

# Impulse-Momentum Equation for Particles

**Linear, not Angular, Momentum:** In this section, we deal with **linear momentum** ( $m\vec{v}$ ) of particles only. Another section of your book talks about **linear** ( $m\vec{v}_G$ ) and **angular** ( $I_G\omega$ ) momentum of rigid bodies.

**An Integrated Form of  $F=ma$ :** The impulse-momentum (I-M) equation is a reformulation—an integrated form, like the work-energy equation—of the equation of motion,  $F=ma$ .

**Particle Impulse-Momentum Equation  
Important! This is a Vector Equation!**

$$m\vec{v}_1 + \int \vec{F}dt = m\vec{v}_2$$

Initial  
Linear Momentum  
=  $m\vec{v}_1$

“Impulse”  
=  $\int \vec{F}dt$

Final  
Linear Momentum  
=  $m\vec{v}_2$

A diagram showing the impulse-momentum equation for a particle. The equation is enclosed in a rectangular box:  $m\vec{v}_1 + \int \vec{F}dt = m\vec{v}_2$ . Three arrows point from labels below to the terms in the equation. The left arrow points to  $m\vec{v}_1$  and is labeled "Initial Linear Momentum =  $m\vec{v}_1$ ". The middle arrow points to the integral term  $\int \vec{F}dt$  and is labeled "Impulse" =  $\int \vec{F}dt$ ". The right arrow points to  $m\vec{v}_2$  and is labeled "Final Linear Momentum =  $m\vec{v}_2$ ".

# Derivation of the Impulse-Momentum Equation

## Derivation of the Impulse-Momentum Equation

**Typical Eqn of Motion:**  $\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$

**Sub in  $\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$  :**  $\vec{F} = m\frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$

**If mass is changing:**  
(e.g. for a rocket...)  
(Newton wrote it this way...)

$$\vec{F} = \frac{d}{dt}(m\vec{v})$$

**Net Force =  
time rate of  
change of  
momentum**

**Separate variables:**  $\vec{F} dt = m d\vec{v}$

**Set up integrals:**  $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \vec{F} dt = \int_{v_1}^{v_2} m d\vec{v}$

**Integrate:**  $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \vec{F} dt = m\vec{v}_2 - m\vec{v}_1$

**Usual form:**  $m\vec{v}_1 + \int \vec{F} dt = m\vec{v}_2$

# “Impulse” vs. “Impulsive Force”

**Particle Impulse-Momentum Equation**

$$m\vec{v}_1 + \int \vec{F}dt = m\vec{v}_2$$

Initial Momentum      “Impulse” =  $\int \vec{F}dt$       Final Momentum

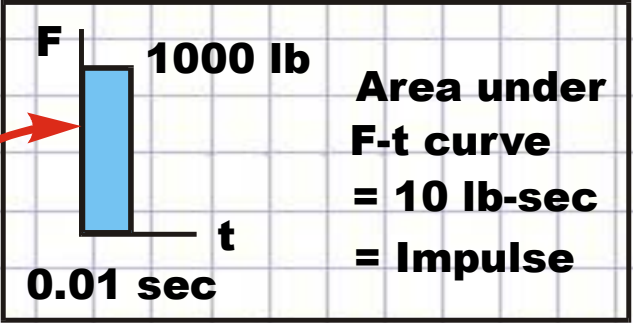
**Impulse**  
= Area under Force-time curve  
= Any force acting over any time....  
e.g. 100 lb for two weeks....

**Impulsive Force:**  
A relatively large force which acts over a very short period of time, like in an impact, e.g. bat-on-ball, soccer kick, hammer-on-nail, etc.

**Impulse =  $\int \vec{F}dt$**

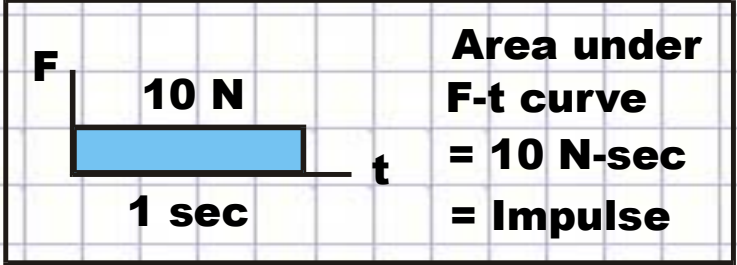
e.g. 1000 lb acting in a 0.01 sec impact

**Impulsive Force**



or 10 N acting for 1 second...

