TECHNICAL REPORT

Boundary Risk Assessment:
Lenham Cricket Club

Report Number LSUK.15-0634_V1

Client

Akehurst Epps Ltd
22 Claremont Gardens,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent
TN2 5DD

Date 06/08/2015

This report contains 15 pages including 1 appendices.

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SUMMARY

To assess the potential risk of cricket balls being hit into a proposed residential development adjacent to the cricket field at Lenham, Labosport Ltd has reviewed the proposed site plan including distances to ascertain the risk of balls landing in the adjacent areas; and advise on the design of a suitable height for the fencing system to mitigate against risk.

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CONTENTS

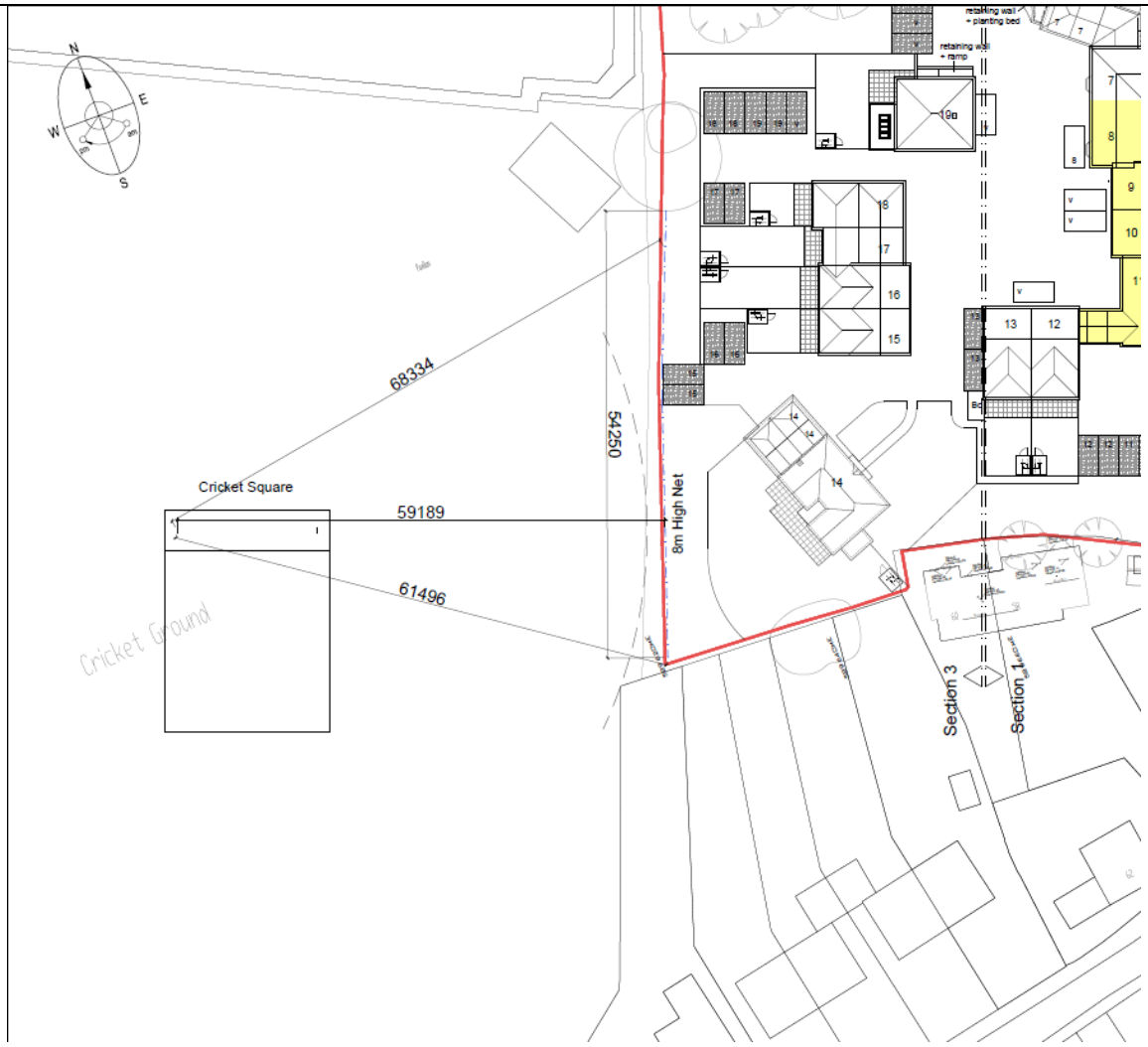
1. INTRODUCTION

To assess the potential risk of cricket balls being hit into a proposed residential development adjacent to the cricket field at Lenham, Labosport Ltd has reviewed the proposed site plan including distances to ascertain the risk of balls landing in the adjacent areas. Using a ball projectile model and supporting data from research undertaken, based on professional level cricket, by Labosport for the ECB the following risk assessment has been produced.

