

Projectile Motion: Oblique Projection

Name : _____



Aim: To analyse the motion of a projectile.

A **projectile** is any object that moves, without propulsion, in free flight. If air resistance is ignored then the only force acting on a projectile during its flight is gravity. This force is constant and always directed vertically downwards. It causes a projectile to follow a parabolic path.

Equipment: Digital Camera, Metre ruler, Computer software, golf ball.

Method:

- Film a golf ball being projected upwards at an angle of about 45 degrees. Include the ruler.
- Using QuickTime software (or similar), mark the position of the ball **every third frame** on a clear piece of plastic (eg. a sheet protector). Measure the length of the ruler on the screen and calculate the ratio between the real-life distance and the distances on the screen. Fill in the table.

Conversion Factor = Length of metre ruler on screen: _____ mm. Since this value is the length of 1m in real life, simply divide any on-screen measurements (in mm) by this number. You don't have to adjust for m, cm or mm, because this conversion factor automatically accounts for this.

So, displacement in real life = displacement on screen / conversion factor

Analysis:

Horizontal Motion

| Golf Ball Thrown Upwards at an Angle (use the first frame after the ball has left the thrower's hand) | | | | | | |
|---|----------|---|---|--|---------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Frame Number | Time (s) | Horizontal Displacement on screen from original position (mm). | Horizontal Displacement in real life from original position (metres). <i>Column 3</i> <i>conversion factor</i> | Horizontal Displacement (m) during each 3-frame time period. (from Col 4) Row 2 – Row 1, Row 3 – Row 2 etc. | Mid-point times (s) | Average Horizontal Velocity During Each Time Period (m/s) <i>Column 5</i> <i>0.1s</i> |
| 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | ----- | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | 0.1 | | | | 0.05 | |
| 6 | 0.2 | | | | 0.15 | |
| 9 | 0.3 | | | | 0.25 | |
| 12 | 0.4 | | | | 0.35 | |
| 15 | 0.5 | | | | 0.45 | |
| 18 | 0.6 | | | | 0.55 | |
| 21 | 0.7 | | | | 0.65 | |
| 24 | 0.8 | | | | 0.75 | |
| 27 | 0.9 | | | | 0.85 | |
| 30 | 1.0 | | | | 0.95 | |
| 33 | 1.1 | | | | 1.05 | |
| 36 | 1.2 | | | | 1.15 | |
| 39 | 1.3 | | | | 1.25 | |
| 42 | 1.4 | | | | 1.35 | |
| 45 | 1.5 | | | | 1.45 | |
| 48 | 1.6 | | | | 1.55 | |
| 51 | 1.7 | | | | 1.65 | |
| 54 | 1.8 | | | | 1.75 | |
| 57 | 1.9 | | | | 1.85 | |
| 60 | 2.0 | | | | 1.95 | |

Draw (a) a horizontal displacement vs time graph (Column 4 vs Column 2) and (b) a horizontal velocity vs time graph (Column 7 vs Column 6).

Question: What is the gradient of the horizontal velocity vs time graph? _____

Vertical Motion

The velocity and the displacement in the third column will start off as positive, but, after the ball reaches the top, it will become negative.

| Golf Ball Thrown Upwards at an Angle (use the first frame after the ball has left the thrower's hand) | | | | | | |
|---|----------|---|---|---|---------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Frame Number | Time (s) | Vertical Displacement on screen from original position (mm). | Vertical Displacement in real life from original position (metres). <i>Column 3</i> <i>conversion factor</i> | Vertical Displacement (m) during each 3-frame time period. (from Col 4) Row 2 – Row 1, Row 3 – Row 2 etc. | Mid-point times (s) | Average Vertical Velocity During Each Time Period (m/s) <i>Column 5</i> <i>0.1s</i> |
| 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | ----- | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | 0.1 | | | | 0.05 | |
| 6 | 0.2 | | | | 0.15 | |
| 9 | 0.3 | | | | 0.25 | |
| 12 | 0.4 | | | | 0.35 | |
| 15 | 0.5 | | | | 0.45 | |
| 18 | 0.6 | | | | 0.55 | |
| 21 | 0.7 | | | | 0.65 | |
| 24 | 0.8 | | | | 0.75 | |
| 27 | 0.9 | | | | 0.85 | |
| 30 | 1.0 | | | | 0.95 | |
| 33 | 1.1 | | | | 1.05 | |
| 36 | 1.2 | | | | 1.15 | |
| 39 | 1.3 | | | | 1.25 | |
| 42 | 1.4 | | | | 1.35 | |
| 45 | 1.5 | | | | 1.45 | |
| 48 | 1.6 | | | | 1.55 | |
| 51 | 1.7 | | | | 1.65 | |
| 54 | 1.8 | | | | 1.75 | |
| 57 | 1.9 | | | | 1.85 | |
| 60 | 2.0 | | | | 1.95 | |

Draw (a) a vertical displacement vs time graph (Column 4 vs Column 2) and (b) a vertical velocity vs time graph (Column 7 vs Column 6).

Question: What is the gradient of the vertical velocity vs time graph? _____

Comment on the shapes of all the graphs.