

# MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS LAB FILE

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## Abstract

Projectile motion is a topic that one studies in 11th standard, and was recently in limelight as media outlets sought to explain the physical aspect of Neeraj Chopra's javelin throw that won him the gold. However, in both the former and latter case, friction (air drag) is omitted. Here, we try to find out the optimal angle for release of javelin taking air drag into account. Differential equations in two dimensions are formulated, taking air drag into account as a viscous force acting against the direction of motion, are then numerically solved using rk2, rk4 and euler methods. When results are plotted, it is observed that  $38^\circ$  (using all the 3 methods) is the optimal angle for maximizing the horizontal range. This helps to understand why athletes throw javelins with a release angle in the late 30s, instead of  $45^\circ$ , which is theoretically the optimal angle for maximizing the range.

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# 1 Introduction

The motivation for taking up this topic stems from our common passion for sports and physics. In late august this year, Indian athlete Neeraj Chopra won what was only the second individual gold medal in India's olympic history. But what won our hearts as sports fans also baffled us as physics students. Long since class 11th, the time when we first studied projectile motion, we've had a notion that a release angle of  $45^\circ$  is optimum to maximize the range of an object in projectile motion. However, this explainer[1] in the Indian express claimed otherwise. Therefore, we used this project as an opportunity to explore the frictional forces in play that we must take into account to conclude a more realistic optimum angle of release for maximizing the horizontal range of an object under projectile motion. Therefore, the project explores motion of a javelin as an object in projectile motion taking frictional forces into account as viscous force acting against the direction of motion.

An object that is in flight after being thrown or projected is called a projectile. Such a projectile might be a football, a cricket ball, a baseball or any other object. The motion of a projectile may be thought of as the result of two separate, simultaneously occurring components of motions. One component is along a horizontal direction without any acceleration and the other along the vertical direction with constant acceleration due to the force of gravity. Now when we include the force experienced due to air drag, we assume it as a basic force of nature with a universal form, but rather, it is an approximate model of the physics of viscous flow, with no one expression being accurate for all velocities. We know it always opposes motion, which means it is in a direction opposite to that of the velocity. A simple model for air resistance assumes that the frictional force is proportional to (negative of) the square of the projectile's speed [2].

Another important aspect of our project is the conversion of second order differential equations into first order ones. This involves producing two simultaneous first order differential equations. For example, if we have an equation  $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = F(t, x)$ , then it can be easily broken down into two simultaneous equations as  $\frac{dx}{dt} = v$  and  $\frac{dv}{dt} = F(t, x)$ . In this way we'll get two equations for each dimension, and since we are talking about projectile motion in 2 dimensions, we will get a 2 pairs for first order simultaneous differential equations to solve, which means 4 in total. This means a little more work for us, but not too much for the computer, as we'll have to extend our ODE solver to solve 4 ODEs simultaneously. First we introduce the theory of the topic, and also the frictional forces that we are taking into account. This is followed by the derivation of a combination of differential equations. This is followed by a short explainer on how to reduce a second order differential equation into two first order differential equations.

The methodology section then explains about the tools and the numerical methods we have used in this project, followed by the algorithms of the numerical methods. So in this section we talk about python, the language we have used to code our algorithms, GNU Plot, our primary tool to plot any graphical results we have deduced, and rk2 and euler method. Euler and rk2 are the methods that we have used to numerically solve the differential equations we developed in the theory section. And then finally we move on to our results and analysis part. Here we analyse the results that we have plotted and also see if we can conclude a more realistic angle of release of an object in projectile motion in order to maximize the horizontal range. Moreover, we also see how these differ with and without friction.

## 2 Theory

### 2.1 Problem Statement

The aim is to find the optimal angle for maximization of horizontal range for a object under motion, taking drag into account and approximating the object as a standard men's javelin.

### 2.2 Projectile Motion - An introduction:

An object that is in flight after being thrown or projected is called a projectile. Such a projectile might be a football, a cricket ball, a baseball or any other object. The motion of a projectile may be thought of as the result of two separate, simultaneously occurring components of motions. One component is along a horizontal direction without any acceleration and the other along the vertical direction with constant acceleration due to the force of gravity. It was Galileo who first stated this independence of the horizontal and the vertical components of projectile motion in his Dialogue on the great world systems (1632).

In our discussion, we shall initially assume that the air resistance has negligible effect on the motion of the projectile, in order to obtain the angle of maximization of horizontal range to compare with our final result (that takes friction due to air into account). Suppose that the projectile is launched with velocity  $v_0$  that makes an angle  $\theta_0$  with the x-axis as shown in Fig.1. After the object has been projected, the acceleration acting on it is that due to gravity which is directed vertically downward:

$$\vec{a} = -g\hat{j} \quad (1)$$

Or,

$$a_x = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$a_y = -g \quad (3)$$

The components of initial velocity  $v_0$  are :

$$v_{0x} = v_0 \cos \theta_0 \quad (4)$$

$$v_{0y} = v_0 \sin \theta_0 \quad (5)$$

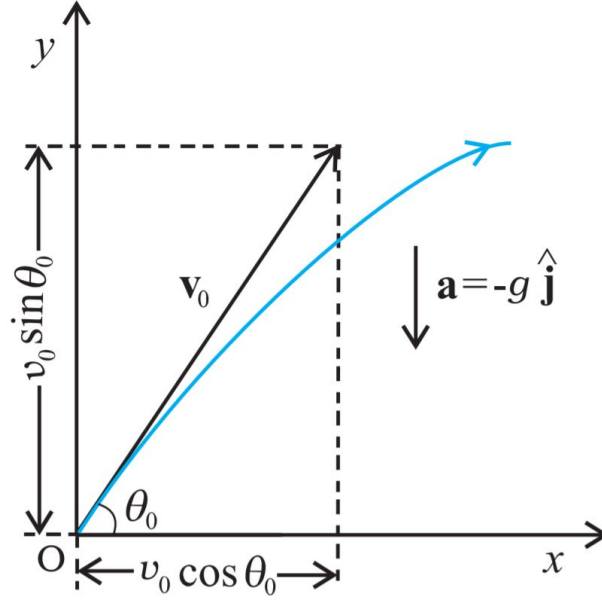


Figure 1: Motion of an object projected with velocity  $v_o$  at angle  $\theta$  [3]

If we take the initial position to be the origin of the reference frame as shown in Fig. 1, we have :

$$x_o = 0$$

$$y_o = 0$$

Then, by  $y = y_o + v_{oy}t + \frac{1}{2}a_x t^2$  becomes :

$$x = v_o \cos \theta_o t \tag{6}$$

$$y = v_o \sin \theta_o t - \frac{g}{2t^2} \tag{7}$$

The components of velocity at time  $t$  can be obtained using  $v_y = v_{oy} + a_y t$ :

$$v_x = v_{ox} = v_o \cos \theta_o \tag{8}$$

$$v_y = v_o \sin \theta_o - gt \tag{9}$$

Equation 6 and 7 give the  $x$ , and  $y$  coordinates of the position of a projectile at time  $t$  in terms of two parameters — initial speed  $v_o$  and projection angle  $\theta_o$ . Notice that the choice of mutually perpendicular  $x$ , and  $y$  directions for the analysis of the projectile motion has resulted in a simplification. One of the components of velocity, i.e.  $x$  component remains constant throughout the motion and only the  $y$  component changes, like an object in free fall in vertical direction. This is shown graphically at few instants in Fig. 2. Note that at the point of maximum height,  $v_y = 0$  and therefore,

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{v_y}{v_x} = 0$$

## 2.3 Equation of path of projectile

What is the shape of the path followed by the projectile? This can be seen by eliminating the time between the expressions for  $x$  and  $y$  as given in 6 and 7. We obtain:

$$y = (\tan \theta_o)x - \frac{g}{2(v_o \cos \theta_o)^2}x^2 \quad (10)$$

Now, since  $g$ ,  $\theta_o$  and  $v_o$  are constants, Eq. 10 is of the form  $y = ax + bx^2$ , in which  $a$  and  $b$  are constants. This is the equation of a parabola, i.e. the path of the projectile is a parabola (Fig. 2).

