



Question

Conservation of Momentum 6

Essential Pre-Uni Physics F2.6

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** GCSE C3, A Level C2

In a strange form of billiards, the cue ball is one third the mass of the other balls, which are stripey. There is no spin, and I hit a stripey ball centrally with the cue ball (travelling at 1.4 m s^{-1}) such that the cue ball rebounds in the opposite direction with half of its initial speed. What is the speed of the stripey ball?



Question

Two Particles on a String

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** GCSE C3, A Level C1

Two particles P and Q, of masses $2m$ and m respectively, are joined by a light inextensible string (actually a string with a very high spring constant, so it can provide a large force for a very small extension). They rest on a smooth horizontal plane, with the string slack. The particle P is projected in a horizontal direction, directly away from Q, with speed u .

Part A

Kinetic Energy Loss

Find the loss in kinetic energy when the string becomes taut (and remains taut as the particles move together) in terms of m and u .

The following symbols may be useful: m , u

Part B

Impulse

Calculate the impulse (which is equal to the change in momentum) that acts on the particle Q in terms of m and u when the string becomes taut.

The following symbols may be useful: m , u

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Question deck:

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Question

Restitution and a Wall

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** Further A P2

A particle, of mass 0.8 kg , moves along a smooth horizontal surface. It hits a vertical wall, which is at right angles to the direction of motion of the particle, and rebounds. The speed of the particle as it hits the wall is 4 m s^{-1} and the coefficient of restitution between the particle and the wall is 0.3 .

Part A

Impulse

Find the magnitude of the impulse that the wall exerts on the particle, giving your answer to 3 sf.

Part B

Loss of kinetic energy

Find the kinetic energy lost in the impact, giving your answer to 3 sf.

Used with permission from UCLES, A Level, June 2012, Paper 4729, Question 1

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Question

Three Collisions

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** A Level P2

Three particles A, B, and C lie at rest in that order in a straight line on a smooth horizontal table. The particle A is then projected directly towards B with velocity \underline{u} . Particle A collides with B which then collides with C. Each of the particles has mass m , and the collisions are elastic.

Part A

Velocity of A after collision with B

What is the velocity \underline{v}_1 of particle A immediately after the collision with particle B? Give your answer in terms of u and m .

The following symbols may be useful: m , u , v_1

Part B

Velocity of B after collision with C

What is the velocity \underline{w}_2 of the particle B immediately after the collision with particle C? Give your answer in terms of \underline{u} and m .

The following symbols may be useful: m , u , w_2

Part C**Velocity of C after collision with B**

What is the velocity \underline{w}_3 of the particle C immediately after the collision with particle B? Give your answer in terms of \underline{u} and m .

The following symbols may be useful: m , u , w_3

Part D**New masses - velocity of A**

Now consider the same scenario but this time the masses of A, B, and C are m , $2m$ and $3m$ respectively.

Find the velocity \underline{v}_1 of A immediately after the collision with B, in terms of \underline{u} and m .

The following symbols may be useful: m , u , v_1

Part E**New masses - velocity of B**

Find the velocity \underline{w}_2 of B immediately after the collision with C, in terms of \underline{u} and m .

The following symbols may be useful: m , u , w_2

Part F

New masses - velocity of C

Find the velocity \underline{w}_3 of C immediately after the collision with B, in terms of \underline{u} and m .

The following symbols may be useful: m , u , w_3

Part G

Velocity after inelastic collision

What is the speed \underline{v}_f of the composite particle after the second impact, if the balls, of mass m , $2m$ and $3m$, collided completely inelastically instead?

The following symbols may be useful: m , u , v_f

Used with permission from UCLES, A Level Applied Mathematics, June 1969, Paper 2, Question 8.

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Question

Restitution and a Bouncing Ball

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** Further A C2

A small ball of mass 0.5 kg is held at a height of 3.136 m above a horizontal floor. The ball is released from rest and rebounds from the floor (see **Figure 1**). The coefficient of restitution between the ball and floor is e . Throughout this question treat the acceleration due to gravity as 9.8 m s^{-2} .

