




Acceleration and forces

Which hits the ground first?

Day 4:
What causes acceleration?
Gravity

Reminders:
HW 2 due Monday
Reading for Tues: 2.2 Bloomfield
Visit Help sessions today
Next up: forces

Feedback . .

- HW 1
 - make sure to submit
- Help Room: will you attend Thursdays:
 - a) Yes b) No

Question 3

What about the pace of this class... (5=Really fast 3=Just Right 1=Really slow)

1-really slow		1 (2.04 %)
2		2 (4.08 %)
3		36 (73.47 %)
4		8 (16.33 %)
5-way too fast		2 (4.08 %)

Number of Responses: 49

Tuesday:

Motion at constant velocity:

- $x = x_0 + vt$

Motion at constant acceleration:

- $v = v_0 + at$
- Velocity is the slope of a position time graph
- Acceleration is the slope of a velocity versus time graph

Today:

Motion at constant acceleration (cont):

- $x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$

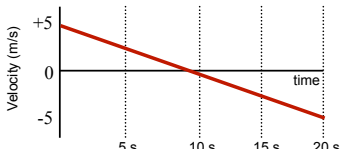
But what causes acceleration? → Forces

Motion with constant force and acceleration

- Newton's second law: $F_{net} = ma$
- Force and acceleration due to gravity

Graph shows the velocity of a car as a function of time. What is its acceleration?

- 0.25m/s²
- +0.25m/s²
- 0.5m/s²
- + 0.5 m/s²
- 0 m/s²

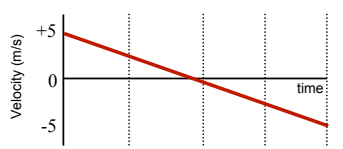


Graph shows the velocity of a car as a function of time. What is its acceleration?

- 0.25m/s²
- +0.25m/s²
- 0.5m/s²**
- + 0.5 m/s²
- 0 m/s²

$$a = \frac{v_f - v_i}{t_f - t_i}$$

$$= \frac{-5\text{m/s} - 5\text{m/s}}{20\text{s} - 0\text{s}}$$

$$= \frac{-10\text{m/s}}{20\text{s}} = -0.5\text{m/s}^2$$


Equations when velocity is changing

What if velocity is changing? ... Accelerating

Acceleration (a) = $\frac{v_f - v_i}{t_f - t_i}$

Rearrange:

$$v_f - v_i = a(t_f - t_i)$$

$$v_f = v_i + a(t_f - t_i)$$

Now let $t_i = 0\text{s}$ and so $v_i = v_0$ and drop the f subscript

$$v = v_0 + at$$

Motion at constant acceleration

$$v(t) = v_0 + at$$

your velocity at time t depends on

- Your velocity when you started,
- How fast and in what direction you are accelerating,
- How long you've been going

What about position at constant acceleration?

So far: $x = x_0 + vt$ ($a = 0$) (1)
 $v = v_0 + at$ ($a = \text{constant}$) (2)

From (1): $x = x_0 + v_{\text{average}}t$ (if $a \neq 0$) (3)
 $v_{\text{average}} = v_0 + \frac{1}{2}(\text{change in velocity})$
 (change in velocity) = $v - v_0 = (a)t$ (from (2))
 $\Rightarrow v_{\text{average}} = v_0 + \frac{1}{2}at$ (4)

Substitute (4) into (3)

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

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

Position at constant acceleration

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

your position at time t depends on

- Where you started, and
- How fast and in what direction you started going, and
- How fast and in what direction you're accelerating, and
- How long you have been going

A car accelerates at a steady rate from stationary along a straight road. Sketch position, velocity and acceleration as a function of time

Hint:
 a is slope of v vs t
 v is slope of x vs t

Motion down a ramp 1 (with forces!)

Sketch position, velocity and acceleration vs time graphs for the car **moving away** from the motion detector and **speeding up** at a steady rate.

Hints:

- The origin is always at the motion detector
- Start with acceleration
- a is slope of v vs t
- v is slope of x vs t

Motion down a ramp 1 (with forces!)

Sketch position, velocity and acceleration vs time graphs for the car **moving away** from the motion detector and **speeding up** at a steady rate.

