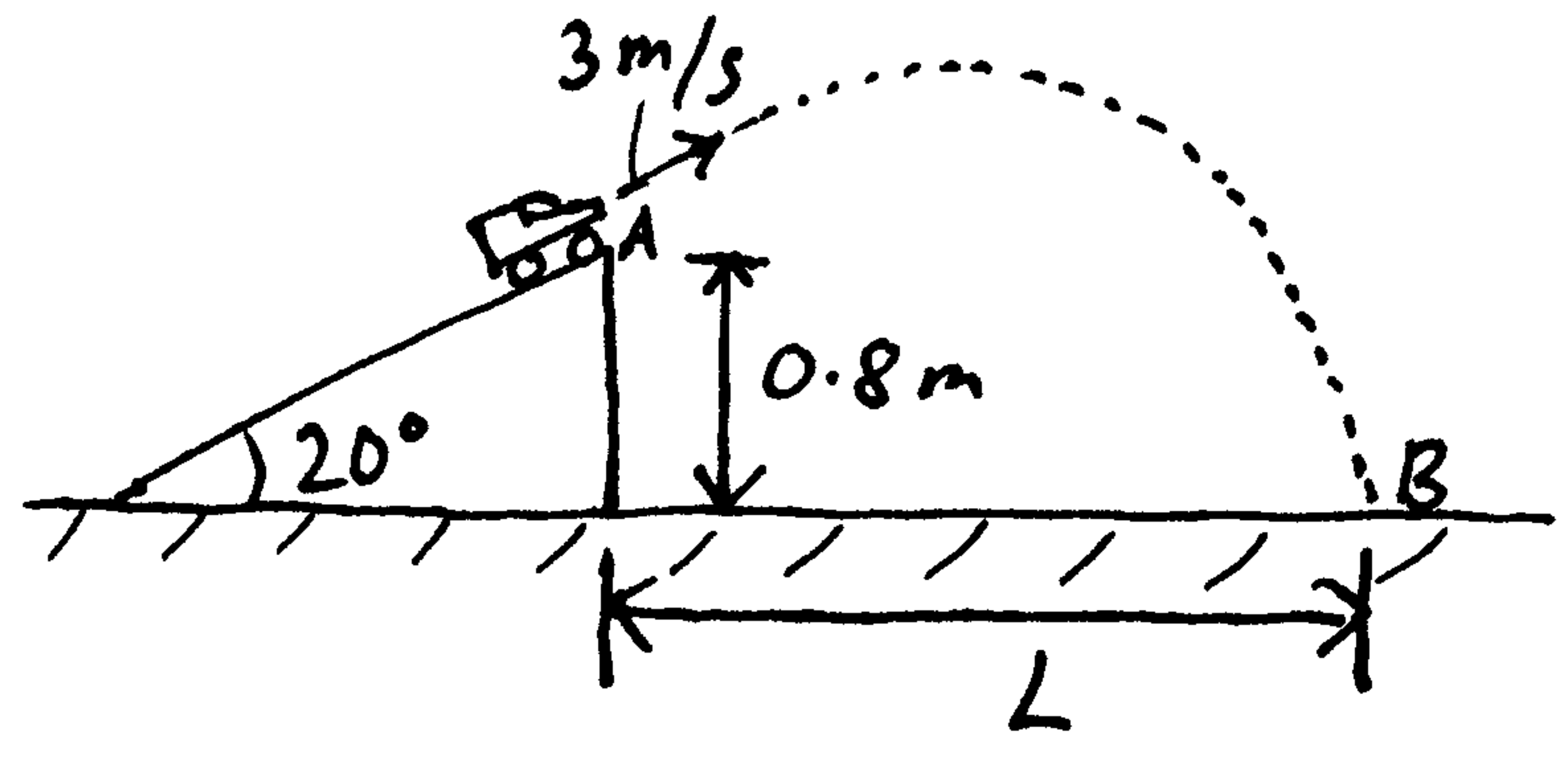


This is a problem involving projectile motion.

