



A spaceship of mass  $M = 26 \text{ tonnes} = 26 \times 10^3 \text{ kg}$  is coasting toward Mars at  $\vec{v}_0 = 15 \text{ km/s} = 15 \times 10^3 \text{ m/s}$ .

The engines unexpectedly fire for 2 minutes, pushing the ship with a force  $\vec{F} = 500 \text{ kN} = 500 \times 10^3 \text{ N}$  away from Mars.

a) After engines stop, what is ship's velocity?

$$\vec{a}_x = \frac{\vec{F}}{M} = \frac{500 \times 10^3 \text{ N}}{26 \times 10^3 \text{ kg}} = 19.23 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \text{ in neg x dir to left}$$

$$V_f = V_i + a_x t = 15,000 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} - (19.23 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2})(120 \text{ s})$$

$$\vec{V}_f = 12,692 \text{ m/s toward Mars}$$

$$= 13,000 \text{ m/s if using significant figures}$$

b) How many miles behind schedule is ship now?

If engines had not fired, in those 2 minutes, would have travelled

$$d_{\text{plan}} = (15,000 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}})(120\text{s}) = 1.8 \times 10^6 \text{ m toward Mars}$$

But because engines did fire, distance actually travelled was

$$\begin{aligned} d_{\text{actual}} &= v_i t + \frac{1}{2} a_x t^2 \\ &= (15,000 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}})(120\text{s}) + \frac{1}{2} (-19.23 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2})(120\text{s})^2 \\ &= 1.662 \times 10^6 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

So ship is behind the planned schedule by

$$\begin{aligned} d_{\text{plan}} - d_{\text{actual}} &\approx 138,000 \text{ m} \times \left( \frac{1 \text{ mile}}{1609 \text{ m}} \right) \\ &\approx 86 \text{ miles} \end{aligned}$$

c) When engines started to fire, ship was how far from Mars?

$$D = 10 \text{ hours} \times \left( \frac{3600 \text{ s}}{1 \text{ hour}} \right) \times (15,000 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}) = 5.4 \times 10^8 \text{ m}$$

During the engine-firing duration of 2 minutes, ship travelled

$$d_{\text{actual}} = 1.662 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$$

So the total distance remaining is

$$\begin{aligned}\text{remaining dist} &= D - d_{\text{actual}} \\ &= 5.38338 \times 10^8 \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

Ship is now moving at slower speed

$$V_f = 12,692 \text{ m/s}$$

So time to reach Mars will be

$$\begin{aligned}t_{\text{after engines}} &= \frac{5.38338 \times 10^8 \text{ m}}{12,692 \text{ m/s}} \\ &= 42,415 \text{ s}\end{aligned}$$

So, original plan (no engines):  $t = 10 \text{ hours} = 36,000 \text{ s}$

Because engines fired

$$\begin{aligned}t_{\text{tot}} &= t_{\text{during engines}} + t_{\text{after engines}} \\ &= 120 \text{ s} + 42,415 \text{ s} \\ &= 42,535 \text{ s}\end{aligned}$$

Ship will be  $6535 \text{ s} = 1.8 \text{ hours}$  behind schedule  
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