

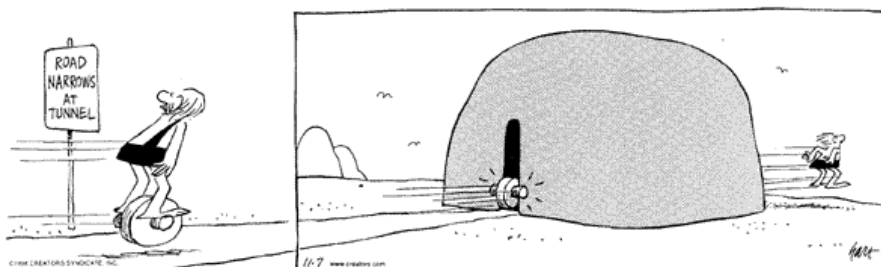
September 12, 2012

Physics 131

Prof. E. F. Redish

■ **Theme Music: Run Like an Antelope**  
*Phish*

■ **Cartoon: Johnny Hart**  
*BC*



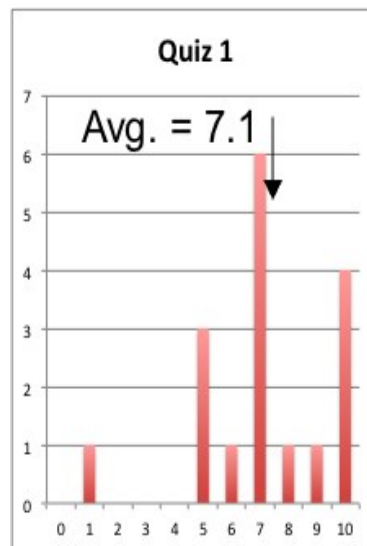
9/12/12

Physics 131

1

## Quiz 1

	1.1		1.2		1.3
a	0%	$mR/v^2$	35%	a	0%
b	29%	$mR/v$	6%	b	88%
c	0%	$mRv^2$	59%	c	0%
d	47%			d	0%
e	18%			e	12%
f	0%			f	0%
g	6%				
h	35%				



9/12/12

Physics 131

3

## MCAT and Multiple Representations

- **From the recent guide on the revisions taking place to the MCAT. Physical science skills to be tested include:**

### *MCAT Preview Guide*

#### **Skill 1: Knowledge of Scientific Concepts and Principles**

- Identifying the relationships between different representations of concepts (verbal, symbolic, graphic)
- Using mathematical equations to solve problems

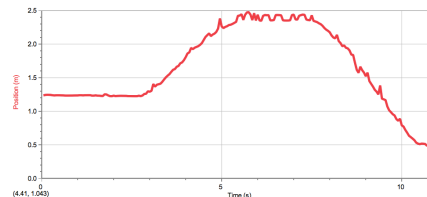
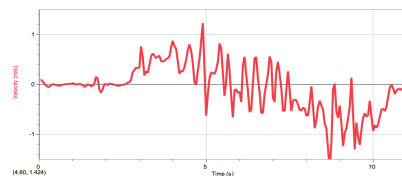
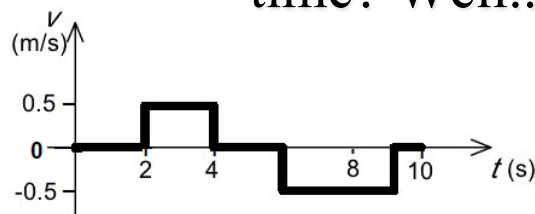
#### **Skill 2: Scientific Reasoning and Problem-solving**

- Determining and using scientific formulas to solve problems

#### **Skill 4: Data-based and Statistical Reasoning**

- Using, analyzing, and interpreting data in figures, graphs, and tables
- Evaluating whether representations make sense for particular scientific observations and data

## Average velocity as a function of time? Well... Yes!



## Foothold ideas: Velocity



- Average velocity is defined by

$$\langle \vec{v} \rangle = \frac{\Delta \vec{r}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\text{vector displacement}}{\text{time it took to do it}}$$

Note: an average velocity goes with a time interval.

- Instantaneous velocity is what we get when we consider a very small time interval (compared to times we care about)

$$\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$$

Note: an instantaneous velocity goes with a specific time.

9/10/12

Physics 131

8

## Foothold ideas: Acceleration



- Average acceleration is defined by

$$\langle \vec{a} \rangle = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\text{change in velocity}}{\text{time it took to do it}}$$

Note: an average acceleration goes with a time interval.

- Instantaneous acceleration is what we get when we consider a very small time interval (compared to times we care about)

$$\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$$

Note: an instantaneous acceleration goes with a specific time.

9/12/12

Physics 131

9

## Technical term alert!

- Note that in physics we use the term “**acceleration**” in a technically defined way:
  - “acceleration” = changing velocity
- The object may be speeding up or slowing down or keeping the same speed and changing direction. We still say “it is accelerating.”
- In common speech
  - “acceleration” = speeding up,
  - “deceleration” = slowing down, and
  - “turning” = changing direction.
- How many (physics) accelerators are there on your car?

