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1. EFFORT: *very good*

FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS:

2. COMPLETENESS:

- a. Showed P conserved for all 4 collisions. ✓
- b. Showed calculations incl. unc. calc'n. for collision 2. ✓
 - i. Used Eqn. Editor. ✓
- c. Showed KE conserved in coll. 1-3. ✓
- d. Showed KE not conserved in coll. 4. ✓
- e. Showed why $\frac{1}{2}$ KE vanishes in frictionless sticking collision if P is conserved. *NO ATTEMPT*
- f. Explained what forms of energy lost KE took. *NO*
- g. Proved using numbers there was friction between gliders and track. (No calc'n req'd.) *WRONG*
- h. Explained effect of greater separation of photogates on conservation of P. ✓
- i. Described how to get data needed to test conservation if friction is significant. *NO ATTEMPT*
 - i. Correctly identified needed data. *NO*
- j. Explained why friction affects kinetic energy more than momentum. ✓

3. FORMATTING/TEXT ISSUES:

- a. Section headings. *NO*
 - i. Appropriate mat'l i ✓
- b. Equation format. ✓
 - i. Used example of sample formal report on web site. ✓
- c. Tables/Figures have titles/numbers. ✓ *no table of argument*
 - i. Sequential numbers (1,2,3,...) ✓
- d. Tables, eqns., figures integrated in text. ✓
- e. Defined variables on first use.
- f. Used past tense exclusively. *NO*
 - i. Stated what YOU DID? ✓
- g. No personal pronouns ✓
- h. Addressed the criticisms of your first formal report? ✓
much better job

4. USEFULNESS TO CUSTOMER. *GOOD*

- a. Could one use report to reproduce experiment and analyses?

5. CLARITY. *GOOD*

6. TECHNICAL ACCURACY. *GOOD*

Experiment 9: Conservation of Momentum and Kinetic Energy

By

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Abstract

The experiment compared the kinetic energies and momenta of the one-dimensional motion of two gliders as examined on an air track before and after collision. This was for the purpose of testing both the law of conservation of kinetic energy and momentum. In the first three cases of the experiment, ~~momenta and kinetic energies were established before and after collision for equal masses of the bodies, smaller mass of the target body and a larger mass for the target body with respect to the projectile glider mass.~~ ^{that of} In the ~~second~~ ^{fourth collision} case, the kinetic energies and momenta were established before and after collisions for the gliders subjected to inelastic collision. The results obtained confirmed all three hypotheses under consideration within the uncertainties of measurement.

Reader does not know what those are. Were K and P conserved or not?

DO NOT USE 2 WORDS FOR SAME THING.

Objectives

The main objective of this experiment was to test the conservation of kinetic energy and the conservation of momentum.

The specific objectives of the experiment were:

- To measure the velocities of two air track gliders before and after they collide.
- To calculate the kinetic energies and momenta of the gliders before and after they collide.
- To compare the kinetic energies and momenta before and after collision.

Introduction and Theory

Momentum is only conserved when no net external force such as friction acts on the system under investigation. This is demonstrated in Equation 1 and Equation 2 below.

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a} \quad (1)$$

$$\vec{F} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = \frac{d(m\vec{v})}{dt} = \frac{m d\vec{v}}{dt} \quad (2)$$

While conducting the experiment, all net forces were minimized as much as possible. Motion was also confined to one direction in this experiment to ensure vector notation is dropped for the necessary calculations. Due to the elimination of external forces during the experiment, Equation 3 was used to demonstrate the conservation of linear momentum before and after collision.

$$P_B = m_1 v_{1B} + m_2 v_{2B} = m_1 v_{1A} + m_2 v_{2A} = P_A \quad (3)$$

Where:

m_1 : the mass of the projectile glider.

m_2 : the mass of the target glider.

V_{1B} : the velocity of the projectile glider before collision.

V_{1A} : the velocity of the projectile glider after collision.

V_{2B} : the velocity of the target glider before collision.

V_{2A} : the velocity of the target glider after collision.

P_B : the momentum before collision.

P_A : the momentum after collision.

The kinetic energy of an object of mass m moving in a straight line is given by Equation 4 below.

$$k = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 \quad (4)$$

The analogy with Equation 3 is shown in Equation 5 below.

$$K_B = \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_{1B}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_{2B}^2 = \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_{1A}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_{2A}^2 = K_A \quad (5)$$

Equation 3 is confirmed when the inequality in Equation 6 below is met.

$$|\%Diff(P)| \leq 2 \left(\frac{\sigma P_A - P_B}{P_B} \right) \times 100\% \quad (6)$$

Equation 5 is confirmed when the inequality in Equation 7 below is met.

$$|\%Diff(K)| \leq 2 \left(\frac{\sigma K_A - K_B}{K_B} \right) \times 100\% \quad (7)$$

