

## Mechanical Energy and Simple Harmonic Oscillator

8.01  
Week 09D1

## Summary: Change in Mechanical Energy

Total force:  $\vec{\mathbf{F}}^{\text{total}} = \vec{\mathbf{F}}_c^{\text{total}} + \vec{\mathbf{F}}_{nc}^{\text{total}}$

Total work:  $W^{\text{total}} = \int_{\text{initial}}^{\text{final}} \vec{\mathbf{F}}^{\text{total}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{r}} = \int_{\text{initial}}^{\text{final}} (\vec{\mathbf{F}}_c^{\text{total}} + \vec{\mathbf{F}}_{nc}^{\text{total}}) \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{r}}$

Change in potential energy:  $\Delta U^{\text{total}} = - \int_{\text{initial}}^{\text{final}} \vec{\mathbf{F}}_c^{\text{total}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{r}}$

Total work done is change in kinetic energy:  $W^{\text{total}} = -\Delta U^{\text{total}} + W_{nc} = \Delta K$

Mechanical Energy Change:  $\Delta E^{\text{mechanical}} \equiv \Delta K + \Delta U^{\text{total}}$

Conclusion:  $W_{nc} = \Delta K + \Delta U^{\text{total}}$

## Modeling the Motion using Force and Energy Concepts

### Force and Newton's Second Law:

- Draw all relevant free body force diagrams
- Identify non-conservative forces.

• Calculate non-conservative work  $W_{nc} = \int_{\text{initial}}^{\text{final}} \vec{\mathbf{F}}_{nc} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{r}}$ .

### Change in Mechanical Energy:

- Choose initial and final states and draw energy diagrams.
- Choose zero point  $P$  for potential energy for each interaction in which potential energy difference is well-defined.
- Identify initial and final mechanical energy.
- Apply Energy Law.  $W_{nc} = \Delta K + \Delta U^{\text{total}}$

## Mechanical Energy Accounting

### Initial state:

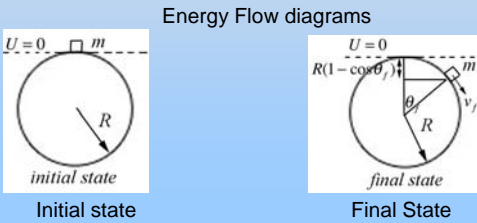
- Total initial kinetic energy  $K_{\text{initial}} = K_{1,\text{initial}} + K_{2,\text{initial}} + \dots$
- Total initial potential energy  $U_{\text{initial}} = U_{1,\text{initial}} + U_{2,\text{initial}} + \dots$
- Total initial mechanical energy  $E_{\text{initial}}^{\text{mechanical}} = K_{\text{initial}} + U_{\text{initial}}$

### Final state:

- Total final kinetic energy  $K_{\text{final}} = K_{1,\text{final}} + K_{2,\text{final}} + \dots$
- Total final potential energy  $U_{\text{final}} = U_{1,\text{final}} + U_{2,\text{final}} + \dots$
- Total final mechanical energy  $E_{\text{final}}^{\text{mechanical}} = K_{\text{final}} + U_{\text{final}}$
- Apply Energy Law:  $W_{nc} = E_{\text{final}}^{\text{mechanical}} - E_{\text{initial}}^{\text{mechanical}}$

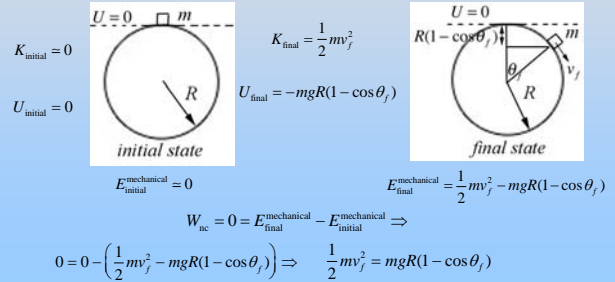
## Example: Energy Changes

A small point like object of mass  $m$  rests on top of a sphere of radius  $R$ . The object is released from the top of the sphere with a negligible speed and it slowly starts to slide. Find an expression for the angle  $\theta$  with respect to the vertical at which the object just loses contact with the sphere.



## Example: Energy Changes

A small point like object of mass  $m$  rests on top of a sphere of radius  $R$ . The object is released from the top of the sphere with a negligible speed and it slowly starts to slide. Find an expression for the angle  $\theta$  with respect to the vertical at which the object just loses contact with the sphere.