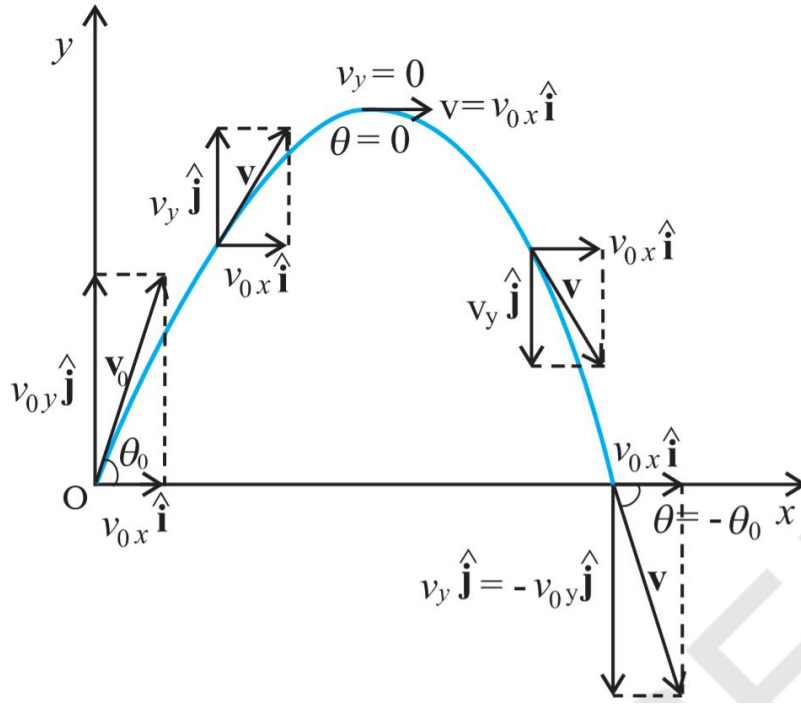


Figure 2: Path of a projectile is a parabola [4]

## 2.4 Time of maximum height

Let the time take by the projectile to reach the maximum height be  $t_m$ . At this point  $v_y = 0$ , so we have from Eq. 8 and 9,

$$v_y = v_o \sin \theta_o - gt_m = 0$$

Or,

$$t_m = v_o \sin \theta_o / g \quad (11)$$



Total time  $T_f$  during which the projectile is in flight can be obtained by putting  $y = 0$  in Eq. 9. We get:

$$T_f = v_o \sin \theta_o / g \quad (12)$$

$T_f$  is known as the **Time of flight** of the projectile. We note that  $T = 2t_m$ , which is expected because of the symmetry of the parabolic path.

## 2.5 Horizontal Range of the projectile

The horizontal distance travelled by a projectile from its initial position to the position where it passes  $y = 0$  during its fall is called the horizontal range,  $R$ . It is the distance travelled during the time of flight  $T_f$ . Therefore, the range  $R$  is

$$R = (v_o \cos \theta_o)(T_f)$$

$$R = (v_o \cos \theta_o)(2v_o \sin \theta_o) / g$$

Or,

$$R = \frac{v_o^2 \sin 2\theta_o}{g} \quad (13)$$

Equation 13 shows that for a given projection velocity  $v_o$ ,  $R$  is maximum when  $\sin 2\theta_o$  is maximum, i.e., when  $\theta_o = 45^\circ$ .

## 2.6 Differential equation and inclusion of air drag

We want to determine if the inclusion of air resistance leads to a different optimal angle for maximization of the horizontal range. The basic physics is Newton's second law in two dimensions for a frictional force  $\vec{f}$  opposing motion, and a vertical gravitational force  $-g\hat{j}$

$$\vec{f} - mg\hat{j} = m \frac{d^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2}$$

Now this can be broken down into

$$f_x = m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2}$$

$$f_y - mg = m \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2}$$

The force of friction  $\vec{f}$  is not a basic force of nature with a universal form, but rather, it is an approximate model of the physics of viscous flow, with no one expression being accurate for all velocities. We know it always opposes motion, which means it is in a direction opposite to that of the velocity. A simple model for air resistance assumes that

the frictional force is proportional to square of the projectile's speed, for high velocities like javelin's.

$$\vec{f} = -k|v_o|\vec{v}_o$$

Where,

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_o &= v_{xo}^2 \hat{i} + v_{yo}^2 \hat{j} \\ |v_o| &= \sqrt{v_{xo}^2 + v_{yo}^2}\end{aligned}$$

Which can be broken down, and simplified, after taking  $v_x = |v| \cos \theta_o$ , and  $v_y = |v| \sin \theta_o$  as:

$$f_x = -k|v_o|^2 \cos \theta_o \quad (14)$$

$$f_y = -k|v_o|^2 \sin \theta_o \quad (15)$$

## 2.7 Conversion of 2nd order ODEs to simultaneous 1st order ODEs

Now, what have obtained our second order equation. However, we can convert then into first order ones, and then apply the numerical methods we desire. That we would lead to production of 1st order ODEs for each second order ODE. Moreover, since we have 2 second order ODEs, we will, in total, have 4 ODEs.

Now we pick a 4D vector  $\vec{Y}$  as our dependent variable such that:

$$\vec{Y} = Y_1 \hat{e}_1 + Y_2 \hat{e}_2 + Y_3 \hat{e}_3 + Y_4 \hat{e}_4$$

$$Y_1 = x(t) \quad (16)$$

$$Y_2 = \frac{dx}{dt} \quad (17)$$

$$Y_3 = y(t) \quad (18)$$

$$Y_4 = \frac{dy}{dt} \quad (19)$$

Therefore, our equations finally turn out to be:

$$\frac{dY_0}{dt} \left( \equiv \frac{dx}{dt} \right) = Y_1 \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{dY_1}{dt} \left( \equiv \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \right) = \frac{f_x}{m} \quad (21)$$

$$\frac{dY_2}{dt} \left( \equiv \frac{dy}{dt} \right) = Y_3 \quad (22)$$

$$\frac{dY_3}{dt} \left( \equiv \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} \right) = \frac{f_y}{m} - g \quad (23)$$

## 2.8 Initial values provided to the python program

Here are all the initial values we provided to the program:

- $Y_0 (\equiv x_o) = 0 \text{ m}$
- $Y_1 (\equiv \frac{dx_o}{dt}) = 29 \cos \theta_o \text{ m/s [5]}$
- $Y_2 (\equiv y_o) = 2 \text{ m}$  (an extensive explanation of this has been done in the analysis section)
- $Y_3 (\equiv \frac{dy_o}{dt}) = 29 \sin \theta_o \text{ m/s [6]}$
- $k = 0.00470625 \text{ kg/m}$  (This is explained in appendix section C)

