

Answer on Question #47492, Physics, Mechanics - Kinematics - Dynamics

A car drives in a highway exceeding the speed limit with a constant speed of 160 km/h and passes a motionless police car. Immediately the police car commences the pursuit in the exact instant the first car passes the police car. The police car accelerates the vehicle at 3 m/s^2 constantly if it continues at this rate; calculate the time it will spend to catch up with the civilian car and the distance it will take to do so.

Distance, traveled by the car:

$$S = vt$$

Police car should travel the same distance at the same time:

$$S = \frac{at^2}{2}$$

We will get equation

$$vt = \frac{at^2}{2} \Rightarrow t = \frac{2v}{a} = 2 \cdot \frac{\frac{160 \text{ m}}{3.6 \text{ s}}}{3 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}} \approx 29.6 \text{ s}$$

Traveled distance:

$$S = \frac{160 \text{ m}}{3.6 \text{ s}} \cdot 29.6 \text{ s} \approx 1316 \text{ m}$$

Answer: time to catch $t \approx 29.6 \text{ s}$

Traveled distance: $S \approx 1316 \text{ m}$