## Recall Modeling the Motion: Newton 's Second Law

- Define system, choose coordinate system.
- Draw force diagram.
- Newton's Second Law for each direction.
- Example:  $x$ -direction       $\hat{i}: F_x^{\text{total}} = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$ .
- Example: Circular motion       $\hat{r}: F_r^{\text{total}} = -m \frac{v^2}{R}$ .

## Example (con't): Free Body Force Diagram

Newton's Second Law

$$\hat{r}: N - mg \cos \theta = -m \frac{v^2}{R}$$

$$\hat{\theta}: mg \sin \theta = mR \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2}$$

Constraint condition:

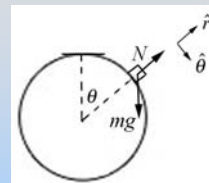
$$N = 0 \text{ at } \theta = \theta_f$$

Radial Equation becomes

$$mg \cos \theta_f = m \frac{v_f^2}{R} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}mv_f^2 = \frac{R}{2}mg \cos \theta_f$$

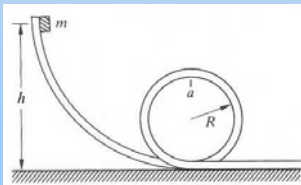
Energy Condition:       $\frac{1}{2}mv_f^2 = mgR(1 - \cos \theta_f)$

Conclusion:  $mgR(1 - \cos \theta_f) = \frac{R}{2}mg \cos \theta_f \Rightarrow \cos \theta_f = \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow \theta_f = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)$



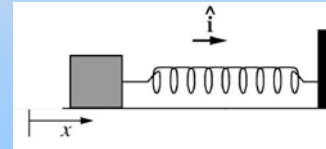
### Table Problem: Loop-the-Loop

An object of mass  $m$  is released from rest at a height  $h$  above the surface of a table. The object slides along the inside of the loop-the-loop track consisting of a ramp and a circular loop of radius  $R$  shown in the figure. Assume that the track is frictionless. When the object is at the top of the track (point a) it pushes against the track with a force equal to three times its weight. What height was the object dropped from?



### Table Problem: Block-Spring System with Friction

A block of mass  $m$  slides along a horizontal surface with speed  $v_0$ . At  $t = 0$  it hits a spring with spring constant  $k$  and begins to experience a friction force. The coefficient of friction is variable and is given by  $\mu_k = bx$  where  $b$  is a constant. Find how far the spring has compressed when the block has first come momentarily to rest.



### Simple Harmonic Motion

### Hooke's Law

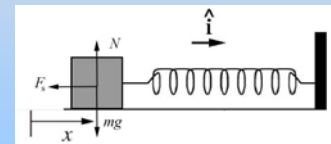
Define system, choose coordinate system.

Draw free-body diagram.

Hooke's Law

$$\vec{F}_{\text{spring}} = -kx\hat{i}$$

$$-kx = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$$



## Concept Question

Which of the following functions  $x(t)$  has a second derivative which is proportional to the negative of the function

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \propto -x?$$

1.  $x(t) = \frac{1}{2}at^2$
2.  $x(t) = Ae^{t/T}$
3.  $x(t) = Ae^{-t/T}$
4.  $x(t) = A\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$

## Concept Question

The first derivative  $v_x = dx/dt$  of the sinusoidal function

$$x = A\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$$

is:

1.  $v_x(t) = A\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$
2.  $v_x(t) = -A\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$
3.  $v_x(t) = -\frac{2\pi}{T}A\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$
4.  $v_x(t) = \frac{2\pi}{T}A\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$

## Simple Harmonic Motion

Equation of Motion:  $-kx = m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$

Solution: Oscillatory with Period  $T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$

Position:  $x = A\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right) + B\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$

Velocity:  $v_x = \frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{2\pi}{T}A\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right) + \frac{2\pi}{T}B\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$

Initial Position at  $t=0$ :  $x_0 \equiv x(t=0) = A$

Initial Velocity at  $t=0$ :  $v_{x,0} \equiv v_x(t=0) = \frac{2\pi}{T}B$

General Solution:  $x = x_0\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right) + \frac{T}{2\pi}v_{x,0}\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$

## Period and Angular Frequency

Equation of Motion:  $-kx = m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$

Solution: Oscillatory with Period  $T$   $x = A\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right) + B\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$

$x$ -component of velocity:  $v_x \equiv \frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{2\pi}{T}A\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right) + \frac{2\pi}{T}B\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right)$

$x$ -component of acceleration:  $a_x \equiv \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)^2 A\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right) - \left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)^2 B\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}t\right) = -\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)^2 x$

Period:  $-kx = m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -m\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)^2 x \Rightarrow k = m\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)^2 \Rightarrow T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$

Angular frequency  $\omega \equiv \frac{2\pi}{T} = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

## Concept Question: Simple Harmonic Motion

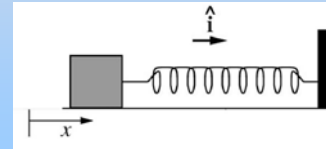
A block of mass  $m$  is attached to a spring with spring constant  $k$  is free to slide along a horizontal frictionless surface.