Since all these values are in SI units, the dimensions from the LHS and RHS will get cancelled from each side of the differential equation, and we will get a dimensionless equation to solve, as:

1. LHS of (20) and (22) are the rates of change of  $Y_0$  and  $Y_2$ , which means that are the rates of the change of  $x$  and  $y$  co-ordinates respectively, which means velocity. In the RHS of these equations we have  $Y_1$  and  $Y_3$  respectively, which are the velocities provided in the  $x$  and  $y$  direction respectively. Therefore, (20) and (22) are dimensionally correct which will yield are dimensionless equation as units on both sides will cancel out.
2. Similarly, LHS of (21) and (22) are the rates of change of  $Y_1$  and  $Y_3$ , which means that are the rates of the change of  $v_{ox}$  and  $v_{oy}$  respectively, which means acceleration. In the RHS of these equations we have  $\frac{f_x}{m}$  and  $\frac{f_y}{m} - g$  respectively, acceleration (or retardation) they will face will in the respective axis. Therefore, (21) and (23), too, are dimensionally correct which will yield are dimensionless equation as units on both sides will cancel out. Note that  $\frac{f_x}{m}$  and  $\frac{f_y}{m}$  mean that we are dividing force(s) by mass, which gives acceleration.

## 3 Methodology

### 3.1 List of tools used

Following are the list of tools that we used to make this project, which includes writing programs, running simulations, plotting graphs, writing reports, and making beamers:

- Python (through Google Colab)
- GNU plot (through GNU Plot 5.2, and Overleaf)
- L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X (through Overleaf)

### 3.2 Numerical Methods, and Algorithms

Numerical methods for ODE are methods used to find numerical approximations to the solutions of ODE. Numerical methods prove to be useful when one is able to prove the existence of the solution theoretically without being able to obtain its analytical form, at this moment, one usually turns to the numerical methods to get an approximation of the solution. Numerical methods we used here are: Euler method, Range-Kutta 2nd order, Range-Kutta 4th order.

#### 3.2.1 Euler Method

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**Algorithm 1** Euler Method

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**procedure** EULER( $x_o, t_i, t_f, N$ )

▷ Let the differential equation be  $dx/dt = f(t, x)$  and for the initial conditions  $t = t_o$ , we have  $x = x_o$

$h \leftarrow (t_f - t_i)/N$

**for**  $i$  **in**  $(0, N)$  **do**

$x_{i+1} \leftarrow x_i + h * f(t_i, x_i)$

**end for**

**end procedure**

---

### 3.2.2 RK2 Method

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**Algorithm 2** RK2 Method

---

**procedure** RK2( $x_o, t_i, t_f, N$ )

▷ Let the differential equation be  $dx/dt = f(t, x)$  and for the initial conditions  $t = t_o$ , we have  $x = x_o$

$h \leftarrow (t_f - t_i)/N$

**for**  $i$  **in**  $(0, N)$  **do**

$K_1 \leftarrow h * f(t_i, x_i)$

$K_2 \leftarrow h * f(t_i + h, x_i + K_1)$

$x_{i+1} \leftarrow x_i + \frac{K_1 + K_2}{2}$

**end for**

**end procedure**

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### 3.2.3 RK4 Method

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**Algorithm 3** RK4 Method

---

**procedure** RK4( $x_o, t_i, t_f, N$ )

▷ Let the differential equation be  $dx/dt = f(t, x)$  and for the initial conditions  $t = t_o$ , we have  $x = x_o$

$h \leftarrow (t_f - t_i)/N$

**for**  $i$  **in**  $(0, N)$  **do**

$K_1 \leftarrow f(t_i, x_i)$

$K_2 \leftarrow f(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, x_i + h * \frac{K_1}{2})$

$K_3 \leftarrow f(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, x_i + h * \frac{K_2}{2})$

$K_4 \leftarrow f(t_i + h, x_i + h * K_3)$

$K_{RK4} \leftarrow \frac{K_1 + 2K_2 + 2K_3 + K_4}{6}$

$x_{i+1} \leftarrow x_i + h * K_{RK4}$

**end for**

**end procedure**

---

### 3.3 Limitations

- All these methods provide an approximate solution to the differential equation and not exact.
- Numerical methods to solve differential equations are often very lengthy and are solved using computers, and to get fairly accurate results, they sometimes may require high computational power.

## 4 Analysis of Numerical Results

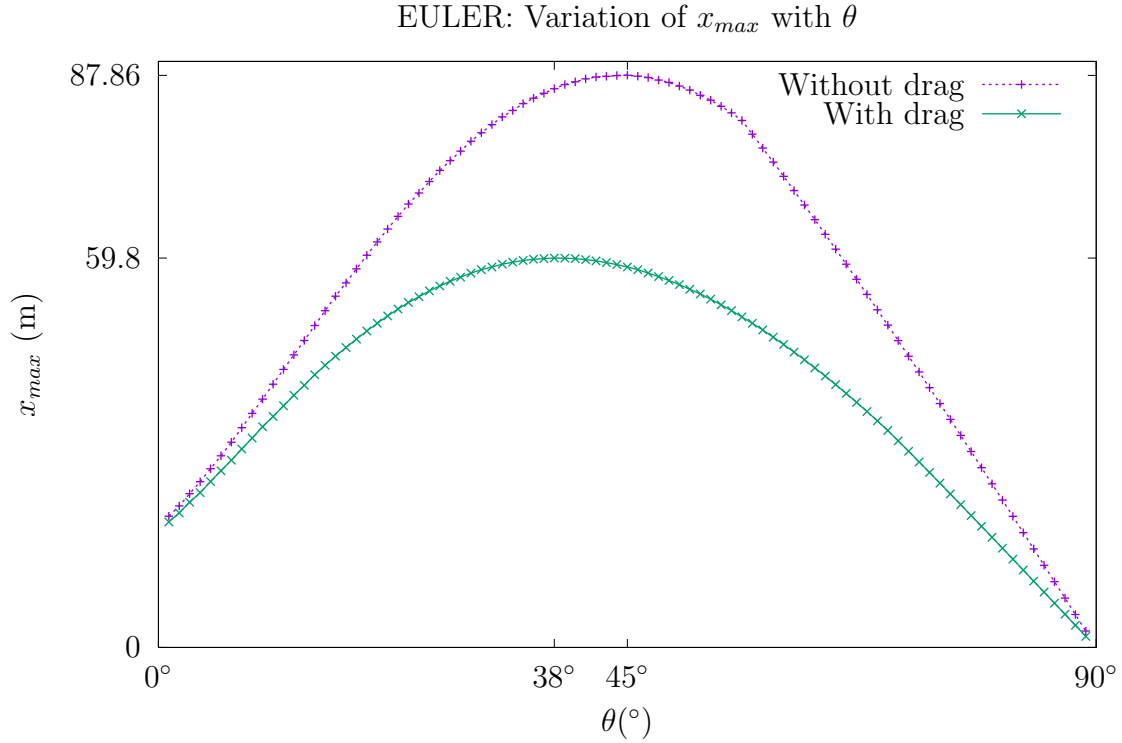


Figure 3: Figure shows the variation of  $x_{max}$  with  $\theta$ , computed using the Euler method

- The curve doesn't start from 0 on the  $y$  axis. This is because the initial value of coordinate was taken to be 2 meters (explanation will follow in the next set of graphs), and now it must be very intuitive to visualise that when you project something from a height at  $0^\circ$  and some initial velocity, it will travel to a non zero distance.
- Also, we see that the curve for the analysis done without drag gives the optimal angle for maximization of range to be  $45^\circ$ . This was something we proved in the theory section too.
- Now, the curve for the analysis done taking drag into account gives the optimal angle for maximization of range to be  $38^\circ$ .
- This is near our initial figure of  $36^\circ$ , and might differ because that figure only pertains to a single person, Mr. Neeraj Chopra, and thus might be a result of some habits and some other customization beyond the scope of this project.
- Moreover, we see that that the range doesn't vary very much from  $35^\circ$  to  $45^\circ$  as can be seen in Figure 1. The coefficient of variation in  $x_{max}$  from  $35^\circ$  to  $40^\circ$  is

0.23%.

