

ASSIGNMENT 1 (Solution)- Modeling a Simple Physics Equation in OMEdit

FreeFallModel – Solution (OMEdit / Modelica Code)

1. Complete Modelica Code

Create a new model in OMEdit named:

FreeFallModel

Paste the following code:

```
model FreeFallModel

  parameter Real g = -9.81;    // gravitational acceleration (m/s^2)
  parameter Real m = 1;       // mass of object (kg)
  parameter Real h0 = 100;    // initial height (m)

  Real h(start = h0);         // height (m)
  Real v(start = 0);          // velocity (m/s)
  Real a;                     // acceleration (m/s^2)

equation

  a = g;                      // constant acceleration due to gravity
  der(v) = a;                  // acceleration is derivative of velocity
  der(h) = v;                  // velocity is derivative of height

end FreeFallModel;
```

2. Explanation of Each Section

Parameters

$$g = -9.81$$

Represents gravity acting downward.

$$m = 1$$

Mass of object (not used in equation because mass cancels in free fall).

$$h_0 = 100$$

Initial height in meters.

Variables

$$h$$

Height of object (changes over time).

$$v$$

Velocity of object.

$$a$$

Acceleration.

Equations

$$a = g$$

Acceleration is constant.

$$\text{der}(v) = a$$

Velocity changes due to acceleration.

$$\text{der}(h) = v$$

Height changes according to velocity.

These are declarative equations (not step-by-step instructions).

3. Simulation Instructions

In OMedit:

1. Click Check Model
2. Click Simulate
3. Set simulation time:

Start time = 0

Stop time = 5 seconds

4. Plot the Following Variables

Plot:

h

v

a

5. Expected Results

Acceleration

Constant at:

-9.81 m/s²

Graph is a straight horizontal line.

Velocity

Linearly decreasing over time.

Because:

$v = g \times \text{time}$

Graph is straight line with negative slope.

Height

Parabolic curve decreasing over time.

Because:

$$h = h_0 + 0.5 \times g \times t^2$$

Graph is a downward-opening parabola.

6. Time to Hit Ground

Object hits ground when:

$$h = 0$$

From physics:

$$t = \sqrt{2h_0 / 9.81}$$

For $h_0 = 100$ m:

$$t \approx 4.51 \text{ seconds}$$

You should observe height reaching zero near this time.

7. Parameter Modification Results

Case 1: Increase Initial Height

If $h_0 = 200$:

- Acceleration remains same
- Velocity profile same slope
- Impact time increases

Because gravity does not change.

Case 2: Change Mass

If $m = 10$ or $m = 100$:

- Motion remains identical
- Acceleration unchanged

Reason:

In free fall:

$$m * a = m * g$$

Mass cancels $\rightarrow a = g$