

Experimental No. (7)  
Conservation of Energy

**Objective:**

Verification of the conservation of energy law.

**Apparatus:**

Flex-track, balls, ruler, and carbon paper.

**Theory:**

If a ball of mass  $m$  is released from point A on the track AB, then the conservation of energy gives:

$$mgh = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2 + \text{work done against friction.} \quad (35)$$

where  $mgh$  is the potential energy of the ball relative to point B on

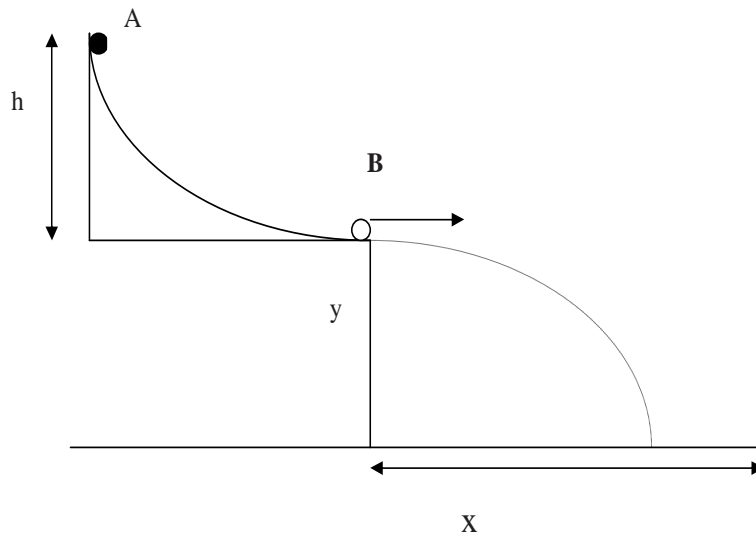


Figure 16:

the track (see fig. 1)

$\frac{1}{2}mv^2$  is the translational kinetic energy of the ball at point B.

$\frac{1}{2}I\omega^2$  is the rotational kinetic energy of the ball at point B.

$\omega$  is the angular velocity of the ball at point B (and equals  $\frac{v}{r}$ ).

I is the moment of inertia of the sphere about any axis passing through its center and is given by:  $I = \frac{2}{5}mr^2$

If one neglect friction force, velocity can be expressed as:

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{10}{7}gh} \quad (36)$$

(Note that the velocity of the ball at point B is independent of its mass).

If we further assume that the track, at B is perfectly horizontal, then the ball will be treated as a projectile of horizontal velocity  $v$ . The horizontal velocity of the ball at point B could be found by different method . This is done by measuring  $x$  and  $y$  (refer to the figure) where,

$$v = \frac{x}{t} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{\frac{2y}{g}}} \quad (37)$$

**Procedure:**

1. Weigh a small ball(solid sphere) and record its mass.(If possible use an electrical balance).
2. Release the ball from point A on the track, (point A is arbitrary).
3. Repeat step 2 for the same height ( for the same ball) two times.
4. Indicate the center of the group of points made by the ball when it hits the carbon paper and measure the horizontal displacement  $x$ .
5. Calculate  $v$  and  $v'$  by using Eq.(2) and Eq.(3) respectively.

6. Repeat the outlined procedure for another two balls of different masses.
7. Arrange your data as in table(1).

Name:

Grade:

Students No.:

Date:

	m	h	y	x	t	v	v'	mgh	$\frac{7}{10}mv^2$	$\frac{7}{10}mv'^2$
Run1	$m_1$	$h_1$								
Run2	$m_1$	$h_2$								
Run3	$m_2$	$h_1$								
Run4	$m_2$	$h_2$								
Run5	$m_3$	$h_1$								
Run6	$m_3$	$h_2$								

$h_1 = \dots\dots\dots$ cm,

$h_2 = \dots\dots\dots$ cm.

Questions:

1. Compare the values calculated in columns 9, 10 and 11, Justify any difference?

Discussion and Conclusion:

Experimental No. (8)  
Conservation of Linear Momentum

**Objective:**

Verification of the conservation of Linear Momentum.

**Apparatus:**

Flex-track, balls, ruler, and carbon paper.

**Theory:**

The law of conservation of linear momentum states that:

”bf the total linear momentum of an isolated system is constant”

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \vec{P}_i = \sum_{i=1}^N \vec{P}_f = \text{constant} \quad (38)$$

For a system consisting of two particles, the law of conservation of

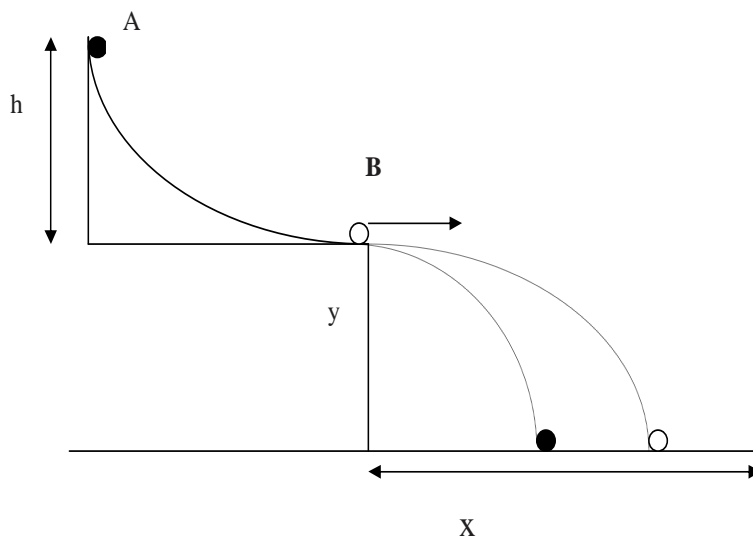


Figure 17:

linear momentum in a collision reduces to:

$$(\vec{P}_1 + \vec{P}_2)_{\text{before collision}} = (\vec{P}_1 + \vec{P}_2)_{\text{after collision}} \quad (39)$$