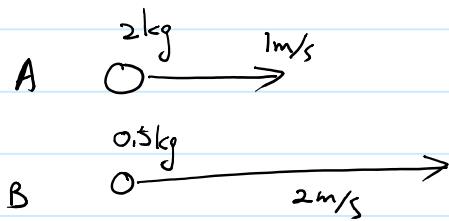


## Lecture 6    Impulse and Momentum



applying same force to stop the objects

- ① Which one travel further in distance before stopping? same
  - ② Which one travel longer in time before stopping? A
- 

To answer the first question ①, it is convenient to consider.

$$\text{W} = \Delta K$$

$$-F \cdot d = k_f - k_i = -k_i$$

in both case  $k_i$  are the same.

To answer ②, we want to relate force and time, and define a quantity similar to the relation between force and space in work-energy theorem.

Define: momentum  $\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$

such that:  $\Delta \vec{p} = m \Delta \vec{v}$

$$\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \leftarrow \frac{\Delta \vec{p}}{\Delta t} = m \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t} \rightarrow m \vec{a} = \vec{F}_{\text{net}}$$

$$\Rightarrow d\vec{p} = \vec{F}_{\text{net}} \cdot dt$$

in general.

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{p}_f - \vec{p}_i = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \vec{F}_{\text{net}} \cdot dt}$$

Define: Impulse:  $\vec{J} = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \vec{F} dt$  or  $\vec{F} \cdot \Delta t$  for constant  $\vec{F}$

we have

$$\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{J}$$

Impulse-momentum theorem

c.f.

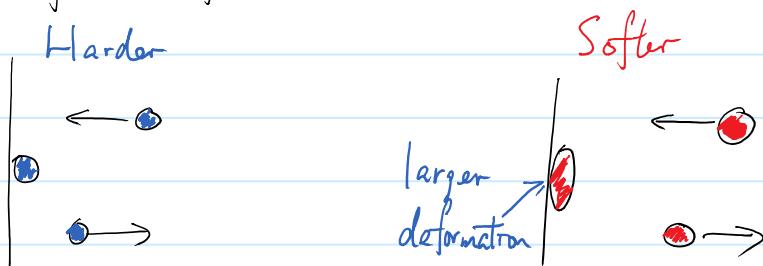
$$\Delta K = W$$

Ball bouncing

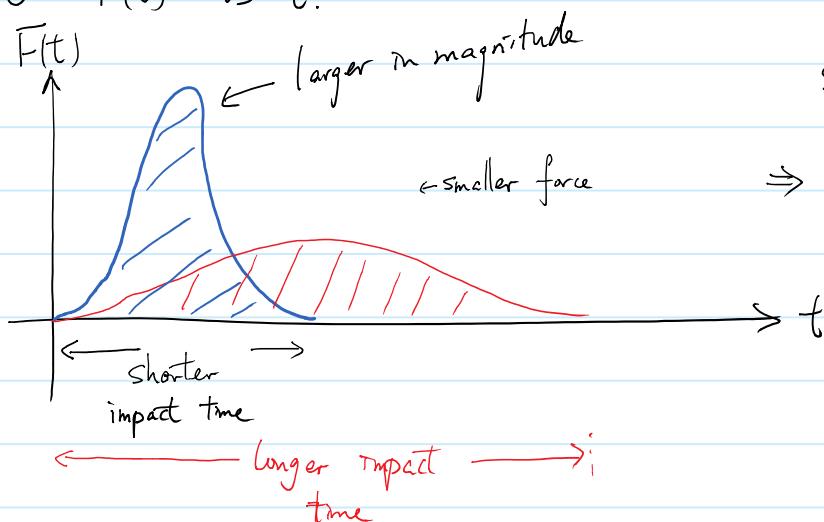
$$\begin{array}{lll}
 \left. \begin{array}{c} v \\ \leftarrow \\ \circ \rightarrow \\ v \end{array} \right\} & \vec{p}_i = -mv\hat{i} & \Delta \vec{p} = mv\hat{i} - (-mv\hat{i}) = +2mv\hat{i} \\
 & \vec{p}_f = +mv\hat{i} & \\
 & \Rightarrow \vec{F} \cdot \Delta t = 2mv\hat{i} &
 \end{array}$$

But  $\vec{F}$  might not be constant in reality:  $\vec{F} \rightarrow \vec{F}(t)$

for a harder ball, duration of impact is shorter than that of a softer ball



Plot  $F(t)$  vs  $t$ .



