Motion

We can describe motion in three ways:

- 1. Sentences
- 2. Mathematical quantities
- 3. Graphs that show how these quantities change in time.

Position and Distance

- before you can study how something moves, we need to know where it is.
- describe position in terms of its relationship to some other point. Using a scale, 0 would become our reference point.
- when you make 0 the reference point, you have chosen a frame of reference.
- the position of an object is the separation between that object and a reference point.
- distance does not require a frame of reference (direction is not important).
- use +, to describe position.

Scalar quantity - only magnitude distance, work, mass

Vector quantity - magnitude and direction displacement, velocity, acceleration, weight



Describe the motion of the object in sentences and quantify the position and velocity.



Velocity

- to determine velocity, we need to know the position of an object at a particular time (instantaneous position).
- a moving object will generate a series of pairs of instantaneous positions and clock readings
- displacement is the change in position of an object, d.
- the ratio $\Delta d/\Delta t$ is the average velocity of the object.
- if average velocity is the same for every time interval, the object moves with a constant velocity (uniform velocity). Therefore, the ratio $\Delta d/\Delta t$ is constant.
- for the special case of constant velocity, v = d/t

Position Time Graphs

What information can you find on a d-t graph? - velocity

If the displacement is the vertical separation and time is the horizontal separation, the slope = $\Delta d/\Delta t$

Positive and Negative Velocities

- positions can be positive or negative.
- velocities can be positive or negative.
- Ex. A player is on the +20. m line and runs 10 m/s.
 Where will the player end up?
 +30. m line
 +10. m line

If the magnitude of the velocity is 10 m/s you need to assign a direction. If the player runs - 10 m/s, they will end up on the + 10. m line.

negative velocity means DIRECTION not speeding up or down.



Interpreting Position-Time Graphs in order to construct Velocity Time Graphs



- an object does not always move at a constant speed.
- you may speed up or slow down.
- when you are driving on the highway and you look down at your speedometer, you are traveling at
 + 55 km/h. At that instant in time, + 55 km/h is your instantaneous velocity.

To find instantaneous velocity on a position - time graph, draw a line that is tangent to the curve at that point. The slope is the instantaneous velocity (take the two points on the tangent from each side of the point).



from a v-t graph, the displacement can be calculated. d = vt

This is the area under the curve.

