

CSD2301 Lecture

9. Momentum and Collisions

Part 1

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Outline

- Linear momentum, impulse and impulsive force
- Conservation of linear momentum
- Collision in 1D
- Elastic, inelastic and perfectly inelastic collisions
- Collision in 2D

Linear Momentum

- Linear momentum provides information about the **object** and its **motion**.
- The linear momentum of a particle of mass m moving with velocity \mathbf{v} is defined to be: $\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$ \Rightarrow $p_x = mv_x, \quad p_y = mv_y, \quad p_z = mv_z$
p = momentum
- Very useful in treating problems involving collisions and for analysing rocket propulsion
- Momentum is a **vector**, and its direction is along \mathbf{v}
- Dimension ML/T, Unit: kg.m/s

Newton's 2nd Law (again)

Rmb the definition? It states that: Time rate of change of the momentum of a body is equal in both **magnitude** and **direction** to the force imposed on it.

- In terms of linear momentum, Newton's 2nd law can be written as:

$$\vec{F} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}$$

- If m is constant:
$$\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(m\vec{v}) = m\frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = m\vec{a}$$

Impulse and Momentum

- Assume that a single force \vec{F} acts on a particle and that this force varies with time.

$$\vec{F} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \quad \Rightarrow \quad d\vec{p} = \vec{F} dt$$

$$\Delta\vec{p} = \vec{p}_f - \vec{p}_i = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \vec{F} dt$$

Impulse and Momentum

- The **impulse (\mathbf{J})** of a force $\mathbf{F}(t)$ acting on a particle from time t_i to t_f is:

$$\vec{J} = \vec{p}_f - \vec{p}_i = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \vec{F} dt$$

area below f-t curve

- Impulse of a force acting on a particle equals **the change in momentum of the particle caused by that force**
- Impulse is a vector; and has the same dimensions as momentum (ML/T)

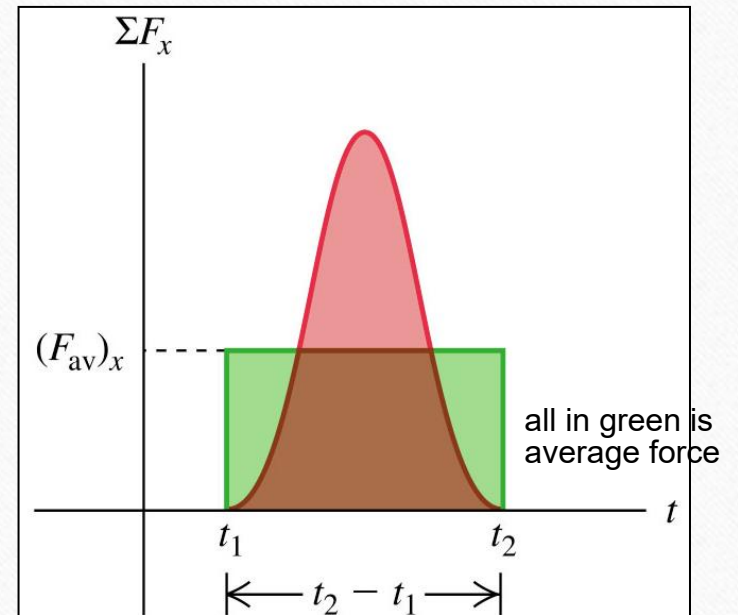
Impulsive Force

$$(\vec{F}_{av}) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (\sum \vec{F}) dt$$



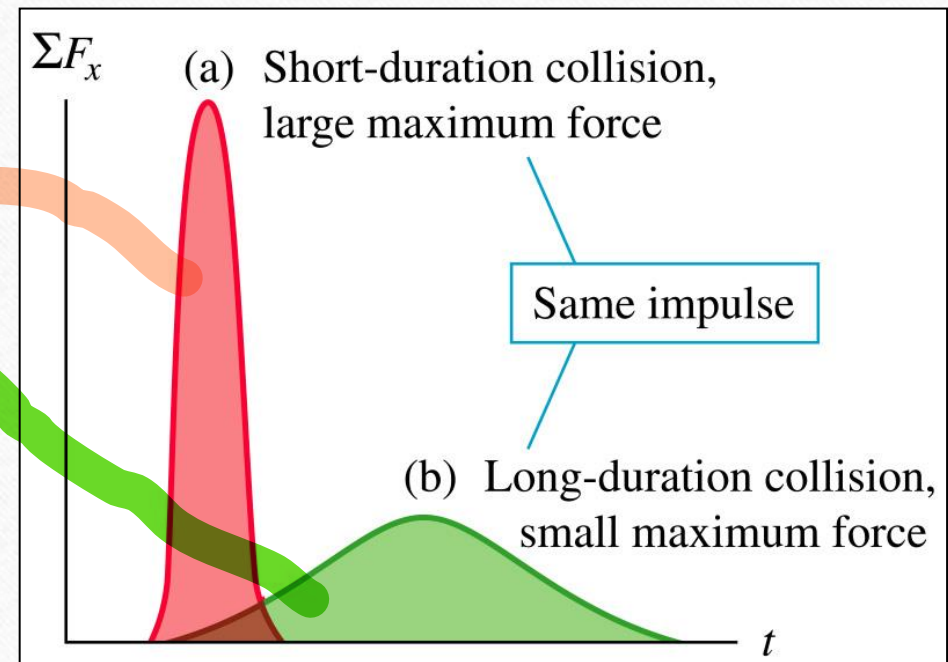
$$\vec{J} = \Delta \vec{p} = (\vec{F}_{av})(t_2 - t_1) = \vec{F}_{av} \Delta t$$

