



Physics. *You work it out.*

[Home](#) [Gameboard](#) [Physics](#) [Mechanics](#) [Kinematics](#) [Relative Motion 5.1](#)

Relative Motion 5.1

A Level

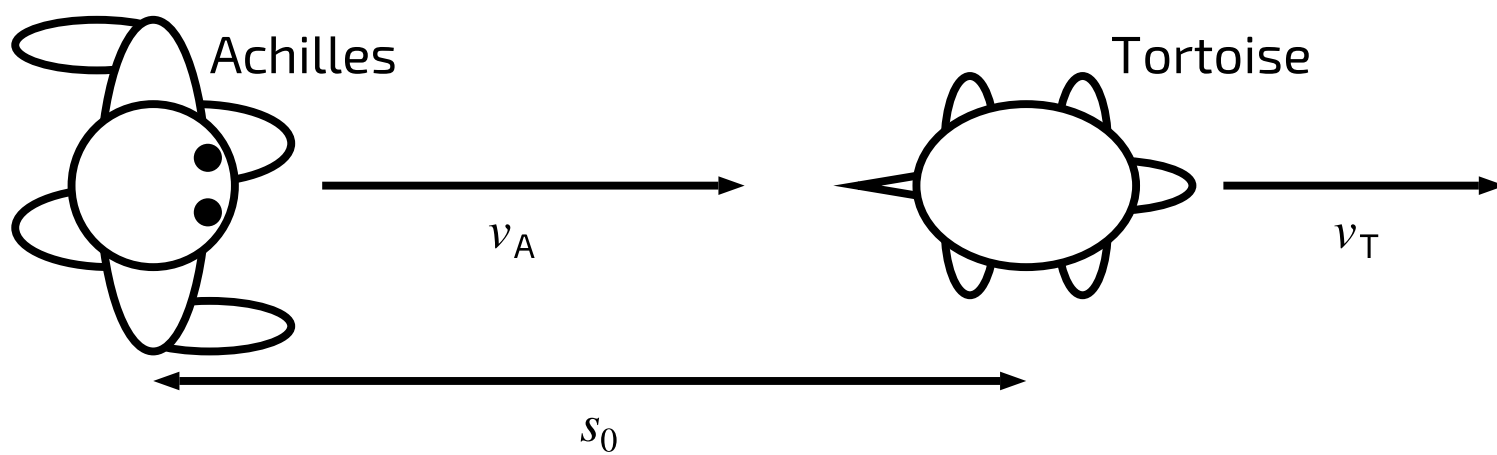


Figure 1: Achilles chasing the tortoise.

Quantities:

v_A velocity of Achilles (m s^{-1})

v_T velocity of tortoise (m s^{-1})

T time for Achilles to catch up (s)

s_0 initial displacement (m)

s displacement (m)

t time since start (s)

Equations:

$$v = \frac{s}{t}$$

Use the equations above to derive expressions for:

Part A The velocity of Achilles relative to the tortoise

the velocity of Achilles relative to the tortoise v_{REL} .

The following symbols may be useful: T , s , s_0 , t , v_A , v_{REL} , v_T

Part B The time for Achilles to catch up

the time for Achilles to catch up with the tortoise T , in terms of v_A and v_T .

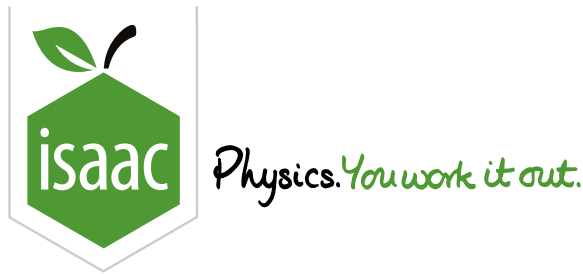
The following symbols may be useful: T , s , s_0 , t , v_A , v_{REL} , v_T

Part C The displacement of the tortoise relative to Achilles

the displacement of the tortoise s relative to Achilles as a function of time t .