At  $t = 0$  the block-spring system is stretched an amount  $x_0 > 0$  from the equilibrium position and is released from rest. What is the  $x$ -component of the velocity of the block when it first comes back to the equilibrium?

1.  $v_x = -x_0 \frac{T}{4}$
2.  $v_x = x_0 \frac{T}{4}$
3.  $v_x = -\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} x_0$
4.  $v_x = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} x_0$

## Example: Block-Spring System with No Friction

A block of mass  $m$  slides along a frictionless horizontal surface with speed  $v_{x,0}$ . At  $t = 0$  it hits a spring with spring constant  $k$  and begins to slow down. How far is the spring compressed when the block has first come momentarily to rest?



## Initial and Final Conditions

Initial state:  $x_0 = A = 0$  and  $v_{x,0} = \frac{2\pi}{T} B$

$$x(t) = \frac{T}{2\pi} v_{x,0} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T} t\right) \quad v_x(t) = v_{x,0} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T} t\right)$$

First comes to rest when  $v_x(t_f) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{2\pi}{T} t_f = \frac{\pi}{2}$

Since at time  $t_f = T/4$

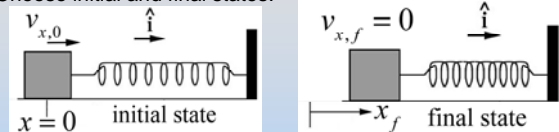
$$\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{T} t_f\right) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 1 \Rightarrow$$

Final position

$$x(t_f) = \frac{T}{2\pi} v_{x,0} = \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}} v_{x,0}$$

## Modeling the Motion: Energy

Choose initial and final states:



Change in potential energy:  $U(x_f) - U(x_0) = \frac{1}{2} k (x_f^2 - x_0^2)$

Choose zero point for potential energy:  $U(x=0) = 0$

Potential energy function:  $U(x) = \frac{1}{2} k x^2, \quad U(x=0) = 0$

Mechanical energy is constant ( $W_{nc} = 0$ )  $E_{\text{final}}^{\text{mechanical}} = E_{\text{initial}}^{\text{mechanical}}$

## Kinetic Energy vs. Potential Energy

State	Kinetic energy	Potential energy	Mechanical energy
Initial $x_0 = 0$ $v_{x,0} > 0$	$K_0 = \frac{1}{2}mv_{x,0}^2$	$U_0 = 0$	$E_0 = \frac{1}{2}mv_{x,0}^2$
Final $x_f > 0$ $v_{x,f} = 0$	$K_f = 0$	$U_f = \frac{1}{2}kx_f^2$	$E_f = \frac{1}{2}kx_f^2$

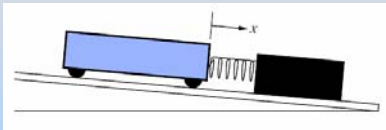
## Conservation of Mechanical Energy

$$E_f = E_0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}kx_f^2 = \frac{1}{2}mv_{x,0}^2$$

The amount the spring has compresses when the object first comes to rest is

$$x_f = \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}v_{x,0}$$

## Lecture Demo: Experiment 3 Fitting the Force Curve



Position:  $x = C_1 \cos(\omega_0 t) + C_2 \sin(\omega_0 t)$

Velocity:  $v_x = -\omega_0 C_1 \sin(\omega_0 t) + \omega_0 C_2 \cos(\omega_0 t)$

Angular Frequency:  $\omega_0 = \sqrt{k/m_c}$

Initial conditions:  $x(t=0) = 0 \Rightarrow C_1 = 0$      $v_x(t=0) = v_1 \Rightarrow C_2 = v_1 / \omega_0$

## Lecture Demo: Experiment 3 Fitting the Force Curve

Position:  $x = (v_1 / \omega_0) \sin(\omega_0 t)$     Amplitude:  $x_{\max} = \omega_0 v_1$

Velocity:  $v_x = v_1 \cos(\omega_0 t)$     Acceleration:  $a_x = -\omega_0 v_1 \sin(\omega_0 t)$

Third Law:  $F_{\text{sensor}}(t) = -F_{\text{cart}}(t) = -m_c a_x = m_c \omega_0 v_1 \sin(\omega_0 t)$

