



DEVIL PHYSICS  
THE BADDEST CLASS ON CAMPUS  
IB PHYSICS

**TSOKOS LESSON 2-4**  
**MOMENTUM AND IMPULSE**

# Essential Idea:

- Conservation of momentum is an example of a law that is never violated.

# Nature Of Science:

- The concept of momentum and the principle of momentum conservation can be used to analyze and predict the outcome of a wide range of physical interactions, from macroscopic motion to microscopic collisions.

# International-Mindedness:

- Automobile passive safety standards have been adopted across the globe based on research conducted in many countries.

# Theory Of Knowledge:

- Do conservation laws restrict or enable further development in physics?

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- Do conservation laws restrict or enable further development in physics?



# Understandings:

- Newton's second law expressed in terms of rate of change of momentum
- Impulse and force–time graphs
- Conservation of linear momentum
- Elastic collisions, inelastic collisions and explosions



# Applications And Skills:

- Applying conservation of momentum in simple isolated systems including (but not limited to) collisions, explosions, or water jets
- Using Newton's second law quantitatively and qualitatively in cases where mass is not constant

# Applications And Skills:

- Sketching and interpreting force–time graphs
- Determining impulse in various contexts including (but not limited to) car safety and sports
- Qualitatively and quantitatively comparing situations involving elastic collisions, inelastic collisions and explosions

# Guidance:

- Students should be aware that  $F = ma$  is the equivalent of  $F = \frac{\Delta p}{\Delta t}$  only when mass is constant
- *Solving simultaneous equations involving conservation of momentum and energy in collisions will not be required*

# Guidance:

- Calculations relating to collisions and explosions will be restricted to one-dimensional situations
- A comparison between energy involved in inelastic collisions (in which kinetic energy is not conserved) and the conservation of (total) energy should be made

# Data Booklet Reference:

$$p = mv$$

$$F = \frac{\Delta p}{\Delta t}$$

$$E_K = \frac{p^2}{2m}$$

$$\text{Im pulse} = F\Delta t = \Delta p$$

# Utilization:

- Jet engines and rockets

# Aims:

- Aim 3: conservation laws in science disciplines have played a major role in outlining the limits within which scientific theories are developed

# Aims:

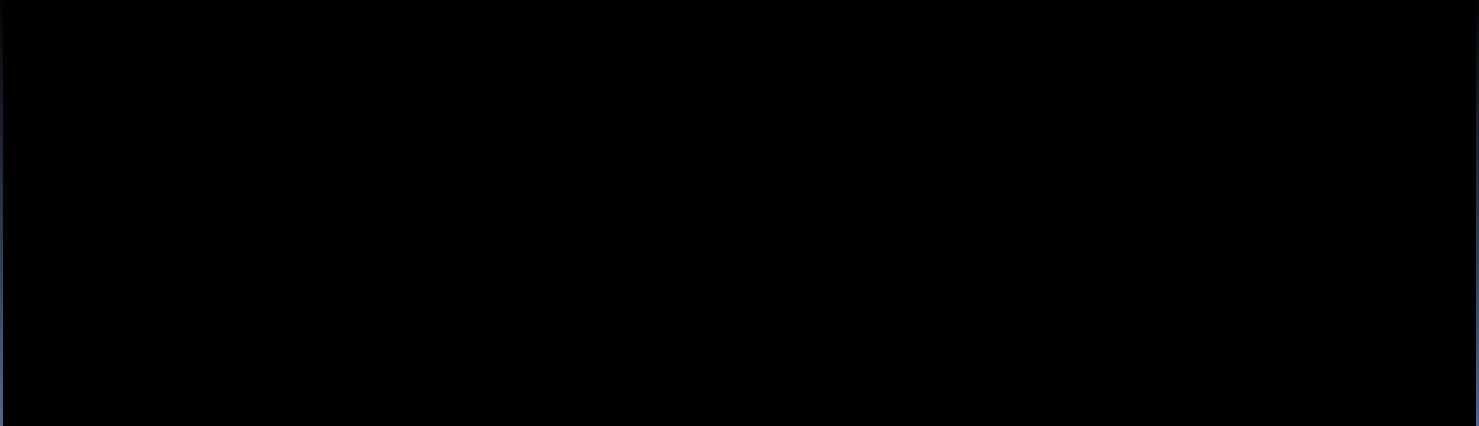
- Aim 6: experiments could include (but are not limited to): analysis of collisions with respect to energy transfer; impulse investigations to determine velocity, force, time, or mass; determination of amount of transformed energy in inelastic collisions



