

2. (40 pts.) A 3.0 kg ball is moving with a velocity 4.0 m/s along the  $x$  axis. It strikes a 5.0 kg ball that was initially at rest. After the collision, the 5.0 kg ball moves with a velocity of 2.2 m/s at an angle of  $35^\circ$  away from the  $x$  axis. The collision takes place on a horizontal frictionless  $xy$  plane.

a. (10 pts.) *Before* doing any calculations, can you assume that the total mechanical energy of the system (kinetic + potential) is conserved during the collision? **Carefully** justify your answer.

b. (10 pts.) *Before* doing any calculations, can you assume that the total momentum of the system is conserved during the collision? **Carefully** justify your answer.

c. (20 pts.) Find the velocity *vector* of the 3.0kg ball after the collision.

*Big Hint:* It is easiest to simply solve for the  $x$  and  $y$  components of the velocity of the 3.0 kg ball, rather than solving for the magnitude and direction.

3. (40 pts.) A 3.0 kg ball is moving with a velocity 4.0 m/s along the x axis. It strikes a 5.0 kg ball that was initially at rest. After the collision, the 5.0 kg ball moves with a velocity of 2.2 m/s at an angle of 35° away from the x axis. The collision takes place on a horizontal frictionless xy plane.

a. (10 pts.) Before doing any calculations, can you assume that the total mechanical energy of the system (kinetic + potential) is conserved during the collision?

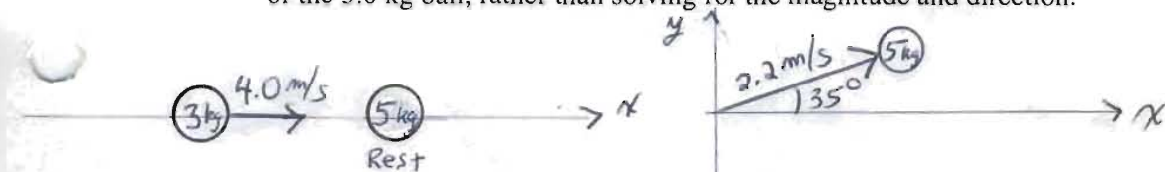
Carefully justify your answer. NO. You do not know the nature of the interaction forces. They might be non-conservative. [Remember the lab with sticky tape.]

b. (10 pts.) Before doing any calculations, can you assume that the total momentum of the system is conserved during the collision? Carefully justify your answer.

Yes. Since the net external force is zero,  
 $\vec{P}_i = \vec{P}_f$

c. (20 pts.) Find the velocity vector of the 3.0 kg ball after the collision.

Big Hint: It is easiest to simply solve for the x and y components of the velocity of the 3.0 kg ball, rather than solving for the magnitude and direction.



$$\vec{P}_i = \vec{P}_f$$

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

x-components:

$$m_1 = 3$$

$$m_2 = 5$$

$$v_{1i} = 4 \hat{x}$$

$$v_{2i} = 0$$

$$\vec{v}_{1f} = ?$$

$$v_{2f} = 2.2 @ 35^\circ$$

$$v_{2f,x} = 2.2 \cos 35^\circ = 1.80 \text{ m/s}$$

$$v_{2f,y} = 2.2 \sin 35^\circ = 1.26 \text{ m/s}$$

$$m_1 v_{1i,x} + 0 = m_1 v_{1f,x} + m_2 v_{2f,x}$$

y-components:

$$\frac{(m_1 v_{1i,x} - m_2 v_{2f,x})}{m_1} = v_{1f,x}$$

$$0.996 \text{ m/s} = v_{1f,x}$$

$$0 + 0 = m_1 v_{1f,y} + m_2 v_{2f,y}$$

$$v_{1f,y} = \frac{-m_2 v_{2f,y}}{m_1}$$

$$v_{1f,y} = -2.10 \text{ m/s}$$

Alternate approach using magnitude and direction:

x-components:

$$m_1 v_{1ix} + 0 = m_1 v_{1fx} \cos \theta_{1f} + m_2 v_{2fx} \cos \theta_{2f}$$

$$v_{1fx} \cos \theta_{1f} = \frac{(m_1 v_{1ix} + 0 - m_2 v_{2fx} \cos \theta_{2f})}{m_1}$$
$$= \frac{(3 \text{ kg})(4.0 \text{ m/s}) - (5 \text{ kg})(2.2 \text{ m/s}) \cos 35^\circ}{3 \text{ kg}}$$

$$\boxed{v_{1fx} \cos \theta_{1f} = 0.996 \text{ m/s}}$$

y-components:

$$0 + 0 = m_1 v_{1fy} \sin \theta_{1f} + m_2 v_{2fy} \sin \theta_{2f}$$

$$v_{1fy} \sin \theta_{1f} = \frac{-m_2 v_{2fy} \sin \theta_{2f}}{m_1} = \frac{-(5 \text{ kg})(2.2 \text{ m/s}) \sin 35^\circ}{3 \text{ kg}}$$

$$\boxed{v_{1fy} \sin \theta_{1f} = -2.10 \text{ m/s}}$$

How do we combine these two to solve for  $v_{1f}$  and  $\theta_{1f}$ ?

Use 2 trig tricks:  $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ , and  $\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \tan \theta$ .

First: square and add

$$v_{1f}^2 \cos^2 \theta_{1f} + v_{1f}^2 \sin^2 \theta_{1f} = (0.996 \text{ m/s})^2 + (-2.10 \text{ m/s})^2$$

$$v_{1f}^2 (1) = 5.416 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}^2$$

$$\boxed{v_{1f} = 2.33 \text{ m/s}}$$

Second: take ratio:

$$\frac{v_{1fy} \sin \theta_{1f}}{v_{1fx} \cos \theta_{1f}} = \frac{-2.10 \text{ m/s}}{0.996 \text{ m/s}}$$

$$\tan \theta_{1f} = -2.108$$

$$\boxed{\theta_{1f} = -64.6^\circ}$$