- **Impulse approximation** assumes that the impulsive force acts for a short time but is much larger than any other force present; very little motion takes place during this time. (Usually also neglect effects of external forces during this time.)



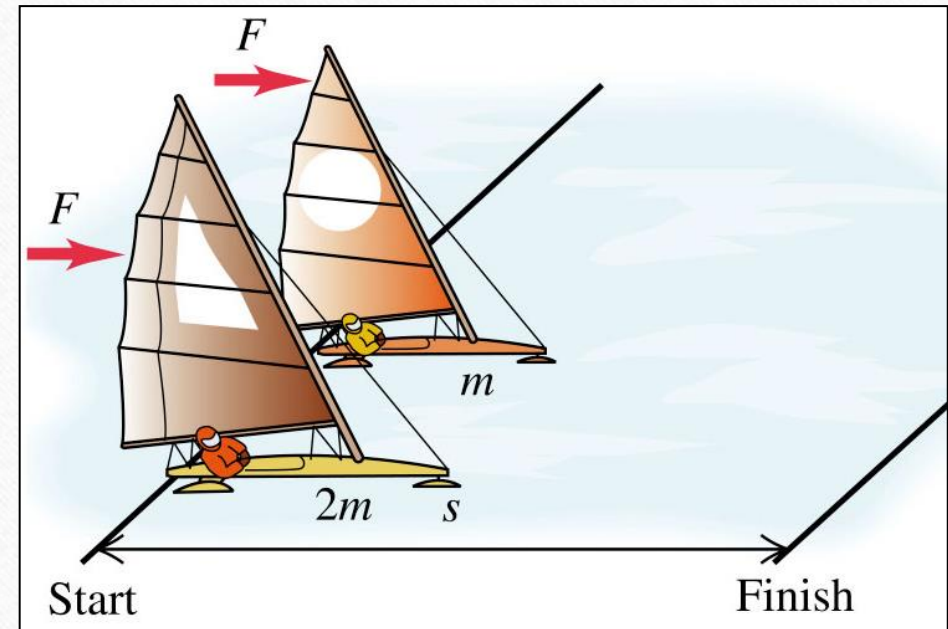
Impulse

- $p_f - p_i$ (impulse) is the same if the area under the $F-t$ curves are the same. The impulsive force is **bigger if it acts over a shorter time** (e.g., a golf ball hit by the golf club) and is **smaller if it acts over a longer time** (e.g., a tennis ball hit by a racket).



Momentum vs Kinetic Energy

- Consider two iceboats A and B of mass m and $2m$ respectively. Both are stationary at the Start line subjected to the same force F until they cross the Finish line.
- a) Which iceboat reaches the Finish line first?
- b) Which iceboat has the higher kinetic energy when it crosses the Finish line?
- c) Which iceboat has the greater momentum when it crosses the Finish line?



Momentum vs Kinetic Energy

kinetic and momentum energy are different

since b is x2 heavier

a)
$$a_A = \frac{F}{m} = 2 \frac{F}{2m} = 2a_B \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_A < t_B$$