# Aims:

- Aim 7: technology has allowed for more accurate and precise measurements of force and momentum, including video analysis of real-life collisions and modeling/simulations of molecular collisions

# Introductory Video



# Concept of Momentum

- Momentum is a product of the mass and the velocity of an object
- Momentum is a vector quantity whose direction is the same as the velocity
- Unit of momentum is

$$\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$$

$$(kg)(m/s) = kg \cdot m/s$$

- But is often referred to as N·s

$$(kg \cdot m/s^2)(s) = kg \cdot m/s$$

# Newton's Second Law

- The average net force on a body equals the *rate of change* of a body's momentum

$$\vec{F}_{net} = m\vec{a}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = m \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = m \frac{\vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i}{\Delta t}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = \frac{m\vec{v}_f - m\vec{v}_i}{\Delta t}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = \frac{\Delta \vec{p}}{\Delta t}$$

# Example 1

$$\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = \frac{\Delta\vec{p}}{\Delta t}$$

- A 0.100 kg ball moving left to right at 5 m/s bounces off a vertical wall with no change in speed. If the collision lasted for 0.1 s, what force did the wall exert on the ball?
  - A. 0 N
  - B. 5 N
  - C. 10 N
  - D. -10 N
  - E. Cannot be determined from the information

# Example 1

- A 0.100 kg ball moving left to right at 5 m/s bounces off a vertical wall with no change in speed. If the collision lasted for 0.1 s, what force did the wall exert on the ball?

- A. .
- B. .
- C. .
- D. -10 N
- E. .

$$\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = \frac{\Delta\vec{p}}{\Delta t}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = \frac{m\vec{v}_f - m\vec{v}_i}{\Delta t}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = \frac{-0.5 - 0.5}{0.1}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = \frac{-1.0}{0.1}$$

$$\vec{F}_{net} = -10N$$

# Impulse

$$\vec{F}_{net} = \frac{\Delta \vec{p}}{\Delta t}$$

- The desire to do something without thinking, usually based on emotion
- If  $\Delta t$  is large, then  $F_{net}$  represents average force on the body
- If  $\Delta t$  is infinitely small, then  $F_{net}$  represents instantaneous force on the body and,

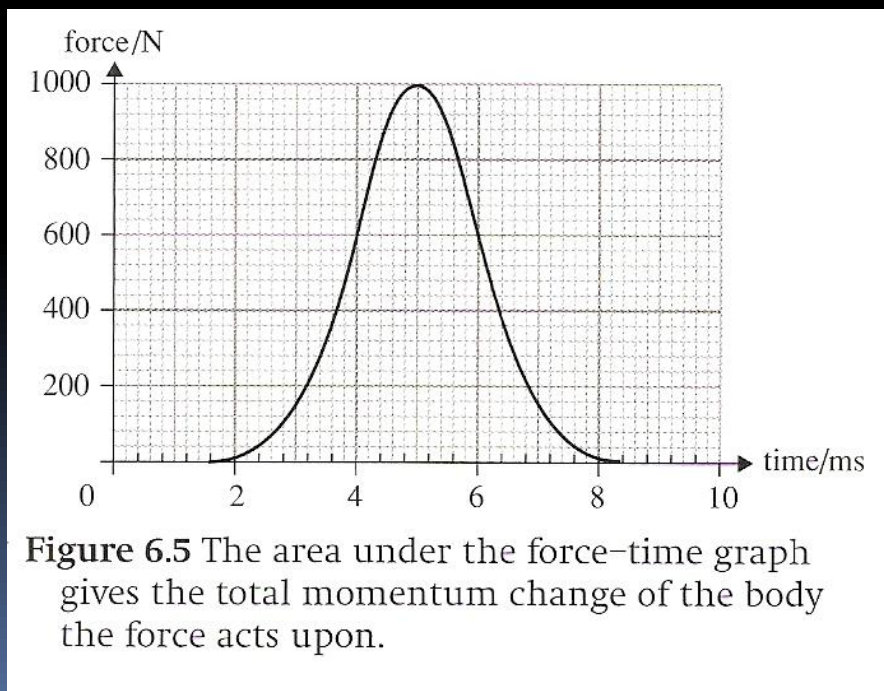
$$\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{F}_{net} \Delta t$$

is called the impulse of the force

# Impulse

$$\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{F}_{net} \Delta t$$

- Impulse is the area under the curve of a force-time graph and equals the **total** momentum change

