

# Determination of the apex

**Apex is the maximum  
vertical height of a projectile**

# Strategy for calculation

- At the apex the vertical velocity,  $V_y$ , is zero.
- Use  $V_{yf}^2 = V_{yi}^2 + 2 \times a \times D$ .
- At the apex  $V_{yf} = 0$ , so  $V_{yf}^2 = 0$
- $0 = V_{yi}^2 + (2 \times (-9.8) \times D)$
- $- V_{yi}^2 = - 19.6 \times D$
- $V_{yi}^2/19.6 = D = \text{apex}$

# Example

- Jack Hurley throws a pass to Joey Troina at 20 m/s at 40 degrees above the ground. Calculate the apex of the motion.
- 1.  $V_x = V \cos(\text{angle}) = 20 \times .766 = 15.3 \text{ m/s}$
- $V_y = V \sin(\text{angle}) = 20 \times .64 = 12.86 \text{ m/s}$
- 2.  $\text{apex} = D_y = V_y^2 / 19.6 = 8.44 \text{ m}$

# Group Activity

- Using  $\text{apex} = D_y = V_y^2/19.6$  calculate the apex of the following projectiles:
  - 1.  $V = 75 \text{ m/s}$  at 20 degrees
  - 2.  $V = 75 \text{ m/s}$  at 40 degrees
  - 3.  $V = 75 \text{ m/s}$  at 60 degrees
  - 4.  $V = 75 \text{ m/s}$  at 80 degrees
  - 5.  $V = 75 \text{ m/s}$  at 90 degrees