$$\text{Same } |\vec{J}| = \left| \int \vec{F}(t) dt \right|$$

$\Rightarrow$  Same area under curve

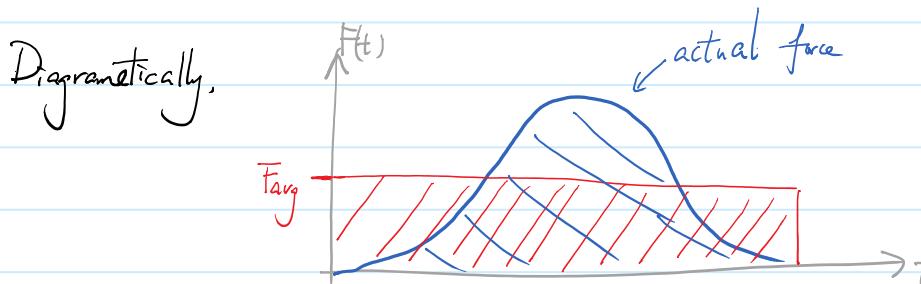
## Defining average force . $F_{avg}$

Average force is defined such that the average force provides the same impulse over the same time. ( $\Delta t$ )

$$\vec{J} = \int_0^{\Delta t} \vec{F} dt = \vec{F}_{avg} \cdot \Delta t$$

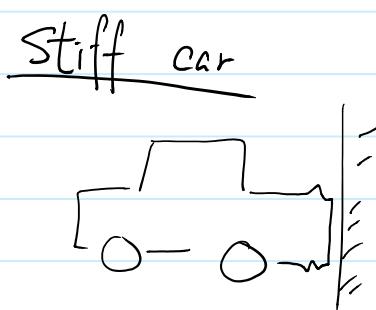
actual force      average force

$$\Rightarrow \vec{F}_{avg} = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_0^{\Delta t} \vec{F} dt = \frac{\vec{J}}{\Delta t}$$



again area under the curves must be the same.

A stiffly built car is not always a safe car in car crash.

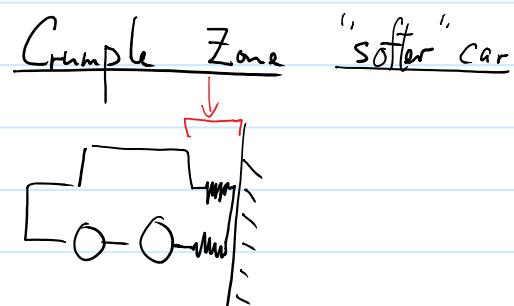


$$V \rightarrow V=0$$

$$|\vec{J}| = mv = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta t$$

$$F = \frac{mv}{\Delta t}$$

$\Delta t$  is small for a stiff car.



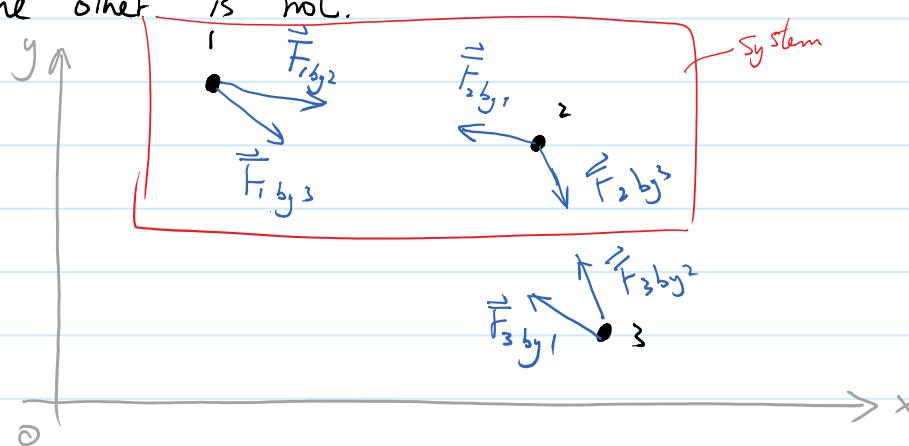
$$|\vec{J}| = mv \quad \text{but } \Delta t \text{ is larger}$$

since the head of the car serves as a cushion.

$$\Rightarrow F = \frac{mv}{\Delta t}$$

## System of particles

Consider three particles, two of them are in the system and the other is not.



