

Performance Task using Video Analysis and Modelling to promote K12 eight practices of science

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Abstract

We will share on the use of Tracker as a pedagogical tool in the effective learning and teaching of physics performance tasks taking root in some Singapore Grade 9 (Secondary 3) schools. We discuss the pedagogical use of Tracker help students to be like scientists in these 6 to 10 weeks where all Grade 9 students are to conduct a personal video analysis and where appropriate the 8 practices of sciences (1. ask question, 2. use models, 3. Plan and carry out investigation, 4. Analyse and interpret data, 5. Using mathematical and computational thinking, 6. Construct explanations, 7. Discuss from evidence and 8. Communicating information).

We will situate our sharing on actual students' work and discuss how tracker could be an effective pedagogical tool. Initial research findings suggest that allowing learners conduct performance task using Tracker, a free open source video analysis and modelling tool, guided by the 8 practices of sciences and engineering, could be an innovative and effective way to mentor authentic and meaningful learning.

Actual tracker files *.TRZ are down-able via Dropbox links on this links:

<http://weelookang.blogspot.sg/2014/05/tracker-koaytzemin-student-video-roller.html>
<http://weelookang.blogspot.sg/2014/05/tracker-deakdev-student-video.html>
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Keywords

Tracker, Video Analysis, Video Modelling, 8 Practices of Science, ICT and Multi-Media in Physics Education, Pedagogical Methods and Strategies, Physics Curriculum and Content Organization, Physics Teaching and Learning at Elementary, Secondary and University Levels.

What

We used the K12 science education framework¹ to guide our use of the video analysis² and modelling³ approach to allow students to be like scientists.

Why?

Table 1: Comparison of traditional lessons versus the scientist research

Traditional Lessons	Scientist Research
Topics taught in isolation Simplified theoretical scenario with many assumptions Knowledge apply to assessment questions Teacher directed; Teacher decide on question No differentiation; One size fits all	Knowledge from various topics are required Authentic collected data which often include anomaly Knowledge apply to real world situations Student directed; Ownership of research question Research is individualized

Table 1: comparison of traditional lessons versus the scientist research

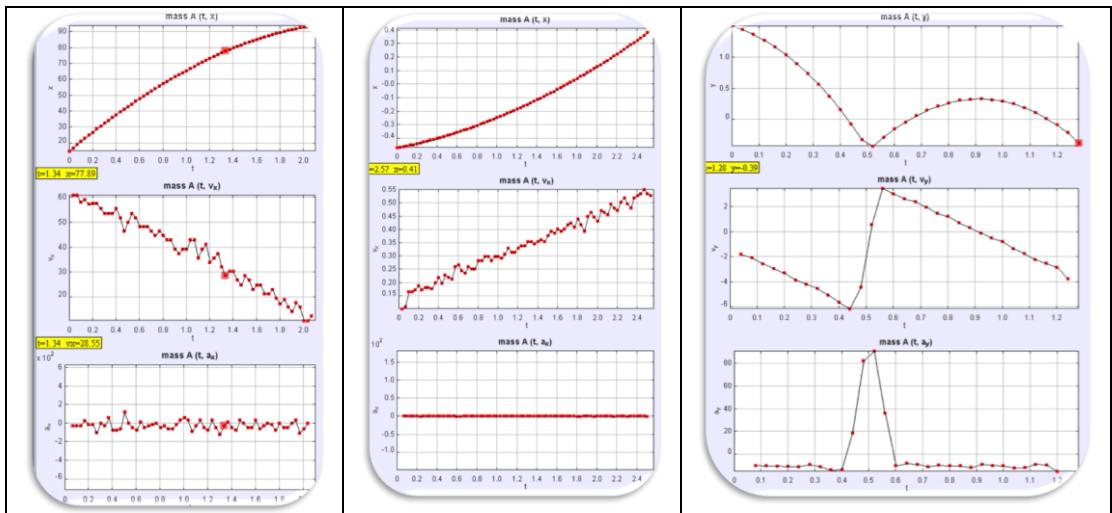
Table 1 summarise the various reasons why high school science education should consider incorporating elements of the scientists' research as about a 10 week duration performance task as we speculate traditional lessons generally have weaknesses (Table 1 LEFT) in allowing students to experience⁴ physics phenomena of the student's choice.

How?

