

### Project 3.4: Ballistics

#### Objective

To illustrate an important application of differentiation to ballistics.

#### Narrative

If you have not already done so, do Project 3.8 Differentiation. In that project we illustrate how derivatives can be computed in Maple.

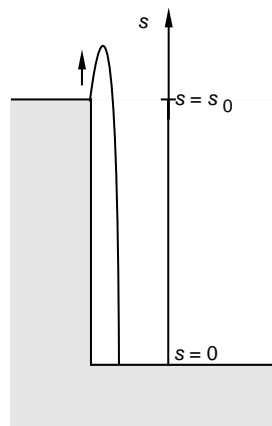
If a projectile is fired vertically upward with an initial velocity of  $v_0$  m/sec from an initial position  $s_0$  meters above the ground (see the figure to the right), then (neglecting air resistance) after  $t$  sec the projectile is

$$s = s(t) = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t + s_0$$

meters above the ground, where  $g = 9.8$  m/sec<sup>2</sup> is acceleration due to gravity, and the velocity of the projectile, after  $t$  seconds, is

$$v = v(t) = D_t(s(t)) = -gt + v_0$$

meters per second. (If  $s$  is measured in feet ft and  $v$  is measured in ft/sec, then  $g = 32$  ft/sec<sup>2</sup>.)



#### Task

a) Type the command lines in the left-hand column below into Maple in the order in which they are listed.

```
> # Project 3.4: Ballistics
```

```
> restart;
```

```
> g := 9.8; t0 := 0; s0 := 100; v0 := 128;
```

```
> s := t -> -0.5*g*t^2+v0*t+s0;
```

```
> plot(s(t),t=t0..20);
```

```
> solve(s(t)=0,t);
```

```
> t1 := %[2];
```

```
> plot(s(t),t=t0..t1);
```

Clear Maple's memory.

Let  $g = 9.8$ ,  $t_0 = 0$ ,  $s_0 = 100$ , and  $v_0 = 128$ .

(In this project we'll be using metric units.)

Let the distance  $s(t) = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t + s_0$ .

Graph  $s(t)$  for  $t \in [t_0, 20]$ . Observe that after 20 sec, the projectile is still in the air.

Let's find when the projectile hits the ground.

Find when  $s(t) = 0$ . You should get two values:

one negative and one positive. The positive value is the time at which the projectile hits the ground.

Let  $t_1$  be the the *positive* value. (We're assuming here that the second value is positive; if it's the first value that's positive, type `t1 := %[1];` instead.)

Graph  $s(t)$  for  $t \in [t_0, t_1]$ .

<pre>&gt; v := D(s);</pre>	Let the velocity $v(t) = D_t(s(t))$ .
<pre>&gt; v(t1);</pre>	Find the velocity of the projectile when it hits the ground.
<pre>&gt; t_smax := solve(v(t)=0,t);</pre>	Find the time $t_{smax}$ at which the velocity of the projectile is 0; $t_{smax}$ is the time it takes the projectile to reach its maximum altitude $s(t_{smax})$ .
<pre>&gt; v(t_smax);</pre>	This just checks Maple's work: the result should be zero (or close to zero).
<pre>&gt; s(t_smax);</pre>	Find the maximum altitude $s(t_{smax})$ of the projectile.
<pre>&gt; plot(v(t),t=t0..t1);</pre>	Plot $v$ as a function of $t$ for $t \in [t_0, t_1]$ .

At this point, make a hard-copy of your typed input and Maple's responses. Then ...

b) Label by hand the coordinate axes in the second graphic you produced. (One should be a  $t$ -axis, and the other an  $s$ -axis.) Plot and label the points  $(t, s(t))$  for  $t = t_0$ ,  $t = t_1$ , and  $t = t_{smax}$  in this graphic.

c) Label by hand the coordinate axes in the third graphic you produced. (One should be a  $t$ -axis, and the other a  $v$ -axis.) Plot and label the points  $(t, v(t))$  for  $t = t_0$ ,  $t = t_1$ , and  $t = t_{smax}$  in this graphic.

Your lab report will be a hard copy of your typed input and Maple's responses (both text and hand-labeled graphics).