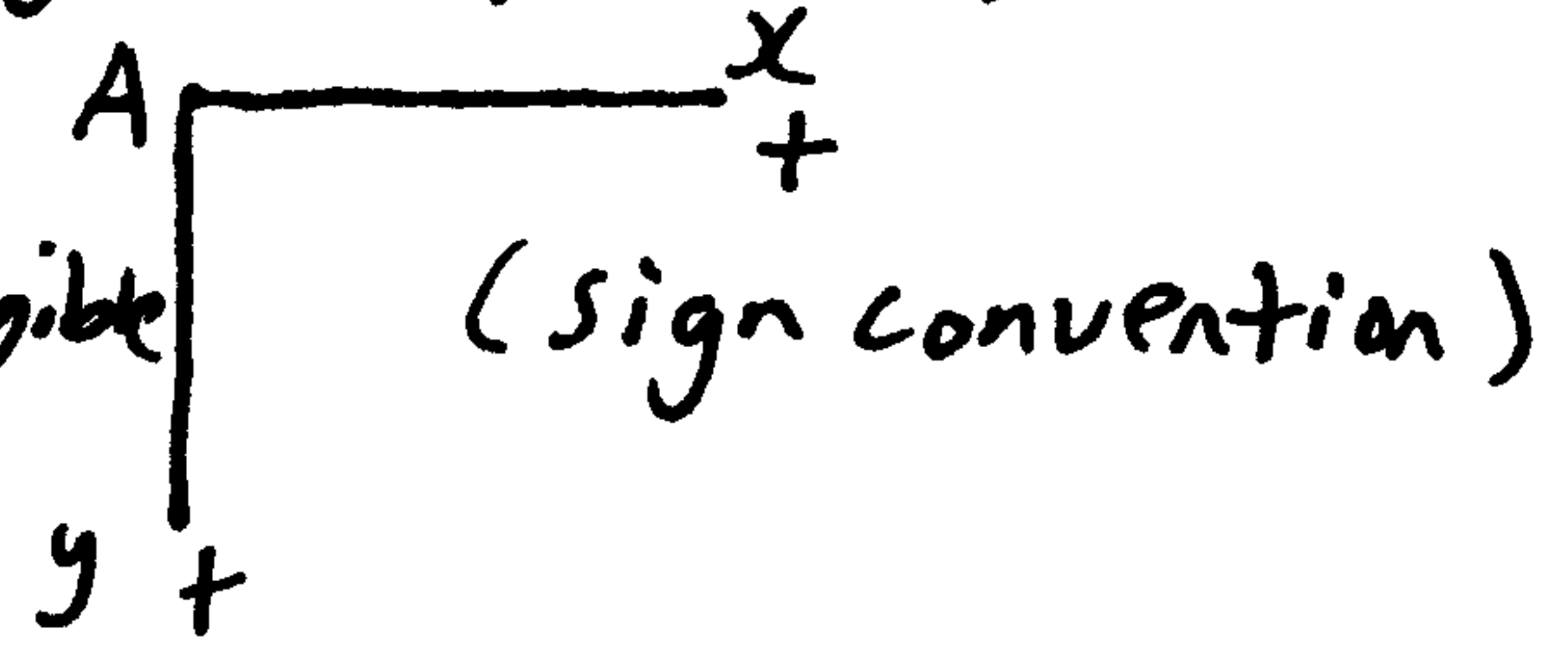


A remote controlled toy car is driven off the edge of a ramp, at point A, at a speed of 3 m/s. It lands at point B. If the edge of the ramp is at a height of 0.8 m, and it is inclined at 20° with the horizontal, what is the horizontal distance, L, between point A and point B?

Solution: Set up an xy coordinate frame with origin at point A, as shown.

Assumptions:

- Ignore air resistance → negligible
- Treat car as a particle



The equation for horizontal motion is:

$$d_x = (v_0 \cos 20^\circ) t \quad (1)$$

$d_x = ?$ (horizontal displacement when car lands at point B)

$v_0 = 3 \text{ m/s}$ (magnitude of initial car velocity)

$t = ?$ (time it takes the car to fall to the ground)

The equation for vertical motion is:

$$d_y = (-v_0 \sin 20^\circ)t + \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \quad (2)$$

$$d_y = 0.8 \text{ m} \quad (\text{vertical displacement when car lands at point B})$$

$$g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\text{From equation (1), } t = \frac{d_x}{v_0 \cos 20^\circ} = \frac{d_x}{3 \cos 20^\circ}$$

Substitute this into equation (2):

$$d_y = 0.8 = -d_x \tan 20^\circ + \frac{1}{2}(9.8) \left(\frac{d_x}{3 \cos 20^\circ} \right)^2$$

$$\text{Simplify: } 0.6165 d_x^2 - 0.364 d_x - 0.8 = 0$$

This is a quadratic equation.
Solve for d_x .

$$d_x = \underbrace{-0.88 \text{ m}}_{\text{not valid}} \text{ or } d_x = 1.47 \text{ m}$$

Therefore, the horizontal distance, $L = 1.47 \text{ m}$.
(answer)