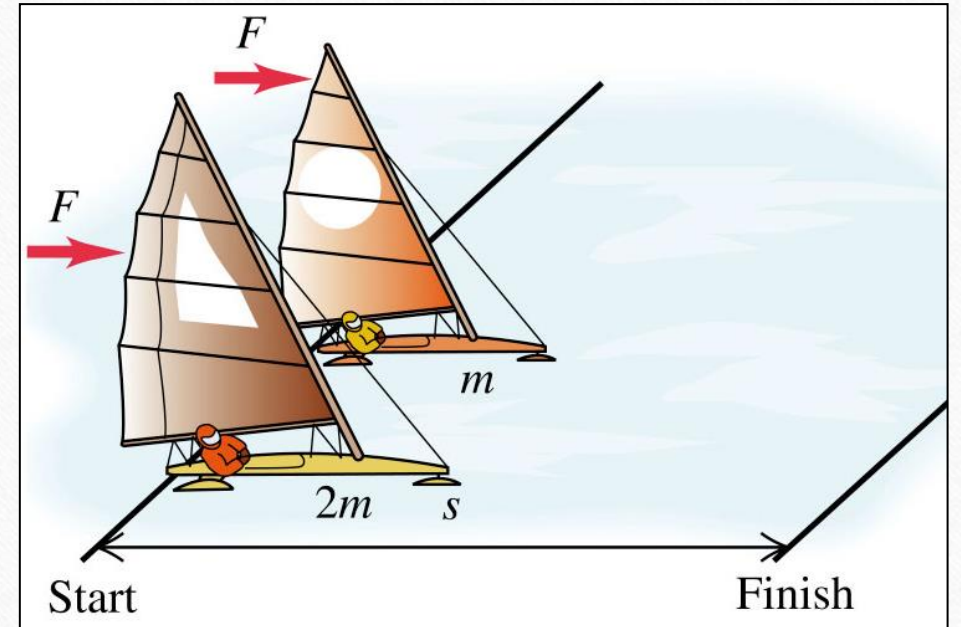
Fds = force x distance

b)
$$K_A - 0 = \int_0^s F ds' = K_B - 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad K_A = K_B$$

same k
different v

c)
$$p_A = \int_0^{t_A} F dt = Ft_A < p_B = \int_0^{t_B} F dt = Ft_B$$

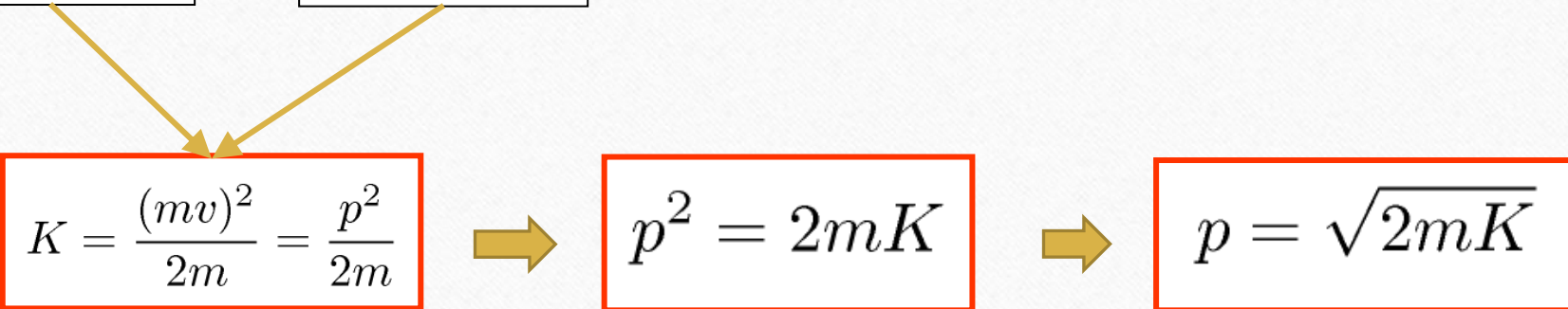
Since $t_A < t_B$



Momentum vs Kinetic Energy

- From the definition of kinetic energy and linear momentum, we can also write down the direct relationship between them:

kinetic momentum

$$\boxed{K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2} \quad \& \quad \boxed{p = mv}$$

$$\boxed{K = \frac{(mv)^2}{2m} = \frac{p^2}{2m}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{p^2 = 2mK} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{p = \sqrt{2mK}}$$

Conservation of Linear Momentum

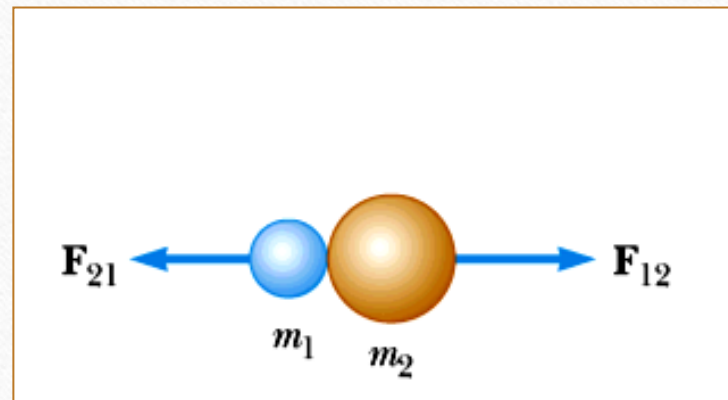
- If there are no external forces acting on an isolated system of particles:
start and the end, always same momentum

$$\boxed{\sum \vec{F} = 0} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sum \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = 0} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sum \vec{p} = \text{const.}} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sum \vec{p}_i = \sum \vec{p}_f}$$

- The total momentum of an isolated system at all times **equals its initial momentum**.
- The total momentum of an isolated system **remains constant** if there are no external forces present.
- A **convenient way to calculate some parameters**, such as final velocities, in collisions without the need to know the exact forms of the forces involved.

Collisions

- Two particles come together for a short time and thereby producing impulsive forces on each other.



