

ModSim Exercise 10

Yoonyoung Cho

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1 Key Frames

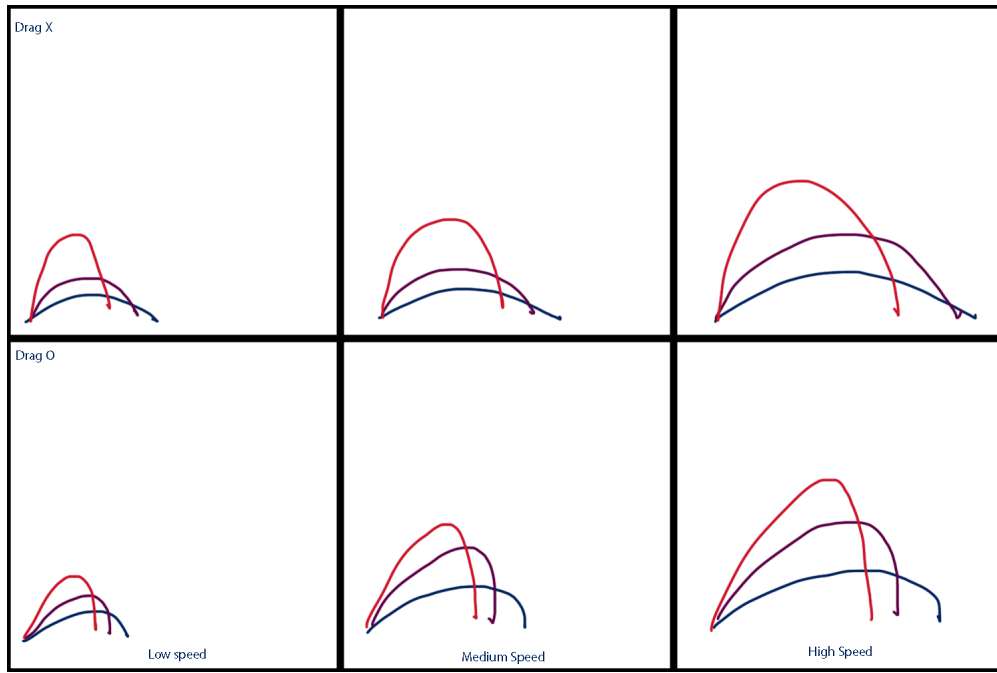


Figure 1: Key Frames of the mechanics involving the flight of the baseball; the graph depicts the trajectory of the baseball. The plot is color-coded based on the launch angle: red, purple, and blue corresponding to high, middle, and low angles, respectively.

In the key frames, I sought to capture the behavior that the distance covered was dependent on the magnitude of the initial velocity, as well as the launch angle; too high of a launch angle would expend much of the momentum in the upwards direction¹. Moreover, I exaggerated the rightward skewing of the overall trajectory in the presence of drag, as a result of dissipation in the horizontal momentum due to drag.

2 Estimation

Based on the research parameters I had identified in the last exercise(replicated in Table 1), I calculated the initial drag and gravitational force for the starting velocity of 54 m/s

¹The graph is, of course, faulty: later, I realized that the the angle couldn't be too low either, as the ball would fall to the ground prematurely.

Term	Description	Value	Unit
\vec{r}	Initial Position of baseball	$< 0, 1 >$	m
\vec{v}	Initial Velocity of baseball	$< 38, 38 >$	m/s
G	Gravitational Constant	$6.67408e-11$	$m^3kg^{-1}s^{-2}$
m_b	Mass of Baseball	.145	kg
m_e	Mass of Earth	$5.9742e24$	kg
A	Cross-sectional area of baseball	.004	m^2
\vec{F}_g	Gravity	$< 0, -1.42 >$	N
\vec{F}_d	Drag Force	$< -0.6, -0.09 >$	N
ρ	Density of Air	1.225	kg/m^3
C_d	Drag Coefficient of Baseball	0.3	-

Table 1: Constants.

