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- for students to copy in their own hand-writing
 - ◆ in order to complete their class notes
 - ◆ if student did not have enough time in class
 - ◆ if student was away and missed this section
- for assistants and tutors to follow progress of the concepts taught

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9.2 Calculating Acceleration



- The acceleration of an object is dependent upon the change in velocity and the time required to change the velocity.
- When stopping a moving object, the relationship between time and acceleration is:
 - ◆ Increasing the stopping time decreases the acceleration
 - ◆ Decreasing the stopping time increases the acceleration



Airbags cause the person to slow down in a longer period of time compared to hitting a solid object, such as the dashboard. This increased time results in a smaller deceleration.

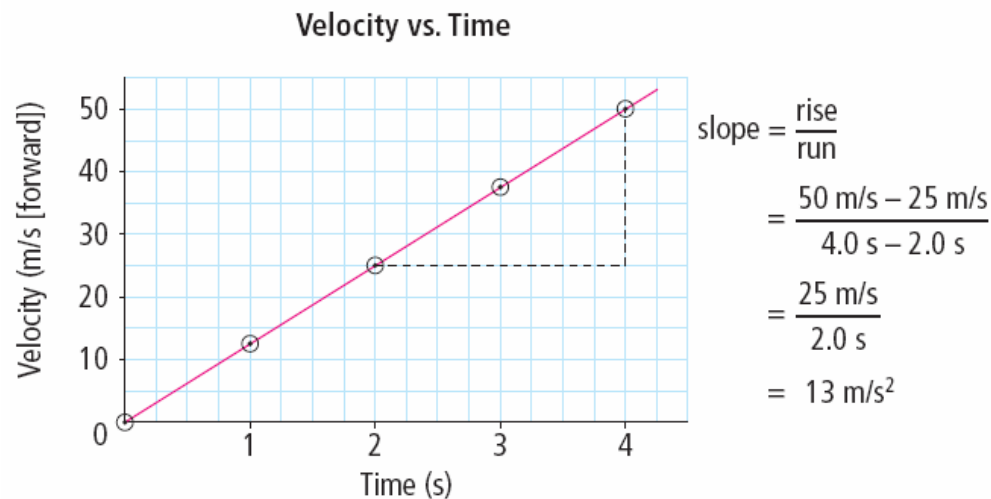
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Velocity-Time Graphs



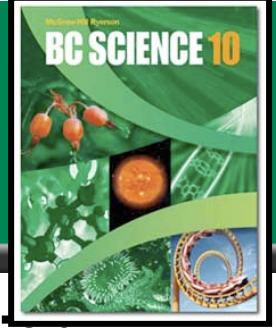
- The motion of an object with uniform motion is best represented by a position-time graph.
- The motion of an object with a changing velocity is best represented by a velocity-time graph.
- The slope of a velocity-time graph is average acceleration.
- Acceleration is measured in m/s^2 .

The slope of a velocity-time graph is the average acceleration of the object.

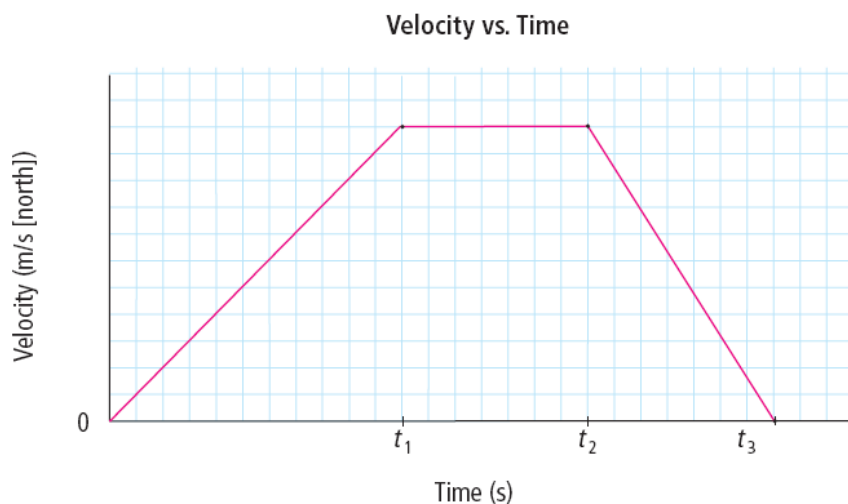


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Determining Motion from a Velocity–Time Graph



- A velocity-time graph can be analyzed to describe the motion of an object.
 - ◆ Positive slope (positive acceleration) – object’s velocity is increasing in the positive direction.
 - ◆ Zero slope (zero acceleration) – object’s velocity is constant.
 - ◆ Negative slope (negative acceleration) – object’s velocity is decreasing in the positive direction or the object’s velocity is increasing in the negative direction.