- Therefore, we might conclude that it depends more on the players' execution of their craft than it does on the angle of launch.
- Moreover, this source[7] on the web verifies that the optimal angle for maximization of range was in the late 30s, and hence our result can be judged fairly good.

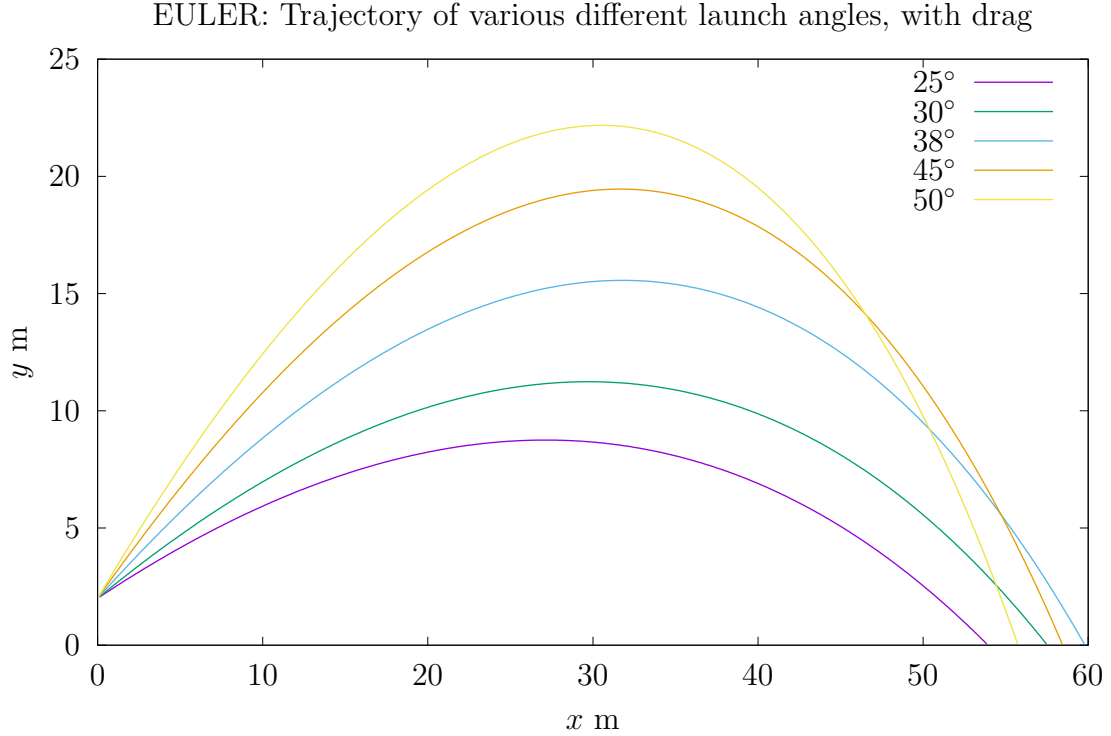


Figure 4: Figure shows trajectories of javelin thrown with different launch angles, computed using the Euler method

- We see that the ascending order of the range follows the order: 25, 50, 30, 45, 38. Therefore, we see that  $x_{max}$  first increases and then decreases, peaking for 38°.
- Moreover, the  $y$  coordinate of the trajectory does not start from  $y = 0$ , since there is some height at which the javelin is released. This paper [12] shows that average height stands at 1.86 m. Taking into the extension of the hand, it can be approximated to 2 m.



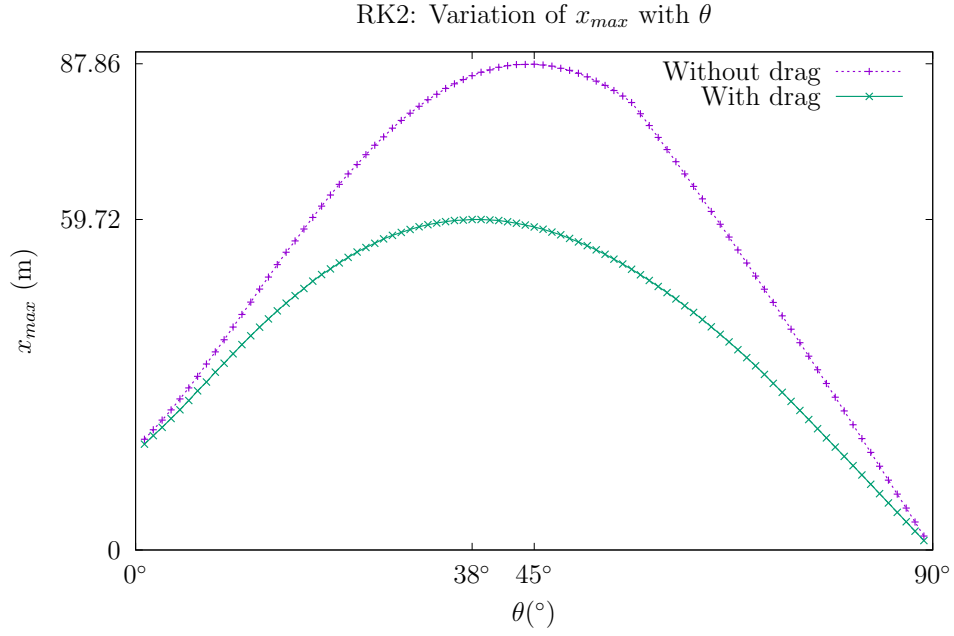


Figure 5: Figure shows the variation of  $x_{max}$  with  $\theta$ , computed using the rk2 method

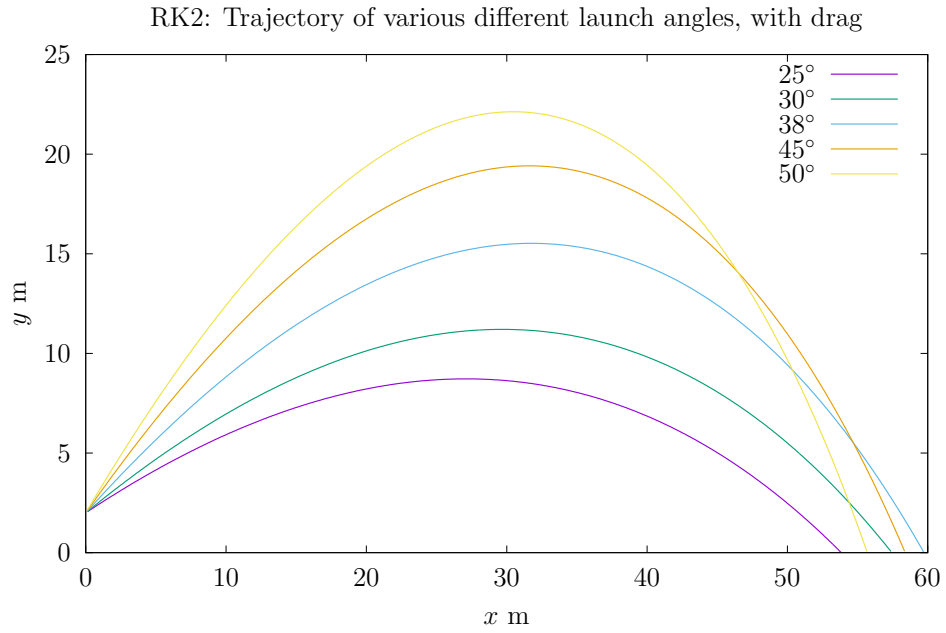


Figure 6: Figure shows trajectories of javelin thrown with different launch angles, computed using the rk2 method

