

90. (First problem in **Cluster 2**)

The setup for this cluster refers to Fig. 10-16 in the chapter that assumes both angles are positive (at least, this is what is assumed in writing down Eq. 10-43) regardless of whether they are measured clockwise or counterclockwise. In this solution, we adopt that same convention.

(a) We first examine conservation of the y components of momentum:

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= -m_1 v_{1f} \sin \theta_1 + m_2 v_{2f} \sin \theta_2 \\0 &= -m_1(5.00 \text{ m/s}) \sin 30^\circ + (2m_1) v_{2f} \sin \theta_2\end{aligned}$$

Next, we examine conservation of the x components of momentum.

$$\begin{aligned}m_1 v_{1i} &= m_1 v_{1f} \cos \theta_1 + m_2 v_{2f} \cos \theta_2 \\m_1(10.0 \text{ m/s}) &= m_1(5.00 \text{ m/s}) \cos 30^\circ + (2m_1) v_{2f} \cos \theta_2\end{aligned}$$

From the y equation, we obtain $1.25 = v_{2f} \sin \theta_2$ with SI units understood; similarly, the x equation yields $2.83 = v_{2f} \cos \theta_2$. Squaring these two relations and adding them leads to

$$1.25^2 + 2.83^2 = v_{2f}^2 (\sin^2 \theta_2 + \cos^2 \theta_2)$$

and consequently to $v_{2f} = \sqrt{1.25^2 + 2.83^2} = 3.10 \text{ m/s}$. Plugging back in to either the x or y equation yields the angle $\theta_2 = 23.8^\circ$.

(b) We compute decrease in total kinetic energy:

$$K_i - K_f = 27.9 m_1$$

so that the collision is seen to be inelastic. We find that

$$\frac{27.9 m_1}{\frac{1}{2} m_1 10^2} = 0.558 ,$$

or roughly 56%, of the initial energy has been “lost.”