The following symbols may be useful: T , s , s_0 , t , v_A , v_{REL} , v_T

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Relative Motion 5.3

A Level
P P P

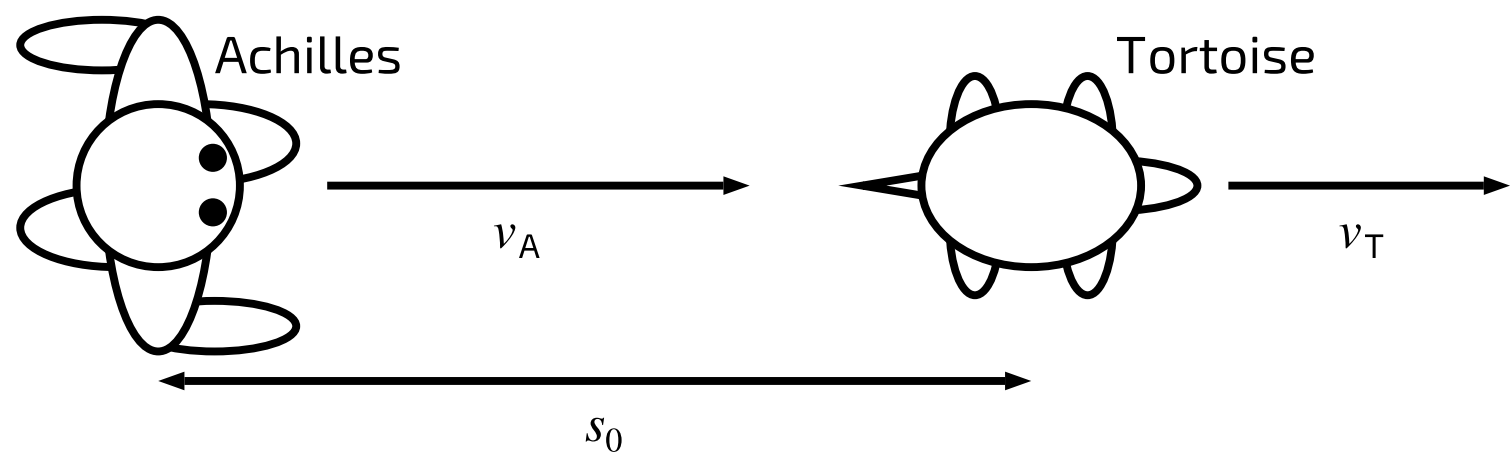
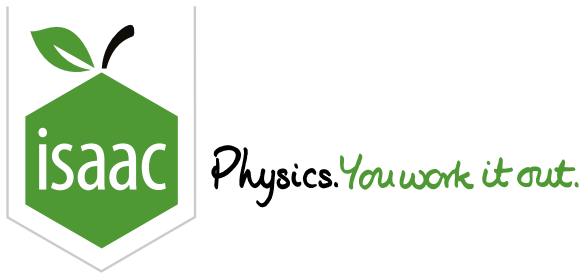


Figure 1: Achilles chasing the tortoise.

Following on from [Example 1](#), when the tortoise travelling at 18.0 m s^{-1} is 1.00 km away from Achilles, Achilles gets into a motor vehicle that can travel at 96.5 km h^{-1} . Calculate how far ahead of the tortoise Achilles is after 2 minutes.

Gameboard:
[STEM SMART Physics 26 - Collisions](#)

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Essential Pre-Uni Physics F2.5

GCSE A Level

C

C

C

C

C

C

A rocket (containing a space probe) is travelling at 7000 m s^{-1} in outer space. The 2000 kg probe is ejected from the front of the rocket (forwards) using a big spring. If the speed of the probe afterwards is 7200 m s^{-1} , and the rest of the rocket has a mass of 6000 kg , what is the speed of the rest of the rocket? Give your answer to 4 significant figures.

