

Physics for computer game developers

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About the lectures



■ Purpose

- To introduce into basics of physics, in order to model the "real world" in computer games

■ Sources

Webpage of the course (Ingemar R)

<http://computer-graphics.se/TSBK03/>

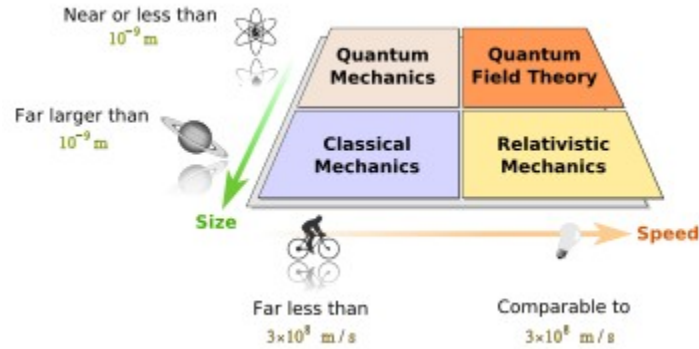
<https://www.computer-graphics.se/TSBK03/files/Beachball-Physics-2023-09-05.pdf>

Ragnemalm, PFNP-SHCWMTS [IR]

- G. Palmer, *Physics for Game Programmers*, Apress, 2005
- Oreilly.-.Physics.for.Game.Developers.2nd.Edition.2013
- Ian Millington, *Game Physics Engine Development*, Elsevier, 2007
- Witkin, Baraff, Kass, lectures from Pixar "SIGGRAPH 2001 Course notes" [Pix], <http://www.pixar.com/>
- ...



i.2 Physics as a natural science



Classical Physics

Mechanics

Molecular physics

Electromagnetism



i.3 Modelling of the physical world



90% of games applied physical simulations use:

3D objects and 3D scenes

Movement

Rigid objects

Rotation

Friction

Air and water resistance

Gravity

Collisions and explosions

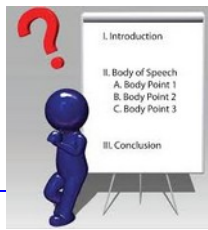
Springy things

Waves

Criterion for a physical model in a game:

If it looks right on the screen, that's good enough!

Outline



- *i.* Introduction (physics and its role in game industry)
- Models
- Kinematics
- Newton's Dynamics
- Work, Energy and Power
- Rotational motion
- Projectiles
- Collisions
- Water simulations
- Sports Simulations
- Cars and Motorcycles
- Boats, flight simulation (airplanes, rockets and missiles)
- Optical effects

i.3 Real word & fakes



i.3 Real word & fakes



i.3 Modelling of the physical world



- Physics Will Keep Your Games from Looking Fake
- Adding Physics-Based Realism Is Easier Than You Might Think
- Adding Physics Won't Affect Game Performance
- Knowing Some Physics Will Make You a Better Game Programmer

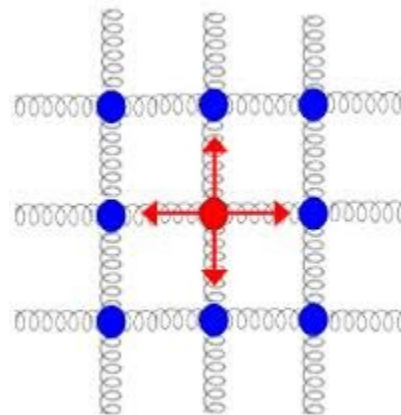
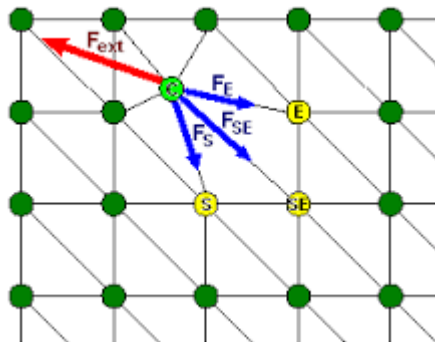
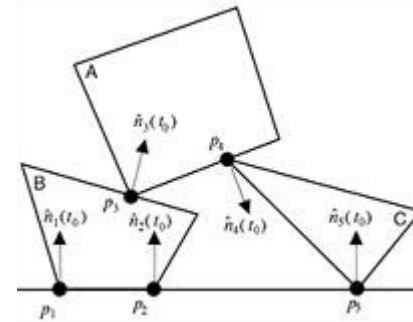
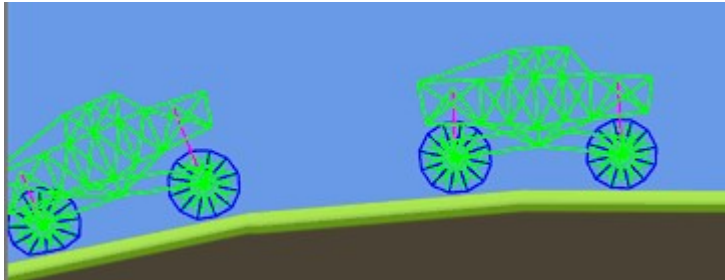
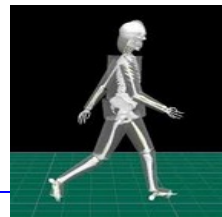
Modelling and models



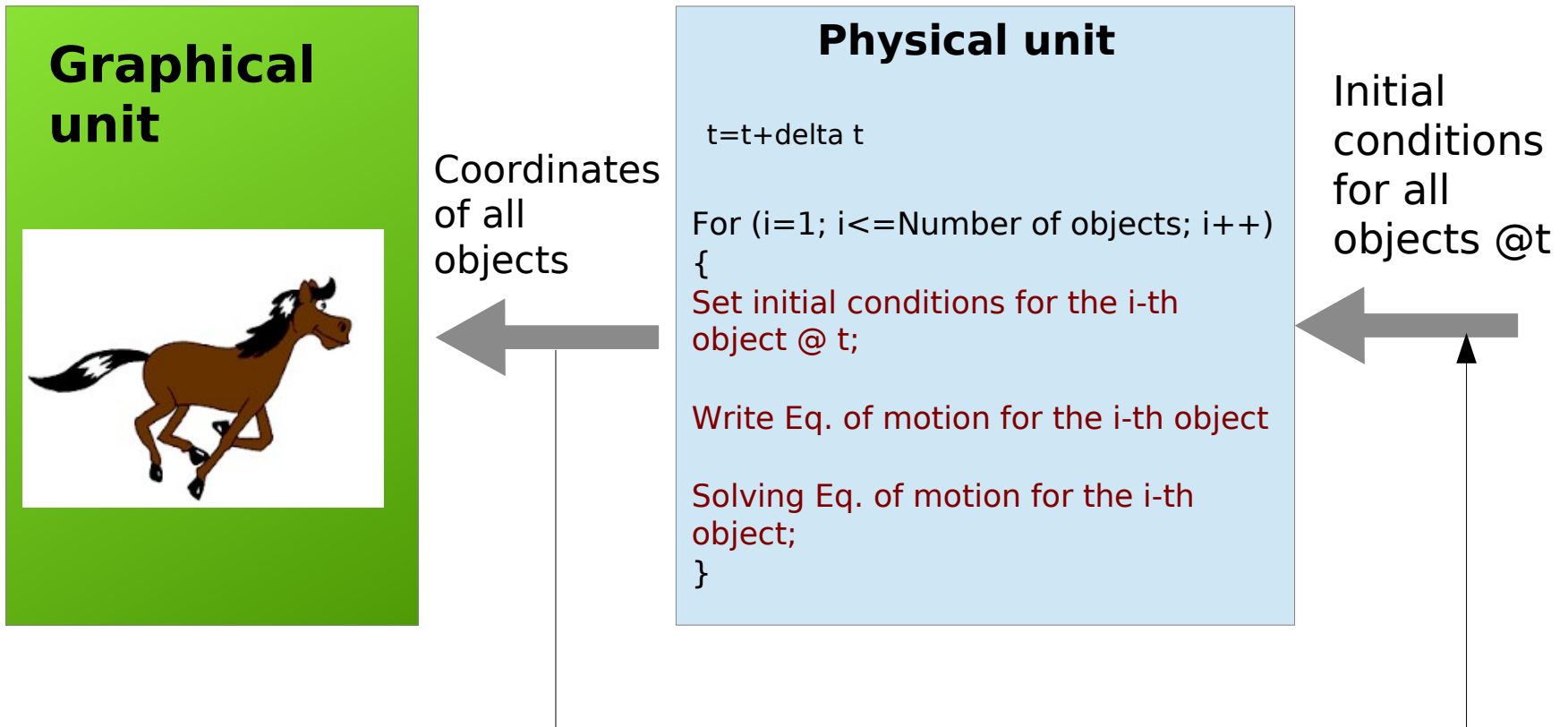
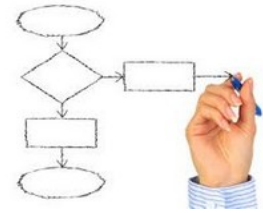
Modelling and models



