

# KINEMATICS - DESCRIPTION OF MOTION IN ONE DIMENSION [ALONG X-AXIS]. (POINT PARTICLES)



## DEFINITIONS

### POSITION VECTOR:

$$\vec{x}(t) = A \hat{x} \quad \text{or} \quad -A \hat{x}$$

A is magnitude

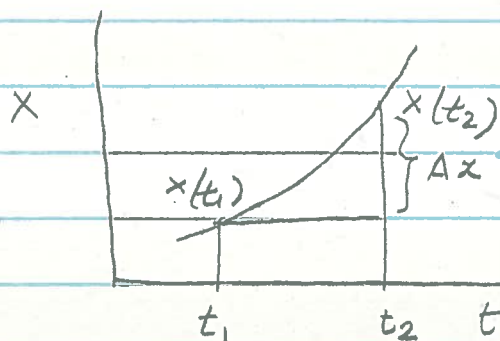
$+\hat{x}$  vector points right

$-\hat{x}$  vector points left.

DISPLACEMENT VECTOR: measures change of position

$$\Delta \vec{x} = \vec{x}(t_2) - \vec{x}(t_1)$$

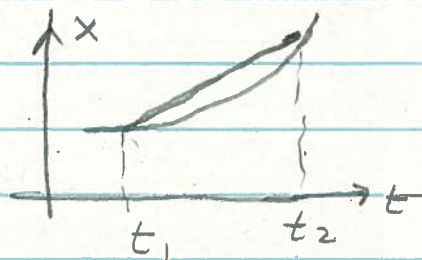
Here,  $\Delta \vec{x}$  is along  $+\hat{x}$



Average Velocity Vector: Measures rate of change of position with time over a finite time interval  $(t_2 - t_1)$

$$\langle \vec{v} \rangle = \frac{x(t_2) - x(t_1)}{(t_2 - t_1)} \hat{x}$$

It is the slope of the chord



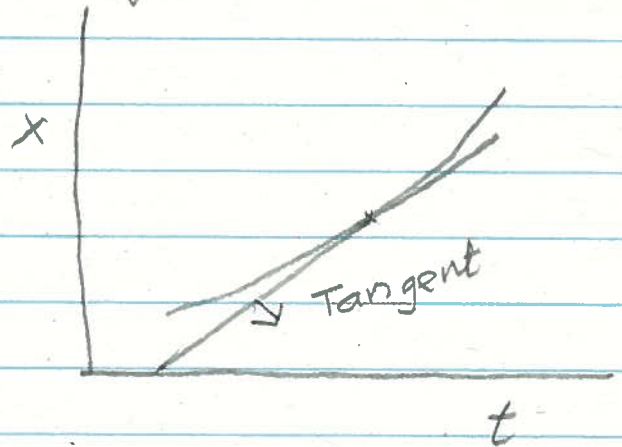
Instantaneous velocity vector measures rate of change of position with time when time interval goes to zero.

$$\Delta t \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Delta x \rightarrow 0$$

$$\vec{v} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta \vec{x}}{\Delta t}$$

slope of tangent to  $x$  vs  $t$  graph.



Average acceleration vector measures rate of change of velocity vector during a finite time interval

$$\langle \vec{a} \rangle = \frac{\vec{v}(t_2) - \vec{v}(t_1)}{(t_2 - t_1)}$$

slope of chord in  $v$  vs  $t$  graph.

Instantaneous acceleration vector measures rate of change of velocity vector when time interval goes to zero

$$\Delta t \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Delta \vec{v} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\vec{a} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t}$$

