

1. A projectile is fired at an upward angle of 35.0 degrees from the top of a 225-m cliff with a speed of 235m/s . What will be its speed when it strikes the ground below? (Use conservation of energy.)

$$\alpha = 35^{\circ}$$

$$h = 225 \text{ m}$$

$$v_0 = 235 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$g = 9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

$$v_1 = ?$$

Solution.

Let use the law of conservation and transformation of energy: the increasing of the kinetic energy is due to the decreasing the potential energy of the projectile.

$$\frac{mv_1^2}{2} - \frac{mv_0^2}{2} = mg \cdot h.$$

One can find the speed of the projectile when it strikes the ground below:

$$v_1 = \sqrt{v_0^2 + 2gh}.$$

Let check the dimension.

$$[v_1] = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right)^2 + \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \cdot \text{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{s}^2}} = \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}.$$

Let evaluate the quantity.

$$v_1 = \sqrt{235^2 + 2 \cdot 9.8 \cdot 225} \approx 244 \left(\frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right).$$

Answer: $224 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$.