Projectile Motion I

Spring 2005

What you should know

- What is the projectile motion?
- What are three primary factors affecting projectile motions?
- What are four governing equations?

Projectile Motion



- Projectile : An object that has no external forces acting on it other than
- Uniformly accelerated motion (acceleration = $g = \frac{m/s^2}$)
- Motions of an object in the air.
- Long jump, high jump, goal kick, basketball throw, shotput,
- No air-resistance → Mathematical analysis

Take-home message.....

- Different approach to horizontal direction (X-axis) and vertical direction (Yaxis)
- Horizontal motion \rightarrow

(no air-resistance assumption) Constant velocity (Newton's 1st law)

- Vertical motion \rightarrow (g=-9.8) m/s^2)
- velocity vector determine the path of projectile motion.



Fig. 3-6 One ball is released from rest, and at the same instant the other is given a horizontal initial velocity. Both balls are at the same elevation at any instant.

Primary factors affecting performance

- Angle of Release (= projection angle or take-off angle)
- Relative Height of Release (RHR)
 projection height = release height landing height
- Speed of Release (= projection velocity or take-off velocity)



Is a Higher angle better?

- If the goal is vertical jump height or vertical distance, what takeoff angle is best?
- If the goal is long jump or distance, an angle of ______ is the best (When RHR = 0). Why?
- Does this Optimal angle change if relative release height is not equal to 0?

Angle of Release

Trade-off between horizontal velocity (V_H) and vertical velocity (V_V)

As $\theta \uparrow \rightarrow V_H$ (due to cosine), V_V (due to sine)



Release angle = 75 degrees

10 degrees
30 degrees
40 degrees
45 degrees
60 degrees
75 degrees



Due to the characteristics of the trigonometric functions



↑ Angle → V_V increases, but V_H decreases. There is a Trade-off between V_V and V_H

Relative Height of Release (RHR)



• RHR = release height - landing height







When h_{landing} << h_{release} $R_{40} > R_{30} > R_{45}$ RHR > 0h_{release}, So ... as RHR increases the optimal θ_{release} decreases landing

It's possible to have a *negative* RHR ($h_{release} < h_{landing}$)

In this case the optimal θ_{release} is than 45 degrees



Speed of Release

•Horizontal velocity does not change while the object is in the air.

•Vertical velocity changes by -9.8 m/s² for every second the object is in the air.

$$R = \frac{v^2 \sin\theta \cos\theta + v \cos\theta \sqrt{(v \sin\theta)^2 + 2gh}}{g}$$

•Because R α v², it has the greatest influence on the horizontal range of the projectile

The effect of Speed of Release on the horizontal range of a projectile



Long Jump

 What is the optimum angle of takeoff for long jumpers?



- RHR > 0 (take-off height > landing height)
- Optimum Angle should be slightly less than 45 degrees
- Research shows that it should be 42-43 degrees

Athlete	Distance of Jump Analyzed (m)	Speed of Takeoff (m/s)	<i>Optimum Angle of Takeoff for Given Speed (dea)</i>	Actual Angle of Takeoff (deg)	
Mike Powell (USA)	8.95	9.8	43.3	23.2	
Bob Beamon (USA)	8.90	9.6	43.3	24.0	
Carl Lewis (USA)	8.79	10.0	43.4	18.7	
Ralph Boston (USA)	8.28	9.5	43.2	19.8	
Igor Ter-Ovanesian (USSR)	8.19	9.3	43.2	21.2	
Jesse Ówens (USA)	8.13	9.2	43.1	22.0	
Elena Belevskaya (USSR)	7.14	8.9	43.0	19.6	
Heike Dreschler (GDR)	7.13	9.4	43.2	15.6	
Jackie Joyner-Kersee (USA)	7.12	8.5	42.8	22.1	
Anisoara Stanciu (Rom)	6.96	8.6	42.9	20.6	
Vali Ionescu (Rom)	6.81	8.9	43.0	18.9	
Sue Hearnshaw (GB)	6.75	8.6	42.9	18.9	

Actual Angle of Takeoff ~ 17-23 degrees

Long Jump

- When a jumper is moving at 10 m/s
 - the foot is not on the ground long enough to generate a large takeoff angle
 - so jumpers maintain speed and live with a low takeoff angle
- v is the most important factor in projectile motion, why?

VALUES FOR HYPOTHETICAL JUMPS UNDER DIFFERENT CONDITIONS

Variable	Values for Actual Jump (1)		Speed of Takeoff Increased 5% (2)		Angle of F Takeoff Increased 5% (3)		Relative Height of Takeoff Increased 5% (4)	
Takeoff	8.90 m/s		9.35 m/s		8.90 m/s		8.90 m/s	
Angle of Takeoff	20		20		21		20	
Relative Ht of Takeoff	0.45 m		0.45 m		0.45 m		0.47 m	
Horizontal Range	6.23 m		6.77 m		6.39 m		6.27 m	
Change in Horiz Range			0.54 m		0.16 m		0.04 m	
Distance of Jump	7.00 m		7.54 m		7.16 m		7.04 m	