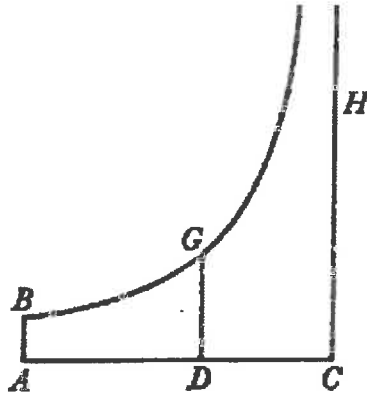


Problem 6. Horizontal Motion with Resistance $\propto v$



In the figure, represent

time by the increasing area under the rectangular hyperbola
BG

distance by the increasing length AD

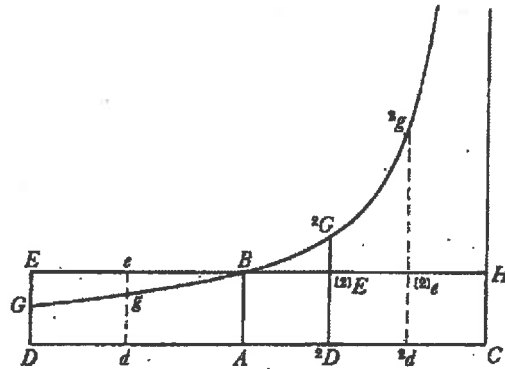
velocity (and resistance) by the decreasing length DC

i.e.

$$x = \left(\frac{u_0}{k}\right)(1 - e^{-kt})$$

insofar as the *velocity* and hence the *resistance* decrease
in a *geometrical progression* as the *time* increases in an
arithmetical progression

Problem 7. Vertical Motion with Resistance $\propto v$



In the figure, in ascent represent

centripetal force by the area of the rectangle ABHC

resistance at the start of ascent by the area ABED taken in the opposite way

time by the increasing area DGgd

distance by the increasing area EGge

velocity (and resistance) by the decreasing area ABEd

In the figure, in descent represent

time by the increasing area AB²G²D

distance by the increasing area B²E²G

velocity (and resistance) by the increasing area AB²E²D

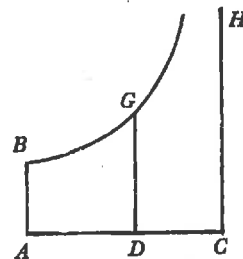
terminal velocity by the area BACH

In the figure, $AC = u/\lambda$, which 'expresses' (is proportional to) both the initial resistance $u\lambda$ and the velocity u : and $DC = a - x = \dot{x}/\lambda$ expresses the velocity at time t . From (i) the time is given by

$$t = \frac{1}{\lambda} \log \frac{u}{u - \lambda x} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \log \frac{a}{a - x}$$

which is the area $ADGB$ of the hyperbola, if $\lambda = 1/ab$.

The figure is therefore a graph of the reciprocal of the velocity coordinated with the space described ($y = ab/\dot{x}$, $x =$ space described), so that the area $\int y dx$ of the graph expresses the time t .

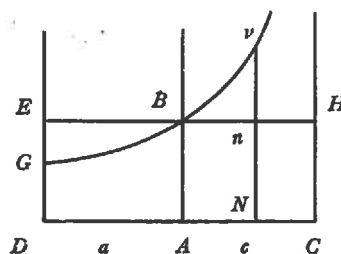


(4) This statement is the heart of the argument: the increment dt of the time is constant, so that $-d\dot{x}$, the decrement of the velocity, satisfies

$$-d\dot{x} = \lambda \dot{x} dt,$$

by the Second Law of motion, the operating force being the resistance $\lambda \dot{x}$.

(5) This is known in either of two ways: (i) from Napier's original definition of a logarithm. If D moves from A to C , with a velocity always proportional to DC , and simultaneously if d moves from a in another straight line, but with a constant velocity, then ad is proportional to $\log AD$. Also (ii) from Grégoire de St Vincent's geometrical discovery (1647), which, in effect, replaces the second motion, that of d , by the hyperbolic graph. In fact D moves 'geometrically', and d 'arithmetically' (in Napier's phraseology) and the area $ADGB$ increases 'arithmetically'. Cf. Napier, *Mirifici Logarithmorum Canonis descriptio* (Edinburgh, 1614), or English Translation (1616), p. 2; and Grégoire de Saint Vincent, *Geometricum Quadraturæ Circuli et Sectionum Coni* (Antwerp, 1647).



