

Begin your response to **QUESTION 3** on this page.

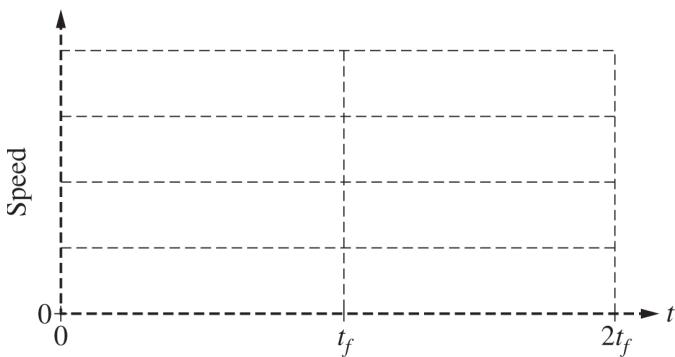
3. (12 points, suggested time 25 minutes)

(a) A student of mass M_S , standing on a smooth surface, uses a stick to push a disk of mass M_D . The student exerts a constant horizontal force of magnitude F_H over the time interval from time $t = 0$ to $t = t_f$ while pushing the disk. Assume there is negligible friction between the disk and the surface.

i. Assuming the disk begins at rest, determine an expression for the final speed v_D of the disk relative to the surface. Express your answer in terms of F_H , t_f , M_S , M_D , and physical constants, as appropriate.

ii. Assume there is negligible friction between the student's shoes and the surface. After time t_f , the student slides with speed v_S . Derive an equation for the ratio v_D / v_S . Express your answer in terms of M_S , M_D , and physical constants, as appropriate.

(b) Assume that the student's mass is greater than that of the disk ($M_S > M_D$). On the grid below, sketch graphs of the speeds of both the student and the disk as functions of time t between $t = 0$ and $t = 2t_f$. Assume that neither the disk nor the student collides with anything after $t = t_f$. On the vertical axis, label v_D and v_S . Label the graphs "S" and "D" for the student and the disk, respectively.



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Disk

Block

(c) The disk is now moving at a constant speed v_1 on the surface toward a block of mass M_B , which is at rest on the surface, as shown above. The disk and block collide head-on and stick together, and the center of mass of the disk-block system moves with speed v_{cm} .

- i. Suppose the mass of the disk is much greater than the mass of the block. Estimate the velocity of the center of mass of the disk-block system. Explain how you arrived at your prediction without deriving it mathematically.

- ii. Suppose the mass of the disk is much less than the mass of the block. Estimate the velocity of the center of mass of the disk-block system. Explain how you arrived at your prediction without deriving it mathematically.

- iii. Now suppose that neither object's mass is much greater than the other but that they are not necessarily equal. Derive an equation for v_{cm} . Express your answer in terms of v_1 , M_D , M_B , and physical constants, as appropriate.

- iv. Consider the scenario from part (c)(i), where the mass of the disk was much greater than the mass of the block. Does your equation for v_{cm} from part (c)(iii) agree with your reasoning from part (c)(i) ?

Yes No

Explain your reasoning by addressing why, according to your equation, v_{cm} becomes (or approaches) a certain value when M_D is much greater than M_B .

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Question 3: Qualitative/Quantitative Translation**12 points**

- (a) i. For a correct answer $v_D = \frac{F_H t_f}{M_D}$ 1 point

- ii. For indicating the total momentum of the system is the same before and after the collision 1 point

Scoring Note: If the response only includes a correct final answer of $\frac{M_S}{M_D}$, the response earns this point but not the next point.

For correctly substituting the appropriate variables into a conservation of momentum equation 1 point

AND

an answer in the form $\frac{v_D}{v_S} = \dots$

Scoring Notes:

This point can be earned only if the first point is earned.

The answer need not be correct to earn this point.

Example response for part (a)(ii)

$$p_i = p_f$$

$$0 = M_S v_S - M_D v_D$$

$$\frac{v_D}{v_S} = \frac{M_S}{M_D}$$

Total for part (a) 3 points

- (b) For two functions that are straight segments for $t < t_f$, 1 point

AND

begin at the origin,

AND

have two different positive slopes

- For two functions that are horizontal functions for $t > t_f$ 1 point

AND

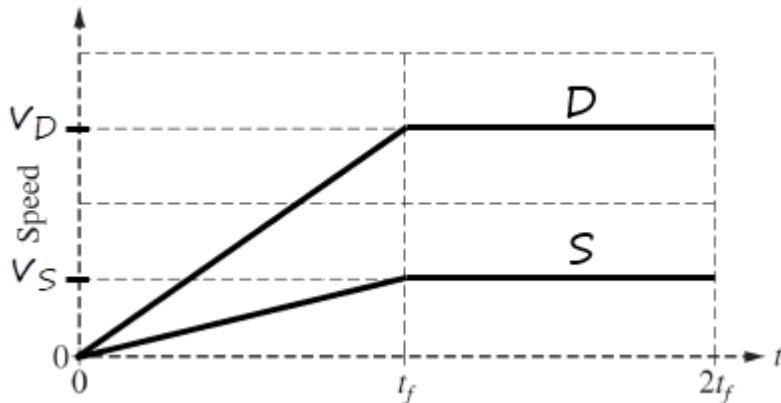
are continuous over the entire time range $0 < t < 2t_f$

- For labeling values on the vertical axis with $v_D > v_S$ 1 point

OR

The curve labeled D is greater than the curve labeled S for all $t > 0$

Scoring note: This point can still be earned if the labels are not on the vertical axis but clearly indicate that $v_D > v_S$.

Example response for part (b)**Total for part (b)** 3 points

- (c) i. For stating or mathematically representing that if the disk is much more massive, then the block will have little effect on the motion of disk 1 **1 point**

ORFor stating or mathematically representing that when $M_D \gg M_B$, $v_{cm} = v_1$

- ii. For correct reasoning. **1 point**

Correct answer: When $M_D \ll M_B$, $v_{cm} = 0$ **Example response for part (c) (ii)***If the block is much more massive, then it will barely move when the disk collides and sticks to it.*

- iii. For using conservation of momentum **1 point**

For a correct answer **1 point**

$$v_{cm} = \frac{m_D v_1}{m_D + m_B}$$

- iv. For an attempt to use limiting-case reasoning or functional dependence with the equation in part (c)(iii) **1 point**

For recognizing the equation from (c)(iii) reduces to a simpler form and the simplified form is correctly compared to their answer in (c)(i) **1 point****Example 1 response for part (c) (iv)***Yes. If M_B is very small, then the denominator of the equation simplifies to M_D , which then can cancel out of the equation leaving $v_{cm} = v_1$.***Total for part (c)** 6 points**Total for question 3** 12 points