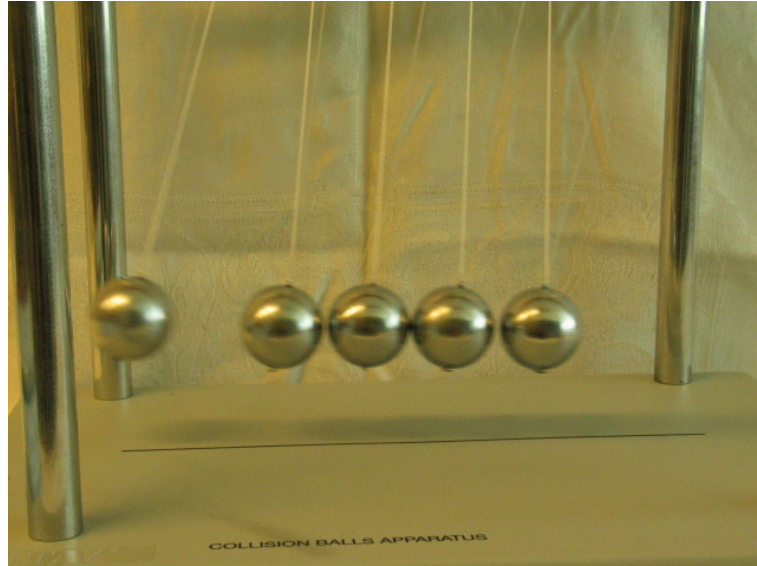


Collision Balls (a.k.a. Newton's Cradle)



Purpose: To show that the same number of balls released from one end will swing out from the other end, whether it's 1, 2, 3, 4 or all 5.

Location: room 136, shelf N4

If everything is properly aligned, the collisions should be approximately elastic, so that both energy and momentum are conserved. The only way both these conditions can be satisfied is if the same number of balls released from one end swing out from the other end.

An amusing demonstration: pull back two balls on one side and one on the other and release simultaneously.