

problem : how to get path of cannonball?

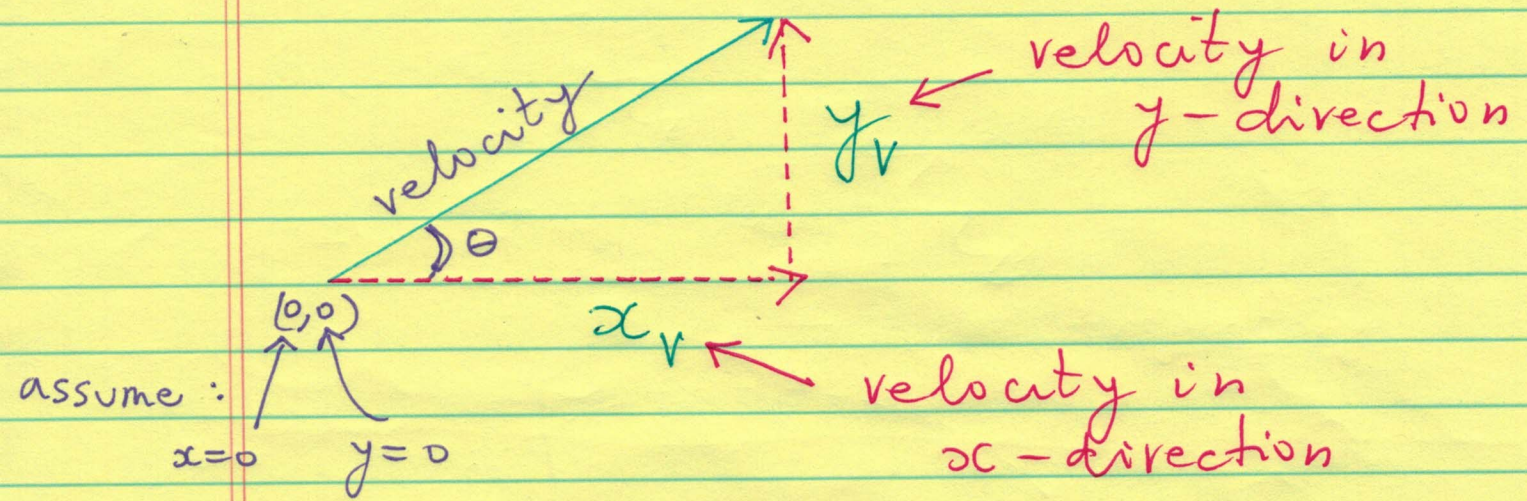
inputs : 1) angle of fire θ

2) (starting) velocity

3) height of cannon (h)

4) time-step (how often we update cannonball position)

assumption : ignore wind resistance



1. No wind resistance

$\Rightarrow x_v$ is constant

2. y_v is positive at first, then becomes negative (gravity)