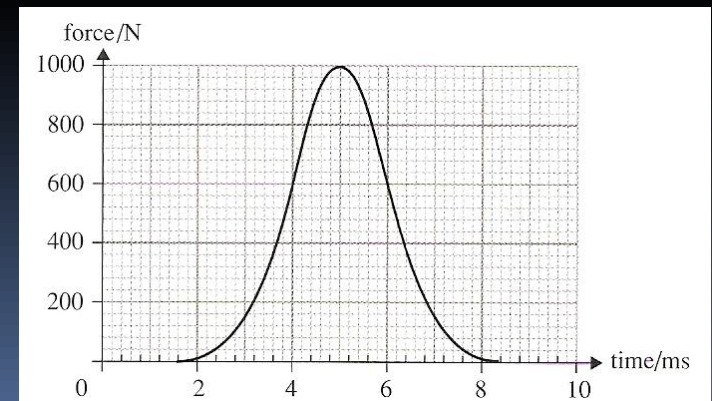




# Impulse

$$\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{F}_{net} \Delta t$$

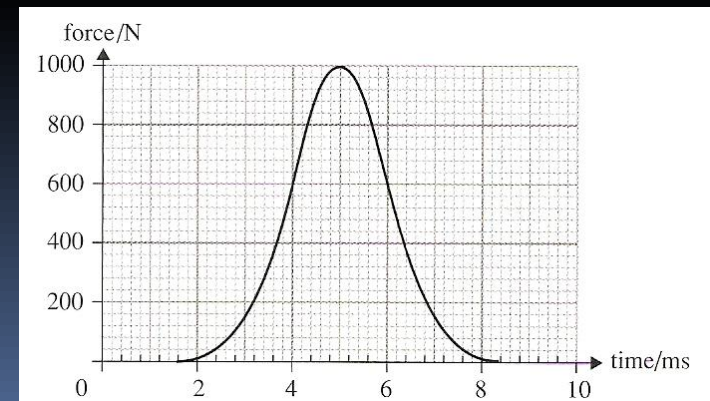
- Q. I push a box with one hand, then with two hands. Can I do this with the same impulse each time?



# Impulse

$$\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{F}_{net} \Delta t$$

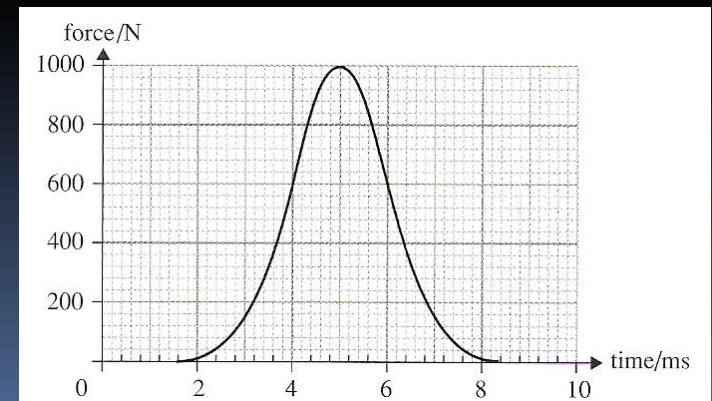
- Q. I push a box with one hand, then with two hands. Can I do this with the same impulse each time?
- A. Yes. The push with two hands will involve a larger force, but if done over a shorter period of time it will have the same impulse as with one hand.



# Impulse

$$\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{F}_{net} \Delta t$$

- Q. What impact will this have (pun intended) on a car accident with or without an airbag?

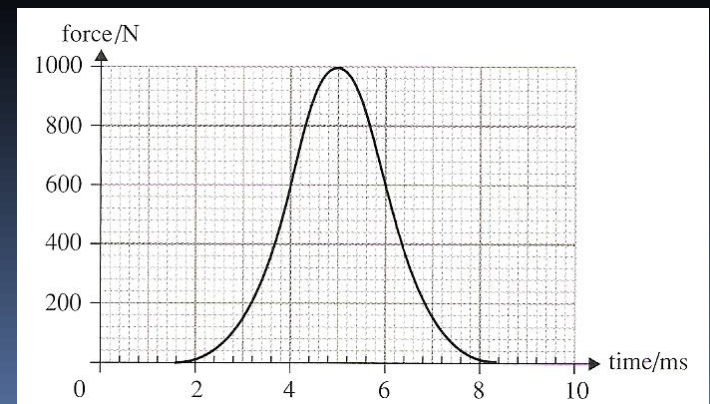


# Impulse

$$\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{F}_{net} \Delta t$$

- Q. What impact will this have (pun intended) on a car accident with or without an airbag?
- A. Without an airbag, the force is applied over a short period of time as the driver hits the steering wheel. With an airbag, the momentum changes over a longer period of time so the net force is reduced.

