

## Solutions

## Physics 135-1, Summer 2010, Quiz 1

1) An antique dive-bomber is flying straight down at 147 m/s when it releases its bomb. If the airplane is 490 m above the ground at the instant it releases the bomb, then:

- a) (5 pts) How long will it take the bomb to hit the ground once it is released?
- b) (5 pts) How fast will the bomb be moving when it hits the ground?

We have the basic equation:  $y = y_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$ . If we put the origin at the point where the bomb starts falling, then  $y_0 = 0$ ,  $y = -490$  m,  $v_0 = -147$  m/s, and  $a = -9.8$  m/s<sup>2</sup>. This gives  $-490 = -147 t - 4.9 t^2$ . Dividing by  $-4.9$  yields  $t^2 + 30 t - 100 = 0$ . From the quadratic equation,  $t = \{-30 \pm [900 - (4)(-100)]^{1/2}\} / 2 = [-30 \pm 1300^{1/2}] / 2 = 3.03$  sec or  $-33.03$  sec. It is unlikely that the bomb will hit the ground before it is released, so we reject the negative time and  $t = 3.03$  sec.

The bomb's landing speed will be  $v = v_0 + at = 147 + (9.8)(3.03) = 176.7$  m/s.

2) A nervous man walks at 2 m/s for 6 sec to the East. Then he walks at 1.5 m/s for 8 sec to the West. Then he walks at 1.25 m/s for 3 sec to the East.

- a) (5 pts) What was his average speed?
- b) (5 pts) What was his average velocity?

The distance the man moves during each segment is:  $(2 \text{ m/s}) \times 6 \text{ sec} = 12 \text{ m}$ ,  $(1.5 \text{ m/s}) \times 8 \text{ sec} = 12 \text{ m}$ , and  $(1.25 \text{ m/s}) \times 3 \text{ sec} = 3.75 \text{ m}$ . The total distance covered is thus  $27.75 \text{ m}$ , and the total time it took was  $17 \text{ sec}$ , so his average speed was  $27.75 / 17 = 1.63$  m/s. The net distance he covers is  $d = +12 - 12 + 3.75 = 3.75 \text{ m}$ , where I have taken "East" to be positive. His average velocity is then  $3.75 / 17 = 0.22$  m/s, to the East.