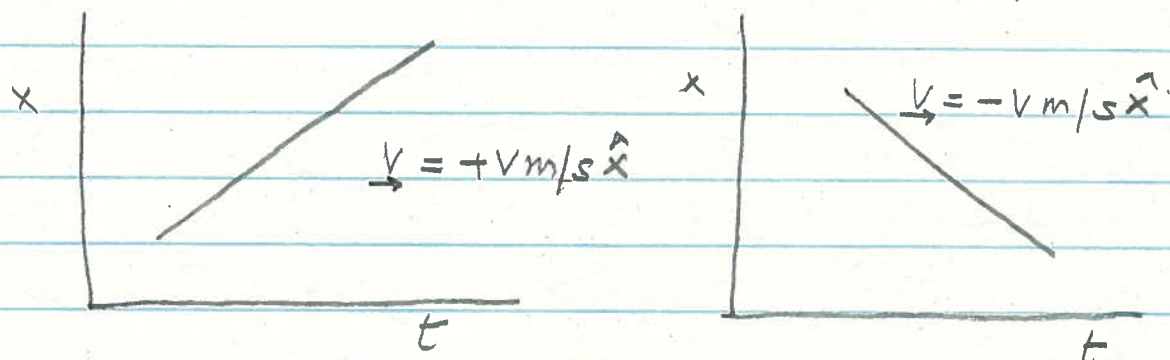
### UNIFORM MOTION

$$\vec{a} = 0$$

$$\vec{v} = v \hat{x} \text{ is constant}$$

3/10

In this case  $x$  vs  $t$  graphs will be straight lines whose slope is  $v$  m/s



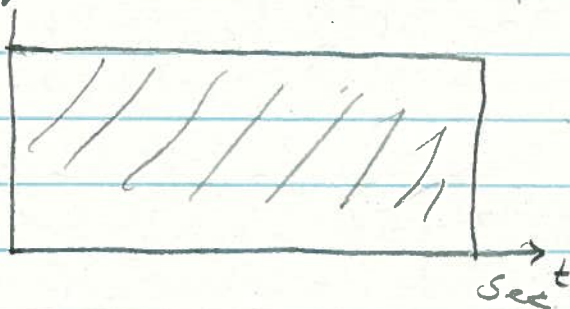
Since  $v$  measures change in  $x$  every second, a table of  $\Delta x$  vs  $t$  will look like

$t$ (sec)	$\Delta x$ (m)
0	0
1	$v$
2	$2v$
3	$3v$
4	$4v$

That is  $\Delta x$  is equal to area under  $v$  vs  $t$  graph

In  $t$  secs  
 $\Delta x = vt$

$v$   
(m/s)



To write down  $x$  at  $t$  secs, we must know where object was at  $t=0$

And get UNIFORM MOTION Eqn.

$$\vec{x}(t) = \vec{x}(0) + \vec{v}t = (x_i + vt)\hat{x} \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$

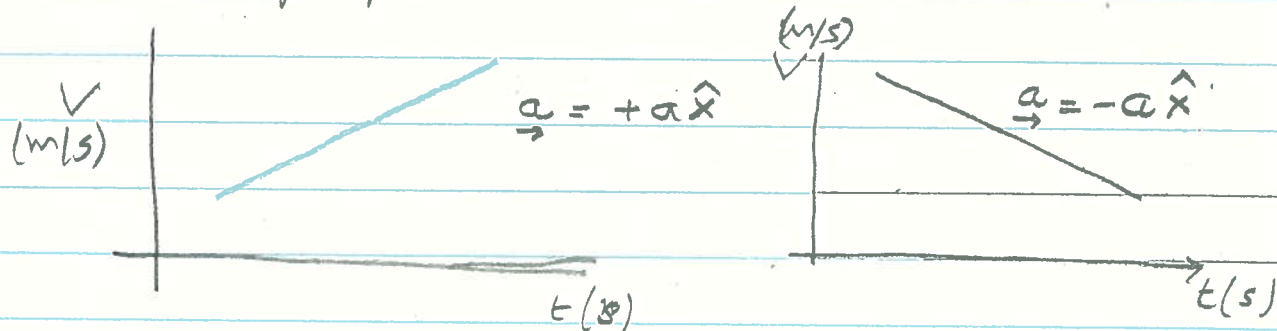
$x_i$  = initial position

So the rule is: To calculate  $\vec{x}(t)$  add the area under  $\vec{v}$  vs  $t$  graph to the value of  $\vec{x}$  at  $t=0$

Next: MOTION WITH CONSTANT ACCELERATION

$$\vec{a} = a\hat{x} \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

Now  $\vec{v}$  is NOT CONSTANT. Indeed, since  $a$  measures change of  $\vec{v}$  every second  $\vec{v}$  vs  $t$  graphs must look like