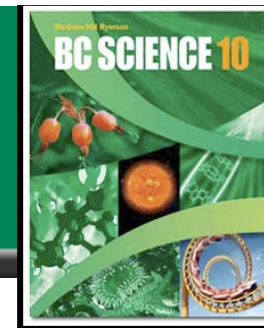
During which time interval was

- The acceleration zero?
- The acceleration negative?
- The acceleration positive?
- The object increasing it's velocity north?
- The object decreasing it's velocity north?
- The object moving at a constant velocity north?

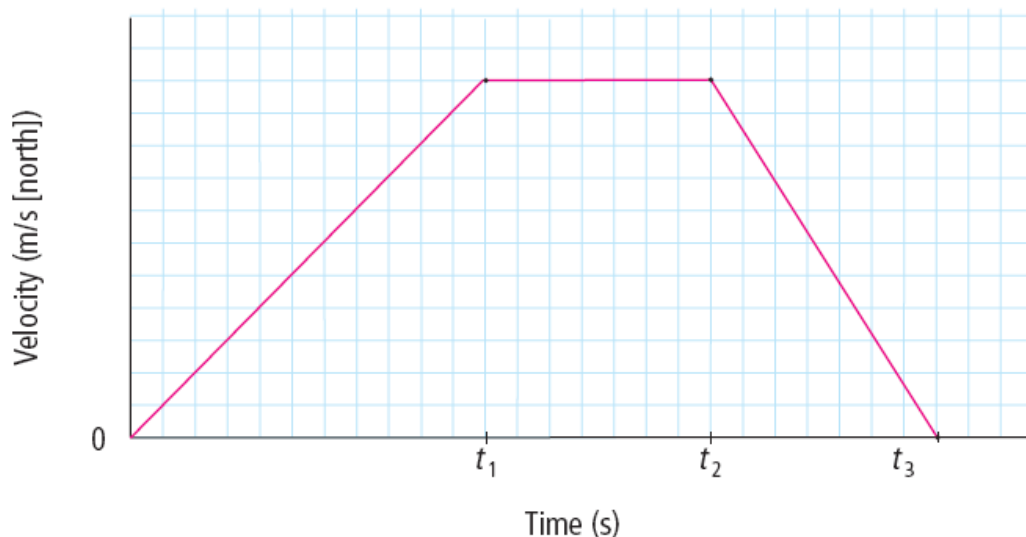
Answers on next slide

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Determining Motion from a Velocity–Time Graph



Velocity vs. Time



During which time interval was

- a) The acceleration zero? (t_1 to t_2)
- b) The acceleration negative? (t_2 to t_3)
- c) The acceleration positive? (0 to t_1)
- d) The object increasing its velocity north? (0 to t_1)
- e) The object decreasing its velocity north? (t_2 to t_3)
- f) The object moving at a constant velocity north? (t_1 to t_2)

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Calculating Acceleration



- The relationship of acceleration, change in velocity, and time interval is given by the equation:

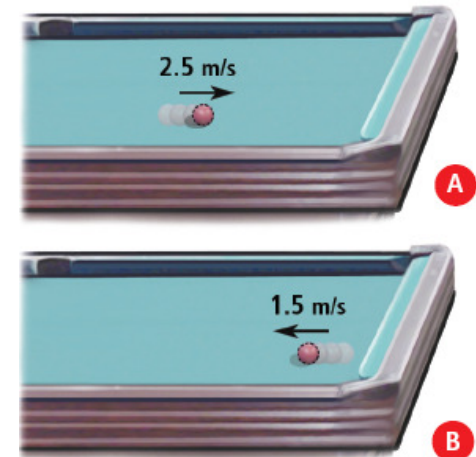
$$\vec{a} = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t}$$

Example:

- A pool ball traveling at 2.5 m/s, towards the cushion bounces off at 1.5 m/s. If the ball was in contact with the cushion for 0.20 s, what is the ball's acceleration? (Assume towards the cushion is the positive direction.)

