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Chapter 2 Describing Motion: Kinematics In One Dimension

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2.1 Reference Frames and Displacement

- Mechanics
 - **Kinematics (the study of motion) and Dynamics (the study of force)**
- Motion
 - **An object is in motion if it changes position relative to a frame of reference**
 - Motion is relative (different view of point leads to a different result)
- Frame of reference (reference point)

- **A place or object used for comparison to determine if something is in motion**
- Always assumed to be stationary
- Picturing Motion
 - Motion Diagram
 - **A series of images showing the positions of a moving object at equal time intervals**
 - to visualize displacement and velocity
 - Particle Model
 - **A simplified version of a motion diagram in which the object in motion is replaced by a series of particles**
- Vector and Scalar
 - Vectors: **Quantities which have a direction and a magnitude**
 - Examples: Force, position, acceleration, displacement etc...
 - Can be represented by an arrow; the length is its magnitude and the direction is the direction of the vector
 - Scalars: **Quantities which have magnitude but no direction**
 - Examples: Mass, volume, speed, distance etc...
- Distance
 - **How far objects are, or the accumulation of path**
 - Is a scalar
- Displacement
 - **The distance moved in a particular direction, or the object's overall change in position**
 - Is a vector
 - $\Delta d = d_f - d_i$ (position_f - position_i)

! Distance is the actual length of the whole Journey, while Displacement is the difference between the final distance (d_f) and the initial distance (d_i)

2.2 Average Velocity: Speed and Velocity

- Speed
 - The distance the object travels per unit of time, or the rate at which an object moves
 - $\text{Speed} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}} \quad v = \frac{d}{t}$
 - Is a scalar
 - Units: m/s; km/h
 - Average speed
 - When an object's speed is constant, then the object has constant speed motion
 - $\text{average speed} = \frac{\text{total distance}}{\text{total time}}$
- Velocity
 - The speed in a given direction
 - Can be shown using an arrow
 - For motion in a straight line, you can use a “+” or “-” sign to indicate direction
 - The direction given by velocity is crucial
 - $\text{average velocity} = \frac{\text{total displacement}}{\text{time}}$

2.3 Instantaneous Velocity

- Instantaneous Velocity (speed)
 - The velocity (speed) at any instant of time
 - $v = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$
 - Magnitude of instantaneous velocity equals to instantaneous speed

2.4 Acceleration

- Acceleration
 - The rate at which an object's velocity changes is called the acceleration of the object
 - Average acceleration
 - $\vec{a} = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i}{t_f - t_i}$ **unit: m/s²**
 - Instantaneous Acceleration
 - The change in velocity at an instant of time
 - $\vec{a} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t}$
 - $\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{F}_{\text{net}}}{m}$; Direction of acceleration is the same as the direction of \vec{F}_{net}
- Positive and Negative Acceleration
 - Acceleration Vector points
 - Positive direction: positive acceleration
 - Negative direction: negative acceleration
 - \vec{v}_i and \vec{a} same direction: speed up
 - \vec{v}_i and \vec{a} opposite direction: slowing down
 - The sign of acceleration doesn't indicate whether the object is speeding up or slowing down (initial velocity is needed)

2.5 Motion at Constant Speed

- Formula
 - Uniformly accelerated motion: Motion with constant acceleration
 - $\vec{a} = \text{constant}$, straight line
 - Instantaneous $\vec{a} = \text{average } a$

Important Formulas:

- $\vec{a} = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i}{t_f - t_i} \rightarrow \vec{a} = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i}{t}$

- $\Delta \mathbf{d} = (\mathbf{d}_f - \mathbf{d}_i) = \overline{\mathbf{v}} \times \mathbf{t} = \frac{(\overline{\mathbf{v}}_f + \overline{\mathbf{v}}_i)}{2} \mathbf{t}$
- $\Delta \mathbf{d} = (\mathbf{d}_f - \mathbf{d}_i) = \overline{\mathbf{v}}_i \mathbf{t} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{t}^2$
- $\Delta \mathbf{d} = (\mathbf{d}_f - \mathbf{d}_i) = \frac{(\overline{\mathbf{v}}_f^2 - \overline{\mathbf{v}}_i^2)}{2\overline{\mathbf{a}}}$

2.6 Solving Problems

- This section will explore hard multi-step problems with the formulas given in Chapter 2.5

2.7 Falling Objects

- Free Fall
 - **The motion of a falling object when air resistance is negligible and the action can be considered due to gravity alone**
 - Aristotle said that a heavier object falls faster than a lighter object
 - Galileo's thought experiment showed the improbability of Aristotle's view
 - Steeper inclines gives faster accelerations
 - Incline reaches absolutely vertical, means maximum acceleration (g)
 - all objects fall at g, neglecting air resistance; $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$
- Acceleration Due to Gravity
 - No matter what the falling object is made of, how much it weighted, what height it dropped from, whether it was dropped down or thrown upward:
 - $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$
 - "+g" defines downward to be the positive direction
 - "-g" defines upward to be the positive direction
 - Object is dropped: $\overline{\mathbf{v}}_i = 0 \text{ m/s}$, $\overline{\mathbf{a}} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ (down is +)
 - Object is dropped: $\overline{\mathbf{v}}_i \neq 0 \text{ m/s}$, $\overline{\mathbf{a}} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ (down is +)

- Objects Thrown Upward
 - $\vec{v}_i \neq 0 \text{ m/s}$
 - (if upward is “+”) $\vec{v}_i > 0 \text{ m/s}$ $\vec{a} = -9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$
 - (if downward is “+”) $\vec{v}_i < 0 \text{ m/s}$ $\vec{a} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$
 - initial Δd is 0; highest position $v=0$, and Δd is largest in + direction
 - Same Δd (height), same speed
 - Returns to original position, $v = -v_i$, $\Delta d = 0$
 - time of rising $t_{\text{rise}} = \text{time of falling } t_{\text{fall}}$

2.8 Graphical Analysis of Linear Motion

- Position-Time Graph
 - No motion (at rest)
 - Horizontal straight line/ straight line parallel to x-axis
 - Uniform motion
 - Slanted straight line
 - y-intercept: initial position; X-axis: time
 - Intersection of graph lines
 - Two objects meet
 - Average Velocity
 - The slope: rising “+”, descending “-”
 - Steeper: speed larger, $|v|$ larger
 - Instantaneous Velocity
 - When constant velocity: instantaneous velocity = average velocity
 - Equation for average velocity
 - $\vec{d}_f = \vec{v}_t + \vec{d}_i$

! Slope of d-t graph = Velocity

- Accelerated Motion
 - Graph line is a curve:

- average velocity: slope of connection of the two dots on the line.
- instantaneous velocity=slope of the tangent to the curve
- Curve shape, v and \pm acceleration
- Velocity-Time Graph
 - Uniform motion ($a = 0$)
 - Horizontal line in v - t : $v=\text{constant}$, $a=0$
 - Information:
 - Velocity of an object at any moment
 - Velocity is “-” or “+”
 - The area between the v - t graph and time is equal to the object’s displacement
 - above time-axis: $\Delta d > 0$; below t -axis: $\Delta d < 0$

! Slope of v - t graph = Acceleration

- Acceleration-Time Graph
 - At rest/uniform motion $a=0$
 - Horizontal line on t -axis
 - Uniformly accelerated motion
 - Horizontal line parallel to t -axis

! Instantaneous acceleration = Slope of the tangent to the curve at a particular moment