

2025 Jun 01

3001

Ch 3 Motion along a straight line

1-dimension kinematics

3.1) Position, Displacement,
3.2) Velocity, Acceleration
3.3)

— Kinematics is the science of
Motion Without Reference
To Forces

— In Classical Physics
it's pretty easy

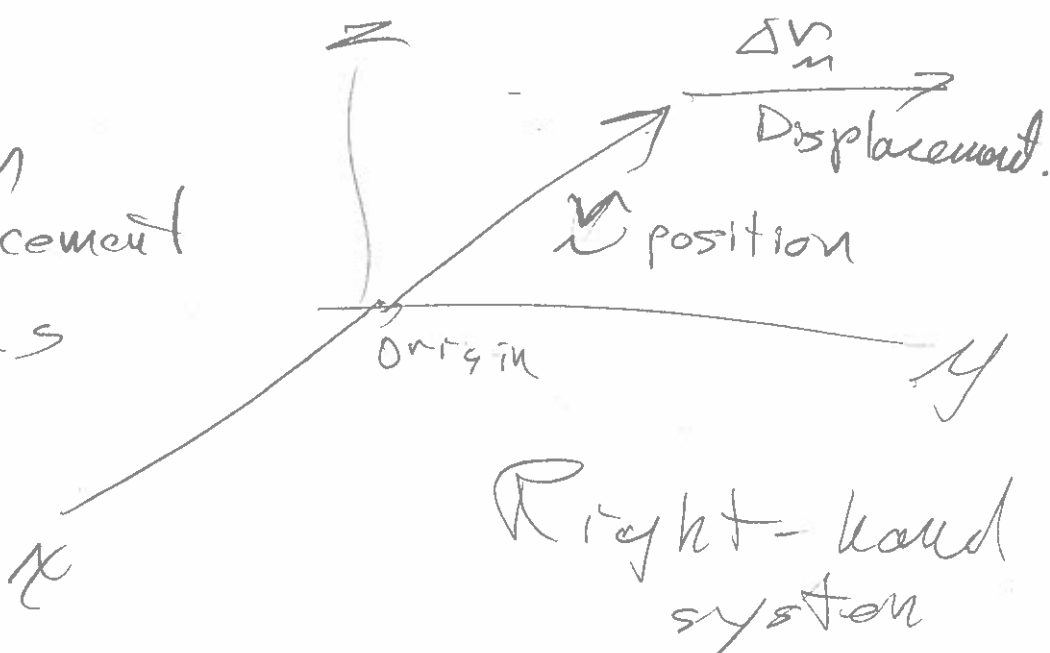
— In relativistic physics
(which we only
touch on)

it is trickier since
Spacetime has its
own 'force' like properties
and time & length
are inertial frame-dependent
quantities

3002

Position
+ Displacement

synonyms
or not
depends
on what
you mean



Position is displacement from
origin

$\vec{r}$
squiggle
mean vector
recall

Δ
Greek Capital Delta
means change in
— usually a
finite not
infinitesimal
(calculus differential)
displacement

But no hard rule

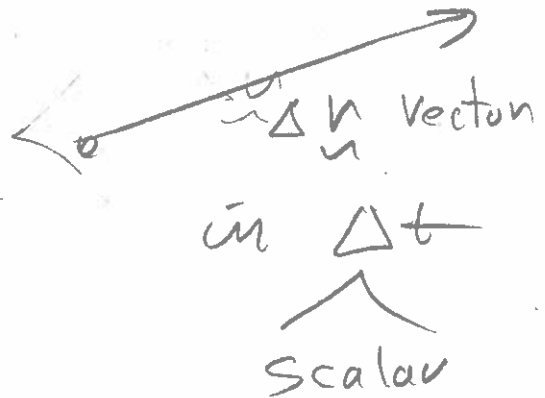
δr or dr
is differential
displacement. A limiting
process is implied

