

Last Lecture

- Combining momentum and energy

Today

- 2D collisions

Important Concepts

- Momentum is a vector, energy is not.
- Think carefully about internal versus external forces.
- Energy changes due to forces along the motion, momentum changes due to external forces acting over a period of time.

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Important Reminders

Pset #7 due Today.

- Leave it here now or drop it at my office before 6:30pm.

MasteringPhysics due next Monday.

Experiment #5 next Tuesday.

Pset # 8 due next Friday.

No class tomorrow.

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Problem-Solving Strategy 4-steps

Don't try to see your way to the final answer

- Focus on the physical situation, not the specific question

Think through the techniques to see which one (or ones) apply to all or part of the situation

- Focus on the conditions under which techniques work

Think carefully about the geometry

- Here is the one place where lots of practice can help

Make sure you are efficient in applying techniques

- Here is one place where memorization can help

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Techniques you should know

Kinematics

- Position+velocity+acceleration+time
- Useful for constant acceleration or formulas for x vs t

F=ma

- Frequently needed along with other techniques

Work & Energy

- Speed at points A & B, PE, known forces along motion

Momentum

- Collisions, objects come together or fly apart

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Helpful Hints

Don't memorize special cases (N=mg, for example).

Think about why things you write are true

- For example, never write $f=\mu N$ without thinking (or preferably writing down) why that is true

Draw a careful picture.

Think about special cases ($\theta=0$, for example) to check that you have the geometry correct.

Watch out for missing minus signs.

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Momentum

Very simple formula: $\vec{p}_{Tot} = \Sigma(m_i \vec{v}_i)$

- Note the vector addition! $\Delta \vec{p}_{Tot} = \int \vec{F} dt$

Momentum of a system is conserved only if:

- No **net external** forces acting on the system.
- Or, study the system only over a **very short time** span.

Collisions in 2 dimensions add another equation for the second component but otherwise are not new.

- Momentum can be used to find 1 unknown per spatial dimension. Work&Energy can be solved for 1 unknown.

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