

# Unit 2

Projectile Motion

Circular Motion

Simple Harmonic Motion

Universal Gravitation

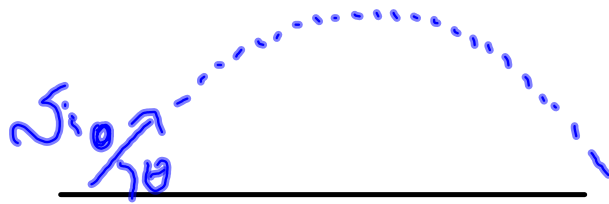
# Projectile Motion

An object that is launched into the air and then comes under the influence of gravity moves in two dimensions (up/down and forward) and is called a projectile. The path taken by the projectile is called a trajectory.

Horizontally Launched Projectile



Projectile Launched At An Angle



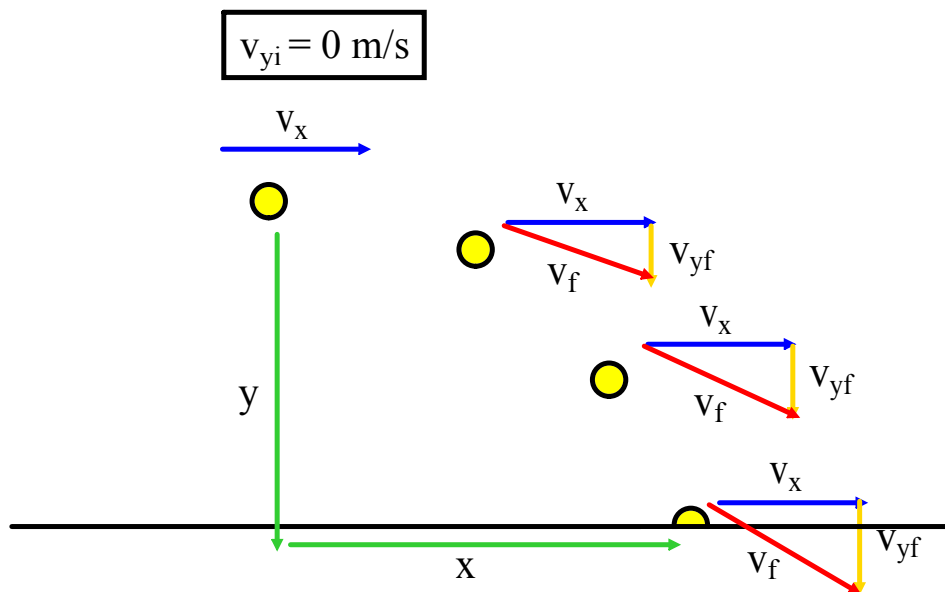
**The vertical and horizontal motion of a projectile are independent of one another.**

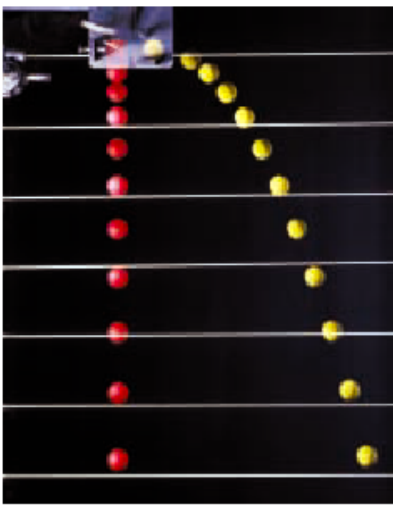
Horizontal Motion -> The horizontal velocity of a projectile is constant (ignoring air resistance).

Vertical Motion -> The vertical velocity of a projectile is constantly changing due to gravity.

## Projectile Fired Horizontally

Imagine the trajectory of a ball launched horizontally from the top of a cliff.





**Figure 11.2** You can see that the balls are accelerating downward, because the distances they have travelled between flashes of the strobe light are increasing. If you inspected the horizontal motion of the ball on the right, you would find that it travelled the same horizontal distance between each flash of the strobe light.

