



## Question

### Conservation of Momentum 6

Essential Pre-Uni Physics F2.6

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

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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  $1.4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ) 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:

**STEM SMART Double Maths 44 - Momentum, Impulse and Collisions**



## Question

### Restitution and a Wall

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

A particle, of mass  $0.8\text{ kg}$ , 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  $4\text{ m s}^{-1}$  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.

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## Question

### Three Collisions

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

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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  $u$  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:  $m$ ,  $\underline{u}$ ,  $\underline{w}_3$

**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:  $m$ ,  $\underline{u}$ ,  $\underline{v}_f$

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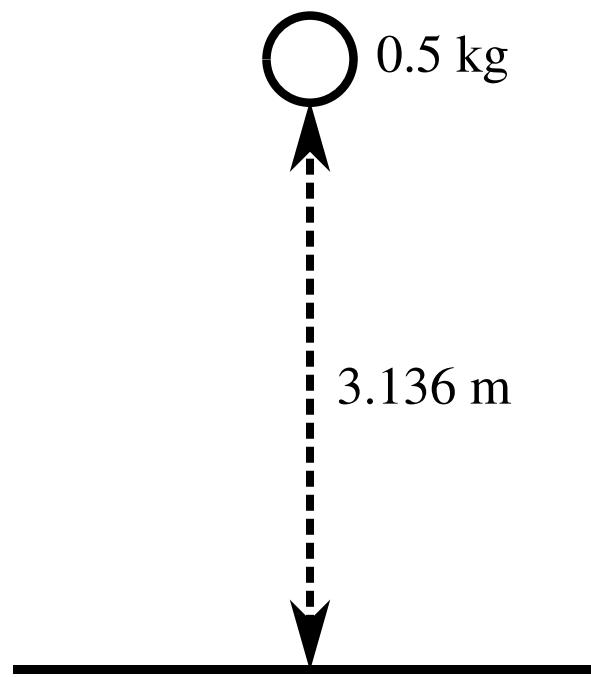


## Question

### Restitution and a Bouncing Ball

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

A small ball of mass  $0.5 \text{ kg}$  is held at a height of  $3.136 \text{ m}$  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  $9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ .



**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  $0.05 \text{ kg}$  is moving on a smooth horizontal surface with speed  $2 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , 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  $2.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .

#### 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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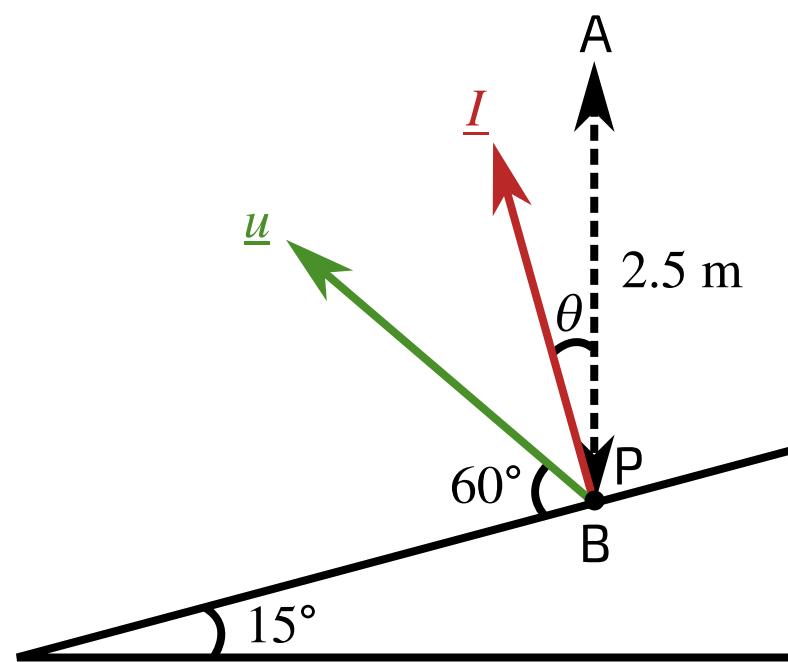


## Question

### 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  $15^\circ$  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  $60^\circ$  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  $\theta$  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  $\underline{u}$ .

