

$$\begin{aligned}
 \textcircled{5} \Rightarrow -m^v \vec{r}_1 &= \frac{k^v}{f^3} [m_2 (\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1) - m_3 (\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_3)] \\
 &= \frac{k^v}{f^3} [m_2 \vec{r}_2 + m_3 \vec{r}_3 - m_2 \vec{r}_1 - m_3 \vec{r}_1] \\
 &= \frac{k^v}{f^3} [(m_1 \vec{r}_1 + m_2 \vec{r}_2 + m_3 \vec{r}_3) - (m_1 + m_2 + m_3) \vec{r}_1] \\
 &= -\frac{k^v}{f^3} (m_1 + m_2 + m_3) \vec{r}_1
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow m^v = \frac{k^v}{f^3} (m_1 + m_2 + m_3)$$

$$= \frac{k^v}{f^3} m, \text{ where } m = m_1 + m_2 + m_3$$

$$\Rightarrow f = \left(\frac{k^v m}{m^v} \right)^{1/3}, \text{ which gives the distance of}$$

the masses from the other.

Hence, in this case, the problem is solvable.

Here the distance of each pair of masses are same as they form an equilateral triangle and this solution is called equilateral triangle solution of the 3 body problem.

case (b):- Let us suppose that $f_{12} \neq f_{31}$.

$$\text{i.e. } \vec{r}_1 \times \vec{r}_2 = 0.$$

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(7)

$$\Rightarrow \vec{r}_1 \parallel \vec{r}_2$$

Hence, there exist a non-zero scalar λ such that $\vec{r}_1 = \lambda \vec{r}_2$.

$$\textcircled{10} \Rightarrow (\vec{r}_3 \times \frac{\vec{r}_1}{\lambda}) \left(\frac{1}{f_{31}^3} - \frac{1}{f_{23}^3} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{r}_2 \times \vec{r}_3) \left(\frac{1}{f_{31}^3} - \frac{1}{f_{23}^3} \right) = 0 \rightarrow \textcircled{13}$$

Now adding $\textcircled{10}$ & $\textcircled{13}$ we get

$$(\vec{r}_2 \times \vec{r}_3) \left(\frac{1}{f_{31}^3} - \frac{1}{f_{12}^3} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{r}_2 \times \vec{r}_3 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \vec{r}_2$ is parallel to \vec{r}_3

$$[\because f_{12} \neq f_{31}]$$

$$\therefore \vec{r}_1 \parallel \vec{r}_2 \parallel \vec{r}_3$$

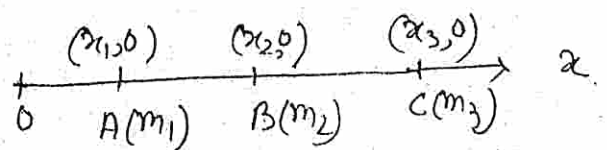
$\therefore A, B$ & C are collinear.

The masses are situated in the same straight line.

Let us assume that three masses are situated on the x -axis, so that

$$\vec{r}_1 = (x_1, 0), \vec{r}_2 = (x_2, 0), \vec{r}_3 = (x_3, 0)$$

Thus we get



$$f_{12} = |x_2 - x_1|, f_{31} = |x_1 - x_3|$$

$$f_{23} = |x_3 - x_2|$$

$$\textcircled{5} \Rightarrow -m^v x_1 = K^v \left[\frac{m_2}{f_{12}^3} (x_2 - x_1) - \frac{m_3}{f_{31}^3} (x_1 - x_3) \right] \rightarrow \textcircled{14}$$

$$\textcircled{6} \Rightarrow -m^v x_2 = K^v \left[\frac{m_3}{f_{23}^3} (x_3 - x_2) - \frac{m_1}{f_{12}^3} (x_2 - x_1) \right] \rightarrow \textcircled{15}$$

$$\textcircled{7} \Rightarrow -m^v x_3 = K^v \left[\frac{m_1}{f_{31}^3} (x_1 - x_3) - \frac{m_2}{f_{23}^3} (x_3 - x_2) \right] \rightarrow \textcircled{16}$$

Now $\textcircled{15} - \textcircled{14} \Rightarrow$

$$-\frac{m^v}{K^v} (x_2 - x_1) = -\frac{(m_1 + m_2)(x_2 - x_1)}{f_{12}^3} + \frac{m_2(x_3 - x_2)}{f_{23}^3} + \frac{m_3(x_1 - x_3)}{f_{31}^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{m^v}{K^v} f_{12} = -\frac{(m_1 + m_2)}{f_{12}^3} f_{12} + \frac{m_2}{f_{23}^3} f_{23} - \frac{m_3}{f_{31}^3} f_{31}$$

$$= -\frac{m_1 + m_2}{f_{12}^2} + \frac{m_2}{f_{23}^2} - \frac{m_3}{f_{31}^2}$$

$$= -\frac{m_1 + m_2}{f_{12}^2} + m_3 \left(\frac{1}{f_{23}^2} - \frac{1}{f_{31}^2} \right) \rightarrow \textcircled{17}$$

