

## 2-D Horizontal Projectile Problems

1. A bowling ball is rolled off the top of a cliff with an initial horizontal velocity of 6.0 m/s [E]. If the cliff is 100. m above the ground, determine

a) the ball's time of flight

**y direction:**

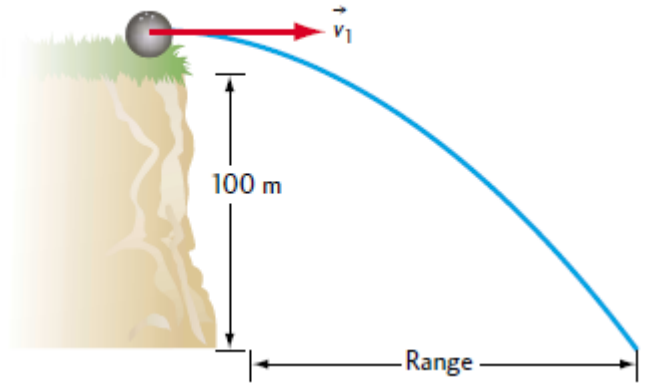
$$\vec{v}_1 = 0 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$\vec{a} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 1.0 \times 10^2 \text{ m [down]}$$

$$\Delta t = ?$$



$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta \vec{d}}{\vec{a}}}$$

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{2(1.0 \times 10^2 \text{ m})}{9.8 \text{ m/s}^2}}$$

$$\Delta t = -4.518 \text{ s}, 4.518 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta t = 4.5 \text{ s}$$

b) the ball's range

**x direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 6.0 \text{ m/s [E]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = 6.0 \text{ m/s [E]}$$

$$\vec{a} = 0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [E]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = ?$$

$$\Delta t = 4.5 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = (6.0 \text{ m/s})(4.5 \text{ s})$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 27 \text{ m [E]}$$

2. A helicopter flying horizontally at a velocity of 25 m/s drops a mailbag from a height of 15m to a letter carrier waiting on the ground below.

a) How long will the bag take to fall to the ground?

**y direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 0 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$\vec{a} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta \vec{d}}{\vec{a}}}$$

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{2(15 \text{ m})}{9.8 \text{ m/s}^2}}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 15 \text{ m [down]}$$

$$\Delta t = ?$$

$$\Delta t = -1.749 \text{ s}, 1.749 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta t = 1.7 \text{ s}$$

- c) How far in advance of the letter carrier must the bag be released so that it lands at her feet?

**x direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 25 \text{ m/s [E]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = 25 \text{ m/s [E]}$$

$$\vec{a} = 0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [E]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = ?$$

$$\Delta t = 1.7 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = (25 \text{ m/s})(1.8 \text{ s})$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 42 \text{ m [E]}$$

**Must release mailbag 42 m before carrier.**

- c) What will be the mailbag's final velocity?

**x direction:**

$$\vec{v}_{2x} = 25 \text{ m/s [E]}$$

**y direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 0 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

$$\vec{a} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 15 \text{ m [down]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$v_2^2 = v_1^2 + 2a\Delta d$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2a\Delta d}$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(15 \text{ m})}$$

$$v_2 = 17.15 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\vec{v}_{2y} = 17 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

$$\Delta d = \sqrt{(25 \text{ m})^2 + (17 \text{ m})^2}$$

$$\Delta d = 30.23 \text{ m/s}$$

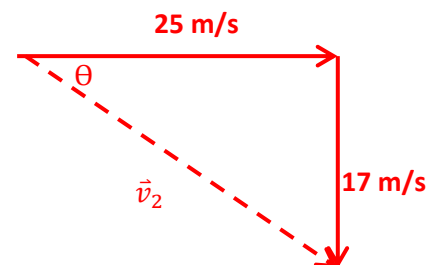
$$\Delta d = 3.0 \times 10^1 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 3.0 \times 10^1 \text{ m/s [E}34^\circ \text{down]}$$

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{17 \text{ m/s}}{25 \text{ m/s}}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{17 \text{ m/s}}{25 \text{ m/s}} \right)$$

$$\theta = 34^\circ$$



3. Ms. Swanson throws a tomato horizontally out of an open window with a velocity of 3.0 m/s. If the window is 10. m above the ground, how far away from the building must Ms. Reichling stand to catch the ball at ground level?