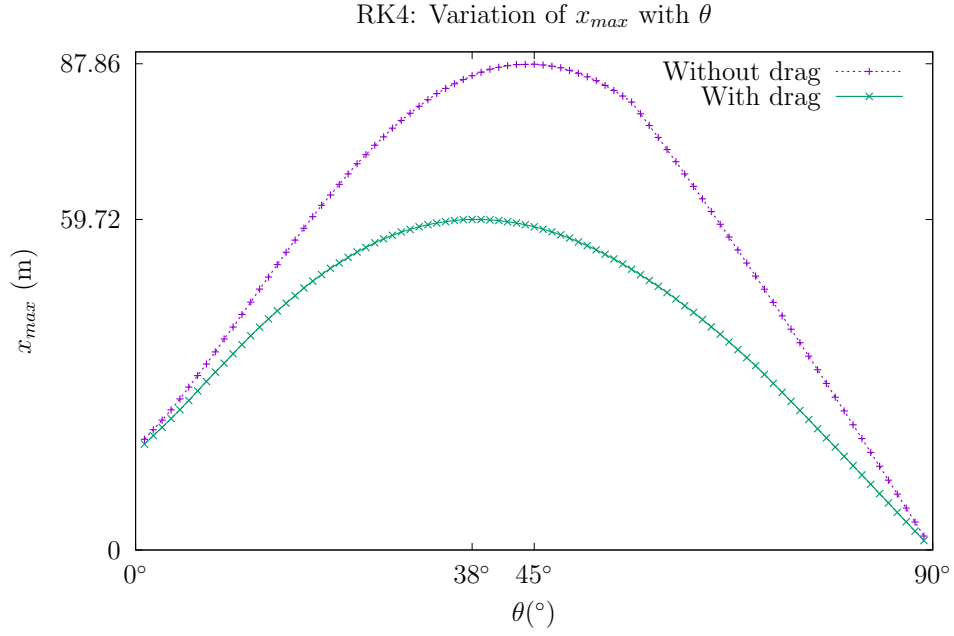


Figure 7: Figure shows the variation of  $x_{max}$  with  $\theta$ , computed using the rk4 method

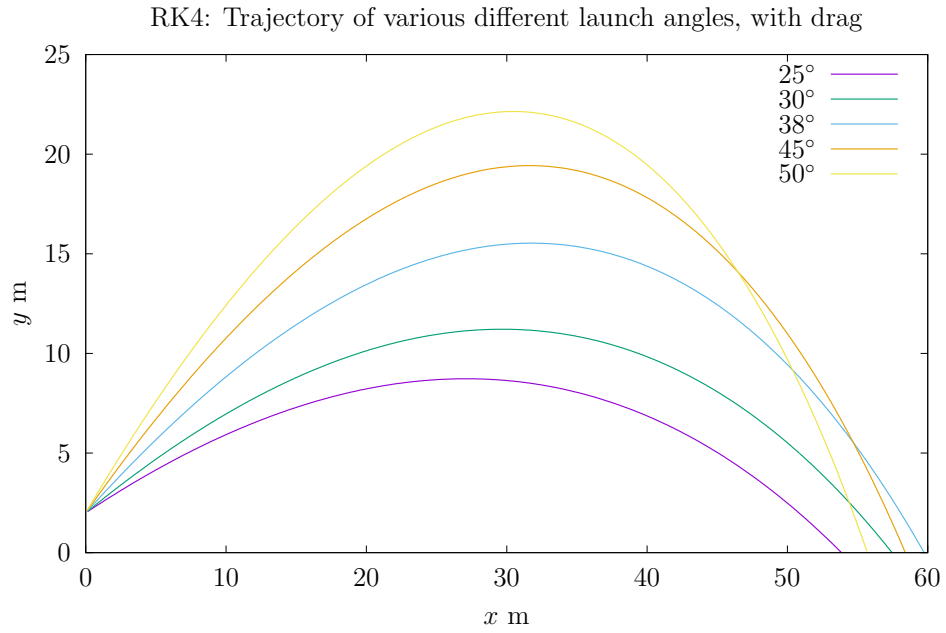


Figure 8: Figure shows trajectories of javelin thrown with different launch angles, computed using the rk4 method

In the last two pages, shown are the figures whose data is computed using the rk2, and rk4 methods. Based on the plots, we make the following assertions, and reasons:

- The results by and large remain the same, and so do the conclusions, since the angle for maximization of the range still comes out to be  $38^\circ$ .
- However, due to a difference in algorithm the computed value of  $x_{max}$  changes from 59.8m to 59.72m.
- The difference stated above could've been reduced by increasing the number of divisions, and or decreasing the step-size. However, computational physics has its own limits in terms of computing power.

## 5 Summary

Evolving from our common love of sports and physics, the primary objective of this project was to study a object in projectile motion taking air drag into account and see if could come up an angle of release that is more realistic that what we are usually taught, in order to maximize the horizontal range of the object under projectile motion. One of the key findings of our project was as we take the friction into account as the viscous force of air, acting against the direction of motion, we optimum angle of release to maximize the horizontal range came out to be  $38^\circ$  with all the three methods. This helps to put things in perspective taking friction into account, as friction is always an uncharted territory in physics. Exploration of this territory results in some more realistic answers, which might help athletes mend their training and throwing styles for good. Moreover, it helps the students understand how to take the friction into account, since if there is one phrase which happens to be around more than others is *ignore friction*, or *neglect air* resistance. Now there are, as one might expect with a project involving a pinch of aerodynamics and estimation of frictional forces, some limitations of the project. First are the methods that we have used to solve our simultaneous differential equations themselves.

First, of all, all these methods provide an approximate solution to the differential equation and not exact. Moreover, numerical methods to solve differential equations are often very lengthy and are solved using computers, and to get fairly accurate results, they sometimes may require high computational power. This basically means that the more accurate you want your results to be, the more number of iterations your computer should be able to do, and therefore, higher should be its computational power.

Next comes the value of the coefficient of friction. Many assumptions were made in this section, that might not always happen. Taking the speed of wind to be zero, so that we can estimate the relative velocity of wind and the javelin solely on the basis of the velocity of the former, is one. However, the future scope of this research is quite open. Sport organisations may collect empirical data to conduct a similar research instead of using numerical methods. In this way, they will overcome both of our limitations, that is the limited reliability of numerical methods and the estimation of coefficient of friction. The fact that this research would have athletes optimize their performance in a major Olympics sport, that is javelin throw, shows the commercial viability of such research in future.

