

57. Taking $+y$ to be upward and placing the origin at the point from which the objects are dropped, then the location of diamond 1 is given by $y_1 = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2$ and the location of diamond 2 is given by $y_2 = -\frac{1}{2}g(t-1)^2$. We are starting the clock when the first object is dropped. We want the time for which $y_2 - y_1 = 10$ m. Therefore,

$$-\frac{1}{2}g(t-1)^2 + \frac{1}{2}gt^2 = 10 \implies t = (10/g) + 0.5 = 1.5 \text{ s} .$$