

Chapter 3. One-Dimensional Kinematics

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Constant Acceleration
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- ☐ 3.8 Terminal Speed



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3.1 Particle Kinematics



□ Kinematics (運動學、動力學) is concerned with the description of how a body moves in space and time.

■ **Translational motion:** all parts of a body undergo the same change in position

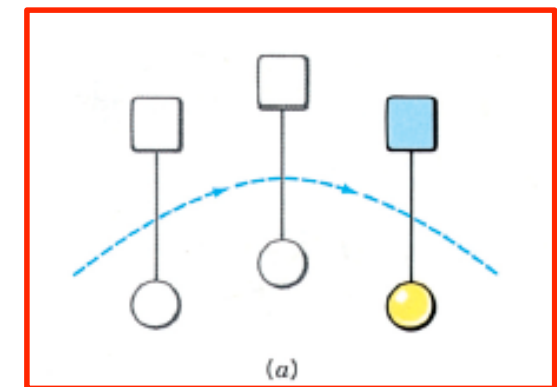
■ Rotational motion

■ Vibrational motion

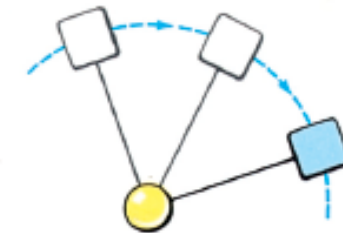
■ Combination

□ The translational motion of an object can be completely described by the movement of any single point on it.

➔ Object may be treated as a particle.



(a)



(b)



(c)

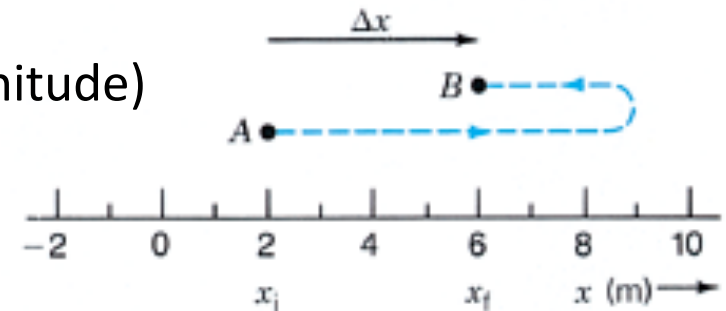


3.2 Displacement and Velocity



□ Displacement (位移):

- **Vector**, defined as: $\Delta x = x_f - x_i$
- The sign of Δx indicates its direction (not magnitude)
- Displacement gives no details of the journey



□ Distance traveled (距離):

- **Scalar** (always positive), defined as *the length of the journey*

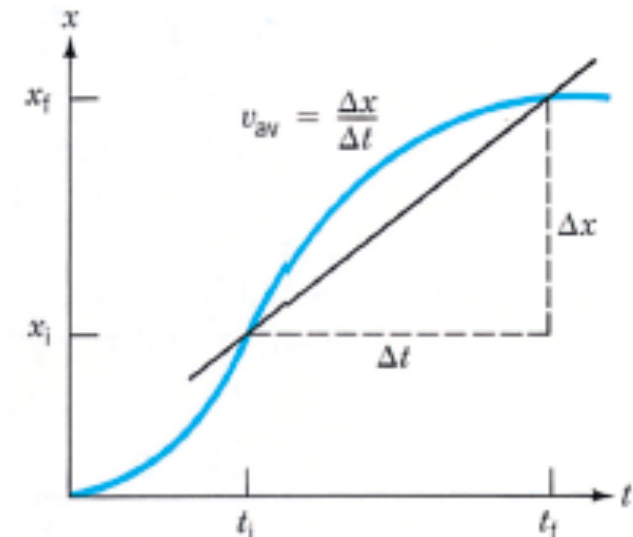
□ Average speed (平均速度):

- **Scalar**, defined as $\frac{\text{Distance traveled}}{\text{Time interval}}$

□ Average velocity (平均速率)

- **Vector**, defined as $\frac{\text{Displacement}}{\text{Time interval}}$

$$v_{av} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$





3.2 Displacement and Velocity



□ Example 3.2

A jogger runs her first 100 m at 5 m/s and the second 100 m at 4 m/s in the same direction. What is her average velocity?