Modelling and models



Modelling and models



Basic Concepts



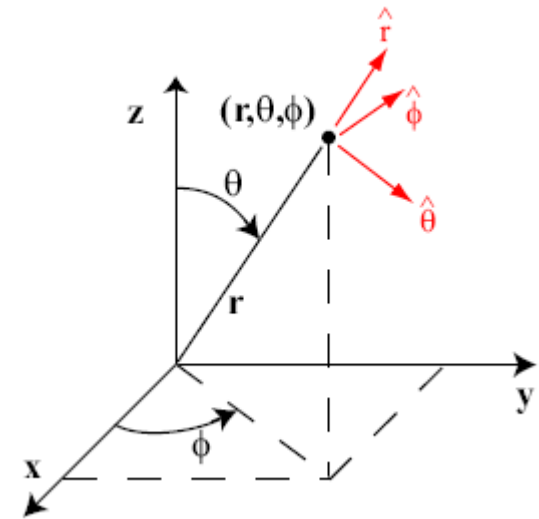
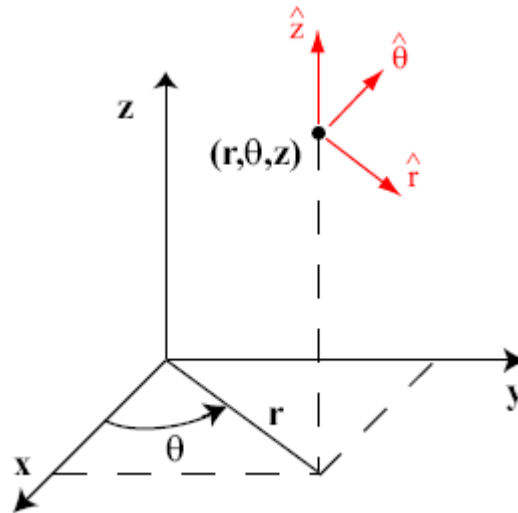
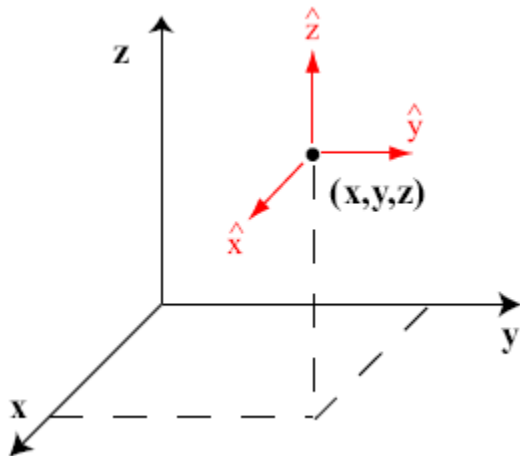
■ Systems of Units

Quantity	English Units	SI Units	Conversion Factor
Length	foot (<i>ft</i>)	meter (<i>m</i>)	0.3048
	mile	kilometer (<i>km</i>)	1.609
Mass	pound-mass (<i>lbm</i>)	kilogram (<i>kg</i>)	0.4536
	slug	kilogram (<i>kg</i>)	14.593
Force	pound (<i>lb</i>)	Newton (<i>N</i>)	4.448
Pressure	<i>lb/in²</i>	<i>N/m²</i>	6894.7
Density	<i>slug/ft³</i>	<i>kg/m³</i>	515.379
	<i>lbm/ft³</i>	<i>kg/m³</i>	16.018
Temperature	Fahrenheit (<i>°F</i>)	Kelvin (<i>K</i>)	5/9(F + 459.67)
	Rankine (<i>R</i>)	Kelvin (<i>K</i>)	5/9

Basic Concepts



■ Coordinate Systems and Frames of Reference



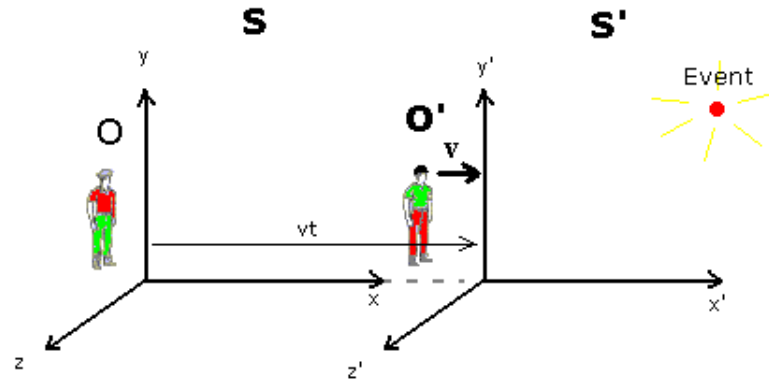
Basic Concepts



Coordinate Systems and Frames of Reference

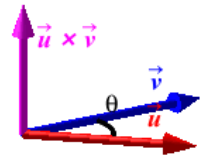


Transformation of Coordinates



The observers are moving at a relative velocity of v and each observer has their own set of coordinates (x, y, z, t) and (x', y', z', t') . What coordinates do they assign to the event?

Basic Concepts



■ Scalars and Vectors

$$\vec{R} = x\vec{i} + y\vec{j} + z\vec{k}$$

$$\vec{V} = V_x\vec{i} + V_y\vec{j} + V_z\vec{k}$$

Magnitude of a vector: $|\vec{R}| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$

Sum of vectors: $\vec{R}_1 \pm \vec{R}_2 = (x_1 \pm x_2)\vec{i} + (y_1 \pm y_2)\vec{j} + (z_1 \pm z_2)\vec{k}$

Vector scalar product: $(\vec{R}_1 \cdot \vec{R}_2) = x_1 x_2 + y_1 y_2 + z_1 z_2$

$$(\vec{R}_1 \cdot \vec{R}_2) = |\vec{R}_1| |\vec{R}_2| \cos \alpha$$

Vector cross product: $[\vec{R}_1 \times \vec{R}_2] = (y_1 z_2 - y_2 z_1)\vec{i} + (z_1 x_2 - z_2 x_1)\vec{j} + (x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1)\vec{k}$