Example: A projectile is fired horizontally from a height of 44.1 m at a speed of 50.0 m/s.

- a) How long after it was fired, did the projectile hit the ground? (3.00 s)
- b) How far forward did the projectile travel? (150 m)

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Example: A stone is thrown horizontally at a speed of 5.0 m/s from the top of a cliff that is 78.4 m high.

- a) How long does it take the stone to reach the bottom of the cliff?  
(4.0 s)
- b) How far from the bottom of the cliff does the stone land? (20 m)
- c) What is the velocity of the stone as it hits the ground?  
(40 m/s, 83° S of E)

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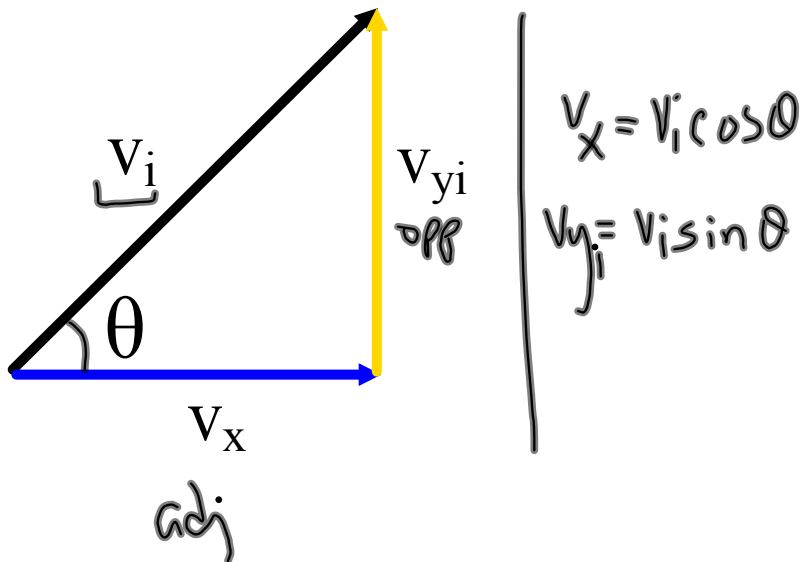
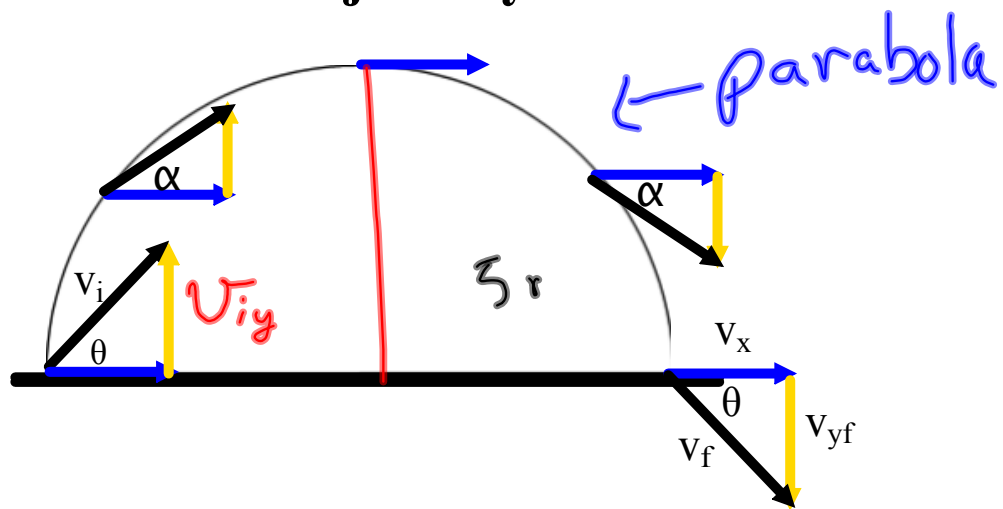
A projectile is fired with a horizontal velocity of 330 m/s from the top of a cliff 80 m high. With what velocity will it strike the ground?