$$\frac{\Delta \vec{p}}{\Delta t} = \vec{F}_{net}$$



# Conservation of Momentum



# Conservation of Momentum

- The total momentum of a system is defined as the **vector sum** of the individual momenta

$$P_{total} = m_1 \vec{v}_1 + m_2 \vec{v}_2$$

- When no external forces act on a system, the total momentum of the system stays the same

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

# Conservation of Momentum

- If a car runs into a wall and the wall doesn't move, how is momentum conserved?
- If I jump off a chair and land on the ground, how is momentum conserved?

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

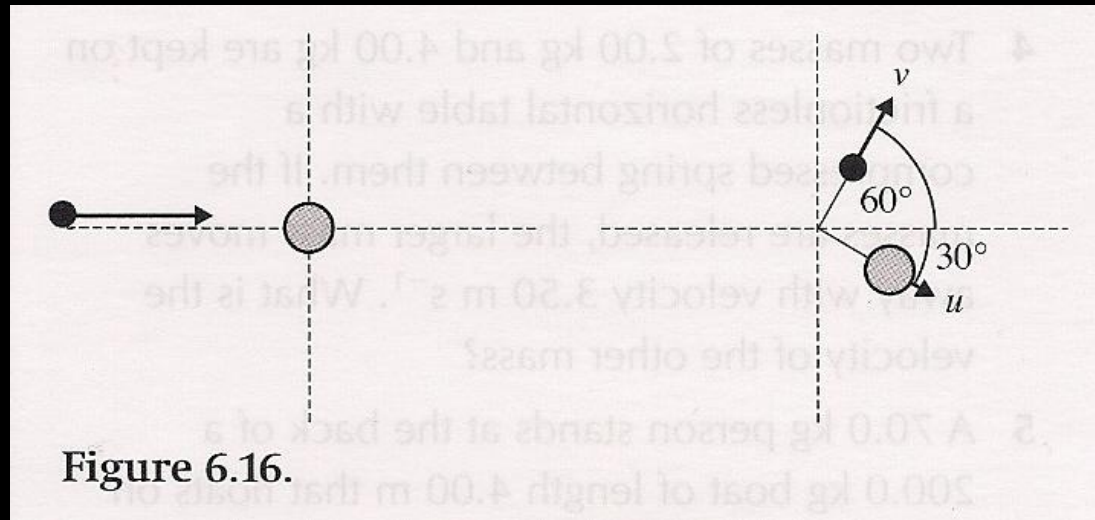
Where does momentum go?



# Two Dimensional Collisions

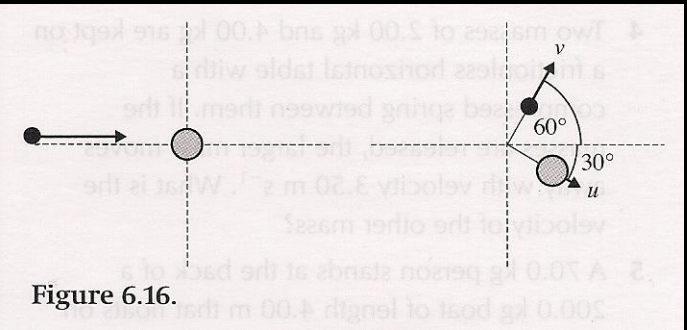
- Momentum is a vector quantity and is conserved as a vector quantity
- When bodies collide at an angle, momentum is conserved in the resolved x- and y-axes

# Two Dimensional Collisions



- Consider a collision of the above two masses
- The smaller is  $4.0\text{kg}$  moving at  $12\text{m/s}$
- The larger is  $12.0\text{kg}$  at rest
- After the collision, the smaller deflects at a  $60$  degree angle above the horizontal
- The larger deflects  $30$  degrees below the horizontal

