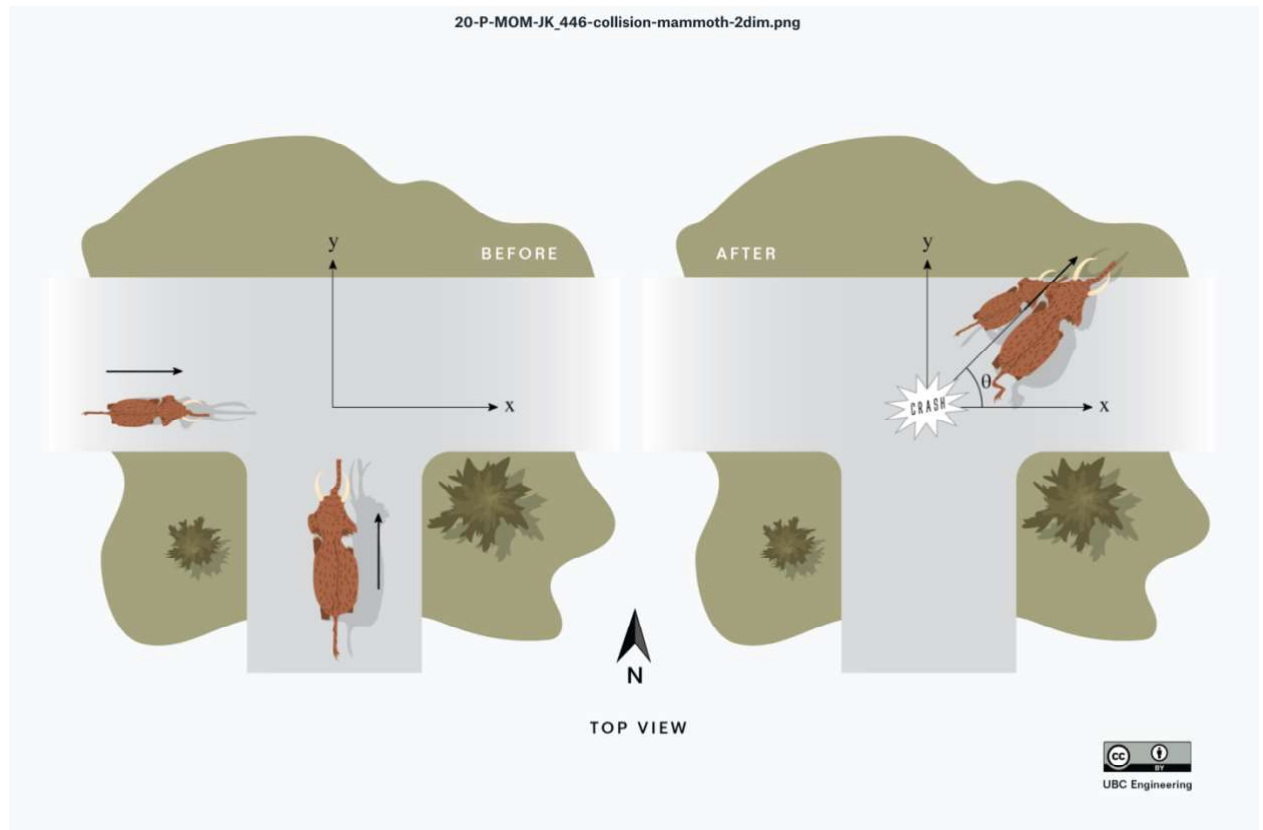


20-P-MOM-JK-445a and Mammoth-6 Collisions in two dimensions



The small mammoth A and the bigger mammoth B collided in the middle of the intersection as shown.

The small mammoth A was initially travelling to the East or in the positive x direction at a speed of 36 km/h.

$$\text{Speed in m/s} = (36 \text{ km/h}) (1 \text{ m/s}) / (3.6 \text{ km/h}) = 10 \text{ m/s}$$

The small mammoth A has a mass of 4000 kg.

The big mammoth B has a mass of 5000 kg. It is travelling in the +y direction as shown but has an unknown speed.

After the collision, they stuck together and moved off together at

an angle $\theta = 35.0^\circ$ above the x-axis as shown.

What was the initial velocity of the bigger mammoth B in metres per second if the smaller mammoth A had been traveling at 36.0 km/h in the positive x direction (as shown) before the collision? Assume that linear momentum was conserved.

Answers:

m mammoth A = 4000 kg

m mammoth B = 5000 kg

initial momentum in the east direction = $m_{\text{mammoth A}} v_{\text{mammoth A}}$
= 40,00 kg m/s

Momentum is conserved, so the final momentum at the angle shown is the same as the initial momentum.

$$\tan\theta = \frac{m_{\text{mammoth B}} v_{\text{mammoth B}}}{m_{\text{mammoth A}} v_{\text{mammoth A}}}$$

$$|\overrightarrow{v_{\text{mammoth B}}}| = \frac{m_{\text{mammoth A}} v_{\text{mammoth A}} \tan\theta}{m_{\text{mammoth B}}}$$