

Vertical Trajectory Calculation

For a sphere of radius

$r = 100$ cm and density $\rho = 107.3999$ kg/m³ = 0.1074 gm/cm³

the mass is $m = 449876.0$ gm.

Assume the object has a drag coefficient

$C = 0.5$ (the default value is $C = 0.5$ for a sphere) and is falling through air with density $\rho^* = 1.29$ kg/m³ (the default value is 1.29 kg/m³).

Under these conditions, its terminal velocity will be

$v_t = 65.96592$ m/s

$v_t = 237.4773$ km/hr

$v_t = 147.5591$ mi/hr

and its characteristic time is

$\tau = 6.731217$ s.

If this sphere is launched vertically with a velocity of

$v_0 = 80$ m/s = 262.4671 ft/s

then on the way up at height $y_1 = 100$

$m = 328.0839$ ft

it will have velocity $v_1 = 50.01085$ m/s = 164.0776 ft/s

It will reach a peak height $y_{peak} =$

200.8183 m = 658.8529 ft

at time $t_{peak} = 5.931883$ s

On the way down at height $y_2 = 100$ m

= 328.0839 ft

it will have velocity $v_2 = 39.85259$ m/s = 130.7499 ft/s

It will reach the ground at velocity

$v_{impact} = 50.89499$ m/s = 166.9783 ft/s =

183.2219 km/hr = 113.8470 mi/hr

at time $t_{impact} = 6.893494$ s.

For comparison, if there were no air friction the projectile would have reached height

$h = 326.5306$ m = 1071.294 ft

and would impact with the original launch velocity at time $t = 16.32653$ s.

Air drag can be expressed in the form

$$f_{drag} = -\frac{1}{2} C \rho^* A v^2$$

and it is equal to the weight of the object at the terminal velocity

$$v_t = \sqrt{\frac{2mg}{C \rho^* A}}$$

The characteristic time is

$$\tau = \frac{v_t}{g}$$

$\rho^* =$ air density = 1.29 kg/m³ nominally.

$C = 0.5$ for a sphere

