

2-d Motion: Constant Acceleration

- Kinematic Equations of Motion (Vector Form)**
 - Acceleration Vector (constant): $\vec{a} = a_x \hat{x} + a_y \hat{y}$
 - Velocity Vector (function of t): $\vec{v}(t) = \vec{v}_0 + \vec{a}t$
 - Position Vector (function of t): $\vec{r}(t) = \vec{r}_0 + \vec{v}_0 t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} t^2$

The velocity vector and position vector are a function of the time t.

Velocity Vector at time $t = 0$: $\vec{v}_0 = v_{x0} \hat{x} + v_{y0} \hat{y}$

Position Vector at time $t = 0$: $\vec{r}_0 = x_0 \hat{x} + y_0 \hat{y}$

The components of the acceleration vector, a_x and a_y , are constants.
 The components of the velocity vector at $t = 0$, v_{x0} and v_{y0} , are constants.
 The components of the position vector at $t = 0$, x_0 and y_0 , are constants.

Warning! These equations are only valid if the acceleration is constant.

Valid at any time t

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2-d Motion: Constant Acceleration

- Kinematic Equations of Motion (Component Form)**
 - $a_x = \text{constant}$ $a_y = \text{constant}$
 - $v_x(t) = v_{x0} + a_x t$ $v_y(t) = v_{y0} + a_y t$
 - $x(t) = x_0 + v_{x0} t + \frac{1}{2} a_x t^2$ $y(t) = y_0 + v_{y0} t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2$

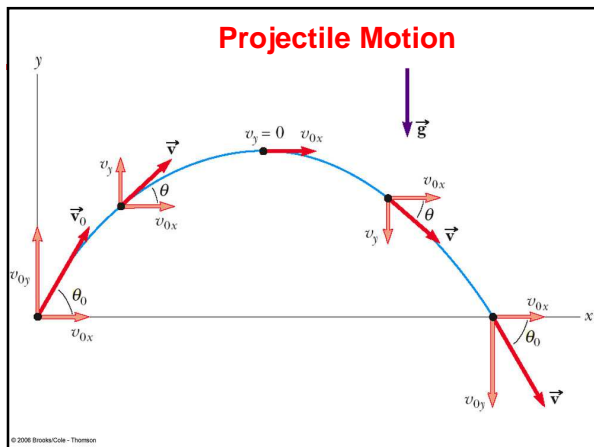
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- Ancillary Equations**
 - $v_x^2(t) - v_{x0}^2 = 2a_x(x(t) - x_0)$
 - $v_y^2(t) - v_{y0}^2 = 2a_y(y(t) - y_0)$

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Valid at any time t

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Rules of Projectile Motion

- The x- and y-directions of motion completely independent
- The x-direction is uniform motion: $a_x = 0$
- The y-direction is free fall: $a_y = -g$
- The initial velocity v_0 can be broken down into its x- and y-components
 - x-direction— $a_x = 0$ $v_{0x} = v_0 \cos \theta_0$ $v_{0y} = v_0 \sin \theta_0$
 - $v_{x0} = v_0 \cos \theta_0 = v_x = \text{constant}$
 - $x = v_{x0} t$ This is the only operative equation in the x-direction since there is uniform velocity in that direction
- y-direction—free fall: $a = -g$
 - take the positive direction as upward
 - uniformly accelerated motion, so the motion equations all hold
- Velocity at any time $v = \sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2}$ and $\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{v_y}{v_x}$

Example: Projectile Motion

- Near the Surface of the Earth (h = 0)**

In this case, $a_x = 0$ and $a_y = -g$, $v_{x0} = v_0 \cos \theta$, $v_{y0} = v_0 \sin \theta$, $x_0 = 0$, $y_0 = 0$.