**x direction:**

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_1 &= 3.0 \text{ m/s [fwd]} \\ \vec{v}_2 &= 3.0 \text{ m/s [fwd]} \\ \vec{a} &= 0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [fwd]} \\ \Delta\vec{d} &= ? \\ \Delta t &= ?\end{aligned}$$

**y direction:**

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_1 &= 0 \text{ m/s [down]} \\ \vec{v}_2 &= ? \\ \vec{a} &= 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]} \\ \Delta\vec{d} &= 1.0 \times 10^1 \text{ m [down]} \\ \Delta t &= ?\end{aligned}$$

**From y direction:**

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\vec{d} &= \vec{v}_1\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}\Delta t^2 \\ \Delta t &= \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta\vec{d}}{\vec{a}}} \\ \Delta t &= \sqrt{\frac{2(10 \text{ m})}{9.8 \text{ m/s}^2}} \\ \Delta t &= -1.429 \text{ s}, 1.429 \text{ s} \\ \Delta t &= 1.4 \text{ s}\end{aligned}$$

**From x direction:**

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\vec{d} &= \vec{v}_1\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}\Delta t^2 \\ \Delta\vec{d} &= \vec{v}_1\Delta t \\ \Delta\vec{d} &= (3.0 \text{ m/s})(1.4 \text{ s}) \\ \Delta\vec{d} &= 4.2 \text{ m [fwd]}\end{aligned}$$

**She should stand 4.2 m in front of building.**

4. A rock thrown horizontally from the top of a water tower lands 20.0 m from the base of the tower. If the rock was initially thrown at a velocity of 10.0 m/s,  
a) how high is the water tower?

**x direction:**

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_1 &= 10.0 \text{ m/s [fwd]} \\ \vec{v}_2 &= 10.0 \text{ m/s [fwd]} \\ \vec{a} &= 0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [fwd]} \\ \Delta\vec{d} &= 20.0 \text{ m [fwd]} \\ \Delta t &= ?\end{aligned}$$

**y direction:**

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_1 &= 0 \text{ m/s [down]} \\ \vec{v}_2 &= ? \\ \vec{a} &= 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]} \\ \Delta\vec{d} &= ? \\ \Delta t &= ?\end{aligned}$$

**From x direction:**

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\vec{d} &= \vec{v}_1\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}\Delta t^2 \\ \Delta t &= \frac{\Delta\vec{d}}{\vec{v}_1}\end{aligned}$$

**From y direction:**

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\vec{d} &= \vec{v}_1\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}\Delta t^2 \\ \Delta\vec{d} &= \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}\Delta t^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta t = \frac{20.0 \text{ m}}{10.0 \text{ m/s}}$$

$$\Delta t = 2.00 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \frac{1}{2}(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(2.00 \text{ s})^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 19.6 \text{ m [down]}$$

b) with what final velocity will the rock strike the ground?

**From y direction:**

$$v_2^2 = v_1^2 + 2a\Delta d$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2a\Delta d}$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(19.6 \text{ m})}$$

$$v_2 = 19.6 \text{ m/s}$$

**Combining directions:**

$$\vec{v}_{2x} = 10.0 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

$$\vec{v}_{2y} = 19.6 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

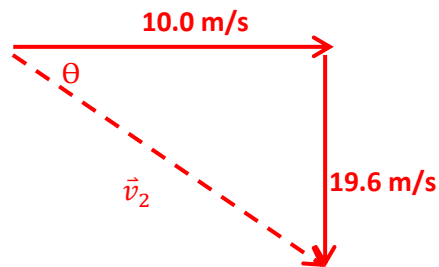
$$v_2 = \sqrt{(v_{2x})^2 + (v_{2y})^2}$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{(10.0 \text{ m/s})^2 + (19.6 \text{ m/s})^2}$$

$$v_2 = 22.00 \text{ m/s}$$

$$v_2 = 22.0 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = 22 \text{ m/s [fwd } 63^\circ \text{ down]}$$



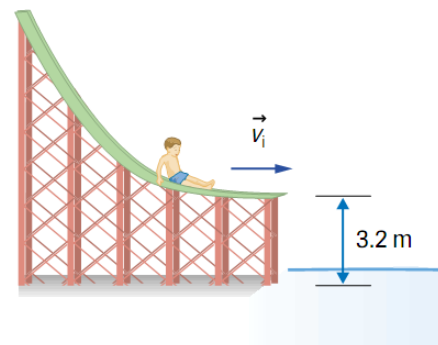
$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{19.6 \text{ m/s}}{10.0 \text{ m/s}}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{19.6 \text{ m/s}}{10.0 \text{ m/s}}\right)$$

$$\theta = 63^\circ$$

5. A child travels down a waterslide, leaving it with a velocity of 4.2 m/s horizontally, as in the picture below. The child then experiences projectile motion, landing in a swimming pool 3.2m below the slide.

a) For how long is the child airborne?