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3003

Velocity

$$\underline{v}_{\text{average}} = \frac{\Delta \underline{r}}{\Delta t}$$



$$\underline{v} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta \underline{r}}{\Delta t} = \frac{d\underline{r}}{dt} = \dot{\underline{r}}$$

instantaneous velocity

limiting process

derivative of $\underline{r}$ with respect to time

which we just call velocity

$$v = |\underline{v}| = \sqrt{\underline{v} \cdot \underline{v}}$$

speed is magnitude of velocity

dot product

dot product

dot over notation

— one bit of Newton's own notation that has stuck around
— most calculus notation is "developed" from Leibniz

But dot " " is only used for differentiation with respect to time

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{v} &= v_x \hat{i} + v_y \hat{j} + v_z \hat{k} \quad \text{unit vectors} \\ &= (v_x, v_y, v_z) \quad \text{ordered tuple} \\ &= \underline{v}_i \quad \text{element representation} \end{aligned}$$

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acceleration

$$\underline{a}_{\text{Avg}} = \frac{\Delta \underline{v}}{\Delta t}$$



$$\underline{a} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta \underline{v}}{\Delta t} = \frac{d\underline{v}}{dt} = \underline{\dot{v}}$$

(instantaneous
acceleration)

$$= \frac{d^2 \underline{r}}{dt^2} = \underline{\ddot{r}}$$

Newton's
double
dot

$$a = \|\underline{a}\| = \sqrt{\underline{a} \cdot \underline{a}}$$

acceleration

same word
used for
vector and
for its magnitude

ordered triple representation

$$\underline{a} = (a_x, a_y, a_z) = a_x \hat{i} + a_y \hat{j} + a_z \hat{k}$$

$$= a_i \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{element} \\ \text{representation} \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{unit vector} \\ \text{representation} \end{array} \right]$$

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3005

1-d versions

are just x , y , or z
components along
in some coordinate
system

components
can be
positive or
negative
unlike
magnitudes

Example

x usually used for the
horizontal
direction

$$v = \frac{dx}{dt}$$

(meaning v_x)

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$$

(meaning a_x)

y usually used for the
vertical direction

$$v = \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}$$

3006 |

[2025 Jun 05]

3.4 Motion with Constant

3.6 Integration Acceleration

The prototype interesting case

Remember your calculus:

constant a
integrate
over time
to get
velocity

$$v = at + v_0$$

Constant
of integration
velocity
at time zero

integrate
over time
get
position

$$x = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t + x_0$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t$$

— change in x

— The x_0 parameter
is a nuisance
in solving problems

since you can always just
add it, but on the other hand,
You want to keep in mind change in position

Constant
of integration
= position
at
time zero

[2025 Jan 05]

[3007]

The Two equations are algebraically independent (though not independent in a calculus sense)

$$1) v = at + v_0$$

$$2) \Delta x = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t$$

Question

How many variables are there?

Question Ans. $4 + 1 = 5$

How many unknowns can you solve for?

Ans. 2

You must know 3 of the variables to solve in general

Two equations give you only two constraints

Any 1-d constant acceleration problem can be solved from these two equations ① and ②

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multiple
five
-d
kinematic
equations

But that is often tedious
and so we can 'mix' the
equations to solve any
1-d constant acceleration
problem with 1 equation.

a) Question
Say you have two unknowns
and one is x
but it's the unwanted one
Which equation of ① & ②
do you use?

① $v = at + v_0$
b) Question
Say you have ~~two~~ unknowns
and the one you don't
want to solve for is v
Which equation do you use?

② ~~x~~ $x = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t$

c) Say you have two unknowns
and the unwanted one is t
You're stuck t
is on both ① & ②

[2025 Jun 01]

(3009)

So you must create ③
by eliminating t

Question Try doing it. $\left(\frac{v - v_0}{a}\right) = t$ from ①
substitute into ② and simplify $\times$

$$\Delta x = \frac{1}{2} a \left(\frac{v - v_0}{a} \right)^2 + v_0 \left(\frac{v - v_0}{a} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} a \Delta x &= \frac{1}{2} (v - v_0)^2 + v_0 v - v_0^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (v^2 + v_0^2 - 2v_0 v) + v_0 v - v_0^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (v^2 - v_0^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$v^2 - v_0^2 = 2a \Delta x$$

$$\text{or } v = \pm \sqrt{v_0^2 + 2a \Delta x}$$

$$\text{or } \Delta x = \frac{v^2 - v_0^2}{2a}$$

But
there
is
a sign
ambiguity

"If Δx or a is your
unknown to be solved
for there is no ambiguity,

but if it is v or v_0 ,
there is a sign

ambiguity. Which is right?