The uncertainty in momentum is propagated through equation $p=mv$ as Equation 8 below.

$$\sigma_P = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_m}{m}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_v}{v}\right)^2} \times P \quad (8)$$

The uncertainty in kinetic energy is propagated through equation $k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ as Equation 9 below.

$$\sigma_K = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_m}{m}\right)^2 + \left(2\frac{\sigma_v}{v}\right)^2} \times K \quad (9)$$

The experiment investigated both elastic (kinetic energy is conserved) and inelastic (kinetic energy is not conserved) collisions. Three hypotheses were also ~~under consideration during the~~ ^{tested} experiment as listed below:

1. Hypothesis 1: Equation 5 holds for elastic collisions.
2. Hypothesis 2: Equation 5 does not hold for inelastic collisions.

3. Hypothesis 3: Equation 3 holds for both elastic and inelastic collisions.

Procedure

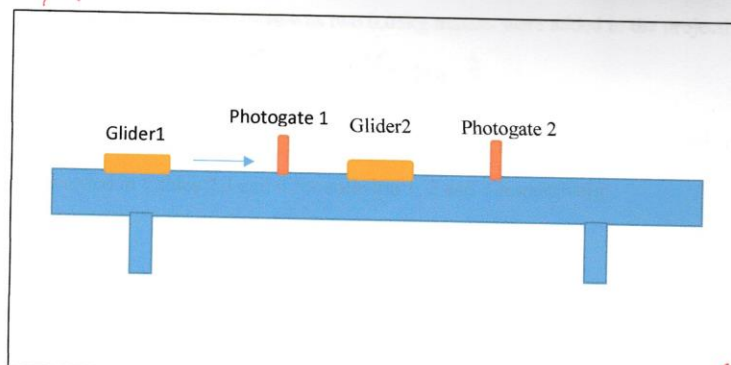


Figure 1: The experiment setup: In the air track, use one glider to collision the other glider and use two photogates to measure and record the time for each glider passed time.

For the three near-elastic collisions:

In the center of the track where the collision would occur, air track was levelled with the target glider positioned. Also there are two foot support under the air track which was adjusted to raise one end of the track. In the front glider, there was a small, metal collider with a flat metal blade in the lower hole. Same with front glider, the target glider also had a rubber-band inserted in to the lower hole in the adjacent end. After collision, the target glider started moving because the front glider transferred its energy to the target glider.

Two photogates were placed on the two sides of the gliders and as close as possible without having either glider flag in a photogate and the Capstone program recorded the data.

The target glider was placed at 2cm before the second photogate without the flag being in the gate before collision.

projectile by hand
The front glider was given a hand push for a velocity between 0.7m/s and 0.9 m/s when the front glider passed the first photogate.

For collisions 2 and 3, ~~there was~~ two 0.05kg masses were added to the projectile and target glider respectively. *for collision 2 for collision 3*

The measured values of momentum and kinetic energy before and after collision were recorded in Tables 2,3 and 4 for collision 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

For the inelastic collision, after the first two steps of the procedure:

A collider with a nail was inserted into the lower hole in front of the projectile glider and a collider with wax inserted in the lower hole in the adjacent end of the target glider. (An eraser was used to smooth ~~the~~ the wax before every data-taking collision)

Both gliders with the attached colliders were weighed and the masses recorded in Table 1.

total
The measured values of momentum and kinetic energy before and after collision were recorded in Table ~~5~~.

Data and analysis

Table 1 Glider masses -with attachment

		w/0.100kg	$\pm\sigma$
Projectile, m_p (kg)	0.1998	0.2998	0.0010
Target, m_t (kg)	0.2006	0.3006	0.0010
Flag Length proj. (m)	0.1		0.0010
Flag Length Targ. (m)	0.1		0.0010
Time meas. (s)			0.0010

Table 2 collision 1: Equal masses - near elastic

	Projectile		Projectile		Target		Target		Total		Total	
Trial	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$
Δt_b (s)	0.1221	0.0010	0.1388	0.0010								
Δt_a (s)					0.1298	0.0010	0.1525	0.0010				
v_b (m/s)	0.8193	0.0106	0.7203	0.0089								
v_a (m/s)					0.7703	0.0097	0.6556	0.0078				
p_b (kg-m/s)	0.1637	0.0023	0.1439	0.0019					0.1637	0.0023	0.1439	0.0019
p_a (kg-m/s)					0.1545	0.0021	0.1315	0.0017	0.1545	0.0021	0.1315	0.0017
K_b (J)	0.0671	0.0019	0.0518	0.0014					0.0671	0.0019	0.0518	0.0014
K_a (J)					0.0595	0.0015	0.0431	0.0011	0.0595	0.0015	0.0431	0.0011

Table 3 Collision 2: Smaller mass at rest - near elastic

	Projectile + .1000kg		Projectile		Target		Target		Total		Total	
Trial	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$
Δt_b (s)	0.1160	0.0010	0.1227	0.0010								
Δt_a (s)	0.7777	0.0010	1.1694	0.0010	0.1243	0.0010	0.1165	0.0010				
v_b (m/s)	0.8619	0.0114	0.8147	0.0105								
v_a (m/s)	0.1286	0.0013	0.0855	0.0009	0.8045	0.0103	0.6585	0.0113				
p_b (kg-m/s)	0.2584	0.0036	0.2442	0.0034					0.2584	0.0036	0.2442	0.0034
p_a (kg-m/s)	0.0386	0.0004	0.0256	0.0003	0.1614	0.0022	0.1722	0.0024	0.1999	0.1659	0.1978	0.1741
K_b (J)	0.1114	0.0030	0.0663	0.0017					0.1114	0.0030	0.0663	0.0017
K_a (J)	0.0025	0.0001	0.0007	0.0000	0.0649	0.0017	0.0739	0.0020	0.0674	0.0650	0.0747	0.0739

added some text
explaining each
table

Table 4 Collisions 3: Larger mass at rest - near elastic

Trial	Projectile		Projectile		Target + .1000kg		Target		Total		Total	
	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$
Δt_a (s)	0.1273	0.0010	0.1223	0.0010								
Δt_b (s)	0.5639	0.0010	0.4915	0.0010	0.1918	0.0010	0.1776	0.0010				
v_b (m/s)	0.7854	0.0100	0.8176	0.0106								
v_a (m/s)	-0.1773	-0.0018	-0.2035	-0.0021	0.5213	0.0039	0.5630	0.0065				
p_b (kg-m/s)	0.1569	0.0021	0.1634	0.0023					0.1569	0.0021	0.1634	0.0023
p_a (kg-m/s)	-0.0354	-0.0004	-0.0407	-0.0005	0.1567	0.0019	0.1692	0.0021	0.1213	0.0016	0.1286	0.0018
K_b (J)	0.0616	0.0016	0.0668	0.0018					0.0616	0.0016	0.0668	0.0018
K_a (J)	0.0031	0.0001	0.0041	0.0001	0.0408	0.0009	0.0318	0.0007	0.0440	0.0010	0.0359	0.0011

Table 5 Collision 4: Larger mass at rest - inelastic

Trial	Projectile		Projectile		Target + .1000kg		Target		Total		Total	
	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$	1	$\pm\sigma$	2	$\pm\sigma$
Δt_a (s)	0.1398	0.0010	0.1246	0.0010								
Δt_b (s)	0.4190	0.0010	0.3784	0.0010	0.4288	0.0010	0.3854	0.0010				
v_b (m/s)	0.7154	0.0088	0.8027	0.0103								
v_a (m/s)	0.2387	0.0025	0.2643	0.0027	0.2332	0.0024	0.2594	0.0027				
p_b (kg-m/s)	0.1429	0.0019	0.1604	0.0022					0.1429	0.0019	0.1604	0.0022
p_a (kg-m/s)	0.0477	0.0005	0.0528	0.0006	0.0701	0.0008	0.0780	0.0009	0.1178	0.0048	0.1308	0.0094
K_b (J)	0.0511	0.0013	0.0644	0.0017					0.0511	0.0013	0.0644	0.0017
K_a (J)	0.0143	0.0003	0.0175	0.0004	0.0082	0.0002	0.0101	0.0002	0.0224	0.0164	0.0276	0.0202

Table 6 Summary of conservation measurements

Collision No.	Trial	Total p_b (kg-m/s)	σp_b (kg-m/s)	Total p_a (kg-m/s)	σp_a (kg-m/s)	% $\sigma(p_a, p_b)$	p % Diff	Total K_b (J)	σK_b (J)	Total K_a (J)	σK_a (J)	% $\sigma(K_a, K_b)$	KE % Diff
1	1	0.1637	0.0023	0.1545	0.0021	1.8880	-5.6043	0.0671	0.0019	0.0593	0.0015	3.6266	-16.2498
1	2	0.1439	0.0019	0.1315	0.0017	1.7813	-8.6179	0.0518	0.0014	0.0431	0.0011	3.3851	-16.8262
2	1	0.2584	0.0036	0.1999	0.1659	6.2282	-2.6243	0.1114	0.0030	0.0674	0.0650	8.4002	-39.4779
3	1	0.1569	0.0021	0.1213	0.1741	1.2987	-3.9968	0.0663	0.0017	0.0747	0.0739	1.15225	-12.5875
3	2	0.1634	0.0023	0.1286	0.1741	102.3887	-22.7148	0.0616	0.0016	0.0440	0.0410	6.5268	-28.6232
4	1	0.1429	0.0019	0.1178	0.0848	166.5573	-20.2896	0.0668	0.0018	0.0359	0.0321	4.0804	-46.1980
4	2	0.1604	0.0022	0.1308	0.0942	59.3315	-17.5915	0.0511	0.0013	0.0224	0.0164	3.2380	-56.1312
						8.7358	-18.4542	0.0644	0.0017	0.0276	0.0202	31.4793	-57.1357

Table 7 Summary Table for tests of hypotheses

Collision No.	Trial	P Conserved Y/N	Hyp 3 Confirmed Y/N	K Conserved Y/N	Hyp 1 Confirmed Y/N	Hyp 2 Confirmed Y/N
1	1	Y	N	Y	N	N/A
1	2	Y	N	Y	N	N/A
2	1	N	Y	N	Y	N/A
2	2	N	Y	N	Y	N/A
3	1	N	Y	N	Y	N/A
3	2	N	Y	N	Y	N/A
4	1	N	Y	N	Y	N/A
4	2	N	Y	N	N/A	N/A

NO WAY NO

NOWAY

N/A = NOT APPLICABLE

Discussion

Considering the inequalities in Equation 10 below and ~~feeding~~ ^{plugging} in the smallest value of absolute momentum percent difference for collision 2 obtained in Table 6:

$$|\%Diff(P_A - P_B)| \leq 2\%unc\sigma_{(P_A - P_B)} \quad (10)$$

$$18.9968\% \leq 2 \times 71.2987\%$$

Hence the experimental data obtained supported Hypothesis 3. In the elastic collision, the change in kinetic energy as a result of the collision should be zero within experimental uncertainty.

By equation 8 can get the $\%unc P_A$ and $\%unc P_B$.

Then use equation 11 and 12 can get the $\%unc(P_A - P_B)$

$$\%unc(K_A - K_B) = \frac{\sigma_{(K_A - K_B)}}{K_B} * 100\% \quad (11)$$

$$\sigma_{(K_A - K_B)} = \sqrt{\sigma P_A^2 + \sigma P_B^2} \quad (12)$$

For example the Collision2 Trial 1,

$$\%unc(K_A - K_B) = \frac{\sigma_{(K_A - K_B)}}{K_B} * 100\% = \frac{\sqrt{0.0674^2 + 0.0030^2}}{0.0030} * 100\% = 58.4002\%$$

For the collision2 Trial 2,

$$\%unc(K_A - K_B) = \frac{\sigma_{(K_A - K_B)}}{K_B} * 100\% = \frac{\sqrt{0.0747^2 + 0.0663^2}}{0.0663} * 100\% = 111.5225\%$$

Considering the inequality in Equation 7 for all data obtained for collisions 1, 2 and 3:

Collision1 Trial 1: $11.2498\% > 2 \times 3.6268\%$

Collision1 Trial 2: $16.8262\% > 2 \times 3.3851\%$

Collision2 Trial 1: $39.4779\% < 2 \times 58.4002\%$

Collision2 Trial 2: $12.5875\% < 2 \times 111.5225\%$

Collision3 Trial 1: $28.6232\% < 2 \times 66.5268\%$

Collision3 Trial 2: $46.198\% < 2 \times 48.0804\%$

Hence Hypothesis 1 was not supported by the experimental data obtained.

In accordance with the inequality in Equation 7, the data obtained for the experiment on collision 4 did not support Hypothesis 2 as quantified below:

Collision4 Trial 1: $56.1312\% < 2 \times 32.2380\%$

Collision4 Trial 2: $57.1357\% < 2 \times 31.4793\%$

The values obtained for the collision 4 indicate that momentum was not conserved after the collision. This points to the presence of friction between the air track and the gliders since the total momentum before collision should have equaled the total momentum after collision in a system free of external forces. In Table 5, for the first trial of the collision, P_A for the projectile was 0.0407 kg-m/s while that for the target glider was 0.0701 kg-m/s . P_B for the projectile glider was 0.1429 kg-m/s while that of the target glider was 0 kg-m/s . A comparison of the two totals before and after collision gave 0.1429 kg-m/s and 0.1108 kg-m/s respectively which pointed to a loss of momentum after collision.

NO. COMPARE $V_{\text{projectile}}$ to V_{target}

Moving the photogates further apart in this experiment would lead to poorer conservation of momentum because there would be a greater distance of friction (external force) effect. As a result, the projectile glider would move over the air track with a decreasing ~~acceleration~~ ^{velocity} rather than a constant ~~acceleration~~ ^{velocity} which impacts the conservation of linear momentum. Friction has a greater deal of effect on kinetic energy than it has on momentum. This is because kinetic energy is expressed as a square of velocity hence the small change in velocity caused by friction is magnified at a time when it is negligible in terms of momentum.

Conclusion

The experimental data obtained did not confirm all the hypotheses under consideration. This was attributed to the effect friction had on the whole system and other errors inherent in the measurement system and process.