Physics 20 Unit 1 - Vectors

Projectile Motion I



Projectile Motion

- Involves throwing, launching or dropping an object through the air. Some examples include:
- -
- -
- .
- •
- -

Which will hit the ground first???



Conceptual Example

An object is thrown off a cliff of height \overline{d}_y with a horizontal velocity \overline{v}_x .

Key Ideas:

- This object has the same v_x throughout the entire motion.
- There is acceleration in the y direction, constant velocity in the x direction.
- The time it takes the object to hit the ground in this motion would be the same as the time it would take to just fall vertically.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} x & y \\ \hline \overrightarrow{v} & \overrightarrow{v}_i = 0 \\ \hline \overrightarrow{d} & \overrightarrow{v}_f \\ \hline \overrightarrow{g} = -9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 \\ t & t \end{array}$$

Questions we can answer from this scenario:

- **1. How long the object is in the air.**
- 2. How far the object lands from the cliff.
- 3. The velocity of the object when it lands.
- **1. How long the object is in the air:**

Given \vec{d}_y you can solve for t.

$$\vec{d} = \vec{v}_i t + 1/2\vec{a}t^2$$
 $\vec{d}_y = 1/2\vec{g}t^2$

 $\vec{d}_y = v_{iy}^0 t + 1/2\vec{g}t^2$

$$\mathbf{t} = \sqrt{\frac{2\mathbf{d}_y}{\mathbf{g}}}$$

2. How far the object lands from the cliff:

 $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \vec{\mathbf{d}} / \mathbf{t}$ $\vec{\mathbf{d}}_{\mathbf{x}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{t}$ 3. The velocity of the object when it lands:



We must find the resultant of the two velocities.

$$\vec{v}_x$$

 \vec{v}_r \vec{v}_y

 $\vec{v}_{f^2} = \vec{v}_{f^2} + 2\vec{a}\vec{d}$ $\vec{v}_{fy} = \sqrt{2\vec{g}}\vec{d}_y$

ex) An object is thrown horizontally with a velocity of 10.0 m/s from the top of a 90.0 m building. How far from the base of the building will the object land and what will its final velocity be? ex) A watermelon is thrown from the top of a very tall watermelon tree with a horizontal velocity of 18.0 m/s. If the melon hits the ground 100 m from the tree, how high is the tree?



ex) A ball is thrown horizontally with a velocity of 15.0 m/s from the top of a cliff. If it takes 5.50 s for the ball to hit the ground

a) how high is the cliff?

b) What is the ball's final velocity?