Solution:

Use $v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \rightarrow \Delta t = \frac{\Delta x}{v}$

$$\Delta t_1 = 100/5 = 20s$$

$$\Delta t_2 = 100/4 = 25s$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_{tot.} &= \frac{\Delta x_{tot.}}{\Delta t_{tot}} \\ &= \frac{200 \text{ m}}{20 + 25 \text{ s}} \\ &= 4.44 \text{ m/s} \end{aligned}$$

***Note: it is not $(5+4)/2 = 4.5 \text{ m/s}$**



3.3 Instantaneous Velocity



- The velocity at any instant of time, or point in space, is called the **instantaneous velocity**

“The instantaneous velocity at any instant is given by the slope of the tangent to the position-time graph at that time”

- Mathematical way to describe:

$$v = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$

- In the notation of calculus:

$$v = \frac{dx}{dt}$$

The instantaneous velocity is equal to the **derivative** of the position with respect to time.

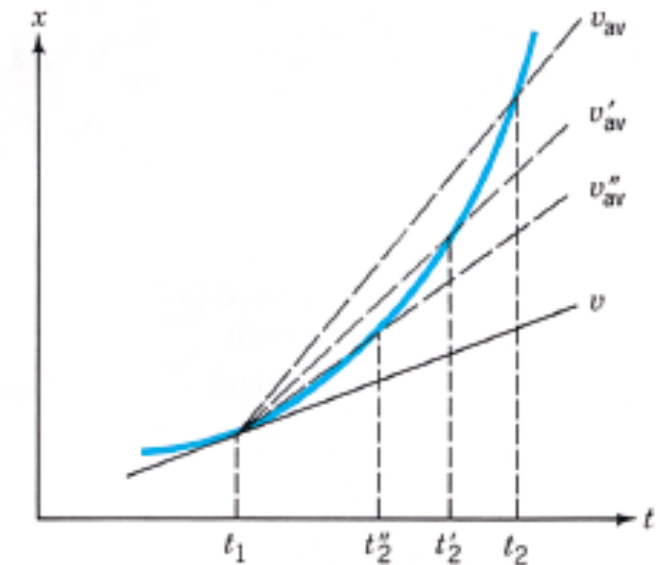


FIGURE 3.7 The instantaneous velocity v at time t_1 is the slope of the tangent to the curve at t_1 .



3.3 Instantaneous Velocity



□ Example 3.3

The position of a particle is given by the equation $x = 3t^2$ m. Find the instantaneous velocity at 2 s by using (a) a limiting process, and (b) the derivative of the function.

Solution:

(a) by definition:

$$\begin{aligned}v &= \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \\ \Delta x &= 3(2 + \Delta t)^2 - 3(2)^2 \\ v &= \frac{3(4 + 4\Delta t + \Delta t^2) - 12}{\Delta t} \\ &= \frac{12\Delta t + 3\Delta t^2}{\Delta t} \\ &= 12 + 3\Delta t\end{aligned}$$

$v = 15 \text{ m/s}, \Delta t = 1 \text{ s}$
$v = 13.5 \text{ m/s}, \Delta t = 0.5 \text{ s}$
$v = 12.003 \text{ m/s}, \Delta t = 0.001 \text{ s}$

(b) by definition:

$$\begin{aligned}v &= \frac{dx}{dt} \\ &= 3(2t) = 6t = 12 \text{ m/s} \\ &\text{where } t = 2 \text{ s}\end{aligned}$$