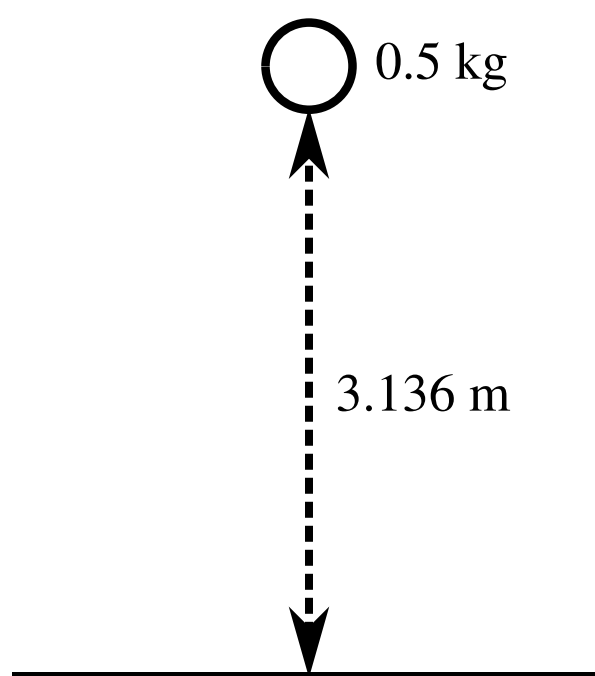


Figure 1: A ball above a horizontal floor.

Part A

Speed of ball

Find in terms of e the speed of the ball immediately after the impact with the floor.

The following symbols may be useful: e

Part B**Magnitude of impulse**

Find the magnitude of the impulse that the floor exerts on the ball.

The following symbols may be useful: e

Part C**First and second bounce**

Find the time between the first and second bounce in terms of e .

The following symbols may be useful: e

Part D**Second and third bounce**

Find, in terms of e , the time between the second and third bounce.

The following symbols may be useful: e

Part E

Third and fourth bounce

Write down, in terms of e , the time between the third and fourth bounce.

The following symbols may be useful: e

Part F

Value of e

Given that the time from the ball being released until it comes to rest is 5 s, find the exact value of e .

The following symbols may be useful: e

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Question

Perpendicular Impulse

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** Further A P3

A particle P of mass 0.05 kg is moving on a smooth horizontal surface with speed 2 m s^{-1} , when it is struck by a horizontal blow in a direction perpendicular to its direction of motion. The magnitude of the impulse of the blow is I . The speed of P after the blow is 2.5 m s^{-1} .

Part A

Impulse

Find the exact value of I .

Part B

Coefficient of restitution

Immediately before the blow P is moving parallel to a smooth vertical wall. After the blow P hits the wall and rebounds from the wall with speed $\sqrt{5} \text{ m s}^{-1}$.

Find the exact value of the coefficient of restitution between P and the wall.

The following symbols may be useful: e

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Question

Impulse and an Inclined Plane

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** Further A C2

B is a point on a smooth plane surface inclined at an angle of 15° to the horizontal. A particle P of mass 0.45 kg is released from rest at the point A which is 2.5 m vertically above B. The particle P rebounds from the surface at an angle of 60° to the line of greatest slope through B, with a speed of u . The impulse exerted on P by the surface is \underline{I} and is in a direction making an angle of θ with the upward vertical through B, as shown in **Figure 1**.