$$|[\vec{R}_1 \times \vec{R}_2]| = |\vec{R}_1| |\vec{R}_2| \sin \alpha$$

Basic Concepts

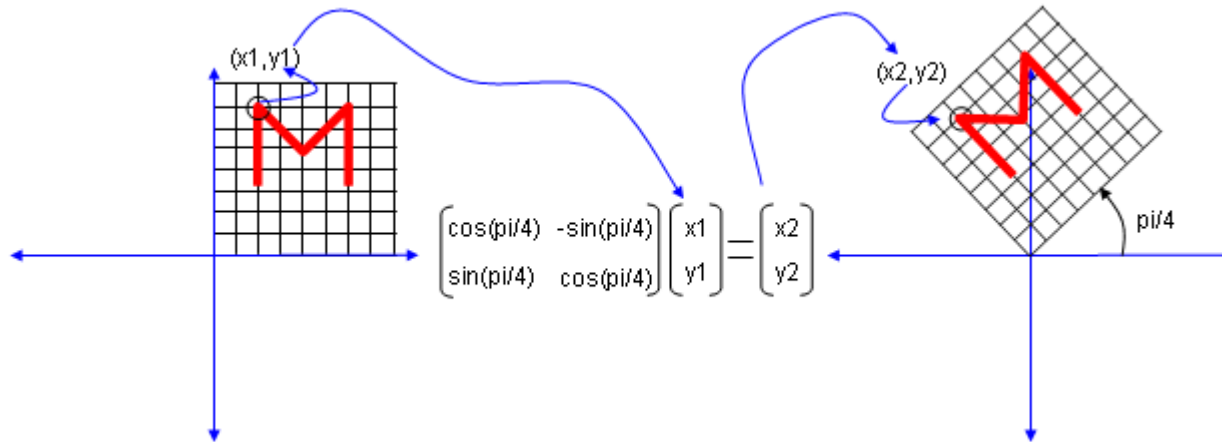


- **Matrices**
- **Derivatives**
- **Differential Equations**

Basic Concepts



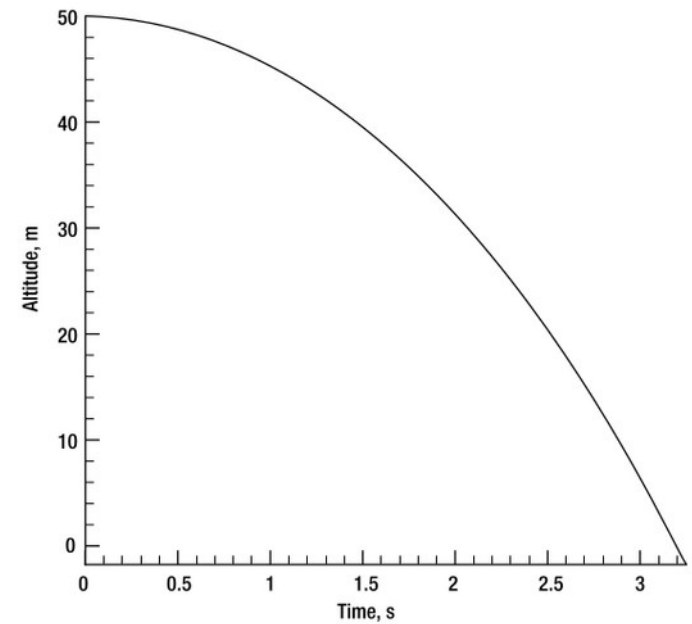
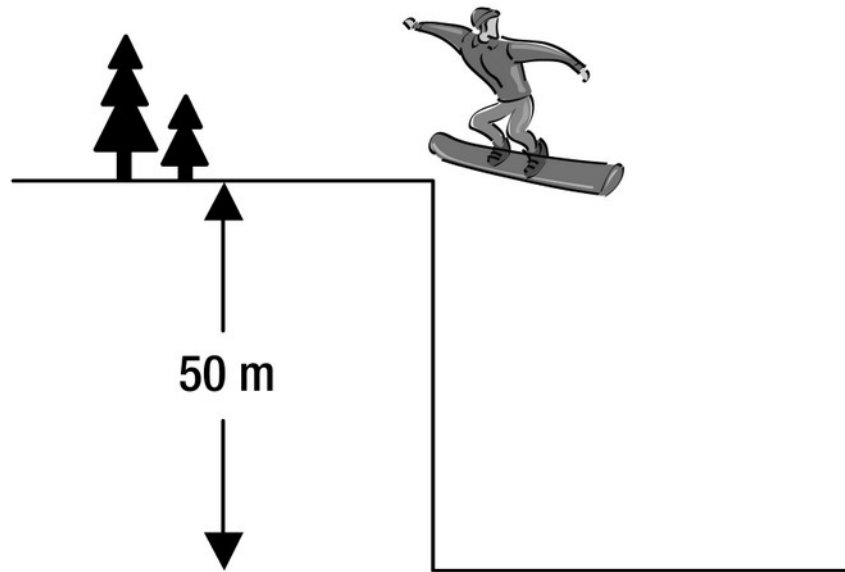
■ Matrices



Basic Concepts



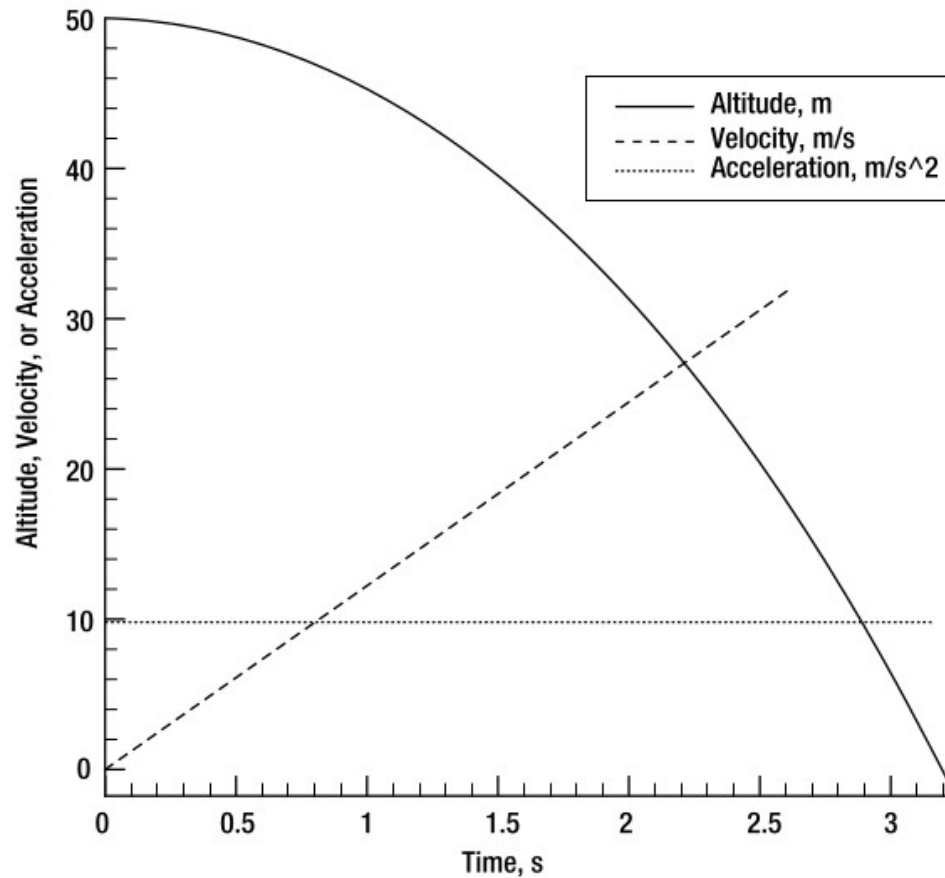
■ Derivatives



Basic Concepts



■ Derivatives

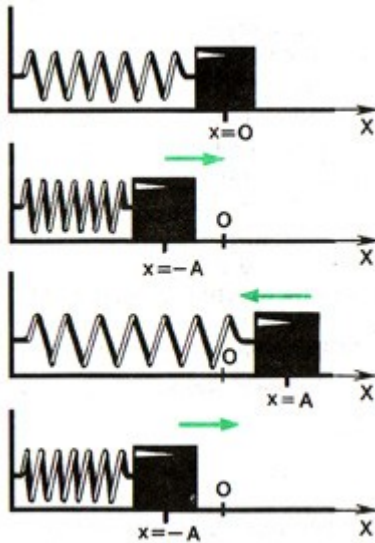


Comparing acceleration, velocity, and altitude for the snowboarder

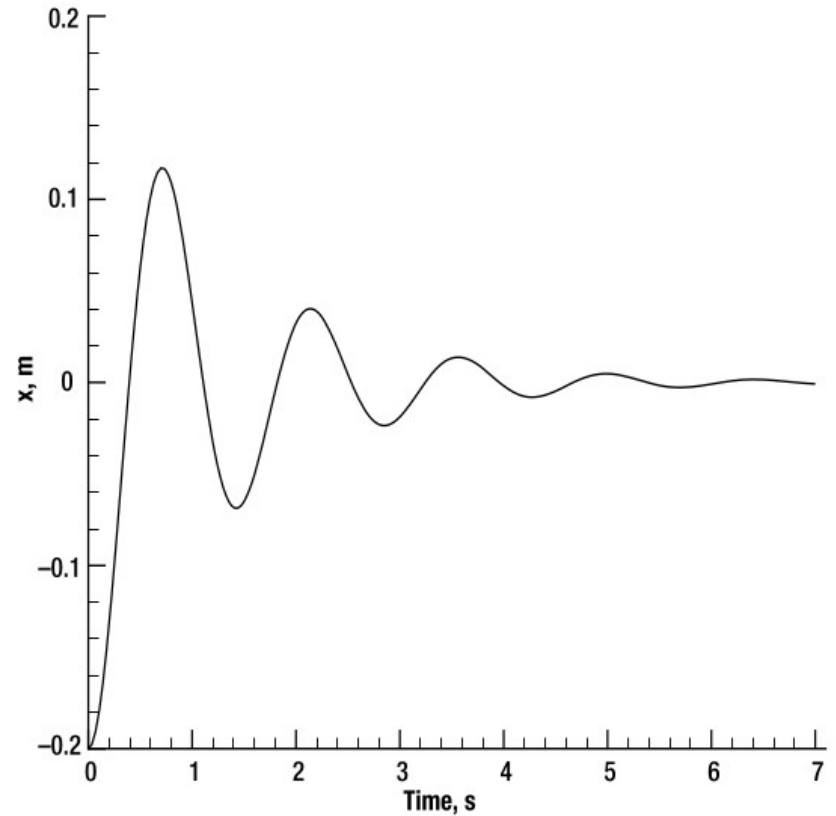
Basic Concepts



Differential Equations

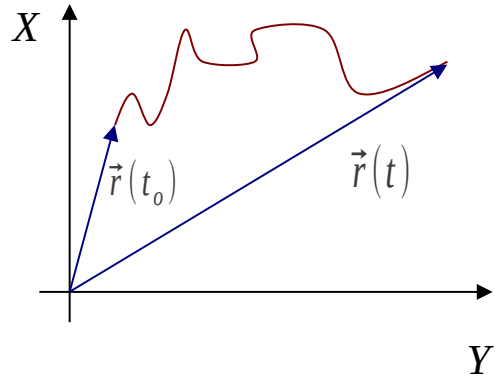


$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \mu \frac{dx}{dt} + kx = 0$$



