IGCSE PHYSICS • EXERCISE SHEET

1.2 Motion

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 28 marks**

KEY WORDS speed–time graph 速度-时间图 • acceleration 加速度 • terminal velocity 终极速度 • deceleration 减速 • uniform 均匀

Objective

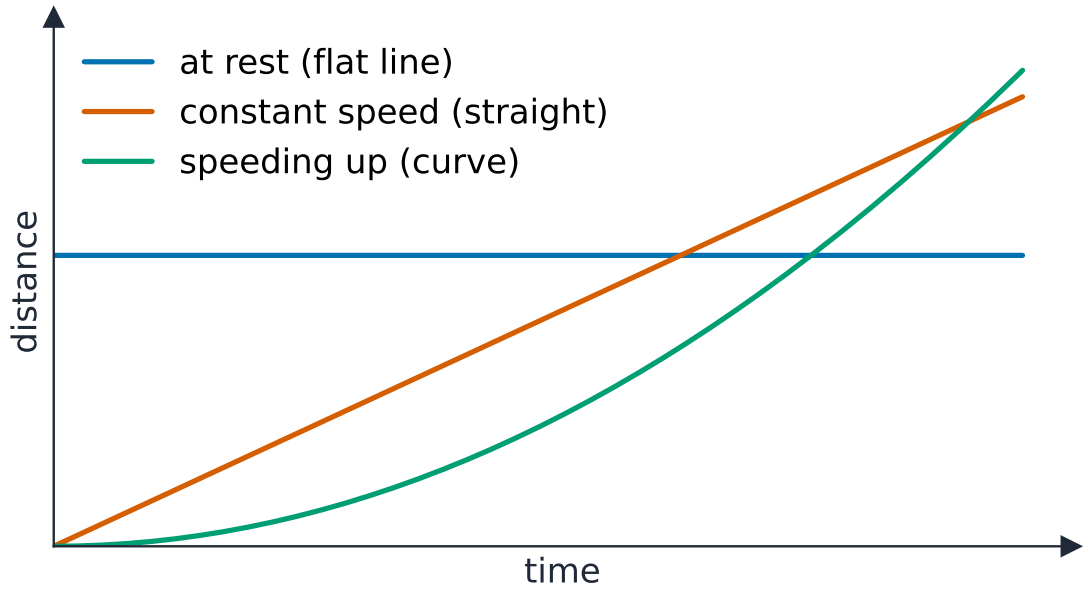
Build the skills to answer exam questions on **motion** 运动 — speed, velocity, **acceleration** 加速度, motion graphs, and **terminal velocity** 终极速度.

You must be able to:

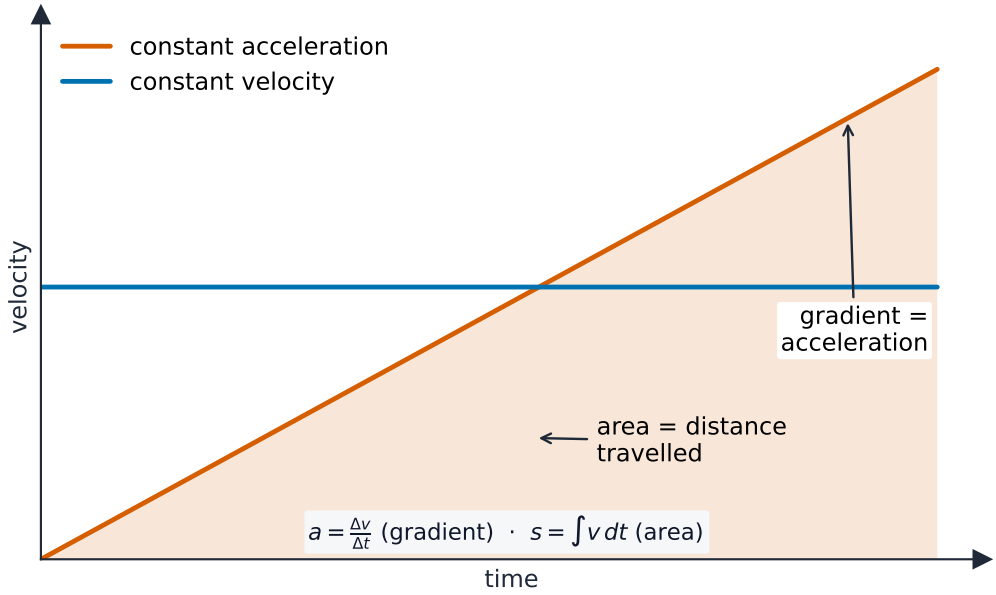
- use $v = \dfrac{s}{t}$ and $a = \dfrac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$
- read distance–time and speed–time graphs (gradient and area)
- describe falling objects and terminal velocity

