

See S&amp;J 2.1-2.6, 3.1-3.4, 4.1-4.6

See Physclips Chs 2&amp;3 and support pages

*Is this straightforward, or are there subtleties?*

Measure lengths to get (relative) positions

Measure durations to get (relative) times

How?

At first, we use rulers and repeated cycles for space and time. First we count ratios, then indirect methods

But what *are* time and space? Here are some subtleties:*What happens when we move the clocks and rulers around? Does this change them?**If we use 'identical' ones? How do we calibrate them?**Can you (always) give an object a position or an event a time? Can you do so more than once?**Can you make continuous measurements? What is a point? A particle?***Kinematics** We shall go very quickly over some bits as they are assumed knowledge\***Motion with constant acceleration**

$$a_y = \text{constant} \quad a_y = \frac{dv_y}{dt} \quad \text{the *definition of acceleration*, so, by integrating,$$

$$v_y = \int a_y dt \quad \text{subscript } y \text{ for } y \text{ direction}$$

$$= a_y t + \text{const} \quad \text{what is the constant? Use the initial state: at } t=0, v_y = v_{y0}$$

$$v_y = v_{y0} + a_y t \quad \text{(i) common convention: use subscript 0 for } t=0$$

$$y = \int v_y dt \quad \text{again, using the definition } v_y = \frac{dy}{dt} \text{ . Substitute (i) gives:}$$

$$= \int v_{y0} + a_y t \quad \text{and integration gives}$$

$$= v_{y0}t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2 + \text{constant} \quad \text{again, use the initial state at } t=0$$

$$y = y_0 + v_{y0}t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2. \quad \text{(ii)}$$

Definition of constant acceleration and rearrange:  $t = (v - v_0)/a_y$ 

$$\text{ii) gives } y - y_0 = v_{y0}t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2 \quad \text{substitute from } t = (v_y - v_{y0})/a_y$$

$$a_y(y - y_0) = v_{y0}(v_y - v_{y0}) + \frac{1}{2} (v_y - v_{y0})^2$$

$$2a_y(y - y_0) = v_y^2 - v_{y0}^2 \quad \text{(iii)}$$

$$\text{You may also remember these as } v = u + at \text{ (i) } \quad \Delta s = ut + \frac{1}{2} at^2 \text{ (ii) } \quad v^2 - u^2 = 2as \text{ (iii)}$$

*However, we shall be looking at motion in both x and y directions so you will need subscripts*

\* What if this is not clear to you? See

the kinematics chapter in the text in Serway &amp; Jewett

Constant Acceleration, a multimedia chapter in Physclips

See also Calculus, a supporting page in Physclips

[www.animations.physics.unsw.edu.au](http://www.animations.physics.unsw.edu.au)

**Example.** Joe runs at constant speed  $6 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  towards a stationary bus. When he is 30 m from it, the bus accelerates away at  $2 \text{ m.s}^{-2}$ . Can he overtake it?

- " Joe runs at constant speed  $6 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ "  $\rightarrow v_J = 6 \text{ ms}^{-1}, a_J = 0$
- " stationary bus " & " accelerates away at  $2 \text{ m.s}^{-2}$ "  $\rightarrow v_{b0} = 0, a_b = 2 \text{ m.s}^{-2}$
- " When he is 30 m from it "  $\rightarrow x_{b0} - x_{J0} = 30 \text{ m}$
- " Can he overtake it?"  $\rightarrow$  Does  $x_J = x_b$  at any t?

$$x_b = x_{b0} + v_{b0}t + \frac{1}{2} a_b t^2$$

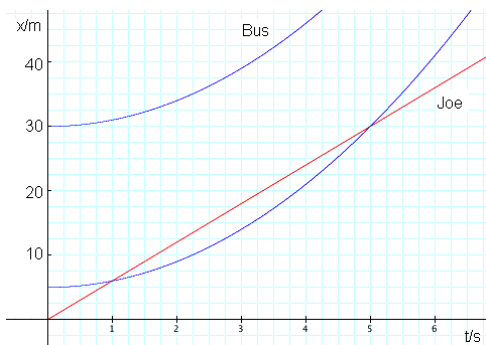
(i) (the pale terms are zero, but I thought about them!)

$$x_J = x_{J0} + v_{J0}t + \frac{1}{2} a_J t^2$$

(ii) it's easiest to remember the general form and lose terms

Eliminate  $x_{J0}$  by choice of origin,  $x_{b0} = 30 \text{ m}$

Draw a diagram or two. Which of the following graphs is correct?



In kinematics, displacement time graphs are useful!

What does overtake mean? How to write it mathematically?

$$x_b = x_J \quad \text{substitute from (i) and (ii) gives:}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} a_b t^2 - v_{J0}t + x_{b0} = 0$$

Recall quadratic: solutions are  $\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$  so

$$t = \frac{v_{J0} \pm \sqrt{v_{J0}^2 - 2a_b x_{b0}}}{a_b}$$

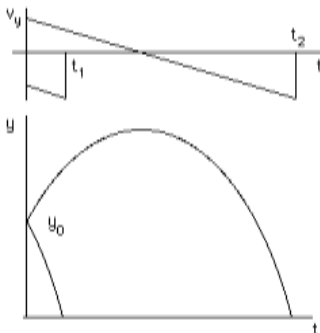
are the units correct?

Put in numbers  $\sqrt{\quad} = \sqrt{6^2 - 2 * 2 * 30} \text{ ms}^{-1} \rightarrow \sqrt{-ve} \therefore$  no (real) solutions,  $\therefore$  no overtaking.

what would the imaginary solutions mean?

