

SPH4U Energy and Momentum
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1. Calculate the final speed of a 1500 kg roller coaster if it has an initial speed of 16 m/s but reduces its elevation by 8.6 m by coasting down a frictionless incline. (5 marks)

To begin with, we should use the idea of mechanical energy conservation.

$$P_{initial} + K_{initial} = P_{final} + K_{final}$$

$$mgh = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \text{ (potential energy with regards to gravity = kinetic energy)}$$

$$1500(kg) \times 9.8m/s \times 8.6(m) + \frac{1}{2} \times 1500 \times (16)^2 = 0 + \frac{1}{2} \times 1500 \times v^2$$

$$v^2 = 9.8 \times 8.6 \times 2 + (16)^2$$

$$v^2 = 424.56$$

$$v = 20.6$$

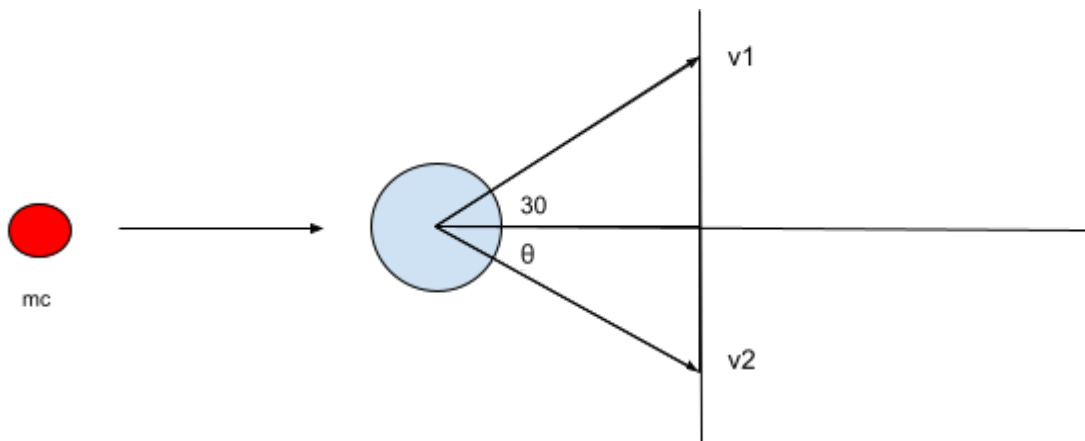
$$v = 2.1 \times 10^1 m/s$$

Thus, the final speed of a 1500 kg rollercoaster with initial speed of 16m/s is

$$2.1 \times 10^1 m/s.$$

2. A 0.50 kg cue ball makes a glancing blow to a stationary 0.50 kg billiard ball. After the collision, the cue ball deflects with a speed of 1.2 m/s at an angle of 30.0° from its original path. Calculate the original speed of the cue ball if the billiard ball ends up travelling at 1.6 m/s. (7 marks)

Let v as the initial velocity of cue ball, while θ as the angle between the path of the billiard ball and cue ball. To begin with, consider the direction perpendicular to the original direction of the cue ball, which is y direction. According to the conservation of momentum principle, we can write the following.



$$0 = 0.5 \times 1.2 \times \sin 30^\circ - 0.5 \times 1.6 \times \sin \theta$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$\cos \theta = \sqrt{1 - \frac{9}{64}} = \frac{\sqrt{55}}{8}$$

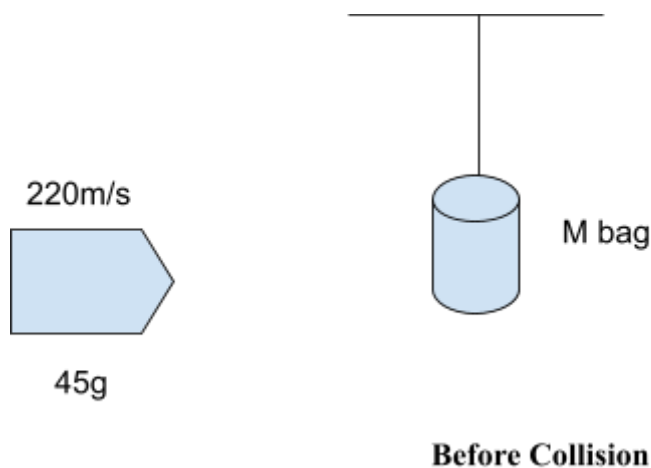
Let us apply the conservation of the momentum principle to the original direction of the cue ball, which is x direction.

$$0.5 \times v = 0.5 \times 1.2 \cos 30^\circ + 0.5 \times 1.6 \times \cos \theta$$

$$v = 0.6 \times \sqrt{3} + 0.4 \times \frac{\sqrt{55}}{8} \approx 2.5 \text{ m/s}$$

Thus, the original ball of the cue ball is $2.5 \times 10^0 \text{ m/s}$.

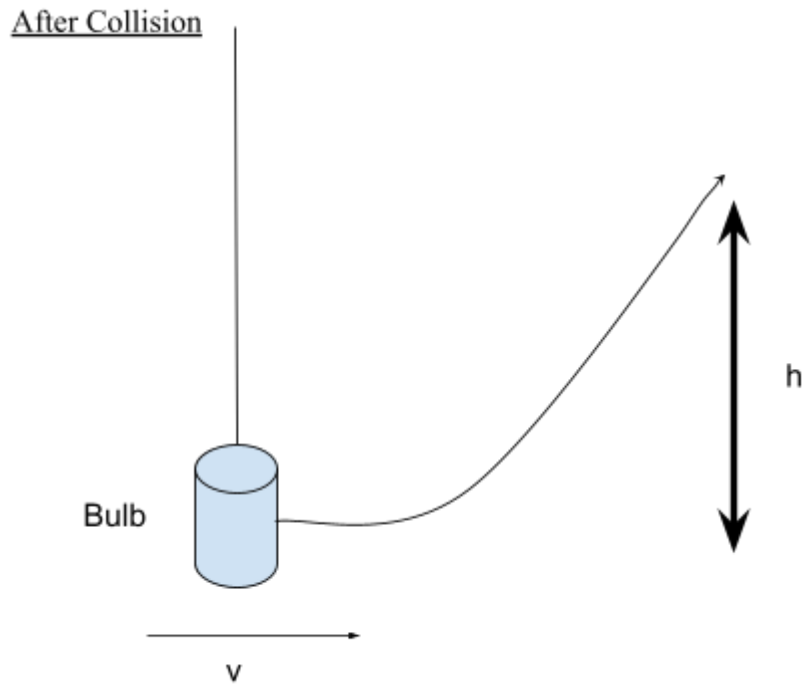
3. A bullet of mass 45 g is fired at a speed of 220 m/s into a 5.0 kg sandbag hanging from a string from the ceiling. The sandbag absorbs the bullet and begins to swing. To what maximum vertical height will it rise? (8 marks)



Let us v mean the velocity of a bullet while h is the height of the light bulb after getting collided with a mass.

Let us calculate the initial momentum.

$$\text{Initial Momentum} = \left(\frac{45}{1000} \times 220\right) \text{ kg/m seconds.}$$



Let us calculate the final momentum.

$$\text{Final Momentum} = \left(\frac{45}{1000} + 5\right)v$$

Using the concept of momentum conservation and rewriting the equation as follows.

$$P_{\text{initial}} = P_{\text{final}}$$

$$\left(\frac{45+5000}{1000}\right)v = \frac{45}{1000} \times 220$$

$$v = \left(\frac{45 \times 200}{5045}\right) \text{m/s} \approx 1.96 \text{m/s}$$

Since the kinetic energy is equal to the gravity potential energy, we can render the following involved.

$$mgh = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

$$gh = \frac{1}{2}v^2$$

$$h = \frac{v^2}{2g} = \frac{(1.96)^2}{2 \times 9.8} \text{m} \approx 0.196 \text{m}$$

Thus, the maximum vertical height to be risen is $2.0 \times 10^{-1} \text{m}$.