


October 1, 2010      Physics 121      Prof. E. F. Redish

■ **Theme Music: Tom Petty**  
*Free Fallin'*

■ **Cartoon: Rick Detorie**  
*One Big Happy*



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**Outline**

- Free fall motion
- Recap: N2 as a Vector Law
- Examples
  - Vertical motion
  - Object on an Incline
  - Getting movin

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A juggler is juggling three tennis balls. At the instant shown, ball A is going up; ball B is coming down. Both balls have negligible horizontal motion



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**Our velocity and acceleration definitions generalize easily**

$$\langle \vec{v} \rangle = \frac{\Delta \vec{r}}{\Delta t} \quad \Delta \vec{r} = \vec{r}_f - \vec{r}_i$$

$$\langle \vec{a} \rangle = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} \quad \Delta \vec{v} = \vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hookrightarrow \langle v_x \rangle &= \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} & \langle v_y \rangle &= \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta t} \\ \langle a_x \rangle &= \frac{\Delta v_x}{\Delta t} & \langle a_y \rangle &= \frac{\Delta v_y}{\Delta t} \end{aligned}$$

If  $a$  is constant

$$\langle v \rangle = \frac{v_i + v_f}{2}$$

for either  $v_x$  or  $v_y$ .

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**Newton 2 is a vector equation**

- We have sort of been assuming that up and down forces were independent of sideways forces.
- This tests out true in detail. It means N2 is a vector equation:
 
$$\vec{a} = \vec{F}^{net} / m$$
- A vector equation is a way of writing 2 equations at once:
 
$$a_x = F_x^{net} / m \quad a_y = F_y^{net} / m$$

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**Recap: Coordinates and Vectors**

- Set up a coordinate system
  - Pick an origin
  - Pick 3 perpendicular directions
  - Choose a measurement scale
- Each point in space is then specified by three numbers: the x, y, and z coordinates.
- The position vector for a particular position is an arrow drawn from the origin to that position.

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## Recap: Motion in a plane (2-dimensional coordinates)

- We now have 2 directions to specify. We must
  - Choose a reference point (origin)
  - Pick 2 perpendicular axes (x and y)
  - Choose a scale
- We specify our x and y directions by drawing little arrows of unit length in their positive direction.

$$\hat{i}, \hat{j}$$

- A position specified by a point (x,y) is written

$$\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$$

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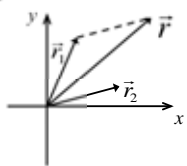
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## Adding Vectors: Meaning

- A position vector,  $\vec{r}$ , represents a displacement from the origin.
- We define the sum of two vectors as the results of their successive displacements.



$$\vec{r} = \vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2$$

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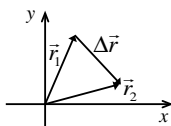
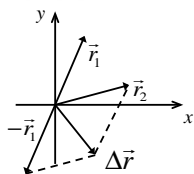
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## Subtracting Vectors: Meaning

- We define the difference of two vectors from the definition of sum.

$$\Delta\vec{r} = \vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1 = \vec{r}_2 + (-\vec{r}_1)$$

- Or: The difference is what has to be added to the first to give the second.



$$\Delta\vec{r} = \vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1$$

$$\vec{r}_2 = \vec{r}_1 + \Delta\vec{r}$$

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### Adding Vectors: Methods

■ There are 3 mathematical ways to add vectors

**Physics!**

head  
to tail

**Geometry!**

parallelogram  
rule

**Algebra!**

$$\vec{r}_1 = x_1\hat{i} + y_1\hat{j}$$

$$\vec{r}_2 = x_2\hat{i} + y_2\hat{j}$$

$$\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2 = x_1\hat{i} + y_1\hat{j} + x_2\hat{i} + y_2\hat{j}$$

$$= x_1\hat{i} + x_2\hat{i} + y_1\hat{j} + y_2\hat{j}$$

$$= (x_1 + x_2)\hat{i} + (y_1 + y_2)\hat{j}$$

coordinates

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### Draw and Label All Forces on the Block

block sliding down a hill

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