

Ch.4: Motion in Two Dimensions

Physics 103: Classical Mechanics

Dr. Abdulaziz Alqasem

Physics and Astronomy Department King Saud University

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1. The Position, Velocity, and Acceleration Vectors



2. Two-Dimensional Motion with Constant Acceleration

3. Projectile Motion

4. Uniform Circular Motion

5. Tangential and Radial Acceleration

6. Suggested Problems

1.1 Position and Displacement Vectors

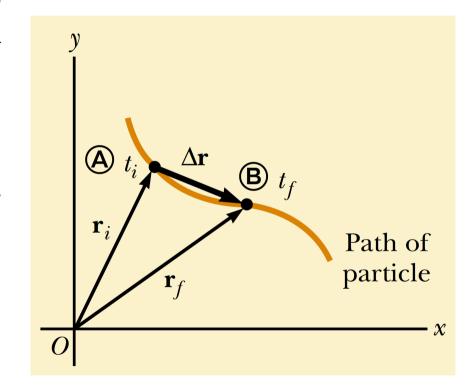


• The **position** vector \vec{r} of a particle describes its location in space relative to a chosen origin,

$$\vec{r} = x\hat{\imath} + y\hat{\jmath}$$

• The **displacement** vector $\Delta \vec{r}$ of a particle is the change in its position:

$$\begin{split} \Delta \vec{\boldsymbol{r}} &= \vec{\boldsymbol{r}}_f - \vec{\boldsymbol{r}}_i \\ &= \big(x_f - x_i \big) \hat{\boldsymbol{\imath}} + \big(y_f - y_i \big) \hat{\boldsymbol{\jmath}} \\ &= \Delta x \hat{\boldsymbol{\imath}} + \Delta y \hat{\boldsymbol{\jmath}} \end{split}$$



1.2 Velocity

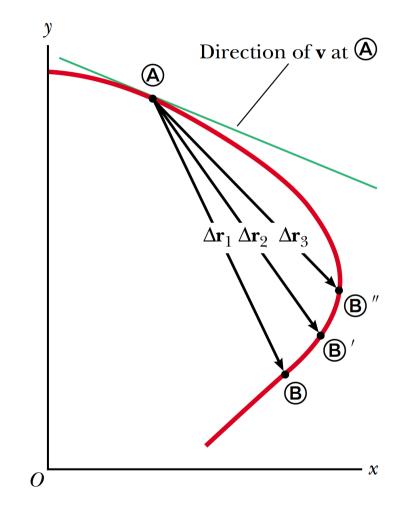


• **Average** velocity is defined as the change in position divided by the time interval over which the change occurs:

$$ar{ec{v}} = rac{\Delta ec{r}}{\Delta t} = rac{ec{r}_f - ec{r}_i}{t_f - t_i}$$

• **Instantaneous** velocity is the limit of the average velocity as the time interval approaches zero:

$$ec{oldsymbol{v}} = \lim_{\Delta t o 0} rac{\Delta ec{oldsymbol{r}}}{\Delta t} = rac{dec{oldsymbol{r}}}{dt}$$



1.3 Acceleration

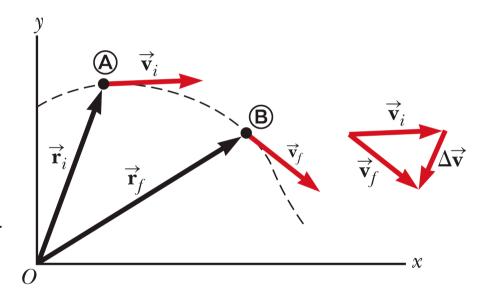


• **Average** acceleration is defined as the change in velocity divided by the time interval over which the change occurs:

$$ar{ec{a}} = rac{\Delta ec{v}}{\Delta t} = rac{ec{v}_f - ec{v}_i}{t_f - t_i}$$

• **Instantaneous** acceleration is the limit of the average acceleration as the time interval approaches zero:

$$ec{m{a}} = \lim_{\Delta t o 0} rac{\Delta ec{m{v}}}{\Delta t} = rac{dec{m{v}}}{dt}$$



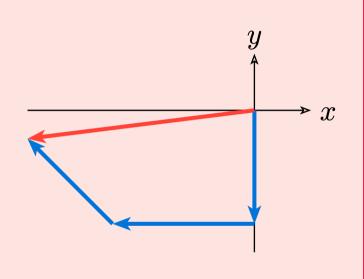


Problem 1.1

A motorist drives south at 20 m/s for 3 min, then turns west and travels at 25 m/s for 2 min, and finally travels northwest at 30 m/s for 1 min. For this 6 min trip, find:

- (a) the total vector displacement,
- (b) the average speed, and
- (c) the average velocity.

Let the positive x axis point east.