Note: This is a desk study, Labosport have not visited the site, taken measurements or carried out a visual inspection. All measurement information has been provided by the client and any errors in measurements are not the responsibility of Labosport and this assessment is undertaken on the basis of accurate data.

2. SITE SPECIFICS

The below diagram illustrates the layout of the cricket square in relation to the proposed residential development. An 8 m high ball stop net is currently proposed to the East boundary and is highlighted in red.



East Orientation

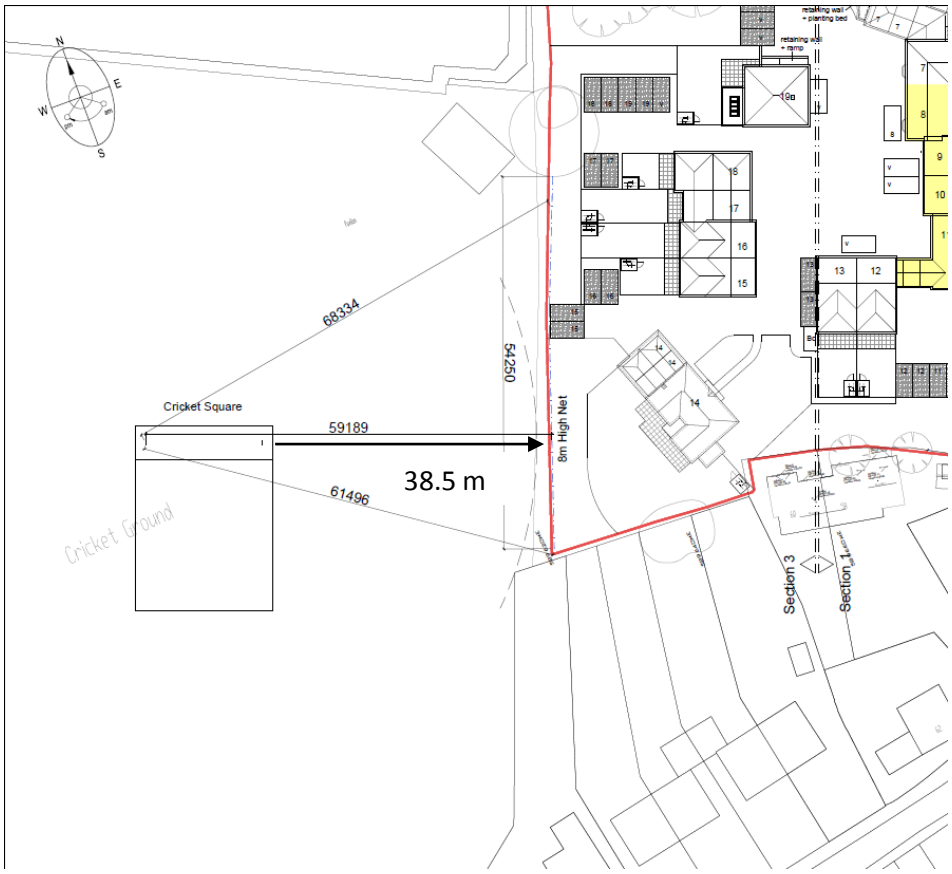
A proposed housing development is located to the East of the cricket pitch. An 8 m high ball protection fence situated between the cricket field boundary and the development is proposed to mitigate against the risk of balls from the cricket pitch being hit into the new development.

Assessment to be undertaken to calculate the suitability of the proposed ball stop fencing.

Other Orientations

Not required – no further comment or risk calculations undertaken for other orientations.

3. SITE MEASUREMENTS



The above diagram illustrates the minimum measured distances from the edge of the cricket square to the proposed 8 m high netting. Note as this is a risk assessment the worst case scenarios are considered; consequently the shortest measured (and calculated) distance is used for the study.