**y direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 0 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$\vec{a} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 15 \text{ m [down]}$$

$$\Delta t = ?$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta \vec{d}}{\vec{a}}}$$

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{2(3.2 \text{ m})}{9.8 \text{ m/s}^2}}$$

$$\Delta t = -0.808 \text{ s}, 0.808 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta t = 0.81 \text{ s}$$

b) Determine the child's horizontal displacement travelling through in the air.

**x direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 4.2 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = 4.2 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

$$\vec{a} = 0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [fwd]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = ?$$

$$\Delta t = 0.81 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = (4.2 \text{ m/s})(0.81 \text{ s})$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 3.4 \text{ m [fwd]}$$

6. A helicopter, travelling horizontally, is 82m above the ground. The pilot prepares to release a relief package intended to land on the ground 96 m horizontally ahead. Air resistance is negligible. The pilot does not throw the package, but lets it drop.

a) What is the initial velocity of the package relative to the ground?

**x direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = ?$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$\vec{a} = 0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [fwd]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 96 \text{ m [fwd]}$$

$$\Delta t = ?$$

**y direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 0 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$\vec{a} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 82 \text{ m [down]}$$

$$\Delta t = ?$$

**From y direction:**

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta \vec{d}}{\vec{a}}}$$

**From x direction:**

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = \frac{\Delta \vec{d}}{\Delta t}$$

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{2(82 \text{ m})}{9.8 \text{ m/s}^2}}$$

$$\Delta t = -4.091 \text{ s}, 4.091 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta t = 4.09 \text{ s}$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = \frac{96}{4.09}$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = 23.47 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = 23 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

b) What is the final velocity of the package relative to the ground?

**From y direction:**

$$v_2^2 = v_1^2 + 2a\Delta d$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2a\Delta d}$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(82 \text{ m})}$$

$$v_2 = 40.09 \text{ m/s}$$

**Combining directions:**

$$\vec{v}_{2x} = 23 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

$$\vec{v}_{2y} = 40.1 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

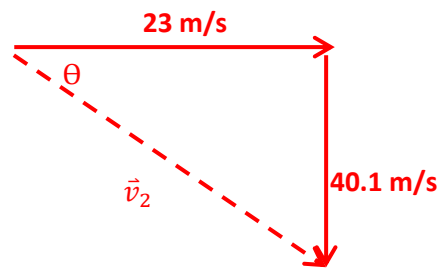
$$v_2 = \sqrt{(v_{2x})^2 + (v_{2y})^2}$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{(23 \text{ m/s})^2 + (40.1 \text{ m/s})^2}$$

$$v_2 = 46.23 \text{ m/s}$$

$$v_2 = 46 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = 46 \text{ m/s [fwd}60^\circ\text{down]}$$



$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{40.1 \text{ m/s}}{23 \text{ m/s}}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{40.1 \text{ m/s}}{23 \text{ m/s}}\right)$$

$$\theta = 60^\circ$$

7. A child throws a snowball with a horizontal velocity of 18 m/s directly toward a tree, from a distance of 9.0 m and a height above the ground of 1.5 m.

a) After what time interval does the snowball hit the tree?

**x direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 18 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = 18 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

$$\vec{a} = 0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [fwd]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta \vec{d}}{\vec{v}_1}$$

$$\Delta t = \frac{9.0 \text{ m}}{18 \text{ m/s}}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 9.0 \text{ m [fwd]}$$

$$\Delta t = ?$$

$$\Delta t = 0.50 \text{ s}$$

b) At what height above the ground will the snow-ball hit the tree?

**y direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 0 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\vec{a} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \frac{1}{2} (9.8 \text{ m/s}^2) (0.50 \text{ s})^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = ?$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 1.225 \text{ m}$$

$$\Delta t = 0.50 \text{ s}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 1.2 \text{ m [down]}$$

$$h = 1.5 \text{ m} - 1.2 \text{ m} = 0.3 \text{ m}$$

c) What is the final velocity of the snowball?

