

1. A bat with moment of inertia  $I$  about an axis at one end is swung with angular velocity  $\omega$  at a stationary ball with mass  $m$  so that the point of impact with the ball is at a distance  $y$  from the axis of rotation of the bat. After the perfectly elastic collision the ball acquires a speed  $v$  and the bat continues with angular velocity  $\omega'$ .

(a) Write down an equation showing conservation of energy in this collision.

(b) Write down an equation showing conservation of angular momentum in this collision.

(c) Eliminate  $\omega'$  from the above equations and solve for  $v$  as a function of the position of the point of impact  $y$  and show that

$$v = \frac{2yI\omega}{I + my^2}$$

- (d) In order to achieve a maximum energy transfer at the point  $y$  we require that  $v$  is as large as possible. Find in terms of  $I$ ,  $m$  and  $\omega$  the value of  $y$  which results in the maximum value of  $v$  and show that this agrees with the expression for  $y_{maxE}$  in your Sweet Spot lab hand out.
- (e) Hence find the maximum speed of the ball  $v_{max}$  and observe that this is equal to the speed of the bat at the sweet spot. Also show that  $\omega' = 0$  indicating that the bat comes to rest when you strike a ball at rest at this sweet spot.
- (f) For a ball of mass 200 g and a uniform bat (ie a rigid rod) of mass 500 g and length 1 m swung with angular velocity 40 rad/s find the sweet spot and the speed of the ball after the collision.
- (g) How far would this ball go if its velocity is directed at an angle of  $45^\circ$  to the horizontal? Is it a home run?