Measured Distance	Shortest Boundary (m)
Edge of the cricket square to the proposed 8 m high netting	Circa 38.5 m

4. ESTIMATED BALL HEIGHT (USING THE PROJECTION MODELLING TOOL)

Previous work undertaken for the England and Wales Cricket Board ECB led to the development of a model used to estimate the distance a ball would travel and its trajectory given a specific velocity and angle.

Model limitations:

The size of a cricket ball and its estimated drag coefficient has been added to the model, this in combination with classical Newtonian Physics for the influence of air resistance and gravity have been used to predict the projectile path. However, for simplicity, there are some limitations to the model including but not limited to bat/ball restitution, atmospheric conditions, wind (speed and direction) and spin of the ball. ***Due to these limitations the model is regarded as an indicative prediction tool***.

The below table includes the total estimated distance a ball will travel for typical shots (angles and velocities) taken from assessment of in-game action ranging from 20 degrees to 50 degrees and 20 m/s (45 mph) to 50 m/s (112 mph).

Total Estimated Distance (m)		Angle (degrees)						
		20	25	30	35	40	45	50
Velocity (m/s)	20	20.70	23.24	25.82	27.22	28.04	27.84	27.10
	25	28.82	32.8	35.29	37.01	37.95	37.66	36.25
	30	37.32	41.99	44.91	46.31	47.34	46.51	45.27
	35	45.95	50.48	53.80	55.40	55.96	55.04	53.15
	40	53.71	58.79	61.82	63.62	63.73	62.73	60.24
	45	60.50	66.15	69.52	70.93	70.62	69.17	66.53
	50	67.88	73.23	76.29	77.88	77.15	75.62	72.09

Note: the trajectory for the above distances will be very different depending on the angle and velocity of shot as can be seen in the assessment below.

The following distances have been used to calculate the height of the ball for different shot conditions as specified below.

Measured Distance	Shortest Boundary (m)
Edge of the cricket square to the proposed 8 m high netting	Circa 38.5 m
**distance from furthest stump to proposed 8 m high netting	Circa 59.2 m
**distance from furthest stump to the nearest new dwelling	Circa 70. 2 m

**distance from closest middle stump of the western wicket also considered as the type of shot required to hit the ball directly behind a player is uncommon and the occasional "top edge" shot resulting in this trajectory will be most likely not travel the full distance. This distance was agreed between Akehurst Epps Ltd and Lenham Cricket Club following discussions as to likely shot scenarios currently experienced by the club. The Club confirmed that the type of shot required to hit the ball directly behind a player is uncommon and rarely experienced.

The hit angles and velocities are estimated from in-game action to cover a range of 'typical' shots ranging from 20 degrees to 50 degrees and 20 m/s (45 mph) to 50 m/s (112 mph).

Estimated Ball Height @ 38.5 m		Angle (degrees)						
		20	25	30	35	40	45	50
Velocity (m/s)	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	30	0	2.3	4.9	7.1	9.0	10.7	10.7
	35	3.4	6.2	9.2	12.2	15.0	17.3	19.1
	40	5.8	9.0	12.2	15.5	18.8	22.1	25.0
	45	7.5	10.8	14.2	17.8	21.4	25.3	29.1
	50	8.7	12.1	15.7	19.5	23.6	27.7	32.2

Estimated Ball Height @ 59.2 m		Angle (degrees)						
		20	25	30	35	40	45	50
Velocity (m/s)	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	40	0	0	2.8	5.6	6.9	6.5	1.8
	45	1.0	5.2	9.0	12.4	15.2	16.7	15.4
	50	5.0	9.4	13.6	17.6	21.1	23.9	24.7

Estimated Ball Height @ 70.2 m		Angle (degrees)						
		20	25	30	35	40	45	50
Velocity (m/s)	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	45	0	0	0	1.0	1.6	0	0
	50	0	2.7	6.5	9.6	11.8	10.6	5.6

See Appendix A for example trajectories

5. RISK ASSESSMENT DISCUSSION

This report has been prepared to assess the potential risk of cricket balls being hit into the adjacent residential development and the height and/or design that a mitigating system would need to be in order to provide a suitable level of protection.