***Note: the smaller Δt , the better result**



3.4 Acceleration

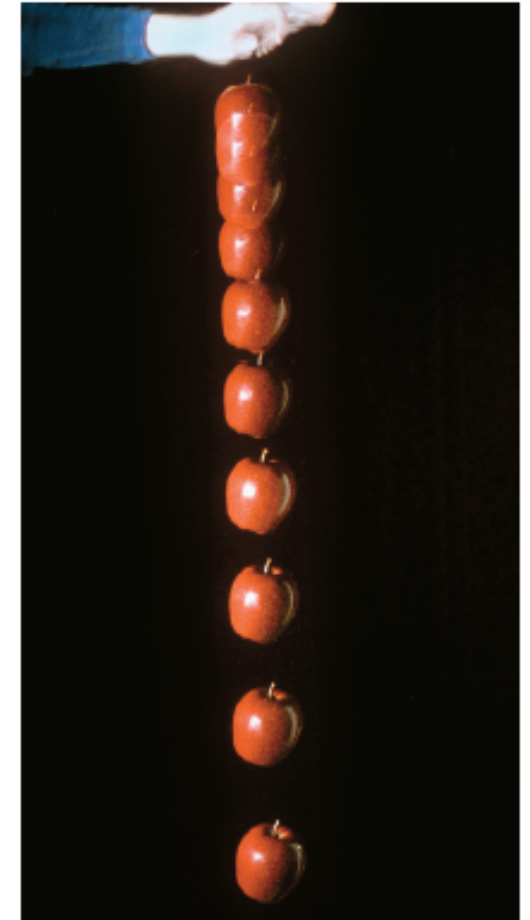
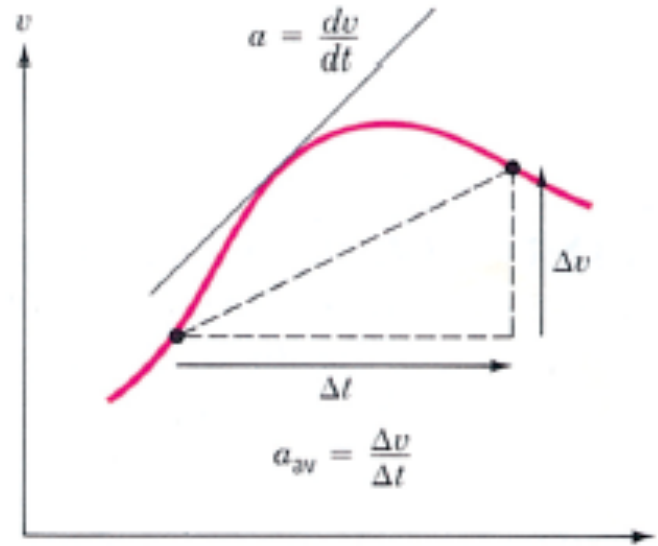


- The average acceleration for a finite time interval is defined as

$$\text{Average acceleration} = \frac{\text{Change in velocity}}{\text{Time interval}}$$
$$a_{av} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$

- We can define the **instantaneous acceleration** by following the same logic as the instantaneous velocity

$$a = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$
$$= \frac{dv}{dt}$$



Accelerated motion in the vertical direction.



3.4 Acceleration



□ Example 3.4

At $t = 0$ a car is moving east at 10 m/s. Find its average acceleration between $t = 0$ and each of the following times at which it has the given velocities: (a) $t = 2$ s, 15 m/s east; (b) $t = 5$ s, 5 m/s east; (c) $t = 10$ s, 10 m/s west; (d) $t = 20$, 20 m/s west.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Use } a_{av} &= \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} \\ &= \frac{v_f - v_i}{t_f - t_i}\end{aligned}$$

$$(a) \ a_{av} = (15 - 10) / 2 = 2.25 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$(b) \ a_{av} = (5 - 10) / 5 = -1 \text{ m/s}^2$$

(c) and (d) : try it by yourself!