Answer 1.1

- (a) The total vector displacement can be found by breaking each segment of the trip into its vector components and then adding them up.
- Southward displacement:

$$\vec{d}_1 = 0\hat{\imath} + (-20 \text{ m/s} \times 180 \text{ s})\hat{\jmath} = -3600 \text{ m } \hat{\jmath}$$

• Westward displacement:

$$\vec{d}_2 = (-25 \text{ m/s} \times 120 \text{ s})\hat{\imath} + 0\hat{\jmath} = -3000 \text{ m } \hat{\imath}$$

• Northwestward displacement ($\theta = 180^{\circ} - 45^{\circ} = 135^{\circ}$):

$$\vec{d}_3 = [30\cos 135^{\circ} \times 60] \text{ m } \hat{\imath} + [30\sin 135^{\circ} \times 60] \text{ m } \hat{\jmath}$$

= $[-1273\hat{\imath} + 1273\hat{\jmath}] \text{ m}$



• Total displacement:

$$\begin{split} \vec{d} &= \vec{d}_1 + \vec{d}_2 + \vec{d}_3 \\ &= (0 - 3000 - 1273)\hat{\imath} + (-3600 + 0 + 1273)\hat{\jmath} = (-4273\hat{\imath} - 2327\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m} \end{split}$$

• The magnitude of the total displacement is given by:

$$|\vec{d}| = \sqrt{(-4273)^2 + (-2327)^2} = 4906 \text{ m}$$

• The direction of the displacement vector is given by:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{-2327}{-4273}\right) = 208.7^{\circ}$$
 (Third Quadrant: 28.7° + 180°)



(b) The average speed is the total distance traveled divided by the total time.

Total distance =
$$3600 + 3000 + \sqrt{1273^2 + 1273^2} = 8400$$
 m
Average speed = $(8400 \text{ m})/(360 \text{ s}) = 23.3 \text{ m/s}$

(c) The average velocity is displacement divided by the total time.

$$\bar{\vec{v}} = \frac{\vec{d}}{\Delta t} = \frac{-4273\hat{\imath} - 2327\hat{\jmath}}{360} = (-11.9\hat{\imath} - 6.5\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m/s}$$



Example 1.1

A particle moves in the xy plane with a position vector given by

$$\vec{\boldsymbol{r}}(t) = (3t^2 - 4t)\hat{\boldsymbol{\imath}} + (3t - 2)\hat{\boldsymbol{\jmath}},$$

where \vec{r} is in meters and t is in seconds.

- a) Find the Instantaneous velocity at $t=3\,\mathrm{s}$, including its magnitude and direction.
- b) Find the Instantaneous acceleration at $t=3\,\mathrm{s}$, including its magnitude and direction.



Solution 1.1

(a)

• Instantaneous velocity is given by:

$$\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}[(3t^2 - 4t)\hat{\imath} + (3t - 2)\hat{\jmath}] = (6t - 4)\hat{\imath} + 3\hat{\jmath}$$

• At t = 3s,

$$\vec{v}(3) = (6(3) - 4)\hat{\imath} + 3\hat{\jmath} = 14\hat{\imath} + 3\hat{\jmath}$$

• The magnitude of the instantaneous velocity is given by:

$$|\vec{v}(3)| = \sqrt{(14)^2 + (3)^2} = \sqrt{196 + 9} = \sqrt{205} = 14.3 \text{ m/s}$$

• The direction of the instantaneous velocity is given by:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{14}\right) = 12.2^{\circ}$$



(b)

• Instantaneous acceleration is given by:

$$\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}[(6t - 4)\hat{\imath} + 3\hat{\jmath}] = 6\hat{\imath}$$

- We see that the acceleration is always constant at all times.
- The magnitude of the instantaneous acceleration is given by:

$$|\vec{a}| = 6 \text{ m/s}^2$$

• The direction of the instantaneous acceleration is given by:

$$\theta = 0^{\circ}$$

• Notice that the direction of acceleration is different from the direction of velocity at t=3s.

1. The Position, Velocity, and Acceleration Vectors



2. Two-Dimensional Motion with Constant Acceleration

3. Projectile Motion

4. Uniform Circular Motion

5. Tangential and Radial Acceleration

6. Suggested Problems

2.1 Remember



Equations of Motion at Constant Acceleration in One Dimension

$$v_{xf} = v_{xi} + a_x t$$

$$x_f = x_i + \frac{1}{2} \left(v_{xf} + v_{xi} \right) t$$

$$x_f = x_i + v_{xi}t + \frac{1}{2}a_xt^2$$

$$v_{xf}^2 = v_{xi}^2 + 2a_x (x_f - x_i)$$

(4)

2.2 In Two Dimensions



Equations of Motion at Constant Acceleration in Two Dimension

$$\vec{\boldsymbol{v}}_f = \vec{\boldsymbol{v}}_i + \vec{\boldsymbol{a}}t \tag{1}$$

$$\vec{r}_f = \vec{r}_i + \vec{v}_i t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} t^2 \tag{3}$$

