

2019 AP[®] PHYSICS C: MECHANICS FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

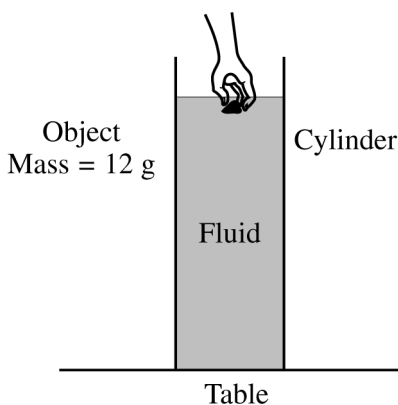
PHYSICS C: MECHANICS

SECTION II

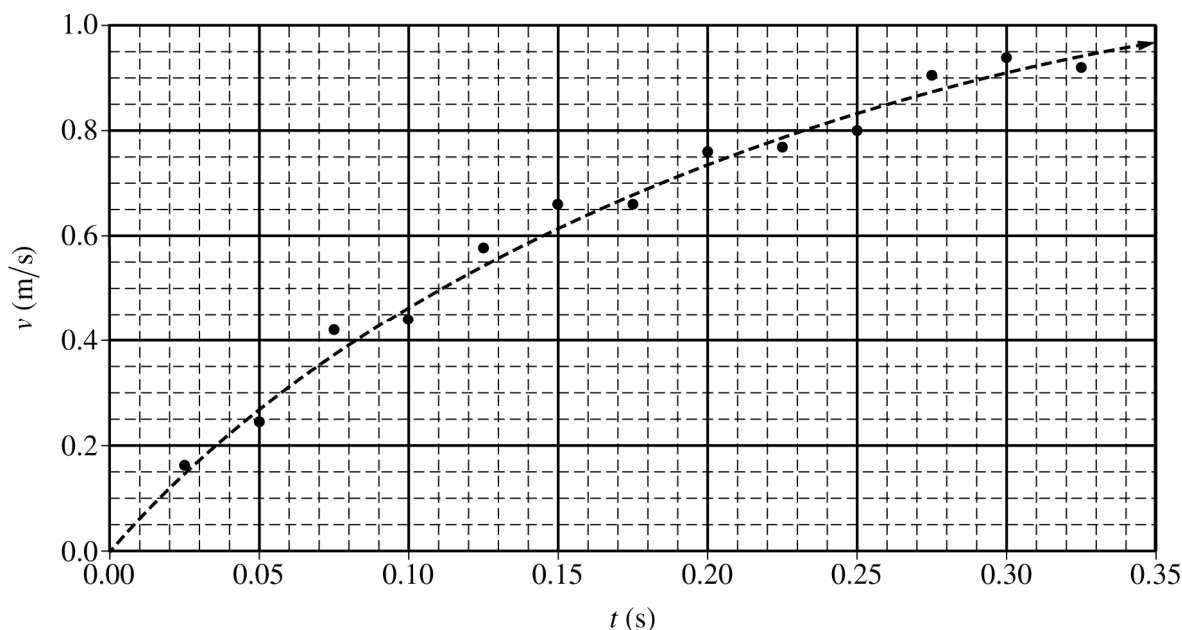
Time—45 minutes

3 Questions

Directions: Answer all three questions. The suggested time is about 15 minutes for answering each of the questions, which are worth 15 points each. The parts within a question may not have equal weight. Show all your work in this booklet in the spaces provided after each part.



1. In an experiment, students used video analysis to track the motion of an object falling vertically through a fluid in a glass cylinder. The object of $m = 12\text{ g}$ is released from rest at the top of the column of fluid, as shown above. The data for the speed v of the falling object as a function of time t are graphed on the grid below. The dashed curve represents the best fit chosen by the students for these data.



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(a)

- i. Does the speed of the object increase, decrease, or remain the same?

_____ Increase _____ Decrease _____ Remain the same

- ii. In a brief statement, describe the direction of the object's acceleration and how the magnitude of this acceleration changed as the object fell.
- iii. Using the graph, calculate an approximate value for the magnitude of the acceleration of the object at $t = 0.20$ s.

The students use the equation $v = A(1 - e^{-Bt})$ to model the speed of the falling object and find the best fit coefficients to be $A = 1.18$ m/s and $B = 5$ s⁻¹.

(b) Use the above equation to:

- i. Derive an expression for the magnitude of the vertical displacement $y(t)$ of the falling object as a function of time t .
- ii. Derive an expression for the magnitude of the net force $F(t)$ exerted on the object as it falls through the fluid as a function of time t .

The students repeat the experiment with a taller glass cylinder that is filled with the same fluid. The cylinder is tall enough so that the object reaches a constant speed.

