



Kinematics: Non-linear Motion

Name: _____ () Class: 3 / ____

1201 Kinematics

- Non-linear motion

Specific Instructional Objectives

- (a) represent a velocity vector as two perpendicular components
- (b) describe and explain motion due to a uniform velocity in one direction and a uniform acceleration in a perpendicular direction.

References:

- See **projectile motion** at <http://www.physicsclassroom.com/class/vectors>
- See phET projectile motion simulation at https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/projectile-motion/latest/projectile-motion_en.html
- See <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/index.html>
 - select Mechanics -> select **Newton's Laws**: focus on **Force of gravity** -> Horizontal launches & Range of Projectile

1 Projectile motion

- A projectile is an object that moves in **two dimensions** under the influence of **gravity** and nothing else.
- If **air resistance is negligible**, any projectile will follow the same type of path: a trajectory with the mathematical form of a parabola, of the form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, where a is negative.
- Examples of projectile motion: balls flying through the air, long jumpers, and cars doing stunt jumps.

2 Two perpendicular components of projectile motion

- A projectile's motion can be analyzed as two perpendicular components.

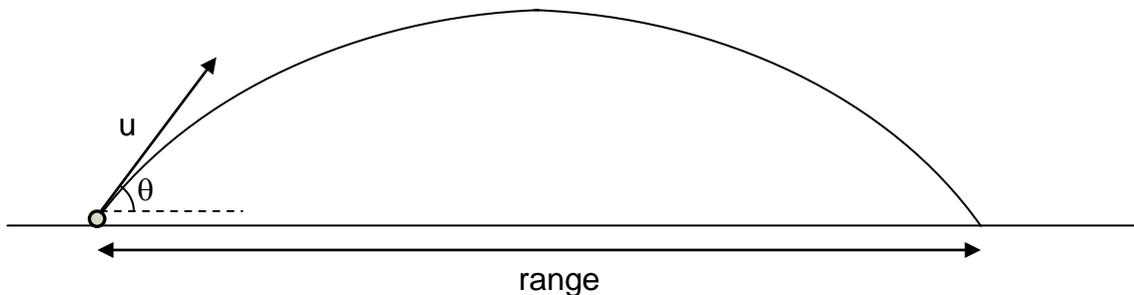
	vertical component	horizontal component
displacement	y <i>(indicate sign convention)</i>	x
acceleration a	$a_y = 10 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ acceleration due to gravity (if near Earth's surface) (acceleration under free-fall)	$a_x = 0 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ no acceleration
velocity v	$v_y = u_y + a_y t$ varying velocity	$v_x = u_x$ constant velocity
approach	Apply equations of motion for constant acceleration $y = u_y t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2$ $v_y^2 = u_y^2 + 2 a_y y$	velocity = displacement / time $u_x = \frac{x}{t}$ or $x = u_x t$

3 Problem solving approach

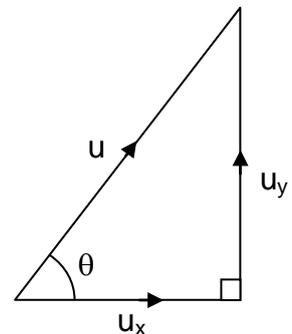
- (1) **Sketch** a diagram to show the complete path of a projectile and indicate given and unknown variables.
- (2) Analyze the motion in two perpendicular directions **independently** using suitable symbols with suitable subscripts, e.g. x and y.
- (3) Neglecting air resistance, any projectile experiences
 - a vertical acceleration: choose sign convention, apply equations of motion to vertical motion, &
 - no horizontal acceleration (constant horizontal velocity).
- (4) If the instantaneous velocity (or direction) of the projectile is needed, add the two components of the velocity (v_x and v_y) using vector addition.

4 Launch angle

- A projectile is launched with an initial speed u at an angle θ to the horizontal, as shown below.



- the x-component of the initial velocity is $u_x = u \cos \theta$
- the y-component of the initial velocity is $u_y = u \sin \theta$
- $u^2 = u_x^2 + u_y^2$
- $\tan \theta = \frac{u_x}{u_y}$ (Ensure calculator in degree mode)



5 Range

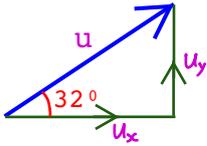
- Range is the horizontal distance travelled by a projectile.
- range $x = \text{horizontal velocity} \times \text{time}$
 $x = u_x t$
- It can be shown that the **maximum range** is obtained with a launch angle of 45° .

6 Effect of air resistance on projectile motion

- reduce the maximum height
- reduce the maximum range
- make the angle of descent steeper
- distort the shape of the path away from a parabola.

Example 1

A ball is thrown at an angle of 32° from the ground with a speed of 25 m s^{-1} . Calculate the magnitude of the horizontal and vertical components of its initial velocity.



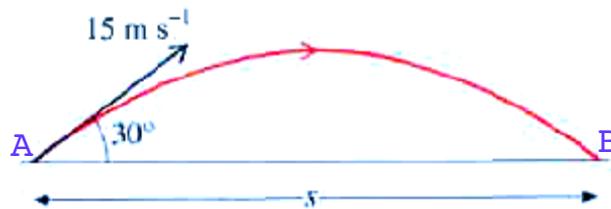
- Note: Check $u =$

$[21 \text{ m s}^{-1}, 13 \text{ m s}^{-1}]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Vertical component: } u_y &= u \sin \theta \\ &= 25 \sin 32^\circ \\ &= 13.25 \approx 13 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Horizontal component: } u_x &= u \cos \theta \\ &= 25 \cos 32^\circ \\ &= 21.20 \approx 21 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Example 2



A football is kicked on level ground at a velocity of 15 m s^{-1} at an angle of 30° to the horizontal. Determine the horizontal distance travelled by the football till its first bounce on the ground.

