

## Learning Goals: Types of Collisions

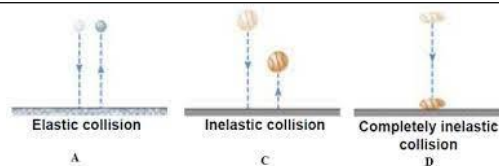
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### Objectives

- **Identify** different types of collisions.
- **Determine** the changes in kinetic energy during collisions.
- **Compare** conservation of momentum and conservation of kinetic energy in inelastic and elastic collisions.
- **Find** the final velocity of an object in inelastic and elastic collisions

## Types of collisions

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Collisions can be classified as either **elastic** or **inelastic**

In an **elastic collision**, both momentum and kinetic energy of the system are conserved

In an **inelastic collision**, momentum is conserved, but kinetic energy is not

A collision where the two objects stick together and move as one is considered **completely (perfectly) inelastic**

## Types of Collisions

The law of conservation of momentum is seen in All collisions.  
**Net momentum** (before collisions) = **Net momentum** (after collisions)

### 1. Elastic Collisions

- **KE is conserved**
  - $K_f = K_i$
- **All momentum is conserved**
- Example: When a Ball hits the ground and bounces to the same height, the collision is elastic

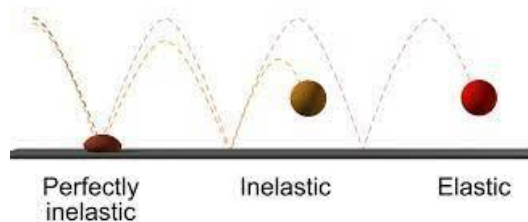
### 2. Inelastic Collisions

- **KE is converted into other forms of energy: (heat, sound, deformation, etc)**
  - $0 < K_f < K_i$
- **All momentum is conserved**
- Example: Cars colliding

## Types of Collisions

### 3. Completely (Perfectly) Inelastic Collisions

- **Where objects stick together, will result in MAX loss of KE ( $K_f = \text{minimum}$ ) and sticks**
- **All momentum is conserved**
- Both objects move with the same velocity afterwards –
  - Example – Firing a bullet that is embedded in a block of wood

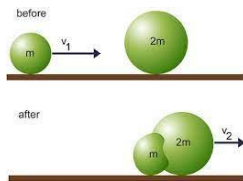


## KE in Collisions



- **Elastic Collisions – KE is conserved**
  - There is no deformation of objects involved in the collision or coupling of objects that stick together
  - $mv_{\text{before}} = mv_{\text{after}}$  Momentum
  - $\frac{1}{2} mv_{\text{before}}^2 = \frac{1}{2} mv_{\text{after}}^2$  KE

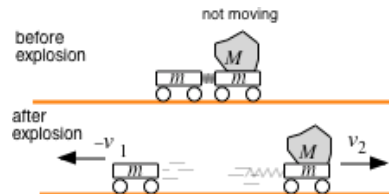
- **Inelastic Collisions – KE is NOT conserved**



- Some amount of energy is lost as the objects in the collision combine into one object
- $mv_{\text{before}} = mv_{\text{after}}$  Momentum
- $\frac{1}{2} mv_{\text{before}}^2 \neq \frac{1}{2} mv_{\text{after}}^2$  KE

## KE in Collisions

**Elastic** and **Inelastic** collisions “look” the same. You must calculate KE before and after to determine if the collision is Elastic



**Explosive Collision** - object is initially motionless, has no momentum and no kinetic energy.

- Some energy is converted from U (spring or chemical) to KE
- $K_f > K_i$
- Example: firecracker, or a bow and arrow, or a rocket rising through the air toward space.

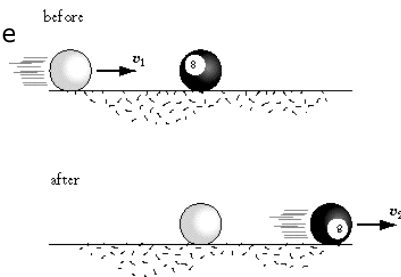
## Elastic Collisions

**Elastic** – 2 objects collide – move separately afterward

- Total momentum and **KE remain constant**
  - No heat generation
  - Objects maintain original shape
- $M_1V_{1i} + M_2V_{2i} = M_1V_{1f} + M_2V_{2f}$

○ **Example:** Two billiard balls collide

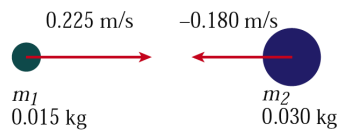
- Moving billiard ball hits another billiard ball at rest, head on. First ball comes to rest and 2nd ball moves with the initial velocity of second ball.



## Elastic Collision - Example

A 0.015 kg marble moving to the right at 0.225 m/s makes an elastic head-on collision with a 0.030 kg shooter marble moving to the left at 0.180 m/s. After the collision, the smaller marble moves to the left at 0.315 m/s. Assume that neither marble rotates before or after the collision and that both marbles are moving on a frictionless surface. What is the velocity of the 0.030 kg marble after the collision?