(c)

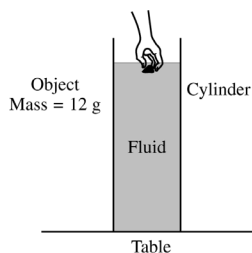
- i. Determine the constant speed of the object.
Justify your answer.
- ii. Determine the force exerted by the fluid on the object at this time.
Justify your answer.

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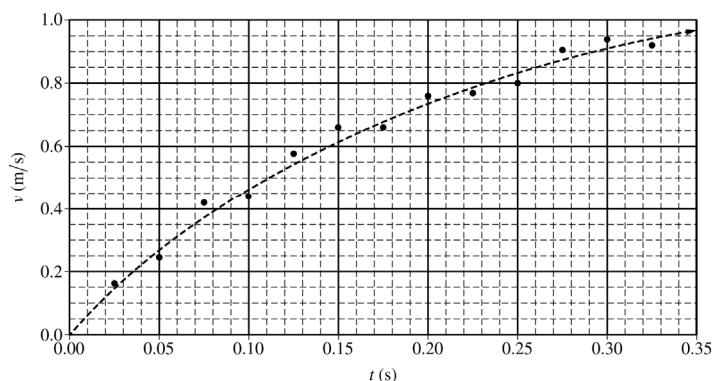
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Question 1

15 points



In an experiment, students used video analysis to track the motion of an object falling vertically through a fluid in a glass cylinder. The object of $m = 12$ g is released from rest at the top of the column of fluid, as shown above. The data for the speed v of the falling object as a function of time t are graphed on the grid below. The dashed curve represents the best fit chosen by the students for these data.



(a)

- i. LO CHA-1.C, SP 7.A
1 point

Does the speed of the object increase, decrease, or remain the same?

☒ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Remain the same

For selecting “Increase”	1 point
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- ii. LO CHA-1.C, SP 4.D
2 points

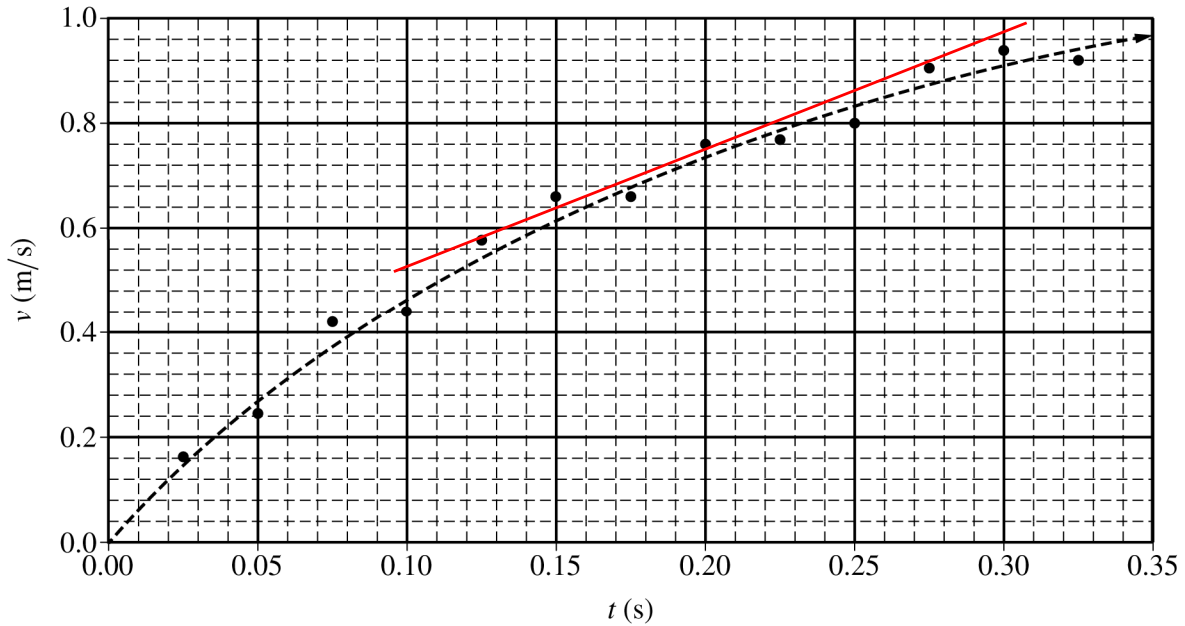
In a brief statement, describe the direction of the object’s acceleration and how the magnitude of this acceleration changed as the object fell.

For a description that includes the direction of the acceleration as being “downwards”	1 point
For a description that includes the decrease in the magnitude of the acceleration	1 point
Example: Because the object is moving downwards and speeding up, the acceleration must be downwards. Because the slope of the graph of speed as a function of time is decreasing, the magnitude of the acceleration must be decreasing.	

