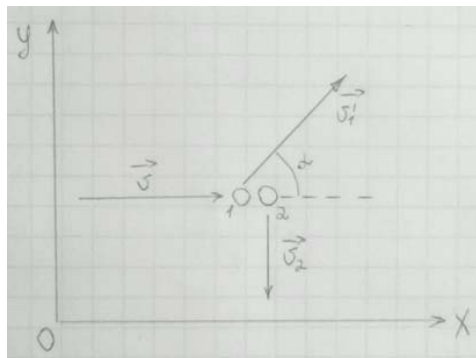


1. A mass 'm' moves with a velocity v and collides inelastically with another identical mass. After collision the 1st mass moves with velocity $v/\sqrt{3}$ in a direction perpendicular to the initial direction of motion. Find the speed of the 2nd mass after collision.

m
v
$v_2 = v/\sqrt{3}$
$v_1 = ?$

Solution.



We have to use the law impulse conservation during inelastic collision.

$$m \vec{v} = m \vec{v}_1 + m \vec{v}_2 .$$

Let write the last vector equation in projectives onto the X- and Y-axes.

$$\begin{cases} mv = mv_1 \cos \alpha \\ 0 = mv_1 \sin \alpha - mv_2 \end{cases} . \quad (1)$$

(2)

From the Eq. (2), we can find that

$$v_1 = \frac{v_2}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{3} \sin \alpha} .$$

Then, let write the Eq. (1):

$$mv = m \cdot \frac{v}{\sqrt{3} \sin \alpha} \cdot \cos \alpha , \quad \text{tg } \alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} , \quad \alpha = 30^\circ .$$

So, the speed of the second mass after collision:

$$v_1 = \frac{v}{\sqrt{3} \sin 30^\circ} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2}} = v \cdot \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} .$$

Answer: $v \cdot \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} .$