1 Worked examples

Graphs and acceleration



Distance–time: flat = at rest, straight slope = constant speed, rising curve = speeding up



Velocity–time: gradient = acceleration, area under the line = distance

Car $8 \to 20$ **m/s in** 4.0 **s:** $a = \dfrac{20 - 8}{4.0} = 3.0\ \text{m/s}^2$.

■ Reading a speed-time graph, and deceleration

Describe each straight section of a speed–time graph by name: a horizontal line is **constant speed**; a line sloping up is **constant (uniform) acceleration**; a line sloping down is **constant deceleration**. A **deceleration** 减速 is a negative acceleration, so put a minus sign in the arithmetic: slowing from 12 m/s to 4 m/s in 4.0 s gives $a = \dfrac{4 - 12}{4.0} = -2.0\ \text{m/s}^2$, a deceleration of 2.0 m/s^2.

The **area under a speed-time line** is the distance travelled. Split the area into rectangles and triangles: a rectangle is speed × time; a triangle is $\frac{1}{2}$ × base × height.

Worked example (show that). A bus is at 10 m/s for 120 s, then decelerates uniformly to rest in 40 s. Show that it travels about 1400 m. Rectangle: $10 \times 120 = 1200$ m. Triangle: $\frac{1}{2} \times 40 \times 10 = 200$ m. Total 1400 m. In a "show that" question, always finish with the number the question quotes.

Near the Earth all objects fall with the same **acceleration of free fall** $g \approx 9.8\ \text{m/s}^2$ while air resistance is small. As speed rises, air resistance grows until it equals the weight; the resultant force is then zero and the object falls at a steady **terminal velocity** 收尾速度.

2 Practice

2.1 A runner covers 100 m in 12.5 s. Find the average speed. [2]

2.2 State what the area under a speed–time graph represents. [1]

2.3 A car slows from 18 m/s to 6.0 m/s in 4.0 s. Calculate its acceleration and state what the sign means. [3]

2.4 State how you find the distance travelled from a speed-time graph. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 On a distance–time graph, a horizontal (flat) line means the object is: [1]

A	B
C	D

A accelerating
B at rest
C at constant speed
D decelerating

3.2 A car accelerates uniformly from rest to 24 m/s in 8.0 s.

(a) Find the acceleration. [2]

(b) Find the distance travelled (area under the speed–time graph). [2]

3.3 A skydiver falls and reaches terminal velocity. Explain, in terms of forces, why the speed becomes steady. [3]

3.4 Fig. 3.1 describes the first five minutes of a bus journey. The bus is at rest until $t = 0.90$ min, speeds up uniformly to 7.5 m/s at $t = 2.9$ min, holds that speed until $t = 3.5$ min, then slows uniformly to rest at $t = 4.5$ min.

(a) Describe the motion of the bus between $t = 2.9$ min and $t = 3.5$ min, and between $t = 3.5$ min and $t = 4.5$ min. [2]

(b) Calculate the acceleration of the bus between $t = 0.90$ min and $t = 2.9$ min. [3]

(c) Show that the bus travels about 270 m while it is speeding up. [2]

(d) Calculate the deceleration of the bus in the last minute, and state what the sign of your answer means. [3]

(e) A stone is dropped from a tall building. Describe how its acceleration changes from the moment it is released until it reaches terminal velocity, and explain why. [3]