**From y direction:**

$$v_2^2 = v_1^2 + 2a\Delta d$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2a\Delta d}$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(1.2 \text{ m})}$$

$$v_2 = 4.85 \text{ m/s}$$

**Combining directions:**

$$\vec{v}_{2x} = 18 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

$$\vec{v}_{2y} = 4.85 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

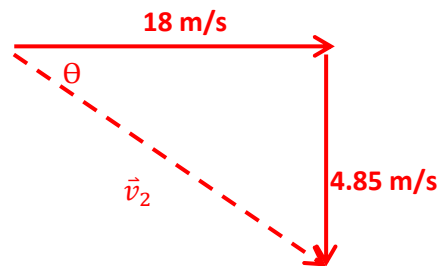
$$v_2 = \sqrt{(v_{2x})^2 + (v_{2y})^2}$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{(18 \text{ m/s})^2 + (4.85 \text{ m/s})^2}$$

$$v_2 = 18.64 \text{ m/s}$$

$$v_2 = 19 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = 19 \text{ m/s [fwd} 14^\circ \text{down]}$$



$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{4.85 \text{ m/s}}{18 \text{ m/s}}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{4.85 \text{ m/s}}{18 \text{ m/s}} \right)$$

$$\theta = 14^\circ$$

8. A stone is thrown horizontally with an initial speed of 8.0 m/s from a cliff. Air resistance is negligible.

a) Determine the horizontal and vertical components of displacement at  $t = 1.0$  s and 3.0 s.

**x direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 8.0 \text{ m/s [fwd]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$\vec{a} = 0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [fwd]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = ?$$

$$\Delta t = 1.0 \text{ s}, 3.0 \text{ s}$$

**y direction:**

$$\vec{v}_1 = 0 \text{ m/s [down]}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = ?$$

$$\vec{a} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ [down]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = ?$$

$$\Delta t = 1.0 \text{ s}, 3.0 \text{ s}$$

**t = 1.0 s**

**From x direction:**

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = (8.0 \text{ m/s})(1.0 \text{ s})$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 8.0 \text{ m [fwd]}$$

**From y direction:**

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \frac{1}{2} (9.8 \text{ m/s}^2) (1.0 \text{ s})^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 4.9 \text{ m [down]}$$

**t = 3.0 s**

**From x direction:**

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = (8.0 \text{ m/s})(3.0 \text{ s})$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 24 \text{ m [fwd]}$$

**From y direction:**

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \vec{v}_1 \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{a} \Delta t^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = \frac{1}{2} (9.8 \text{ m/s}^2) (3.0 \text{ s})^2$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 44 \text{ m [down]}$$

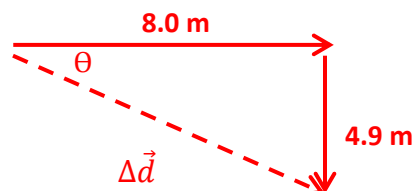
b) Determine the total displacement at  $t = 1.0$  s, and 3.0 s.

**t = 1.0 s**

**Combining directions:**

$$\Delta \vec{d}_x = 8.0 \text{ m [fwd]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d}_y = 4.9 \text{ m [down]}$$





$$\Delta d = \sqrt{(v_{2x})^2 + (v_{2y})^2}$$

$$\Delta d = \sqrt{(8.0 \text{ m})^2 + (4.9 \text{ m})^2}$$

$$\Delta d = 9.381 \text{ m}$$

$$\Delta d = 9.4 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{4.9 \text{ m}}{8.0 \text{ m}}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{4.9 \text{ m}}{8.0 \text{ m}}\right)$$

$$\theta = 31^\circ$$

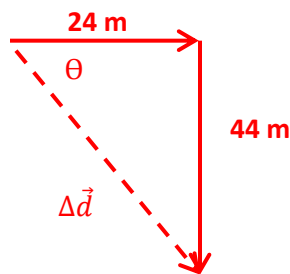
$$\Delta \vec{d} = 9.4 \text{ m/s [fwd} 31^\circ \text{down]}$$

$$t = 3.0 \text{ s}$$

**Combining directions:**

$$\Delta \vec{d}_x = 24 \text{ m [fwd]}$$

$$\Delta \vec{d}_y = 44 \text{ m [down]}$$



$$\Delta d = \sqrt{(v_{2x})^2 + (v_{2y})^2}$$

$$\Delta d = \sqrt{(24 \text{ m})^2 + (44 \text{ m})^2}$$

$$\Delta d = 50.11 \text{ m}$$

$$\Delta d = 5.0 \times 10^1 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{44 \text{ m}}{24 \text{ m}}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{44 \text{ m}}{24 \text{ m}}\right)$$

$$\theta = 61^\circ$$

$$\Delta \vec{d} = 5.0 \times 10^1 \text{ m/s [fwd} 61^\circ \text{down]}$$

9. Explain why an airplane moving through the air is not an example of projectile motion.

**An object considered a 'projectile' only has the force of gravity acting on it, and no other. An airplane moving through the air, while experiencing a force of gravity from the Earth, also experiences a force from the engine (to be accurate, it is actually a force from the particles the engine shoots backwards) that keeps it moving, so it would not be considered a projectile.**