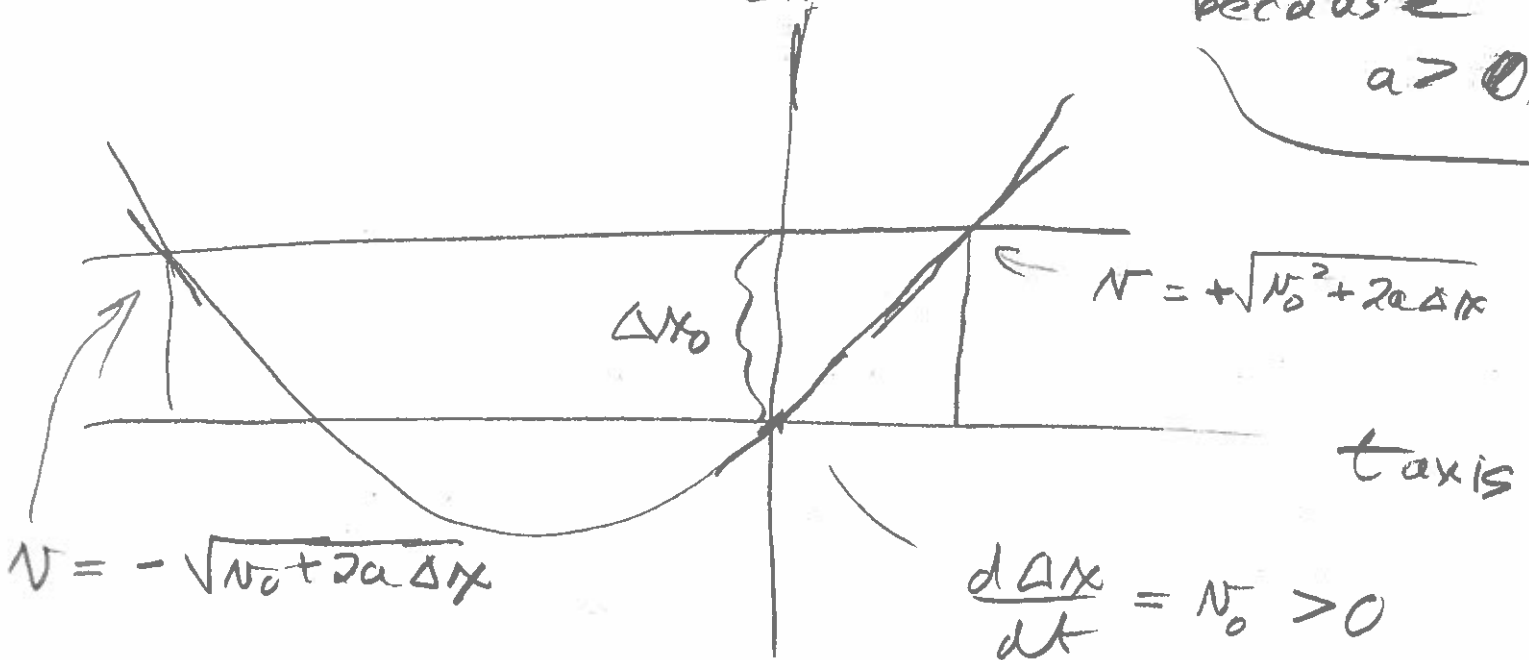
They both are right

Question

3010

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Let's say

 N & t are
the unknowns∴ you know $\Delta x, a, N_0$
and to be definiteSay $a > 0$ and $N_0 > 0$ From eq (1) which is a parabola and it
opens upward
because $a > 0$.