Remember a_{av} is a **vector**



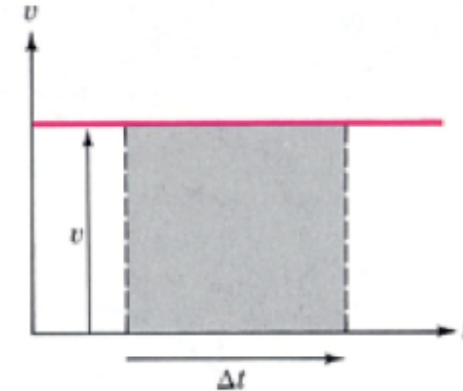
3.5 The Use of Areas



- Now, let's learn how to determine x from a graph of v versus t and v from a graph of a versus t .

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$

$$\Delta x = v\Delta t \quad (\text{unit is } (\text{m/s})(\text{s}) = \text{m})$$

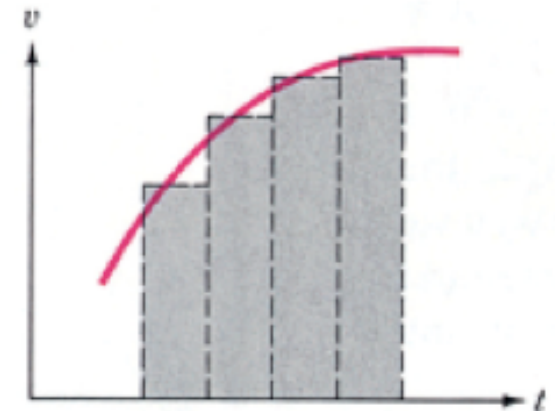


→ The displacement Δx in some time interval is given by the area under the v versus t graph for that interval

- The approximation improves as the number of rectangles is increased

→ Calculus: Integration

- Similarly, $\Delta v = a\Delta t$, for a given time interval, the area under the a versus t graph gives the change in velocity Δv during that interval.





3.6 The Eqs. of Kin. for Const. Accel.



- Under constant acceleration condition, we can quantitatively write down the **equations of kinematics**

$$a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} = \frac{v_f - v_i}{t_f - t_i} = \frac{v - v_0}{t}$$

(where $v_f = v$, $v_i = v_0$, $t_f = t$ and $t_i = 0$)

$$v = v_0 + at$$

$$v_{av} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$

$$\Delta x = v_{av} \Delta t = \frac{1}{2}(v_i + v_f) \Delta t$$

$$x_f - x_i = \frac{1}{2}(v_i + v_f)(t_f - t_i)$$

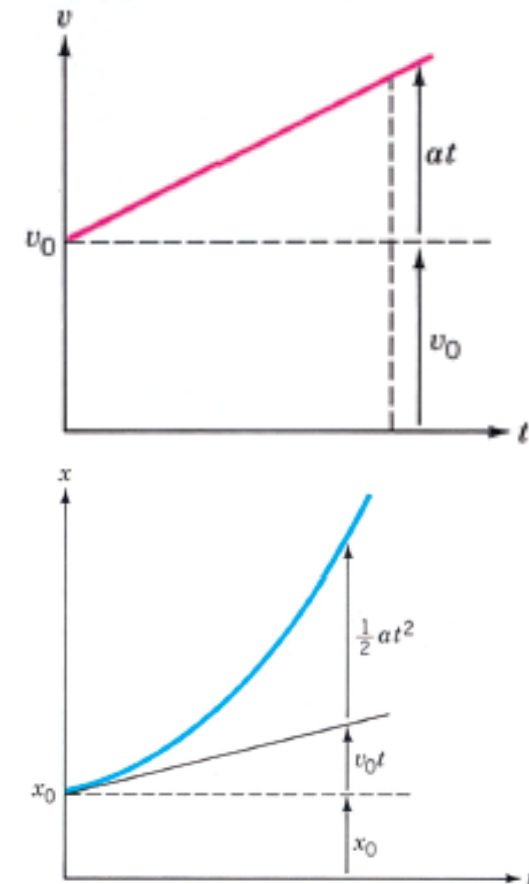
$$x = x_0 + \frac{1}{2}(v_0 + v)t$$

(where $x_f = x$, $x_i = x_0$, $v_i = v_0$, $v_f = v$, $t_f = t$ and $t_i = 0$)

$$x = x_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$$



$$v^2 = v_0^2 + 2a(x - x_0)$$





3.6 The Eqs. of Kin. for Const. Accel.



□ Example 3.6

A car accelerates with constant acceleration from rest to 30 m/s in 10 s. It then continues at constant velocity. Find: (a) its acceleration; (b) how far it travels while speeding up; (c) the distance it covers while its velocity changes from 10 m/s to 20 m/s.