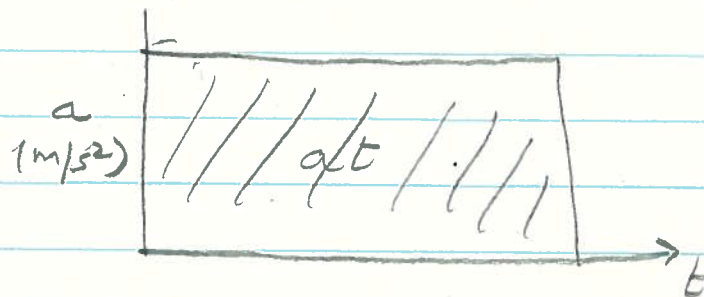
Now  $\vec{v}$  is changing by  $a$  m/s every second so table of  $\Delta v$  vs  $t$  must be

$t(s)$	$\Delta v (m/s)$
0	0
1	$a$
2	$2a$
3	$3a$
4	$4a$

Change of  $v$  during  $t$

secs is area under  $a$  vs

$t$  graph



And again to write  $\vec{v}$  at any time  $t$  we must know  $\vec{v}$  at  $t=0$  and write for constant acceleration

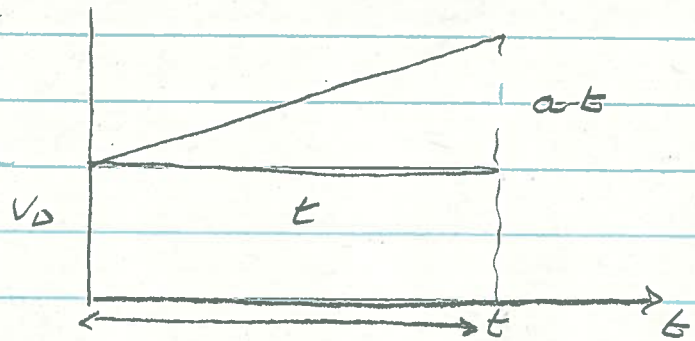
$$\vec{v}(t) = (v_i + at) \hat{x} \rightarrow (3)$$

$v_i \hat{x}$  is initial velocity.

I To calculate  $x$  as a function of  $t$  we can proceed in two ways:

Use the rule written under Eq (1). Draw graph of Eq (3).

Then change of  $x$  is area under  $v$  vs  $t$  graph



$$\Delta x = v_i t + \frac{1}{2} at^2$$

Hence  $\vec{x}(t) = (x_i + v_i t + \frac{1}{2} at^2) \hat{x} \rightarrow (4)$

II We can use (3) to calculate average velocity between 0 and  $t$  since  $v$  is increasing linearly with time

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

Displacement  $\Delta x = (v_i + \frac{at}{2}) t$

and again yields Eq (4)

TO Summarize the kinematic Eqs are

$$\vec{a} = a \hat{x} \quad (2)$$

$$\vec{v} = (v_i + at) \hat{x} \quad (3)$$

$$\vec{x} = (x_i + v_i t + \frac{1}{2} at^2) \hat{x} \quad (4)$$

Eqs (3) and (4) can be combined to yield a useful relation between magnitudes of  $v$  and  $x$

$$\text{From (3)} \quad t = \frac{v - v_i}{a}$$

Substitute in (4)

$$x = x_i + v_i \left( \frac{v - v_i}{a} \right) + \frac{1}{2} a \left( \frac{v - v_i}{a} \right)^2$$