Similarly,

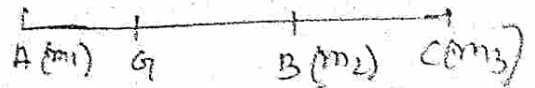
$$\textcircled{16} - \textcircled{15} \Rightarrow -\frac{m^v}{K^v} f_{23} = -\frac{m_2 + m_3}{f_{23}^2} + m_1 \left(-\frac{1}{f_{31}^2} + \frac{1}{f_{12}^2} \right) \rightarrow \textcircled{18}$$

& $\textcircled{14} - \textcircled{16} \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{m^v}{K^v} f_{31} = \frac{m_3 + m_1}{f_{31}^2} + m_2 \left(\frac{1}{f_{12}^2} + \frac{1}{f_{23}^2} \right) \rightarrow \textcircled{19}$$

Let us consider one possible arrangement of the masses as shown in the figure

$$f_{23} = f_{12} + f_{23} \rightarrow (20)$$



Now, (17) $\times f_{23}$ - (18) $\times f_{12} \Rightarrow$

$$0 = -\frac{(m_1+m_2)}{f_{12}^2} f_{23} + m_3 \left(\frac{1}{f_{23}} - \frac{f_{23}}{f_{31}^2} \right) + \frac{m_2+m_3}{f_{23}^2} f_{12} - m_1 \left(\frac{1}{f_{12}} - \frac{f_{12}}{f_{13}^2} \right)$$

Again multiplying throughout by f_{12} , we get

$$-(m_1+m_2) \frac{f_{23}}{f_{12}} + m_3 \left(-\frac{f_{12}}{f_{23}} - \frac{f_{23}}{f_{13}} \cdot \frac{f_{12}}{f_{31}} \right) + (m_2+m_3) \left(\frac{f_{12}}{f_{23}} \right)^2 - m_1 \left\{ 1 - \left(\frac{f_{12}}{f_{13}} \right)^2 \right\} = 0 \rightarrow (21)$$

Let us define x as $x = \frac{f_{12}}{f_{23}}$

$$\text{since } f_{13} = f_{12} + f_{23}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{f_{13}}{f_{23}} = \frac{f_{12}}{f_{23}} + 1 = x + 1$$

$$\& \frac{f_{12}}{f_{13}} = \frac{f_{12}}{f_{23}} \cdot \frac{f_{23}}{f_{13}} = \frac{x}{1+x}$$

The eqⁿ (21) reduces to

$$-(m_1+m_2) \frac{1}{x} + m_3 \left(x - \frac{1}{x+1} \cdot \frac{x}{x+1} \right) + (m_2+m_3) x^2 - m_1 \left\{ 1 - \frac{x^2}{(x+1)^2} \right\} = 0$$

Multiplying $x(x+1)^2$, we get.

$$- (m_1 + m_2) (x+1)^{\checkmark} + m_3 \left\{ x^{\checkmark} (x+1)^{\checkmark} - x^{\checkmark} \right\} + (m_2 + m_3) x^3 (x+1)^{\checkmark} - m_1 \left\{ x (x+1)^{\checkmark} - x^3 \right\} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow - (m_1 + m_2) (x^{\checkmark} + 2x + 1) + m_3 \left\{ x^{\checkmark} (x^{\checkmark} + 2x + 1) - x^{\checkmark} \right\} + (m_2 + m_3) x^3 (x^{\checkmark} + 2x + 1) - m_1 \left\{ x (x^{\checkmark} + 2x + 1) - x^3 \right\} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow - (m_1 + m_2) (x^{\checkmark} + 2x + 1) + m_3 (x^4 + 2x^3) + (m_2 + m_3) (x^5 + 2x^4 + x^3) - m_1 (2x^{\checkmark} + x) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (m_2 + m_3) x^5 + (2m_2 + 3m_3) x^4 + (m_2 + 3m_3) x^3 - (3m_1 + m_2) x^{\checkmark} - (3m_1 + 2m_2) x - (m_1 + m_2) = 0 \quad \text{--- (22)}$$

which is called Lagrange's eqⁿ.

eqⁿ (22) is a fifth degree eqⁿ & there is only one change in sign in the coefficient of the eqⁿ. Hence from Descartes rule of sign it follows that the eqⁿ (22) has at least one positive real root x . With this known value of x we can determine

r_{13} uniquely from the relation $r_{13} = r_{23} + r_{12}$

2017 with a given value of r_{12} .

(10) Hence the problem is solvable. This solution of the three body problem is known as the straight line solⁿ.

Case II:- when the mutual distances between