**Example.** Ball 1 thrown vertically up at  $5 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  from 20 m above ground. Simultaneously, ball 2 thrown vertically down at  $5 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  from 20 m above ground. What are their speeds when they hit the ground, and what is the time interval between collisions?

We are given:  $v_{o1} = 5 \text{ ms}^{-1}$   $v_{o2} = -5 \text{ ms}^{-1}$   $y_o = 20 \text{ m}$

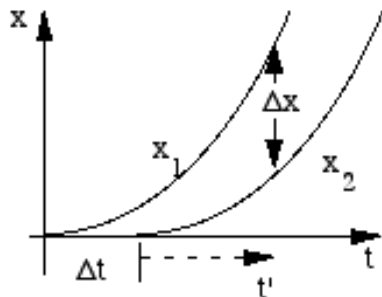


Translate the question:

When  $y = 0$ ,  $t = ?$  Use (ii) to get  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ . Use (i) to get  $v_{y1}$  and  $v_{y2}$ .

### How much do you lose if you miss the starter's gun?

Two runners at different times ( $\Delta t$  apart). During the (constant) acceleration phase, when are they a distance  $\Delta x$  apart ?



$$x_1 = \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

$$x_2 = \frac{1}{2}a(t')^2$$

$$t' = t - \Delta t$$

$$x_1 - x_2 = \frac{1}{2}at^2 - \frac{1}{2}a(t - \Delta t)^2$$

Solve this for t:  $x_1 - x_2 = (a\Delta t)t - \frac{1}{2}a(\Delta t)^2$

$$t = (x_1 - x_2 + \frac{1}{2}a(\Delta t)^2)/a\Delta t$$

**A trickier but real example.** Over a marked kilometre, on a flat track with no wind, solar car *sUNSWift* slows from  $v_0 = 70$  k.p.h. to  $v = 50$  k.p.h. Assume that  $a = -kv^2$  (turbulent drag only). What is  $k$ ?

Given  $x (= 1 \text{ km})$ ,  $v_0$ ,  $v$ , need  $k$ . Must relate these. Must eliminate  $a$ . Must introduce  $x$ .

$$a = -kv^2 \quad \text{and by definition} \quad a = \frac{dv}{dt} \quad \text{so}$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -kv^2 \quad \text{But this has } t. \quad \text{Can eliminate } dt \text{ using } dx = vdt. \quad \text{Multiply both sides by } dt:$$

$$dv = -kv \cdot (vdt) = -kv \cdot dx$$

Separate variables (i.e. get  $v$  on one side,  $x$  on the other):

$$\text{so } \frac{dv}{v} = -k \cdot dx$$

Finally  $v$  and  $x$ ! Nearly there.

Remember that  $\frac{d(\ln y)}{dy} = \frac{1}{y}$  so  $\frac{dv}{v} = d(\ln v)$

*Physclips has an introduction to calculus*

$$d(\ln v) = -k dx$$

*finally it looks easy: just integrate both sides!*

$$\ln v = -\int k dx = -kx + \text{const}$$

*What constant? Once again, use initial conditions*

$$\text{at } x = 0, \quad v = v_0$$

$$\ln v_0 = -kx + \text{const} = -k \cdot 0 + \text{const}$$

*subtract these and remember  $\ln(a/b) = \ln a - \ln b$*

$$\ln v - \ln v_0 = \ln \frac{v}{v_0} = -kx$$

$$\text{so } k = -\ln(v/v_0)/x$$

(It's also interesting that  $v = v_0 e^{-kx}$ )

*Physclips does this and more in detail*

[www.animations.physics.unsw.edu.au/jw/car-physics.htm](http://www.animations.physics.unsw.edu.au/jw/car-physics.htm)

## Vectors

have direction and magnitude

e.g. displacement, velocity, acceleration, force, spin, electric field are all vectors

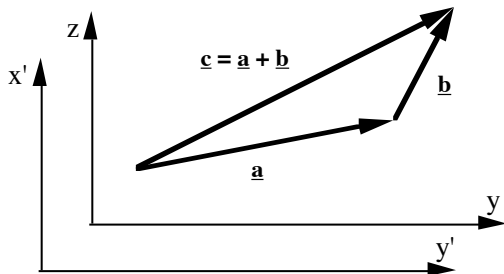
displacement = 2 m towards door; wind velocity is  $3.7 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  at  $31^\circ$  E. of N., acceleration is

$-9.8 \text{ ms}^{-2}$  up, Force is 4 N in +ve x direction etc

(cf Scalars: mass, length, heat, temperature..., which also have magnitude, but no direction)

Notation: **a** in most texts  
 $\underline{a}$  when hand writing  
 $\underline{\underline{a}}$  in my notes, to combine the above  
 $\vec{a}$  in Halliday, Resnick and Walker

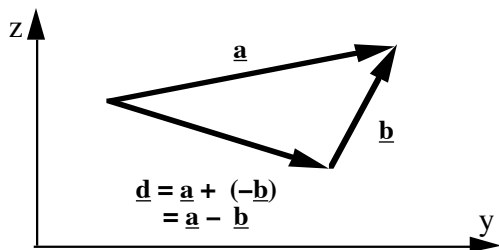
## Addition



put them head to tail to add.

Does  $\underline{\underline{a}} + \underline{\underline{b}} = \underline{\underline{b}} + \underline{\underline{a}}$  ?