Solution:

(a) use $v = v_0 + at$

$$30 = 0 + a(10)$$

$$a = \frac{30}{10} \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$a = 3 \text{ m/s}^2$$

(b) use $x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$

$$= 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{2}3(10)^2$$

$$= 150 \text{ m}$$

(c) Find the total traveled time first,

use $v = v_0 + at$

$$20 = 10 + 3t$$

$$t = 10/3 \text{ s}$$

then, use $x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$

$$= 0 + 10\left(\frac{10}{3}\right) + \frac{1}{2}3\left(\frac{10}{3}\right)^2$$

$$= \frac{100}{3} + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{100}{3}\right)$$

$$= 50 \text{ m}$$



3.6 The Eqs. of Kin. for Const. Accel.



□ Example 3.7

A particle is at $x = 5$ m at $t = 2$ s and has a velocity $v = 10$ m/s. Its acceleration is constant at -4 m/s². Find the initial position at $t = 0$.

Solution:

The key equation: $x = x_0 + \overset{\downarrow}{v_0}t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$

Find v_0 first by using $v = v_0 + at$

$$10 = v_0 + (-4)(2)$$

$$v_0 = 18$$

Then use $x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$ to find x_0

$$5 = x_0 + 18(2) + \frac{1}{2}(-4)(2^2)$$

$$x_0 = 36 - 8 - 5 = 23 \text{ m}$$



3.6 The Eqs. of Kin. for Const. Accel.



□ Example 3.8

A speeder moves at a constant 15 m/s in a school zone. A police car starts from rest just as the speeder passes it. The police car accelerates at 2 m/s² until it reaches its maximum velocity of 20 m/s. Where and when does the speeder get caught?

Solution:

Key equation: $x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$

First check how far Police traveled when he reaches its max velocity:

$$v_{pM} = v_{p0} + a_pt_{pM}$$

$$20 = 0 + 2t_{pM}$$

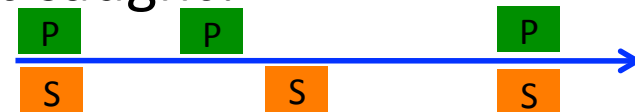
$$t_{pM} = 10 \text{ s}$$

$$x_{pM} = 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{2}(2)(10^2)$$

$$x_{pM} = 100 \text{ m}$$

During this time interval,

speeder traveled: $x_s = v_{s0}t = 150 \text{ m}$



for police

$$x_p = x_{p0} + v_{p0}t_p + 0$$

$$x_p = -50 + 20t_p$$

for speeder

$$x_s = x_{s0} + v_{s0}t_s + 0$$

$$x_s = 0 + 15t_s$$

$$\therefore x_p = x_s \text{ and } t_p = t_s$$

$$\therefore 15t = -50 + 20t$$

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

$$t_{tot.} = t_{pM} + t$$

$$= 20 \text{ s}$$

$$x_{tot.} = v_{s0}t_{tot.} = 15(20) = 300 \text{ m}$$

$$= x_{p0} + v_{p0}t_{pM} = 100 + 20(10) = 300 \text{ m}$$



3.6 The Eqs. of Kin. for Const. Accel.



□ Example 3.9

Two cars approach each other on a straight road. Car A moves at 16 m/s and car B moves at 8 m/s. When they are 45 m apart, both drivers apply their brakes. Car A slows down at 2 m/s², while car B slows down at 4 m/s². Where and when do they collide?

