

5 A skydiver X jumps from an aeroplane. The total mass of the skydiver X and parachute is 90 kg.

(a) Fig. 5.1 shows a displacement-time graph for the first one second interval of the descent of skydiver X.

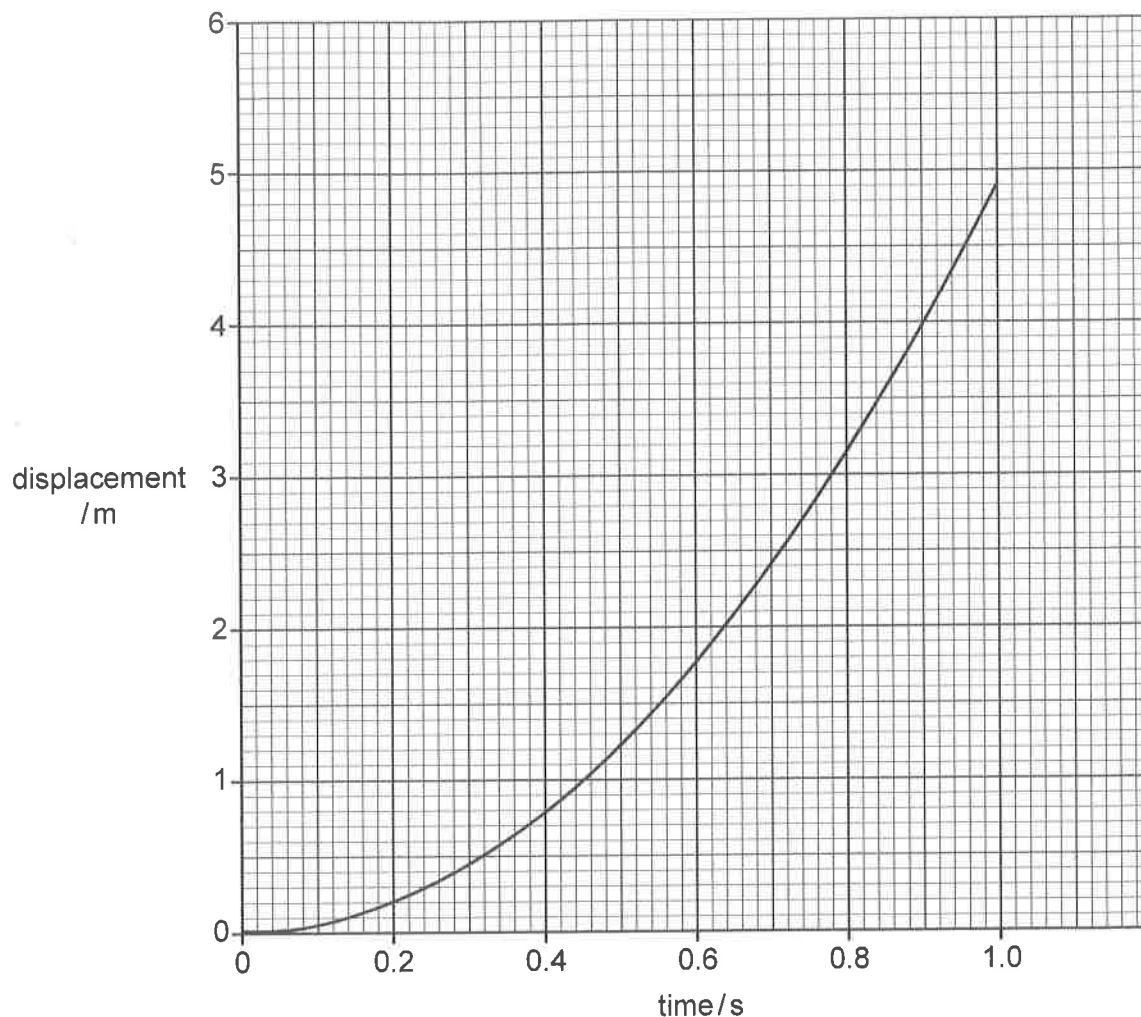


Fig. 5.1

(i) Calculate the velocity of the skydiver X after 0.60 seconds.

velocity = ms^{-1} [3]

(ii) Calculate the average velocity of the skydiver X during the first one second interval.

velocity = ms^{-1} [1]





- (b) Skydiver X reaches a constant velocity before the parachute is opened.

Describe and explain in terms of acceleration and forces, the vertical motion of the skydiver X from the time of jumping from the aeroplane to a time before opening the parachute. Air resistance increases with speed.

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- (c) The force due to air resistance D acting on the skydiver X is given by:

$$D = \frac{1}{2} \rho A v^2$$

where ρ is the density of air (1.2 kg m^{-3}), A is the surface area of skydiver X (0.50 m^2) and v is the velocity of skydiver X.

Calculate the constant velocity of skydiver X.

terminal velocity = m s^{-1} [2]





- (d) Skydiver X opens the parachute. A student explains the resulting motion:

"The parachute causes a large upwards force on the skydiver due to air resistance. This causes the skydiver to travel upwards for a short time."

Explain whether the student's explanation is correct.

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- (e) On Fig. 5.2, sketch a velocity-time graph for skydiver X during the whole of his descent.



Fig. 5.2

[4]

- (f) A second skydiver, skydiver Y, has a greater weight but the same surface area as skydiver X.

Compare the motion of skydiver X and skydiver Y from when they leave the aeroplane until they reach constant velocity before opening their parachutes.

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[Total: 20]