**Non-Impulsive Force**



# Applications of the Impulse-Momentum Equation

**For any problems involving  $F$ ,  $v$ ,  $t$ :** The impulse momentum equation may be used for *any problems* involving the variables force  $F$ , velocity  $v$ , and time  $t$ . The IM equation is not directly helpful for determining acceleration,  $a$ , or displacement,  $s$ .

**Helpful for impulsive forces:** The IM equation is most helpful for problems involving impulsive forces. Impulsive forces are relatively large forces that act over relatively short periods of time, for example during impact. If one knows the velocities, and hence momenta, of a particle before and after the action of an impulse, then one can easily determine the impulse. If the time of impulse is known, then one can calculate the average force  $F_{\text{avg}}$  that acts during the impulse.

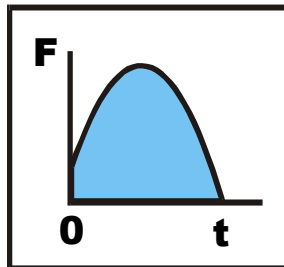
**For problems involving graph of  $F$  vs.  $t$ :** Some problems give a graph of Force vs. time. The area under this curve is impulse. Important: You may need to find  $t_{\text{start}}$  for motion!

# Various Forms of the Impulse-Momentum Equation

## Various Forms of the I-M Equation

### Force During Impact:

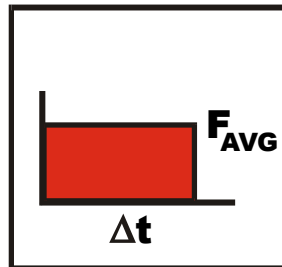
Actual Force



Impulse = Area under curve...

$$= \int \vec{F} dt$$

Often Modeled as



$$= \vec{F}_{AVG} \Delta t$$

### General Form:

$$m\vec{v}_1 + \int \vec{F} dt = m\vec{v}_2$$

If force  $F$  is constant:

$$m\vec{v}_1 + \vec{F}_{AVG} \Delta t = m\vec{v}_2$$

Know vectors  $\vec{v}_1$  and  $\vec{v}_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \int \vec{F} dt &= m\vec{v}_2 - m\vec{v}_1 \\ &= m(\vec{v}_2 - \vec{v}_1) \end{aligned}$$

If force  $F$  is constant:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F}_{AVG} \Delta t &= m\vec{v}_2 - m\vec{v}_1 \\ &= m(\vec{v}_2 - \vec{v}_1) \end{aligned}$$

Impulse produces change in momentum



# I-M Equation Compared to the Work-Energy Equation

Comparison	Impulse-Momentum Eqn	Work-Energy Eqn
<p><b>Both derived from <math>F=ma</math></b></p>	<p>First write: <math>\vec{F} = m \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}</math></p> <p>Integrate: <math>\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \vec{F} dt = \int_{v_1}^{v_2} m d\vec{v}</math></p>	<p>Work: <math>dU = F \cdot ds = m a ds</math></p> <p>Eqn of Motion: <math>F = ma</math></p> <p>Kinematics: <math>a ds = v dv</math></p> <p>Integrate: <math>\int_1^2 dU = \int_{v_1}^{v_2} m v dv</math></p>
<p><b>Equation</b></p>	$m\vec{v}_1 + \int \vec{F} dt = m\vec{v}_2$	$\frac{1}{2} m v_1^2 + \sum U_{1-2} = \frac{1}{2} m v_2^2$ <p>or</p> $\frac{1}{2} m v_1^2 + \int F ds = \frac{1}{2} m v_2^2$
<p><b>Equation Explained</b></p>	<p>Impulse <math>\int \vec{F} dt</math> produces a change in momentum, <math>\Delta m\vec{v}</math></p>	<p>Work <math>\sum U_{1-2}</math> or <math>\int F ds</math> effects a change in KE, <math>\Delta \frac{1}{2} m v^2</math></p>
<p><b>Vector or Scalar?</b></p>	<p><b>A vector equation!</b></p>	<p><b>A scalar equation!</b></p>
<p><b>Applications</b></p>	<p>Problems involving <math>v, F, t</math>.</p> <p>Not for problems needing accel, <math>a</math>, or displacement, <math>s</math>.</p>	<p>Problems involving <math>v, F, s</math>.</p> <p>Not for problems needing accel, <math>a</math>, or time, <math>t</math>.</p>