Remember

$$ec{m{r}} = x\hat{m{\imath}} + y\hat{m{\jmath}}$$
 $ec{m{v}} = v_x\hat{m{\imath}} + v_y\hat{m{\jmath}}$ $ec{m{a}} = a_x\hat{m{\imath}} + a_y\hat{m{\jmath}}$

Therefore:

$$\begin{split} \vec{\boldsymbol{v}}_f &= (v_{xi} + a_x t)\hat{\boldsymbol{\imath}} + \left(v_{yi} + a_y t\right)\hat{\boldsymbol{\jmath}} \\ \vec{\boldsymbol{r}}_f &= \left(x_i + v_{xi} t + \frac{1}{2}a_x t^2\right)\hat{\boldsymbol{\imath}} + \left(y_i + v_{yi} t + \frac{1}{2}a_y t^2\right)\hat{\boldsymbol{\jmath}} \end{split}$$



Example 2.2

A particle starts from the origin at t=0 with an initial velocity having an x component of $20\,$ m/s and a y component of $-15\,$ m/s. The particle moves in the xy plane with an x component of acceleration only, given by $a_x=4\,$ m/s².

(A) Determine the components of the velocity vector at any time and the total velocity vector at any time.



Solution 2.2

X	x_i	x_f	v_{xi}	v_{xf}	a_x	t_i	t_f
Value	0	1	$20 \mathrm{m/s}$?	$4 \mathrm{m/s^2}$	0	t
Y	y_i	y_f	v_{yi}	v_{yf}	a_y		
Value	0	ı	$-15 \mathrm{m/s}$?	0		

• The components of the velocity vector at any time (t) are given by:

X:
$$v_{xf} = v_{xi} + a_x t = (20 + 4t)$$
 m/s

Y:
$$v_{yf} = v_{yi} + a_y t = -15 \text{ m/s}$$

• Therefore,

$$\vec{v}_f = v_{xf}\hat{i} + v_{yf}\hat{j} = [(20 + 4t)\hat{i} - 15\hat{j}] \text{ m/s}$$



Example 2.2

(B) Calculate the velocity and speed of the particle at t=5s.



Solution 2.2

• At t = 5 s,

$$v_{xf} = 20 + 4(5) = 40$$
 m/s $v_{yf} = -15$ m/s

• Therefore,

$$\vec{\boldsymbol{v}}_f = (40\hat{\boldsymbol{\imath}} - 15\hat{\boldsymbol{\jmath}}) \text{ m/s}$$

Speed =
$$|\vec{v}_f| = \sqrt{(40 \text{ m/s})^2 + (-15 \text{ m/s})^2} = 42.7 \text{ m/s}$$

• The direction of the velocity vector is given by

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{v_{yf}}{v_{xf}}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(-\frac{15}{40}\right) = -21^{\circ}.$$



Example 2.2

(C) Determine the x and y coordinates of the particle at any time t and the position vector at this time.



Solution 2.2

• From the equations of motion,

$$x_f = x_i + v_{xi}t + \frac{1}{2}a_xt^2 = 0 + 20t + 2t^2 = (20t + 2t^2) \text{ m}$$

$$y_f = y_i + v_{yi}t + \frac{1}{2}a_yt^2 = 0 - 15t + 0 = (-15t) \text{ m}$$

• The position vector at any time t is given by

$$\vec{r}_f = x_f \hat{\imath} + y_f \hat{\jmath} = [(20t + 2t^2)\hat{\imath} - 15t\hat{\jmath}] \text{ m}$$

• Therefore, at t = 5s,

$$\vec{r}_f = [(20(5) + 2(5)^2)\hat{\imath} - 15(5)\hat{\jmath}] \text{ m} = (150\hat{\imath} - 75\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m}$$



Problem 2.2

At t=0, a particle moving in the xy plane with constant acceleration has a velocity of $\vec{v}_i=(3\hat{\imath}-2\hat{\jmath})$ m/s and is at the origin. At t=3 s, the particle's velocity is $\vec{v}=(9\hat{\imath}+7\hat{\jmath})$ m/s. Find:

- (a) the acceleration of the particle and
- (b) its coordinates at any time t.



Answer 2.2

(a) From Eq(1),

$$\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i}{t} = \frac{(9-3)\hat{\imath} + (7-(-2))\hat{\jmath}}{3} = (2\hat{\imath} + 3\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m/s}^2$$

(b) From Eq(3),

$$ec{m{r}}_f = ec{m{r}}_i + ec{m{v}}_i t + rac{1}{2} ec{m{a}} t^2$$

Since the particle is at the origin at t = 0, we have $\vec{r}_i = 0$. Therefore,

$$ec{m{r}}_f = ec{m{v}}_i t + rac{1}{2} ec{m{a}} t^2$$



Substituting the known values,

$$\vec{\pmb{r}}_f = (3\hat{\pmb{\imath}} - 2\hat{\pmb{\jmath}})t + \frac{1}{2}(2\hat{\pmb{\imath}} + 3\hat{\pmb{\jmath}})t^2$$

Therefore,

$$x = 3t + t^2, \quad y = -2t + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)t^2$$



Problem 2.3

The vector position of a particle varies in time according to the expression

$$\vec{r} = (3\hat{\imath} - 6t^2\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m}.$$

- (a) Find expressions for the velocity and acceleration as functions of time.
- (b) Determine the particle's position and velocity at t = 1s.