## Subtraction



Think:  $(\underline{\underline{a}} - \underline{\underline{b}})$  is what I have to add  $\underline{\underline{b}}$  to in order to get  $\underline{\underline{a}}$ .

to subtract, rewrite the equation:

$$\underline{\underline{a}} - \underline{\underline{b}} = \underline{\underline{a}} + (-\underline{\underline{b}})$$

or  $\underline{\underline{a}} - \underline{\underline{b}} = \underline{\underline{d}} \rightarrow \underline{\underline{a}} = \underline{\underline{d}} + \underline{\underline{b}}$

*head to head to subtract vectors*

See Vectors, a supporting page in Physclips

Consider the displacement 2 m North

*Consider adding 2 m North and 2 m East*

What sort of quantity is 2 m North ?

What does 2 m mean? What does North mean?

Should/could I write 2 m **North** ?

**How big is North?**

magnitude direction

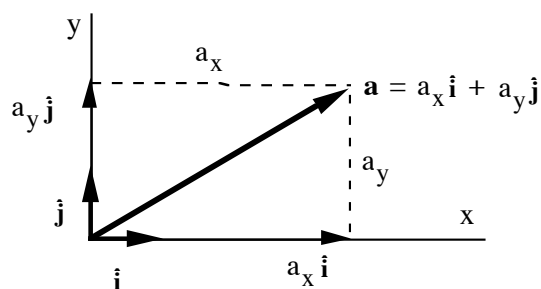
(2 m) distance (in the direction of North)

We have a word for "in the direction of North" (It's just "North").

Wouldn't it be useful to have a shorthand for "in the positive x direction"?

So let's introduce

## Vector components and unit vectors



$$a_x = a \cos \theta, \quad a_y = a \sin \theta$$

$a_x$  is the **component** of  $\underline{a}$  in the x direction – it is a *scalar*

$\hat{i}$  is **unit vector**: magnitude of 1 in x direction.  $\hat{i}$  means "in the positive x direction"

$\underline{a} = a_x \hat{i} + a_y \hat{j}$  *i.e. means  $a_x$  in the positive x direction plus  $a_y$  in the positive y direction*

$$a = \sqrt{a_x^2 + a_y^2} \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{a_y}{a_x} \quad \text{so we can convert back to magnitude and direction}$$

## Addition by components

$$\underline{c} = \underline{a} + \underline{b} = (a_x \hat{i} + a_y \hat{j}) + (b_x \hat{i} + b_y \hat{j})$$

$$c_x \hat{i} + c_y \hat{j} = (a_x + b_x) \hat{i} + (a_y + b_y) \hat{j}$$

$$c_x = a_x + b_x \quad \text{and} \quad c_y = a_y + b_y$$

*so we have two scalar equations from one vector one*

vector eqn in n dimensions  $\rightarrow$  n independent algebraic eqns.

$$\text{important case: } \underline{0} = 0 \hat{i} + 0 \hat{j}$$

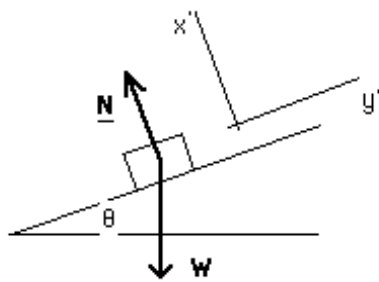
$\therefore$  if  $\underline{a} + \underline{b} = \underline{0}$ ,  $\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{e.g. mechanical} \\ \text{equilibrium} \end{array} \right)$  *more on this later in Newton's laws.*

$$a_x + b_x = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad a_y + b_y = 0$$

**Resolving vectors** is often useful.

*more on this later in Newton's laws*

Choose convenient axes:



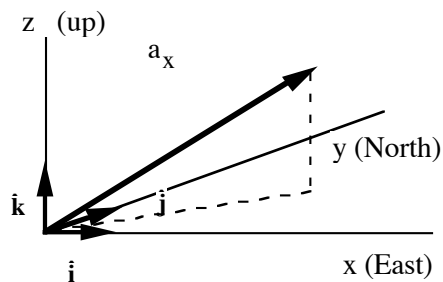
Component of  $\underline{W}$  in direction of plane =  $-W \sin \theta$

$$\text{Total force in } y' \text{ direction} = -W \sin \theta \quad \left( = m \frac{d^2 y'}{dt^2} \right)$$

Newton's second law requires that components in normal direction add to zero:

$$N - W \cos \theta = 0$$

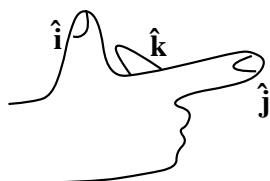
### In three dimensions:



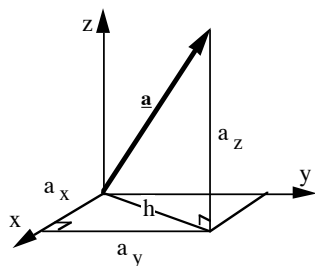
$$\underline{\mathbf{r}} = r_x \hat{\mathbf{i}} + r_y \hat{\mathbf{j}} + r_z \hat{\mathbf{k}} \quad (\text{sometimes just } \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k})$$

right hand convention:

$\hat{\mathbf{i}}$        $\hat{\mathbf{j}}$        $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$       in dir<sup>n</sup> of  
thumb   index   middle   fingers of right hand



### Pythagoras' theorem in three dimensions



What is magnitude of  $\underline{\mathbf{a}}$ ?

