

# Unit 2 Kinematics

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **October**  
Length: **10 Blocks**  
Status: **Published**

## Topic Outline

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Free Fall and the Acceleration of Gravity

- Introduction / Acceleration of Gravity / Representing Free Fall by Graphs / How Fast? and How Far?

Describing Motion with Equations

- Kinematic Equations / one dimensional Problem-Solving including Free Fall
- Kinematic Equations and Graphs

## Enduring Understandings

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Big things they want to know.

- Ideas can be represented in numerous ways such as graphs, mathematical formulas, free body diagrams, bar charts, etc.
- Scientific laws can be used to make predictions about outcomes.
- Problems can be solved in many different ways and using many different formulas/topics.
- Mathematical representations can be derived using graphs and previous mathematical representations.
- Defining the system (including both the initial and final conditions of the system) is important in solving and understanding problems.
- There are mathematical relationships expressed in physics equations, such as inverse, direct, or exponential.

## Essential Questions

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What should they be able to answer at the end of course.

- Why is having multiple representations so helpful in understanding physics?
- Are there limits to scientific laws?
- How do kinematics, dynamics and momentum relate to each other both conceptually and

mathematically?

- How do graphs help us understand the mathematics behind physics concepts?
- How does defining a system; including both the initial and final conditions, affect problem solving?

## **Student Learning Objectives (PE, SEP, DCI, CCC) & Aligned Standards**

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Standards need to be linked. Hit associated standards NH Student Learning Standards

- Adding and subtracting vectors will be discussed.
- Students will be given equations to utilize while solving kinematics problems.
- Students will be able to draw and analyze graphs.

Given a graph of position or velocity as a function of time, recognize in what time intervals the position, velocity and acceleration of an object are positive, negative, or zero and sketch a graph of each quantity as a function of time. *[Clarification Statement: Students should be able to accurately move from one representation of motion to another.]* (PS2.A)

Represent forces in diagrams or mathematically using appropriately labeled vectors with magnitude, direction, and units during the analysis of a situation. (PS2.A)

Understand and apply the relationship between the net force exerted on an object, its inertial mass, and its acceleration to a variety of situations. (PS2.A)

### **Performance Expectations**

**Analyze data to support the claim that Newton's second law of motion describes the mathematical relationship among the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass, and its acceleration.** *[Clarification Statement: Examples of data could include tables or graphs of position or velocity as a function of time for objects subject to a net unbalanced force, such as a falling object, an object rolling down a ramp, or a moving object being pulled by a constant force.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to one-dimensional motion and to macroscopic objects moving at non-relativistic speeds.]* (HS-PS2-1)

Use mathematical representations to support the claim that the total momentum of a system of objects is conserved when there is no net force on the system. *[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the quantitative conservation of momentum in interactions and the qualitative meaning of this principle.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to systems of two macroscopic bodies moving in one dimension.]* (HS-PS2-2)

Apply scientific and engineering ideas to design, evaluate, and refine a device that minimizes the force on a

macroscopic object during a collision. *[Clarification Statement: Examples of evaluation and refinement could include determining the success of the device at protecting an object from damage and modifying the design to improve it. Examples of a device could include a football helmet or a parachute.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to qualitative evaluations and/or algebraic manipulations.]* (HS-PS2-3)

Design a solution to a complex real-world problem by breaking it down into smaller, more manageable problems that can be solved through engineering. (HS-ETS1-2)

Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem based on prioritized criteria and trade-offs that account for a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, as well as possible social, cultural, and environmental impacts. (HS-ETS1-3)

## Science and Engineering Practices

### Analyzing and Interpreting Data

- Analyze data using tools, technologies, and/or models (e.g., computational, mathematical) in order to make valid and reliable scientific claims or determine an optimal design solution. (HS-PS2-1)

### Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking

- Use mathematical representations of phenomena to describe explanations. (HS-PS2-2)

### Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

- Apply scientific ideas to solve a design problem, taking into account possible unanticipated effects. (HS-PS2-3)
- Design a solution to a complex real world problem, based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations. (HS-ETS1-2)
- Evaluate a solution to a complex real world problem, based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations. (HS-ETS1-3)

## Disciplinary Core Ideas

### PS2.A: Forces and Motion

- Newton's second law accurately predicts changes in the motion of macroscopic objects. (HS-PS2-1)
- Momentum is defined for a particular frame of reference; it is the mass times the velocity of the object. (HS-PS2-2)
- If a system interacts with objects outside itself, the total momentum of the system can change; however, any such change is balanced by changes in the momentum of objects outside the system.

