

Cliff Problems

1. A ball rolls off the edge of a table. It has an initial horizontal velocity of 3 m/s and is in the air for 0.75 seconds before hitting the floor.

a. How high is the table?

$$V_x = 3 \text{ m/s}$$

$$V_{y_i} = 0 \text{ m/s}$$

$$a = -10 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$Y = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + V_{y_i}t$$

$$Y = \frac{1}{2}(-10)(.75)^2 + (0)(.75)$$

$$Y = -2.81 \text{ m}$$

(so height was 2.81 m)

b. How far away (horizontally) from the edge of the table does the ball land?

$$t = 0.75 \text{ s}$$

$$X = V_x t$$

$$X = (3)(.75)$$

$$X = 2.25 \text{ m}$$

c. What are the horizontal and vertical components of the ball's velocity when it lands?

$$V_x = 3 \text{ m/s} !$$

(it doesn't change)

$$V_y = at + V_{y_i}$$

$$V_y = (-10)(.75) + 0$$

$$V_y = -7.5 \text{ m/s}$$

d. How fast is the ball going when it lands?

$$V^2 = V_x^2 + V_y^2$$

$$V^2 = (3)^2 + (-7.5)^2$$

$$V^2 = 9 + 56.25$$

$$V^2 = 65.25$$

$$V = 8.08 \text{ m/s}$$

2. The Coyote is chasing the Road Runner when the Road Runner suddenly stops at the edge of a convenient cliff. The Coyote, traveling with a speed of 15 m/s, does not stop and goes flying off the edge of the cliff, which is 100 meters high.

a. How long is the Coyote in the air?

$$V_x = 15 \text{ m/s}$$

$$Y = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + V_{y_i}t$$

$$V_{y_i} = 0 \text{ m/s}$$

$$-100 = \frac{1}{2}(-10)t^2 + (0)t$$

$$a = -10 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$Y = -100 \text{ m}$$

b. Where does the Coyote land?

$$X = V_x t$$

$$X = (15)(4.47)$$

$$X = 67.1 \text{ m}$$

$$-100 = -5t^2$$

$$t^2 = 20$$

$$t = 4.47 \text{ s}$$

c. What are the horizontal and vertical components of the Coyote's velocity when he lands?

$$V_x = 15 \text{ m/s}$$

$$V_y = at + V_{y_i}$$

$$V_y = (-10)(4.47) + 0$$

$$V_y = -44.7 \text{ m/s}$$

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- d. How fast is the Coyote going when he lands?

$$V^2 = V_x^2 + V_y^2$$

$$V^2 = (15)^2 + (-44.7)^2$$

$$V^2 = 2223$$

$$V = 47.2 \text{ m/s}$$

3. A car full of bad guys goes off the edge of a cliff. If the cliff was 75 meters high, and the car landed 60 meters away from the edge of the cliff, calculate the following:

- a. The total time the car was in the air.

$$Y = -75 \text{ m}$$

$$X = 60 \text{ m}$$

$$a = -10 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$Y = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + V_{yi}t$$

$$-75 = \frac{1}{2}(-10)t^2 + (0)t$$

$$-75 = -5t^2$$

$$t^2 = 15$$

$$t = 3.87 \text{ s}$$

- b. The initial velocity of the car. (Give the components.)

$$V_{yi} = 0 \text{ m/s}$$

$$V_{yi} = 0 \text{ m/s}$$

$$X = V_x t$$

$$60 = V_x (3.87)$$

$$V_x = 15.5 \text{ m/s}$$

- c. The final velocity of the car just as it hits the ground. (Give the components.)

$$V_x = 15.5 \text{ m/s}$$

$$V_y = at + V_{yi}$$

$$V_y = (-10)(3.87) + 0$$

$$V_y = -38.7 \text{ m/s}$$

- d. The final speed of the car just as it hits the ground.

$$V^2 = V_x^2 + V_y^2$$

$$V^2 = (15.5)^2 + (-38.7)^2$$

$$V^2 = 1737.7$$

$$V = 41.7 \text{ m/s}$$

Answers:

1. a) 2.81 m b) 2.25 m

c) $v_x = 3 \text{ m/s}$ & $v_y = -7.5 \text{ m/s}$

d) 8.1 m/s

2. a) 4.47 s b) 67.1 m

c) $v_x = 15 \text{ m/s}$ & $v_y = -44.7 \text{ m/s}$

d) 47.2 m/s

3. a) 3.87 s b) $v_x = 15.5 \text{ m/s}$ & $v_y = 0 \text{ m/s}$

c) $v_x = 15.5 \text{ m/s}$ & $v_y = -38.7 \text{ m/s}$

d) 41.7 m/s