## **Collision Lab**

## Physics 432

Name \_\_\_\_

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

In this lab, you will be observing and recording results of two cars crashing together. Using the provided Cars, Track, and Masses, perform the following collisions noted in the chart below.



| Collision                        | Before (<br>Red Car | Collision<br>Blue Car | Added Masses                        | After Collision Picture |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8<br>Inelastic:<br>Velcro Side   | Slow                | Slow                  | Add 500g to Blue                    |                         |
| 9<br>Inelastic:<br>Velcro Side   | Medium              | Medium                | Add 250g to Red<br>Add 250g to Blue |                         |
| 10<br>Explosion:<br>Press button | Stopped             | Stopped               | Add 250g to Red<br>Add 250g to Blue |                         |
| 11<br>Explosion:<br>Press Button | Stopped             | Stopped               | Add 250g to Red                     |                         |
| 12<br>Explosion:<br>Press Button | Stopped             | Stopped               | Add 500g to Red                     |                         |

## **Analysis Questions**

- 1- Based on your observations, how did changing the mass affect your car after a collision?
- 2- What was similar between all of your ELASTIC collisions?
- 3- What was similar between all of your INELASTIC collisions?
- 4- In collision 9 there was a collision that resulted in two stopped cars. How was this possible?

For the second part of the lab, you are given the end result of a collision, and you will be predicting the initial state of the system.

| Collision | Before Collision<br>Red Car Blue car | Added Masses | After Collision Picture |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1         |                                      |              | Zero Medium >>          |
| 2         |                                      |              | << Medium Fast >>>      |
| 3         |                                      |              | Medium >>               |
| 4         |                                      |              | Zero                    |
| 5         |                                      |              | Slow > Medium >>        |
| 6         |                                      |              | << Fast Slow >          |
| 7         |                                      |              | Fast >> Slow >          |

## **Analysis Questions**

- 1- In each of the above pictures in the "after collision" column, circle the car with the most momentum
- 2- Go back to collision 2. What is another way to cause this same collision?
- 3- Find another collision that has another cause. List the collision and cause below.
- 4- Which collision was impossible to make? Why was it impossible?
- 5- In the real world, police are called to accident scenes to determine the cause of an accident. How is this similar to what a police officer might do?

6- How could momentum and collisions be used in sports?