

Momentum Problems

Ch. 6

1. Two particles collide head-on in a perfectly inelastic collision. If  $m_1 = 0.5 \text{ kg}$ ,  $m_2 = 0.25 \text{ kg}$ ,  $v_1 = 4 \text{ m/s}$ , and  $v_2 = -3 \text{ m/s}$ , find the final velocity after the collision.

$M_1 = 0.5 \text{ kg}$

$V_{1i} = 4 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

$M_2 = 0.25 \text{ kg}$

$V_{2i} = -3 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

$V_f = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$



$M_1 V_{1i} + M_2 V_{2i} = (M_1 + M_2) V_f$

$V_f = \frac{M_1 V_{1i} + M_2 V_{2i}}{M_1 + M_2}$

$= \frac{0.5 \text{ kg} (4 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}) + (0.25 \text{ kg}) (-3 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}})}{0.5 \text{ kg} + 0.25 \text{ kg}}$

$V_f = +1.67 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

The two masses are moving to the right.

11. A 175 g overweight baseball heading right at 15 m/s hits a 400 g super-superball going 2.5 m/s to the left. After the elastic collision the super-superball is going 8.15 m/s to the right. Find the velocity and direction of the baseball.

$M_1 = 175 \text{ g}$

$V_{1i} = +15 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

$M_2 = 400 \text{ g}$

$V_{2i} = -2.5 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

$V_{2f} = +8.15 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

$V_{1f} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$



$M_1 V_{1i} + M_2 V_{2i} = M_1 V_{1f} + M_2 V_{2f}$

$V_{1f} = \frac{M_1 V_{1i} + M_2 V_{2i} - M_2 V_{2f}}{M_1}$

$= \frac{175 \text{ g} (15 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}) + (400 \text{ g}) (-2.5 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}) - (400 \text{ g}) (+8.15 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}})}{175 \text{ g}}$

$V_{1f} = -9.34 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

Baseball is moving to the left.

2. A 3000 kg cannon rests on a frozen pond. It fires a 30 kg cannon ball horizontally. If the cannon recoils to the right with a velocity of 1.8 m/s, what is the final velocity of the cannon?

$M_c = 3000 \text{ kg}$

$V_{ci} = 0 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

$M_b = 30 \text{ kg}$

$V_{bi} = 0 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

$V_{bf} = 1.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

$V_{cf} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$



$M_c V_{ci} + M_b V_{bi} = M_c V_{cf} + M_b V_{bf}$

$V_{cf} = -\frac{M_b V_{bf}}{M_c}$

$= -\frac{30 \text{ kg} (1.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}})}{3000 \text{ kg}}$

$V_{cf} = -0.018 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

cannon is moving to the left.