Both answers right.

You need some other piece
of information in this caseSay $t > 0$, but you don't know what it isThen $N = +\sqrt{N_0^2 + 2a\Delta x}$ and you can
solve for Δx if you want too

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d) Say you have two unknowns and the unwanted one is a

Question Eliminate a. Go

from ①

$$a = \frac{v - v_0}{t}$$

substitute into ②

$$\Delta x = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{v - v_0}{t} \right) t^2 + v_0 t$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{1}{2} (v + v_0) t$$



$$\text{in } v_{\text{avg}} = \frac{v + v_0}{2}$$

e) Say you have two unknowns and the unwanted one is v_0

Question: Generate a kinematic equation without v_0

From ① $v_0 = v - at$

substitute into ②

$$\Delta x = \frac{1}{2} at^2 + (v - at)t$$

$$\textcircled{5} \Delta x = vt - \frac{1}{2} at^2$$

3012

2025ap

Summarize five 1-dimensional kinematic equations of physics

Equation

Unwanted Unknown

① $v = at + v_0$

x

② $\Delta x = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t$

v

③ $v^2 - v_0^2 = 2a\Delta x$

t

The timeless eqn actually generalizes to nonconstant acceleration equation

timeless

in special cases of conservation of mechanical energy (which we do later)

④ $\Delta x = \frac{1}{2}(v + v_0)t$

a

⑤ $\Delta x = vt - \frac{1}{2}at^2$

v_0

3.5 Free Fall

Eq. 5 gets less use than the others because people tend not to

Near Earth's surface neglecting air drag

(which you can do for relatively short fall distances of relatively dense bodies)

write equations that use it

the acceleration 3013
due to gravity of Earth
(magnitude) (and centrifugal force)

Fiducial value $g = 9.8 \frac{m}{s^2}$

AKA little g
(as opposed to
big G the gravitational
constant
of Newton's law
of Universal gravitation)

Actually g varies with
latitude, altitude
and geologic terrain
and those variations are
easily measured
with a gravimeter,
but below human perception

3014

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Biggest variation is with latitude

Show arrival
centrifugal
video

9.780 m/s^2 at equator

9.832 m/s^2 at poles

~0.5% just too small for human perception

If it were 10%, everyone would notice

Actually most of variation is centrifugal force

0 at poles, strongest at equator.

Which we discuss more fully later

It's the force that tries to throw you off carnival

centrifuges
It is what is called an inertial force

— a force due to structure of spacetime in general relativity jargon

[2025 Jun 01]

[3015]

'ordinary' forces are ultimately due to a field of force
— electromagnetism
— strong & weak nuclear.

gravitation

is two-faced
— in classical physics we treat as a field of force, but in general relativity it's an inertial force

We'll discuss both kinds of forces more later

But as a preview

Newton's 2nd law. $F = ma$

1-d form.

(mass of object)

Newton
Earth's surface
Not in general

F_{gravity}

$= -mg$
(as a field)

a force law for gravity

Not $F = ma$

up is +ve
so down is negative.

3016

Here $g = 9.8 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{kg}}$
 $\swarrow$ Newton
metric
unit
of force

is the force constant.

But $F = ma$

net force is true

and $F_{\text{grav}} = -mg$ is true

If the only force is gravity,
then

$$-mg = F_{\text{grav}} = F_{\text{net}} = ma$$

$$a = -g = -9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

Note this is how
the Newton as a unit
is derived

$$1 \text{ N} = 1 \text{ kg} \cdot \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

$$|F_{\text{grav}}| = \text{weight} = 1 \text{ kg} \cdot 9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

Now $1 \text{ N} \approx 0.224809 \text{ pounds}$
 $\rightarrow 1 \text{ kg weighs} \approx 2.24 \text{ pounds}$

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(3017)

1 pound is weight of 0.454 kg

In Canada, you don't
buy a pound of margarine
you buy 0.454 kg
of margarine

Canada metrified
in the 1970s, but
it did NOT change the
standard solid quantities
but this is good Canadians
know 0.454 kg is a pound

$$\text{So } a = -9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$$

The cancellation of
mass using the
gravity law was
always a mystery
in Newtonian physics
Why is the 'charge' of the gravitational
force
exactly equal to
the quantity of resistance
to acceleration?