The exact frequency of shots resulting in a cricket ball being hit into the adjacent area is unknown and impossible to predict with certainty (player skills, type of game and many other factors can influence this) hence a proportionate approach needs to be taken to provide safety to these users. In reality there will always be a "freak" shot that will result in a further than expected trajectory, however, the implications of planning for this type of worst case approach would result in the closure of hundreds of cricket ground across the country hence a balanced risk mitigation strategy needs to be implemented that is proportionate. Indeed there are risks associated with many everyday activities, but plans need to be developed to reduce risk following good practical health and safety principles including a combination of likelihood and severity.

Labosport Ltd have undertaken this type of assessment for other cricket grounds over the past 2 years when there have been perceived problems with cricket ball exceeding the boundary or the influence a new development may have on an existing club. Labosport have undertaken assessments where the minimum boundary has been in the region of 35 to 40 m yet the cricket club and neighbours have been able to collectively identify a mitigation strategy to reduce risk. This indicates that based on past experience the below recommendations are feasible.

The basis of the shot velocity (50 m/s) is calculated on professional (1st class and international) players. Typically for community cricket clubs we undertake the assumption that 40 m/s is a suitable speed given the speed of bowling and batsman's skill when contrasted with elite players. It is on this basis that the below recommendations have been made.

Risks Overview/Mitigation Approach

East Orientation

The shortest distance from the edge of the cricket square to the proposed 8 m high netting is circa 38.5 m. At 38.5 m all but the fastest shots for community level cricket will be stopped by an 18 m high fencing system. An 18 m high fence will not stop all shots from landing in the area but it is believed from the assessment of ball trajectory it will significantly reduce their frequency.

The distance from the closest middle stump of the western wicket has also been used to calculate the height of the ball for different shot conditions as it is assumed that the type of shot required to hit the ball directly behind a player is uncommon and the occasional "top edge" shot resulting in this trajectory will be most likely not travel the full distance. This distance was agreed between Akehurst Epps Ltd and Lenham Cricket Club following discussions as to likely shot scenarios currently experienced by the club. The Club confirmed that the type of shot required to hit the ball directly behind a player is uncommon and rarely experienced. The height calculations of the ball trajectory suggest that at a distance of 59.2 m the proposed 8 m high ball stop fencing will provide a **good level of protection** for a community cricket club. Only those shots calculated on professional 1st class international players may be capable of surpassing a distance of 59.2 m at a height greater than 8 m or the exceptional longer shot by a lower standard player.

The height calculations of the ball trajectory calculated at a distance of circa 70.2 m to the nearest new dwelling suggest that a ball hit would not reach the proposed boundary location in any scenario for community level cricket. Only those shots calculated on professional 1st class international players may be capable of surpassing a distance of 70.2 m, which is considered unlikely.