Suppose $y_v = 30$ m/sec at $t=0$

After 1 second, so at $t=1$,

$$y_v = 30 - 9.8 = 20.2 \text{ m/sec}$$

↑
 acceleration due to gravity
 is 9.8 m/sec

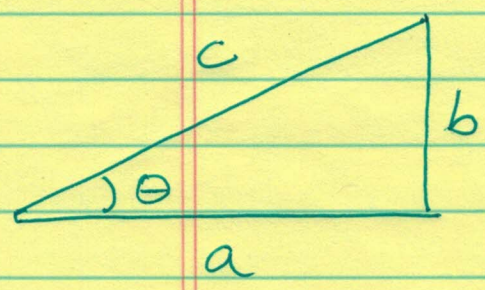
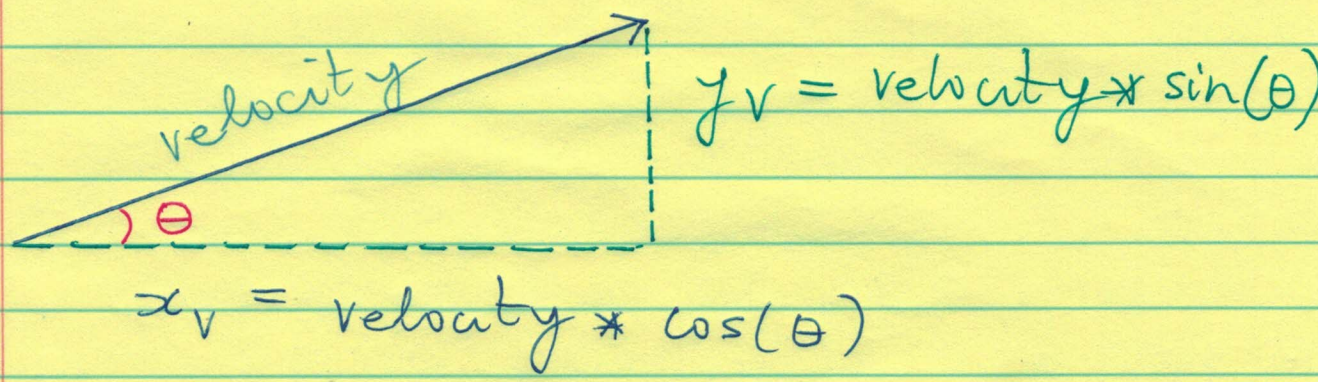
pulling the ball down toward
 earth.

At $t=2$, $y_v = 20.2 - 9.8 = 10.4$ m/sec

Soon y_v becomes negative

\Rightarrow cannonball falls toward earth.

problem: how to compute x_v & y_v ?



$\cos(\theta) = a/c$

$\sin(\theta) = b/c$

This enables you to split the initial firing velocity into its x -component (x_v) and y -component (y_v).

$$180^\circ = \pi \text{ radians}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1^\circ = \pi/180 \text{ radians}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta^\circ = \theta * \pi/180 \text{ radians}$$

* Python needs the angle in radians to get $\sin(\theta)$ and $\cos(\theta)$

As cannonball travels, its position is given by (x, y)

x = horizontal distance from cannon

y = vertical " above ground

(or below ground if $y < 0$)

Let Δt = small time-step.

Suppose ball position is now (x, y)

After time Δt ,

$$x = x + x_v * \Delta t$$

← new ← old ← x-velocity ← time

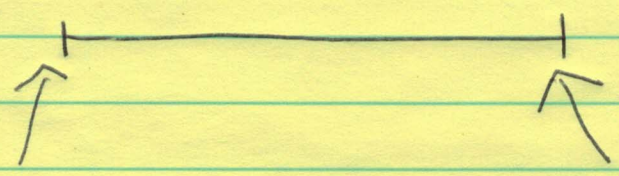
x-direction computation is easy because we assume no wind-resistance.

But y-direction is constantly acted upon by gravity.

y_v decreases by 9.8 m/sec each passing second

y_v decreases by 0.98 m/sec each passing 0.1 seconds.

Δt = time step



y_{v1}

velocity at start of time step

y_{v2}

velocity at end of time step.

l = y -velocity at end of previous time-step.

so only need to compute this

$$y = y + \Delta t * \frac{(y_{v1} + y_{v2})}{2}$$

Annotations:

- old y-velocity (pointing to the first y)
- new y-velocity (pointing to the y on the left)
- time step (pointing to Δt)
- average velocity (pointing to the fraction $\frac{(y_{v1} + y_{v2})}{2}$)

Approximation: Using average velocity over Δt time step.

ALGORITHM:

input θ, v, h, t

Annotations:

- velocity (pointing to v)
- height of cannon above ground (pointing to h)
- time step (pointing to t)

$$r = (\theta * \pi) / 180$$

← radians

$$x = 0$$

← $(0, h)$ is cannon position

$$y = h$$

$$x_v = v * \cos(r)$$

$$y_v = v * \sin(r)$$

] initial x and y velocities

while (y >= 0) :

(ball is above ground)

$$x = x + t * x_v$$

new x old x time speed in x-direction

$$y_{v_1} = y_v$$

y-vel at start of interval

$$y_{v_2} = y_v - 9.8 * t$$

y-vel at end of interval

$$y = y + t * \left(\frac{y_{v_1} + y_{v_2}}{2} \right)$$

new y old y time average y-velocity in time step.