3018

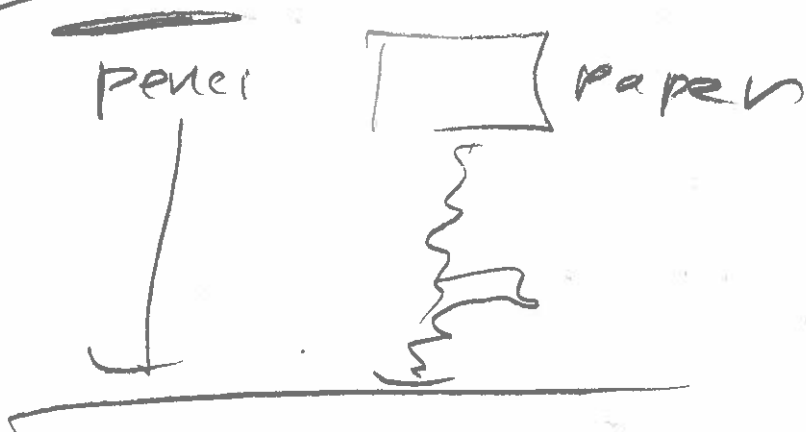
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General relativity
takes it as
an axiom that
they must be
exactly equal
and axiom
has always been
confirmed.

The upshot
of $a = -g$

for any object
free falling near
the Earth's surface
is all things fall
the same distance
in same time

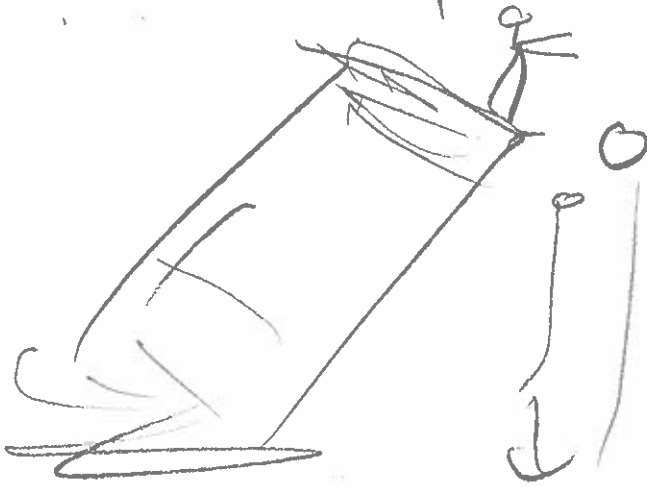
Show Galileo
& Moon Videos



If you
neglect
air drag.

But Galileo

experiment is the ideal limit.



Galileo probably
Really did it.
But not
a careful
experiment
just a popular
demonstration

And, of course, balls
never hit exactly at
the same time.

But because air drag,
variations in release time
etc.

But Galileo argued the
ideal limit when

Show videos

perturbations have
been reduced to

negligible. objects near
Earth's have the same
acceleration g .

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Analysis

$g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$

t	v (m/s)
0	0
1	9.8
2	19.6
3	29.4
4	39.2

Air drag actually grows with speed, and so eventually the acceleration declines and you reach terminal velocity

sky divers $v_{\text{term}} \approx 50 \text{ m/s}$ (Wiki)

