

## MOMENTUM

- Momentum is the product of mass  $\times$  velocity
  - It is a vector quantity  $\therefore$  the direction of the object is critical.
- We used signs +ve & -ve to represent the direction of the velocities and momentums.

e.g.

$$\begin{array}{c} 6 \text{ ms}^{-1} \\ \rightarrow \\ \boxed{8 \text{ kg}} \end{array}$$

or

$$\begin{array}{c} 9 \text{ ms}^{-1} \\ \leftarrow \\ \boxed{12 \text{ kg}} \end{array}$$

$$p = mv$$

$$\begin{aligned} p &= 8 \text{ kg} \times 6 \text{ ms}^{-1} \\ &= +48 \text{ kg ms}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{array}{c} 48 \text{ kg ms}^{-1} \\ \rightarrow \end{array}$$

$$p = mv$$

$$p = 12 \text{ kg} \times -9 \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

$$p = -108 \text{ kg ms}^{-1}$$

or

$$\begin{array}{c} 108 \text{ kg ms}^{-1} \\ \leftarrow \end{array}$$

## MOMENTUM IS ALWAYS CONSERVED (FUNDAMENTAL LAW OF PHYSICS)

(unless an external force acts).

e.g. Man in boat at boat club

$$v = 0 \therefore p = 0$$



As man steps out of boat

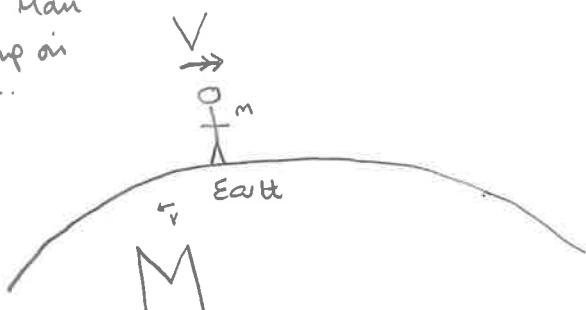
$$+v \Rightarrow +p$$

$$-v \Rightarrow -p \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{man} \\ \rightarrow \end{array}$$

$$-p + p = 0$$

Momentum conserved as  
before man moved Momentum  
was  $p = 0$ .

e.g. Man  
Walking on  
Earth.



• When man was stationary  $p = 0$

• When he starts moving:

$$M_{\text{earth}} \times v = m_{\text{man}} v_{\text{man}}$$

$$-p = +p \therefore \text{momentum conserved.}$$

As  $M_{\text{earth}}$  is so much bigger, effect is not noticeable.

e.g. Hand grenade



after

Before explosion  $p = 0$

Fragment of metal, of mass

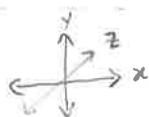
$m$  moving at

Velocity  $v$  in  $x, y$  &  $z$  planes

$$\begin{array}{c} \nearrow \searrow \\ \nwarrow \swarrow \end{array}$$

Sum of momentums in each plane will be zero

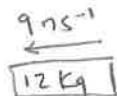
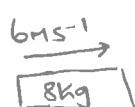
$\therefore$  MOMENTUM CONSERVED.



Using conservation of momentum:

- 2 objects collide & stick together:

Before Collision



Total momentum before collision  $P_b = \text{sum of momentums}$

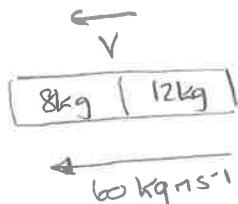
$$P_b = m_1 v_1 + m_2 v_2$$

vector ∵ sign is critical.

$$P_b = (8\text{kg} \times 6\text{ms}^{-1}) + (12\text{kg} \times -9\text{ms}^{-1})$$

$$P_b = 48 - 108 = -60\text{kgms}^{-1}$$

After Collision: Momentum always conserved  $\therefore P_b = P_{\text{after}}$



Solve for new velocity:

$$P_{\text{after}} = P_{\text{before}} = -60\text{kgms}^{-1}$$

$$-60\text{kgms}^{-1} = (8\text{kg} + 12\text{kg}) \cdot V$$

$$V = \frac{-60\text{kgms}^{-1}}{20\text{kg}}$$

$$V = -\underline{\underline{3\text{ms}^{-1}}} \quad \text{or} \quad \overleftarrow{3\text{ms}^{-1}}$$

### Momentum & Newton's Law

- We know Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law states:

$$F = ma \quad \text{we also know that } a = \frac{v-u}{t}$$

$$\text{Subst in } a = \frac{v-u}{t}$$

$$F = m \left( \frac{v-u}{t} \right)$$

$$F = \frac{m(v-u)}{t} = \frac{\text{Change in momentum}}{\text{time}}$$

∴ The force equal to 'rate of change of momentum'

The change of momentum is known as the impulse.

$$\therefore \text{Impulse } F_t = mv - mu.$$

Units of Impulse are  $\boxed{\text{Ns}}$

A ball of 80g is moving at  $15\text{ms}^{-1}$  hits a wall at right angles and bounces off along the same line at  $10\text{ms}^{-1}$ .

- (a) What is the magnitude of the impulse of the wall on the ball?
- (b) The ball is estimated to be in contact with the wall for  $3.0 \times 10^{-2}\text{s}$ . What is the average force on the ball?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \text{Impulse} &= F_t = mv - mu \\ &= (0.08 \times -10\text{ms}^{-1}) - (0.08 \times 15\text{ms}^{-1}) \\ &= -2.0\text{ Ns} \quad \text{or} \quad -2\text{kgms}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

[note: we must use the -ve to indicate the direction of the velocity.]

$$\text{(b)} \quad \text{Impulse} = F_t = mv - mu.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Avg Force} &= \frac{mv - mu}{t} \\ &= \frac{-2\text{kgms}^{-1}}{3 \times 10^{-2}\text{s}} = -\underline{\underline{66\frac{2}{3}\text{N}}} \end{aligned}$$

The average force on the ball is  $-66\frac{2}{3}\text{N}$

As the ball changes direction, the force is in the opposite direction to the initial velocity.