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91171



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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 2 Physics 2025

91171 Demonstrate understanding of mechanics

Credits: Six

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of mechanics.	Demonstrate in-depth understanding of mechanics.	Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of mechanics.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should attempt ALL the questions in this booklet.

Make sure that you have Resource Sheet L2-PHYSR.

In your answers use clear numerical working, words, and/or diagrams as required.

Numerical answers should be given with an appropriate SI unit.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–16 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in the margins (✂/✂/✂). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Merit

TOTAL 16

QUESTION ONE: ACCELERATION

A rugby player accelerates uniformly from rest at 0.680 m s^{-2} and runs 22.0 m.



Source: <https://www.odt.co.nz/sport/rugby/black-ferns-sevens-win-cape-town>

- (a) How long did it take to run the 22.0 m?

$$a = \frac{v}{t} \quad d = v_i t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$$

$$0.68 = \frac{v}{t} \quad 22 = 0t + \frac{1}{2} (0.68) t^2$$

$$t = 8.04 \text{ s}$$

- (b) While stopping, a player runs into a tackle bag at speed v . The tackle bag compresses a distance x like a spring as the player comes to a stop.

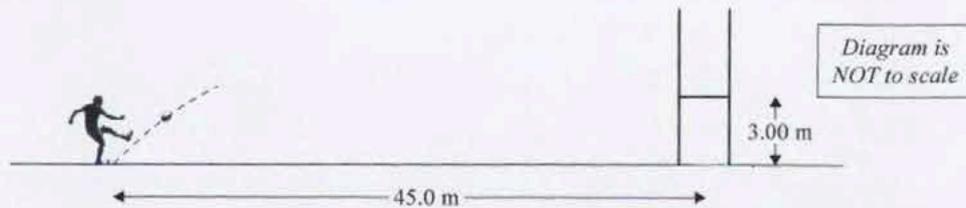


Source: <https://www.canterburysports.co.nz/product/silver-fern-tackle-bag-junior/>

Assuming all the player's energy is transferred to the bag, state and justify what would happen to the distance the bag was compressed if the player was moving at twice the speed.

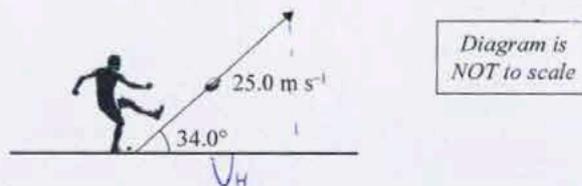
If the player moved at twice the speed, since ~~the distance~~ $d = \frac{v_i + v_f}{2} t$, the bag would move two times the distance too.

- (c) To take a penalty shot, the ball is placed on the ground and kicked towards the goal posts. To make the penalty shot, the ball must go over the crossbar, which is 3.00 m above the ground and 45.0 m from where the ball is kicked.



A player taking a penalty shot kicks the ball at 25.0 m s^{-1} at 34.0° to the ground.

$\frac{50}{4}$



By performing appropriate calculations, decide whether the ball makes it over the crossbar before hitting the ground.

$$a = 9.8 \downarrow$$

The ball clears the crossbar

$$V_{\text{vert}} = 25 \sin 34$$

$$= 13.98 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$0 = 13.98 - 9.8t$$

$$t = 1.43 \text{ s}$$

$$t_{\text{total}} = 2.86 \text{ s}$$

$$V_{\text{hor}} = 25 \cos 34$$

$$= 20.73 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$20.73 = \frac{d}{2.86}$$

$$d = 59.29 \text{ m}$$

- (d) The player from part (c) replaces the ball with one from a different manufacturer. The new ball is heavier.

The player kicks the new ball towards the posts so that it leaves the ground at the same speed and angle as before.

Ignoring any effects from air friction and without using calculations compare the path of the new ball to that of the original ball.

Your answer should consider:

- the time in the air
- the acceleration of the balls in the air
- the initial vertical and horizontal speeds
- the horizontal distances travelled.

If the mass of the ball is increased, the force required to kick it ~~increases~~ at the same ~~speed~~ acceleration & speed increases.

A higher mass also increases its weight force, however vertical acceleration stays constant ($g = 9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$).

This means that both balls will spend the same amount of time in the air because both were kicked at the same velocities and are under the same vertical deceleration.

Horizontal speed stays constant, ~~so both~~ and since both spend the same time in the air, they travel the same distance.

QUESTION TWO: MOMENTUM

A 80.0 kg player moves at 4.30 m s^{-1} .

- (a) Calculate the player's momentum and give the correct unit.