Question for
Class

Do conversions
to km/h

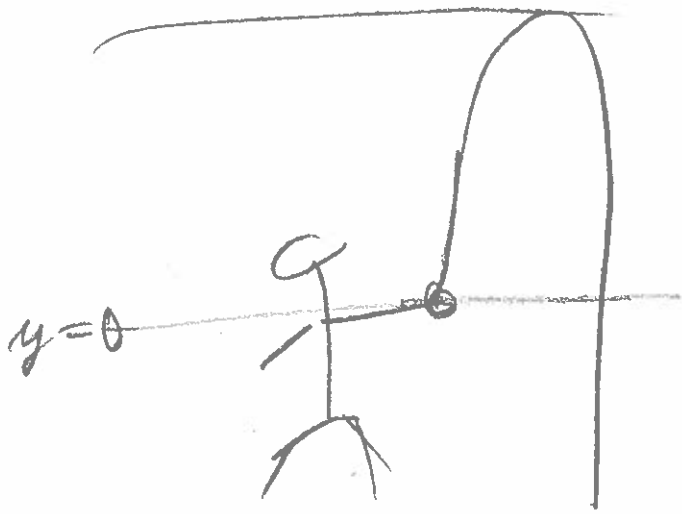
$$= 50 \text{ m/s} * \left(\frac{1 \text{ km}}{1000 \text{ m}} \right) \left(\frac{3600 \text{ s}}{1 \text{ h}} \right)$$