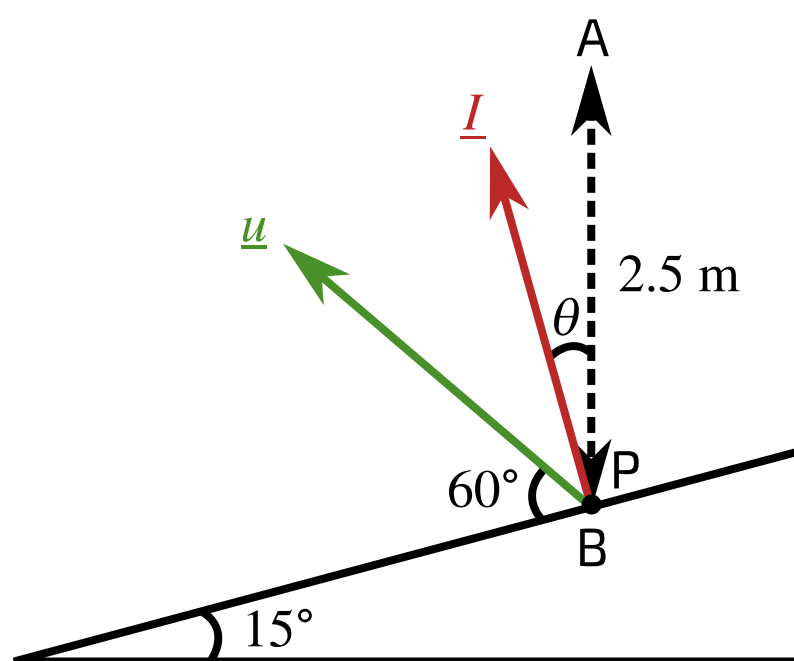


Figure 1: The inclined plane onto which P falls, with the impulse \underline{I} and the rebound velocity \underline{u} shown.

Part A

Modelling assumptions

Which modelling assumption allows us to find that $\theta = 15^\circ$?

- ☐ Ignore air resistance.
- ☐ The plane is rough.
- ☐ The collision is elastic.
- ☐ The plane is smooth.

Part B

Find u

Find the magnitude of u .

Part C

Find I

Find the magnitude of I .

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Question

Restitution: Sphere Collision

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** Further A C2

Two small uniform smooth spheres A and B, of equal radius, have masses $5m$ and $2m$ respectively. The spheres are moving on a smooth horizontal surface when they collide.

Before the collision A is moving with speed 1.3 m s^{-1} in a direction making an angle α with the line of centres, where $\tan \alpha = \frac{5}{12}$, and B is moving towards A in a direction making an angle of 60° with the line of centres. After the collision A moves in a direction at right angles to its original direction of motion, as shown in **Figure 1**.

The coefficient of restitution between A and B is $\frac{5}{6}$.

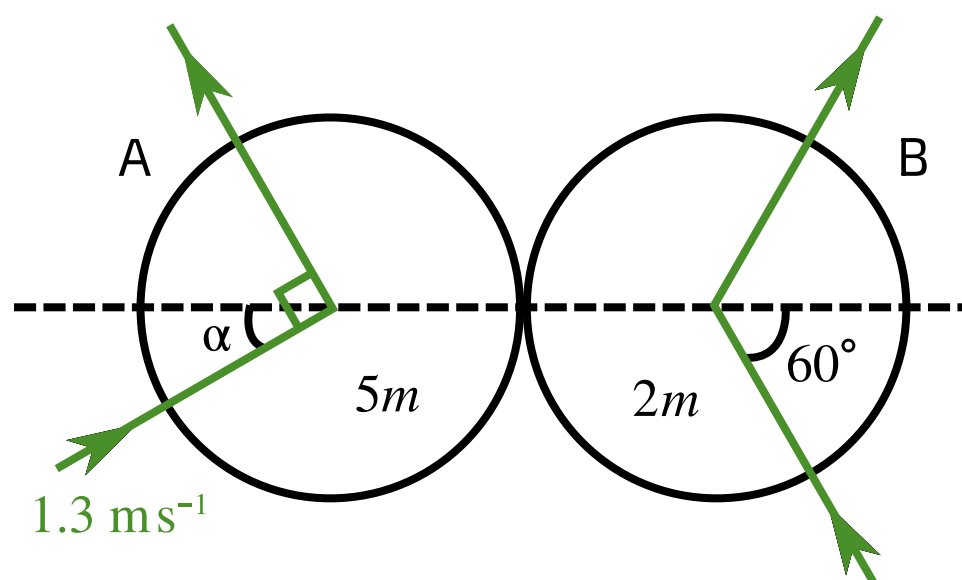


Figure 1: A diagram of the situation described in the question.

