

# Collisions

## 1 Impulse and momentum

$$\text{Impulse} = mv - mu = Ft$$

Total momentum before collision = total momentum after

## 2 Coefficient of restitution

This tells us how well something bounces, it is given the symbol  $e$ .

If  $e = 1$  the ball returns to its original height

If  $e = 0$  the ball doesn't bounce

$$e = \frac{\text{Speed of separation}}{\text{Speed of approach}}$$

### 2.1 Alternate form of coefficient of restitution formula

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

$$v = \sqrt{2gh}$$

$$e = \frac{\sqrt{2gh_2}}{\sqrt{2gh_1}}$$

$$e = \frac{\sqrt{h_2}}{\sqrt{h_1}}$$

$h_2$  - the height the ball bounces back to

$h_1$  - the height the ball is dropped from

### 2.2 Calculations involving coefficient of restitution

When doing calculations involving the coefficient of restitution both the calculation for CoR and conservation of momentum will be needed.

**Conservation of momentum:**

$$m_1u_1 + m_2u_2 = m_1v_1 + m_2v_2$$

**Coefficient of restitution**

$$e = \frac{v_1}{u_1}$$