$\approx 200 \text{ km/h}$ factors of unity

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Example

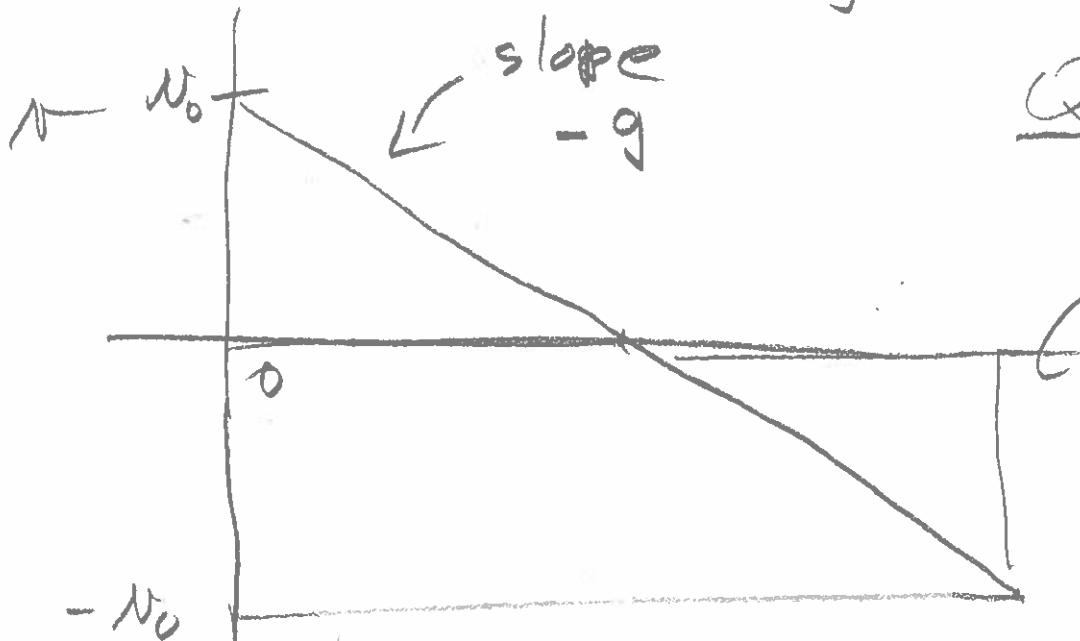


tossing a ball straight up

$$v = -gt + v_0$$

$$y = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0 t$$

Usually use y as the vertical coordinate



Question

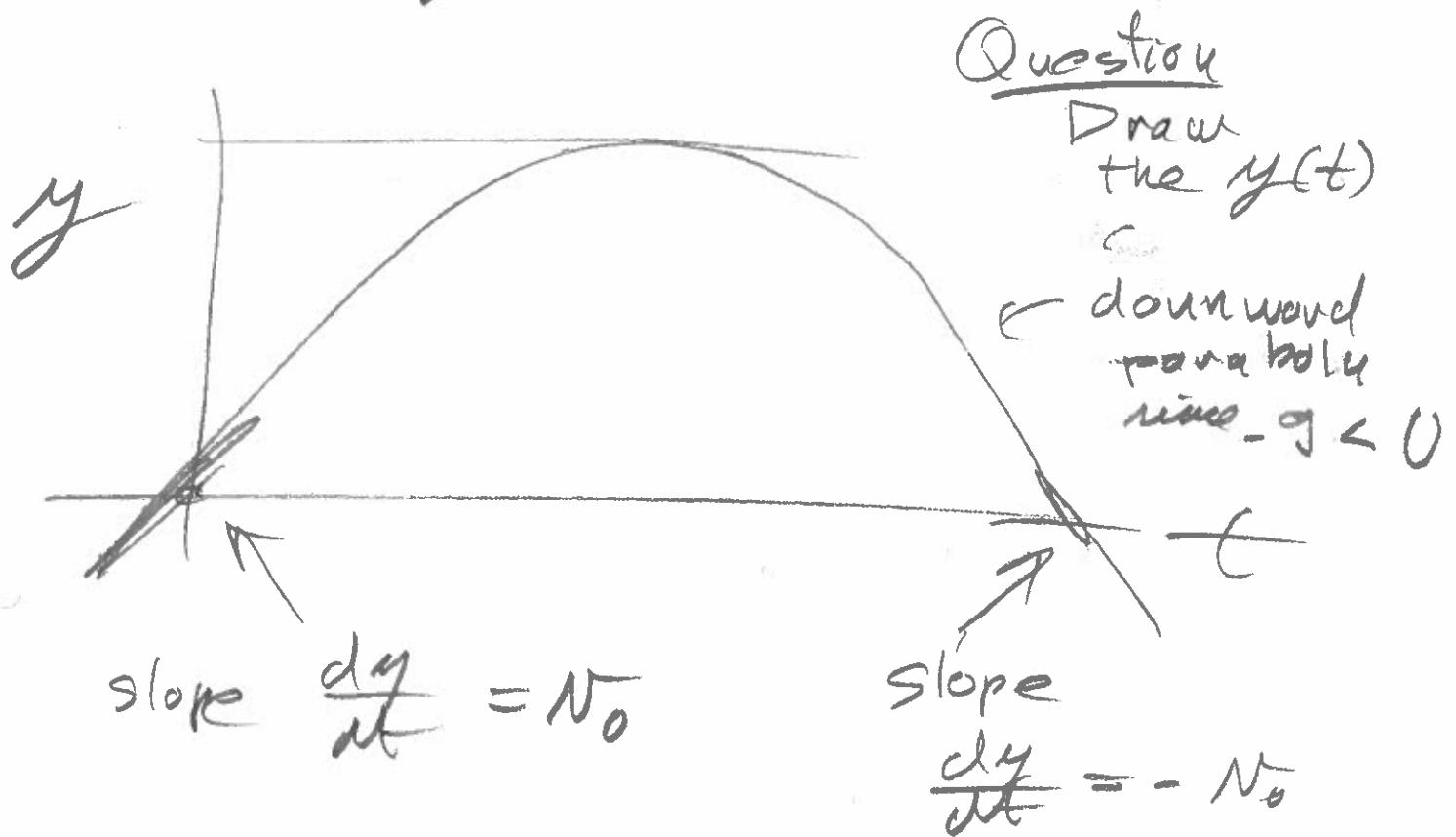
Draw the velocity curve $v(t)$

same speed when returns to tosser
Why? Remember the time equation

$$v = \pm \sqrt{v_0^2 + 2(-g)y}$$

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at any height y ,
the speed going up is
the same as the speed
going down



Question Determine the
maximum height.

$v = 0$ at maximum

— a turning point

$$0 = v_0^2 + 2(-g)y_{\max}$$

(Google AI confirms
jargon)

$$y_{\max} = \frac{v_0^2}{2g}$$

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Say $v = 10 \text{ m/s}$

Question what is y_{max}

$$y_{\text{max}} \approx \frac{10^2}{2 \cdot 10} = 5 \text{ m}$$

(you can toss
harder than that
right)

3.6 Integration

Already done p 3006

End chpt. 3 notes