Part A

Speed after collision

Find the speed of A after the collision.

Part B

Component of velocity

Find the component of the velocity of B parallel to the line of centres after the collision.

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Question

Oblique Collisions and Walls

Subject & topics: Physics | Mechanics | Dynamics **Stage & difficulty:** Further A C2

Two uniform smooth spheres A and B, of equal radius, have masses $2m$ and $3m$ respectively. The spheres are approaching each other on a horizontal surface when they collide.

Before the collision A is moving with speed 5 m s^{-1} in a direction making an angle α with the line of centres, where $\cos \alpha = \frac{4}{5}$, and B is moving with speed 3.25 m s^{-1} in a direction making an angle β with the line of centres, where $\cos \beta = \frac{5}{13}$.

A straight vertical wall is situated to the right of B, perpendicular to the line of centres, as shown in **Figure 1**. The coefficient of restitution between A and B is $\frac{2}{3}$.

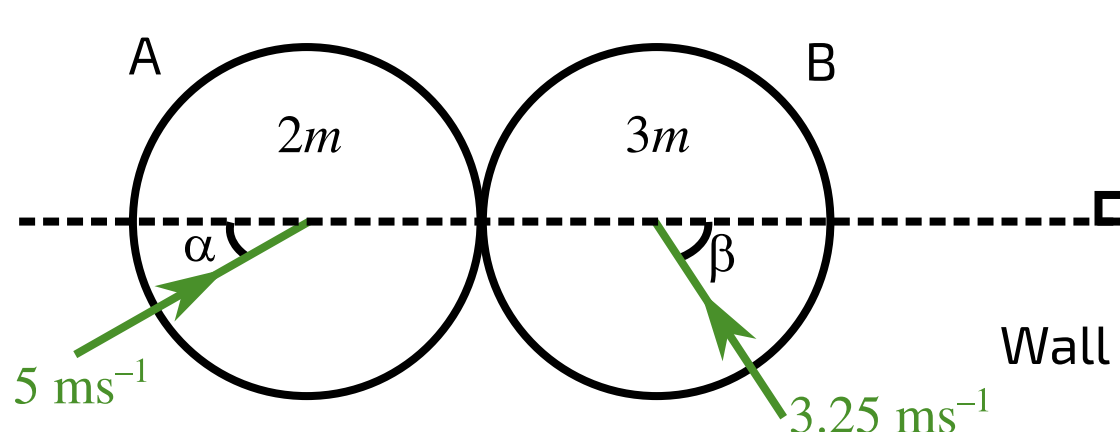


Figure 1: A and B collide with each other, with the line of centres shown. A wall is to right of B and is perpendicular to the line of centres.

Part A

Speed of A

Find the exact value of the speed of A after the collision.

Part B

Velocity of B

Find the exact value of the component of the velocity of B along the line of centres after the collision.

Part C

Coefficient of restitution

B subsequently hits the wall.

Explain why A and B will have a second collision if the coefficient of restitution, e , between B and the wall is sufficiently large and find the set of values of e for which this second collision will occur.

Perpendicular to the line of centres, the velocity of A is m s^{-1} and the velocity of B is m s^{-1} . Since these are , a second collision between A and B will occur provided that, parallel to the line of centres, B is A. For this to occur, we find that e .

Items:

- 3.25

slower than

$\frac{9}{5}$

$\frac{4}{9}$

$\frac{13}{15}$

$\frac{5}{9}$

the same

=

>

3.75

faster than

different

1.25

5

3

2.25
- $\frac{1}{2}$

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