The motion of a spring as a function of time

Kinematics



Displacement $\Delta \vec{r}(t) = \vec{r}(t) - \vec{r}(t_0)$ [m]

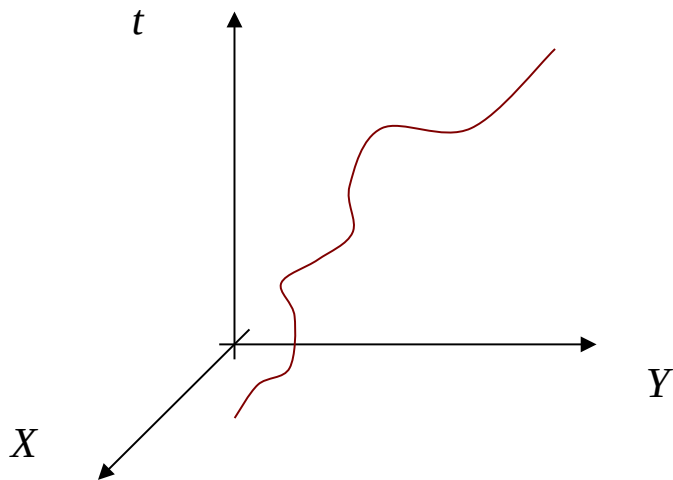
Average velocity $\vec{v}_{average} = \frac{\vec{r}(t) - \vec{r}(t_0)}{t - t_0}$ $\left[\frac{m}{s} \right]$

Instantaneous velocity $\vec{v}(t) = \frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = \dot{\vec{r}}(t)$ $\left[\frac{m}{s} \right]$

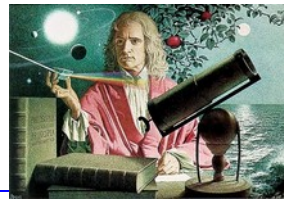
Acceleration $\vec{a}(t) = \frac{d\vec{v}(t)}{dt} = \ddot{\vec{r}}(t)$ $\left[\frac{m}{s^2} \right]$

Distance $s = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} |dr|$ [m]

$$\vec{r}(t) = \vec{r}(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \vec{v}(t) dt = \vec{r}(t_0) + \vec{v}(t_0)t + \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^t \vec{a}(t) dt dt$$

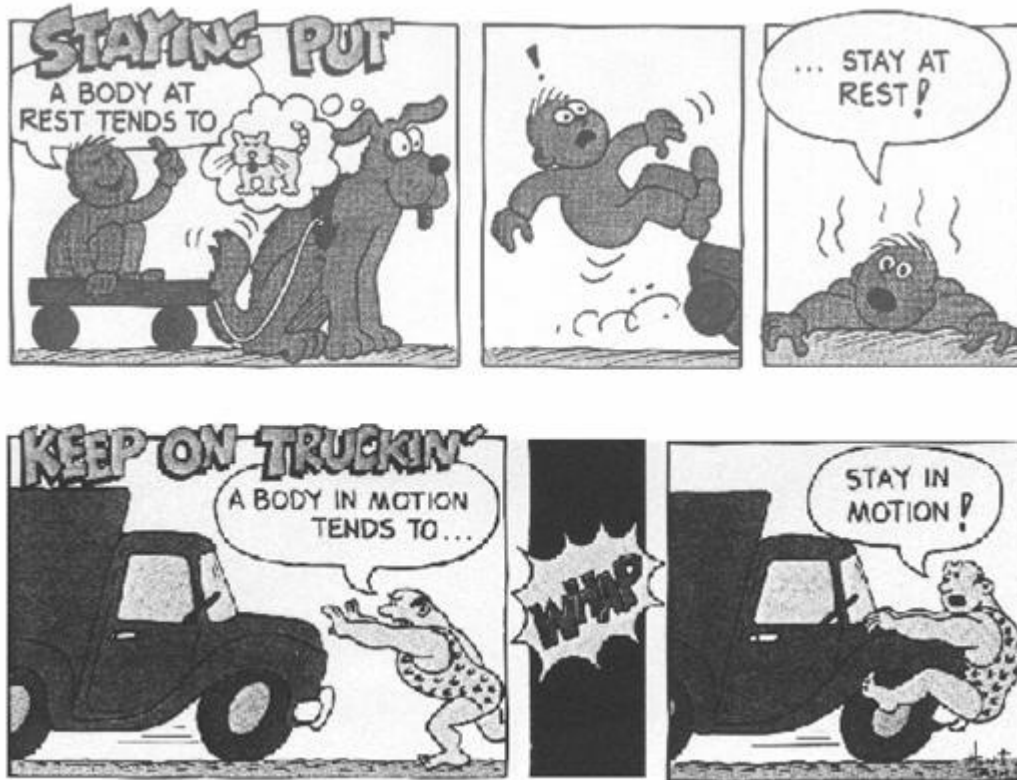


Newtonian Dynamics



- Newton's three laws of motion
- Some special types of forces—gravitational, friction, centripetal, and spring
- The concept of a force vector
- Force balances and force diagrams

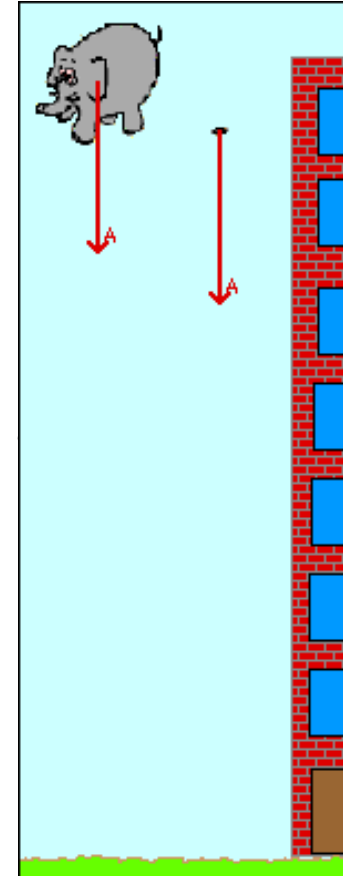
Newton's First Law of Motion: Inertia



Every body preserves in its state of rest, or of uniform motion in a right line, unless it is compelled to change that state by forces impressed thereon.

Newton's Second Law of Motion: Force, Mass, and Acceleration

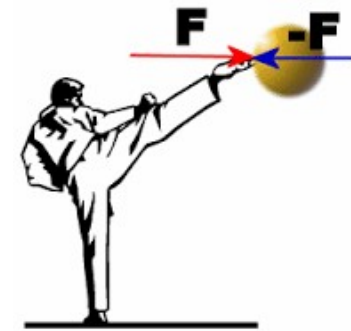
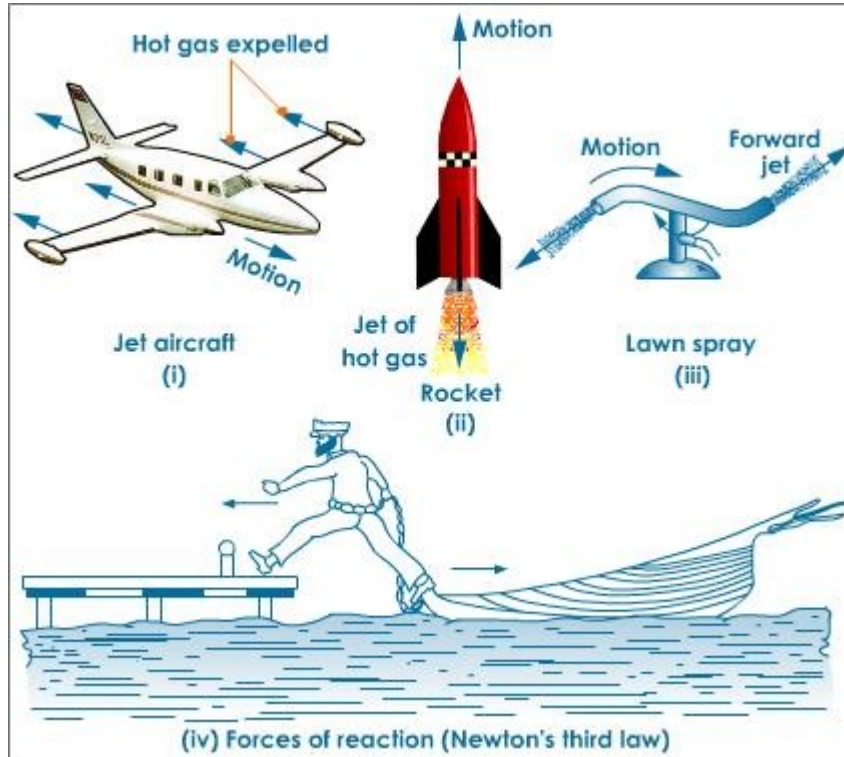
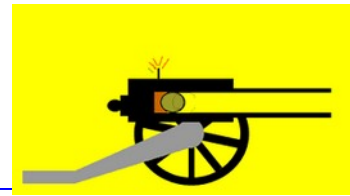
→ Applied Force (F)