$$v_x(t) = v_0 \cos \theta$$

$$v_y(t) = v_0 \sin \theta - gt$$

$$x(t) = (v_0 \cos \theta)t$$

$$y(t) = (v_0 \sin \theta)t - \frac{1}{2} gt^2$$
- Maximum Height H**

The time, t_{max} , that the projectile reaches its maximum height occurs when $v_y(t_{\text{max}}) = 0$. Hence,

$$t_{\text{max}} = \frac{v_0 \sin \theta}{g}$$

$$H = y(t_{\text{max}}) = \frac{(v_0 \sin \theta)^2}{2g}$$
- Range R (maximum horizontal distance traveled)**

The time, t_r , that it takes the projectile reach the ground occurs when $y(t_r) = 0$. Hence,

$$0 = y(t_r) = (v_0 \sin \theta)t_r - \frac{1}{2} gt_r^2$$

$$t_r = \frac{2v_0 \sin \theta}{g}$$

$$R = x(t_r) = (v_0 \cos \theta)t_r = \frac{2v_0^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{g} = v_0^2 \sin 2\theta$$

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For a fixed v_0 , the largest R occurs when $\theta = 45^\circ$!

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Problem-Solving Strategy

Select a coordinate system and sketch the path of the projectile--Include initial and final positions, velocities, and accelerations

Resolve the initial velocity into x- and y-components

Treat the horizontal and vertical motions independently

- Horizontal motion:** Use techniques for problems with constant velocity
- Vertical motion:** Use techniques for problems with constant acceleration

Some Special Cases of Projectile Motion

Object may be fired horizontally

The initial velocity is all in the x-direction

- $v_0 = v_x$ and $v_y = 0$

All the general rules of projectile motion apply

Exam 1 Fall 2012: Problem 11

- Near the surface of the Earth a projectile is fired from the top of a building at a height h above the ground at an angle θ relative to the horizontal and at a distance d from the edge of the building as shown in the figure. If $\theta = 20^\circ$ and $d = 20$ m, what is the minimum initial speed, v_0 , of the projectile such that it will make it off the building and reach the ground? Ignoring air resistance.

$$d = R = \frac{v_0^2 \sin 2\theta}{g}$$

Answer: 17.5 m/s
% Right: 35%

$$v_0 = \sqrt{\frac{dg}{\sin 2\theta}} = \sqrt{\frac{(20\text{m})(9.8\text{m/s}^2)}{\sin(2 \times 20^\circ)}} \approx 17.46\text{m/s} \approx 17.5\text{m/s}$$

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Exam 1 Spring 2012: Problem 12

- A beanbag is thrown horizontally from a dorm room window a height h above the ground. It hits the ground a horizontal distance $d = h/2$ from the dorm directly below the window from which it was thrown. Ignoring air resistance, find the direction of the beanbag's velocity just before impact.

Answer: 76.0° below the horizontal
% Right: 22%

$$v_x(t) = v_0 \quad v_y(t) = -gt$$

$$x(t) = v_0 t \quad y(t) = h - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

Let t_h be the time the beanbag hits the ground.

$$y(t_h) = 0 = h - \frac{1}{2}gt_h^2 \Rightarrow t_h = \sqrt{\frac{2h}{g}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{|v_y(t_h)|}{|v_x(t_h)|} = \frac{gt_h}{v_0} = \frac{gt_h^2}{d} = \frac{2h}{d} = 4$$

$$\theta \approx 76^\circ$$

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Relative Position Vector

Position of car A relative to car B is given by the vector subtraction equation

- \vec{r}_{AE} is the position of car A as measured by E
- \vec{r}_{BE} is the position of car B as measured by E
- \vec{r}_{AB} is the position of car A as measured by car B

$$\vec{r}_{AB} = \vec{r}_{AE} - \vec{r}_{EB}$$

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Relative Velocity Notation

The pattern of subscripts can be useful in solving relative velocity problems

Assume the following notation:

- E is an observer, stationary with respect to the earth
- A and B are two moving cars

The rate of change of the displacements gives the relationship for the velocities

$$\vec{v}_{AB} = \vec{v}_{AE} - \vec{v}_{EB}$$