Flip video

A series of YouTube instructional video were created by the authors to demonstrate simpler tasks such as a) installing Tracker b) generate s vs t , v vs t and a vs t graphs and c) analyse graphs by finding gradient¹ and area².

Classroom activities



¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_zrk1l6BNs

² https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_TgOSMqRQs

Figure 1. **LEFT to RIGHT** a) cart push on level slope slowing down at constant negative acceleration) b) cart on slope speeding up at constant acceleration and c) bouncing ball, complex accelerating motion divided into phases.

A set of 3 video analyses (Figure 1) were provided to the students in groups of 3-4, where they will discuss, present and critic on the other groups' presentation. As students were introduced to Tracker's interface in the flip video at their own free time earlier on, the lessons stand a higher chance of allowing richer discussions in class. The selected video are a) cart push on level slope slowing down at constant negative acceleration) b) cart on slope speeding up at constant acceleration and c) bouncing ball, complex accelerating motion divided into phases.

Primer Scientist Activity

We also conducted a primer hands-on activity where a set of equipments (2 marbles, a ramp, metre rule etc) where students need to behave like a beginning scientists (Figure 2) such as

- Practice 1: Define a problem
- Practice 3: Plan out an investigation
- Practice 4: Analyse and interpret the data
- Practice 6: Construct explanations

Some interesting student's asking own questions involves experiments such as marble rolling up and down a ramp, bouncing marble down stairs or slope, projectile marble colliding with wall and colliding marbles³.

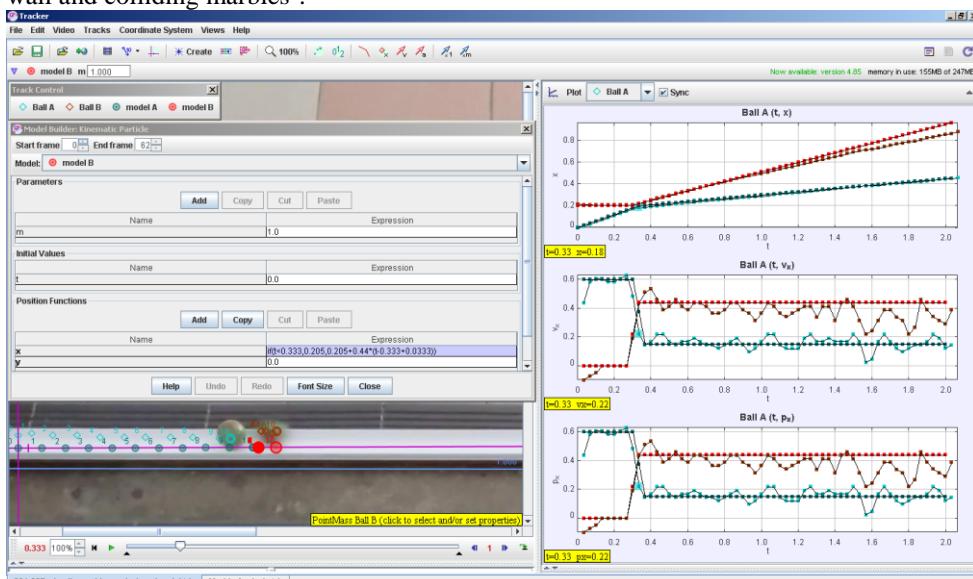


Figure 2. Students directed video analysis inquiring on the inelastic collision of 2 marbles on a track. Teal trail is the right moving marble and the Red trail is the right moving marble. Model A and B were added on later by the authors for teacher professional network learning purposes.

³ https://www.dropbox.com/s/4ypouk5hgc69hww/304-307valarylimmarble_analysisandmodel.trz

