



Example

• A 10 g bullet moving upwards at 1,000 m/s strikes and passes through the center of mass of a 5.0 kg wooden block which is initially at rest. The collision is perfectly inelastic; the bullet lodges in the block. To what maximum height does the block then rise above its initial position?

P9.56

Explosion!

 $\vec{v}_{w1} =$

 m_w

 \vec{v}_{b1}

 $-m_b$

An atom of ²¹⁴Po decays into an alpha particle (⁴He) and a lighter nucleus. The α-particle has a speed of 1.92 x 10⁷ m/s. Assuming the Po nucleus was originally at rest, what is the recoil speed of the resulting nucleus (what *is* the resulting nucleus? HINT: nucleon number is a conserved quantity)?

²¹⁴Po is responsible for the majority of lung cancer deaths from radon



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Explosion!

• An atom of ²¹⁴Po decays into an alpha particle (⁴He) and a lighter nucleus. The α -particle has a speed of 1.92 x 10⁷ m/s. Assuming the Po nucleus was originally at rest, what is the recoil speed of the Pb nucleus?

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