

1.4 Equations of motion

$$V = U + a t$$

$$S = U t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$$

$$2 a s = V^2 - U^2$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2} (U + V) t$$

Whereby:

S is Displacement or Distance

U is Initial Velocity

V is Final Velocity

a is Acceleration

t is Time

Examples:

1. A car accelerates from rest with an acceleration of 4m/s^2 for 6s Find the Final velocity

Ans:

Initial velocity (U) = 0m/s

Acceleration (a) = 4m/s^2

Time (t) = 6s

$$V = U + a t$$

$$V = 0 + 4 \times 6$$

$$V = 24\text{m/s}$$

2. A ball is thrown vertically upward with an initial velocity of 20m/s Calculate the maximum height it reaches if the acceleration due to gravity is 9.8 m/s^2 for 10 seconds.

$$U = 20\text{m/s}$$

$$t = 10\text{ sec}$$

$$a = 9.8\text{m/s}^2$$

$$S = ut + \frac{1}{2} at^2$$

$$S = 20 \times 10 + \frac{1}{2} \times 9.8 \times 10^2$$

$$S = 200 + 19.6 \times 100$$

$$S = 200 + 1960$$

$$S = 2160\text{m}$$