Hypotenuse  $h$ :

$$h^2 = a_x^2 + a_y^2.$$

Now look at triangle  $h, a_z, a$ :

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 &= h^2 + a_z^2 \\ &= a_x^2 + a_y^2 + a_z^2. \end{aligned}$$

$$a = \sqrt{a_x^2 + a_y^2 + a_z^2}$$

*Not in our syllabus, but, for your interest, in four dimensions:*

we write  $j = \sqrt{-1}$  and use  $c$  as the natural unit of velocity.

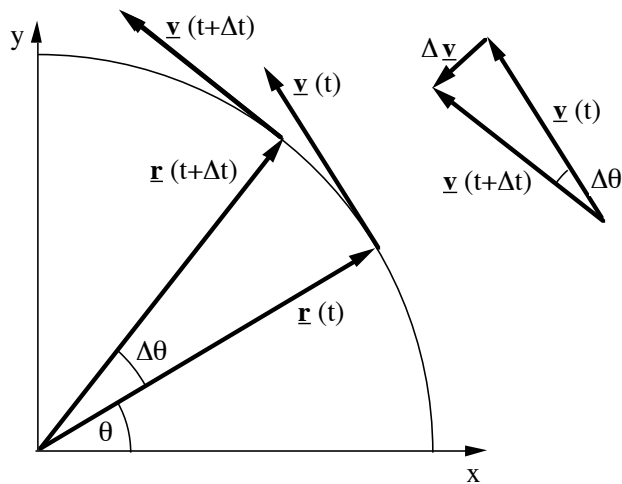
Two events at  $(e_{x1}, e_{y1}, e_{z1}, jct_1)$  and  $(e_{x2}, e_{y2}, e_{z2}, jct_2)$

are separated by  $\sqrt{(e_{x2}-e_{x1})^2 + (e_{y2}-e_{y1})^2 + (e_{z2}-e_{z1})^2 - (ct_2-ct_1)^2}$

## Uniform circular motion

Write  $\theta = \omega t$ . where  $\omega = \text{constant}$

$\omega$  is the **angular velocity**



As  $\Delta t$  and  $\Delta\theta \rightarrow 0$ , triangles are very narrow so  $\Delta\mathbf{v} \rightarrow$  right angles to  $\mathbf{v}$

$\therefore \mathbf{a} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\Delta\mathbf{v}}{\Delta t} \right)$  From the triangle, we see it is parallel to  $-\mathbf{r}$ , i.e. towards centre. We call it centripetal acceleration (and centripetal acceleration =  $-1 \times$  radial acceleration). We need magnitudes, so

$$\Delta s = r\Delta\theta \quad \text{definition of angle}$$

$$v = \frac{ds}{dt} \quad \text{definition of speed}$$

$$= r \frac{d\theta}{dt} = r\omega \quad \text{Use arc} \approx \text{straight line of triangle, here for } \Delta\mathbf{v} :$$

$$|\Delta\mathbf{v}| \approx |v\Delta\theta| \quad (\text{Interesting: notice that } |\Delta\mathbf{v}| \neq \Delta|\mathbf{v}|)$$

$$\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} |\Delta\mathbf{v}| = |v d\theta|$$

$$|\mathbf{a}| = \frac{|d\mathbf{v}|}{dt}$$

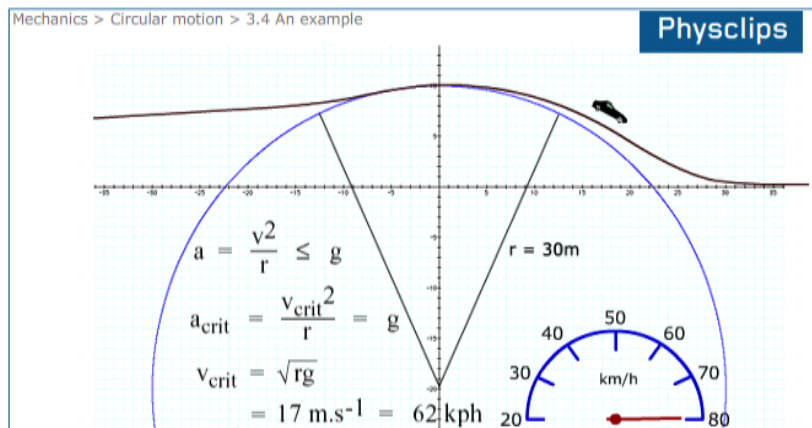
$$= v \frac{d\theta}{dt} = v\omega$$

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r} = \omega^2 r \quad \text{but } \mathbf{a} \parallel -\mathbf{r}$$

$$\text{so } \mathbf{a} = -\omega^2 \mathbf{r}$$

**Example.** Car travelling at  $v$  goes over hill with vertical radius  $r = 30\text{ m}$  ( $\gg$  height of car) at summit. It doesn't slow down. How high must  $v$  be for the car to lose contact with the ground at the summit?

*The only force pulling the car down is gravity, so the downwards acceleration cannot be greater than  $g$ . So the centripetal acceleration must be less than or equal to  $g$  (or equal to  $g$  for the critical value).*



This example on Physclips



**Example**

What is the acceleration of this theatre?