9/10/12

Physics 131

10

## Uniformly changing motion

- If an object moves so that it changes its velocity by the same amount in each unit of time, we say it is in uniformly accelerated motion.
- This means the average acceleration will be the same no matter what interval of time we choose.

$$\langle \vec{a} \rangle = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} = \vec{a}_0$$

$$\Delta \vec{v} = \vec{a}_0 \Delta t$$

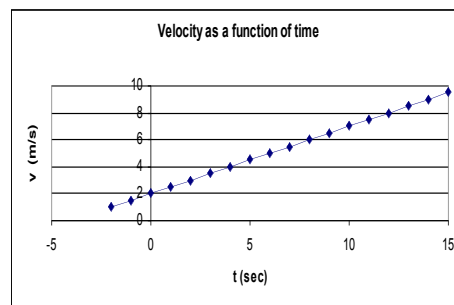
$$\vec{v}(t_2) - \vec{v}(t_1) = \vec{a}_0 \Delta t$$

$$\vec{v}_{final} = \vec{v}_{initial} + \vec{a}_0 \Delta t$$

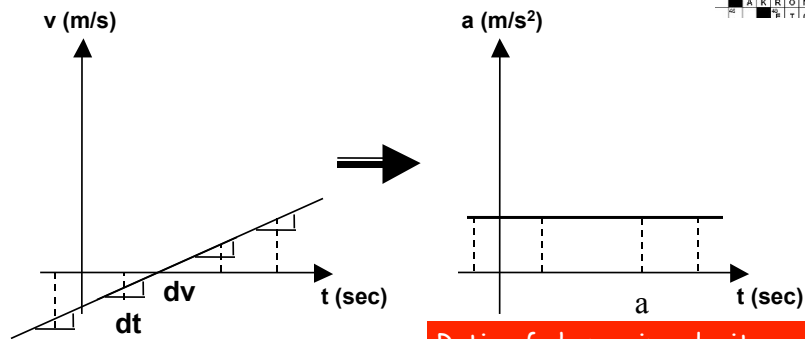
9/10/12

Physics 131

11



## Velocity to acceleration



$$a(t) = \frac{dv}{dt}$$

Ratio of change in velocity  
that takes place to the  
(small) time interval

Difference of two  
velocities at two  
(close) times

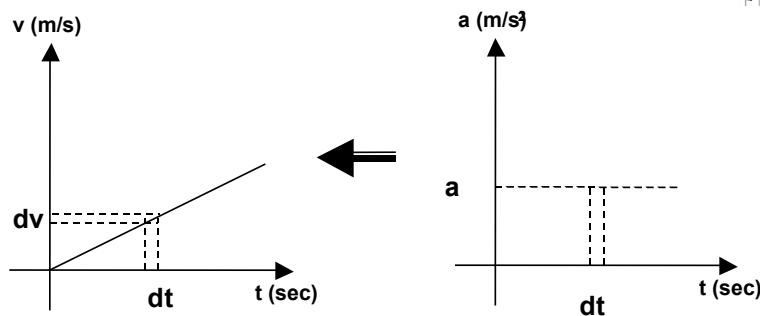
$$a(t) = \frac{v(t + \Delta t/2) - v(t - \Delta t/2)}{\Delta t}$$

9/10/12

Physics 131

12

## Acceleration to velocity



$$dv = a(t) dt$$

change in velocity over  
a small time interval

sum ("Σ") in the  
changes in velocity  
over many small  
time intervals

$$v = \sum dv = \int a(t) dt$$

Physics 131

13

## What have we learned?



- Position  $\hat{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$   
(where  $x$  and  $y$  are signed lengths)
- Velocity  $\langle \vec{v} \rangle = \frac{\Delta \vec{r}}{\Delta t}$        $\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$
- Acceleration  $\langle \vec{a} \rangle = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t}$        $\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$
- Seeing from the motion
- Seeing consistency (graphs & equations)

9/12/12

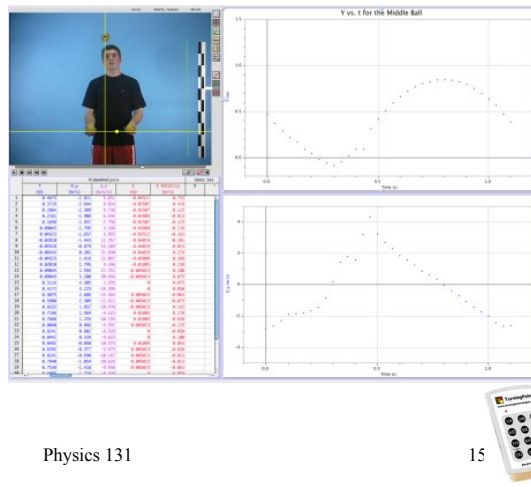
Physics 131

14

## Figuring out acceleration

- Look at the  $y$ - $t$ , and  $v_y$ - $t$  plots for a ball going up and down.
- Acceleration is the derivative of the velocity.  
How is the velocity changing?  
Why?

$$\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$$



9/12/12

Physics 131

15