

a) Given the launch velocity of a projectile is v, and target coordinates are (x, y) relative to the launch position; derive the equation below which is necessary for finding the angle of attack:

$$\frac{gx^2}{2v^2}\tan^2\theta + x\tan\theta + \frac{gx^2}{2v^2} - y = 0$$

- b) Given the equation above, calculate the angles that would hit the target:
  - i. Located at (x, y) = (59, 18) with an initial speed of 35 m/s.
  - ii. Located at (x, y) = (44, -21) with an initial speed of 42 m/s.
- c) Note that the quadratic gives two possible answers. (PhET projectile simulation might help visualize the situation: <u>http://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/legacy/projectile-motion</u>)
  - i. Conceptually, why is it possible for a target to be hit by using one of two different launch angles in the case y > 0?
  - ii. Same question but for y < 0?
- d) It is possible that there exists a target location (x, y) that cannot be hit by a projectile with a velocity, v. In that case, how would the math equations communicate such a problem? Choose numbers for (x, y) and v that will result in no possible angle and show this by solving the equation from (a) with your values.
- e) There exists a target location x, where  $y \neq 0$ , that can only be hit by one and only one angle for a given velocity, v.
  - i. Mathematically, what would have to happen in solving the equation from (a) for only one angle to be possible?
  - ii. Based on your response from (i), what is the formula for  $tan(\theta)$  that allows for the calculation of the only possible angle.
  - iii. Derive a formula for such a horizontal target location, x, knowing v, g, and y.
- f) Use your results from (e) to calculate the horizontal target location, x, and the only angle that will hit the target when v = 25 m/s and y = 15 m.