$$\vec{F} = m \vec{a}$$

The alteration of motion is ever proportional to the motive force impressed

Newton's Third Law of Motion: Equal and Opposite Forces

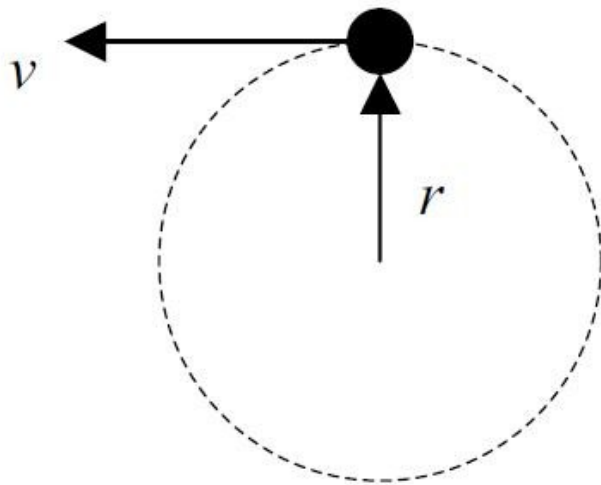


To every action there is always opposed an equal reaction

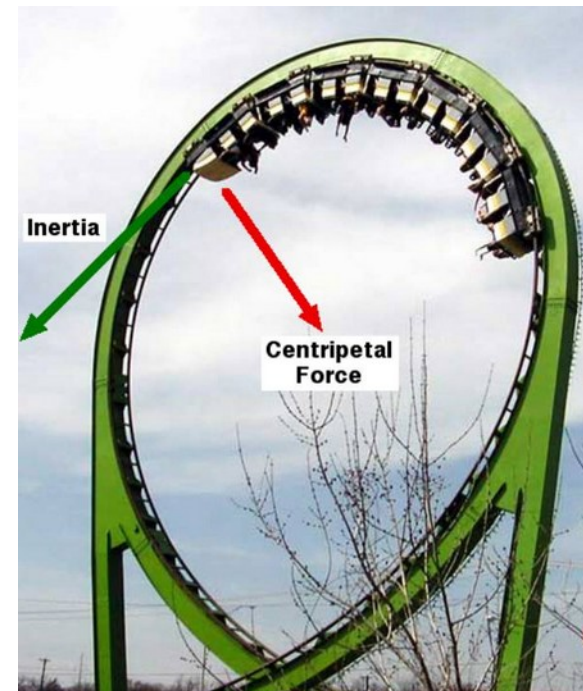
Types of Forces



Centripetal Force

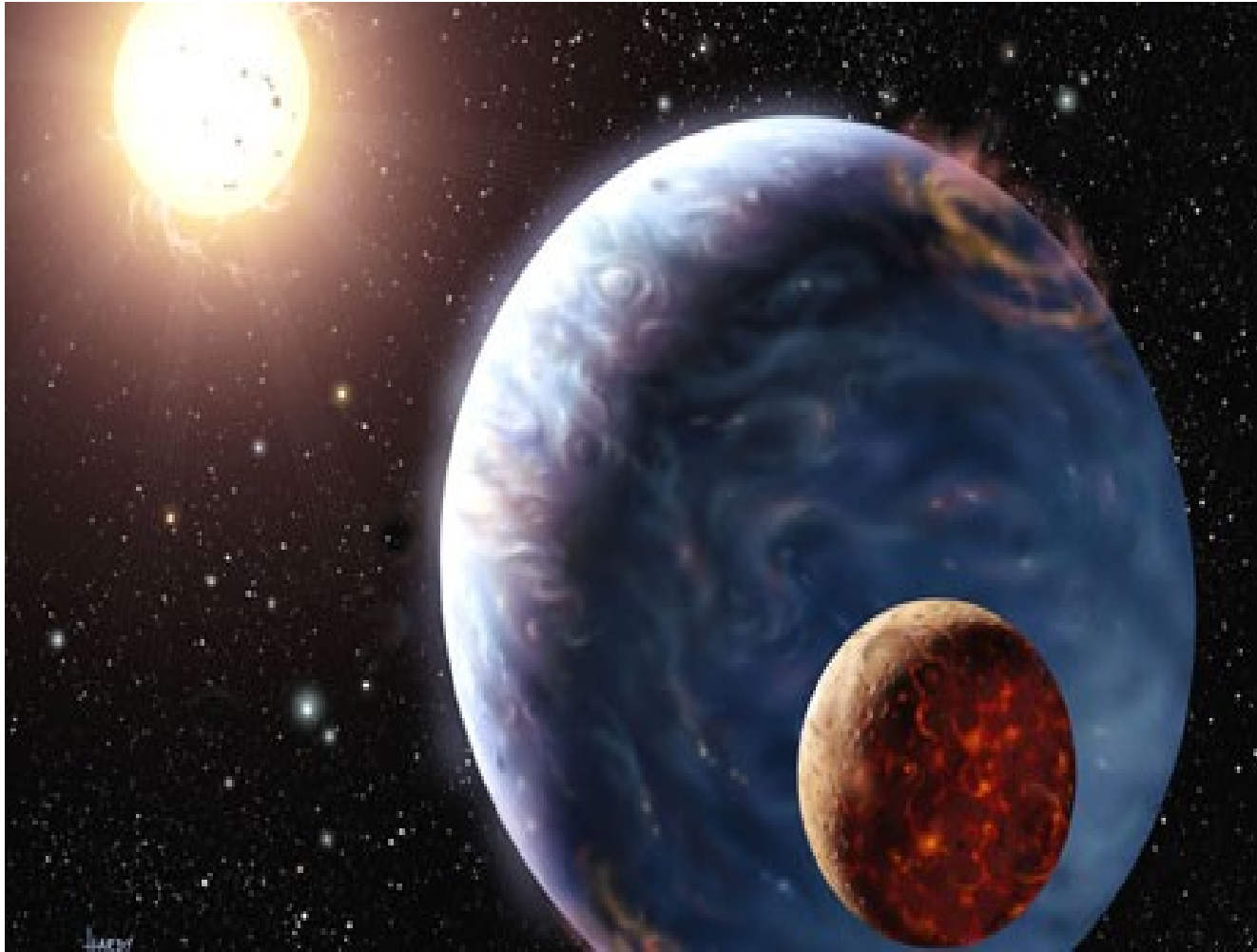
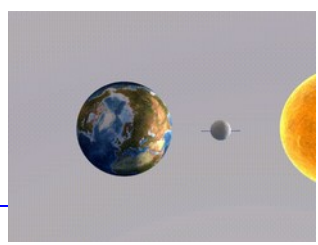


$$F = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

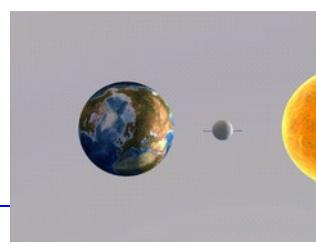


Types of Forces

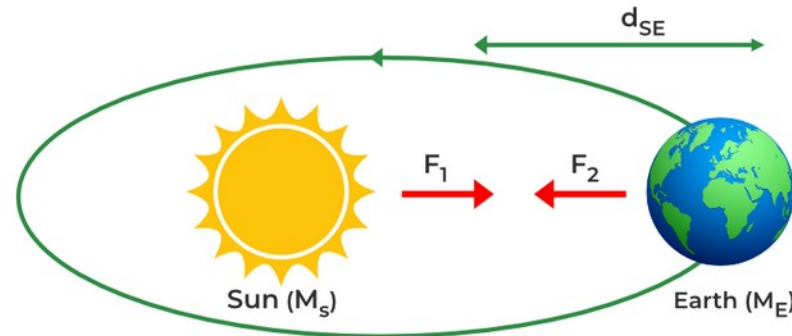
- **Gravitational Force**



Types of Forces



■ Gravitational Force



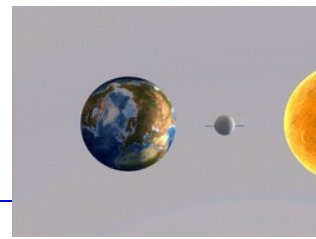
$$F = F_1 = F_2 = \frac{M_s \cdot M_E}{d_{sE}^2} = 3.5 \times 10^{22} \text{ N}$$

$$\vec{F} = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{|\vec{R}_{12}|^3} \vec{R}_{12} = M_2 g$$

$$G = 6.674 \cdot 10^{-11} \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$$

$$g = 6.674 \cdot 10^{-11} \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{kg}^2} \frac{5.9736 \cdot 10^{24} \text{ kg}}{(6,375 \cdot 10^6 \text{ m})^2} = 9.81 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{kg}}$$