Collisions

- From Newton's 3rd law:

$$\Delta \vec{p}_1 = -\Delta \vec{p}_2$$

$$\Delta \vec{p}_1 + \Delta \vec{p}_2 = 0$$

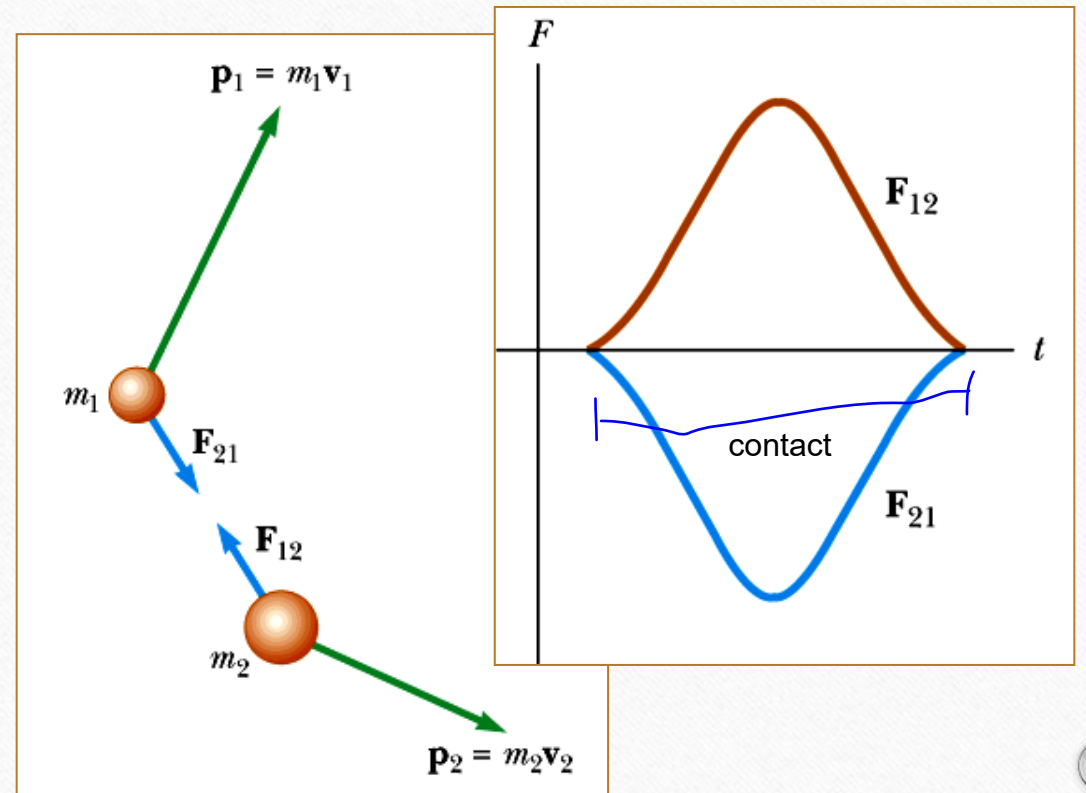
$$\vec{p}_{\text{tot}} = \vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 = \text{const.}$$

For m_1 :

$$\Delta \vec{p}_1 = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \vec{F}_{21} dt$$

For m_2 :

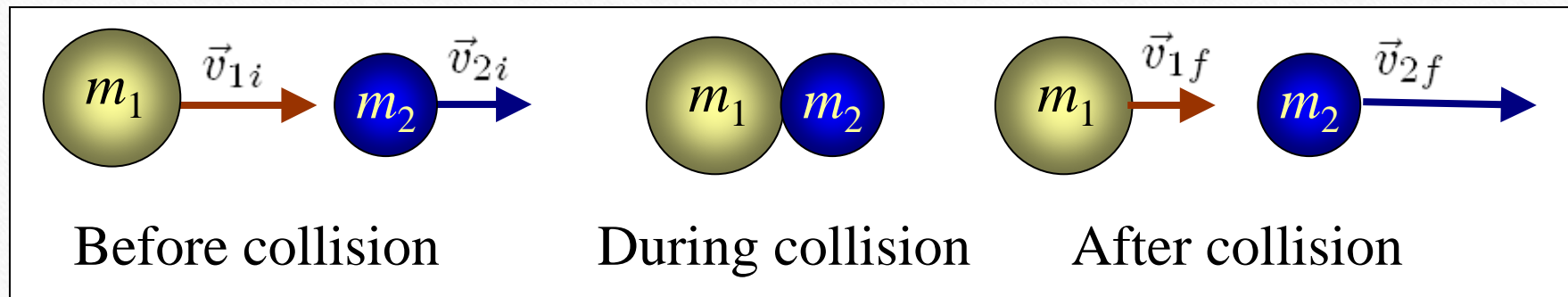
$$\Delta \vec{p}_2 = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \vec{F}_{12} dt$$



Elastic & Inelastic Collisions

- Momentum is always conserved.
- If the total kinetic energy is also **the same** before and after the collision, the collision is **elastic**.
- If the total kinetic energy is **not the same** before and after the collision, the collision is **inelastic**.