**Diagram:**



**Given:**

$$m_1 = 0.015 \text{ kg}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{1i} = 0.225 \text{ m/s to the right}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{1f} = 0.315 \text{ m/s to the left}$$

$$m_2 = 0.030 \text{ kg}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{2i} = 0.180 \text{ m/s to the left}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{2f} = ?$$

## Elastic Collision - Example

Given:

$$m_1 \mathbf{v}_{1i} + m_2 \mathbf{v}_{2i} = m_1 \mathbf{v}_{1f} + m_2 \mathbf{v}_{2f}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{2f} = (m_1 \mathbf{v}_{1i} + m_2 \mathbf{v}_{2i} - m_1 \mathbf{v}_{1f}) / m_2$$

$$v_{2f} = \frac{(0.015 \text{ kg})(0.225 \text{ m/s}) + (0.030 \text{ kg})(-0.180 \text{ m/s}) - (0.015 \text{ kg})(-0.315 \text{ m/s})}{0.030 \text{ kg}}$$
$$v_{2f} = \frac{(3.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}) + (-5.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}) - (-4.7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s})}{0.030 \text{ kg}}$$
$$v_{2f} = \frac{2.7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}}{3.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kg}}$$
$$\mathbf{v}_{2f} = 9.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m/s to the right}$$

## Completely Inelastic Collisions

- Two objects collide sticking together
- Become stuck together and travel as a single unit after collision
- Momentum is conserved and **KE is lost**
  - Ignore external forces (heat gain or lost, sound generation)
  - Results the velocity of the 2 colliding objects is the same after they collide
- $M_1 v_{1i} + M_2 v_{2i} = v_f (M_1 + M_2)$
- $\Delta KE = KE_f - KE_i$

**Examples:**

- Freight train cars collide (neglect noise)
- Two snowballs collide and stick together

## Example Problem: Completely Inelastic Collisions

Two clay balls collide head-on in a perfectly inelastic collision. The first ball has a mass of 0.500 kg and an initial velocity of 4.00 m/s to the right. The second ball has a mass of 0.250 kg and an initial velocity of 3.00 m/s to the left. What is the decrease in kinetic energy during the collision?

**Given:**

$$\Delta KE = ? \quad (\Delta KE = KE_f - KE_i)$$

$$m_1 = 0.500 \text{ kg}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{1i} = 4.00 \text{ m/s to the right}$$

$$V_{1f} = V_{2f}$$

$$KE_{1i} = \frac{1}{2}m_1V_{1i}^2$$

$$m_2 = 0.250 \text{ kg}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{2i} = 3.00 \text{ m/s to the left}$$

$$KE_{2i} = \frac{1}{2}m_2V_{2i}^2$$

$$KE_f = \frac{1}{2}(m_1 + m_2)V_f^2$$

Need  $V_f$  before you can solve for  $\Delta KE$

## Example Problem: Completely Inelastic Collisions

Soln: Find  $V_f$  1<sup>st</sup>

$$M_1V_{1i} + M_2V_{2i} = V_f (M_1 + M_2)$$

$$\mathbf{V}_f = \frac{M_1V_{1i} + M_2V_{2i}}{M_1 + M_2}$$

$$V_f = \frac{(.500\text{kg})(4.00 \text{ m/s}) + (.250\text{kg})(-3.00\text{m/s})}{(.500\text{kg} + .250\text{kg})}$$

$$V_f = 1.67 \text{ m/s to the right}$$

$$KE_i = KE_{1i} + KE_{2i} = \frac{1}{2} m_1 V_{1i}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 V_{2i}^2$$

$$KE_i = \frac{1}{2} (.500\text{kg})(4.00\text{m/s})^2 + \frac{1}{2} (.250\text{kg})(-3.00 \text{ m/s})^2$$

