Lecture 4: One-Dimensional Kinematics

Physics for Engineers & Scientists (Giancoli): Chapter 2 University Physics VI (Openstax): Chapter 3

Example: (a) What is the magnitude of the average acceleration of a skier who, starting from rest, reaches a speed of 8.0m/s when going down a slope for 5.0s (b) How far does the skier travel in this time?

- Part A
 - Draw a diagram.
 - Set reference frame.



- Extract data: $x_0 = 0$ a=? $v_0 = 0$ v = 8.0 m/s t = 5.0s
- Determine formula: "x" is missing $\Rightarrow v = v_0 + at$

$$v = y_0^0 + at = at$$
 $a = \frac{v}{t} = \frac{8.0 \frac{m}{s}}{5.0 \text{ s}} = 1.6 \frac{m}{s^2}$

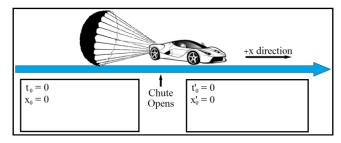
- Do the math:
- Part B
 - Determine formula: Any formula with "x" will do \Rightarrow $x = x_0 + \frac{1}{2}(v + v_0)t$

$$x = y_0^0 + \frac{1}{2}(v + y_0^0)t = \frac{1}{2}vt = \frac{1}{2}(8.0 \frac{m}{s})(5.0 s) = 20. m$$

• Do the math:

Example: A drag racer, starting from rest, speeds up for 402 m with acceleration of +17.0 m/s². A parachute then opens, slowing the car down with an acceleration of -6.10 m/s². How fast is the racer moving 350 m after the chute opens?

- Draw a diagram.
- Set reference frame.
 - We have an object where the acceleration changes from once constant value to another.
 - This requires two sets of equations, one before the chute opens and one after.
 - Essentially this is like working two separate problems.
 - We can use two separate reference frames, S = (x,t) for before the chute opens and S' = (x', t') for after.



- Extract data : $x_0 = 0$ $v_0 = 0$ x = 402 m a = 17.0 m/s² $x'_0 = 0$ a' = -6.10 m/s² x' = 350 m v' = ?
- Determine formulas
 - 2^{nd} half with open chute: t' is missing $\Rightarrow v'^2 = v'_0^2 + 2a'(x' x'_0)$
 - We have a', x' and x'₀, but we don't have v'₀.
 - v'_0 (the initial velocity after the chute opens) is the same as v, the final velocity before the chute opens. So we need to find v (or actually v^2).
 - 2^{nd} half with no chute: t is missing $\Rightarrow v^2 = v_0^2 + 2a(x x_0)$
- Do the math:

$$v^2 = y_0^2 + 2a(x - y_0^0) = 2ax = 2(17.0 \frac{m}{s^2})(402 m) = 13,668 \frac{m^2}{s^2}$$

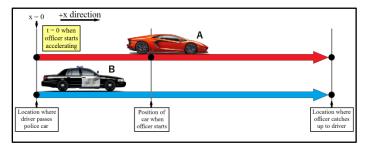
$$v = \sqrt{13,668 \frac{m^2}{s^2}} = 116.92 \frac{m}{s}$$

$$v'^{2} = v'_{0}^{2} + 2a'(x' - x'_{0}^{2}) = v'_{0}^{2} + 2a'x' = 13,668 \frac{m^{2}}{s^{2}} + 2(-6.10 \frac{m}{s^{2}})(350 m) = 9,398 \frac{m^{2}}{s^{2}}$$

$$v' = \sqrt{9,398 \frac{m^2}{s^2}} = 97 \frac{m}{s}$$

Example: A driver of a speeding car travelling down a deserted road passes a hidden police car. The driver is moving at a constant speed of 89.5 mph (40.0 m/s) when he passes the police officer. It takes the officer 5.00 seconds to begin pursuit. Once he gives chase he accelerates at a uniform 7.50 m/s². What distance does the officer go before he catches the car?

- Draw a diagram. There are three important reference points.
 - 1) The location where the speeding car passes the police car.
 - 2) The location of the speeding car when the police car begins to give chase.
 - 3) The location when the police car catches up to the speeding car.
- Set reference frame.
 - x = 0 is best set at the location where the speeding car passes the police car with the positive x-axis pointing in the direction of motion.
 - There are two reasonable options for t = 0.
 - 1) When the speeding car passes the police car.
 - With this option you must account for the delay of the police car by calculating an artificial x_0 and v_0 that will place him at rest at the origin at t = 5.00s.
 - To get v_0 : Set v = 0, $a = 7.50 \text{ m/s}^2$, and $t = 5.00 \text{ s in } v = v_0 + \text{at}$
 - To get x_0 : Set x = 0, $a = 7.50 \text{ m/s}^2$, t = 5.00, and v_0 in $x = x_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$
 - 2) When the police car begins to accelerate.
 - With this option you must calculate the position of the car at t=0, which is rather straight forward.



