

So, use conservation of momentum to figure out the boat's speed:

$$(Al + \text{boot}) \left(-0.07 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right) = (Al) \left(+2.96 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right) + (\text{boot}) V_B$$

$$(m_A + m_B) \left(-0.07 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right) = m_A \left(2.96 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right) + m_B V_B$$

$$\rightarrow V_B = \frac{(m_A + m_B) \left(-0.07 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right) - m_A \left(2.96 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right)}{m_B}$$

$$= \frac{(80 \text{ kg}) \left(-0.07 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right) - (79 \text{ kg}) \left(2.96 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right)}{1 \text{ kg}}$$

$$= -239 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$



The relative speed of the boot and Al is

$$\boxed{\approx 242 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}}$$

which is how fast Al must have thrown the boot away from his hand.

Wow!