Elastic Collision in 1D

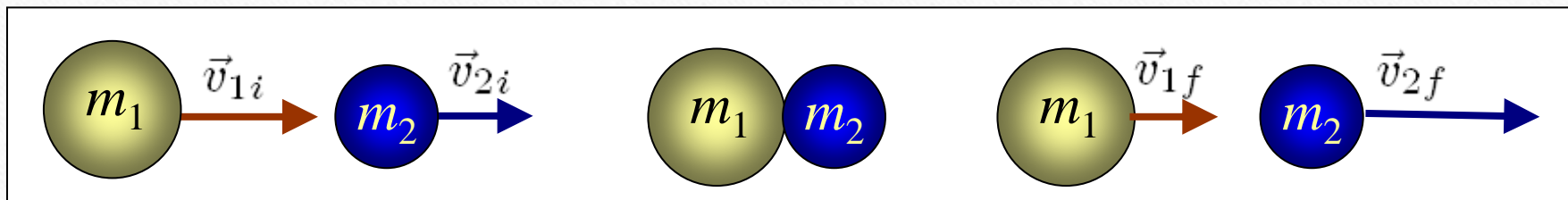


Momentum conservation:

$$m_1 v_{1i} + m_2 v_{2i} = m_1 v_{1f} + m_2 v_{2f}$$

Energy conservation:

$$\frac{1}{2} m_1 v_{1i}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_{2i}^2 = \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_{1f}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_{2f}^2$$



$$\frac{1}{2}m_1v_{1i}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2v_{2i}^2 = \frac{1}{2}m_1v_{1f}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2v_{2f}^2 \quad \text{KE Constant}$$

$$m_1(v_{1i}^2 - v_{1f}^2) = m_2(v_{2f}^2 - v_{2i}^2)$$

$$m_1(v_{1i} - v_{1f})(v_{1i} + v_{1f}) = m_2(v_{2f} - v_{2i})(v_{2f} + v_{2i}) \quad (1)$$

$$m_1v_{1i} + m_2v_{2i} = m_1v_{1f} + m_2v_{2f} \quad \text{Conservation of momentum}$$

$$m_1(v_{1i} - v_{1f}) = m_2(v_{2f} - v_{2i}) \quad (2)$$

Taking (1) / (2):

$$v_{1i} + v_{1f} = v_{2f} + v_{2i}$$



$$v_{1i} - v_{2i} = v_{2f} - v_{1f}$$

Approach speed = Separation speed

To find final velocities in terms of initial velocities

$$m_1 v_{1i} + m_2 v_{2i} = m_1 v_{1f} + m_2 v_{2f}$$

$$v_{1i} - v_{2i} = v_{2f} - v_{1f}$$

$$v_{2f} = v_{1i} + v_{1f} - v_{2i}$$

$$m_1 v_{1i} + m_2 v_{2i} = m_1 v_{1f} + m_2 (v_{1i} + v_{1f} - v_{2i})$$

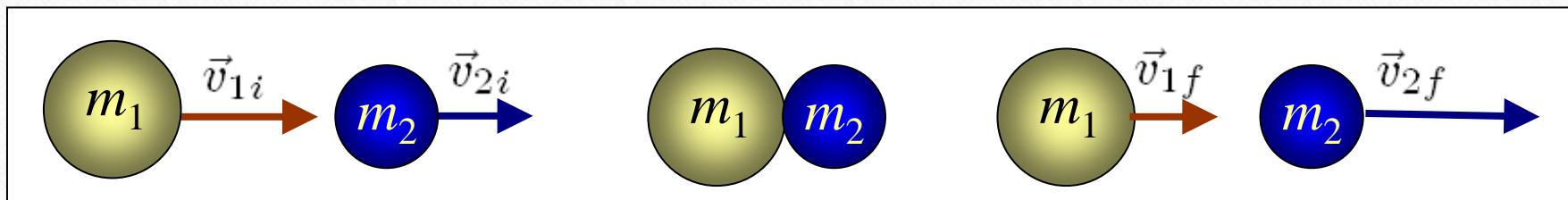
$$(m_1 - m_2)v_{1i} + (m_2 + m_2)v_{2i} = (m_1 + m_2)v_{1f}$$

$$v_{1f} = \left(\frac{m_1 - m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{1i} + \left(\frac{2m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{2i}$$

Similarly:

$$v_{2f} = \left(\frac{2m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{1i} + \left(\frac{m_2 - m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{2i}$$

got initial, can find final



$$v_{1f} = \left(\frac{m_1 - m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{1i} + \left(\frac{2m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{2i}$$

$$v_{2f} = \left(\frac{2m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{1i} + \left(\frac{m_2 - m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{2i}$$

Case I : If $m_1 = m_2$, then

$$v_{1f} = v_{2i}$$

&

$$v_{2f} = v_{1i}$$



collide and switch velocity

The particles exchange velocities

Case II : If m_2 is initially at rest ($v_{2i} = 0$), then

$$v_{1f} = \left(\frac{m_1 - m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{1i}$$

&

$$v_{2f} = \left(\frac{2m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{1i}$$

