

Mon: HW by 5pm

Ex 30, 34, 35, 39, 43, 44, 45, 50

↳ computer activity (works on campus computers)

Weds: Warm Up 3 (D2L)

This class: analyze complete details of motion with constant acceleration

### Motion with Constant Acceleration

Recall that acceleration describes the rate of change of velocity. The average acceleration of an object is  $a_{avg} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$ . When this acceleration is constant the equation works for all time intervals and the acceleration is

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

Standard algebra then gives, for example,

later      earlier.

$$v_f = v_i + a\Delta t$$

This means that we can:

Use acceleration to determine details about the later motion based on details about the earlier motion.

Applying relevant mathematics allows us to derive a set of equations that relate position and velocity at a later time to those at an earlier time.

Then:

If the acceleration  
of an object is  
constant then

$$v_f = v_i + a \Delta t$$

$$x_f = x_i + v_i \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} a (\Delta t)^2$$

$$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2a(x_f - x_i)$$

earlier instant later instant



constant acceleration

time  $t_i$   
position  $x_i$   
velocity  $v_i$

$a$

time  $t_f$   
position  $x_f$   
velocity  $v_f$

time elapsed

$$\Delta t = t_f - t_i$$

These are the KINEMATIC EQUATIONS that require constant acceleration

#### 40 Person moving with constant acceleration

A person is initially at rest and subsequently moves right with a constant acceleration. The person reaches speed 6.0 m/s at a point 9.0 m to the right of the starting location. The aim of this exercise will be to determine the time taken to reach this point. A first step will be to determine the acceleration of the person. (111F2023)

- a) Sketch the situation, illustrating the person at the two instants described above.



List all relevant variables for the two instants:

$$t_i = 0\text{s}$$

$$t_f =$$

$$x_i = 0\text{m}$$

$$x_f = 9\text{m}$$

$$v_i = 0\text{m/s}$$

$$v_f = 6\text{m/s}$$

- b) Determine the acceleration by selecting one of the kinematic equations, substituting and solving for  $a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} v_f^2 &= v_i^2 + 2a(x_f - x_i) \\ (6\text{m/s})^2 &= (0\text{m/s})^2 + 2a(9.0\text{m}) \\ 36\text{m}^2/\text{s}^2 &= 0\text{m}^2/\text{s}^2 + 18.0\text{m } a \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \\ \curvearrowright \end{array} \right. \begin{aligned} 36\text{m}^2/\text{s}^2 &= 18.0\text{m } a \\ a &= \frac{36\text{m}^2/\text{s}^2}{18\text{m}} \\ &= 2.0\text{m/s}^2 \end{aligned}$$

- c) Using a different kinematic equation, find the time that it takes the person to reach speed 6.0 m/s.

$$\begin{aligned} v_f &= v_i + a \Delta t \\ 6.0\text{m/s} &= 0\text{m/s} + 2.0\text{m/s}^2 \Delta t \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \\ \curvearrowright \end{array} \right. \begin{aligned} 6.0\text{m/s} &= 2.0\text{m/s}^2 \Delta t \\ \Delta t &= \frac{6.0\text{m/s}}{2.0\text{m/s}^2} = 3.0\text{s} \end{aligned}$$

- d) Suppose that you had tried to find the time taken to reach speed 6.0 m/s by using

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \Rightarrow 6.0\text{m/s} = \frac{9.0\text{m}}{\Delta t}$$

What time does this give? Does it agree with the answer that you obtained to the previous part? Is it correct?

*Would give*

$$\Delta t = \frac{9.0\text{m}}{6.0\text{m/s}} = 1.5\text{s}$$

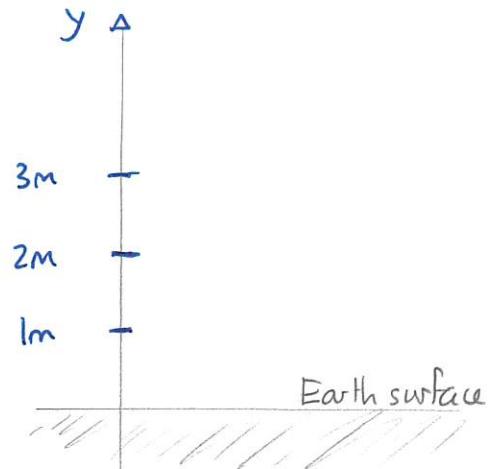
NOT SAME, NOT CORRECT

because velocity is not constant

## Free fall

The entire system of one dimensional kinematics works for vertical motion. The following modifications occur:

- 1) position variable =  $y$
  - 2) upward is positive
- $v > 0 \Rightarrow$  moves up  
 $v < 0 \Rightarrow$  " down



An example of such motion is free fall - motion where the object moves (up or down) only under the influence of Earth's gravity.

Quiz1 (not vertical but similar thinking) 20% - 80%

Quiz2 40% - 80%

Quiz3 25% - 80%

The exact details of the acceleration require experiments. These show:

- 1) the acceleration of a freely falling object is independent of the object's mass, its speed or its state of motion,
- 2) near Earth's surface, the acceleration of a freely falling object is constant with value

$$a = -g$$

where

$$g = 9.80 \text{ m/s}^2 \quad \leftarrow g \text{ is positive}$$

$$\text{so } g = -9.80 \text{ m/s}^2.$$

DEMO: Guinea / Feather.