Solution:

Key equation: $x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$

$$x_A = x_{A0} + v_{A0}t_A + \frac{1}{2}a_At_A^2$$

$$x_A = 0 + 16t_A + \frac{1}{2}(-2)t_A^2$$

$$x_A = 16t_A - t_A^2$$

$$x_B = x_{B0} + v_{B0}t_B + \frac{1}{2}a_Bt_B^2$$

$$x_B = 45 + (-8)t_B + \frac{1}{2}(4)t_B^2$$

$$x_B = 45 - 8t_B + 2t_B^2$$

when they collide, $x_A = x_B$

Remember velocity and acceleration are **vectors**!



$$16t - t^2 = 45 - 8t + 2t^2$$

$$3t^2 - 24t + 45 = 0$$

$$3(t^2 - 8t + 15) = 0$$

$$3(t - 3)(t - 5) = 0$$

$$t = 3 \text{ or } 5 \text{ s}$$

BUT... something strange here!!!



3.6 The Eqs. of Kin. for Const. Accel.



□ Example 3.9

Solution (continue):

If you look at the final velocity of A and B:

$$v_A = v_{A0} + a_A t = 16 - 2(3) = 10 \text{ m/s}$$

$$v_B = v_{B0} + a_B t = -8 + 4(3) = 4 \text{ m/s} \text{ direction is wrong!! This answer is unphysical!}$$

Correct way, first check when one of them stops, does they collide?

$$v_A = v_{A0} + a_A t \Rightarrow 0 = 16 - 2(t_A) \Rightarrow t_A = 8 \text{ s}$$

$$v_B = v_{B0} + a_B t \Rightarrow 0 = -8 + 4(t_B) \Rightarrow t_B = 2 \text{ s}$$

$$\text{At } t = 2 \text{ s, } x_A = x_{A0} + v_{A0}t + \frac{1}{2}a_A t^2$$

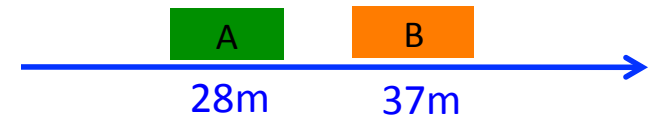
$$= 0 + 16(2) - \frac{1}{2}(2)(2^2)$$

$$= 28 \text{ m}$$

$$x_B = x_{B0} + v_{B0}t + \frac{1}{2}a_B t^2$$

$$= 45 - 8(2) + \frac{1}{2}(4)(2^2)$$

$$= 37 \text{ m} \text{ now, B stops}$$



Since B stops,
they will collide at 37m:

$$x_A = x_{A0} + v_{A0}t + \frac{1}{2}a_A t^2$$

$$37 = 0 + 16t - \frac{1}{2}(2)t^2$$

$$t^2 - 16t + 37 = 0$$

$$t = \frac{16 \pm \sqrt{16^2 - 4(37)}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{16 \pm 10.39}{2}$$

$$= \underline{2.8} \text{ or } 13.2 \text{ s}$$



3.7 Vertical Free-Fall



- Motion that occurs solely under the influence of gravity is called **free-fall (自由落體)**

From Galileo: In the absence of air resistance, all falling bodies have the same acceleration due to gravity, regardless of their sizes or shapes.

- The acceleration of gravity: $\mathbf{a} = -g\mathbf{j}$, $g \approx 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$

➔ The equations of kinematics becomes:

$$v = v_0 - gt$$

$$y = y_0 + \frac{1}{2}(v_0 + v)t$$

$$y = y_0 + v_0t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

$$v^2 = v_0^2 - 2g(y - y_0)$$

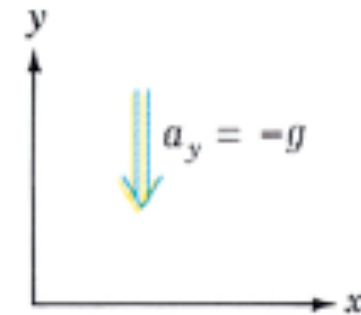


FIGURE 3.24 If the y axis is chosen to point upward, the acceleration of a particle in free-fall is $a_y = -g$, where $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ is the magnitude of the acceleration due to gravity.



