

- 2 (a) A man wants to knock down a coconut from the tree by throwing a stone at it as shown in Fig. 2.1. The coconut is 18.0 m above the ground. The man's hand is 2.2 m above the ground when he releases the stone with an initial velocity of 20.0 m s^{-1} . Assume that air resistance is negligible.

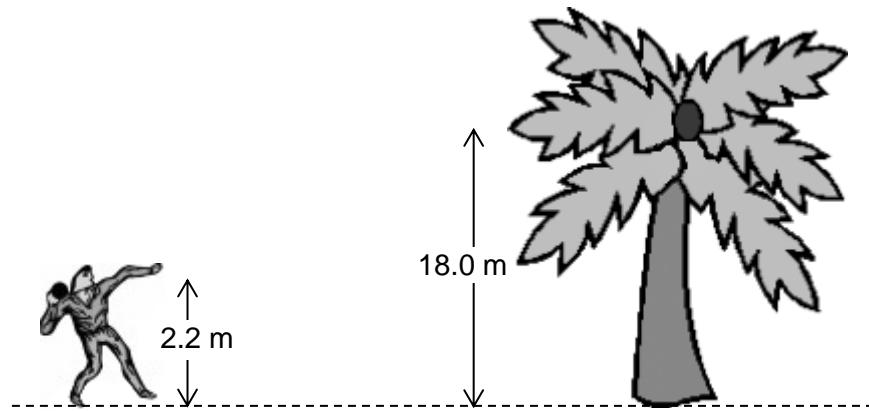


Fig. 2.1 (not to scale)

- (i) Explain qualitatively, in terms of acceleration and velocity, why the path taken by the stone is *parabolic*.

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.....
.....

[1]

- (ii) Show that the angle at which the stone should be released from the horizontal so that it would hit the coconut horizontally is 62° .

[2]

- (iii) Hence, calculate the time taken for the stone to reach its maximum height when it is projected at the angle in (a)(ii).

time taken = s [2]

- (b) A spaceship engine uses solar power to ionise and eject xenon atoms from the spaceship. The speed of the ejected xenon ions is $3.0 \times 10^4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ relative to the spaceship as shown in Fig. 2.2.

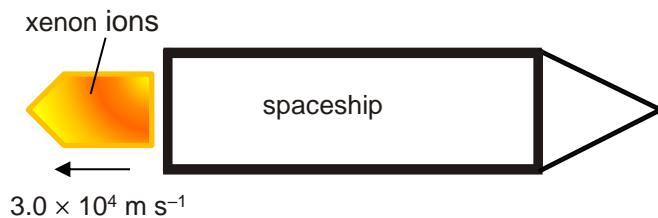


Fig. 2.2

Fig. 2.3 shows the variation with time t of the acceleration a of the spaceship due to the ejection of xenon ions.