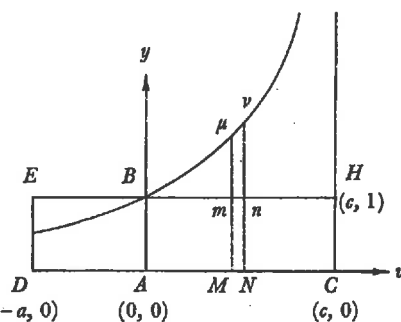
(6) The graph $B\mu\nu$ is the hyperbola $y(c-v) = c$, with A as origin, $AM = v$, $M\mu = y$, $MN = dv$, $AC = c$, and $AB = 1$. Newton invokes the unusual combination of plotting y , proportional to the reciprocal of the acceleration, against v , the velocity: for then at a time t , proportional to the area $AB\mu M$, the space s traversed by the projectile is proportional to the area $B\mu m$. This follows from the equation of motion (reckoned downward)

$$dv/dt = g - \lambda v, \tag{1}$$

where g is the 'ever-equal centripetal force'—gravity, and λv is the resistance ($\lambda =$ constant). This integrates as

$$v + \lambda s = gt, \tag{2}$$

where s , t , v are the space traversed, the time, and the velocity, all reckoned from the highest point of flight at which v , s , t vanish. If $c = g/\lambda$ and $dt/dv = y/g$, then (1) becomes the equation $y(c-v) = c$ of the hyperbola. But $g dt = y dv$; so that $\int y dv = gt = v + \lambda s$ by (2): that is the area $AB\mu M = v + \lambda s$. Hence this whole area is gt and the parts, BM and $B\mu m$, are v and λs .



Since $MC = c - v = (g - \lambda v)/\lambda$, MC is proportional to the 'absolute force', the resultant of gravity and resistance at the time t . If $DA = a$, then a is the initial velocity of upward ascent (at a time when t is negative). In Fig. 2, p. 457, Newton marked F as E (ULC. Add. 3965 (7), fo. 62).

(7) The curve $DarFK$ is the trajectory of a body moving, under constant acceleration g vertically downwards, against a resisting force λv directly opposed to the motion. Take D as origin, $DR = x$, $Rr = y$, $u =$ initial velocity of projection at an elevation α , the angle ADP . Then

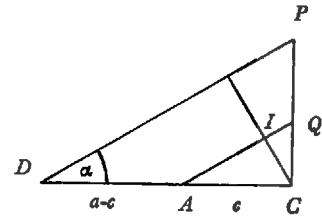
$$\ddot{x} = -\lambda \dot{x}, \quad \ddot{y} = -g - \lambda \dot{y}, \quad \text{so that } \dot{x} = -\lambda x + u \cos \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{y} = -gt - \lambda y + u \sin \alpha. \quad (i)$$

Let $DC = a$, $AC = c$, $CH = 1$, so that $DP = a \sec \alpha$, which 'represents' the initial velocity (in direction and magnitude): say

$$u = \lambda a \sec \alpha. \quad (ii)$$

Newton defines CI by $DA:CI::\lambda u:g$, giving $CI = (a-c)g/u\lambda$. (There is an error in placing I on DP in the figure: it should be on a line through A parallel to DP , so that $CI = c \sin \alpha$.) Hence

$$(a-c)g/u\lambda = c \sin \alpha. \quad (iii)$$



He takes the hyperbola

$$y(a-x) = c \quad (iv)$$

which passes through the point $B(a-c, 1)$. Then $EG = 1 - c/a$. He then takes

$$N = EG \cdot DC/CP = (1 - c/a) \cot \alpha,$$

on using (ii) and (iii).

His equation for the trajectory is

$$y = \frac{1}{N} \left(x - c \log \frac{a}{a-x} \right) \quad (v)$$

and for the time is

$$t = c \log \{ a/(a-x) \}; \quad (vi)$$

so that $Ny = x - t$. This requires that $c = 1/\lambda$ and $N = \lambda/g$: for then the equations (v) and (vi) agree with the equations (i). Also (iii) is verified so that $CI = c \sin \alpha$ (see second figure).

The maximum of y (when $x = DA = a - c$) follows from $\dot{y} = 0$, so that $\dot{x} = 1$: but $\dot{x} = \lambda(a-x)$ by (i) and (ii). Hence, at A , $x = a - 1/\lambda = a - c$. At F , $y = 0$ and $x = t$, so that the areas $DFsE$, $DFSBG$ are equal. (vii)

The velocity at the point r is represented in magnitude and position by the vector rL , that is $v = \lambda \cdot rL$, which is true since \dot{x} , its horizontal component, is $\lambda(a-x) = \lambda \cdot RC$. (viii)

Finally, if $DF = x'$, the gradient of the curve (v) at F is, by differentiation,

$$\frac{1}{N} \left(1 - \frac{c}{a-x'} \right) = -\frac{sS}{N}, \quad \text{since } Fs = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad FS = \frac{c}{a-x'}$$

by (iv), and at D (where $x = 0$) the gradient is

$$\frac{1}{N} \left(1 - \frac{c}{a} \right) = \frac{EG}{N};$$

which verifies Newton's statement concerning the ratio of sS to EG . (ix)

(8) See note (7) equation (ii).

(9) See (iii).