$$= x_i + \frac{v^2 - v_i^2}{2a}$$

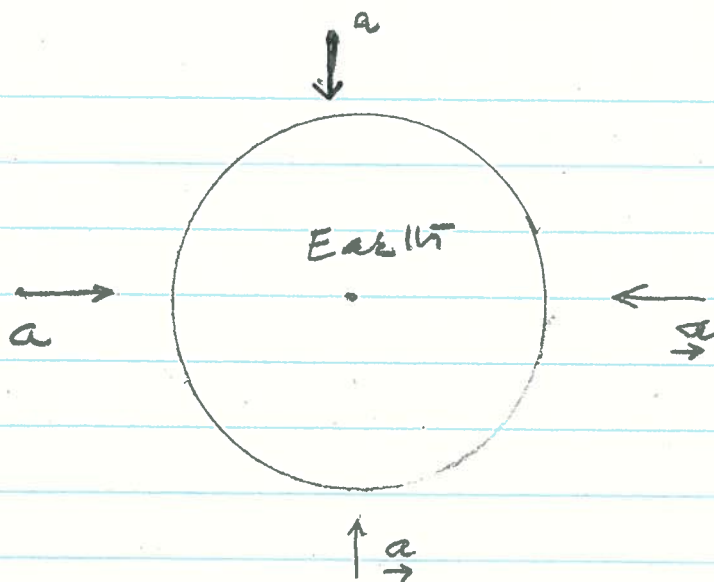
or

$$v^2 = v_i^2 + 2a(x - x_i) \rightarrow (5)$$

Eq (5) is useful when you know position and not time.

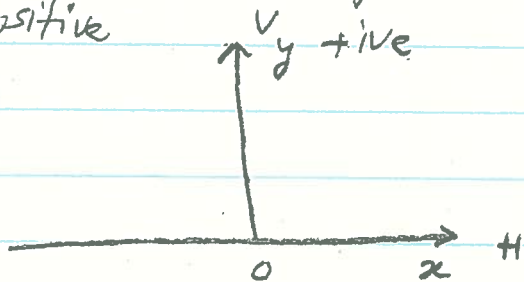
### FREE FALL

So, why are we so interested in discussing motion where  $\vec{a}$  is a constant? The reason is that near the surface of the Earth every unsupported object has a constant acceleration of about  $9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$  directed along the radius of the Earth and pointing toward the center. - acceleration due to gravity



Unsupported  
objects  
fall toward  
Earth -  
Free Fall.

Locally, we pretend that the Earth is flat, choose coordinate system where  $x$  is along horizontal,  $y$  along vertical with positive  $y$  up and therefore write that the acceleration due to gravity is



$$\vec{a} = -9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \hat{y} \quad - (6)$$

Now we can use Eqs. (3), (4) and (5) for motion along  $y$  and write

$$\vec{v} = (v_i - 9.8t) \hat{y} \quad - (7)$$

$$\vec{y} = (y_i + v_i t - 4.9t^2) \hat{y} \quad (8)$$

$$v^2 = v_i^2 - 19.6(y - y_i) \quad (9)$$

8/10

## Notes

1 It is very important to note that if you throw a ball straight up or straight down the only quantity you can control is its initial velocity. Once it leaves your hand the motion is controlled only by the Earth via Eqs (6) through (9). THE ACCELERATION IS THE SAME AT ALL TIMES DURING THE FLIGHT OF THE BALL

2 Eqs (6) through (9) apply for free fall on the moon or any other planet. The only difference is that the magnitude of  $a$  is not the same as it is on Earth. For instance, on the moon

$$a = -1.63 \text{ m/s}^2 \hat{y} \quad (\text{MOON})$$

## EXAMPLE

Let  $v = +v_0 \hat{y}$   $y_i = 0$  That is, at  $t=0$  an object is thrown straight up with a velocity of  $+v_0 \text{ m/s} \hat{y}$  starting from the ground ( $y_i = 0$ ). It will go up to some height, turn around and come back to ground according to Eqs (6) through (9). We can plot its acceleration, velocity and position as a function of time

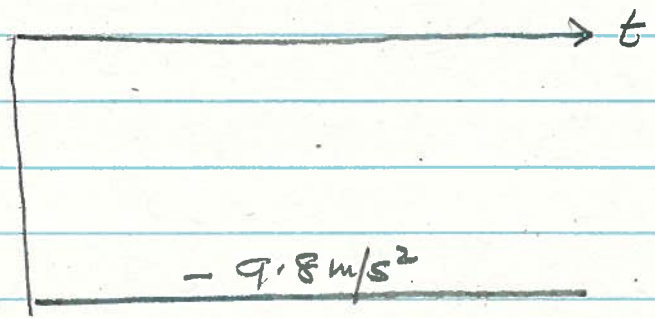


9/10

acceleration

Constant  
at all  
times.  
-ive sign  
means pointing  
down.

