

Chapter 11: Motion

A. Choosing a Frame of Reference

1. **Frame of Reference** - a system of objects that are not moving with respect to one another
 - a. needed for accurate and complete description of motion
 - b. **Relative Motion** - a movement in relation to a frame of reference
e.g. Bus riders and people watching the bus

B. Measuring Distance

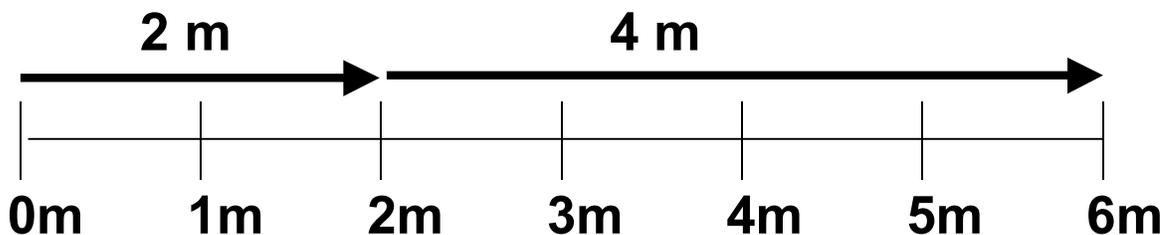
1. **Distance** - the length of a path between two points
 - a. The SI unit for distance is the meter. However, if large distances are being measured, then the kilometer is used. Recall that:
 $1000\text{m} = 1\text{km}$
e.g. instead of 6,385,000 use 6,385km
instead of .09 m use 9cm

C. Measuring Displacement

1. **Displacement** - the direction from the starting point and a straight line from starting point to the ending point
e.g. 5 blocks north of 5 miles east
2. A roller coaster ride would have distance but no displacement. Why?

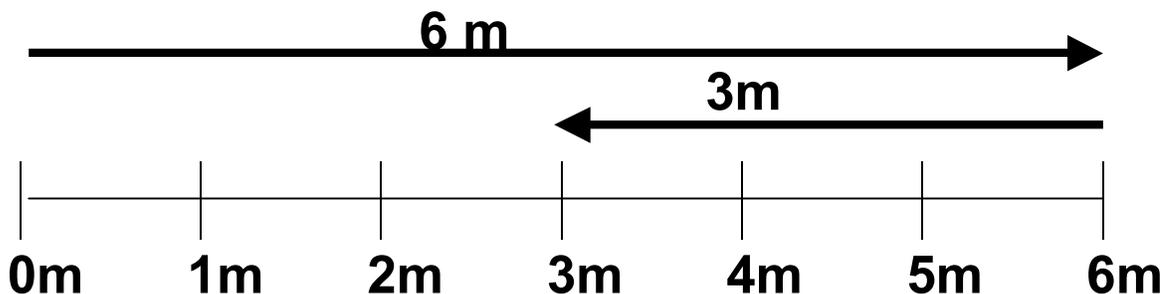
D. Combining Displacements

1. **Vector** - a quantity that has magnitude and direction. Therefore, displacement (direction and distance) is a vector.
2. The magnitude of vectors can be size, length or amount
 - a. Arrows on graphs or maps are used to show vectors (p.330)
 - b. The length of the arrow shows its magnitude.
 - c. Vector additions are the combining of vector magnitudes and directions.
3. Displacement (direction and distance) along straight lines:
 - a. addition



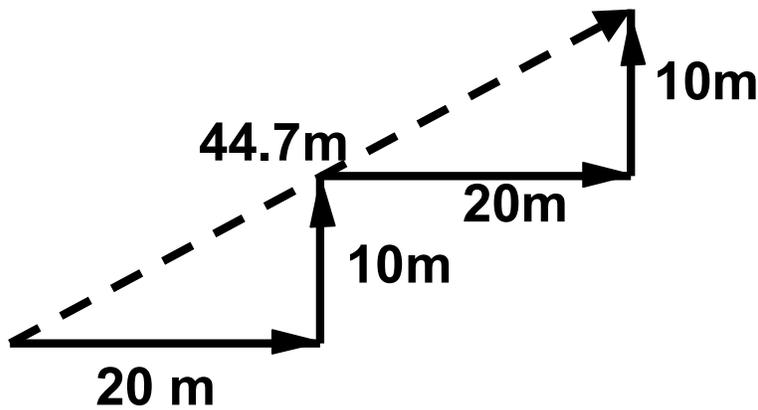
$$2\text{m} + 4\text{m} = 6\text{m} - \text{displacement}$$

b. subtraction



$$6\text{m} - 3\text{m} = 3\text{m} - \text{total displacement}$$

4. Displacement that isn't a straight path (p.331)



1. **Resultant Vector** : (- - - ►) : a vector sum of two or more vectors that points from the start directly to finish
2. **Vector addition** shows that the displacement is 44.7 meters North East while the distance is 60 meters.

E. Speed - a ratio of the distance an object moves to the amount of time the object moves.

**1. SI unit is meters
second**

2. Average Speed - total distance traveled by total time it takes to travel that distance

$$\text{Average Speed} = \frac{\text{Total distance}}{\text{Total time}}$$

$$V = \frac{d}{t}$$

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3. Instantaneous Speed – the speed at which an object is moving at a given time; a speedometer gives instantaneous speed (p. 335)

F. Graphing Motion p.334

1. The slope of the line on a distance time graph is speed.

2. The steeper the slope, the higher the speed.

3. A flat line means that the object is at rest.

G. Velocity is a description of speed and direction therefore it is a vector.

1. There are 3 ways to change velocity:

a. speed up

b. slow down

c. change direction

H. Combining Velocity by vector addition p. 337

Acceleration

I. What is Acceleration?

1. **Acceleration** – a change in speed, a change in direction, or change in both. Therefore, it is a vector.
2. A change in speed, either positive or negative, is considered acceleration.
3. **Deceleration** - slowing down of an object
4. **Free Fall** - the positive acceleration that an object has as it falls to earth.
 - a. Acceleration due to gravity is 9.8 meters per second every second, or 9.8 m/sec^2 : for every second an object falls, it will increase its speed by 9.8 m/s.
 - b. Change of direction causes a vector change, therefore it is acceleration. A car traveling in circles and at constant speed is continuously accelerating.
5. **Constant Acceleration** is a steady change in velocity.

J. **Acceleration = $\frac{\text{Change in Velocity}}{\text{Total Time}}$**

$$\frac{V_{\text{final}} - V_{\text{initial}}}{\text{Total Time}}$$

$$\frac{V_F - V_I}{t}$$

Additional Acceleration Notes:

Acceleration due to gravity (Earth's only):

$$9.8 \text{ m/s/s} \quad \text{or} \quad 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\text{Acceleration} = \frac{\Delta v}{t}$$

Δ = Greek letter Delta, which means “change”
 Δv then means “change in velocity”

Mathematically, $\Delta v = v_f - v_i$

$$a = \frac{\Delta v}{t} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{v_f - v_i}{t}$$

v_f = final velocity (end)

v_i = initial velocity (start)

t = total time



Acceleration can be speeding up or slowing down. Mathematically, slowing down results in a negative acceleration (also known as deceleration). Acceleration can also be a change in direction.

K. Graphs of Accelerated Motion

- 1. The slope of a speed time graph is acceleration (change in speed divided by the change in time.) (p. 347, Fig. 16)**
- 2. Constant acceleration is represented by a straight line (linear graph).**
- 3. Constant speed is represented by a horizontal line.**
- 4. Nonlinear (curved) distance time graph represents a change in speed.**

L. Instantaneous acceleration is how fast velocity is changing at a specific instant.