

2009

5. (a) A smooth sphere P, of mass  $m$  kg, moving with speed  $2u$  m/s collides directly with a smooth sphere Q, of mass  $2m$  kg, moving in the same direction with speed  $u$  m/s.  
The coefficient of restitution between the spheres is  $e$ .

- (i) Find, in terms of  $e$ , the speed of each sphere after the collision.  
(ii) Prove that the speed of Q increases after the collision.  
(iii) Find the value of  $e$  if the speed of P after the collision is  $\frac{10u}{9}$  m/s.

(i) PCM  $m(2u) + 2m(u) = mv_1 + 2mv_2$

NEL  $v_1 - v_2 = -e(2u - u)$

$$v_1 = \frac{u(4 - 2e)}{3}$$

$$v_2 = \frac{u(4 + e)}{3}$$

(ii)

$$v_2 = \frac{u(4 + e)}{3}$$

$> u$  as  $e > 0$

$\Rightarrow$  speed of Q increases

(iii)

$$v_1 = \frac{u(4 - 2e)}{3}$$

$$\frac{10u}{9} = \frac{u(4 - 2e)}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow e = \frac{1}{3}$$

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