

Acceleration

- Acceleration:

$$a = \frac{\text{change in velocity}}{\text{change in time}} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$

Standard units of acceleration : m/s^2

- If there were no air resistance, all objects in Earth gravity would fall with the same acceleration,

$$g = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ (directed downward)}$$

- For motion at constant acceleration a , with no initial speed, the displacement after time t is:

$$Dx = v_{\text{average}} t = \left(\frac{0 + at}{2} \right) \times t = \frac{at^2}{2}$$



Galileo Galilei's experiment in Pisa
(possibly, a legend)

Homework 4

Problem 1. An ball is thrown vertically upwards with initial speed $v_0=30\text{m/s}$. Gravitational acceleration is $g =10 \text{ m/s}^2$, and is directed downward. What will be the velocity of the ball after time $t=4\text{s}$?

Problem 2.

Suppose that you are trying to reproduce an experiment of Galileo by dropping a rock from certain tower. The time of its free fall turns out to be $t=5.0$ seconds.

- a) How tall is the tower?
- b) What will be the time of the rock's fall if it is dropped from half the tower's height?

Problem 3.

The largest passenger airplane, Airbus A380, has acceleration $a=2 \text{ m/s}^2$ during its take-off.

- a) How much time it needs to reach the take off speed $v= 280 \text{ km/hr}$?
- b) How long the runway should be?