94. (First problem in Cluster 1)

We take the bottom of the incline to be the y = 0 reference level. The incline angle is $\theta = 30^{\circ}$. The distance along the incline d (measured from the bottom) is related to height y by the relation $y = d \sin \theta$.

(a) Using the conservation of energy, we have

$$K_0 + U_0 = K_{top} + U_{top} \implies \frac{1}{2}mv_0^2 + 0 = 0 + mgy$$

with $v_0 = 5.0$ m/s. This yields y = 1.3 m, from which we obtain d = 2.6 m.

(b) An analysis of forces in the manner of Chapter 6 reveals that the magnitude of the friction force is $f_k = \mu_k mg \cos \theta$. Now, we write Eq. 8-31 as

$$K_0 + U_0 = K_{top} + U_{top} + f_k d$$

$$\frac{1}{2}mv_0^2 + 0 = 0 + mgy + f_k d$$

$$\frac{1}{2}mv_0^2 = mgd\sin\theta + \mu_k mgd\cos\theta$$

which - upon cancelling the mass and rearranging - provides the result for d:

$$d = \frac{v_0^2}{2g\left(\mu_k \cos\theta + \sin\theta\right)} = 1.5 \text{ m}.$$

- (c) The thermal energy generated by friction is $f_k d = \mu_k mgd \cos \theta = 26$ J.
- (d) The slide back down, from the height $y = 1.5 \sin 30^{\circ}$ is also described by Eq. 8-31. With $\Delta E_{\rm th}$ again equal to 26 J, we have

$$K_{\rm top} + U_{\rm top} = K_{\rm bot} + U_{\rm bot} + f_k d \implies 0 + mgy = \frac{1}{2}mv_{\rm bot}^2 + 0 + 26$$

from which we find $v_{\text{bot}} = 2.1 \text{ m/s}$.