# Projectiles Fired At An Angle

horizontal velocity -> **constant**

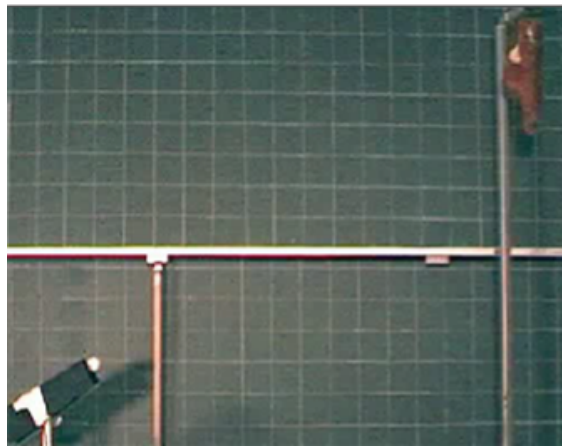
vertical velocity -> **changes**

## Trajectory





# The Monkey and the Hunter



Example: An arrow is shot at an angle of  $30.0^\circ$  with the ground. It has a speed of 49 m/s. Assuming the arrow is shot from ground level and it lands on the ground, answer the following questions.

- a) How high will the arrow go? (31 m)
- b) Assuming the arrow lands on the ground, what is its range?  
( $2.1 \times 10^2$  m)

Example: A shotput is released at an angle with a speed of 12 m/s.  
It stays in the air for 2.0 s.

- a) At what angle with the horizontal was it released? ( $55^\circ$ )
- b) What horizontal distance did it travel? (14 m)

A golfer standing on a fairway hits a golf ball to a green that is elevated 5.50 m above the point where she is standing. If the ball leaves the club with a velocity of 46.0 m/s,  $35.0^\circ$  above the ground, find the time the ball spends in the air. (5.15 s)

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Suppose the left-centre field wall is 4.1 m high and located 100.8 m from home plate. A batter connects the ball 1.0 m above the ground at an angle of  $45^\circ$  and the ball has a speed of 31 m/s. Will this be a home run?

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With what minimum speed does a baseball have to come off the bat to clear the Green Monster at Fenway Park? The wall is 115.5 m from home plate and 11.3 m high. Assume the batter makes contact 1.0 m off the ground at an angle of  $45^\circ$ .

## **Activity - Projectile Fired at an Angle**

**Purpose:** Determine the velocity of a ball thrown at an angle and the maximum height reached by the ball.

**Materials:** 1 ball  
1 stopwatch                      \*Three people are required.  
1 meter stick

**Data:** Record the data collected.

**Analysis and Conclusion:** Determine the initial velocity of the ball and the maximum height reached by the ball. Include calculations to support your answers.

**Projectile Motion Test - What to expect!**  
**Use the worksheet as a guide.**

**Q1:** Horizontal launch like #1

**Q2:** Horizontal launch like #4

**Q3:** Angled Projectile like #9

**Q4:** Angled Projectile (Will it be a home run?-type question)

**Q5:** Angled Projectile like #11 (Hitting a moving target).

**Q6:** Angled Projectile like #13 (Maximum range)

**\* Each question is worth 10 marks so be sure to show all of your steps!**

(a), (b), (c), etc.  
components



# Formulas

Horizontal Motion CONSTANT	Vertical Motion CHANGES
$V_x = V \cos \theta$ $V_x = \frac{x}{t_x}$ <p><math>t_x</math> is the time it takes to travel <math>x</math>  <math>x</math> = the range  <math>y</math> = vertical displacement</p>	$V_{yi} = V \sin \theta$ $y = v_{yi}t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$ $v_{yf} = v_{yi} + at$ $v_{yf}^2 = v_{yi}^2 + 2ay$
	$a = -9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$

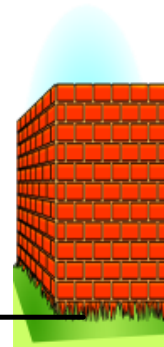
- For horizontal launch  $V_{iy} = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $V_{yf}$  = instantaneous speed in the vertical direction at a given time.
- $V^2 = V_x^2 + V_{yf}^2$ , to find velocity of the projectile at any instant in time.
- $\theta = \tan^{-1}(V_{yf}/V_x)$

## Home Run Question

Suppose the left-centre field wall is 3 m high off the ground and located 105 m from home plate. A batter connects the ball 1.0 m above the ground at an angle of  $55^\circ$  and the ball has a speed of 32 m/s. Will this be a home run?

