

Suppose a compressed air cannon fires a pumpkin straight up into the air from a height of 18 feet and provides an initial upward velocity of 105 feet per second. What function rule would combine these conditions and the effect of gravity to give a relation between the pumpkin's height h in feet and its flight time t in seconds?

$$h(t) = h_0 + v_0 t - 16t^2$$

$$h(t) = 18 + 105t - 16t^2$$
$$-16t^2 + 105t + 18$$

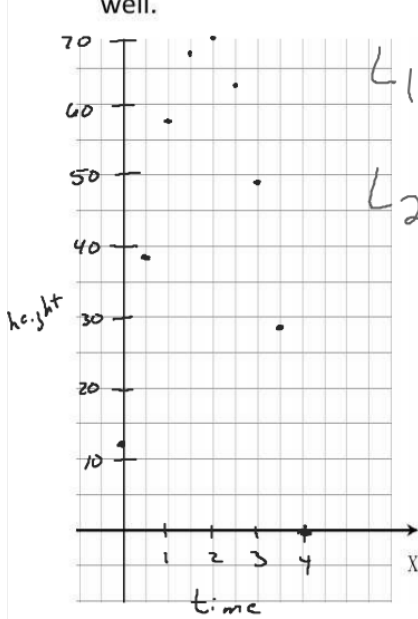
$$h(2) = 18 + 105(2) - 16(2)^2$$

$$18 + 210 - 64$$

$$164 \text{ ft}$$

Suppose that you were able to use a ranging tool that records the height of a flying pumpkin every half second from the time it left a cannon. A sample of the data for one pumpkin launch appears in the following table. Plot the data on a graph and experiment with several values of v_0 and h_0 in search of a function that models the data pattern well.

$$h(t) = 12 + 61t - 16t^2$$



Time (in seconds)	0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0
Height (in feet)	12	38	57	67	69	63	49	28	0

$$h(t) = h_0 + v_0 t - 16t^2$$

$$h_0 = 12$$

$$v_0 = ?$$

$$h(t) = 12 + v_0 t - 16t^2$$

$$0 = 12 + v_0(4) - 16(4)^2$$

$$0 = 12 + 4v_0 - 256$$

$$0 = -244 + 4v_0$$

$$+244 \quad +244$$

$$\frac{244}{4} = \frac{4v_0}{4}$$

$$61 = v_0$$

Use a calculator that offers quadratic curve-fitting to find a quadratic model for the sample data pattern. Compare that automatic curve-fit to what you found with your own experimentation.

$$\text{Hand} = h(t) = -16t^2 + 61t + 12$$

$$\text{Calc} \rightarrow h(t) = -15.75t^2 + 59.76t + 12.32$$