(HS-PS2-2)

### **ETS1.A: Defining and Delimiting Engineering Problems**

- Criteria and constraints also include satisfying any requirements set by society, such as taking issues of risk mitigation into account, and they should be quantified to the extent possible and stated in such a way that one can tell if a given design meets them. (secondary to HS-PS23)

### **ETS1.C: Optimizing the Design Solution**

- Criteria may need to be broken down into simpler ones that can be approached systematically, and decisions about the priority of certain criteria over others (tradeoffs) may be needed. (secondary to (HS-PS2-3)

### **ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions**

- When evaluating solutions, it is important to take into account a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, and to consider social, cultural, and environmental impacts. (HS-ETS1-3)

## **Crosscutting Concepts**

### **Cause and Effect**

- Empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and make claims about specific causes and effects. (HS-PS21)
- Systems can be designed to cause a desired effect. (HS-PS2-3)

### **Systems and System Models**

- When investigating or describing a system, the boundaries and initial conditions of the system need to be defined. (HS-PS2-2)

## **Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science**

### **Influence of Science, Engineering, and Technology on Society and the Natural World**

- New technologies can have deep impacts on society and the environment, including some that were not anticipated. Analysis of costs and benefits is a critical aspect of decisions about technology. (HS-ETS1-3)

### **Connections to Nature of Science**

### **Science Models, Laws, Mechanisms, and Theories Explain Natural Phenomena**

- Theories and laws provide explanations in science. (HS-PS2-1)

- Laws are statements or descriptions of the relationships among observable phenomena. (HS-PS2-1)

SCI.9-12.1.2	Classifications or explanations used at one scale may fail or need revision when information from smaller or larger scales is introduced; thus requiring improved investigations and experiments.
SCI.9-12.1.3	Patterns of performance of designed systems can be analyzed and interpreted to reengineer and improve the system.
SCI.9-12.1.4	Mathematical representations are needed to identify some patterns.
SCI.9-12.1.5	Empirical evidence is needed to identify patterns.
SCI.9-12.2.2	Cause and effect relationships can be suggested and predicted for complex natural and human designed systems by examining what is known about smaller scale mechanisms within the system.
SCI.9-12.2.3	Systems can be designed to cause a desired effect.
SCI.9-12.2.4	Changes in systems may have various causes that may not have equal effects.
SCI.9-12.3.2	Some systems can only be studied indirectly as they are too small, too large, too fast, or too slow to observe directly.
SCI.9-12.3.3	Patterns observable at one scale may not be observable or exist at other scales.
SCI.9-12.3.4	Using the concept of orders of magnitude allows one to understand how a model at one scale relates to a model at another scale.
SCI.9-12.3.5	Algebraic thinking is used to examine scientific data and predict the effect of a change in one variable on another (e.g., linear growth vs. exponential growth).
SCI.9-12.4.2	When investigating or describing a system, the boundaries and initial conditions of the system need to be defined and their inputs and outputs analyzed and described using models.
SCI.9-12.4.3	Models (e.g., physical, mathematical, computer models) can be used to simulate systems and interactions—including energy, matter, and information flows—within and between systems at different scales.
SCI.9-12.4.4	Models can be used to predict the behavior of a system, but these predictions have limited precision and reliability due to the assumptions and approximations inherent in models.
SCI.9-12.7.2	Change and rates of change can be quantified and modeled over very short or very long periods of time. Some system changes are irreversible.
SCI.9-12.CCC.1.1	students observe patterns in systems at different scales and cite patterns as empirical evidence for causality in supporting their explanations of phenomena. They recognize classifications or explanations used at one scale may not be useful or need revision using a different scale; thus requiring improved investigations and experiments. They use mathematical representations to identify certain patterns and analyze patterns of performance in order to reengineer and improve a designed system.
SCI.9-12.CCC.2	Cause and effect: Mechanism and explanation.
SCI.9-12.CCC.2.1	students understand that empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about specific causes and effects. They suggest cause and effect relationships to explain and predict behaviors in complex natural and designed systems. They also propose causal relationships by examining what is known about smaller scale mechanisms within the system. They recognize changes in systems may have various causes that may not have equal effects.
SCI.9-12.CCC.3	Scale, proportion, and quantity.