Hints:

- The origin is always at the motion detector
- Start with acceleration
- a is slope of v vs t
- v is slope of x vs t

Motion down a ramp (with forces!)

Clearly identify the **POSITIVE** direction of motion

What causes the acceleration down the track?

The net force on the car

$$\underline{F}_{net} = m \underline{a}$$

(Newton's second Law of motion)

- Force and Acceleration are vectors, mass is a scalar
- Acceleration is always in same direction as net force
- Force is pointing in **positive** direction. So acceleration is also **positive**

Force

- Force is a VECTOR
- Units: Newton (N)
- 1N = 1kg * 1m/s²
- Net force on object = Vector sum of all forces acting on object
- N2: $\underline{F}_{net} = m \underline{a}$

Motion down a ramp 2 (with forces!)

Sketch **Velocity**, **acceleration** and **net force** vs. **time** graphs for the car **moving away** from the motion detector and **slowing down** at a steady rate.

Motion down a ramp 2

A

B

C

Motion down a ramp 2

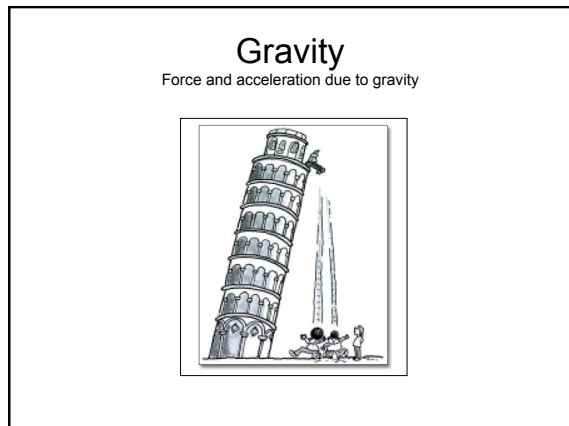
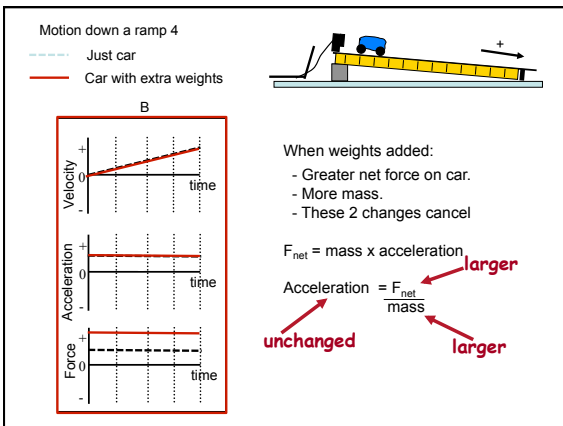
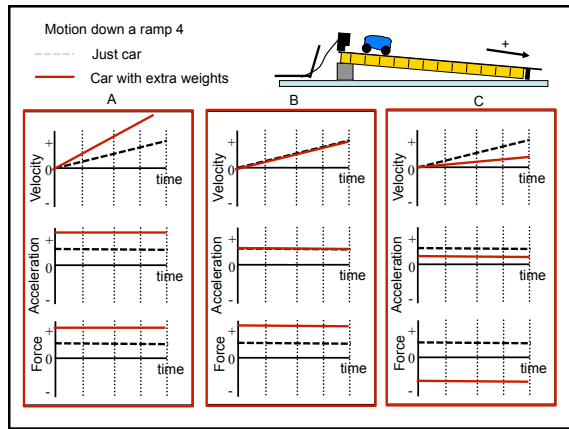
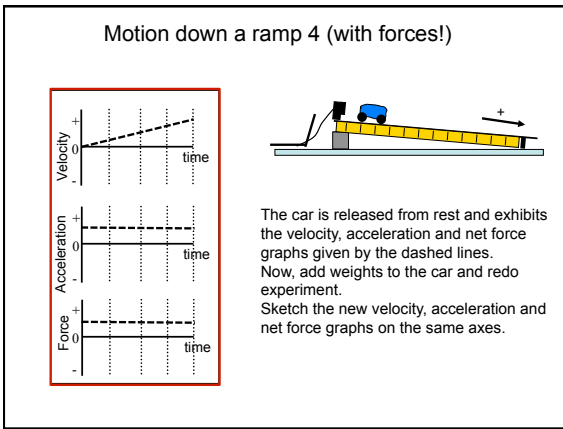
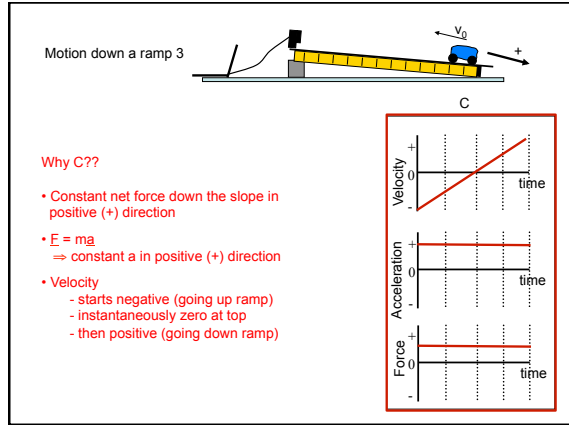
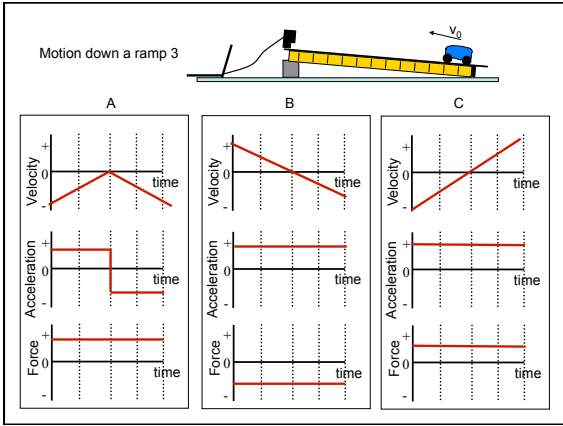
B