Answer 2.3

(a) The velocity is given by the time derivative of the position vector:

$$\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = (0\hat{\imath} - 12t\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m/s}$$

The acceleration is given by the time derivative of the velocity vector:

$$\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = (0\hat{\imath} - 12\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m/s}^2$$

(b) At t = 1 s,

$$\vec{r} = (3\hat{\imath} - 6(1)^2\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m} = (3\hat{\imath} - 6\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m}$$

$$\vec{v} = (0\hat{\imath} - 12(1)\hat{\jmath}) \text{ m/s} = -12\hat{\jmath} \text{ m/s}$$

1. The Position, Velocity, and Acceleration Vectors



2. Two-Dimensional Motion with Constant Acceleration

3. Projectile Motion

4. Uniform Circular Motion

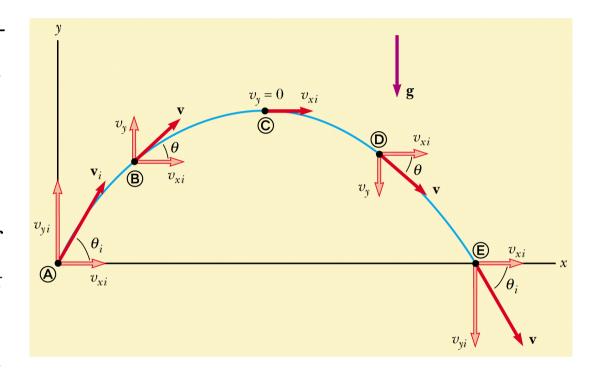
5. Tangential and Radial Acceleration

6. Suggested Problems

3.1 Assumptions



- The only force acting on the projectile is the force of *gravity*, which acts downward.
- The acceleration of the projectile is *constant* and equal to $\vec{a} = -g\hat{\jmath}$.
- The horizontal component of the velocity remains *constant* throughout the flight because there is no horizontal acceleration (ignoring air resistance).



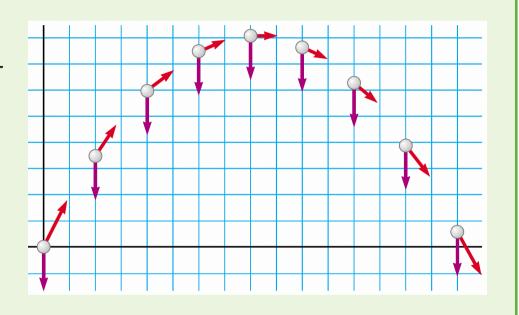
$$v_{xi} = v_i \cos \theta_i$$
 $a_x = 0$ $v_{yi} = v_i \sin \theta_i$ $a_y = -g$



Example 3.3

A ball is thrown in such a way that its initial vertical and horizontal components of velocity are 40 m/s and 20 m/s, respectively.

Estimate the total time of flight and the distance the ball is from its starting point when it lands.





Solution 3.3

- The total time of flight can be estimated by calculating the time it takes for the ball to reach its maximum height and then doubling this time (the time to go up equals the time to come down).
- The time to reach maximum height can be found from the vertical component of motion. At maximum height, the vertical component of velocity is zero.
- Therefore, the speed after each second is estimated as follows ($g \approx 10 \text{ m/s}^2$):

Time (s)	0	1	2	3	4
Vertical Velocity (m/s)	40	30	20	10	0

• From the table, we see that it takes about $4 ext{ s}$ to reach maximum height. Therefore, the total time of flight is about $2 ext{ } e$



- The horizontal distance traveled by the ball can be estimated from the horizontal component of motion.
- The horizontal component of velocity remains constant throughout the flight because there is no horizontal acceleration (ignoring air resistance).
- Therefore, the horizontal distance traveled by the ball is given by:

$$x = v_{ri}t = (20 \text{ m/s})(8s) = 160 \text{ m}$$

3.3 Equations of Motion for a Projectile



Using the assumptions:

$$v_{xi} = v_i \cos \theta_i \qquad a_x = 0$$

$$a_r = 0$$

$$v_{yi} = v_i \sin \theta_i$$
 $a_y = -g$

$$a_y = -g$$

we can summarize the equations of motion for a projectile as follows:

Horizontal Direction		Vertical Direction		
$v_{xf} = v_{xi} = v_i \cos \theta_i$	(h1)	$v_{yf} = v_i \sin \theta_i - gt \tag{9}$	(v1)	
$x_f = x_i + (v_i \cos \theta_i)t$	(h2)	$y_f = y_i + (v_i \sin \theta_i)t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 ($	(v2)	
		$v_{yf}^2 = v_i^2 \sin^2 \theta_i - 2g(y_f - y_i) \ ($	(v3)	

3.4 Horizontal Range and Maximum Height

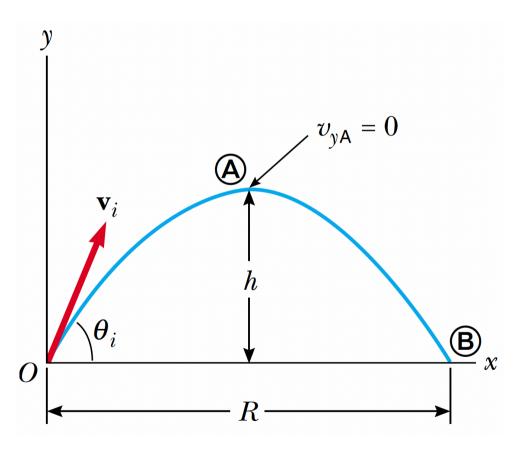


• The $\mathbf{maximum}$ height h of a projectile is the highest vertical position it reaches during its flight.

$$h = y_{\text{max}} - y_i$$

• At maximum height, $v_{yf} = 0$, therefore, using Eq(v3) we get:

$$h = \frac{v_i^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}{2g}$$



3.4 Horizontal Range and Maximum Height

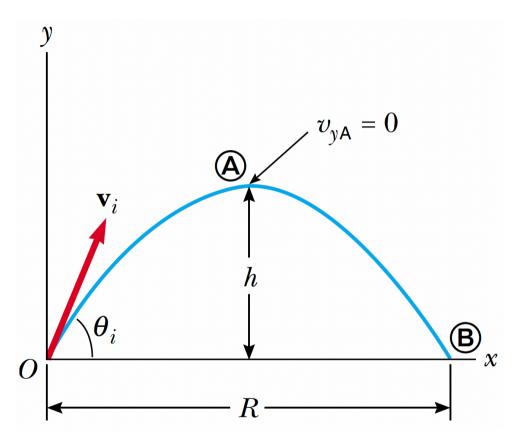


• The horizontal range R of a projectile is the horizontal distance it travels during its time of flight.

$$R = x_f - x_i$$

• From Eq(h2) and Eq(v1), the horizontal range can be expressed as:

$$R = \frac{v_i^2 \sin 2\theta_i}{g}$$

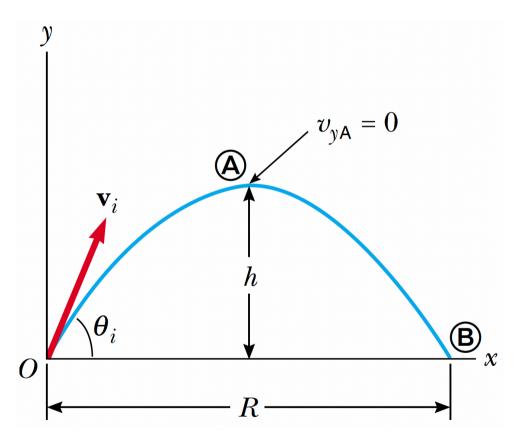


3.4 Horizontal Range and Maximum Height



• The **time of flight** T of a projectile launched from and landing at the same height is given by:

$$T = \frac{2v_i \sin \theta_i}{g}$$



3.4 Horizontal Range and Maximum Height

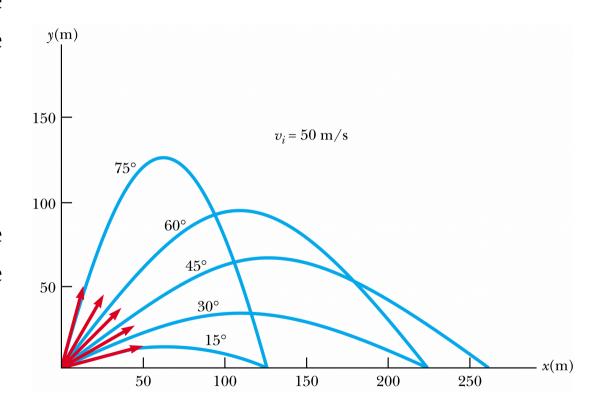


• The angle θ_i that maximizes the maximum height h of a projectile is 90° .

$$h_{\max} = \frac{v_i^2}{2g}$$

• The angle θ_i that maximizes the horizontal range R of a projectile is 45° .

$$R_{\max} = \frac{v_i^2}{g}$$





Example 3.4

A long-jumper leaves the ground at an angle of 20° above the horizontal and at a speed of 11 m/s.