SCI.9-12.CCC.3.1	students understand the significance of a phenomenon is dependent on the scale, proportion, and quantity at which it occurs. They recognize patterns observable at one scale may not be observable or exist at other scales, and some systems can only be studied indirectly as they are too small, too large, too fast, or too slow to observe directly. Students use orders of magnitude to understand how a model at one scale relates to a model at another scale. They use algebraic thinking to examine scientific data and predict the effect of a change in one variable on another (e.g., linear growth vs. exponential growth).
SCI.9-12.CCC.7.1	students understand much of science deals with constructing explanations of how things change and how they remain stable. They quantify and model changes in systems over very short or very long periods of time. They see some changes are irreversible, and negative feedback can stabilize a system, while positive feedback can destabilize it. They recognize systems can be designed for greater or lesser stability.
SCI.HS-PS2-1	<p>Analyze data to support the claim that Newton’s second law of motion describes the mathematical relationship among the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass, and its acceleration.</p> <p>Observed patterns in nature guide organization and classification and prompt questions about relationships and causes underlying them.</p> <p>Defining the system under study—specifying its boundaries and making explicit a model of that system—provides tools for understanding and testing ideas that are applicable throughout science and engineering.</p> <p>Events have causes, sometimes simple, sometimes multifaceted. A major activity of science is investigating and explaining causal relationships and the mechanisms by which they are mediated. Such mechanisms can then be tested across given contexts and used to predict and explain events in new contexts.</p>

## Concepts & Formative Assessment

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### Part A: How do they know how long the yellow light should be on before it turns red? (*traffic light*)

#### Concepts

- Theories and laws provide explanations in science.
- Laws are statements or descriptions of the relationships among observable phenomena.
- Empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about specific causes and effects.
- Newton’s second law accurately predicts changes in the motion of macroscopic objects.

#### Formative Assessment

*Students who understand the concepts are able to:*

- Analyze data using tools, technologies, and/or models to support the claim that Newton's second law of motion describes the mathematical relationship among the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass, and its acceleration.
- Analyze data using one-dimensional motion at nonrelativistic speeds to support the claim that Newton's second law of motion describes the mathematical relationship among the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass, and its acceleration.

## **Part B: How can a piece of space debris the size of a pencil eraser destroy the International Space Station?**

### **Concepts**

- Momentum is defined for a particular frame of reference; it is the mass times the velocity of the object.
- If a system interacts with objects outside itself, the total momentum of the system can change; however, any such change is balanced by changes in the momentum of objects outside the system.
- When investigating or describing a system, the boundaries and initial conditions of the system need to be defined.

### **Formative Assessment**

*Students who understand the concepts are able to:*

- Analyze data using tools, technologies, and/or models to support the claim that Newton's second law of motion describes the mathematical relationship among the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass, and its acceleration.
- Analyze data using one-dimensional motion at nonrelativistic speeds to support the claim that Newton's second law of motion describes the mathematical relationship among the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass, and its acceleration.

**Part C: Red light cameras were placed in intersections to reduce the number of collisions caused by cars running red lights. Many people thought that they were unfair and demanded that they be removed. As an expert on the physics of moving bodies, you are challenged to engineer traffic signals to proactively reduce the number of people entering an intersection after the light turns red. The cost of the redesign must not exceed 10% of the current cost of current traffic signals or the energy needed to operate them.**

### **Concepts**

- If a system interacts with objects outside itself, the total momentum of the system can change; however, any such change is balanced by changes in the momentum of objects outside the system.
- Criteria and constraints also include satisfying any requirements set by society, such as taking issues of risk mitigation into account, and the criteria and constraints should be quantified to the extent possible and stated in such a way that one can determine whether a given design meets them.
- Criteria may need to be broken down into simpler ones that can be approached systematically, and decisions about the priority of certain criteria over others (trade-offs) may be needed.
- When evaluating solutions, it is important to take into account a range of constraints—including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics—and to consider social, cultural, and environmental impacts.
- New technologies can have deep impacts on society and the environment, including some that were not anticipated. Analysis of costs and benefits is a critical aspect of decisions about technology.
- Systems can be designed to cause a desired effect.