Force on sensor vs. time graph. Best Fit:  $F_{\text{sensor}}(t) = A_0 \sin(2\pi(t - A_2) / A_1)$

Fit Parameters:  $A_2 = \text{offset time}$

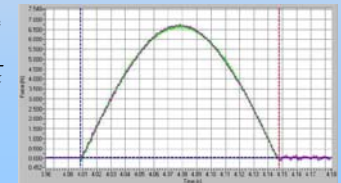
$$A_0 = m_c \omega_0 v_1$$

$$A_1 = 2\pi / \omega_0 = 2\pi \sqrt{m_c / k}$$

Spring constant:  $k = 4\pi^2 m_c / A_1^2$

Maximum Displacement:

$$x_{\max} = \omega_0 v_1 = A_0 / m_c$$



## Energy Diagram

Choose zero point for potential energy:

$$U(x=0) = 0$$

Potential energy function:

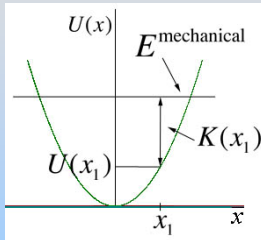
$$U(x) = \frac{1}{2}kx^2, \quad U(x=0) = 0$$

Mechanical energy is represented by a horizontal line since it is a constant

$$E^{\text{mechanical}} = K(x) + U(x) = \frac{1}{2}mv_x^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

Kinetic energy is difference between mechanical energy and potential energy (independent of choice of zero point)

$$K = E^{\text{mechanical}} - U$$



Graph of Potential energy function  $U(x)$  vs.  $x$

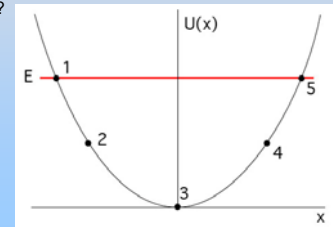
## Concept Question: Energy Diagram

The position of a particle is given by

$$x(t) = D \cos(\omega t) - D \sin(\omega t), \quad D > 0$$

Where was the particle at  $t = 0$ ?

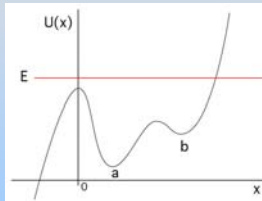
- 1) 1
- 2) 2
- 3) 3
- 4) 4
- 5) 5
- 6) 1 or 5
- 7) 2 or 4



## Concept Question: Energy Diagram 1

A particle with total mechanical energy  $E$  has position  $x > 0$  at  $t = 0$

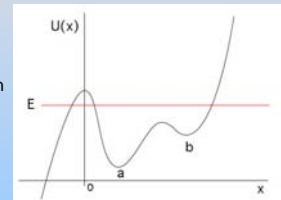
- 1) escapes to infinity in the  $-x$ -direction
- 2) approximates simple harmonic motion
- 3) oscillates around a
- 4) oscillates around b
- 5) periodically revisits a and b
- 6) not enough information



## Concept Question: Energy Diagram 2

A particle with total mechanical energy  $E$  has position  $x > 0$  at  $t = 0$

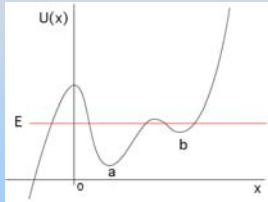
- 1) escapes to infinity
- 2) approximates simple harmonic motion
- 3) oscillates around a
- 4) oscillates around b
- 5) periodically revisits a and b
- 6) not enough information



### Concept Question: Energy Diagram 3

A particle with total mechanical energy  $E$  has position  $x > 0$  at  $t = 0$

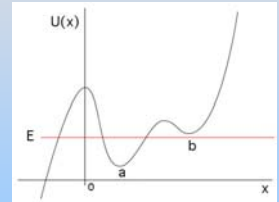
- 1) escapes to infinity
- 2) approximates simple harmonic motion
- 3) oscillates around a
- 4) oscillates around b
- 5) periodically revisits a and b
- 6) not enough information



### Concept Question: Energy Diagram 4

A particle with total mechanical energy  $E$  has position  $x > 0$  at  $t = 0$

- 1) escapes to infinity
- 2) approximates simple harmonic motion
- 3) oscillates around a
- 4) oscillates around b
- 5) periodically revisits a and b
- 6) not enough information



### Concept Question: Energy Diagram 5

A particle with total mechanical energy  $E$  has position  $x > 0$  at  $t = 0$

- 1) escapes to infinity
- 2) approximates simple harmonic motion
- 3) oscillates around a
- 4) oscillates around b
- 5) periodically revisits a and b
- 6) not enough information