Due to rotation of the Earth:

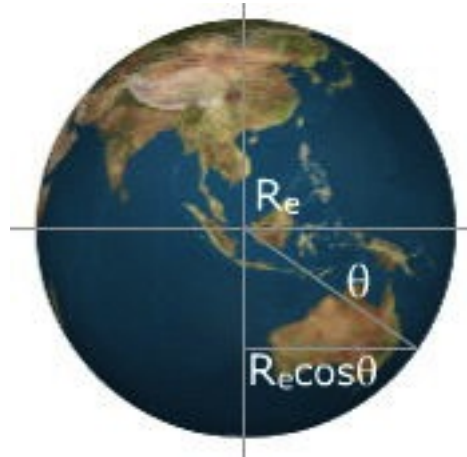
$$a_{\text{rot}} = \omega^2 r$$

$$= \left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)^2 r$$

( $T_{\text{Earth}} \sim 24\text{hrs}$ ,  $r_{\text{Sydney to Earth's axis}} \sim 5300\text{ km}$ )

$$= \left(\frac{2\pi}{23.9 \times 3600\text{ s}}\right)^2 (5.3 \times 10^6\text{ m})$$

$$= 28\text{ mm.s}^{-2}$$



Due to Earth's orbit around the sun:

$$a_{\text{orb}} = \left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)^2 r \quad (T_{\text{orbit}}, r_{\text{orbit}})$$

$$= \left(\frac{2\pi}{365.24 \times 24 \times 3600\text{ s}}\right)^2 (1.5 \times 10^{11}\text{ m})$$

$$= 6\text{ mm.s}^{-2} \quad \text{So, even though the earth moves rapidly, we cannot feel this motion: it's a tiny acceleration}$$

Due to Sun's orbit around the centre of the galaxy:

$$r \sim 2 \times 10^{20}\text{ m}, T \sim 10^{16}\text{ s}$$

$$a_{\text{galactic}} \sim 0.1\text{ nm.s}^{-2}$$

**Example**

$$\mathbf{r} = (A \cdot \sin \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{i}} + (A \cdot \cos \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{j}} + (Bt) \hat{\mathbf{k}}$$

where A and B are constants.

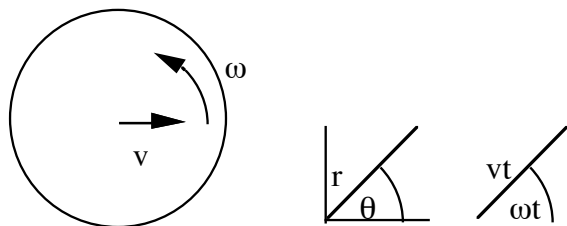
What shape is  $\mathbf{r}$  ? What is  $\mathbf{a}$  ?

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \mathbf{r} = -(A\omega^2 \cdot \sin \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{i}} - (A\omega^2 \cdot \cos \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{j}}$$

so  $\mathbf{a}$  is in xy plane and

$$a = \sqrt{a_x^2 + a_y^2} = \dots = A\omega^2 = \text{constant} \quad (\text{but direction is always changing})$$

**Example** A cockroach on a turntable crawls in the radial direction (initially the x direction) at speed  $v$ . The turntable rotates at  $\omega$  anticlockwise. Describe his path in  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}$  coordinates.



We can specify his position with the coordinates  $(r, \theta)$ , where  $r = vt$ , and  $\theta = \omega t$ .

$$x = r \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta$$

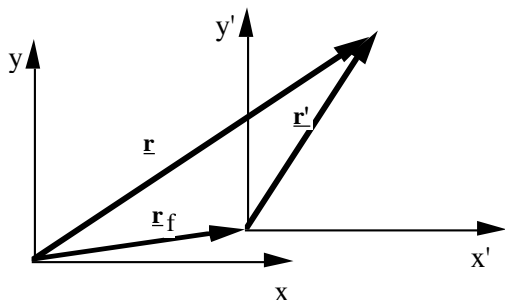
$$\text{path is } \mathbf{r}(t) = vt \cos \omega t \mathbf{i} + vt \sin \omega t \mathbf{j}$$

What is this shape?

### Relative velocities

(Galilean/Newtonian relativity *watch for hidden assumptions*)

origin of frame  $(x', y')$  is at  $\mathbf{r}_f$  and moves with  $\mathbf{v}_f$  with respect to the  $(x, y)$  frame. No rotation.



Subtraction of vectors (see above): Directly from the geometry, we write

$$\mathbf{r}' = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_f \quad \text{and, by definition,} \quad \mathbf{v}' = \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{r}'$$

So we differentiate both sides to give

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{r}' = \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{r} - \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{r}_f$$

$$\mathbf{v}' = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_f$$

It's important to understand this.

Think of this example:

velocity of wind over the ground = velocity of wind with respect to me + my velocity over the ground

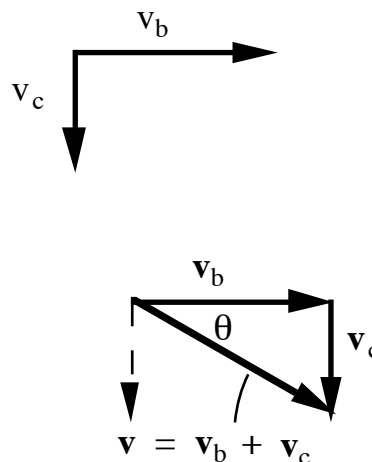
or

velocity of boat over the ground = velocity of river over ground plus velocity of boat over river

**Example** A boat heads East at  $8 \text{ km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}$ . The current flows South at  $6 \text{ km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}$ . What is the boat's velocity relative to the earth?

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_{\text{boat}} + \mathbf{v}_{\text{current}}$$

To add the vectors, draw them head-to-tail.



