

1C20.35/1G10.10 Constant Acceleration Air Track

1C20.35: To demonstrate motion with uniform acceleration in the absence of friction. 1G10.10: To demonstrate Newton's second law in the absence of friction.

DESCRIPTION An air track is set on an incline and a glider is released from the top of the incline. The glider moves down the incline with uniform acceleration.

SUGGESTED TECHNIQUE

- 1. Turn on the blower using the extension cord switch.
- 2. Place the glider at the top of the incline. Note that the glider travels from one end of the track to the other with (approximately) constant acceleration.
- 3. Increase the height of the lab jack to increase the angle of the track and repeat step 2. Note how this affects the acceleration of the glider.
- 4. Turn off the blower at the end of the demonstration.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

LOCATION OF APPARATUS

EQUIPMENT	LOCATION
Air Track	Long Stock Shelves
	Room 066
Gliders	Mechanics F
Blower and Hoses	Above General Use D
Labjack	General Use C

LOCATION OF COMMON ACCESSORIES

SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Setup Time ~25 min

- 1. Connect the blower to an extension cord with a switch so it can be turned on and off.
- 2. Connect one end of the hose to the blower and the other end to the air track.
- 3. Turn on the blower and wipe the track down with a kim wipe to remove dust.
- 4. Place one side of the track on top of a labjack at the lowest height setting (the side not connected to the hose is recommended).

5. Provide the glider.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES