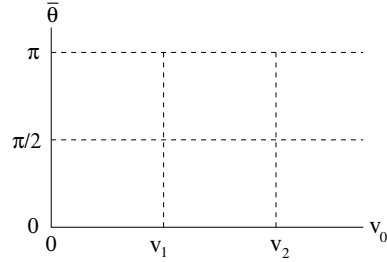


**[mex239] Decay of particle: directions in lab frame II**

A particle of mass  $M$  and velocity  $\mathbf{v}_0$  (in the lab frame) decays into two particles of masses  $m_1, m_2$  by releasing a total decay energy  $\epsilon$ . Assume that mass-energy conversion is negligible ( $M = m_1 + m_2$ ) and that the resulting momenta of the decay products are nonrelativistic.

(a) Calculate the angle  $\bar{\theta} \doteq \bar{\theta}_1 + \bar{\theta}_2$  between the two emerging particles in the lab frame as a function of  $v_0, v_1, v_2$  and  $\theta_1$ , where  $\theta_1, \theta_2 = \pi - \theta_1$  are the corresponding angles in the center-of-mass frame.

(b) Determine the range of  $\bar{\theta}$  as a function of  $v_0$  under the assumption that  $v_1 < v_2$  on a map as follows:



**Solution:**