

5. (a) A sphere, of mass m and speed u , impinges directly on a stationary sphere of mass $3m$.

The coefficient of restitution between the spheres is e .

- (i) Find, in terms of u and e , the speed of each sphere after the collision.
- (ii) If $e = \frac{1}{4}$, find the percentage loss in kinetic energy due to the collision.

(i) PCM $m(u) + 3m(0) = mv_1 + 3mv_2$

NEL $v_1 - v_2 = -e(u - 0)$

$$v_1 = \frac{u(1-3e)}{4}$$

$$v_2 = \frac{u(1+e)}{4}$$

(ii)

$$e = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow v_1 = \frac{u}{16} \text{ and } v_2 = \frac{5u}{16}$$

$$\text{K.E. before} = \frac{1}{2}mu^2$$

$$\text{K.E. after} = \frac{1}{2}mv_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}(3m)v_2^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}m\left(\frac{u}{16}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(3m)\left(\frac{5u}{16}\right)^2$$

$$= \frac{76mu^2}{512} \text{ or } \frac{19mu^2}{128}$$

$$\text{Loss in KE} = \frac{1}{2}mu^2 - \frac{19mu^2}{128} = \frac{45mu^2}{128}$$

$$\text{Percentage loss in KE} = \frac{\frac{45mu^2}{128}}{\frac{1}{2}mu^2}(100) = 70.3\%$$

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