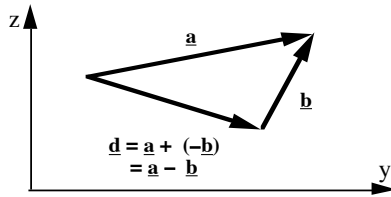
$$\begin{aligned} \text{magnitude: } v &= \sqrt{v_b^2 + v_c^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(8 \text{ km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1})^2 + (6 \text{ km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1})^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(8^2 + 6^2) (\text{km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1})^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(64 + 36)} \sqrt{(\text{km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1})^2} \\ &= 10 \text{ km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{direction: } \theta &= \tan^{-1} \frac{6 \text{ km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}}{8 \text{ km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}} = \tan^{-1} 0.75 \\ &= 37^\circ \end{aligned}$$

**Answer:**  $10 \text{ km}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}$  at  $40^\circ$  South of East

**Reminder about vector subtraction**

Draw the vectors head to head to subtract them.



to subtract, rewrite the equation:

$$\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} + (-\mathbf{b})$$

i.e. we can also rearrange subtraction so that it becomes addition

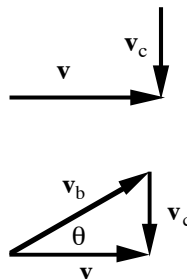
**Example** A sailor wants to travel East at

8 km.hr<sup>-1</sup>. The current flows South at 6 km.hr<sup>-1</sup>. What direction must she head, and what speed should she make relative to the water?

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_{\text{boat}} + \mathbf{v}_{\text{current}}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\text{boat}} = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_{\text{current}}$$

To subtract the vectors, draw them head-to-head.



$$\begin{aligned} \text{magnitude: } v_b &= \sqrt{v^2 + v_c^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(8 \text{ km.hr}^{-1})^2 + (6 \text{ km.hr}^{-1})^2} \\ &= 10 \text{ km.hr}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

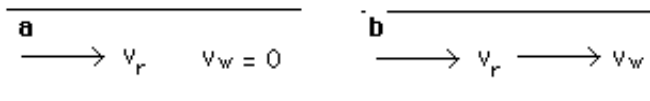
$$\begin{aligned} \text{direction: } \theta &= \tan^{-1} \frac{v_c}{v} = \tan^{-1} \frac{6 \text{ km.hr}^{-1}}{8 \text{ km.hr}^{-1}} \\ &= 37^\circ \end{aligned}$$

She must head 37° North of East and travel at 10 km.hr<sup>-1</sup> with respect to the water.

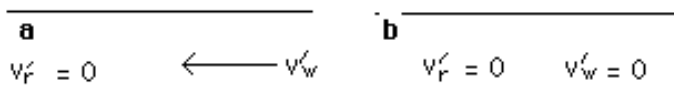
**Puzzle** River flows East at 10 km/hr. Sailing boat travels East down the river.

Can the boat travel faster

- with no wind?
- with 10 km/hr wind from West?



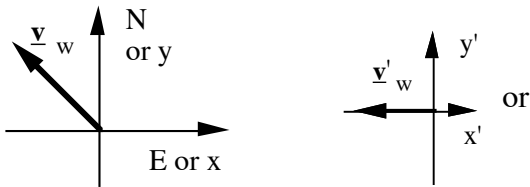
Consider motion *relative to the water*.



b)  $v'_w = 0$  while a) 10 km/hr headwind.

A SE wind blows at 30 km/hr. If you are travelling North, how fast must you travel before the wind is coming (i) exactly from your right? (ii) From 30° E of N?

From the ground:      From your frame:



Relative motion: (add vel wrt me to my vel to get vel wrt ground)

$$\mathbf{v}_w = \mathbf{v}_{\text{you}} + \mathbf{v}'_w \quad \text{so} \quad \mathbf{v}'_w = \mathbf{v}_w - \mathbf{v}_{\text{you}}$$

Either) Do it algebraically. Given:

$$\mathbf{v}_w = -v_w \cos 45^\circ \mathbf{i} + v_w \sin 45^\circ \mathbf{j}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\text{you}} = 0 \mathbf{i} + v_{\text{you}} \mathbf{j}$$

$$\mathbf{v}'_w = v'_{wx} \mathbf{i} + 0 \mathbf{j}$$

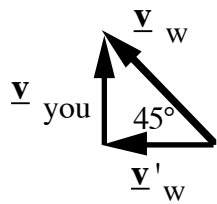
$$y \text{ direction: } v_w \sin 45^\circ = v_{\text{you}} + 0$$

$$v_{\text{you}} = v_w \sin 45^\circ = 21 \text{ km/hr}$$

$$x \text{ direction: } -v_w \cos 45^\circ = 0 + v'_{wx}$$

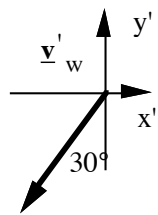
$$v'_{wx} = -v_w \cos 45^\circ = 21 \text{ km/hr from E}$$

Or) Do it with vector diagrams:



Same answers, but directly.

**Second case:**  $\mathbf{v}'_w$  is 30° E of N



$$x \text{ direction: } v_w \cos 45^\circ = v'_w \cos 60^\circ.$$

$$y \text{ direction: } v_{\text{you}} = v_w \sin 45^\circ + v'_w \sin 60^\circ$$

2 equations, 2 unknowns, first gives

$$v'_w = \frac{v_w \cos 45^\circ}{\cos 60^\circ} = 42 \text{ km/hr}$$

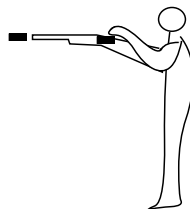
Substitute this in second equation:

$$v_{\text{you}} = 60 \text{ km/hr}$$

## Projectiles

**Question.** A man fires a gun horizontally. At the same time he drops a bullet. Which hits the ground first? *Explain your reasoning.*

(To simplify, let's say it happens on the moon.)