- (A) How far does he jump in the horizontal direction?
- (B) What is the maximum height reached?





Solution 3.4

(A) The horizontal range R of the jump can be found from:

$$R = \frac{v_i^2 \sin 2\theta_i}{g} = \frac{(11 \text{ m/s})^2 \sin 40^\circ}{9.8 \text{ m/s}^2} = 7.94 \text{ m}$$

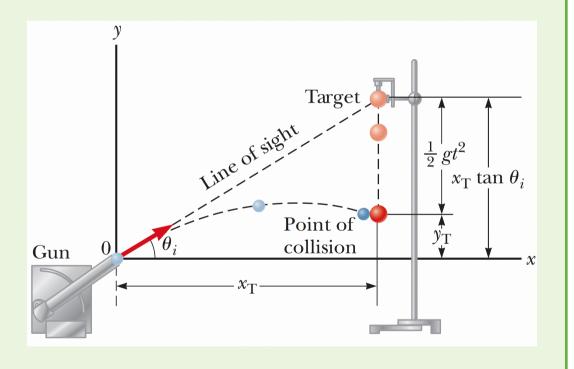
(B) The maximum height H reached can be found from:

$$h = \frac{v_i^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}{2g} = \frac{(11 \text{ m/s})^2 \sin^2 20^\circ}{2 \times 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2} = 0.72 \text{ m}$$



Example 3.5

a projectile is fired at a target T in such a way that the projectile leaves the gun at the same time the target is dropped from rest, as shown in the Figure. Show that if the gun is initially aimed at the stationary target, the projectile hits the target.





Solution 3.5

• First, we find the target's position as a function of time $y_T(t)$.

$$y_T = y_{Ti} + v_{Ti}t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

Since the target is dropped from rest, its initial velocity is zero, and its hight y_{Ti} can be found from the geometry of the problem as:

$$y_{Ti} = x_T \tan \theta_i$$

Therefore,

$$y_T = x_T \tan \theta_i - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \tag{1}$$

• Next, we find the projectile's position as a function of time $y_P(t)$.

$$y_P = v_{Pi}\sin\theta_i t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$



• We can find *t* from the horizontal component of motion as:

$$x_P = v_{Pi} \cos \theta_i t$$

$$\Rightarrow t = \frac{x_P}{v_{Pi} \cos \theta_i}$$

Therefore,

$$y_P = v_{Pi} \sin \theta_i \left(\frac{x_P}{v_{Pi} \cos \theta_i}\right) - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

$$y_P = x_P \tan \theta_i - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \tag{2}$$

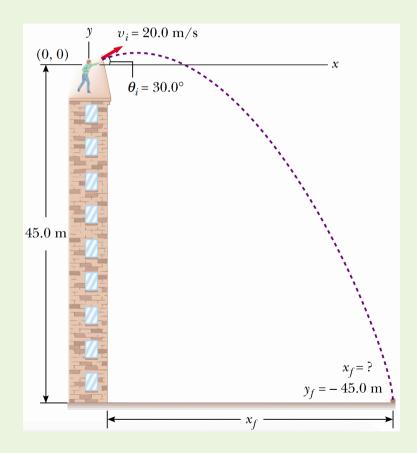
Finally, we see from Eq(1) and Eq(2) that y_P and y_T are equal when $x_P = x_T$. Therefore, the projectile hits the target.



Example 3.6

A stone is thrown from the top of a building upward at an angle of 30° to the horizontal with an initial speed of 20 m/s, as shown in the Figure. If the height of the building is 45 m,

(A) how long does it take the stone to reach the ground?





Solution 3.6

(A) We can find the time t it takes the stone to reach the ground from the vertical component of motion. The stone reaches the ground when its vertical position $y_f = -45$ m. Therefore, from Eq(v2) we have:

$$y_f = y_i + (v_i \sin \theta_i)t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

Substituting the known values,

$$-45 = 0 + (20\sin 30^{\circ})t - \frac{1}{2}(9.8)t^{2}$$

Rearranging,

$$4.9t^2 - 10t - 45 = 0$$

Solving this quadratic equation for t, we get: t = 4.22 s



Example 3.6

(B) What is the *speed* of the stone just before it strikes the ground?



