A block with a mass of m_1 = 3.5 kg is placed in front of a spring with spring constant $k = 2.4\text{x}10^4$ N/m that has been compressed a distance d. After the spring is released, the block slides without friction to a hanging pendulum. The block then slides into a cup with mass m_2 = 5 kg. The cup is hanging from a string with length l = 1.4m. After the collision, the resulting pendulum (cup and block together) swings up and makes a maximum angle $\theta = 26.5°$.

What was the original spring compression d?

Stage 1

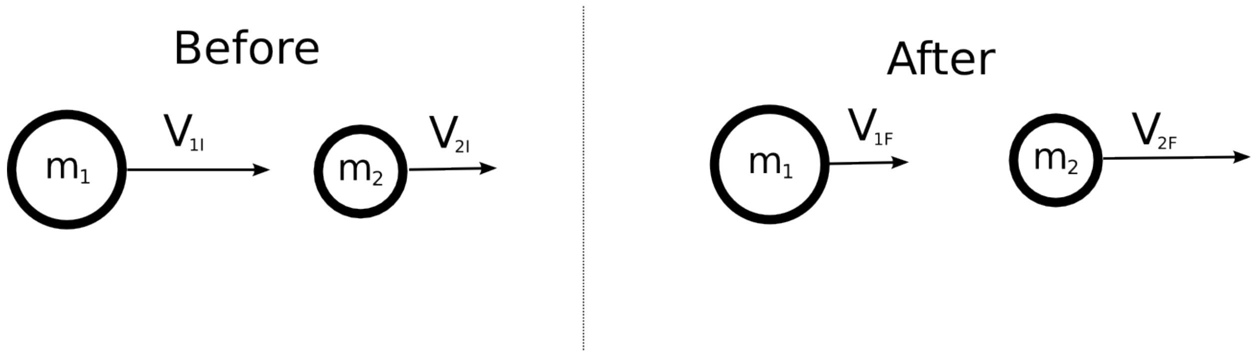
Stage 2

Stage 3

Assemble!

If Neo and Agent Smith conserved energy as well as momentum, the would bounce off of each other and the collision would be *elastic*. Let's derive a general expression relating the initial and final velocities in an elastic collision.

Step 1:
Starting with the picture below, write two equations, one for the *conservation of momentum* and one for the *conservation of kinetic energy*.



Using the two equations above, work out the algebra required to get to the following equation:

$$\frac{V_{1I}^2 - V_{1F}^2}{V_{1I} - V_{1F}} = \frac{V_{2F}^2 - V_{2I}^2}{V_{2F} - V_{2I}}$$ This is waypoint 1

Step 2:

Starting with waypoint 1:

$$\frac{V_{1I}^2 - V_{1F}^2}{V_{1I} - V_{1F}} = \frac{V_{2F}^2 - V_{2I}^2}{V_{2F} - V_{2I}}$$

Peform the required algebra to get to waypoint 2: $V_{1I} + V_{1F} = V_{2I} + V_{2F}$

The following relationship may prove useful: $(a+b)(a-b) = (a^2 - b^2)$

Step 3:

Combine the results of waypoint 2, $V_{1I} + V_{1F} = V_{2I} + V_{2F}$,with the equation for conservation of momentum from part 1 to arrive at waypoint 3:

$$(m_1 - m_2)V_{1I} + 2m_2 V_{2I} = (m_1 + m_2)V_{1F}$$

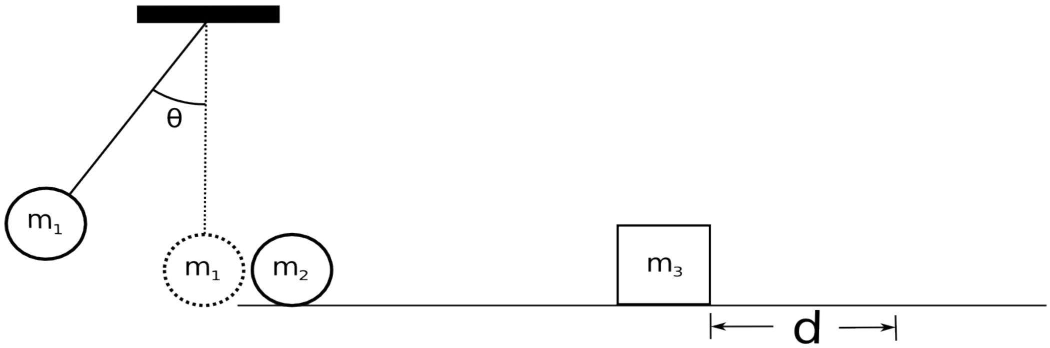
Step 4:

Solve waypoint 3 to get the general expression for V_{1F}:

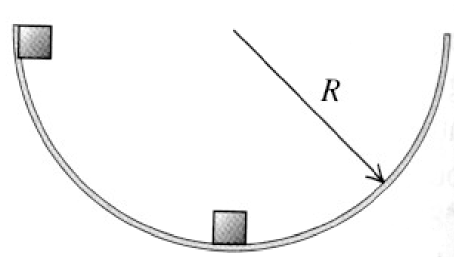
$$V_{1F} = \frac{(m_1 - m_2)}{(m_1 + m_2)} V_{1I} + \frac{2m_2}{m_1 + m_2} V_{2I}$$

A mass m_1 = 3 kg is attached to a string of length l = 4.0 m to create a pendulum. The pendulum, initially making an angle θ with the vertical, is released from rest. At the bottom of its swing, it collides elastically with mass m_2 = 5 kg. Mass 2 rolls (no friction) and sticks to m_3 = 5 kg. The m_2, m_3 combination slides with μ_k = 0.3 a distance d = 0.2 m before coming to rest.

What was the original value of θ?



Extra Work Space



Two masses are released from rest in a frictionless hemispherical bowl of radius R from the positions shown in the figure. Derive an expression for their final height in the case of :

a) An elastic collision

b) An inelastic collision

c) How much bigger than the second mass does the first mass have to be so that the second mass gets out of the bowl.