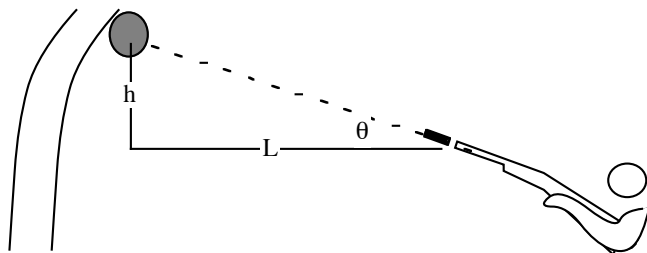


$F = ma$ . So a force in y direction does not cause an acceleration in x direction.

## Independence of x and y motion.

(in air, there are other forces)

**Question.** A man shoots at a coconut. At the instant that he fires, the coconut falls. What happens?



**obvious method** (c for coconut, b for bullet). *From the triangle:*

$$h = L \tan \theta$$

*Now write down the heights of both*

$$y_c = h - \frac{1}{2} g t^2 \quad y_b = v_{y0} t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2$$

*Will they miss? What is the difference between the heights?*

$$y_c - y_b = h - v_{y0} t = h - v_0 \sin \theta \cdot t$$

*The bullet has no horizontal acceleration, so*

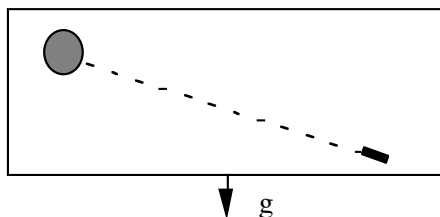
$$L = t v_0 \cos \theta \quad \text{which gives} \quad T = \frac{L}{v_0 \cos \theta} \quad \text{substitute gives}$$

$$y_c - y_b = h - \frac{v_0 \sin \theta \cdot L}{v_0 \cos \theta} = h - L \tan \theta$$

*and from the geometry above*

$$= 0$$

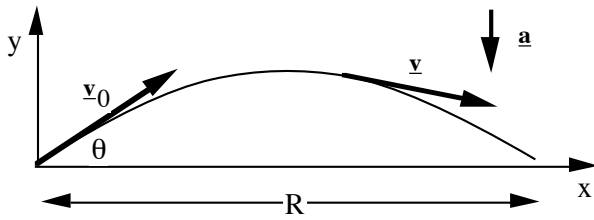
**Alternatively:** consider a frame of reference falling with g.



*The non-vegetarian version of this problem is very old one, called The Monkey and the Hunter. Physclips has a page on this with a film clip, using a toy monkey. No real monkeys were etc.*

## Projectiles

Without air,  $a_y = -g = \text{constant}$ .  $a_x = 0$  (Galileo: independence of horiz. & vert motion)



Strategy: kinematics eqn (ii) gives  $y(t)$ ,  $x(t)$ :

$$(ii) \rightarrow y = y_0 + v_{y0}t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2. \quad x = x_0 + v_x t.$$

Eliminate  $t$  gives  $y(x)$

For range  $R$ ,  $y(R) = 0$

Rearrange to get  $R = R(\theta)$

Find maximum in  $R(\theta)$

$$(ii) \rightarrow y = y_0 + v_{y0}t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2. \quad \text{motion with constant acceleration}$$

$$(ii) \rightarrow x = x_0 + v_x t. \quad \text{motion with no acceleration}$$

Choose axes so that  $x_0 = y_0 = 0$  and use (ii) to eliminate  $t$  (i.e. substitute  $t = x/v_x$ ):

$$y = v_{y0} \left( \frac{x}{v_x} \right) - \frac{1}{2}g \left( \frac{x}{v_x} \right)^2 \quad (*) \quad \text{Now we have parabolic curve in } x, \text{ not } t, \text{ this time.}$$

$y = 0$  when  $x = 0$  or  $R$

$$(*) \rightarrow v_{y0} \left( \frac{R}{v_x} \right) = \frac{1}{2}g \left( \frac{R}{v_x} \right)^2 \quad (**)$$

$$v_{y0} = v_0 \sin \theta, \quad v_x = v_0 \cos \theta \quad \rightarrow R = R(v_0, \theta)$$

Set  $\frac{\partial R}{\partial \theta} = 0$  to obtain  $\theta$  for maximum range.

$$\text{We had } v_{y0} \left( \frac{R}{v_x} \right) = \frac{1}{2}g \left( \frac{R}{v_x} \right)^2 \quad (**)$$

solve (\*\*) for  $R$ :

$$\text{so } R = \frac{2v_x v_{y0}}{g} \quad (\text{check units}) \quad \text{substitute gives:}$$

$$= \frac{2v_0 \sin \theta \cdot v_0 \cos \theta}{g}$$

$$\sin \theta \cos \theta = \dots$$

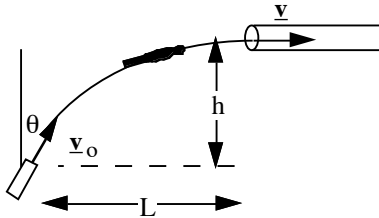
$$= \frac{v_0^2 \sin 2\theta}{g}$$

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial \theta} = \frac{2v_0^2 \cos 2\theta}{g}$$

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial \theta} = 0 \text{ when } 2\theta = 90^\circ \text{ so } \theta = 45^\circ$$

**Example** The human cannon of Circus Oz has a muzzle velocity  $v_o$ . For a new trick, they will fire the human canonball into a horizontal teflon tube at height  $h$  above the canon mouth. To avoid damage to the canonball, he must arrive with purely horizontal velocity. Calculate the position of the canon and its angle to the vertical.