**Part C****Find  $I$** 

Find the magnitude of  $\underline{I}$ .

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## Question

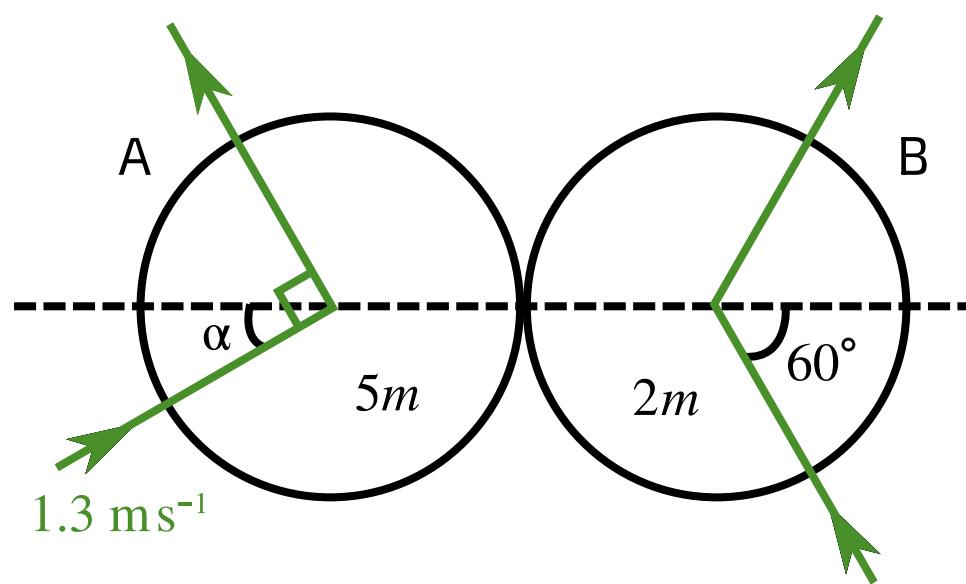
### Restitution: Sphere Collision

**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  $1.3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  in a direction making an angle  $\alpha$  with the line of centres, where  $\tan \alpha = \frac{5}{12}$ , and B is moving towards A in a direction making an angle of  $60^\circ$  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

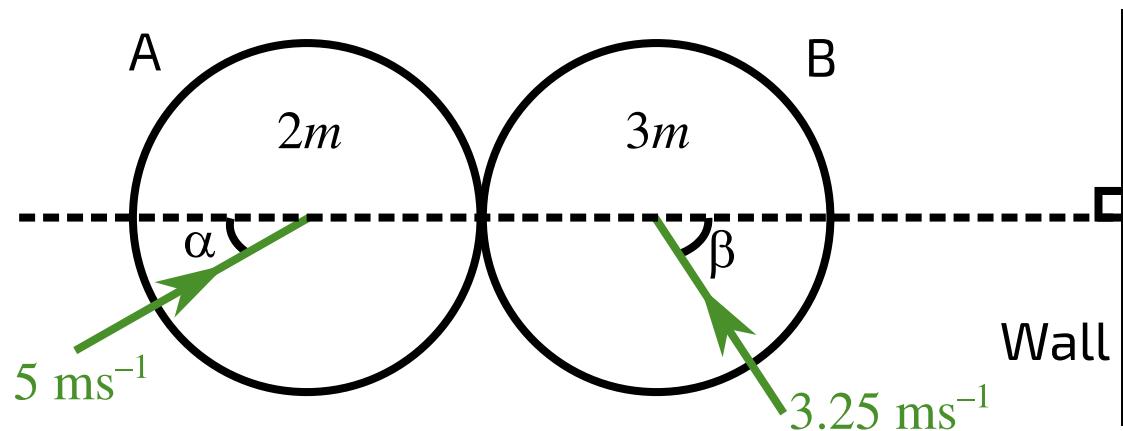
### Oblique Collisions and Walls

**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  $5 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  in a direction making an angle  $\alpha$  with the line of centres, where  $\cos \alpha = \frac{4}{5}$ , and B is moving with speed  $3.25 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  in a direction making an angle  $\beta$  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<sup>-1</sup> and the velocity of B is  m s<sup>-1</sup>. 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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