Net force acting on the system

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{F}_{\text{net}}^{\text{sys}} &= \sum_{i=1}^2 \vec{F}_{\text{net},i} = \vec{F}_{\text{net},1} + \vec{F}_{\text{net},2} \\
 &= \vec{F}_{1 \text{ by } 2} + \vec{F}_{1 \text{ by } 3} + \vec{F}_{2 \text{ by } 1} + \vec{F}_{2 \text{ by } 3} \\
 &= \underbrace{\vec{F}_{1 \text{ by } 2} + \vec{F}_{2 \text{ by } 1}}_{\text{internal forces}} + \underbrace{\vec{F}_{1 \text{ by } 3} + \vec{F}_{2 \text{ by } 3}}_{\text{external forces (all by 3)}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum \vec{F}_{\text{internal}} = \vec{0}$$

$$\therefore \vec{F}_{1 \text{ by } 2} = -\vec{F}_{2 \text{ by } 1}$$

Newton's 3rd Law

$$\sum \vec{F}_{\text{ext}}$$

$$= \sum_i \vec{F}_{\text{ext}}$$

$$\text{on the other hand, } \vec{F}_{\text{net}}^{\text{sys}} = \sum_i \vec{F}_{\text{net},i} = \vec{F}_{\text{net},1} + \vec{F}_{\text{net},2} = \frac{d\vec{P}_1}{dt} + \frac{d\vec{P}_2}{dt}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{F}_{\text{net}}^{\text{sys}} = \frac{d}{dt} \vec{P}_{\text{tot}} \quad \text{where } \vec{P}_{\text{tot}} = \sum_i \vec{P}_i$$

$$\text{Combining } \vec{F}_{\text{net}}^{\text{sys}} = \sum \vec{F}_{\text{ext}} \quad \& \quad \vec{F}_{\text{net}}^{\text{sys}} = \frac{d}{dt} \vec{P}_{\text{tot}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum \vec{F}_{\text{ext}} = \frac{d}{dt} \vec{P}_{\text{tot}}, \quad \text{rate of change of total momentum of the sys. equals to sum of external forces only.}$$

If there are no net external forces acting on the system,

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\vec{P}_{\text{tot}}}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta\vec{P}_{\text{tot}} = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \vec{P}_i = \vec{P}_f$$

Conservation of momentum.

Example

explosion



explode.



$\vec{V}_C = ?$

Before

After

During the explosion, only internal forces are acting on the 3 objects A, B and C.

$$\Rightarrow \vec{P}_{\text{before}}^{\text{sys}} = \vec{P}_{\text{after}}^{\text{sys}}$$

$$(\vec{P}_{\text{before}}^{\text{sys}} = (m_A + m_B + m_C) \cdot \vec{0} = \vec{0})$$

$$\vec{P}_{\text{after}}^{\text{sys}} = m_A \vec{V}_A + m_B \vec{V}_B + m_C \vec{V}_C$$

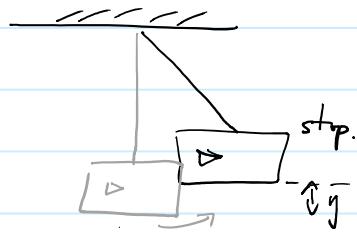
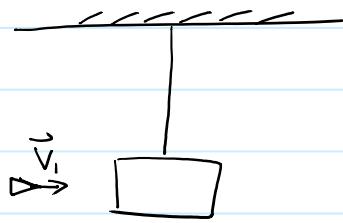
$$\Rightarrow \vec{V}_C = -\frac{m_A}{m_C} \vec{V}_A - \frac{m_B}{m_C} \vec{V}_B$$

Example 1D head-on completely inelastic collision

given

$$m_B, m_W, g$$

find  $v_i$



$$K_i = \frac{1}{2} m_B v_i^2 = ?$$

$$U_f = (m_B + m_W) g \cdot y$$

using energy conservation?

$$\Rightarrow v_i = \sqrt{\frac{2(m_B + m_W)}{m_B} g y} ? \quad \text{WRONG!}$$

When the wood stops the bullet, there exists a friction between the wood and the bullet.

$$\Rightarrow W_{n.c.} \neq 0. \Rightarrow \Delta K + \Delta U \neq 0.$$


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Correct analysis:

During collision,  $\vec{F}_{ext}^{sys} = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \Delta \vec{P} = \vec{0} \quad \because$  There are only friction between the bullet and the wood.

