

We are given that the object  $m_1$  collides with the rod with velocity  $v_0$ , and the rod is floating in free space. Given  $m_1$ ,  $v_0$ ,  $m_2$ ,  $I_0$ , and  $r$ , we are to figure out the final velocity of  $m_1$  after collision  $v_f$ , the velocity of  $m_2$  after collision  $v_{CM}$ , and of course the rotation of the rod after collision  $\omega$ .

We are assuming that this collision is elastic.

We have, then, for conservation of linear momentum:

$$m_1 v_0 = m_1 v_f + m_2 v_{CM} \quad (1)$$

Furthermore, we understand that kinetic energy is also conserved here; therefore:

$$\frac{1}{2} m_1 v_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_0^2 = \left( \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_f^2 \right) + \left( \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_{CM}^2 \right) + \left( \frac{1}{2} I_0 \omega^2 \right) \quad (2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2m_1 v_0^2 = (2m_1 v_f^2) + (m_2 v_{CM}^2) + (I_0 \omega^2) \quad (3)$$

as the point mass does not have any rotational inertia, and the rod is not rotating at the start.

Lastly, we understand that the angular momentum is conserved through a collision; letting the origin as the center of mass of the rod:

$$m_1 r^2 \left( \frac{v_0}{r} \right) = m_1 r^2 \left( \frac{v_f}{r} \right) + I_0 \omega \quad (4)$$

$$\Rightarrow m_1 r v_0 = m_1 r v_f + I_0 \omega \quad (5)$$

We now have a system of three equations that can be combined to solve for three unknowns  $v_f$ ,  $v_{CM}$ , and  $\omega$ .

Performing the actual solution digitally:

$$v_{cm} = \frac{4I_0 m_1 v_0}{m_1 m_2 r^2 + I_0 m_1 + 2I_0 m_2} \quad (6)$$

$$v_f = \frac{(m_1 m_2 r^2 + I_0 m_1 - 2I_0 m_2) v_0}{m_1 m_2 r^2 + I_0 m_1 + 2I_0 m_2} \quad (7)$$

and finally, we have

$$\omega = \frac{4m_1 m_2 r v_0}{m_1 m_2 r^2 + I_0 m_1 + 2I_0 m_2} \quad (8)$$