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Question 1 (continued)

(a) continued



- iii. LO CHA-1.C, SP 4.D, 6.C
2 points

Using the graph, calculate an approximate value for the magnitude of the acceleration of the object at $t = 0.20$ s.

For calculating the slope of a trend line at $t = 0.20$ s		1 point
$\text{slope} = a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} = \frac{(0.8 - 0.6) \text{ m/s}}{(0.226 - 0.136) \text{ s}}$		
For a correct answer using points from a tangent line		1 point
$a = 2.22 \text{ m/s}^2$		

The students use the equation $v = A(1 - e^{-Bt})$ to model the speed of the falling object and find the best-fit coefficients to be $A = 1.18 \text{ m/s}$ and $B = 5 \text{ s}^{-1}$.

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Question 1 (continued)

(b) Use the above equation to:

- i. LO CHA-1.B, SP 6.B, 6.C
3 points

Derive an expression for the magnitude of the vertical displacement $y(t)$ of the falling object as a function of time t .

For indicating that the vertical displacement is the integration of the velocity		1 point
$\Delta y = \int v dt = \int A(1 - e^{-Bt}) dt$		
For the equation for speed using appropriate limits or constant of integration		1 point
$\Delta y = \int_{t'=0}^{t'=t} A(1 - e^{-Bt'}) dt' = A \left[t' - \frac{1}{-B} e^{-Bt'} \right]_{t'=0}^{t'=t} = A \left[\left(t + \frac{1}{B} e^{-Bt} \right) - \left(0 + \frac{1}{B} e^0 \right) \right]$		
For a correct answer		1 point
$\Delta y = A \left(t + \frac{1}{B} (e^{-Bt} - 1) \right) = (1.18) \left(t + \frac{1}{5} (e^{-5t} - 1) \right)$		
<u>Note:</u> Credit given for using A and B or plugging in the given values		

- ii. LO INT-1.C.d, SP 6.B, 6.C
3 points

Derive an expression for the magnitude of the net force $F(t)$ exerted on the object as it falls through the fluid as a function of time t .

For attempting the derivative of the equation for speed		1 point
$a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} [A(1 - e^{-Bt})]$		
For a correct equation for the acceleration		1 point
$a = AB e^{-Bt}$		
For multiplying the equation above by the mass of the object		1 point
$F = ma = m(AB e^{-Bt}) = mAB e^{-Bt}$		
$F = (.012)(1.18)(5) e^{-5t} = 0.071 e^{-5t}$		
<u>Note:</u> Credit given for using A , B , and m or plugging in the given values		

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Question 1 (continued)

(c)

The students repeat the experiment with a taller glass cylinder that is filled with the same fluid. The cylinder is tall enough so that the object reaches a constant speed.

- i. LO INT-1.I, SP 7.A, 7.C
2 points

Determine the constant speed of the object.
Justify your answer.

For stating the constant speed is $v = A$		1 point
For indicating that the constant speed can be determined by setting the time equal to infinity		1 point
Example: After a long time, the falling object will reach a terminal constant speed in the fluid. This can be determined by setting the time t in the equation for speed equal to infinity. By doing this, the constant speed is determined to be $v = A$.		
<u>Note:</u> Credit given for solving mathematically		

- ii. LO INT-1.H.b, SP 7.A, 7.C
2 points

Determine the force exerted by the fluid on the object at this time. Justify your answer.

For indicating that the net force is equal to zero when the object moves with constant speed		1 point
For indicating the resistive force is equal to the weight of the object at this time		1 point
Example: When the falling object reaches a constant speed in the fluid, the net force must be zero. Because the only vertical forces acting on the object are Earth's gravitational pull and the resistive force of the fluid, these two forces must be equal. So, the resistive force must be equal to the weight of the object or 0.12 N.		
<u>Note:</u> Credit given for solving mathematically		

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Question 1 (continued)

Learning Objectives

CHA-1.B: Determine functions of position, velocity, and acceleration that are consistent with each other, for the motion of an object with a nonuniform acceleration.

CHA-1.C: Describe the motion of an object in terms of the consistency that exists between position and time, velocity and time, and acceleration and time.

INT-1.C.d: Derive an expression for the net force on an object in translational motion.

INT-1.H.b: Describe the acceleration, velocity, or position in relation to time for an object subject to a resistive force (with different initial conditions, i.e., falling from rest or projected vertically).

INT-1.I: Calculate the terminal velocity of an object moving vertically under the influence of a resistive force of a given relationship.

Science Practices

4.D: Select relevant features of a graph to describe a physical situation or solve problems.

6.B: Apply an appropriate law, definition, or mathematical relationship to solve a problem.

6.C: Calculate an unknown quantity with units from known quantities, by selecting and following a logical computational pathway.

7.A: Make a scientific claim.

7.C: Support a claim with evidence from physical representations.