## Formative Assessment

*Students who understand the concepts are able to:*

- Apply scientific and engineering ideas to design, evaluate, and refine a device that minimizes the force on a macroscopic object during a collision.
- Apply scientific ideas to solve a design problem for a device that minimizes the force on a macroscopic object during a collision, taking into account possible unanticipated effects.
- Use qualitative evaluations and /or algebraic manipulations to design and refine a device that minimizes the force on a macroscopic object during a collision.

## Resources

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[Forces in One Dimension](#): Explore the forces at work when you try to push a filing cabinet. Create an applied force and see the resulting friction force and total force acting on the cabinet. Charts show the forces, position, velocity, and acceleration vs. time. View a Free Body Diagram of all the forces (including gravitational and normal forces).

[Forces and Motion](#): Explore the forces at work when you try to push a filing cabinet. Create an applied force and see the resulting friction force and total force acting on the cabinet. Charts show the forces, position, velocity, and acceleration vs. time. View a Free Body Diagram of all the forces (including gravitational and normal forces).

[Parachute and Terminal Velocity](#): How does an object's speed change as it falls through the atmosphere? When first learning about how objects fall, usually just one force—gravity—is considered. Such a simplification only accurately describes falling motion in a vacuum. This model of a parachute carrying a load incorporates a second force—air resistance—and allows experimentation with two variables that affect its speed: the size of the parachute and the mass of its load. This model graphs both the parachute's height above the Earth's surface and its speed after it is released. Motion continues until a constant speed is achieved, the terminal velocity.

[Physics Teaching Technology Resource \(http://paer.rutgers.edu/pt3/\)](http://paer.rutgers.edu/pt3/)

Videos to help students develop ideas using the scientific process, test ideas, and disprove ideas.

[The Physics Classroom \(http://www.physicsclassroom.com/class\)](http://www.physicsclassroom.com/class)

Tutorials and resources for all physics topics. For this unit, there are helpful graphing, motion diagram, and free body diagram activities.



## Connections to NJSL

### English Language Arts

Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to important distinctions the author makes and to any gaps or inconsistencies in the account. (HS-PS2-1) **RST.11-12.1**

Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., quantitative data, video, multimedia) in order to address a question or solve a problem. (HS-PS2-1) **RST.11-12.7**

Evaluate the hypotheses, data, analysis, and conclusions in a science or technical text, verifying the data when possible and corroborating or challenging conclusions with other sources of information. (HS-ETS1-3) **RST.11-12.8**

Synthesize information from a range of sources (e.g., texts, experiments, simulations) into a coherent understanding of a process, phenomenon, or concept, resolving conflicting information when possible. (HS-ETS1-3) **RST.11-12.9**

Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. (HS-PS2-3), (HS-ETS1-3) **WHST.11-12.7**

Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. (HS-PS2-1) **WHST.11-12.9**

### MATHEMATICS

Reason abstractly and quantitatively. (HS-PS2-1), (HS-PS2-2), (HS-ETS1-1), (HS-ETS1-3), (HS-ETS1-4) **MP.2**

Model with mathematics. (HS-PS2-1),(HS-PS2-2),(HS-ETS1-2),(HS-ETS1-3),(HS-ETS1-4) **MP.4**

Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multi-step problems; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays. (HS-PS2-1),(HS-PS2-2) **HSN.Q.A.1**

Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling. (HS-PS2-1),(HS-PS2-2) **HSN.Q.A.2**

Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities. (HS-PS2-1),(HS-PS2-2) **HSN.Q.A.3**

Interpret expressions that represent a quantity in terms of its context. (HS-PS2-1) **HSA.SSE.A.1**

Choose and produce an equivalent form of an expression to reveal and explain properties of the quantity represented by the expression. **HSA.SSE.B.3** (HS-PS2-1)

Create equations and inequalities in one variable and use them to solve problems. (HS-PS2-1),(HS-PS2-2) **HSA.CED.A.1**

Create equations in two or more variables to represent relationships between quantities; graph equations on coordinate axes with labels and scales. (HS-PS2-1),(HS-PS2-2) **HSA.CED.A.2**

Rearrange formulas to highlight a quantity of interest, using the same reasoning as in solving equations. (HS-PS2-1),(HS-PS2-2) **HSA.CED.A.4**

Graph functions expressed symbolically and show key features of the graph, by hand in simple cases and using technology for more complicated cases. (HS-PS2-1) **HSF-IF.C.7**

Represent data with plots on the real number line (dot plots, histograms, and box plots). (HS-PS2-1) **HSS-IS.A.1**