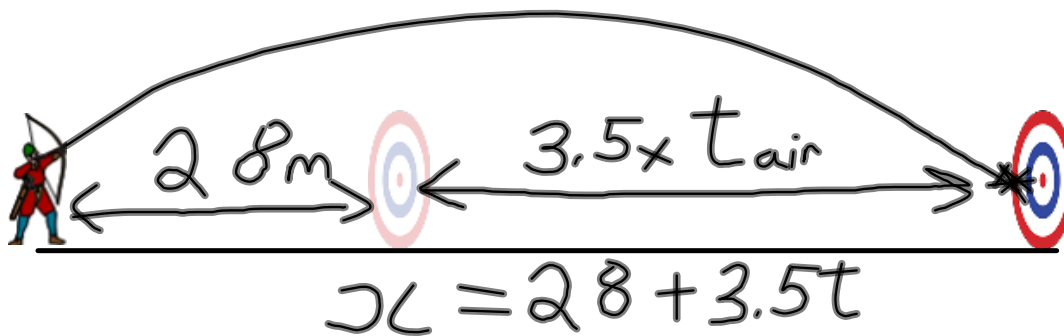
*(i.e when the ball has travelled 105 m horizontally is it higher than 2 m above the initial point of contact?)*

- Break up the initial velocity into its components.
- Determine the time it takes to travel 105 m horizontally.
- Determine the height above the point of contact using the found time.
- If  $y > 2$  m then it is a home run.



## Hitting a Moving Target

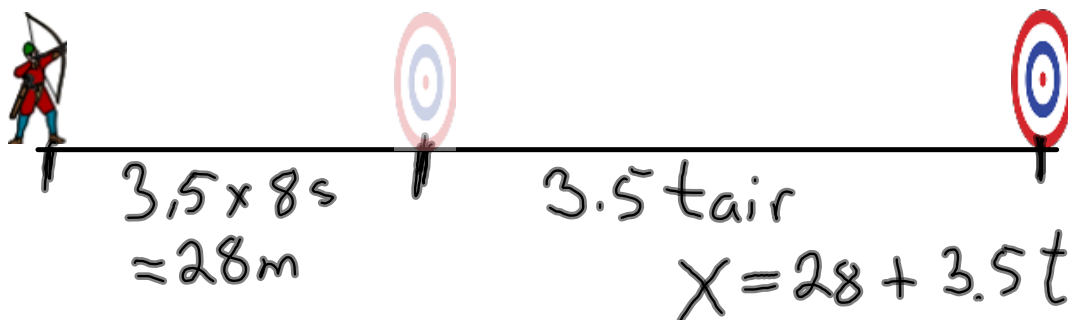
In an archery skills competition an archer stands next to her target. A bell rings and the target begins to move away from the archer at 3.5 m/s but the archer must wait a certain amount of time before shooting. This archer releases the arrow 8.0 s after the bell has rung in an attempt to hit the moving target. Assuming the launch angle is  $45^\circ$  and the arrow is launched at the same height as the target, determine the initial speed of the arrow to successfully hit the target.



- Find an expression for the horizontal distance covered by the arrow.
- Write the expression for  $V_x$  using  $x/t$  and remember that  $V_x = V\cos 45^\circ$ .
- Combine the above to have a formula for  $V$ .
- Write  $V_{iy} = V\sin 45^\circ$ .
- Write the formula for vertical displacement,  $y$ .
- In the above substitute  $V\sin 45^\circ$  for  $V_{iy}$ .
- Now substitute the formula for  $V$  into the vertical displacement expression.
- Solve for  $t$ .
- Use that value to find  $V$ .

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