This is a skill that even mini-putt golfers need to learn. You are going to putt the ball, and you must get it to stop within a circle painted on the grass. Let's try it, and then analyze the motion of the golf ball.



- 1. **Read over the whole lab exercise**. Decide what you are trying to find out.
- 2. **Plan your measurements.** Practice a few times. How will you make the measurements that you need? Write your plans here.

Things you need to know:

1. **Make the measurements** on your golf putt. Record the **m**ass of the golf ball, and all of the **t**ime and **d**istance measurements on the diagram below.



2. **Print your time measurements** on the v:t graph below. (not to scale)



3. Calculate the maximum speed of the golf ball and print that on the v:t graph above. Note that the golf ball begins to decelerate the instant that it reaches v_{max} . There is no "constant velocity" segment in this motion.

1. The area under a v:t graph is the distance traveled in that part of the graph!! Calculate the time t, the displacement d and the greatest velocity v for each section of the graph. Note that ball accelerates for a very short time. The golf ball decelerates for nearly the entire motion, until it comes to rest.



- 2. Compare the velocities of each section of the graph. The maximum velocity should be the same.
- 3. Compare the displacements. The three sections should add up to your total measurements.
- 4. Compare the times. The times in the three sections should add up to your measured total times.
- 5. Make changes to your graphs to make a closer fit to your measurements.
- 6. Sketch a new v:t graph with all of your changes.

Velocity, metres per second

Time, seconds

Momentum is "mass in motion." It is easily found by multiplying the mass of the golf ball by the maximum velocity of the golf ball. The small mass and small velocity of the putt means that the momentum is also quite small.



1. Calculate the momentum at **R**, v_{max} and **S**. Remember... Momentum p = mv





Impulse **j** is the "jolt" or the "oomph" that is given to any object when it changes its velocity. The impulse is the "change in momentum." On your *momentum : time* graph, the impulse **j** is the *height* of the triangle, or the *rise* of the triangle.

The time taken to deliver the "jolt" or "oomph" on your *momentum : time* graph is **t**.



3. Find the impulse **j** and the time **t** for the golf putt and mark them on the graph below.

An impulse always involves a force. The sudden change in momentum when the putter hits the ball involves greater force. The gradual change in momentum when the ball rolls over the grass involves less force. The size of the force can be found by the equation $F = j \div t$.

4. Find the Force that was exerted.

Force of the putter hitting the golf ball



Force of the grass stopping the golf ball



6 What did you learn?	Golf Putt