$$KE_i = 5.12 \text{ J}$$

$$KE_f = \frac{1}{2} (m_1 + m_2)V_f^2$$

$$KE_f = \frac{1}{2} (.500 \text{ kg} + .250 \text{ kg})(1.67 \text{ m/s})^2$$

$$KE_f = 1.05 \text{ J}$$

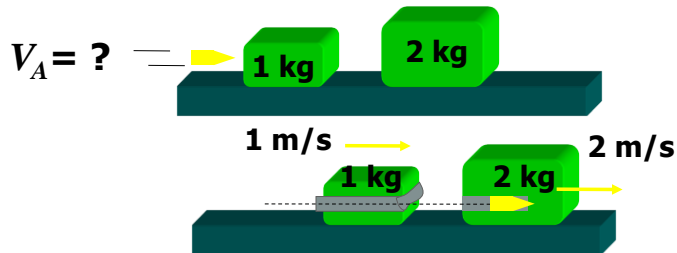
$$\Delta KE = KE_f - KE_i$$

$$\Delta KE = 1.05 \text{ J} - 5.12 \text{ J}$$

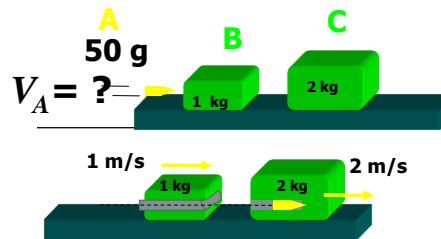
$$\Delta KE = -4.07 \text{ J}$$

## Example Problem: Completely Inelastic Collisions

A 50 g bullet strikes a 1-kg block, passes all the way through, then lodges into the 2 kg block. Afterward, the 1 kg block moves at 1 m/s and the 2 kg block moves at 2 m/s. What was the entrance velocity of the bullet?



Find entrance velocity of  
bullet:  $m_A = 0.05 \text{ kg}$ ;  $V_A = ?$



Momentum After =  
Momentum Before

$$m_A V_A + m_B \cancel{v_B} + m_C \cancel{v_C} = m_B v_B + (m_A + m_C) v_{AC}$$

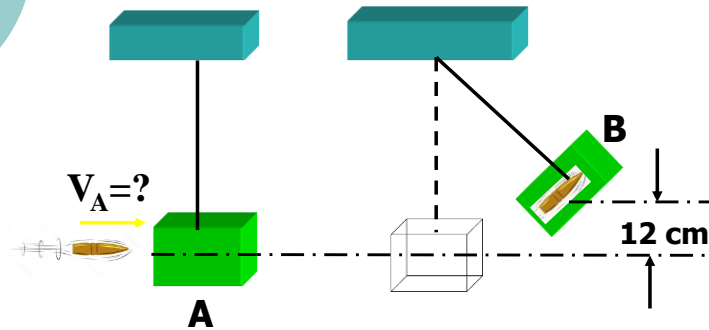
$$(0.05 \text{ kg}) V_A = (1 \text{ kg})(1 \text{ m/s}) + (2.05 \text{ kg})(2 \text{ m/s})$$

$$(0.05 \text{ kg}) V_A = (5.1 \text{ kg m/s})$$

$$V_A = 102 \text{ m/s}$$

## Ballistic Pendulum

A 50 g bullet lodges into a 2-kg block of clay hung by a string. The bullet and clay rise together to a height of 12 cm. What was the velocity of the 50-g mass just before entering?

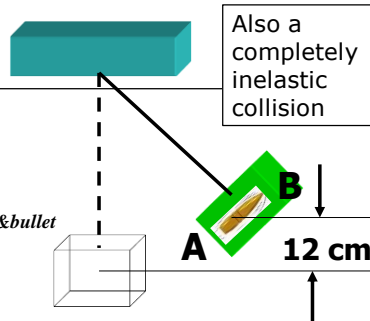


## Ballistic Pendulum

Bullet hits Block, move with NEW velocity & momentum

$$m_A \overset{?}{V_A} + m_B \overset{0}{V_B} = (m_A + m_B) \overset{?}{V_{block \& bullet}}$$

To find  $V_A$  we need  $V_{block \& bullet}$



After collision, energy is conserved for masses

$$KE_i + U_{g_i} = KE_f + U_{g_f}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (m_A + m_B) v_{block \& Bullet}^2 = (m_A + m_B) gh$$

$$V_{block \& bullet} = \sqrt{2gh}$$

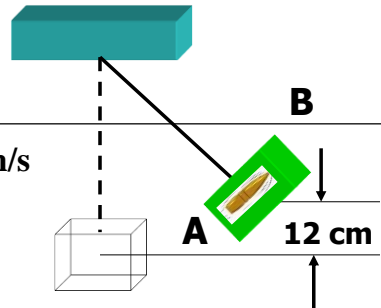
$$V_{block \& bullet} = \sqrt{2 \left( 9.8 \frac{m}{s} \right) 0.12m}$$

$$V_{block \& bullet} = 1.53 \text{ m/s}$$



## Ballistic Pendulum

$$V_{\text{block \& bullet}} = 1.53 \text{ m/s}$$



Momentum Also Conserved:

$$m_A V_A = (m_A + m_B) V_{\text{block \& bullet}}$$

$$V_A = \frac{(m_A + m_B) V_{\text{Block \& bullet}}}{m_A}$$

$$V_A = 62.9 \text{ m/s}$$

## Review: Types of Collisions

- During a collision the momentum of a system is constant.
  - ME is only constant if all the forces exerted on the system are conservative.
  - **Elastic collisions** are ones that only conservative internal forces are exerted
  - **Inelastic collisions** nonconservative internal forces cause the ME to be dissipated.
  - **Explosive collisions** – internal sources provide an increase in KE
  - **Completely inelastic collisions**- Max of ME dissipated. This occurs when the colliding objects stick together, and share the same final velocity