Types of Forces



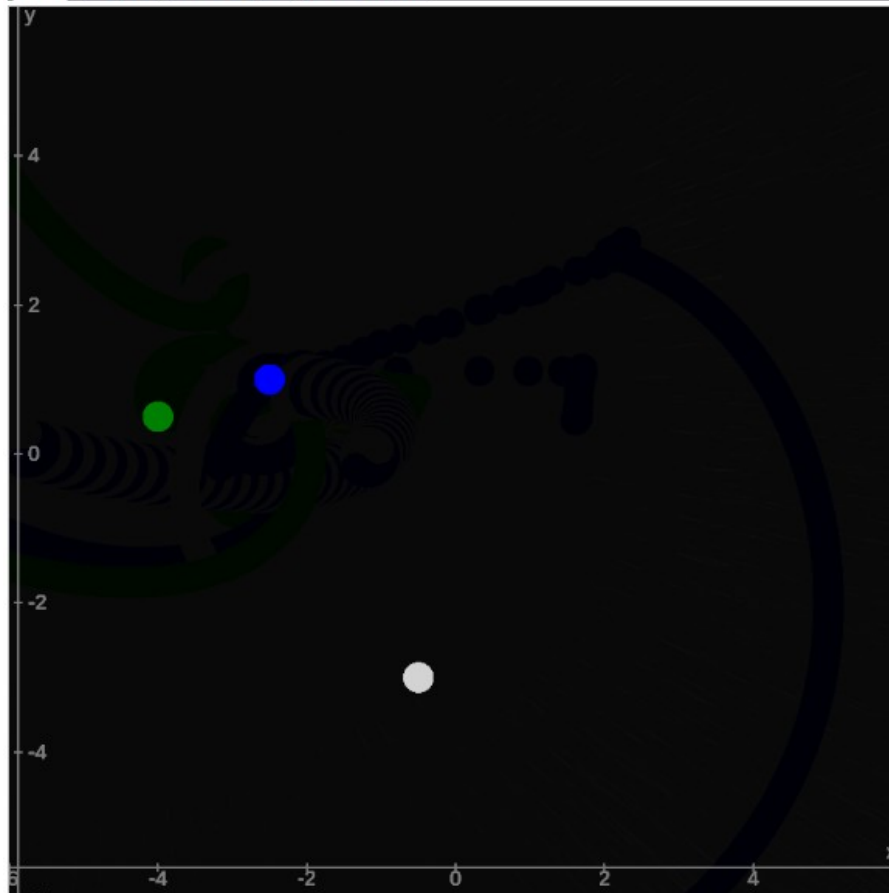
■ Gravitational Force

Mutual Attraction

myPhysicsLab.com

English [previous](#) [next](#)

Sim Graph Time Graph Multi Graph



number of bodies

gravity

damping

elasticity

show forces

show energy

show clock

pan-zoom

time step

time rate

Diff Eq Solver

potential energy offset

background

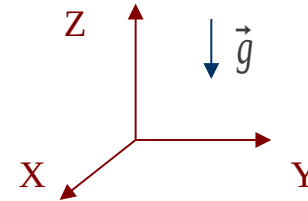
terminal

<https://www.myphysicslab.com/engine2D/mutual-attract-en.html>



Gravitation Force

■ Equations of motion for projections

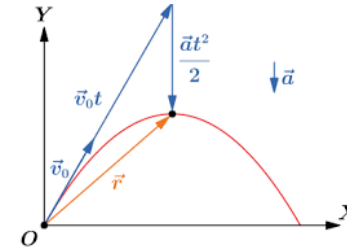


Quantity	Differential Equation	Solution
Acceleration	None	$a_z = -g,$ $a_x = 0, \quad a_y = 0$
Velocity	$\frac{dv_z}{dt} = a_z = -g$	$v_z = v_{z0} - gt,$ $v_x = v_{x0}, \quad v_y = v_{y0}$
Location	$\frac{d^2 z}{dt^2} = a_z = -g$ $\frac{dz}{dt} = v_z = v_{z0} - gt$	$z = z_0 + v_{z0}t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2,$ $x = x_0 + v_{x0}t,$ $y = y_0 + v_{y0}t$



Gravitation Force

Equations of motion in vector form



Quantity

Differential Equation

Solution

Acceleration

None

$$\vec{a} = \vec{g}$$

Velocity

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

$$\vec{v} = \vec{v}_o + \vec{g}t$$

Location

$$\frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2} = \vec{a} = \vec{g}$$

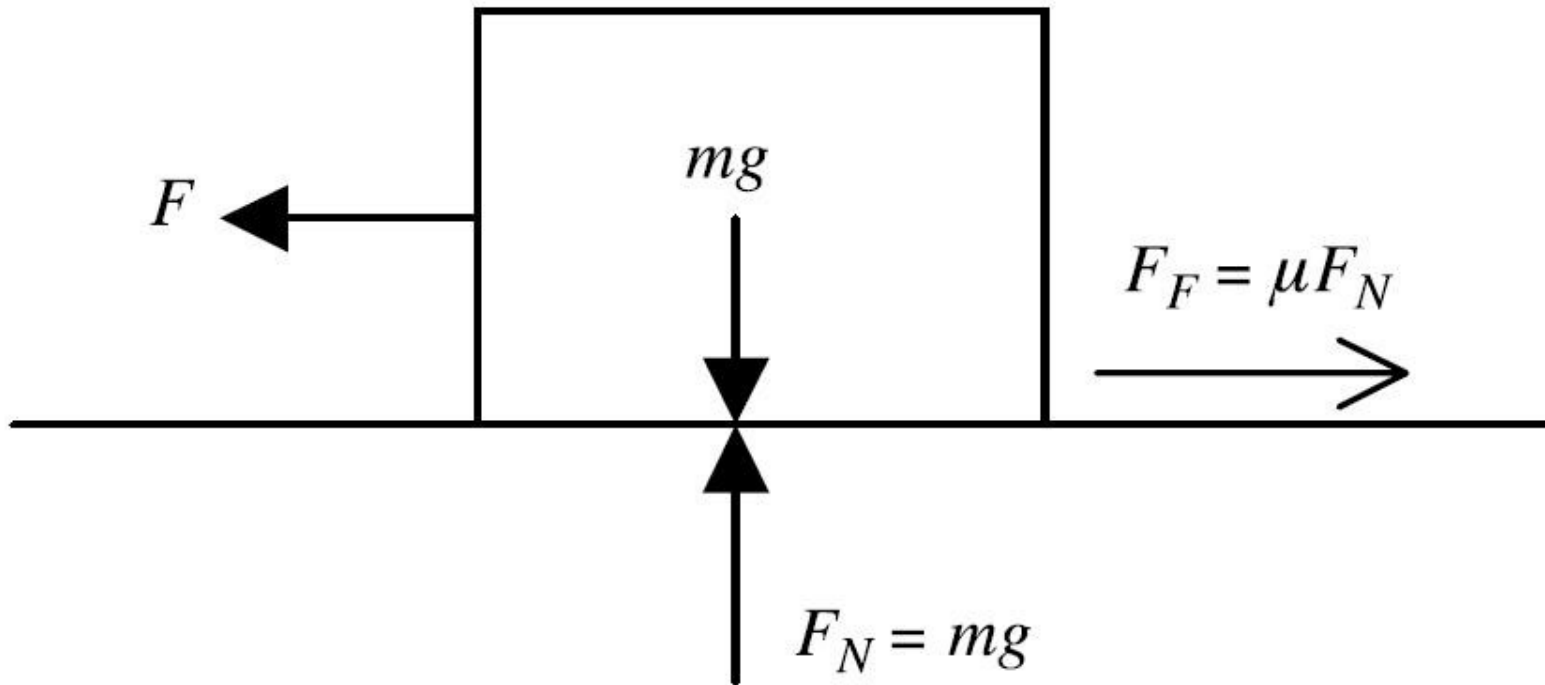
$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \vec{v} = \vec{v}_o + \vec{g}t$$

$$\vec{r} = \vec{r}_o + \vec{v}_o t + \frac{1}{2}\vec{g}t^2$$

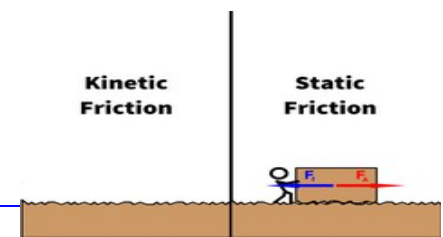
Friction



$$F_F = \mu F_N$$



Friction



■ Friction Coefficients for Some Common Surface Interactions

Materials	μ_s	μ_k
Steel—steel	0.7–0.74	0.57–0.6
Steel—steel (lubricated)	0.12	0.07
Aluminum—steel	0.61	0.47
Copper—steel	0.53	0.36
Cast iron—cast iron	1.1	0.15
Teflon—Teflon	0.04	0.04
Glass—glass	0.94	0.4
Wood—wood	0.25–0.5	0.2–0.3
Rubber—concrete	1.0	0.8
Rubber—concrete (wet)	0.7	0.5
Ice—ice	0.1	0.03
Waxed ski—snow	0.1–0.14	0.05–0.1