- i) draw a diagram
- ii) put in symbols for quantities
- iii) translate question



given  $h$ ,  $v_o$  and final  $v_y = 0$

Find  $L$  and  $\theta$ . Think about this: chose  $\theta$  to get highest point correct, then choose  $L$  so as to hit the target.

Relate  $h$ ,  $v_y$  and  $v_{yo}$ .  $v_{yo}$  depends on  $\theta$ .

During flight, the acceleration is  $-g$  upwards. The desired  $v_y$  is zero, so (think  $v^2 = u^2 + 2a\Delta s$ )

$$0 = v_y^2 = v_{yo}^2 + 2a_y(\Delta y) = v_o^2 \cos^2 \theta - 2gh$$

$$\therefore v_o^2 \cos^2 \theta = 2gh$$

$$\therefore \cos \theta = \frac{\sqrt{2gh}}{v_o}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{2gh}}{v_o} \right)$$

Find time of flight.  $v_x t = L$ .

$$0 = v_y = v_{yo} + a_y t$$

$$\therefore t = \frac{v_o \cos \theta}{g}$$

$$L = v_o t \sin \theta.$$

$$= v_o \sin \theta \frac{v_o \cos \theta}{g}$$

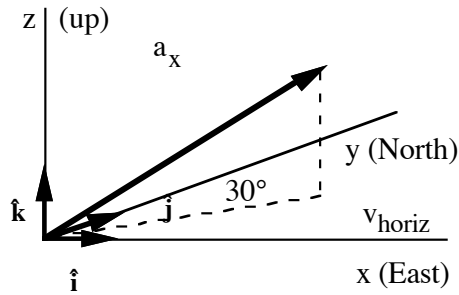
$$\left( \text{<optional>} = \frac{v_o^2}{2g} \sin 2\theta \right)$$

$$\text{where } \theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{2gh}}{v_o} \right) \quad \text{simplify optional}$$



### Projectile in 3D

**Example.** Throw object from origin at  $20 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ ,  $30^\circ$  East and at  $45^\circ$  to horizontal. Take  $x = \text{East}$ ,  $y = \text{North}$ , describe its motion as a function of  $t$  in  $\hat{i}$ ,  $\hat{j}$ ,  $\hat{k}$  notation.



$$v_{z0} = v_0 \sin 45^\circ = 14 \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

$$v_{\text{horiz}} = v_0 \cos 45^\circ = 14 \text{ ms}^{-1} (= \text{const})$$

$$v_x = v_{\text{horiz}} \cos 60^\circ = 7 \text{ ms}^{-1} (= \text{const})$$

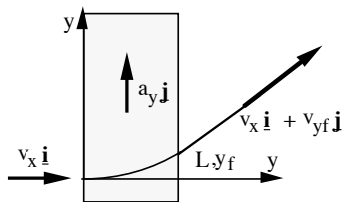
$$v_y = v_{\text{horiz}} \cos 30^\circ = 12 \text{ ms}^{-1} (= \text{const})$$

$$\mathbf{r} = r_x \hat{i} + r_y \hat{j} + r_z \hat{k}$$

$$= (7 \text{ ms}^{-1})t \hat{i} + (12 \text{ ms}^{-1})t \hat{j} + \left( (14 \text{ ms}^{-1})t - \frac{1}{2}(9.8 \text{ ms}^{-2})t^2 \right) \hat{k}$$

But normally we should just make it a 2D problem.

**Example.** Electron enters a uniform electric field at  $(x,y,t)=(0,0,0)$ , with velocity  $v_x \hat{i}$ . The field extends from  $x = 0$  to  $x = L$ , but is zero for  $x < 0$  and  $x > L$ . In the field, the electron is accelerated at  $a_y \hat{j}$ . Write an equation for the position of the electron for  $x > L$ . Hint: divide the problem into parts



Outer parts with linear motion, middle one with projectile motion

#### First region

$$x \leq 0 \quad (t \leq 0)$$

$$\mathbf{v} = v_x \hat{i} = \text{const} \quad \text{easy}$$

#### Second region

$$0 \leq x \leq L \quad (0 \leq t \leq L/v_x)$$

constant acceleration in the  $y$  direction. We need final position & velocity

$$x = x_0 + v_{x0}t + \frac{1}{2}a_x t^2$$

$$v_x = v_{x0} + a_x t$$

$$y = y_0 + v_{y0}t + \frac{1}{2}a_y t^2$$

$$v_y = v_{y0} + a_y t$$

$$y_f = \frac{1}{2}a_y t_f^2 = \frac{1}{2}a_y \left( \frac{L}{v_x} \right)^2$$

$$v_{yf} = a_y \left( \frac{L}{v_x} \right)$$

#### Third region

$$x \geq L$$

$$x = v_x t$$

(still no acceleration in  $x$  direction)

$$y = y_f + v_{yf} \left( t - \left( \frac{L}{v_x} \right) \right)$$

now all we need to do is to substitute for  $v_{yf}$ :

$$\text{position is } v_x t \hat{i} + \left( \frac{1}{2} a_y \left( \frac{L}{v_x} \right)^2 + a_y \left( \frac{L}{v_x} \right) \left( t - \left( \frac{L}{v_x} \right) \right) \right) \hat{j}$$