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# A Programs

Python program

```
1 import numpy as np
2 import math
3 import pandas as pd
4
5 def f(t, Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, case):
6     if case == "drag":
7         k = 0.5*1.255*2.5*0.003
8     else:
9         k = 0
10    fx_drag = -1*k*29*Y1
11    fy_drag = -1*k*29*Y3
12    m = 0.8
13    fni_Y0 = Y1
14    fni_Y1 = fx_drag/m
15    fni_Y2 = Y3
16    fni_Y3 = fy_drag/m - 9.8
17    return fni_Y0, fni_Y1, fni_Y2, fni_Y3
18
19 def euler(Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, a, b, case, l1, grph_key, file_name):
20    N = 1000
21    h = (b - a)/N
22    tn = []
23    Y0n = []
24    Y1n = []
25    Y2n = []
26    Y3n = []
27    for i in range(0, N):
28        t = a + i*h
29        tn.append(t)
30        Y0n.append(Y0)
31        Y1n.append(Y1)
32        Y2n.append(Y2)
33        Y3n.append(Y3)
34        fni_Y0, fni_Y1, fni_Y2, fni_Y3 = f(t, Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, case)
35        Y0 = Y0 + h*fni_Y0
36        Y1 = Y1 + h*fni_Y1
37        Y2 = Y2 + h*fni_Y2
38        Y3 = Y3 + h*fni_Y3
39    if Y2<=0:
```

```

40         break
41     if grph_key == 0:
42         if case == "no drag":
43             print()
44         else:
45             data_euler_1 = {"x": Y0n, "y" : Y2n}
46             my_data111 = pd.DataFrame(data_euler_1)
47             my_data111.to_csv(file_name, index = False)
48     else:
49         return Y0n[-1]
50
51 def rk4(Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, a, b, case, l1, grph_key, file_name):
52     N = 1000
53     h = (b - a)/N
54     tn = []
55     Y0n = []
56     Y1n = []
57     Y2n = []
58     Y3n = []
59     for i in range(0, N):
60         t = a + i*h
61         tn.append(t)
62         Y0n.append(Y0)
63         Y1n.append(Y1)
64         Y2n.append(Y2)
65         Y3n.append(Y3)
66         m1_0, m1_1, m1_2, m1_3 = f(t, Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, case)
67         m2_0, m2_1, m2_2, m2_3 = f(t + h/2, Y0 + m1_0*h/2, Y1 + m1_1*h
68 /2, Y2 + m1_2*h/2, Y3 + m1_3*h/2, case)
69         m3_0, m3_1, m3_2, m3_3 = f(t + h/2, Y0 + m2_0*h/2, Y1 + m2_1*h
70 /2, Y2 + m2_2*h/2, Y3 + m2_3*h/2, case)
71         m4_0, m4_1, m4_2, m4_3 = f(t + h, Y0 + m3_0*h, Y1 + m3_1*h, Y2
72 + m3_1*h, Y3 + m3_1*h, case)
73         mrk4_0 = (m1_0 + 2*m2_0 + 2*m3_0 + m4_0)/6
74         mrk4_1 = (m1_1 + 2*m2_1 + 2*m3_1 + m4_1)/6
75         mrk4_2 = (m1_2 + 2*m2_2 + 2*m3_2 + m4_2)/6
76         mrk4_3 = (m1_3 + 2*m2_3 + 2*m3_3 + m4_3)/6
77         Y0 = Y0 + h*mrk4_0
78         Y1 = Y1 + h*mrk4_1
79         Y2 = Y2 + h*mrk4_2
80         Y3 = Y3 + h*mrk4_3
81     if Y2<=0:

```

```

79         break
80     if grph_key == 0:
81         if case == "no drag":
82             print()
83         else:
84             data_rk4_1 = {"x": Y0n, "y" : Y2n}
85             my_data112 = pd.DataFrame(data_rk4_1)
86             my_data112.to_csv(file_name, index = False)
87     else:
88         return Y0n[-1]
89
90 def rk2(Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, a, b, case, l1, grph_key, file_name):
91     N = 1000
92     h = (b - a)/N
93     tn = []
94     Y0n = []
95     Y1n = []
96     Y2n = []
97     Y3n = []
98     for i in range(0, N):
99         t = a + i*h
100        tn.append(t)
101        Y0n.append(Y0)
102        Y1n.append(Y1)
103        Y2n.append(Y2)
104        Y3n.append(Y3)
105        k1_0, k1_1, k1_2, k1_3 = f(t, Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, case)
106        k1_0, k1_1, k1_2, k1_3 = h*k1_0, h*k1_1, h*k1_2, h*k1_3
107        k2_0, k2_1, k2_2, k2_3 = f(t+h, Y0 + k1_0, Y1 + k1_1, Y2 +
108        k1_2, Y3 + k1_3, case)
109        k2_0, k2_1, k2_2, k2_3 = h*k2_0, h*k2_1, h*k2_2, h*k2_3
110        Y0 = Y0 + (k1_0 + k2_0)/2
111        Y1 = Y1 + (k1_1 + k2_1)/2
112        Y2 = Y2 + (k1_2 + k2_2)/2
113        Y3 = Y3 + (k1_3 + k2_3)/2
114        if Y2<=0:
115            break
116    if grph_key == 0:
117        if case == "no drag":
118            print()
119        else:
120            data_rk2_1 = {"x": Y0n, "y" : Y2n}

```



```

120     my_data113 = pd.DataFrame(data_rk2_1)
121     my_data113.to_csv(file_name, index = False)
122 else:
123     return Y0n[-1]
124
125 #CALL:
126 angle_list = [25, 30, 45, 50, 38]
127 file_names_euler = ['EulerTrajectory25.csv', 'EulerTrajectory30.csv',
128                    'EulerTrajectory45.csv', 'EulerTrajectory50.csv', '
129                    EulerTrajectory38.csv']
130 file_names_rk2 = ['rk2Trajectory25.csv', 'rk2Trajectory30.csv', '
131                    rk2Trajectory45.csv', 'rk2Trajectory50.csv', 'rk2Trajectory38.
132                    csv']
133 file_names_rk4 = ['rk4Trajectory25.csv', 'rk4Trajectory30.csv', '
134                    rk4Trajectory45.csv', 'rk4Trajectory50.csv', 'rk4Trajectory38.
135                    csv']
136 label_list = ["25$\sim\{\circ\}$", "30$\sim\{\circ\}$", "45$\sim\{\circ\}$", "50$
137               $\sim\{\circ\}$", "38$\sim\{\circ\}$"]
138
139 for i in range(0, 5):
140     Y3 = 29*math.sin(0.0174533*angle_list[i])
141     Y1 = 29*math.cos(0.0174533*angle_list[i])
142     euler(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "drag", label_list[i], 0,
143           file_names_euler[i])
144
145 for i in range(0, 5):
146     Y3 = 29*math.sin(0.0174533*angle_list[i])
147     Y1 = 29*math.cos(0.0174533*angle_list[i])
148     rk2(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "drag", label_list[i], 0, file_names_rk2
149         [i])
150
151 for i in range(0, 5):
152     Y3 = 29*math.sin(0.0174533*angle_list[i])
153     Y1 = 29*math.cos(0.0174533*angle_list[i])
154     rk4(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "drag", label_list[i], 0, file_names_rk4
155         [i])
156
157 angle = []
158 x_with_drag_euler = []
159 x_without_drag_euler = []
160 row_euler = []
161 record_euler = []