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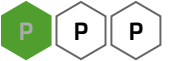


Physics. *You work it out.*

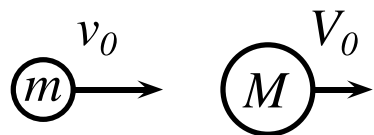
[Home](#) [Gameboard](#) [Physics](#) [Mechanics](#) [Dynamics](#) [Elastic Collisions 4.1](#)

Elastic Collisions 4.1

A Level



Before collision



After collision



Figure 1: Definitions of variables used in elastic collisions questions

Quantities:

p, P momentum (kg m s^{-1})

v, V velocity (m s^{-1})

k, K kinetic energy (J)

m, M mass (kg)

Equations:

$$p = mv \quad k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \quad P = MV \quad K = \frac{1}{2}MV^2$$

$$p_0 + P_0 = p_1 + P_1 \quad k_0 + K_0 = k_1 + K_1$$

Use the equations above to derive expressions for:

Part A Final velocity V_1 of M

the final velocity V_1 of M if M was stationary at the beginning and the initial and final velocities of m (v_0 and v_1) are known.

The following symbols may be useful: M , V_1 , m , v_0 , v_1

Part B V_1 with equal masses and m stopped

V_1 if the masses are equal ($M = m$), M begins at rest ($V_0 = 0$), m is stopped by the collision ($v_1 = 0$) and v_0 is known.

The following symbols may be useful: M , V_0 , V_1 , m , v_0 , v_1

Part C $k + K$ in terms of $p + P$

(*very involved*) $k + K$ in terms of $p + P$, M , m and the relative velocity $r = v - V$, where the quantities are all before **or** all after the collision. (See Hint 3 below)

The following symbols may be useful: K , M , P , k , m , p , r



Elastic Collisions 4.6

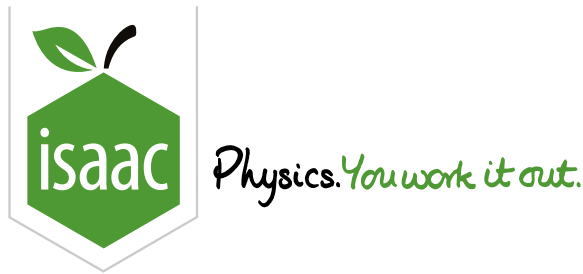
A Level

In space, an elastic 'sling shot' collision is arranged between a 6.4×10^{24} kg planet moving at 9.0 km s^{-1} towards a 6000 kg spacecraft which is also moving at 4.5 km s^{-1} towards the planet.

Calculate the final speed of the spacecraft.

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Elastic Collisions 4.7

A Level

P

P

P

A neutron (of mass m) travelling at $2.4 \times 10^5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ collides elastically with a stationary carbon nucleus (mass $M = 12m$) head on. Calculate,

Part A The final speed of the nucleus

Calculate the final speed of the carbon nucleus.

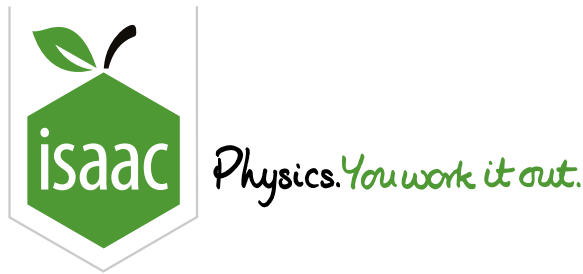
Part B The percentage of the KE given to the nucleus

Calculate the percentage of the neutron's kinetic energy which is given to the nucleus.

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Elastic Collisions 4.8

A Level

P

P

P

A neutron (of mass m) travelling at $2.4 \times 10^5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ collides elastically with a stationary iron nucleus (mass $M = 65m$) head on. Calculate,

Part A The final speed of the nucleus

Calculate the final speed of the iron nucleus.

Part B The percentage of the energy given to the nucleus

Calculate the percentage of the neutron's kinetic energy which is given to the nucleus.

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Maximum Deflection of a Particle

A Level
C C C

A particle of mass $5m$ collides elastically with a stationary particle of mass m .

What is the maximum angle of deflection of mass $5m$? Give your answer to three significant figures.

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