If $m_1 \gg m_2$



$$v_{1f} \approx v_{1i}$$

&

$$v_{2f} \approx 2v_{1i}$$

think tennis ball hit ping pong ball
after hit, ping pong will move faster

If $m_2 \gg m_1$



$$v_{1f} \approx -v_{1i}$$

&

$$v_{2f} \approx 0$$

Transfer of KE during Collision

- Often we want to know how much KE is transferred to a stationary target, ie, with $v_{2i} = 0$ as before,

$$v_{2f} = \left(\frac{2m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right) v_{1i} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{KE}_{2f} = \frac{1}{2} m_2 \left(\frac{2m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right)^2 v_{1i}^2 = \frac{4m_2 m_1}{(m_1 + m_2)^2} \text{KE}_{1i}$$

$$m_2 \gg m_1$$

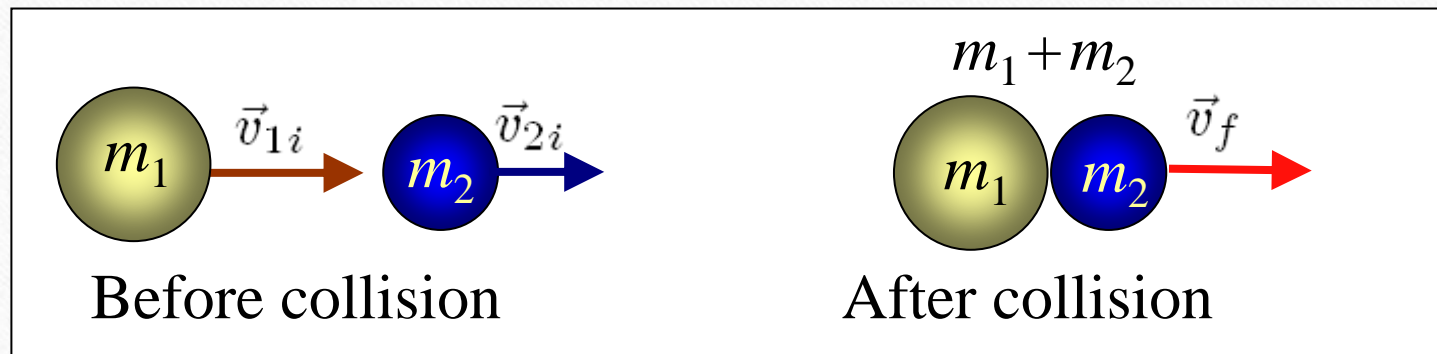
$$\text{KE}_{2f} \approx 4 \frac{m_1}{m_2} \text{KE}_{1i}$$

$$m_1 \gg m_2$$

$$\text{KE}_{2f} \approx 4 \frac{m_2}{m_1} \text{KE}_{1i}$$

Maximum transfer occurs when $m_1 = m_2$.

Perfectly (Totally) Inelastic Collisions



- Two particles m_1 and m_2 collide head on and stick together moving with some common velocity v_f after the collision.
- Momentum conservation: $m_1\vec{v}_{1i} + m_2\vec{v}_{2i} = (m_1 + m_2)\vec{v}_f$

$$\vec{v}_f = \frac{m_1\vec{v}_{1i} + m_2\vec{v}_{2i}}{m_1 + m_2}$$

Coefficient of Restitution

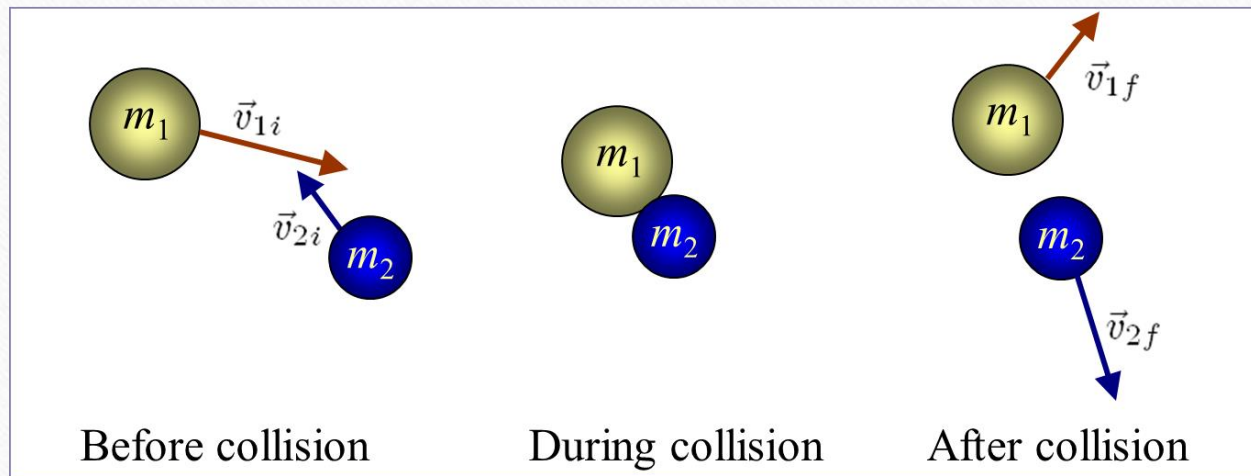
- Defined as:

$$e = \frac{\text{Relative speed of separation}}{\text{Relative speed of approach}}$$
$$= \frac{v_{2f} - v_{1f}}{v_{1i} - v_{2i}}$$

e	Type
0	Perfectly inelastic
<1	Inelastic
1	Elastic
>1	? Explosion

can be more than 1 if there is an energy gain during the collision

2D Collisions

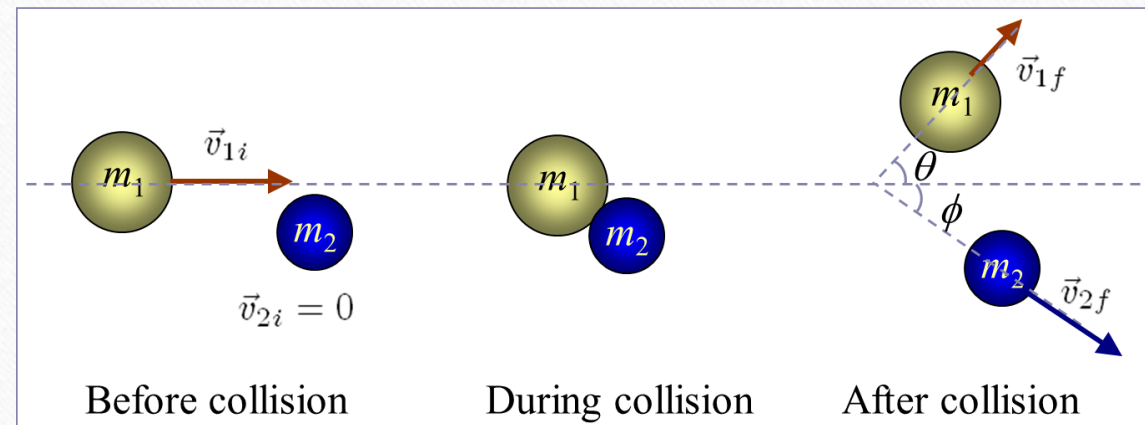


$$m_1 v_{1ix} + m_2 v_{2ix} = m_1 v_{1fx} + m_2 v_{2fx}$$

$$m_1 v_{1iy} + m_2 v_{2iy} = m_1 v_{1fy} + m_2 v_{2fy}$$

Momentum in each direction is conserved!

Elastic Glancing Collision



Conservation of momentum:

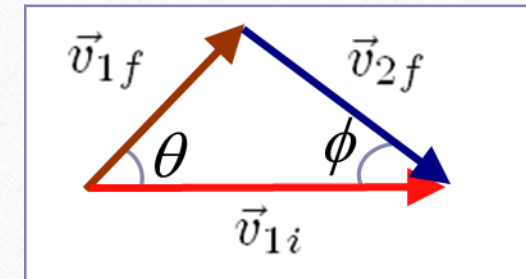
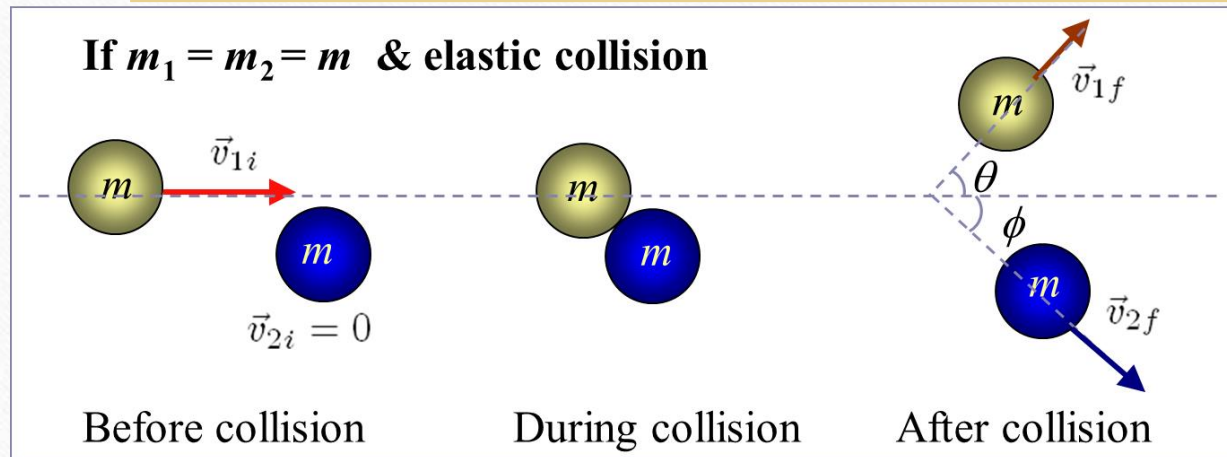
$$m_1 v_{1i} = m_1 v_{1f} \cos \theta + m_2 v_{2f} \cos \phi \quad x$$

$$0 = m_1 v_{1f} \sin \theta - m_2 v_{2f} \sin \phi \quad y$$

If elastic collision:

$$\frac{1}{2} m_1 v_{1i}^2 = \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_{1f}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_{2f}^2$$