$a / 10^{-5} \text{ m s}^{-2}$

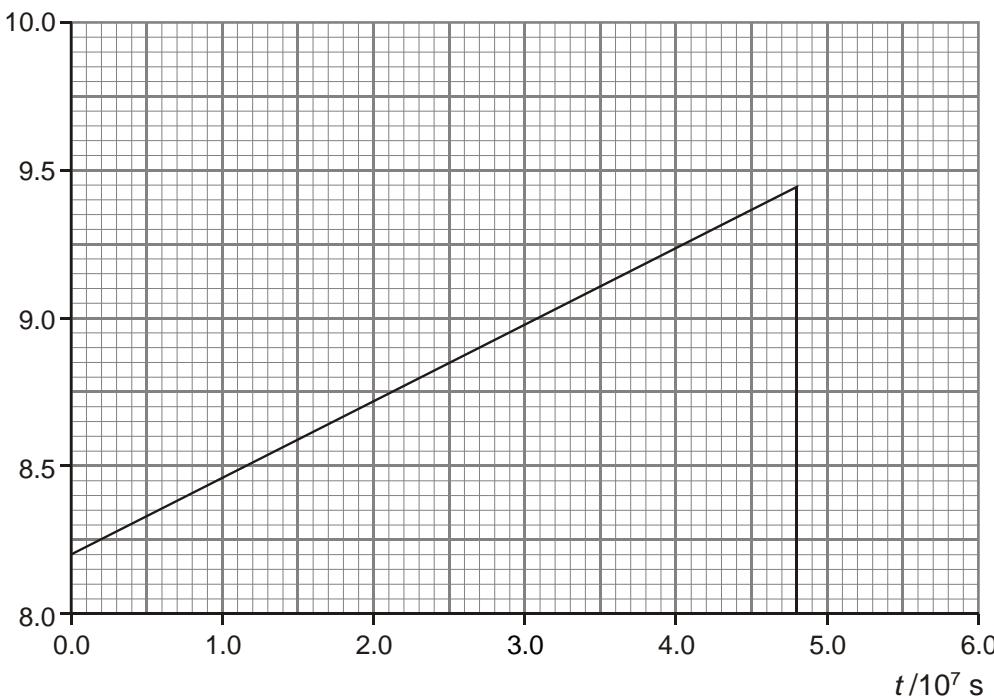


Fig. 2.3

[Turn over]

- (i) Explain why the acceleration of the spaceship is increasing.

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[1]

- (ii) Given that the ions are ejected at a constant rate of $1.7 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kg s}^{-1}$, calculate the magnitude of the force exerted on the spaceship by the ions.

magnitude of force = N [2]

- (iii) The spaceship is initially stationary and its engine is switched on at time $t = 0 \text{ s}$.

Using Fig. 2.3, calculate the final velocity of the spaceship when the xenon ions run out completely.

velocity = m s^{-1} [2]

- (iv) On Fig. 2.4, draw the corresponding variation with time t of the velocity v of the spaceship from $t = 0$ to $t = 6.0 \times 10^7$ s.

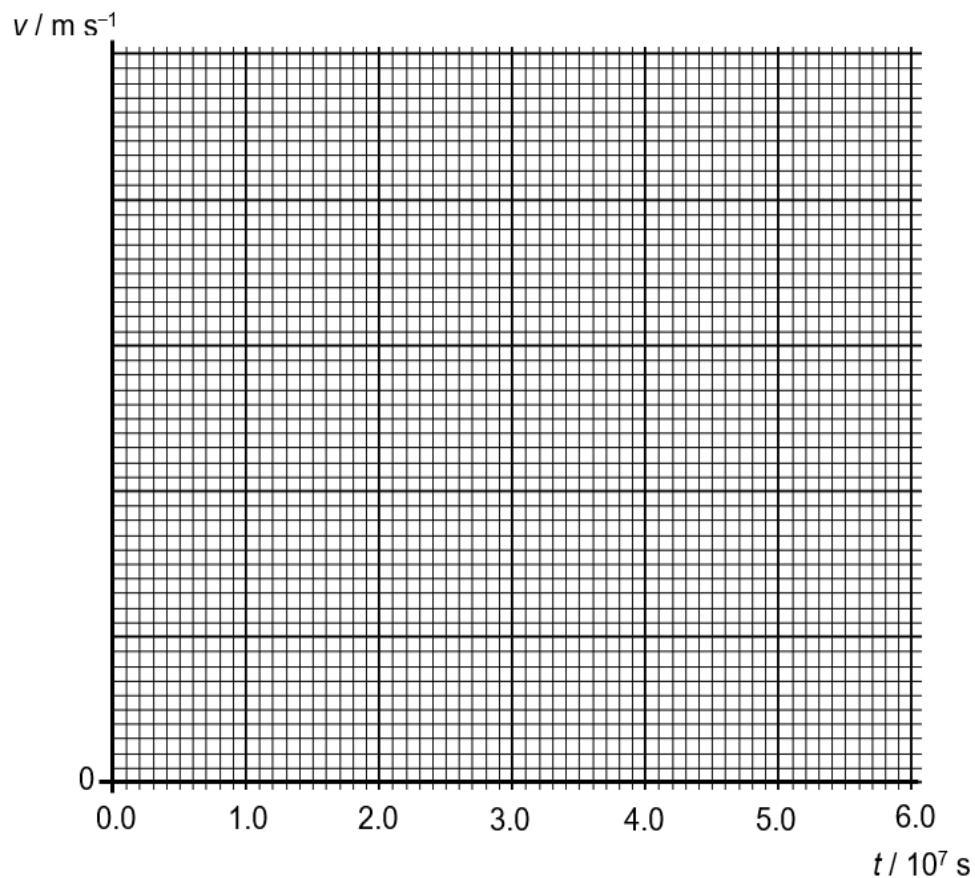


Fig. 2.4

[2]

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