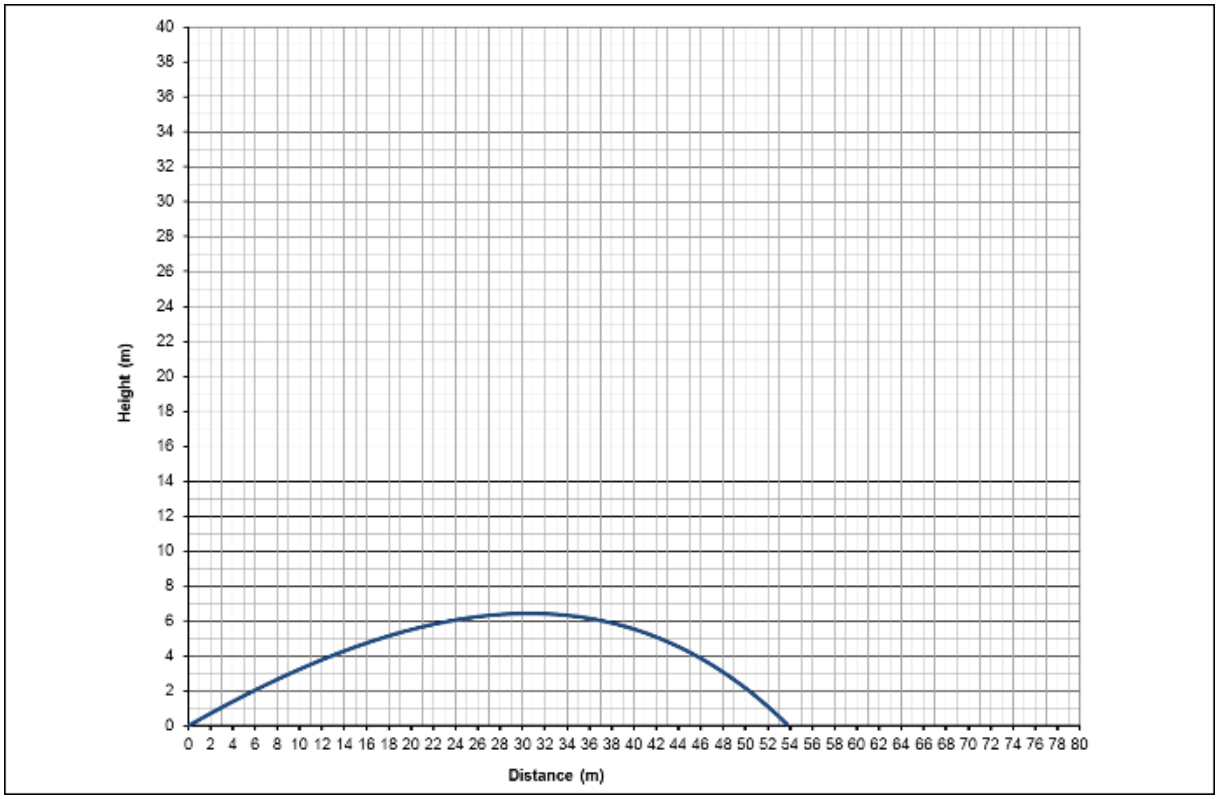
The height calculations of the ball trajectory combined with the experiential information regarding shot scenario and direction of play indicate that the proposed ball stop netting at 8 m high should provide suitable protection with only the rare / exceptional shot going over the fencing system.

Further notes:

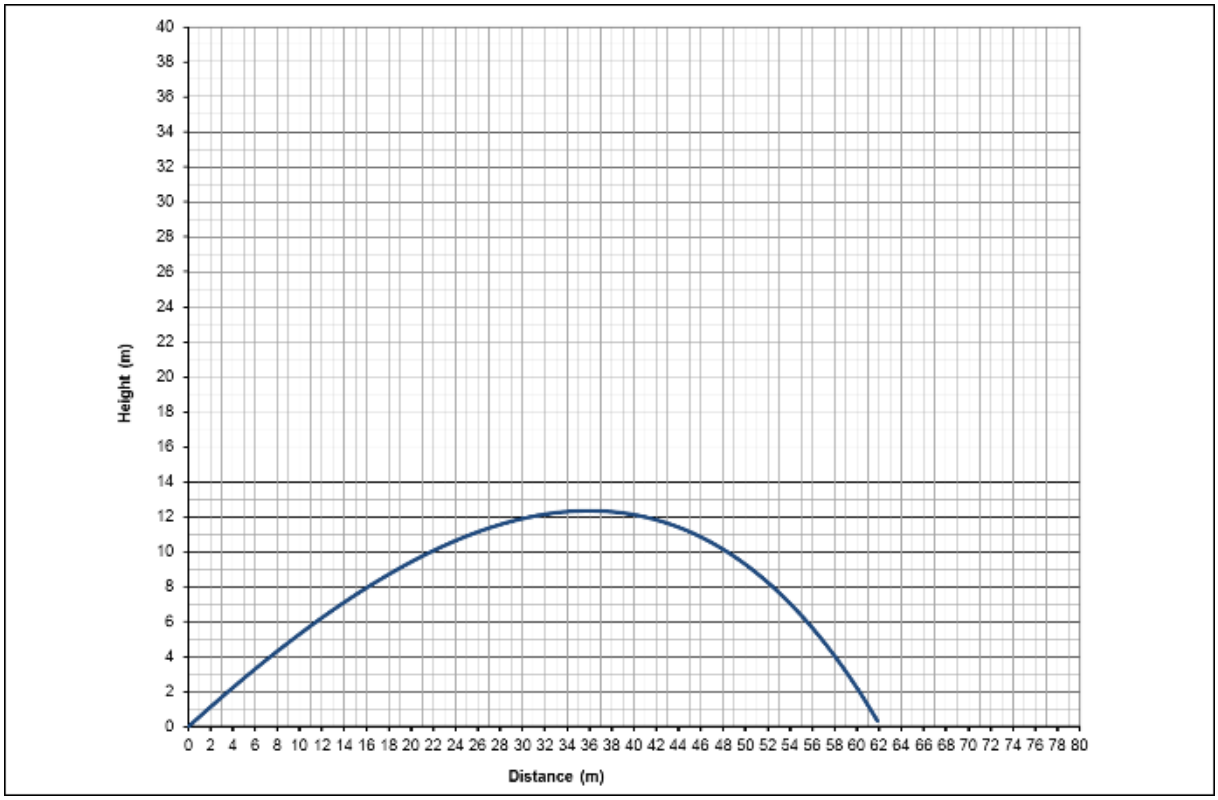
It is recommended the client discuss the plan with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) or other relevant organisations such as Sport England whatever systems are proposed to improve mitigating the risk but also practicable for the cricket club's day to day use.

