

Experimental Data:

Mass of steel sphere: 28.21 g or 0.02821 kg

Height of launcher: 0.964 m

Incident ball with no collision

Length (m): 1.14 m | Angle ($^{\circ}$): 0°

	Incident ball after collision		Target ball after collision	
	length (m)	$\theta_1 (^{\circ})$	length (m)	$\theta_2 (^{\circ})$
Equal mass collision	0.34 m	70°	1.01 m	-17°
Unequal mass collision	0.8 m	10°	1.69 m	-18°

Analysis:

Time it takes for the spheres to reach the ground:

$$y_f = y_i + v_{iy} \cdot t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2 \rightarrow 0 = 0.964 - \frac{1}{2} (9.8) t^2$$

$$\downarrow 1.967 = t^2 \quad t = 0.4435 \text{ seconds}$$

	Velocity = x/t	$V_x = v \cos(\theta)$	$P_x = m v_x$	$V_y = v \sin(\theta)$	$P_y = m v_y$
Incident Sphere before collision	$\frac{1.14}{0.4435} = 2.57 \text{ m/s}$	2.57 m/s	257 * 0.02821	0 m/s	0
Total Momentum before			0.0725 Ns		0 Ns

Equal Mass Collision

	Velocity = x/t	$V_x = v \cos \theta$	$P_x = m v_x$	$V_y = v \sin \theta$	$P_y = m v_y$
Incident Sphere After Collision	$\frac{0.34}{0.4435} = 0.767 \text{ m/s}$	$\frac{0.34}{0.4435} \cos 70^{\circ} = 0.2622 \text{ m/s}$	0.0073967	$\frac{0.34}{0.4435} \sin 70^{\circ} = 0.7204 \text{ m/s}$	0.02032 Ns
Target Sphere After Collision	$\frac{1.01}{0.4435} = 2.277 \text{ m/s}$	$\frac{1.01}{0.4435} \cos 17^{\circ} = 2.178 \text{ m/s}$	0.0614414	$\frac{1.01}{0.4435} \sin 17^{\circ} = -0.6658 \text{ m/s}$	-0.01878 Ns
Total momentum after			0.068838 Ns		0.00154 Ns
Error (before vs after)			0.003662 Ns		-0.00154

Percent Error (before vs after) $\left| \frac{0.068838 - 0.0725}{0.0725} \right| \times 100 = 5.051\%$

Unequal Mass Collision (with mystery target sphere mass)

	Velocity x/t	$V_x = v \cos \theta$	$P_x = m v_x$	$V_y = v \sin \theta$	$P_y = m v_y$
Incident Sphere After Collision	$\frac{0.8}{0.4435} = 1.8 \text{ m/s}$	$\frac{0.8}{0.4435} \cos 10^{\circ} = 1.7726 \text{ m/s}$	0.05 Ns	$\frac{0.8}{0.4435} \sin 10^{\circ} = 0.3126 \text{ m/s}$	0.008818 Ns
Target Sphere After Collision	$\frac{1.69}{0.4435} = 3.81 \text{ m/s}$	$\frac{1.69}{0.4435} \cos 18^{\circ} = 3.6235 \text{ m/s}$?	$\frac{1.69}{0.4435} \sin 18^{\circ} = -1.177 \text{ m/s}$?
Initial Momentum of Incident			0.725 Ns		0 Ns
Expected Momentum of Target Sphere after collision			0.725 - 0.05		0 - 0.008818
			0.0225 Ns		-0.008818 Ns

Total (Pythagorized) momentum of Target Sphere after collision: $P_T = \sqrt{(0.0225)^2 + (-0.008818)^2}$

$$P_T = 0.024166 \text{ Ns} = m_T \cdot V_T \quad m_T = \frac{0.024166}{3.81} = 0.00634 \text{ kg}$$

Actual Mass of Target Sphere: 0.00606 kg

Percent Error: $\left| \frac{0.00634 - 0.00606}{0.00606} \right| \times 100 = 4.62\%$