- sign convention: up is positive, $a = -g = -10 \text{ m s}^{-2}$

- vertical motion: $y = u_y t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$
From A to B, $y = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = (u \sin \theta) t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2$
 $u \sin \theta - \frac{1}{2} g t \Rightarrow t = \frac{2u \sin \theta}{g} = \frac{2(15) \sin 30^\circ}{10} = 1.5 \text{ s}$

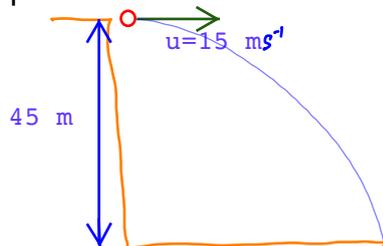
- horizontal motion: $x = u_x t = (u \cos \theta) t$
 $= (15 \cos 30^\circ)(1.5) = 19.49 \approx 19 \text{ m}$

$[19 \text{ m}]$

Example 3

A stone is thrown from the top of a cliff, 45 m high above level ground, with an initial velocity of 15 m s^{-1} in a horizontal direction.

(a) Sketch the path of this stone and include the information provided above.



$$\begin{aligned} \theta &= 0^\circ \\ u_x &= u \cos \theta = 15 \cos 0^\circ = 15 \text{ m s}^{-1} \\ u_y &= u \sin \theta = 15 \sin 0^\circ = 0 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Determine the time taken for the stone to reach the ground.

Sign convention: downwards is positive

Vertical motion: $y = u_y t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2$
 $45 = 0 + \frac{1}{2}(10)t^2 \Rightarrow t^2 = 9$
 $t = 3.0 \text{ s}$

(c) Determine the distance of the stone from the base of the cliff when it reaches the ground.

Horizontal motion: $x = u_x t$
 $= 15 \times 3.0 = 45 \text{ m}$

$[(b) = 3.0 \text{ s}, (c) = 45 \text{ m}]$

Example 4

An athlete competing in the long jump leaves the ground at an angle of 28° and makes a jump of 7.40 m

(a) Calculate the speed at which the athlete took off.

Horizontal motion:

$$x = u_x t$$

$$7.40 = (u \cos \theta) t \Rightarrow t = \frac{7.40}{u \cos \theta} \quad (1)$$

Sign convention: upwards is positive

Vertical motion:

$$y = u_y t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2$$

$$0 = (u \sin \theta) t - \frac{1}{2} (10) t^2 \Rightarrow u \sin \theta = 5t \quad (2)$$

Substitute equation (1) into (2),

$$u \sin \theta = \frac{5(7.40)}{u \cos \theta} \Rightarrow u^2 = \frac{5(7.40)}{\sin 28^\circ \cos 28^\circ} \Rightarrow u = \sqrt{89.26} = 9.448 \approx 9.4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

(b) If the athlete had been able to increase this speed by 5%, determine the percentage difference this would have made to the length of the jump.

From equation (2), $t = \frac{u \sin \theta}{5}$

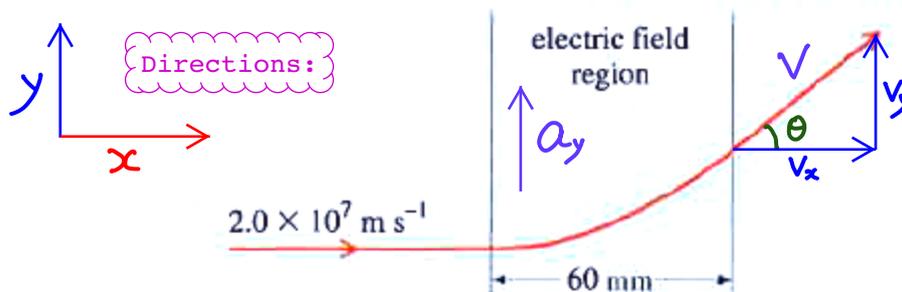
$$x = u_x t = (u \cos \theta) \frac{u \sin \theta}{5} \Rightarrow x = \frac{u^2 (\sin \theta \cos \theta)}{5} \Rightarrow x \propto u^2$$

$$u \rightarrow 1.05u, \quad \text{5\% increase}$$

$$x \propto (1.05u)^2 = 1.1025 u^2 \approx 1.10 u^2 \quad \text{10\% increase}$$

[(a) 9.4 m s^{-1} ; (b) 10%]

Example 5



An electron, travelling with a velocity of $2.0 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ in a horizontal direction, enters a uniform electric field. This field gives the electron a constant acceleration of $5.0 \times 10^{15} \text{ m s}^{-2}$ in a direction perpendicular to its original velocity.

Determine the magnitude and direction of the velocity of the electron when it leaves the field.

Horizontal motion:

$$V_x = u_x = u = 2.0 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$x = u_x t \Rightarrow t = \frac{x}{u_x} = \frac{60 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}}{2.0 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}} = 3.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{ s}$$

Sign convention: upwards is positive!

Vertical motion:

$$V_y = u_y + a_y t = 0 + (5.0 \times 10^{15}) (3.0 \times 10^{-9}) = 1.5 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$V = \sqrt{V_x^2 + V_y^2} = 2.5 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{V_y}{V_x} = \frac{1.5}{2.0} \Rightarrow \theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{1.5}{2.0} \right) = 36.87 \approx 37^\circ$$

[(a) $2.5 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$; (b) 37° to the horizontal]