Dynamics Topic integrative lesson from Kinematics

Revisit gentle push on horizontal slope

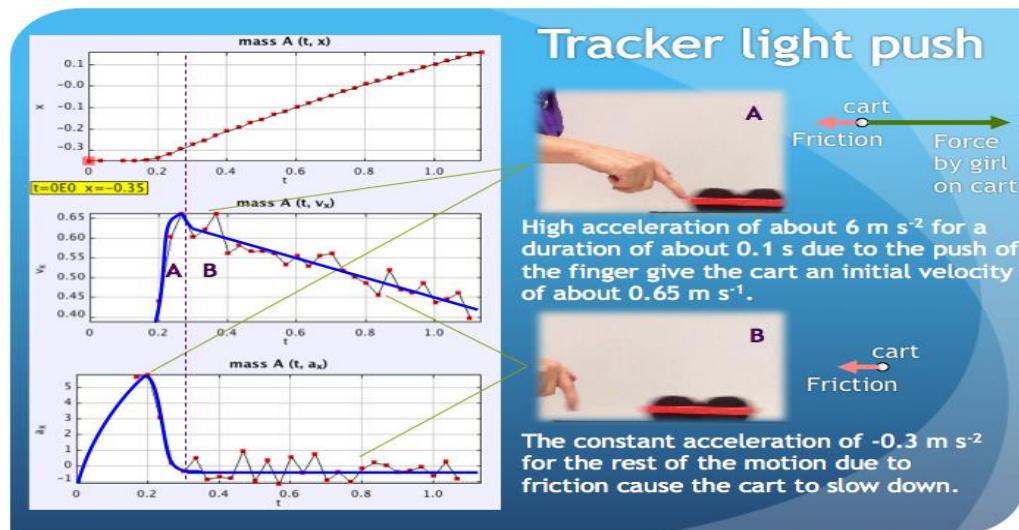


Figure 3. A dynamics lesson using tracker again to illustrate frictional forces bridging from kinematics topics allows students to build understanding based on what they have already experienced themselves in kinematics topics with the now more familiar tracker x vs t , vx vs t and ax vs t graphs.

Students were asked to suggest what forces cause the motion where all previous kinematics videos are revisited to discuss the dynamics (Figure 3). There was no enough time for teacher professional development⁵ this year but the authors recommend getting students to use the Tracker's Dynamics model builder to incrementally suggest better models that represent the motion under investigation that has both practice 5: mathematical and computational thinking.

Practice 5: Mathematical thinking

For example, to model frictional force motion (Figure 4) of the cart moving horizontally, students can mathematically determine the gradient of the vx vs t graph to determine acceleration in the x direction, ax .

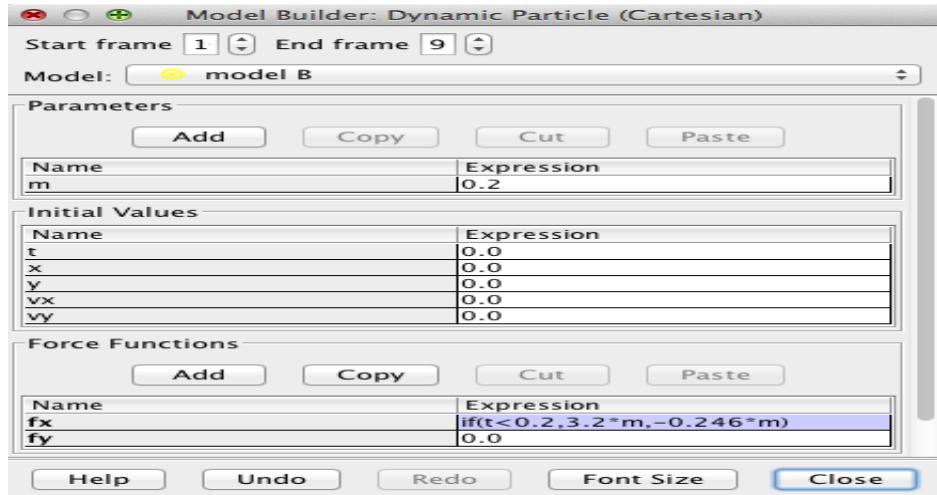


Figure 4. Tracker DataTool showing a Fit Line of $vx = -0.2456*t+0.7022$.

Practice 5: Computational thinking⁶

Having determined ax and knowing mass of cart to be $m = 0.2 \text{ kg}$, the computational line (Figure 5) with the if statement allows the push force $fx = 3.2*m$ from $t = 0$ to 0.2 s , and frictional force $fx = -0.246*m$ to be present after time t is greater than 0.2 s .

$$fx = \text{if}(t < 0.2, 3.2*m, -0.246*m)$$

Figure 5. Tracker Dynamics Model Builder interface showing mass $m = 0.2 \text{ kg}$ and force model $fx = \text{if}(t < 0.2, 3.2*m, -0.246*m)$.