Solution 3.6

The speed of the stone just before it strikes the ground can be found from

Speed =
$$|\vec{\boldsymbol{v}}_f| = \sqrt{v_{xf}^2 + v_{yf}^2}$$

From Eq(h1),

$$v_{xf} = v_i \cos \theta_i = 20 \cos 30^\circ = 17.32 \text{ m/s}$$

From Eq(v1),

$$v_{yf} = v_i \sin \theta_i - gt = 10 - (9.8)(4.22) = -31.4 \text{ m/s}$$

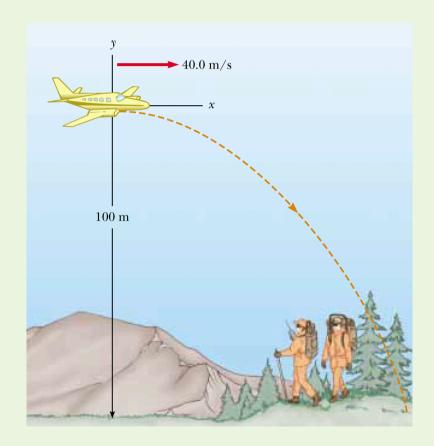
Therefore,

Speed =
$$\sqrt{(17.32)^2 + (-31.4)^2} = 36 \text{ m/s}$$



Example 3.7

A plane drops a package of supplies as shown in the Figure. If the plane is traveling horizontally at 40 m/s and is 100 m above the ground, *where* does the package strike the ground relative to the point at which it is released?





Solution 3.7

• First we find the time t it takes the package to reach the ground $y_f = -100\,\mathrm{m}$,

$$y_f = (v_i \sin \theta_i) t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2$$

Since the plane is moving *only* horizontally, $v_i \sin 0^\circ = 0$, Therefore,

$$-100 = -\frac{1}{2}(9.8)t^2$$

 $\Rightarrow t = 4.52 \text{ s.}$

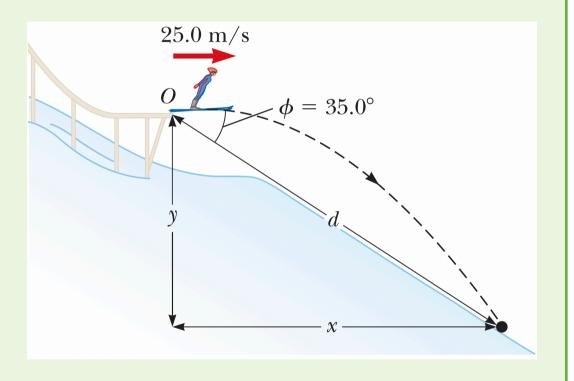
• Next, we find the horizontal distance x traveled by the package from Eq(h2):

$$x_f = (v_i \cos 0^\circ)t = (40)(4.52s) = 181 \text{ m}$$



Example 3.8

A ski-jumper leaves the ski track moving in the horizontal direction with a speed of 25 m/s, as shown in the Figure. The landing incline below him falls off with a slope of 35°. Where does he land on the incline?





Solution 3.8

• First we find the position of the ski-jumper in terms of x and y.

$$x = (v_i \cos 0^{\circ})t = (25)t$$

$$y=(v_i\sin 0^\circ)t-\frac{1}{2}gt^2=-\frac{1}{2}(9.8)t^2$$

• Next, from the geometry we find that:

$$x = d\cos(35^\circ) = 25t$$

$$y = -d\sin(35^{\circ}) = -4.9t^2$$

Dividing the second equation by the first gives:

$$\tan(35^{\circ}) = 0.196t$$

$$\Rightarrow t = 3.57 \text{ s}$$



• Substituting this value of t into the x and y equations gives:

$$x = (25)(3.57) = 89.3 \text{ m}$$

$$y = -4.9(3.57)^2 = -62.5 \text{ m}$$

1. The Position, Velocity, and Acceleration Vectors



2. Two-Dimensional Motion with Constant Acceleration

3. Projectile Motion

4. Uniform Circular Motion

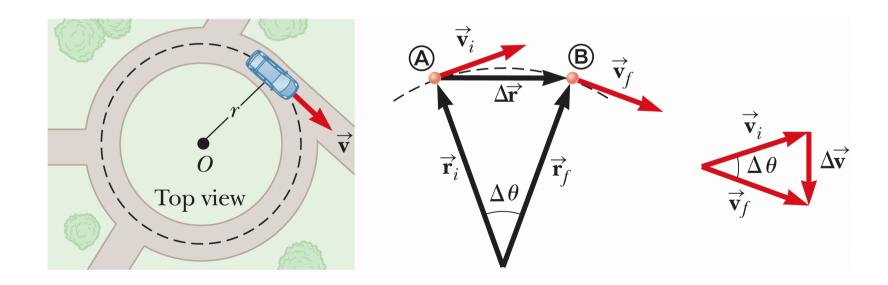
5. Tangential and Radial Acceleration

6. Suggested Problems

4.1 Centripetal Acceleration



- An object moving in a circle of radius r at a constant speed v is said to be in *uniform* circular motion.
- Although the speed is constant, the velocity is *not* constant because its direction is changing.



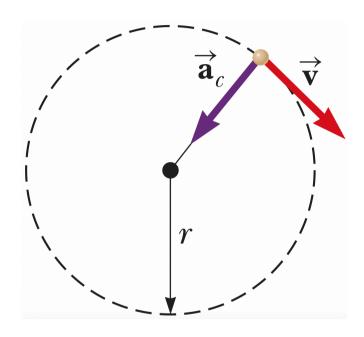
4.1 Centripetal Acceleration



• The acceleration of an object in uniform circular motion is called *centripetal acceleration* and is always directed toward the center of the circle.