Why B??

- Constant net force down the slope in negative (-) direction
- $\underline{F} = m \underline{a}$
⇒ Constant acceleration down the slope in negative (-) direction.
- Initial velocity positive (+) and > 0.
- Acceleration is slope of v vs t

Motion down a ramp 3 (with forces!)


Start car up ramp with velocity v_0 (give it a push). Sketch **velocity**, **acceleration** and **net force** vs. **time** graphs for the motion that follows.

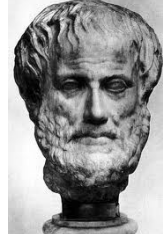


Dropping stuff


I drop heavy metal ball and a hacky sack from lecture hall ceiling

- the light ball will fall fastest and hit the ground first
- they will fall at the same speed and hit the ground together
- the heavy ball will fall fastest and hit the ground first.
- neither will fall, they will stay suspended in mid air
- they will both fall up and hit the ceiling.





Aristotle (500 BC):
Heavier ball hits first




Galileo (1600 AD):
Let's go check!

Dropping stuff


I drop heavy metal ball and a hacky sack from lecture hall ceiling

b. they will fall at the same speed and hit the ground together

Metal



Hacky sack



• $F_{gravity} = mass_{object} \times g$
Where $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ (on earth)

• $F_{net} = ma \Rightarrow a = \frac{F_{net}}{m}$

• In this case, $F_{net} = F_{gravity} = mg$
 $\Rightarrow a = \frac{mg}{m} = g$

• $a = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ for both hacky sack and metal ball!


Acceleration due to gravity is independent of mass!

• $v = v_0 + at$
• $x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$ } a, x_0 and v_0 the same
 $\Rightarrow v$ and x the same

Dropping stuff

I drop heavy metal ball and a hacky sack from lecture hall ceiling

- the light ball will fall fastest and hit the ground first
- they will fall at the same speed and hit the ground together
- the heavy ball will fall fastest and hit the ground first.
- neither will fall, they will stay suspended in mid air
- they will both fall up and hit the ceiling.




The leaning tower



Question: Relating position, velocity and acceleration

Toss a basketball straight up in air with initial velocity v_0
Plot position, velocity and acceleration vs time.



Position

Velocity

Acceleration

time