Atwood Machine

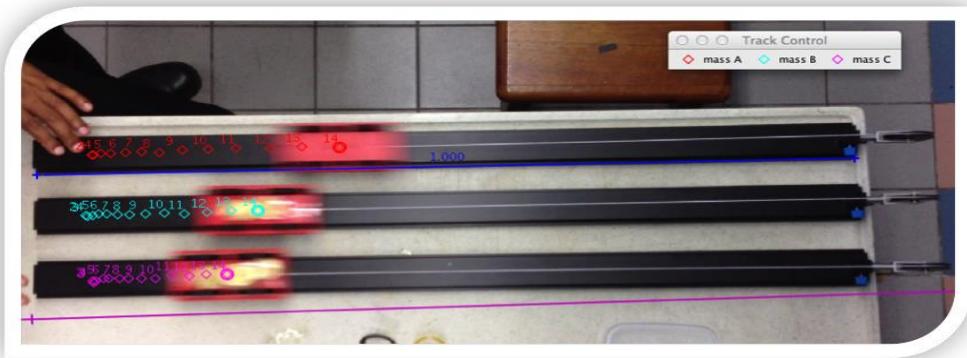


Figure 6. Atwood Machine video showing 3 different mass, m carts, pulled by the same weight F (RIGHT) and their respectively accelerations a_x .

Another example we tried was the Atwood machine (Figure 6) where 3 carts of different mass are pulled by identical weights. This activity aims to allow students to modelling instruction teaching approach to arrived at a social meaning making process that the resultant force F pulling the carts is related to the carts' acceleration a and the mass of the carts as in Newton's second law.

$$F = ma$$

Assessment of Performance Task

Meaningful Scenario

We gave the students the scenario that mimics real scientists. For example, “You are a scientist who is tasked by A*Star (A local Research initiative) to explain a complex motion and the cause of the motion. You are to record a video of a moving object and to analyze the kinematics and dynamics involved in the motion with the aid of Tracker software. Your report will help the scientific community better understand the complex motion.”

Assessment Rubrics(20% of exam score)

ASSESSMENT RUBRICS ON PT ON ANALYSIS OF MOTION USING VIDEO TRACKER YEAR THREE (RP PHYSICS)						
Criteria	Level	Excellent (4m)	Proficient (3m)	Adequate (2m)	Limited (1m)	Insufficient / No evidence (0m)
Identify motion to be investigated (C1)		Identify a motion that is complex and well defined and involve non-rigid body, multiple objects or multiple phases	Identify a complex motion that is well defined .	Identify a motion that is well defined .	Identify a motion that is ill-defined .	
Plan procedure filming (C2)	the and	Use a comprehensive and detailed procedure to film object in order to ensure precision and accuracy of measurement.	Use a clear and workable procedure to film object in order to ensure precision and accuracy of measurement.	Use a simplistic procedure to film object with some consideration of accuracy of measurement.	Use an ambiguous procedure to film object with little consideration of accuracy of measurement.	
Present graphs with annotation (C3)		Present graphs logically and clearly in an appropriate form with relevant annotation.	Present graphs reasonably well in an appropriate form with relevant annotation.	Present relevant but incomplete set of graphs	Present graphs with severe conceptual error .	
Provide a discussion of the motion (C4)		Provide a detailed and comprehensive discussion of the motion.	Provide a relevant discussion of the motion with no errors .	Provide a discussion of motion with some minor errors .	Provide a discussion of motion with severe conceptual errors .	
Explain the forces in relation to the motion (C5)		Explain the forces in relation to the motion by consistently making accurate inferences from graphs and video.	Explain the forces in relation to the motion by making some accurate inferences from graphs	Explain the forces in relation to the motion by making inferences from graphs with some errors .	Explain the forces in relation to the motion by with little attempt to make inferences from graphs.	

Table 2: Assessment Rubrics communicating clearly the expected performance indicators of excellent task

We found a constantly reference to assessment rubrics, see Table 2, to be able to provide the extrinsic motivation to get students to perform their own performance video tasks.

Close Teacher Mentorship

For the learning to go well, we find that a weekly schedule consultation time-table to be useful as students are given opportunities to discuss their analysis with the teachers both in class and outside class. Suggestions were made by teachers to refine their video, given direction for further readings or suggestion on analysis.