```

```

152 x_with_drag_rk2 = []
153 x_without_drag_rk2 = []
154 row_rk2 = []
155 record_rk2 = []
156 x_with_drag_rk4 = []
157 x_without_drag_rk4 = []
158 row_rk4 = []
159 record_rk4 = []
160
161 for i in range(0, 90):
162     Y3 = 29*math.sin(0.0174533*i)
163     Y1 = 29*math.cos(0.0174533*i)
164     xn_with_drag_euler = euler(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "drag",
        label_list[0], 1, 'does not matter')
165     xn_without_drag_euler = euler(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "no drag",
        label_list[0], 1, 'does not matter')
166     x_with_drag_euler.append(xn_with_drag_euler)
167     x_without_drag_euler.append(xn_without_drag_euler)
168     angle.append(i)
169     row_euler.append(i)
170     row_euler.append(xn_with_drag_euler)
171     record_euler.append(row_euler)
172     row_euler = []
173 data_euler_2_wo = {"theta": angle, "range" : x_without_drag_euler}
174 my_data211 = pd.DataFrame(data_euler_2_wo)
175 my_data211.to_csv('EulerVariationW0.csv', index = False)
176 data_euler_2_w = {"theta": angle, "range" : x_with_drag_euler}
177 my_data212 = pd.DataFrame(data_euler_2_w)
178 my_data212.to_csv('EulerVariationW.csv', index = False)
179
180 for i in range(0, 90):
181     Y3 = 29*math.sin(0.0174533*i)
182     Y1 = 29*math.cos(0.0174533*i)
183     xn_with_drag_rk2 = rk2(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "drag", label_list
        [0], 1, 'does not matter')
184     xn_without_drag_rk2 = rk2(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "no drag",
        label_list[0], 1, 'does not matter')
185     x_with_drag_rk2.append(xn_with_drag_rk2)
186     x_without_drag_rk2.append(xn_without_drag_rk2)
187     row_rk2.append(i)
188     row_rk2.append(xn_with_drag_rk2)
189     record_rk2.append(row_rk2)

```

```

190     row_rk2 = []
191 data_rk2_2_wo = {"theta": angle, "range" : x_without_drag_rk2}
192 my_data221 = pd.DataFrame(data_rk2_2_wo)
193 my_data221.to_csv('rk2VariationW0.csv', index = False)
194 data_rk2_2_w = {"theta": angle, "range" : x_with_drag_rk2}
195 my_data222 = pd.DataFrame(data_rk2_2_w)
196 my_data222.to_csv('rk2VariationW.csv', index = False)
197
198 for i in range(0, 90):
199     Y3 = 29*math.sin(0.0174533*i)
200     Y1 = 29*math.cos(0.0174533*i)
201     xn_with_drag_rk4 = rk4(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "drag", label_list
        [0], 1, 'does not matter')
202     xn_without_drag_rk4 = rk4(0, Y1, 2, Y3, 0, 5, "no drag",
        label_list[0], 1, 'does not matter')
203     x_with_drag_rk4.append(xn_with_drag_rk4)
204     x_without_drag_rk4.append(xn_without_drag_rk4)
205     row_rk4.append(i)
206     row_rk4.append(xn_with_drag_rk4)
207     record_rk4.append(row_rk4)
208     row_rk4 = []
209 data_rk4_2_wo = {"theta": angle, "range" : x_without_drag_rk4}
210 my_data231 = pd.DataFrame(data_rk4_2_wo)
211 my_data231.to_csv('rk4VariationW0.csv', index = False)
212 data_rk4_2_w = {"theta": angle, "range" : x_with_drag_rk4}
213 my_data232 = pd.DataFrame(data_rk4_2_w)
214 my_data232.to_csv('rk4VariationW.csv', index = False)

```

Listing 1: Python code

### GNU Plot Scripts:

1. “Script.txt”: This file calls all the other scripts, and stands as a standalone file to be loaded into GNU plot terminal to produce all the graphs

```
1 load "EULER trajectory.txt"
2 load "RK2 trajectory.txt"
3 load "RK4 trajectory.txt"
4 load "EULER variation.txt"
5 load "RK2 variation.txt"
6 load "RK4 variation.txt"
```

Listing 2: “Script.txt”

2. “EULER trajectory.txt”: Produces the trajectory of javelin thrown with different initial angles, computed using the Euler method

```
1 set datafile separator ','
2 p "EulerTrajectory25.csv" every ::2 title "25$^\circ$" w l lw 2,
   "EulerTrajectory30.csv" every ::2 title "30$^\circ$" w l lw 2,
   "EulerTrajectory38.csv" every ::2 title "38$^\circ$" w l lw 2,
   "EulerTrajectory45.csv" every ::2 title "45$^\circ$" w l lw 2,
   "EulerTrajectory50.csv" every ::2 title "50$^\circ$" w l lw 2
3 set xlabel "$x$ m"
4 set ylabel "$y$ m"
5 set title "EULER: Trajectory of various different launch angles,
   with drag"
6 set terminal epslatex color colortext size 6, 4
7 set output "EulerTrajectoryTEX.tex"
8 rep
9 set output
10 set term qt
```

Listing 3: “EULER trajectory.txt”

3. “RK2 trajectory.txt”: Produces the trajectory of javelin thrown with different initial angles, computed using the RK2 method

```

1 set datafile separator ','
2 p "rk2Trajectory25.csv" every ::2 title "25$^\circ$" w l lw 2, "
   rk2Trajectory30.csv" every ::2 title "30$^\circ$" w l lw 2, "
   rk2Trajectory38.csv" every ::2 title "38$^\circ$" w l lw 2, "
   rk2Trajectory45.csv" every ::2 title "45$^\circ$" w l lw 2, "
   rk2Trajectory50.csv" every ::2 title "50$^\circ$" w l lw 2
3 set xlabel "$x$ m"
4 set ylabel "$y$ m"
5 set title "RK2: Trajectory of various different launch angles,
   with drag"
6 set terminal epslatex color colortext size 6, 4
7 set output "rk2TrajectoryTEX.tex"
8 rep
9 set output
10 set term qt

```

Listing 4: “RK2 trajectory.txt”

4. “RK4 trajectory.txt”: Produces the trajectory of javelin thrown with different initial angles, computed using the RK4 method

```

1 set datafile separator ','
2 p "rk4Trajectory25.csv" every ::2 title "25$^\circ$" w l lw 2, "
   rk4Trajectory30.csv" every ::2 title "30$^\circ$" w l lw 2, "
   rk4Trajectory38.csv" every ::2 title "38$^\circ$" w l lw 2, "
   rk4Trajectory45.csv" every ::2 title "45$^\circ$" w l lw 2, "
   rk4Trajectory50.csv" every ::2 title "50$^\circ$" w l lw 2
3 set xlabel "$x$ m"
4 set ylabel "$y$ m"
5 set title "RK4: Trajectory of various different launch angles,
   with drag"
6 set terminal epslatex color colortext size 6, 4
7 set output "rk4TrajectoryTEX.tex"
8 rep
9 set output
10 set term qt

```

Listing 5: “RK2 trajectory.txt”