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{a} &= \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} \text{ where } \Delta \vec{v} = \vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i \\ &= \frac{-1.5 \text{ m/s} - 2.5 \text{ m/s}}{0.20 \text{ s}} \\ &= \frac{-4.0 \text{ m/s}}{0.20 \text{ s}} \\ &= -20 \text{ m/s}^2\end{aligned}$$

The acceleration is 20 m/s² away from the cushion.



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Calculating Acceleration



- The relationship of change in velocity, acceleration, and time interval is given by the equation:

$$\Delta \vec{v} = (\vec{a})(\Delta t)$$

Example:

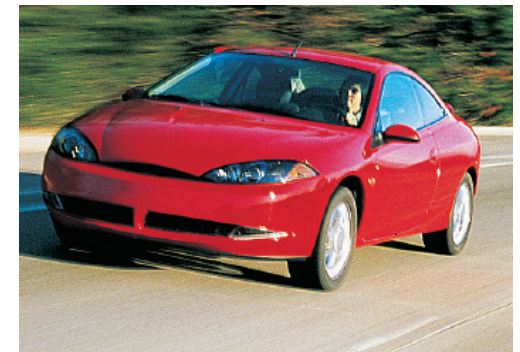
- ♦ A car accelerates from rest at 3.0 m/s^2 forward for 5.0 s . What is the velocity of the car at the end of 5.0 s ?

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta \vec{v} &= (\vec{a})(\Delta t) \\ &= (3.0 \text{ m/s}^2)(5.0 \text{ s}) \\ &= 15 \text{ m/s}\end{aligned}$$

The car's change in velocity is 15 m/s forward, therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta \vec{v} &= \vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i \\ 15 \text{ m/s} &= \vec{v}_f - 0 \\ \vec{v}_f &= 15 \text{ m/s}\end{aligned}$$

The car's velocity after 5.0 s is 15 m/s forward.



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Calculating Acceleration



- The relationship of time interval, change in velocity, and acceleration is given by the equation:

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

Example:

- ♦ A train is travelling east at 14 m/s. How long would it take to increase its velocity to 22 m/s east, if it accelerated at 0.50 m/s² east? (assign east direction positive (+)).

$$\Delta \vec{v} = \vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i = (22 \text{ m/s}) - (14 \text{ m/s}) = 8.0 \text{ m/s}$$

To find the value of Δt :

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta t &= \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\vec{a}} \\ &= \frac{8.0 \text{ m/s}}{0.50 \text{ m/s}^2} \\ &= 16 \text{ s}\end{aligned}$$

It would take 16 s for the train to increase its velocity.



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Calculating Acceleration



Try the following acceleration problems.

Answers on the next slide.

1. A truck starting from rest accelerates uniformly to 18 m/s [W] in 4.5 s . What is the truck's acceleration?
2. A toboggan moving 5.0 m/s forward decelerates backwards at -0.40 m/s^2 for 10 s . What is the toboggan's velocity at the end of the 10 s ?
3. How much time does it take a car, travelling south at 12 m/s , to increase its velocity to 26 m/s south if it accelerates at 3.5 m/s^2 south?



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Calculating Acceleration



Try the following acceleration problems.

1. A truck starting from rest accelerates uniformly to 18 m/s [W] in 4.5 s. What is the truck's acceleration? (4.0 m/s² [W])
2. A toboggan moving 5.0 m/s forward decelerates backwards at -0.40 m/s² for 10 s. What is the toboggan's velocity at the end of the 10 s? (1.0 m/s forward)
3. How much time does it take a car, travelling south at 12 m/s, to increase its velocity to 26 m/s south if it accelerates at 3.5 m/s² south? (4.0 s)