$a$   
( $m/s^2$ )



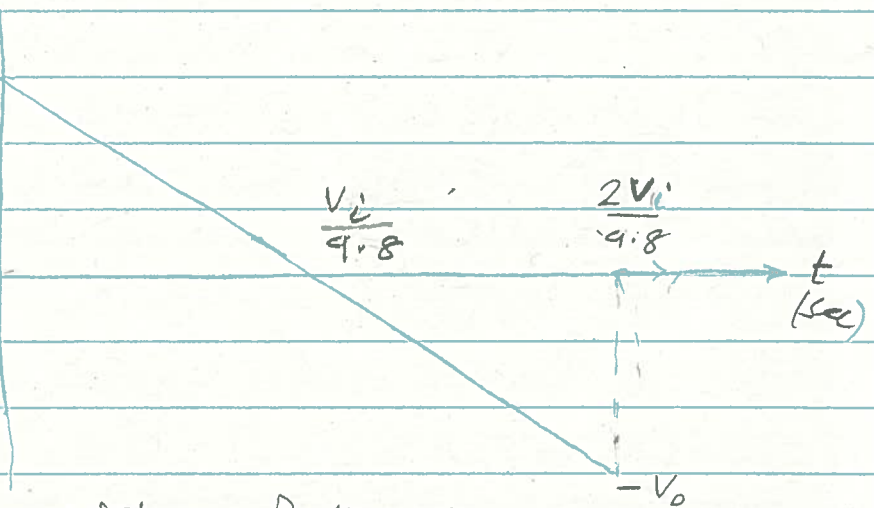
Velocity

Reaches  
highest  
point in  
 $\frac{v_i}{9.8}$  sec.

$v_i$   
( $m/s$ )

$\frac{v_i}{9.8}$

$\frac{2v_i}{9.8}$



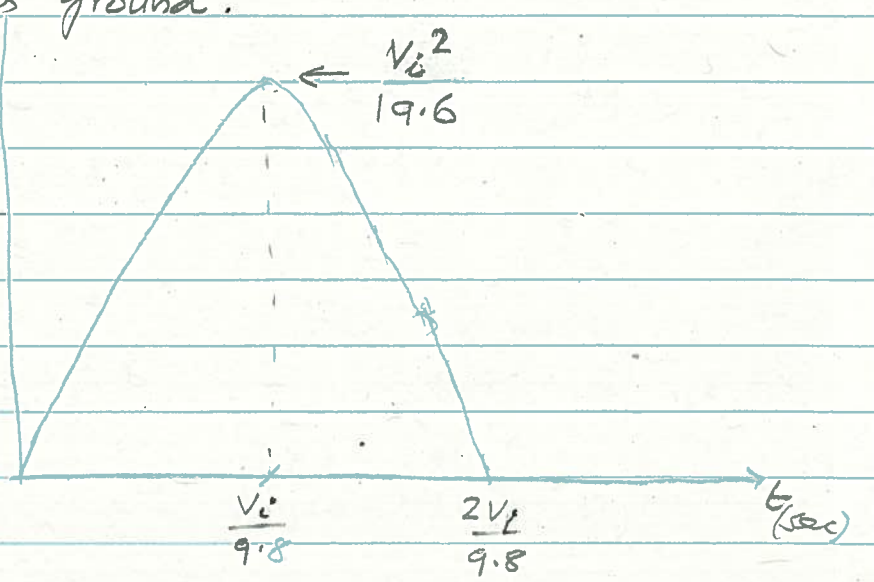
At that point, velocity  
is zero so it stops rising. Returns to  
Earth in  $\frac{2v_i}{9.8}$  sec. and has velocity  $-v_0 \hat{y}$   
just before it hits ground.

Position

At highest  
pt.  $v = 0$   
so from Eq. (1)  $y$   
 $y_{top} = \frac{v_i^2}{19.6}$

$y$   
( $m$ )

$\frac{v_i^2}{19.6}$



Combined flight picture