3.7 Vertical Free-Fall



□ Example 3.10

A ball thrown up from the ground reaches a maximum height of 20m. Find: (a) its initial velocity; (b) the time taken to reach the highest point; (c) its velocity just before hitting the ground; (d) its displacement between 0.5 and 2.5 ; (e) the time at which it is 15 m above the ground.

Solution:

(a) When it reaches its maximum height

$$\rightarrow v = 0 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\text{Use } v^2 = v_0^2 - 2g(y - y_0)$$

$$0 = v_0^2 - 2g(20 - 0)$$

$$v_0^2 = 40(9.8)$$

$$v_0 = 19.8 \text{ m/s}$$

(b) Use $v = v_0 - gt$

$$0 = 19.8 - 9.8t$$

$$t = 2.02 \text{ s}$$

(c) Use $v^2 = v_0^2 - 2g(y - y_0)$

$$v^2 = 0 - 2(9.8)(0 - 20)$$

$$v = -19.8 \text{ m/s}$$

Note: $v_0 = v$ for free-fall



3.7 Vertical Free-Fall



□ Example 3.10

A ball thrown up from the ground reaches a maximum height of 20m. Find: (a) its initial velocity; (b) the time taken to reach the highest point; (c) its velocity just before hitting the ground; (d) its displacement between 0.5 and 2.5 s; (e) the time at which it is 15 m above the ground.

Solution:

(d) Key equation: $y = y_0 + v_0t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$

$$\Delta y = y_f - y_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_f &= 19.8(2.5) - \frac{1}{2}(9.8)(2.5)^2 \\ &= 18.87 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_i &= 19.8(0.5) - \frac{1}{2}(9.8)(0.5)^2 \\ &= 8.675 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta y = 18.87 - 8.675 = 10.195 \text{ m}$$

(e) Use $y = y_0 + v_0t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$

$$15 = 0 + 19.8t - 4.9t^2$$

$$t = \frac{19.8 \pm \sqrt{19.8^2 - 4(4.9)(15)}}{2(4.9)}$$

$$t = 1.01 \text{ or } 3.03 \text{ s}$$

on the way  up and  down



3.7 Vertical Free-Fall



□ Example 3.11

A ball is thrown upward with an initial velocity of 12 m/s from a rooftop 40 m high. Find: (a) its velocity on hitting the ground; (b) the time of flight; (c) the maximum height; (d) the time to return to roof level; (e) the time it is 15 m below the rooftop.

Solution:

(a, b, c) Find the time when it reaches the maximum height $\rightarrow v = 0$

$$v = v_0 - gt_{up}$$

$$0 = 12 - 9.8t_{up}$$

$$t_{up} = 1.22 \text{ s}$$

$$y = y_0 + v_0t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

$$y = 40 + 12(1.22) - \frac{1}{2}(9.8)(1.22^2)$$

$$\underline{y = 47.35 \text{ m}}$$

$$y = y_0 + v_0t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

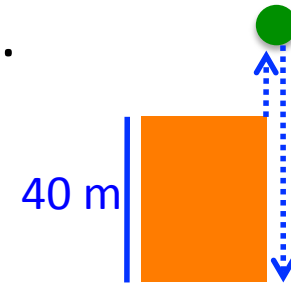
$$0 = 47.35 + 0 - 4.9t_{down}^2$$

$$t_{down} = 3.11 \text{ s}$$

$$t_{tot.} = t_{up} + t_{down} = \underline{4.33 \text{ s}}$$

$$v = v_0 - gt_{down}$$

$$v = 0 - 9.8(3.11) = \underline{-30.47 \text{ m/s}}$$





3.7 Vertical Free-Fall



□ Example 3.11

(d) the time to return to roof level; (e) the time it is 15 m below the rooftop.