- Extract data
 - Police car: $x_{B0} = 0$ $v_{B0} = 0$ $a_B = 7.50 \text{ m/s}^2$
 - Speeding car: $x_{A0} = ?$ $v_{A0} = 40.0 \text{ m/s}$ $a_A = 0$
- Determine formulas
 - To catch up means to be at the same place (x) at the same time (t). Need an equation with both x and t in them. As both accelerations are known, use the equation with x, a, and t (having no v) $\Rightarrow x = x_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} at^2$
 - Need two versions. One for each vehicle.
 - $x_A = x_{A0} + v_{A0}t + \frac{1}{2}a_At^2 = x_{A0} + v_{A0}t$
 - $x_B = x_{B0} + v_{B0}t + \frac{1}{2}a_Bt^2 = \frac{1}{2}a_Bt^2$
 - We also need to determine x_{A0} , which is the distance a car travelling at a constant 40.0 m/s covers in 5.00 s. ($x_{A0} = v_{A0} \cdot \Delta t$)
 - When the police car catches up: $x_A = x_B$
- Do the math:
 - Determine x_{A0} : $x_{A0} = v_{A0} \cdot \Delta t = \left(40.0 \frac{m}{s}\right) (5.00 \text{ s}) = 200. \text{ m}$
 - Set the distances equal to each other: $x_A = x_B$
 - Plug in formulas for each vehicle and solve for t: $x_{A0} + v_{A0}t = \frac{1}{2}a_Bt^2$

$$\begin{split} \frac{1}{2}a_{B}t^{2} - v_{A0}t - x_{A0} &= 0\\ \frac{1}{2}\left(7.50\frac{m}{s^{2}}\right)t^{2} - \left(40.0\frac{m}{s}\right)t - (200.m) &= 0\\ \left(3.75\frac{m}{s^{2}}\right)t^{2} - \left(40.0\frac{m}{s}\right)t - (200.m) &= 0 \end{split}$$

• Quadratic equation is needed:

$$t = \frac{-B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}}{2A}$$

$$t = \frac{\left(40.0\frac{m}{s}\right) \pm \sqrt{\left(-40.0\frac{m}{s}\right)^2 - 4\left(3.75\frac{m}{s^2}\right)\left(-200.m\right)}}{2\left(3.75\frac{m}{s^2}\right)}$$

$$t = \frac{40.0 \frac{m}{s} \pm \sqrt{1600 \frac{m^2}{s^2} + 3000 \frac{m^2}{s^2}}}{7.50 \frac{m}{s^2}} = \frac{40.0 \frac{m}{s} \pm \sqrt{4600 \frac{m^2}{s^2}}}{7.50 \frac{m}{s^2}} = \frac{40.0 \frac{m}{s} \pm 67.823 \frac{m}{s}}{7.50 \frac{m}{s^2}}$$

• Two roots, one from positive sign (t_1) and one from negative sign (t_2)

$$t_1 = \frac{40.0 \frac{m}{s} + 67.823 \frac{m}{s}}{7.50 \frac{m}{s^2}} = \frac{107.823 \frac{m}{s}}{7.50 \frac{m}{s^2}} = 14.376 s$$

$$t_2 = \frac{40.0\frac{m}{s} - 67.823\frac{m}{s}}{7.50\frac{m}{s^2}} = \frac{-27.823\frac{m}{s}}{7.50\frac{m}{s^2}} = -3.710 s$$

The negative value of time is an extraneous root and can be ignored.

• Plug t₁ back into distance formulas to determine the answer.

Plugging into both provides an additional check.

$$x_A = x_{A0} + v_{A0}t = (200 \text{ m}) + \left(40.0 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right)(14.376 \text{ s}) = 775 \text{ m}$$

 $x_B = \frac{1}{2}a_Bt^2 = \frac{1}{2}\left(7.50 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right)(14.376 \text{ s})^2 = 775 \text{ m}$

Freely Falling Bodies

- In the absence of air resistance, all objects at (or near) the surface of the Earth accelerate downward at the same rate when released. $|a| = g = 9.80 \text{ m/s}^2$
 - g is positive and is sometimes used as a measure of acceleration.

Air force pilots must be able of withstanding a "g-force" of $9g = (9)(9.80 \text{ m/s}^2) = 88.2 \text{ m/s}^2$

Example: How long does it take a bowling ball to fall from rest at a height of 10.0 m?

- We'll skip the diagram.
- Set reference frame: Ball dropped at t=0, ground level at y=0, +y-axis pointing up.
- Extract data: $v_0 = 0$ $y_0 = 10.0 \text{ m}$ y = 0 $a = -9.80 \text{ m/s}^2$ t = ?
- Determine formula: v is missing $\Rightarrow x = x_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$
- Do the math:

$$x = x_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2}at^2 \qquad 0 = x_0 + \frac{1}{2}at^2 \qquad 0 = x_0 - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \qquad \frac{1}{2}gt^2 = x_0$$
$$gt^2 = 2x_0 \qquad t^2 = \frac{2x_0}{g} \qquad t = \sqrt{\frac{2x_0}{g}} = \sqrt{\frac{2(10.0 \text{ m})}{9.80 \frac{m}{s^2}}} = 1.43 \text{ s}$$

Would a feather fall at the same rate? What if it was in a vacuum with no air resistance? In a vacuum with no air resistance, everything falls at the same rate!