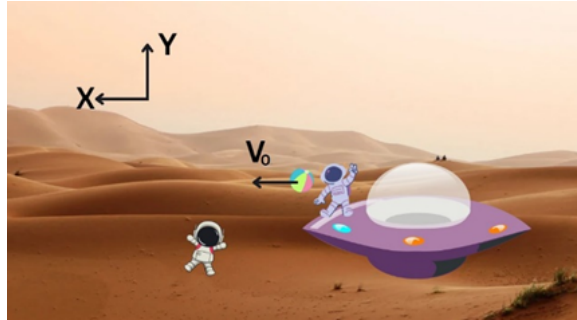


Mars Astronauts



Determine the height H of the spaceship if the ball is in the air for 6 seconds. Take $g_{mars} = 4 \text{ m/s}^2$ and assume that the ball is released at height H above the Martian surface.

Using known expressions:

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt} \Rightarrow dv = a dt \quad (1)$$

$$\int_{v_0}^{v(t)} dv = a \int_0^t dt \quad (2)$$

$$v(t) = at + v_0 \quad (3)$$

$$v = \frac{ds}{dt} \Rightarrow ds = v dt = (v_0 + at) dt \quad (4)$$

$$\int_{s_0}^{s(t)} ds = \int_0^t (v_0 + at) dt \quad (5)$$

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t + s_0 \quad (6)$$

Given:

Gravitational acceleration on Mars: $g_{mars} = 4 \text{ m/s}^2$

Airtime: $t = 6 \text{ s}$

The time it takes to reach the surface can be calculated using Equation 6, where the gravity on Mars is pointing downwards. The initial velocity in y -direction is equal to zero, hence $v_0 = 0$. Take the origin of the coordinate system at the spaceship (hence $y(t = 0) = 0 \text{ m} \Rightarrow s_0 = 0 \text{ m}$). Thus Equation 6 becomes.

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_0t + s_0 \Rightarrow y(t) = -\frac{1}{2}g_{mars}t^2 \quad (7)$$

Inserting t and g_{mars} gives:

$$y(t) = -\frac{1}{2}g_{mars}t^2 \Rightarrow y(6) = -\frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 \cdot 6^2 = -72 \text{ m} \quad (8)$$

Thus the ball traveled 72 m downwards, which means that the height of the spaceship is $H = 72$ m.