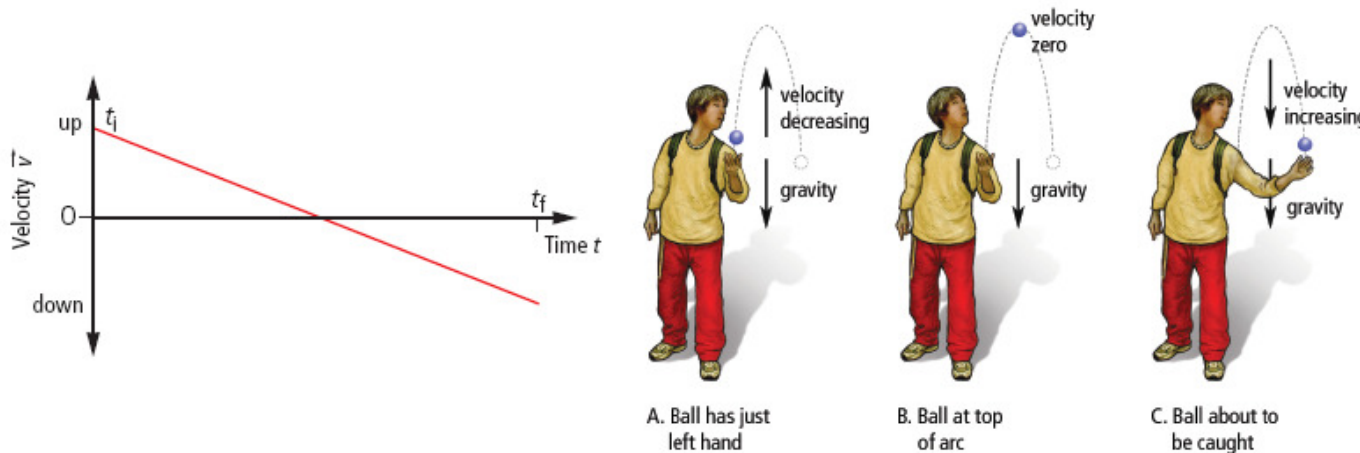
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Gravity and Acceleration



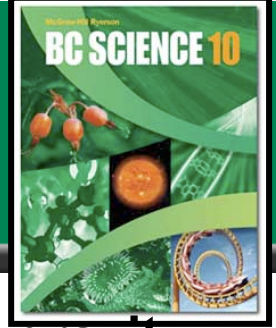
- Objects, near the surface of the Earth, fall to the Earth due to the force of gravity.
 - ◆ Gravity is a pulling force that acts between two or more masses.
- Air resistance is a friction-like force that opposes the motion of objects that move through the air.
- Ignoring air resistance, all objects will accelerate towards the Earth at the same rate.
 - ◆ The acceleration due to gravity is given as 9.8 m/s^2 downward.



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Calculating Motion Due to Gravity



- To analyze situation where objects are accelerating due to gravity, use the equations:

$$\vec{a} = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} \quad \Delta \vec{v} = (\vec{a})(\Delta t) \quad \Delta t = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\vec{a}}$$

- In these equations the acceleration (\vec{a}) is 9.8 m/s^2 downward.
- Example:
 - ♦ Suppose a rock falls from the top of a cliff. What is the change in velocity of the rock after it has fallen for 1.5 s? (Assign “down” as negative (-))

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \vec{v} &= (\vec{a})(\Delta t) \\ &= (-9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(1.5 \text{ s}) \\ &= -15 \text{ m/s} \end{aligned}$$

Since down is negative (-), the change in the rock's velocity is 15 m/s down.

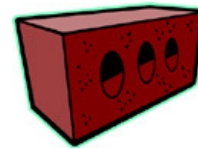
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Calculating Motion Due to Gravity



Try the following acceleration due to gravity problems. (Answers on the next slide)

1. What is the change in velocity of a brick that falls for 3.5 s?



2. A ball is thrown straight up into the air at 14 m/s. How long does it take for the ball to slow down to an upward velocity of 6.0 m/s?



3. A rock is thrown downwards with an initial velocity of 8.0 m/s. What is the velocity of the rock after 1.5 s?



$$\vec{a} = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} \quad \Delta \vec{v} = (\vec{a})(\Delta t) \quad \Delta t = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\vec{a}}$$

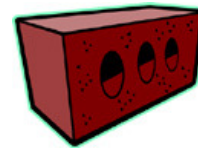
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Calculating Motion Due to Gravity



Try the following acceleration due to gravity problems.

1. What is the change in velocity of a brick that falls for 3.5 s? **(34 m/s downward)**
2. A ball is thrown straight up into the air at 14 m/s. How long does it take for the ball to slow down to an upward velocity of 6.0 m/s? **(0.82 s)**
3. A rock is thrown downwards with an initial velocity of 8.0 m/s. What is the velocity of the rock after 1.5 s? **(23 m/s downward)**



[Take the Section 9.2 Quiz](#)

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