

M2 Projectiles

1) A particle is projected horizontally from a point A which is h m above horizontal ground. The projectile strikes the ground at a point b which is at a horizontal distance of x m from A.

a) Find an expression for the speed of projection of the particle in terms of h and x .

b) Find the speed of the projectile if $h = 25$ and $x = 200$

2) A stone is thrown with speed u ms^{-1} from a window which is h m above horizontal ground. The stone hits the ground 3.5 s later and the horizontal distance from the window to the ground is x m.

a) Find an expression for $\tan \alpha$, where α is the angle of projection.

Write your answer in the form $\frac{p-h}{x}$, where p is a rational number.

b) Given that the horizontal distance from the window to the ground is 97 m and the window is 20 m above horizontal ground, find

i) the angle of projection

ii) the initial speed

3) A ball is thrown from a point O on horizontal ground with speed 16 ms^{-1} at an angle of elevation θ . The ball strikes a vertical wall which is 20 m from O at a point which is 3 m above the ground. Find the two possible values of θ .

Socratic

1) A particle is projected from a point with speed 21 ms^{-1} at an angle of elevation α and moves freely under gravity. When the particle has moved a horizontal distance $x \text{ m}$, its height above the point of projection is $y \text{ m}$.

- a) Find an expression for y in terms of x and α
 b) Given that $y = 8.1$ when $x = 36$, find the value of $\tan \alpha$

2) A projectile is launched from a point on a horizontal plane with initial speed $u \text{ ms}^{-1}$ at an angle of elevation α . The particle moves freely under gravity until it strikes the plane. The range of the projectile (the horizontal distance travelled) is $R \text{ m}$.

- a) Find an expression for the time of flight of the particle in terms of u, g and α .
 b) Find an expression for R in terms of u, g and α
 c) Given that u is fixed, find the value of α which gives the greatest possible range.
 d) Given that $R = \frac{2u^2}{5g}$, find the two possible values of the angle of elevation at which the projectile could have been launched.

Multichoice answers

1a)

- A $y = x \tan \alpha - \frac{x^2}{90 \cos^2 \alpha}$
 B $y = x \tan \alpha + \frac{x^2}{90 \cos^2 \alpha}$
 C $y = x \tan \alpha - \frac{x^2}{90 \sin^2 \alpha}$
 D $y = x \tan \alpha + \frac{x^2}{90 \sin^2 \alpha}$
 E None of these

- 1b) A $\frac{4}{5}$ B $\frac{5}{4}$ C $\frac{3}{5}$ D $\frac{4}{5}$ E $\frac{3}{4}$ F $\frac{4}{3}$ G None of these

- 2a) A $\frac{2u \sin \alpha}{g}$ B $\frac{u \sin \alpha}{g}$ C $\frac{2u \cos \alpha}{g}$ D $\frac{u \cos \alpha}{2g}$ E None of these

- 2b) A $\frac{u^2 \sin \alpha}{g}$ B $\frac{u^2 \sin 2\alpha}{2g}$ C $\frac{u \sin 2\alpha}{g}$ D $\frac{u^2 \sin 2\alpha}{g}$ E None of these

- 2c) A 90° B 60° C 45° D 30°

- 2d) A 18° and 72° B 12° and 78°
 C 30° and 60° D 0° and 90°