

- 2 Two blocks travel directly towards each other along a horizontal, frictionless surface. The blocks collide, as illustrated in Fig. 2.1.

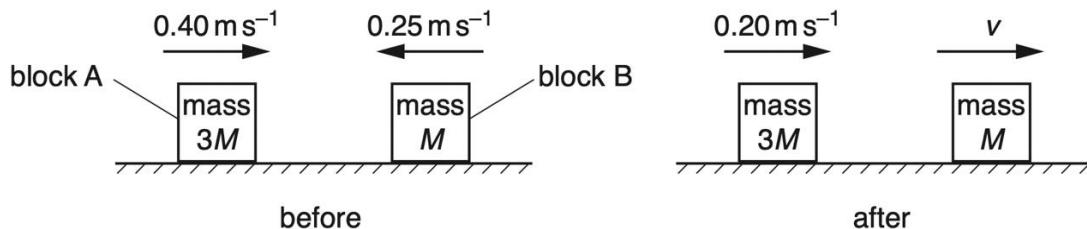


Fig. 2.1

Block A has mass $3M$ and block B has mass M .

Before the collision, block A moves to the right with speed 0.40 m s^{-1} and block B moves to the left with speed 0.25 m s^{-1} .

After the collision, block A moves to the right with speed 0.20 m s^{-1} and block B moves to the right with speed v .

- (a) (i) Use Newton's laws of motion to explain why the change in momentum of each block is equal in magnitude and opposite in direction.

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[4]

- (ii) Hence, explain whether it is possible for both blocks to be at rest simultaneously during the collision.

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(b) (i) Determine speed v .

$$v = \dots \text{ m s}^{-1} [2]$$

(ii) Deduce whether the collision is elastic or inelastic.

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[Total: 10]

[Turn over