5. “EULER variation.txt”: Produces variation of  $x_{max}$  with  $\theta$ , computed using the Euler method

```

1 set datafile separator ','
2 p "EulerVariationW0.csv" every ::2 w lp lw 2 dt 3 title "Without
   drag", "EulerVariationW.csv" every ::2 w lp lw 2 title "With
   drag"
3 set xlabel "$\\theta (^\\circ)$"
4 set ylabel "$x_{max}$ (m)"
5 set xtics ("38$^\\circ$" 38, "45$^\\circ$" 45, "45$^\\circ$" 0, "
   90$^\\circ$" 90, "0$^\\circ$" 0)
6 set ytics ("0" 0, "59.8" 59.8, "87.86" 87.86)
7 set xrange [0:90]
8 set yrange [0:90]
9 rep
10 set title "EULER: Variation of $x_{max}$ with $\\theta$"
11 set terminal epslatex color colortext size 6, 4
12 set output "EulerVariationTEX.tex"
13 rep
14 set output
15 set term qt

```

Listing 6: “EULER variation.txt”

6. “RK2 variation.txt”: Produces variation of  $x_{max}$  with  $\theta$ , computed using the RK2 method

```

1 set datafile separator ','
2 p "rk2VariationW0.csv" every ::2 w lp lw 2 dt 3 title "Without
   drag", "rk2VariationW.csv" every ::2 w lp lw 2 title "With drag
   "
3 set xlabel "$\\theta (^\\circ)$"
4 set ylabel "$x_{max}$ (m)"
5 set xtics ("38$^\\circ$" 38, "45$^\\circ$" 45, "45$^\\circ$" 0, "
   90$^\\circ$" 90, "0$^\\circ$" 0)
6 set ytics ("0" 0, "59.72" 59.72, "87.86" 87.86)
7 set xrange [0:90]
8 set yrange [0:90]
9 rep
10 set title "RK2: Variation of $x_{max}$ with $\\theta$"
11 set terminal epslatex color colortext size 6, 4
12 set output "rk2VariationTEX.tex"
13 rep
14 set output

```

```
15 set term qt
```

Listing 7: “RK2 variation.txt”

7. “RK4 variation.txt”: Produces variation of  $x_{max}$  with  $\theta$ , computed using the RK4 method

```
1 set datafile separator ','
2 p "rk4VariationW0.csv" every ::2 w lp lw 2 dt 3 title "Without
   drag", "rk4VariationW.csv" every ::2 w lp lw 2 title "With drag
   "
3 set xlabel "$\\theta (^\\circ)$"
4 set ylabel "$x_{max}$ (m)"
5 set xtics ("38$^\\circ$" 38, "45$^\\circ$" 45, "45$^\\circ$" 0, "
   90$^\\circ$" 90, "0$^\\circ$" 0)
6 set ytics ("0" 0, "59.72" 59.72, "87.86" 87.86)
7 set xrange [0:90]
8 set yrange [0:90]
9 rep
10 set title "RK4: Variation of $x_{max}$ with $\\theta$"
11 set terminal epslatex color colortext size 6, 4
12 set output "rk4VariationTEX.tex"
13 rep
14 set output
15 set term qt
```

Listing 8: “RK2 variation.txt”

## B Calculation of k

$k$ , is equal to:

$$k = \frac{1}{2} * \rho_{air} * C * FrontalArea$$

Where, we have

- $C = 2.5$  [8]
- $\rho_{air} = 1.2 \text{ kg/m}^3$  [9]

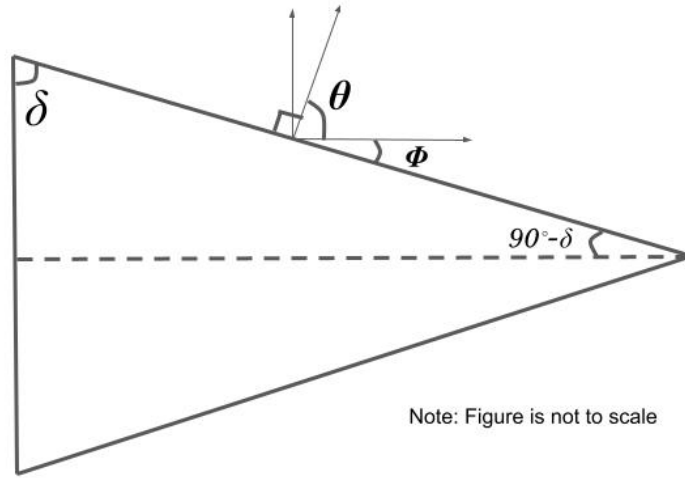


Figure 9: One of the two cones of javelin, that contains the frontal area that we need to for the calculation of  $k$

Now, for frontal area, we can approximate as a pair of cones (of equal radius and height) stacked against each other, of radius 0.03 m [10] and height 1.3 m [11].

As can be seen in the figure, and since they are alternate angles:

$$\phi = 90^\circ - \delta \quad (24)$$

Also, as can be seen in the figure:

$$\theta + \phi = 90^\circ \quad (25)$$



Now, substituting (24) into (25), we get

$$\theta = \delta \quad (26)$$

Now, from the figure,

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \delta &= \frac{1.3}{0.03} \\ \delta &= \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1.3}{0.03} \right) \\ \delta &= 88.68^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Area of cone: Let the area of the cone be  $A$

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \pi * r * l \\ &= \pi * r * \sqrt{r^2 + h^2} \\ &= \pi * 0.03 * \sqrt{0.03^2 + 1.3^2} \\ &= \pi * 0.03 * \sqrt{1.6909} \\ &= \pi * 0.03 * 1.3 \\ A &= 0.1225 m^2 \end{aligned}$$

Now, since the frontal area is the exposed normally exposed area of the body, the magnitude of area exposed will be:  $A \cos \theta$ . And from (26), since  $\delta = \theta$ , we get the magnitude of area exposed to be:  $A \cos \delta$ . Therefore, the frontal area (say,  $A_f$ ) is:

$$\begin{aligned} A_f &= A * \cos \delta \\ &= A \cos(88.68^\circ) \\ &= 0.1225 * 0.002 \\ A_f &= 0.003 m^2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we get the value of  $k$  to be:

$$\begin{aligned} k &= \frac{1}{2} * \rho_{air} * C * FrontalArea \\ k &= 0.5 * 1.2 kg/m^3 * 2.5 * 0.003 m^2 \\ k &= 0.00470625 kg/m \end{aligned}$$

And, this value of  $k$  is what we have given into the program

## C Contribution of team mates

### Contribution of *Lucky Upadhayay*

- **In Formulation of the problem:** Computed the value of  $k$ , coefficient of friction for javelin
- **In Programming:** Made an integrated programme which saves data into output files, and wrote code for Euler method
- **In Plotting Graphs:** Wrote GNU plot scripts for plotting the variation of  $x_{max}$  with  $\theta$ , computed using all the 3 methods, and used EPS<sub>TEX</sub> to produce the graphs in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document
- **In Report Writing:** Wrote abstract, introduction, and summary of the report, and combined the report.

### Contribution of *Anurag Das*

- **In Formulation of the problem:** Formulated the differential equation to be fed into the program
- **In Programming:** Wrote code for the algorithm for RK2 and RK4 methods
- **In Plotting Graphs:** Wrote GNU plot script for the plotting the trajectories of the javelin thrown with various initial angles, and the “team10\_gnuscrypt.txt” file.
- **In Report Writing:** Wrote the methodology and theory section of the report.

**Note:** Inputs for the *Analysis of numerical results* section were equal from both the students.