





Physics 121. April 3, 2008.

- Homework set # 7 is due on Saturday morning, April 5, at
- Note work of the sestimation of the second of the
- Homework set # 8 is now available. This assignment contains only WeBWorK questions and will be due on Saturday morning, April 12, at 8.30 am.
- Exam # 3 will take place on Tuesday April 22.

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- We will continue our discussion of mechanics with the discussion of harmonic motion (simple and complex). This material is covered in Chapter 14 of our text book.
- Chapter 14 will be the last Chapter included in the material covered on Exam # 3 (which will cover Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 14).
- Note: We will not discuss the material discussed in Chapter 13 of the book, dealing with fluids, and this material will not be covered on our exams.

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Simple harmonic motion. What forces are required?

• Consider we observe simple harmonic motion. The observation of the motion can be used to determine the nature of the force that generates this type of motion. In order to do this, we need to determine the acceleration of the object carrying out the harmonic motion: $\mathbf{x}(t) = 4\cos(\omega t + \Phi)$

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= A\cos(\omega t + \phi) \\ v(t) &= \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} (A\cos(\omega t + \phi)) = -\omega A\sin(\omega t + \phi) \\ a(t) &= \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} (-\omega A\sin(\omega t + \phi)) = -\omega^2 A\cos(\omega t + \phi) = -\omega^2 x(t) \end{aligned}$$
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Simple harmonic motion. What forces are required? • Using Newton's second law we can determine the force responsible for the harmonic motion: *F* = ma = -mω²x • A good example of a force that produces simple harmonic motion is the spring force: *F* = -kx. The angular frequency depends on both the spring constant *k* and the mass *m*: *ω* = √ (k/m)

Simple harmonic motion. What forces are required?

• We conclude:

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- Simple harmonic motion is the motion executed by a particle of mass m, subject to a force F that is proportional to the displacement of the particle, but opposite in sign.
- Any force that satisfies this criterion **can** produce simple harmonic motion. If more than one force is present, you need to examine the net force, and make sure that the net force is proportional to the displacements, but opposite in sign.

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