Students' Pre-Post Perception Survey

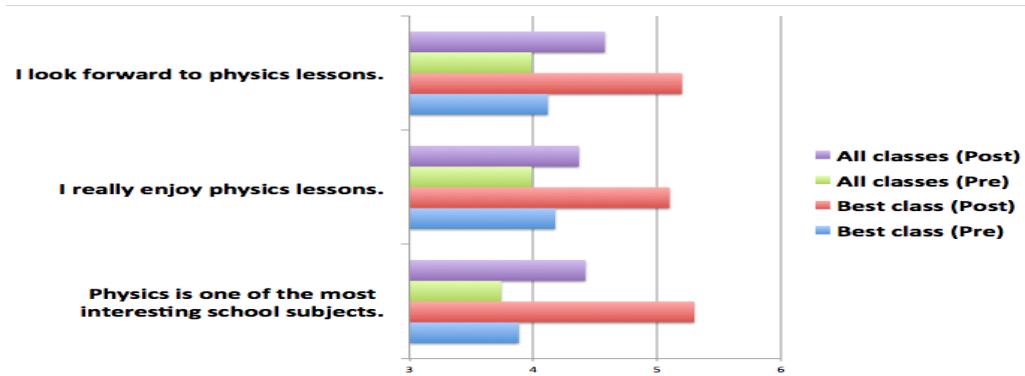


Figure 7. (N=273 pre-post) Students' perception survey on a Likert scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 6 (strongly agree), middle is 3.5 point

Our initial analysis of N=273 students' pre-post perception survey on the experience of the performance task suggests only the best class registered a significant positive change (Figure 7) in the affective domains like "I look forward to physics lessons", "I really enjoy physics lessons" and "Physics is one of the most interesting school subjects" etc while the 273 students in the Secondary three level had smaller positive changes in the self reporting perfection survey.

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Conclusion

This paper describes the what, why and how we promoted our students to be more like scientists in the context of our Secondary Three Physics performance task using Tracker and K12 Science Framework to guide our approach. The creative commons attribution resources we have created through our mentorship

and lesson packages developed, forms the Singapore Tracker Digital Library collection downloadable through Tracker as a Shared Library (Figure 8) as well as the following URL <http://iwant2study.org/lookangejss/> for the benefit of all.

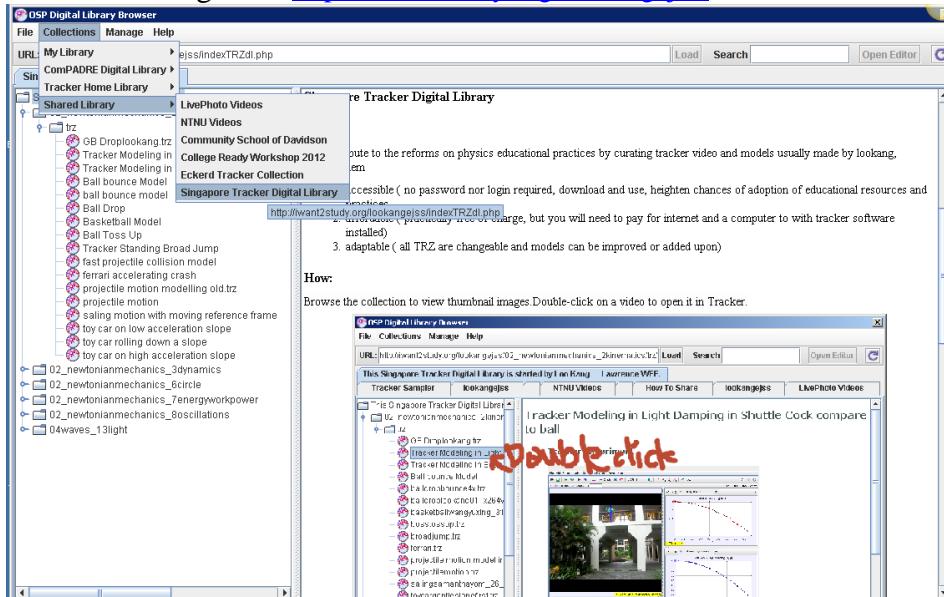


Figure 8. Officially in Tracker as Shared Library <http://iwant2study.org/lookangejss/indexTRZdl.php>

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