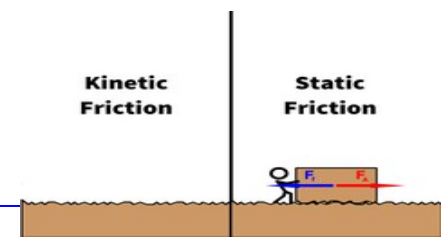
* Source: RoyMech, www.roymech.co.uk

* Raymond Serway and John Jewitt, Physics for Scientists and Engineers, Sixth Edition (Brooks-Cole, 2003)

* www.physlink.com/Reference/FrictionCoefficients.cfm

* Encarta.msn.com

Friction



Bad and good friction

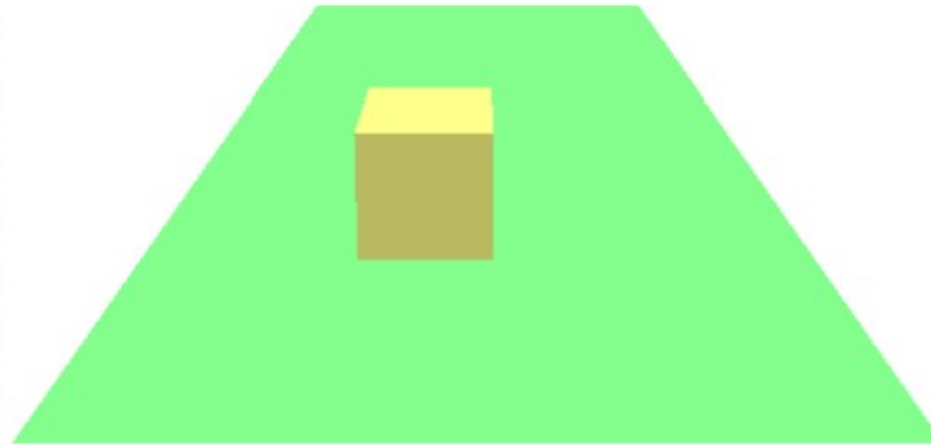
Friction

Starting velocity: 0.916667

Current velocity: 0

Zero crossing check

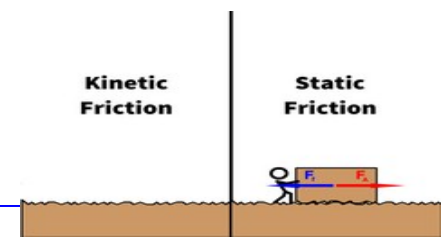
Reset



The sliding block demo

<https://www.computer-graphics.se/demos/files03/Beachball-demos.zip>

Friction



Bad and good friction

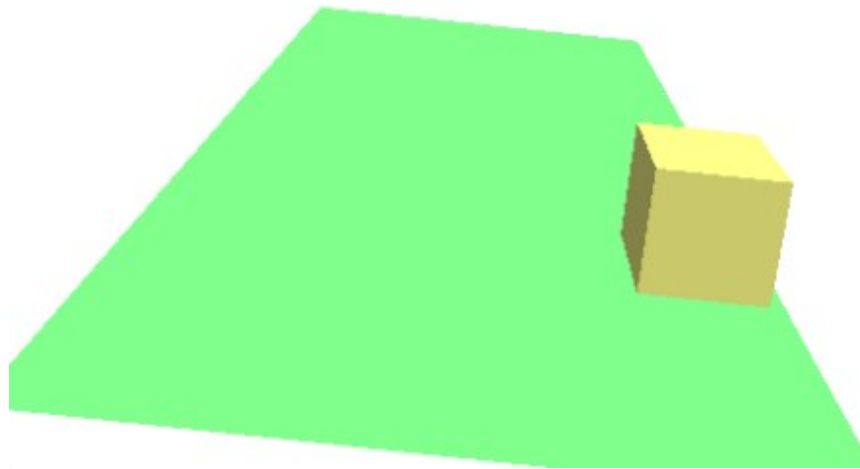
Friction example

Starting velocity: 0.4
Current velocity: 0.0104139

Slope: 0.106356

Zero crossing check
 Low speed check

Reset

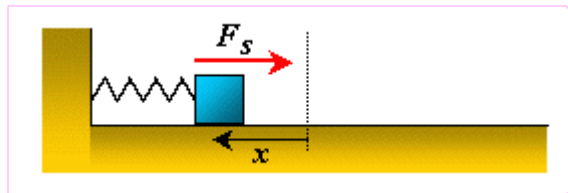
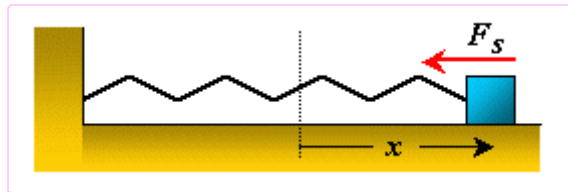
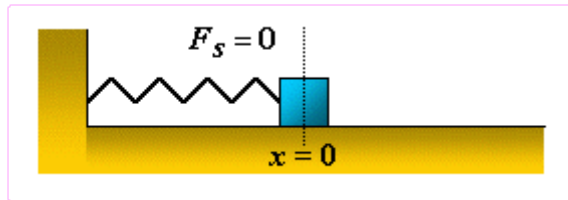


The sliding block demo 2

Vibration



■ Deformation Springs



Hooke's Law

$$\vec{F} = -k\Delta \vec{x}$$

Equation of motion: $m \ddot{x} = -kx$

$$\ddot{x} + \omega^2 x = 0 \quad \omega^2 = \frac{k}{m}$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = A \sin(\omega t + \phi_0)$$

