

# Momentum and impulse

Friday, January 29, 2010 2:54 PM

Diagram showing a block on an inclined plane at angle  $\theta$ . Forces acting on the block are: normal force  $F_n$  perpendicular to the plane, friction force  $F_f$  up the plane, and weight  $F_g$  vertically down. The weight is decomposed into components  $F_{g\sin\theta}$  down the plane and  $F_{g\cos\theta}$  perpendicular to the plane. Initial velocity  $v_i = 10 \text{ m/s}$  is shown up the plane. A double-headed arrow indicates the direction of motion.

$$F_{\text{net}} = -F_{\text{down}} - F_f$$

$$ma = -m g \sin\theta - \mu m g \cos\theta$$

$$a = -g \sin\theta - \mu g \cos\theta$$

$$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2ad$$

$$0 = (10)^2 + 2[\text{ ]}d$$

Momentum was defined by Isaac Newton in the 1600's as "the quantity of motion". Today we know momentum is the product of mass and velocity.

$p = mv$  units:  $\text{kg m/s}$       $N = \text{kg m/s}^2$       $p \rightarrow N \cdot s$

CHANGE IN ANYTHING MUST BE FOUND BY TAKING THE FINAL VALUE - INITIAL VALUE

$$\Delta p = mv_f - mv_i$$

Impulse: the change in momentum, it is caused by making a force act on an object for a period of time.

$$= m(v_f - v_i)$$

$$= m \Delta v$$

$$m \Delta v = at m$$

$$\Delta p = ma t$$

$$\Delta p = F \cdot t = \text{impulse}$$

A cat is moving north at 2.0 m/s when suddenly the 3.0 kg cat is kicked in the face with a force of 50 N [S]. If the entire event occurred in 0.25 s, what is the final velocity of the cat?

Diagram showing a vertical force of 50 N acting downwards on a cat moving upwards with  $v = 2 \text{ m/s}$  and  $m = 3 \text{ kg}$ . The force is applied "over .25 s".

$$\Delta p = F \cdot t$$

$$3(v_f - 2) = 50(.25)$$

$$v_f = \frac{-12.5 + 6}{3} = -2.17 \text{ m/s [South]}$$

The cat's  $v$  is  $2.17 \text{ m/s}$  south.



# The Law of Conservation of Momentum

Wednesday, November 24, 2010 12:00 PM

This states the total momentum of the universe remains constant from before to after any event. **THIS IS A UNIVERSALLY OBEYED LAW.** Be sure to total the X, Y and Z directions separately.

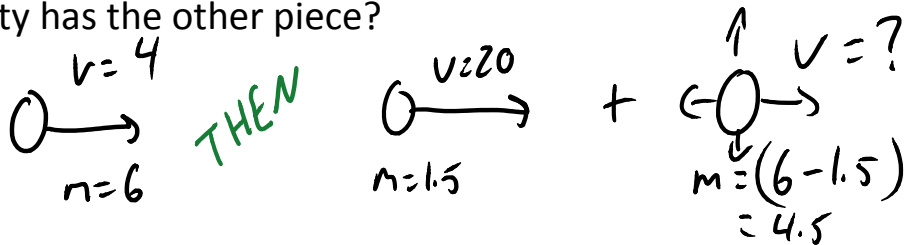
Imagine a cat of mass 5.0 kg at rest is struck by a 3.0 kg leg moving east at 4.0 m/s. If the leg is seen after the collision moving east at 1.2 m/s what velocity has the cat after the collision?

$$(m_1 v_1)_i + (m_2 v_2)_i = (m_1 v_1)_f + (m_2 v_2)_f$$
$$3(4) + 5(0) = 3(1.2) + 5(V_f)$$
$$12 = 3.6 + 5V_f$$
$$\frac{12 - 3.6}{5} = V_f$$
$$1.68 \frac{m}{s}$$

Explosions: separate object such that the sum of the momenta must be equal to the starting momentum

A cat of mass 6.0 kg, traveling at 4.0 m/s [E] explodes into 2 pieces. If the front piece is mass 1.5 kg and has a final velocity of 20 m/s [E] what

velocity has the other piece?



$$(\Delta p)_i = (\Delta p)_f$$

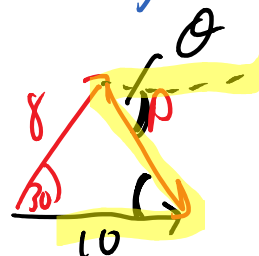
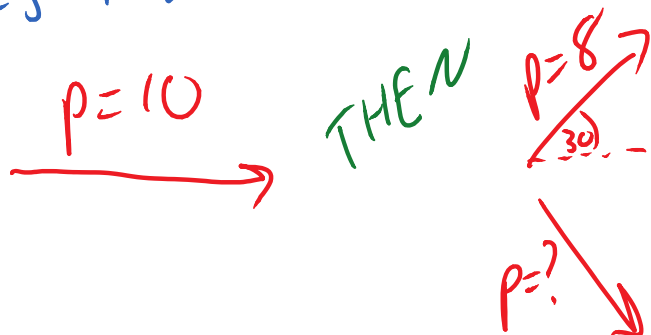
$$6(4) = 1.5(20) + 4.5V$$

$$\frac{6(4) - 1.5(20)}{4.5} = V = -1.33 \frac{m}{s}$$

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In two dimensions the law still holds.  $X_{total}$  before collision =  $X_{total}$  after collision AND  $Y_{total}$  before collision =  $Y_{total}$  after collision.

eg: I shoot a watermelon at of the sky.



$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \theta$$

$$= 10^2 + 8^2 - 2(10)(8) \cos 30$$

$$= 5.0$$

$$\theta \Rightarrow \frac{\sin \theta}{8} = \frac{\sin 30}{5}$$

$$\theta = \sin^{-1} \left[ \frac{8 \sin(30)}{5} \right]$$

$$= 53^\circ \text{ S of E.}$$