The forces that describe the system are:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F} &= \vec{F}_g(\vec{r}) + \vec{F}_d(\vec{v}) \\ \vec{F}_g &= -\frac{Gm_em_b}{\vec{r}^2}\hat{r} \\ \vec{F}_d &= -1/2\rho C_d A \vec{v}^2 \hat{v}\end{aligned}$$

The above interaction was implemented in MATLAB as follows:

```

1 function res = Gravity(h_b)%gets height of ball
2 G = 6.67384e-11; %m^3 / kg*s^@ Gravity Constant
3 m_e = 5.9742e24; % kg, mass of earth
4 m_b = 145e-3; % kg, mass of baseball
5 r_e = 6378e3; %m, radius of earth
6 r = h_b + r_e; % h + r_e
7 res = [0 -G*m_e*m_b/r^2];
8 end
9
10 function res = Drag(v_x,v_y)
11 r_b = 37e-3; %m, radius of ball
12 rho = 1.225; %kg/m^3, density of air
13 C_d = 0.3; %drag coefficient of basesball
14 A = pi*r_b^2;
15 speed = sqrt(v_x^2+v_y^2);
16
17 nv_x = v_x / speed; %normalize
18 nv_y = v_y / speed;
19 res = -1/2*rho*C_d*A*speed^2*[nv_x nv_y];
20 end

```

which yielded Drag = 2.304455N and Gravity = 1.421198N². Based on this comparison, it was clear that Drag force could not be disregarded from the calculation.

3 Basic Implementation

To avoid redundancies, the final code will be presented in the next section. Here, only the results of the basic implementation – without the later added constraints – will be shown:

²since it is known that the height of the ball does not influence the magnitude of gravity very much, I simply chose 0 as the height in the above code.

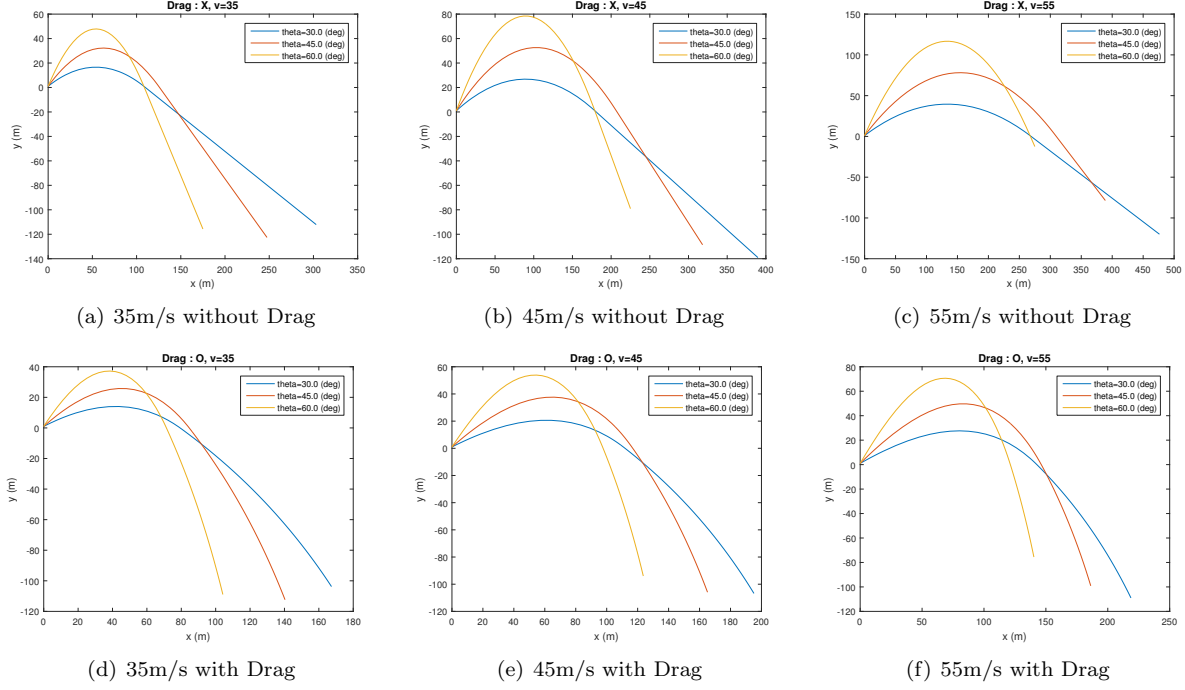


Figure 2: Matlab-generated keyframes

It can be seen that without the constraints that limit the ball above the ground (quite naturally) the ball goes farthest when shot in a lower angle, in a more horizontal orientation. As this does not accurately reflect what happens – and we are not currently equipped with the capacity to model the bouncing of the ball, a restriction will be enforced that limits the ball’s location to above the ground, which leads to the next section:

4 Event Detection

The MATLAB implementation of the simulation is as follows:

```

1 function res = simulateBaseball(speed,angle,useDrag,plotRes)
2   r_x =0;
3   r_y =1;%initial positions, m
4
5   v_x =speed*cos(angle);
6   v_y =speed*sin(angle);%initial velocity, m/s
7
8   y = [r_x r_y v_x v_y];
9   y = y';
10  opt = odeset('Events',@hitGround); %When it hits ground (r_y <=0)
11  netAccelDrag = @(t,y) netAccel(t,y,useDrag);
12  [t,Y] = ode45(netAccelDrag, [0 10],y, opt);
13
14  %PART 3
15  if(plotRes)
16      plot(Y(:,1),Y(:,2));
17      xlabel('x (m)');
18      ylabel('y (m)');
19  end

```

```

20 res_raw = Y(:,2);
21 res = res_raw(end);
22 end
23 function res = netAccel(~,y,useDrag)
24 m_b = 145e-3; % kg, mass of baseball
25
26 dv = netForce(y,useDrag)/m_b;
27 res(1) = y(3); %dx
28 res(2) = y(4); %dy
29 res(3) = dv(1); %dvx
30 res(4) = dv(2); %dvy
31 res = res';
32 end
33
34 function res = netForce(y,useDrag) %returns [f_x f_y]
35 r_x = y(1);
36 r_y = y(2);
37 v_x = y(3);
38 v_y = y(4);
39 if(useDrag)
40     res = Gravity(r_y) + Drag(v_x,v_y);
41 else
42     res = Gravity(r_y);
43 end
44     if(r_y <= 0)
45         res(2) = 0; %downward force = 0
46     end
47
48 end
49
50 function res = Gravity(h_b)%gets height of ball
51 G = 6.67384e-11; %m^3 / kg*s^2 Gravity Constant
52 m_e = 5.9742e24; % kg, mass of earth
53 m_b = 145e-3; % kg, mass of baseball
54 r_e = 6378e3; %m, radius of earth
55 r = h_b + r_e; % h + r_e
56 res = [0 -G*m_e*m_b/r^2];
57 end
58
59 function res = Drag(v_x,v_y)%force acting against velocity
60 r_b = 37e-3; %m, radius of ball
61 rho = 1.225; %kg/m^3, density of air
62 C_d = 0.3; %drag coefficient of baseball
63 A = pi*r_b^2;
64 speed = sqrt(v_x^2+v_y^2);
65
66 nv_x = v_x / speed; %normalize
67 nv_y = v_y / speed;
68 res = -1/2*rho*C_d*A*speed^2*[nv_x nv_y];
69 end
70
71 function [val,term,dir] = hitGround(t,y) %Event Condition to stop
72 %named hitground but also accomodates hitting the wall
73 val(1) = y(2); %y(2) = r_y = height

```

```

74 term(1) = 0;
75 dir(1) = 0;
76
77 val(2) = y(1) - 97; %second event : hit wall
78 term(2) = 0;
79 dir(2) = 0;
80 end

```

The function takes initial speed and angle as a parameter, as well as flags such as a whether or not to incorporate drag force into the system, and whether or not to plot the result. and the resultant plot:

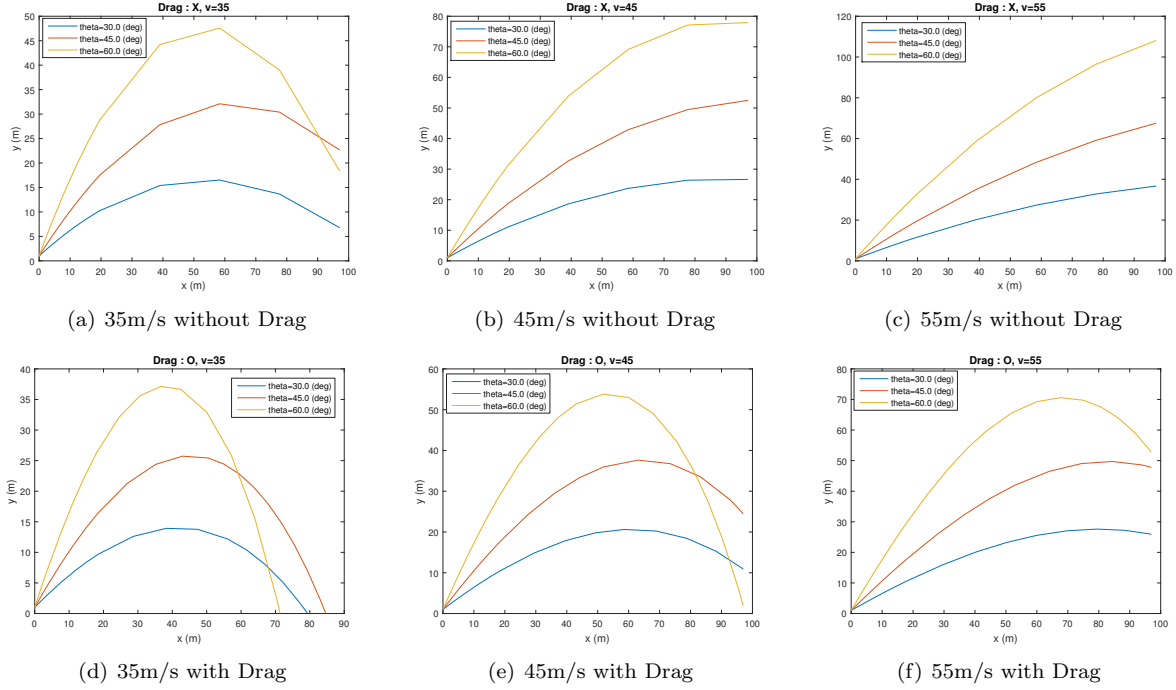


Figure 3: Matlab-generated keyframes, with events.

It is seen that, with enforced constraints, an angle neither too high nor too low performs best, as it has enough time in air to travel, as well enough horizontal velocity to travel far; there is evidence of the rightward skewing – as well as greatly reduced distance – in the presence of the drag force, though a bit more subtle than that hand-drawn in the keyframes.

$\theta(\text{deg})$	30	45	60
$v \text{ (m/s)}$			
35	0	0	0
45	10.93	24.45	1.89
55	25.94	47.80	52.76

Table 2: Final Height of the ball based on the initial launch state.

5 Range-based Analysis

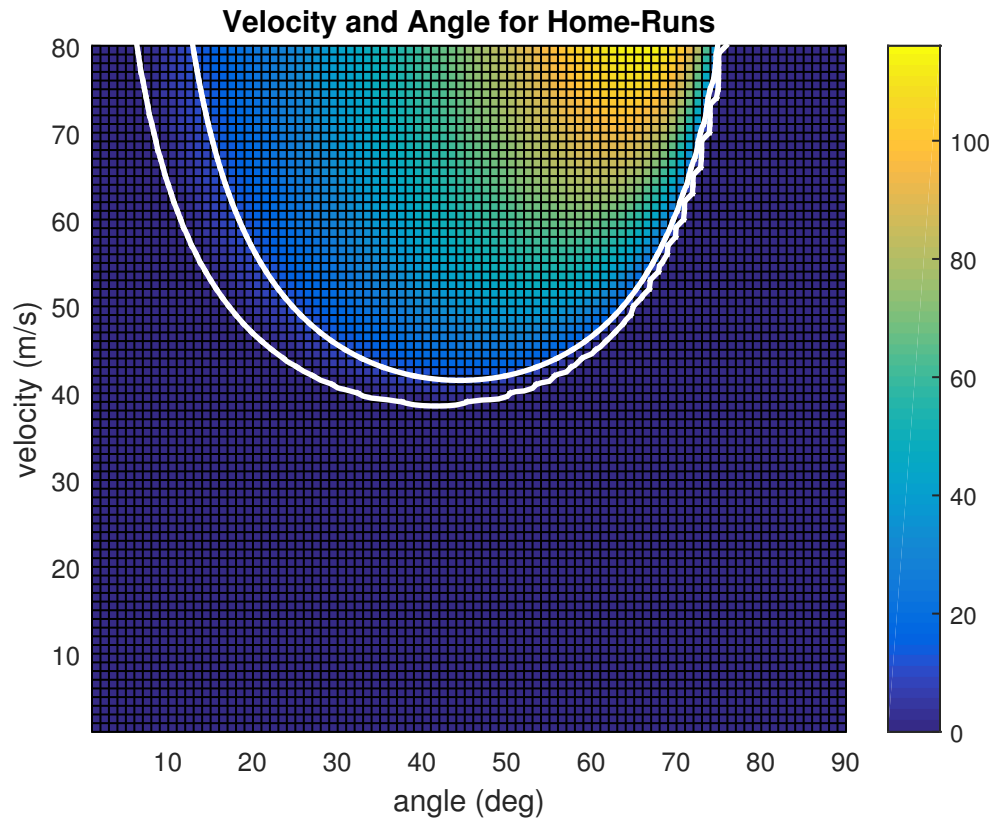


Figure 4: The final height of the ball, given velocity and angle as initial states.

From the graph, it is apparent that the minimum velocity to clear the green monster is around $40m/s$, at approximately 40 degrees above the horizontal.