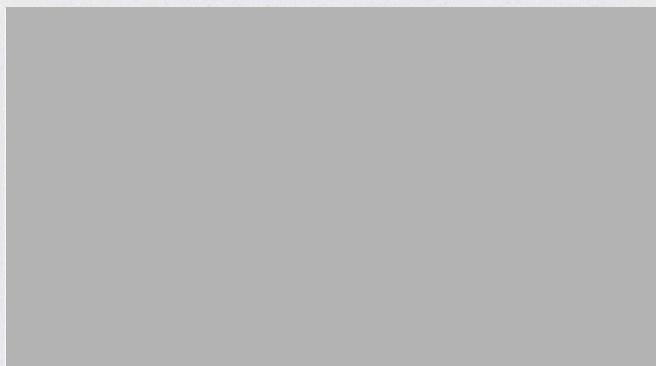
$$80 \cdot 4.3 = 344 \text{ kgms}^{-1}$$

Momentum: 344 Unit: kgms^{-1}

- (b) Explain why using momentum to study collisions is more useful than using kinetic energy.

Momentum is better to study collisions than kinetic energy because momentum calculates the mass per meter a second that an object is moving, whereas kinetic energy calculates the ~~reaction of force~~ ~~something is experiencing~~ Joules of energy something is exerting through movement

- (c) The mass of the All Black scrum is 883 kg. The mass of the Argentinian scrum is 850 kg. As the scrum is set, the All Blacks move forward at 0.354 m s^{-1} , and the Argentinians move forward at 0.378 m s^{-1} . The two scrums collide and stick together.



Argentina: 850 kg, 0.378 m s^{-1} All Blacks: 883 kg, 0.354 m s^{-1}

Source: <https://www.florugby.com/articles/6006062-round-3-in-the-rugby-championship-looms>

Calculate the speed and direction of the combined scrums immediately after they collide and stick together.

$$E_{KAB} = \frac{1}{2} (883) (0.354)^2$$

$$= 55.3 \text{ J}$$

$$E_{KA} = \frac{1}{2} (850) (0.378)^2$$

$$= 62.9 \text{ J}$$

$$62.9 - 55.3 = 7.6 \text{ J} \rightarrow \text{Arg}$$

$$7.6 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P_{AB} = (883) (0.354)$$

$$= 312.58 \text{ kgms}^{-1}$$

$$P_A = (850) (0.378)$$

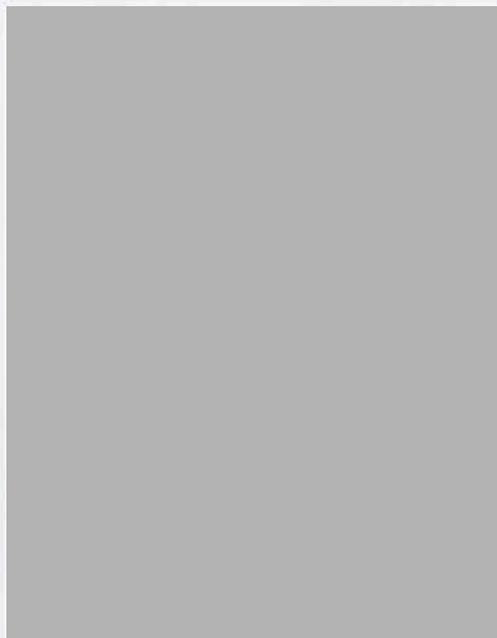
$$= 321.3 \text{ kgms}^{-1}$$

$$321.3 - 312.58 = 8.72 \text{ kgms}^{-1}$$

$$8.72 = (883 - 850)(v)$$

$$v = 0.26 \text{ ms}^{-1} \text{ to the right}$$

- (d) The ball comes out of the scrum and a player sprints towards the line. The player is tackled and brought to a stop by colliding with thick pads (cushions) that are on the bottom of the goalpost.



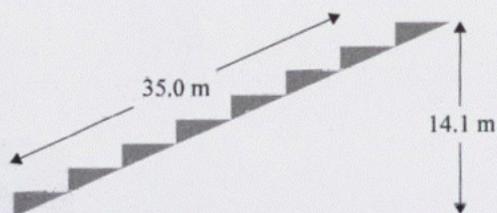
Source: <https://www.perennial.co.nz/products/rugby-post-pads>

Explain how having these pads on the post help protect a player when they collide with the post.

These pads help reduce the impact a player experiences by absorbing the collision force. They do this through increasing the time it takes for something to slow down (less deceleration) which reduces the force experienced ($F=ma$) by the player to a level that won't injure them.

QUESTION THREE: ENERGY

When warming up, players run up the stairs.



Source: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-10-07/top-three-exercises-youre-probably-doing-wrong/7909150>

- (a) Calculate the work done by a 68.3 kg player who runs up the stairs once.

$$W = Fd \quad \text{From } F = mg \quad \text{So } W = mgh$$

$$W = (68.3)(9.8)(14.1) \quad W = (68.3 \times 9.8)(14.1)$$

$$= 9437.7 \text{ J} \quad = 9437.7 \text{ J}$$

- (b) Another warm up activity is short sprints.