Elastic Glancing Collision



Conservation of momentum:

$$\vec{v}_{1i} = \vec{v}_{1f} + \vec{v}_{2f}$$

If elastic collision:

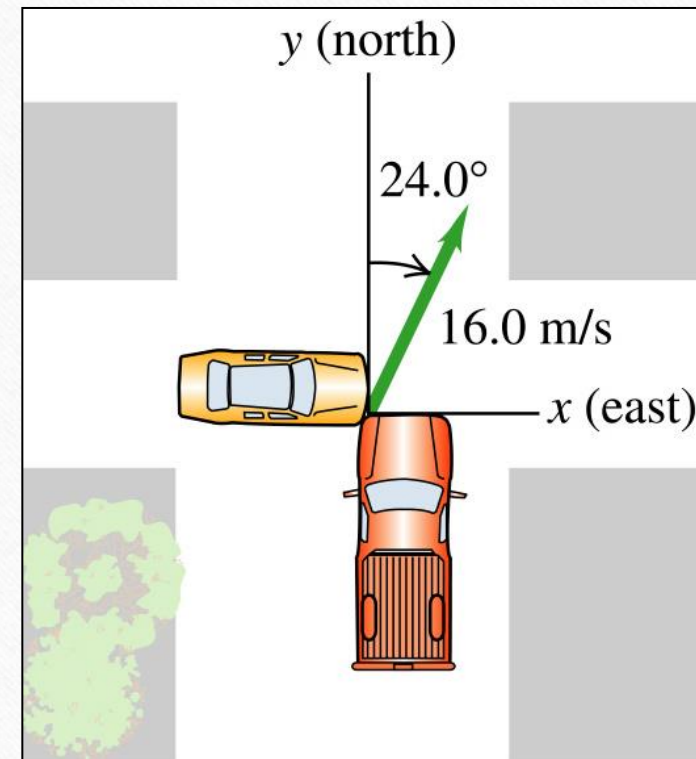
$$v_{1i}^2 = v_{1f}^2 + v_{2f}^2$$



$$\theta + \phi = 90^\circ$$

Example: Car Accident

- A 950 kg car traveling east collides at an intersection with a 1900 kg pickup traveling north. The two vehicles stick together as a result of the collision, and, immediately after the collision, the wreckage is sliding at 16.0 m/s in the direction 24.0° east of north. Calculate the speed of each vehicle before the collision.



Example: Car Accident

Using conservation of linear momentum:

In the x -direction,

$$m_c v_{ci} = (m_c + m_p) v_f \sin \theta$$

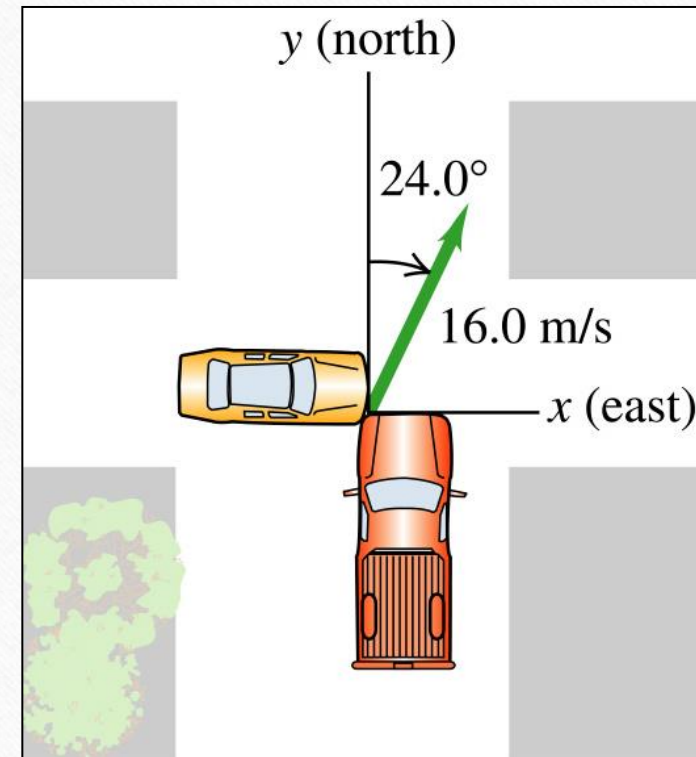
$$(950) v_{ci} = (950 + 1900)(16) \sin 24^\circ$$

$$v_{ci} = 19.5 \text{ m/s}$$

In the y -direction,

$$m_p v_{pi} = (m_c + m_p) v_f \cos \theta$$

$$v_{pi} = \frac{(950 + 1900)(16) \cos 24^\circ}{1900} = 21.9 \text{ m/s}$$



The End