$\Rightarrow \vec{P}_{\text{before}} = \vec{P}_{\text{after}}$  That is internal force.

After the collision, the bullet and the wood move together under tension and gravity.

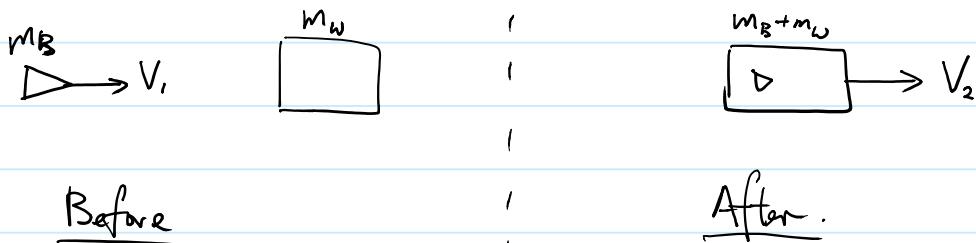
Tension does not do work.  $W_T = 0$

Gravity is conservative force,

$$\Rightarrow \Delta K + \Delta U = W_{\text{other}} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow K_i + U_i = K_f + U_f \text{ for the swinging motion.}$$

Collision part



$$P_i = m_B V_1$$

$$P_f = (m_B + m_W) V_2$$

$$P_i = P_f \Rightarrow V_1 = \frac{m_B + m_W}{m_B} V_2$$

Swinging part



$$K_i + U_i = \frac{1}{2}(m_B + m_W)V_2^2 + 0 , \quad K_f + U_f = 0 + (m_B + m_W)g y$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{V_2^2}{2} = gy$$

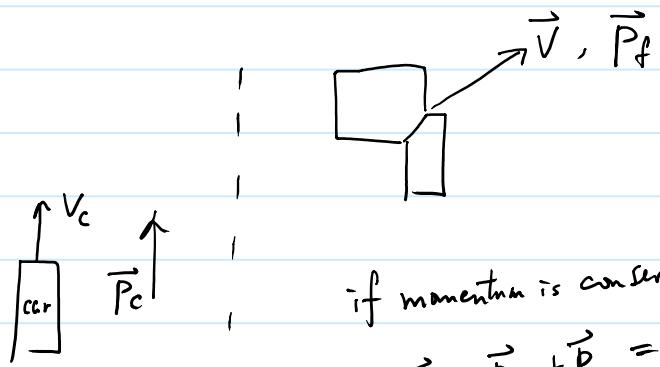
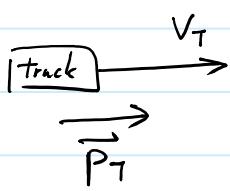
$$\Rightarrow V_2 = \sqrt{2gy}$$

finally we have

$$V_1 = \frac{m_B + m_W}{m_B} V_2 = \frac{m_B + m_W}{m_B} \sqrt{2gy}$$

cf. the wrong answer  $V_1 = \sqrt{\frac{m_B + m_W}{m_B} 2gy}$

## 2D inelastic collision



if momentum is conserved, we have  
 $\vec{P}_f = \vec{P}_T + \vec{P}_c = \vec{P}_f$

During collision,

$$\Delta \vec{P} = \vec{P}_{\text{after}} - \vec{P}_{\text{before}} = \int_{t_{\text{before}}}^{t_{\text{after}}} \vec{F}_{\text{ex}} dt$$

are there any  $\vec{F}_{\text{ext}}$ ?

Yes! Before the cars are completely struck and move together, they are already sliding on the road.

$\Rightarrow$  Kinetic friction applies on them.

But to good approximation, the impact time  $\Delta t = t_{\text{after}} - t_{\text{before}}$

is around 0.1 s. The kinetic friction is  $f_k = \mu_{k_c} (m_c + m_T) g \sim 0.5 \cdot 3000 \cdot 10 \sim 15000 \text{ N}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  The impulse given by friction during the collision is 1500 Ns.

How is this value compare to the initial momentum of the car and truck?

Take the car for example,  $|\vec{P}_c| = m_c |\vec{V}_c| = 15000 \text{ Ns} \gg \text{impulse by friction}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  we can ignore the impulse by the friction and assume the total momentum of the car and truck is conserved.