During one sprint, the 68.3 kg player accelerates from rest to 7.52 m s^{-1} in 4.35 s.

Calculate the average power produced by the player during this sprint.

$$a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$

$$a = \frac{7.52}{4.35}$$

$$= 1.73 \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

$$F = ma$$

$$= 68.3 \cdot 1.73$$

$$= 118.16 \text{ N}$$

$$d = \frac{v_i + v_f}{2} t$$

$$= \frac{0 + 7.52}{2} \times 4.35$$

$$= 16.36 \text{ m}$$

$$W = Fd$$

$$= 118.16 \cdot 16.36$$

$$= 1933.10$$

$$P = \frac{W}{t}$$

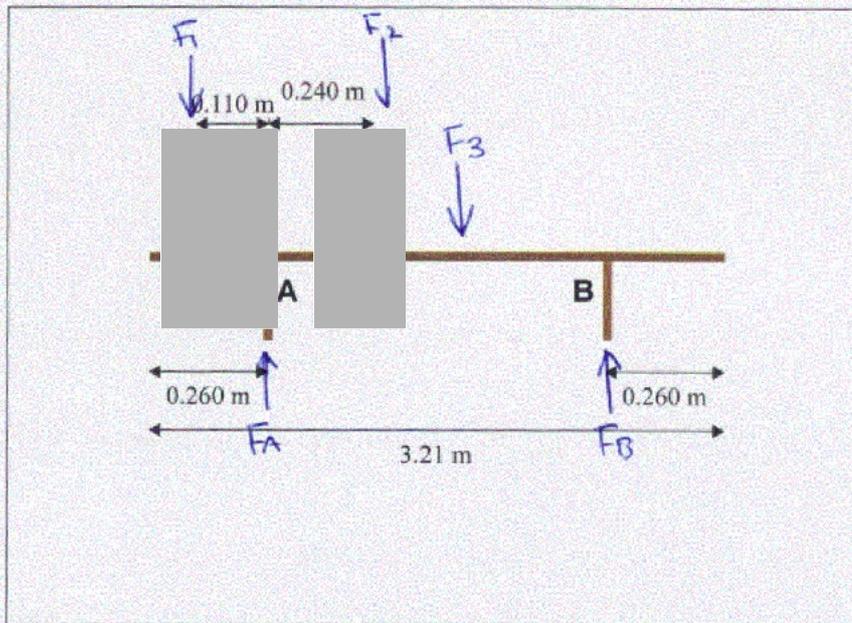
$$= \frac{1933.1}{4.35}$$

$$= 444.4 \text{ W power}$$

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/sport/rugby-union/61819827>

- (c) While waiting to play, two players sit on a uniform bench.

The bench is 621 N and 3.21 m long. A 669 N player sits 0.110 m to the left of support A, and a 769 N player sits 0.240 m to the right of support A.



If you need to redraw your response, use the diagram on page 11.

Source: <https://www.gettyimages.co.nz/detail/news-photo/england-womens-rugby-players-celia-quansah-and-megan-jones-news-photo/1248571622>

- (i) Add labelled arrows to the above diagram, to show all the forces acting on the bench.
- (ii) By calculating torques about support A, calculate the value of the forces acting on the bench at A and B.

$$F_B - (3.21 - (0.26 \cdot 2)) = (669 \cdot 0.11) + (769 \cdot 0.24) + (621 \cdot \frac{(3.21 - (0.26 \cdot 2))}{2})$$

$$F_B \cdot 2.69 = 1093.4 \text{ Nm}$$

$$F_B = 406.47 \text{ N}$$

$$F_A + F_B = F_T$$

$$F_A + 406.47 = 621 + 669 + 769$$

$$= 2059$$

$$F_A = 1652.53 \text{ N}$$

Question Three continues on the following page.

- (d) Just before the players enter the game, they use one more warm-up activity, where two players hold hands and move around in a circle at constant speed.



If you need to redraw your response, use the diagram on page 11.

- (i) Add an arrow to the Figure B above to show the direction of acceleration on one of the players.
- (ii) Explain how it is possible for the players to be moving at a constant speed yet accelerating.

The players are undertaking circular motion, where velocity is tangential to the circumference of the circle. This means that while velocity is constant, the players are accelerating \vec{a} inwards as they change course. Rate in a circle, changing their direction.

Merit

Subject: L2 Physics

Standard: 91171

Total score: 16

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
One	M6	Clearly answered, demonstrating in-depth appreciation of projectile motion.
Two	M5	Mostly well answered, showing fair knowledge of momentum and related concepts.
Three	M5	A rare example of in-depth understanding of work and power; only fair competence with torques and circular motion.