Worksheet for Exploration 5.6: Air Friction



Two identical balls are dropped. The one on the left is in a resistive medium represented by varying shades of blue. The resistive force is represented as $b v^n$, where b is a constant between 0 and 2 and n is an integer between 0 and 2 (note that as you vary n, the units of b also change). Restart.

Select values for b and n, and then click on a graph link to show the motion and that particular graph. When you get a good-looking graph, right-click on it to clone the graph and

resize it for a better view.

- a. How does your choice of n (0, 1, 2) affect the unit of b?
 - i. Write out each equation for $F_{resistive}$ = , and then solve for b's. Give units.

b₀→_____

 $b_1 \rightarrow$ _____

b₂→_____

b. For b = 1, how does your choice of n (0, 1, 2) affect the position vs. time graph?

c. For b = 1, how does your choice of n (0, 1, 2) affect the velocity vs. time graph?

d. For b = 1, how does your choice of n (0, 1, 2) affect the acceleration vs. time graph?

e. For b = 1, how does your choice of n (0, 1, 2) affect the terminal velocity?