

Category 1 – Force and Motion**MOTION GRAPHS AND CHARTS**

Graphs and charts are used to describe motion. Real-time technology, like motion detectors or photogates, can help quantify motion.

distance: scalar quantity; describes length of path between two points
displacement, Δd : vector quantity; describes change in position; length and direction of straight line from initial to final position; $\Delta d = d_{\text{final}} - d_{\text{initial}}$

Example 1: A balloon moves 2 m up and 3 m down.



distance = 5 m, displacement = -1 m (1 m down)

Example 2: Lee jogs 1.4 km E and 1.4 km N. His distance is 2.8 km. $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$, so $\Delta d = \sqrt{(1.4 \text{ km})^2 + (1.4 \text{ km})^2} = 2 \text{ km NE}$

change in time, Δt : amount of time elapsed; $\Delta t = t_{\text{final}} - t_{\text{initial}}$

speed: scalar quantity; equals distance per unit time (distance $\div \Delta t$)

velocity, v : vector quantity; equals displacement per unit time; $v_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t}$

instantaneous velocity: v at a particular instant in time, like v_{initial} (v_i)

acceleration, a : vector quantity; $a = \frac{v_f - v_i}{\Delta t}$

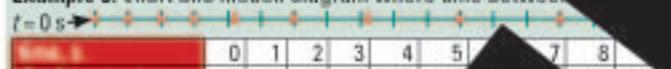
equals change in velocity per unit time (on Earth, $a_{\text{gravity}} = g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$)

$\Delta d = v_i \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} a \Delta t^2$, at constant a

Example 1: motion graphs for $a = \text{constant}$



Example 2: graphs for $a = \text{constant}$



Example 3: chart and motion diagram where time between

Time, t	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
displacement, d	0	1	2	3	4.25	6	7.25	14	17
velocity, v	1	1	1	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3
acceleration, a	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0

0 to 2 s: $a = 0$, $v = 1 \text{ m/s}$ (constant), Δd is steadily increasing

3 to 6 s: $a = 0.5 \text{ m/s}^2$ (constant, $a > 0$), v is steadily increasing, Δd is increasing at an increasing rate (graph of Δd vs. t is concave up)

7 to 9 s: $a = 0$, $v = 3 \text{ m/s}$ (constant), Δd is steadily increasing

MOTION IN ONE DIMENSION

Use equations to solve motion problems in one dimension.

Example 1: A car traveling in a straight line slows from 55 km/h to 12 km/h in 11 seconds. What is the car's acceleration in m/s?

$$a = \frac{v_f - v_i}{\Delta t} = \frac{(12 - 55) \text{ km/h}}{11 \text{ s}} = \frac{-43 \text{ km/h}}{3600 \text{ s}} = -1.1 \text{ m/s}^2$$

Example 2: A rock falls off a cliff in free-fall motion. How far does it fall in 4.0 seconds?

$$d = v_i t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2 = 0 + \frac{1}{2} (9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(4.0 \text{ s})^2 = 78.4 \text{ m}$$

Example 3: Find the initial velocity if red path is traveled in 2.5 s.

$$d = v_i t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2 = 12 \text{ m} = v_i(2.5 \text{ s}) + \frac{1}{2}(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(2.5 \text{ s})^2$$

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