

Three uniform small spheres A , B and C have equal radii and masses $5m$, $5m$ and $3m$ respectively. The spheres are at rest on a smooth horizontal surface, in a straight line, with B between A and C . The coefficient of restitution between each pair of spheres is e . Sphere A is projected directly towards B with speed u .

- (i) Show that the speed of A after its collision with B is $\frac{1}{2}u(1 - e)$ and find the speed of B . [3]

Sphere B now collides with sphere C . Subsequently there are no further collisions between any of the spheres.

- (ii) Find the set of possible values of e . [6]