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$$

Vibration



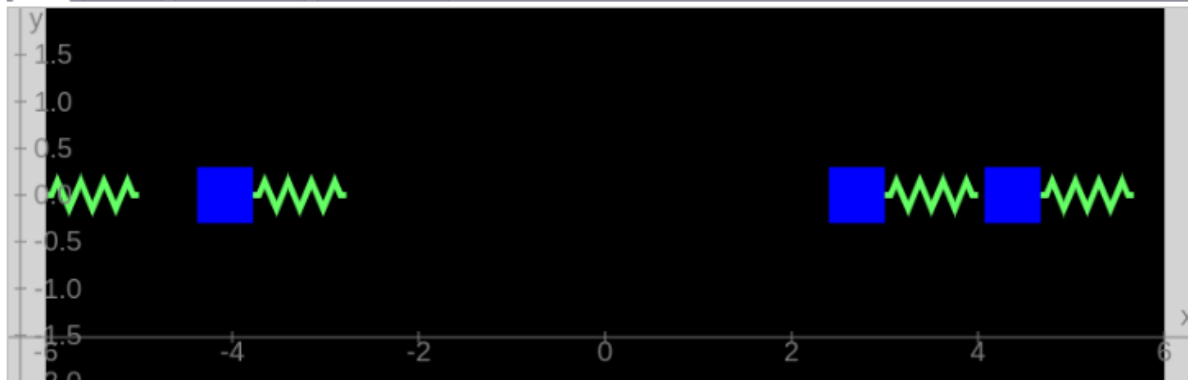
■ Deformation Springs

Collide Springs

myPhysicsLab.com

Sim Graph Time Graph Multi Graph

English previous next



number blocks 3

start position

starting gap

damping 0.00

spring damping 0.00

mass 0.100

spring length 1.00

terminal

spring stiffness 60.0

show energy

show clock

pan-zoom

time step

time rate

Diff Eq Solver

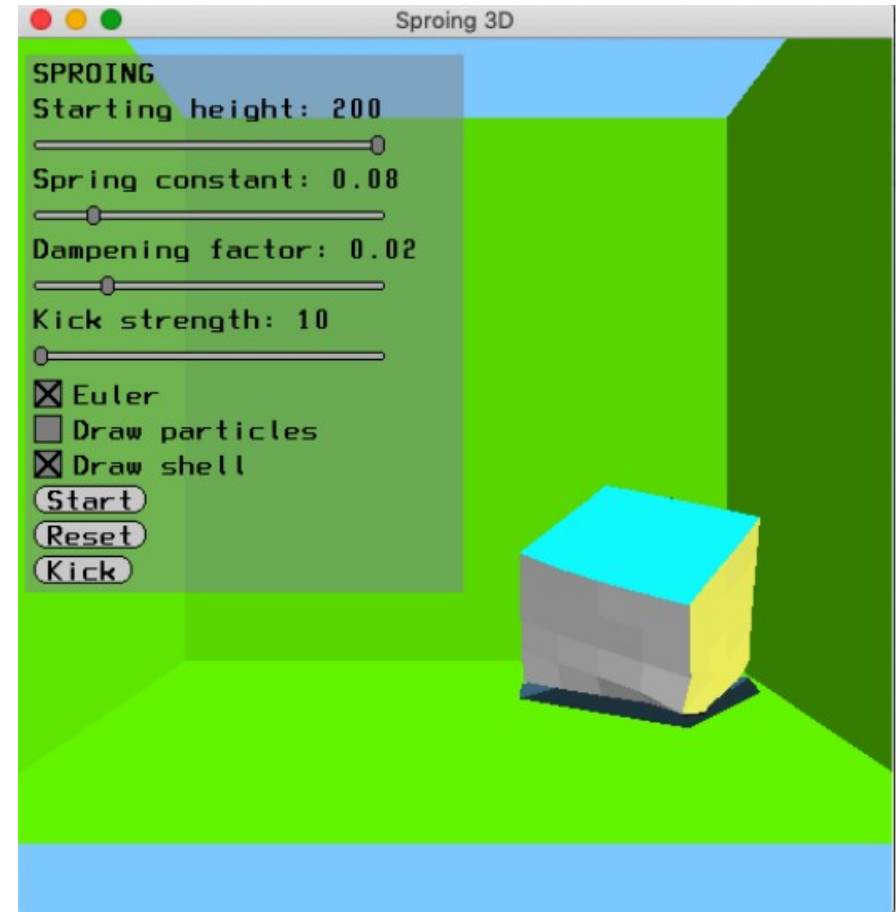
background

<https://www.mypysicslab.com/springs/collide-spring-en.html>

Vibration



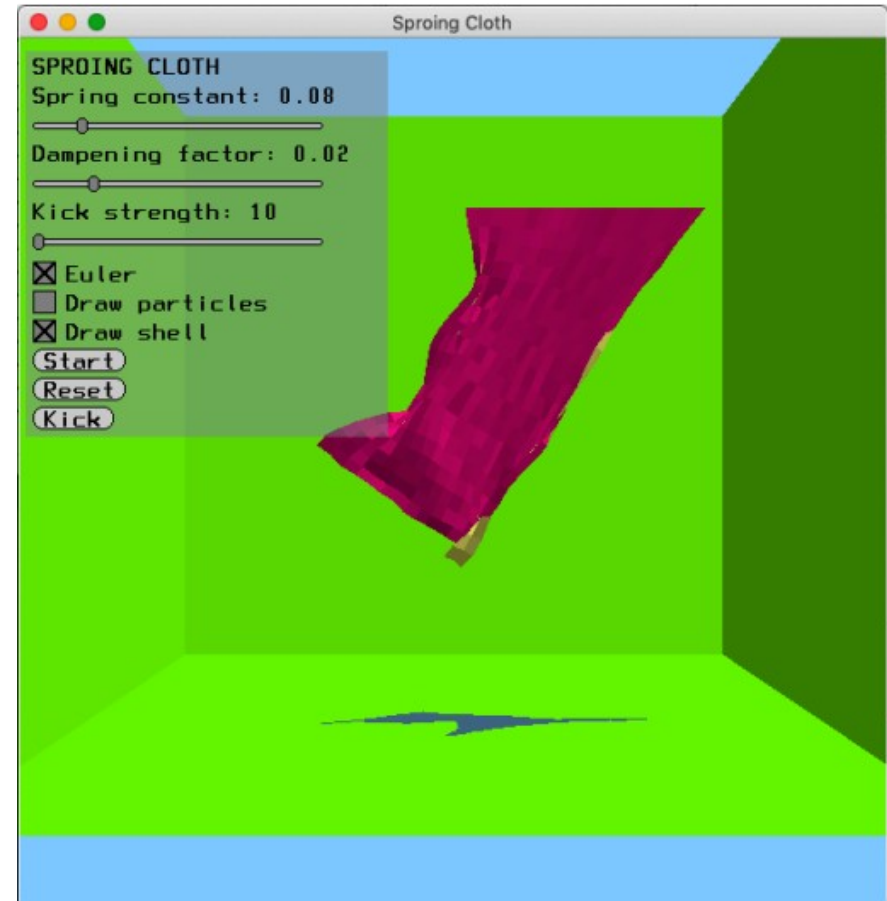
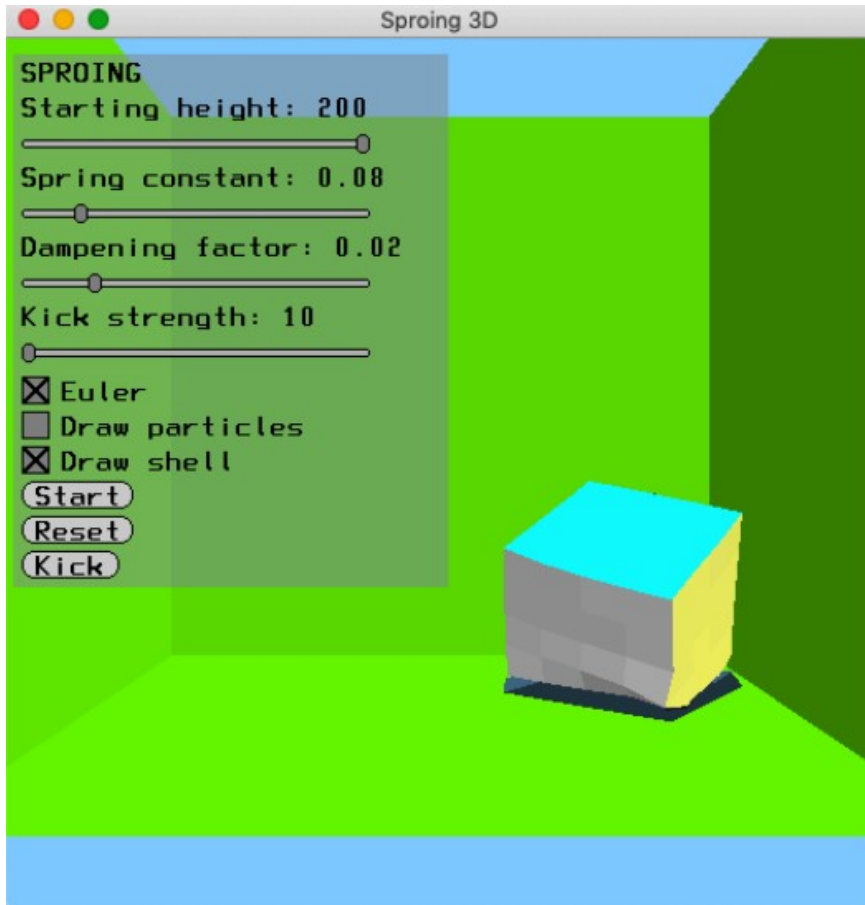
■ Deformation





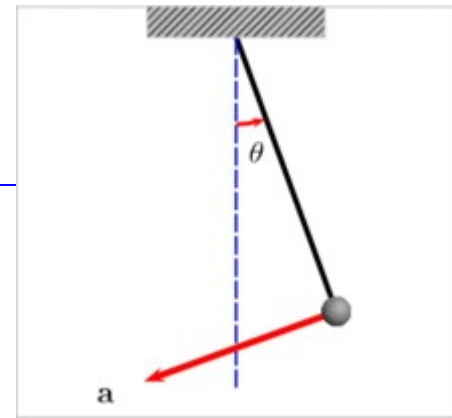
Vibration

■ Deformation



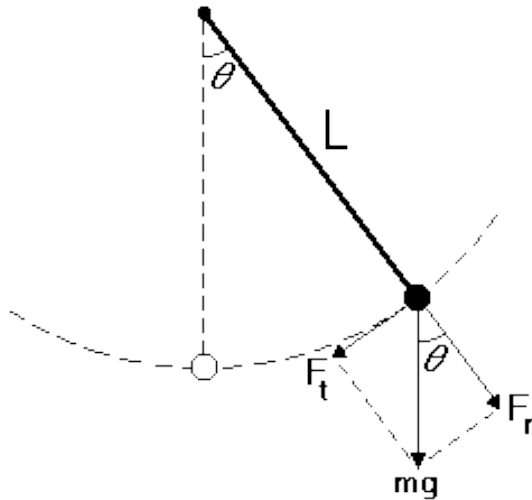
Vibration

■ Pendulum



$$\vec{F} = -mg \sin \theta = -\frac{mg}{L} \Delta \vec{x}$$

$$\vec{F} = -k \Delta \vec{x}$$



Equation of motion: $m \ddot{x} = -kx$

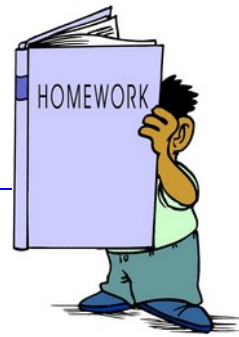
$$\ddot{x} + \omega^2 x = 0 \quad \omega^2 = \frac{g}{L}$$

Solution: $x(t) = A \sin(\omega t + \phi_0)$

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}$$

Vibration

■ Boat



Write the equation of motion for a boat in water.

What is the period of the vibration?