2 \\ &= \ln^2(m_i) - 2 \ln(m_i) \ln(x) + \ln^2(x) \end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$W_2 = \frac{u^2}{R} \left[\int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln^2(m_i) dx - 2 \ln(m_i) \int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln(x) dx + \int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln^2(x) dx \right]$$

The first integral:

$$\int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln^2(m_i) dx = \ln^2(m_i) \cdot (m_i - Rt - m_i) = -\ln^2(m_i) \cdot Rt$$

For the second term (already computed):

$$\int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln(x) dx = (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln(m_i) + Rt$$

For the third integral, use integration by parts:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \ln^2(x) dx &= x \ln^2(x) - 2 \int x \ln(x) \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx = x \ln^2(x) - 2 \int \ln(x) dx \\ &= x \ln^2(x) - 2(x \ln(x) - x) = x \ln^2(x) - 2x \ln(x) + 2x \end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$\int_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt} \ln^2(x) dx = [x \ln^2(x) - 2x \ln(x) + 2x]_{m_i}^{m_i-Rt}$$

$$= (m_i - Rt) \ln^2(m_i - Rt) - 2(m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + 2(m_i - Rt) - [m_i \ln^2(m_i) - 2m_i \ln(m_i) + 2m_i]$$

$$= (m_i - Rt) \ln^2(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln^2(m_i) - 2(m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + 2m_i \ln(m_i) + 2Rt$$

Combining all results:

$$W_2 = \frac{u^2}{R} [-\ln^2(m_i) \cdot Rt - 2 \ln(m_i) [(m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln(m_i) + Rt] + \text{expression for } \ln^2(x) \text{ integral}]$$

Combining W_1 and W_2

$$W = W_1 + W_2$$

Substituting the results of W_1 and W_2 :

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \frac{u^2}{R} [\ln(m_i) \cdot Rt - (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + m_i \ln(m_i) - Rt] \\ &+ \frac{u^2}{R} [(m_i - Rt) \ln^2(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln^2(m_i) - 2(m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + 2m_i \ln(m_i) + 2Rt] \end{aligned}$$

Combining like terms and simplifying:

$$W = \frac{u^2}{R} [(m_i - Rt) \ln^2(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln^2(m_i) + 2m_i \ln(m_i) - (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + 2Rt] \\ + \frac{u^2}{R} [-(m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + m_i \ln(m_i) - Rt + 2Rt]$$

Thus:

$$W = \frac{u^2}{R} [(m_i - Rt) \ln^2(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln^2(m_i) + 2m_i \ln(m_i) - (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + 2Rt]$$

The total work done W is given by:

$$W = \frac{u^2}{R} [(m_i - Rt) \ln^2(m_i - Rt) - m_i \ln^2(m_i) + 2m_i \ln(m_i) - (m_i - Rt) \ln(m_i - Rt) + 2Rt]$$

After this, I would expect that the addition of the Kinetic Energy of the fuel

$$d(KE_{Fuel}) = \frac{1}{2}m(u - v(t))^2$$

and the KE of the rocket would equal the total work, but they do not.