• The magnitude of the centripetal acceleration is given by:

$$a_c = \frac{v^2}{r}$$



4.1 Centripetal Acceleration



• The centripetal acceleration can also be expressed in terms of the period T of the circular motion as:

$$T = \frac{2\pi r}{v}$$



Example 4.9

What is the centripetal acceleration of the Earth as it moves in its orbit around the Sun?



Solution 4.9

• The centripetal acceleration is given by:

$$a_c = \frac{v^2}{r}$$

• The average orbital speed of the Earth is given by:

$$v = \frac{2\pi r}{T}$$

• Therefore,

$$a_c = \frac{\left(\frac{2\pi r}{T}\right)^2}{r} = \frac{4\pi^2 r}{T^2}$$



where $r = 1.496 \times 10^{11}\,$ m is the average distance from the Earth to the Sun, and $T = 1\,$ year $= 3.156 \times 10^7 s$ is the time it takes the Earth to complete one orbit around the Sun.

• Substituting these values into the equation for centripetal acceleration gives:

$$a_c = 5.93 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m/s}^2$$

1. The Position, Velocity, and Acceleration Vectors



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5. Tangential and Radial Acceleration

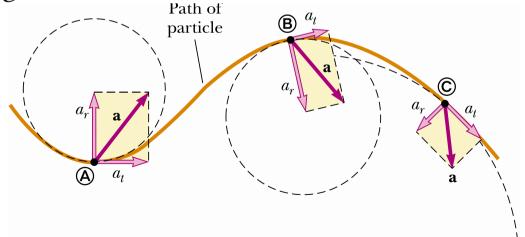
6. Suggested Problems

5.1 Total Acceleration



- An object moving in a curved path has two components of acceleration:
- The radial (or centripetal) acceleration a_r points toward the center of the curvature of the path.

• The tangential acceleration a_t is tangent to the path and points in the direction of motion if the speed is increasing and opposite to the direction of motion if the speed is decreasing.



5.1 Total Acceleration



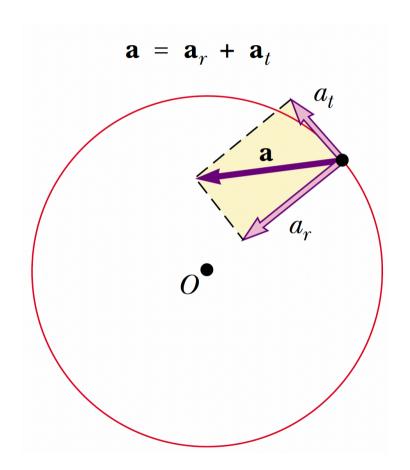
• The total acceleration \vec{a} is given by:

$$ec{a} = ec{a}_t + ec{a}_r$$

• The magnitude and direction of the total acceleration are given by:

$$|\vec{\boldsymbol{a}}| = \sqrt{a_t^2 + a_r^2}$$

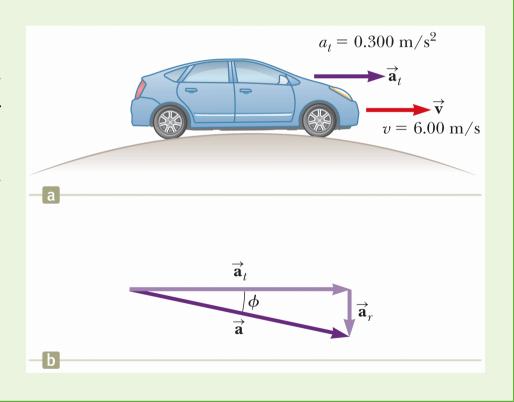
$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{a_r}{a_t} \right)$$





Example 5.10

A car exhibits a constant acceleration of 0.3 m/s^2 parallel to the roadway. The car passes over a rise in the roadway such that the top of the rise is shaped like a circle of radius 500 m. At the moment the car is at the top of the rise, its velocity vector is horizontal and has a magnitude of 6.00 m/s. What is the direction of the total acceleration vector for the car at this instant?





Solution 5.10

• The tangential acceleration is given as $a_t=0.3~\rm m/s^2$. The radial (centripetal) acceleration is given by:

$$a_r = -\frac{v^2}{r} = -\frac{(6.00 \text{ m/s})^2}{500 \text{ m}} = -0.072 \text{ m/s}^2$$

• Therefore, the magnitude of the total acceleration is given by:

$$|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{(0.3 \text{ m/s}^2)^2 + (0.072 \text{ m/s}^2)^2} = 0.309 \text{ m/s}^2$$

• The direction of the total acceleration is given by:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{a_r}{a_t}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(-\frac{0.072}{0.3}\right) = -13.5^{\circ}$$

6. Suggested Problems

1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 29