Solution:

(d) We already know the time to reach the maximum height, now we only need to know the time from there to rooftop

$$y = y_0 + v_0 t_{\text{downR}} - \frac{1}{2} g t_{\text{downR}}^2$$

$$40 = 47.35 + 0 - \frac{1}{2} (9.8) t_{\text{downR}}^2$$

$$t_{\text{downR}} = 1.22 \text{ s}$$

$$t_{\text{tot.}} = t_{\text{up}} + t_{\text{downR}} = 2.44 \text{ s}$$

$$y = y_0 + v_0 t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2$$

$$\text{OR} \quad 40 = 40 + 12t - \frac{1}{2} (9.8) t^2$$

$$t(4.9t - 12) = 0$$

$$t = 0 \text{ or } \underline{2.45 \text{ s}}$$

(e) 15 m below means 25 m above ground:

$$y = y_0 + v_0 t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2$$

$$25 = 40 + 12t - \frac{1}{2} (9.8) t^2$$

$$4.9t^2 - 12t - 15 = 0$$

$$t = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{12^2 + 4(4.9)(15)}}{2(4.9)}$$

$$t = -0.91 \text{ or } \underline{3.36 \text{ s}}$$

Note: learn how to choose the physical answer!



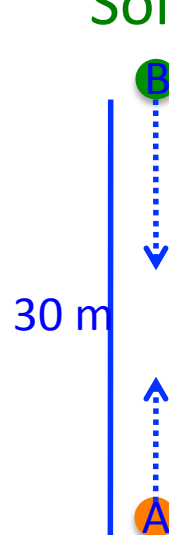
3.7 Vertical Free-Fall



□ Example 3.12

Two balls are thrown toward each other: ball A at 16.0 m/s upward from the ground, ball B at 9.00 m/s downward from a roof 30.0 m high, one second later. (a) Where and when do they meet? (b) What are their velocities on impact?

Solution:



(a) $y_A = y_{A0} + v_{A0}t_A - \frac{1}{2}gt_A^2$
 $= 0 + 16t_A - 4.9t_A^2$
 $= 16t_A - 4.9t_A^2$
 $y_B = y_{B0} + v_{B0}t_B - \frac{1}{2}gt_B^2$
 $= 30 - 9t_B - 4.9t_B^2$

and $t_B = t_A - 1$,

when they meet, $y_A = y_B$

$$16t - 4.9t^2 = 30 - 9(t - 1) - 4.9(t - 1)^2$$

$$16t - 4.9t^2 = 30 - 9t + 9 - 4.9(t^2 - 2t + 1)$$

$$15.2t = 34.1$$

$$t = \underline{2.24 \text{ s}}$$

$$y_A = y_B$$

$$= 16t_A - 4.9t_A^2$$

$$= 16(2.24) - 4.9(2.24)^2$$

$$= \underline{11.25 \text{ m}}$$



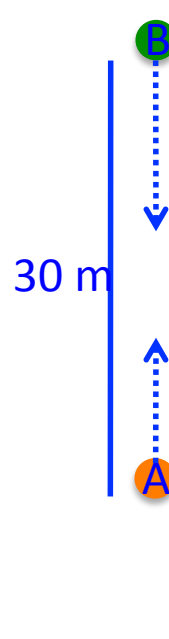
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Solution:



(b) $t = 2.24 \text{ s}$

$$\begin{aligned} v_A &= v_{A0} - gt \\ &= 16 - 9.8(2.24) \\ &= \underline{-5.95 \text{ m/s}} \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} v_B &= v_{B0} - gt_B \\ &= v_{B0} - g(t - 1) \\ &= -9 - 9.8(1.24) \\ &= \underline{-21.15 \text{ m/s}} \end{aligned}$$



3.8 Terminal Speed



- An object dropped from a great enough height does not accelerate indefinitely. The object ultimately reaches a **terminal speed**, v_T , and then continues to fall at this constant rate.
- The value of v_T depends on the weight and shape of the falling object and the density of the air.