# Two Dimensional Collisions



*x-axis*

$$P_{i_x} = m_{1i} \vec{v}_{1i} + m_{2i} \vec{v}_{2i}$$

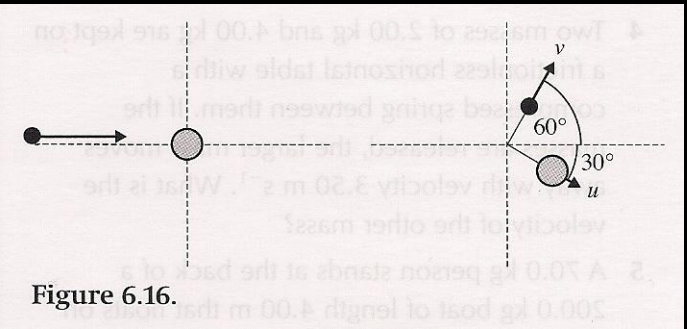
$$P_{i_x} = (4)(12) + 0 = 48$$

$$P_{f_x} = (m_{1f} \vec{v}_{1f}) \cos 60 + (m_{2f} \vec{v}_{2f}) \cos 30$$

$$P_{f_x} = 4\vec{v}_{1f} \cos 60 + 12\vec{v}_{2f} \cos 30 = 48$$

- $m_{1i} = 4.0\text{kg}$
- $v_{1i} = 12\text{m/s}$
- $m_{2i} = 12.0\text{kg}$
- $v_{2i} = 0$

# Two Dimensional Collisions



*x - axis*

$$P_{fx} = 4\vec{v}_{1f} \cos 60 + 12\vec{v}_{2f} \cos 30 = 48$$

*y - axis*

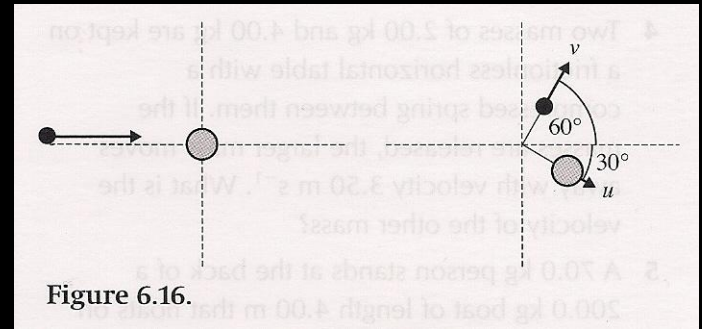
$$P_{iy} = 0$$

$$P_{fy} = (m_{1f}\vec{v}_{1f})\sin 60 + (m_{2f}\vec{v}_{2f})\sin 30$$

$$P_{fy} = 4\vec{v}_{1f} \sin 60 + 12\vec{v}_{2f} \sin 30 = 0$$

- $m_{1i} = 4.0\text{kg}$
- $v_{1i} = 12\text{m/s}$
- $m_{2i} = 12.0\text{kg}$
- $v_{2i} = 0$

# Two Dimensional Collisions



*x - axis*

$$P_{f_x} = 4\vec{v}_{1f} \cos 60 + 12\vec{v}_{2f} \cos 30 = 48$$

*y - axis*

$$P_{f_y} = 4\vec{v}_{1f} \sin 60 + 12\vec{v}_{2f} \sin 30 = 0$$

- $m_{1i} = 4.0\text{kg}$
- $v_{1i} = 12\text{m/s}$
- $m_{2i} = 12.0\text{kg}$
- $v_{2i} = 0$

Solve equations simultaneously

# Kinetic Energy and Momentum

- Momentum is *always* conserved in *all* collisions
- Kinetic energy is *only* conserved in *toootaly elastic* collisions
  - This because in a perfectly elastic collision, no energy is lost to heat, sound or outside objects
  - When two objects stick together after a collision, the collision is said to be *tooooooooootaly inelastic* (or plastic)

# Rocket Equation

- $M$  = mass of rocket + fuel (m)
- $\delta v$  = change in velocity
- $\delta m$  = change in mass of fuel
- $u$  = velocity of the exhaust gases
- After time  $\delta t$ , the mass of the exhaust is  $\delta m$ , the mass of the rocket is  $M - \delta m$ , the speed of the rocket is  $v + \delta v$ , and the speed of the exhaust is  $u - (v + \delta v)$

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$$Mv = (M - \delta m)(v + \delta v) - \delta m(u - v - \delta v)$$

$$Mv = Mv + M\delta v - \delta m\delta v - \delta m\delta v - \delta mu + \delta mv + \delta m\delta v$$

$$0 = M\delta v - \delta mu$$



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$$0 = M\delta v - \delta m u$$

$$M\delta v = \delta m u$$

$$M \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{dm}{dt} u$$

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*QUESTIONÈSI*

# Homework

*Pg. 109-110, #72-83*