APPENDIX B – EXAMPLE TRAJECTORIES

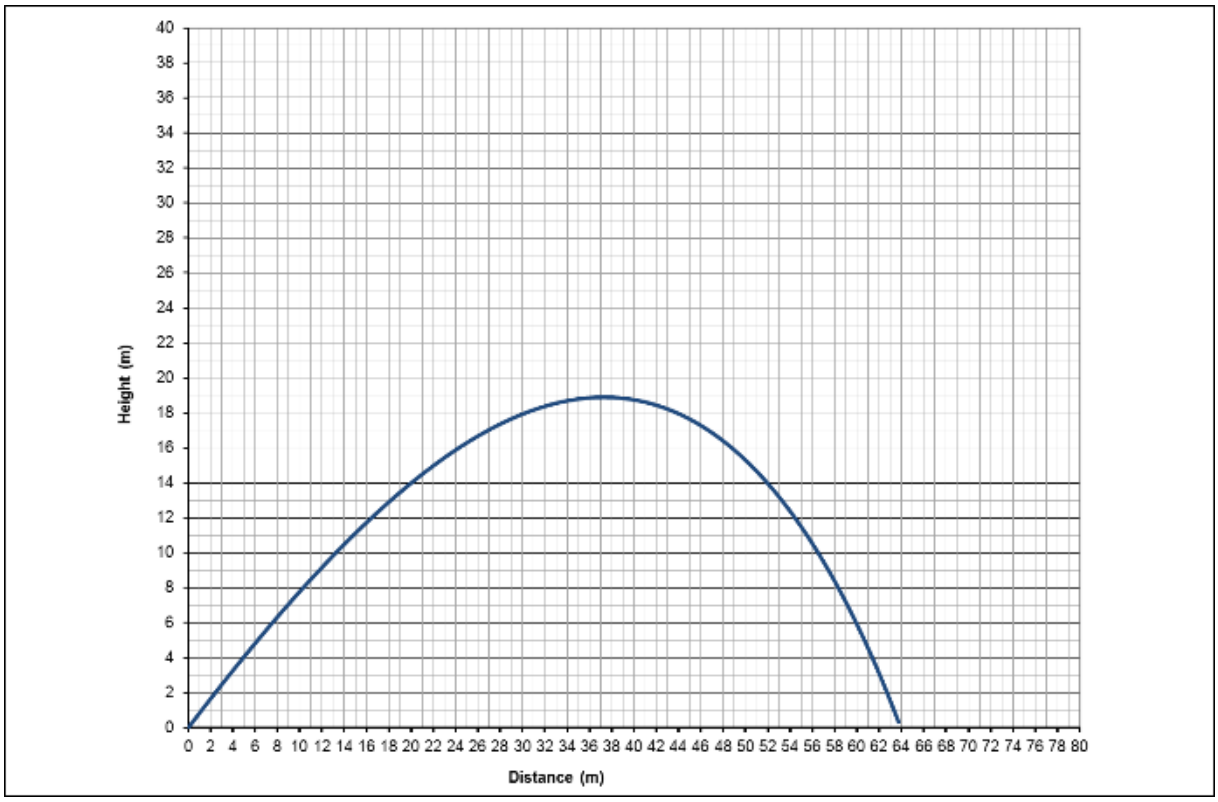
20 ° @ 40 m/s



30 ° @ 40 m/s



40 ° @ 40 m/s


Height (m)
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34 36 38 40
Distance (m)
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34 36 38 40 42 44 46 48 50 52 54 56 58 60 62 64 66 68 70 72 74 76 78 80