

Classical Mechanics  
Phy 235, Lecture 03.

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A great image,  
to start a great lecture.



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Course Information.

- All homework and exam solutions will be available on the Phy 235 website. They are password protected (see email for details).
  - <http://teacher.pas.rochester.edu/PHY235/HomeWork/Solutions/>
- If graphs are required to solve homework problems, they can be made using various programs (including Excel). The installation package of Igor is available on the Phy 235 website:
  - <http://teacher.pas.rochester.edu/PHY235/DownloadFolder/Software/SoftwareIndex.htm>
- The VPython code used during lectures can be found at the following URL:
  - <http://teacher.pas.rochester.edu/PHY235/ComputingTools/ComputingToolsIndex.htm>

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## Chapter 3

- Harmonic motion:

- Motion around a position of stable equilibrium.
- Simple harmonic motion (the focus today):
  - At small distances around the equilibrium position, the force is approximately equal to  $-kx$ .
  - The total energy of the system is constant. The kinetic and potential energy will be time dependent.
- Damped and driven harmonic motion (the focus of Monday's lecture next week):
  - Damped harmonic motion occurs when friction or drag forces are acting on the system. Energy is dissipated and the system will gradually come to rest.
  - Driven harmonic motion adds a driving force in order to compensate for damping losses.

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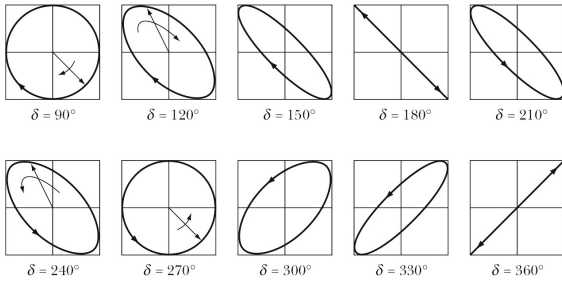
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## Two-dimensional Simple Harmonic Motion. $y$ vs $x$ for single restoring force.



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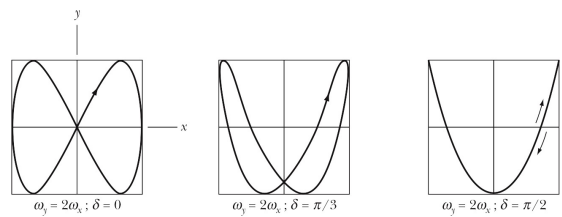
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## Two-dimensional Simple Harmonic Motion. $y$ vs $x$ for different restoring forces.



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## Numerical studies.

- Using tools such as VPython, it is easy to explore how harmonic motion changes as initial conditions are changed.
- Let us have a look:
  - [https://www.glowscript.org/#/user/wolfs/folder/Public/program/Phy2\\_35-SimpleHarmonicMotion](https://www.glowscript.org/#/user/wolfs/folder/Public/program/Phy2_35-SimpleHarmonicMotion)

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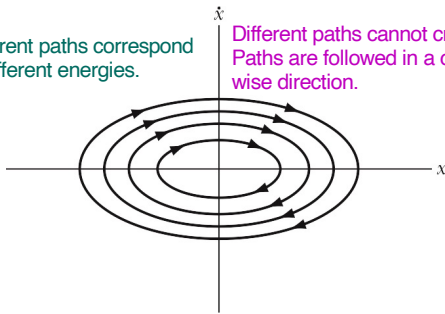
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## Phase Diagrams.

Different paths correspond to different energies.

Different paths cannot cross. Paths are followed in a clockwise direction.



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## 2 Minute 18 Second Intermission.

- Since paying attention for 1 hour and 15 minutes is hard when the topic is physics, let's take a 2 minute 18 second intermission.
- You can:
  - Stretch out.
  - Talk to your neighbors.
  - Ask me a quick question.
  - Enjoy the fantastic music.



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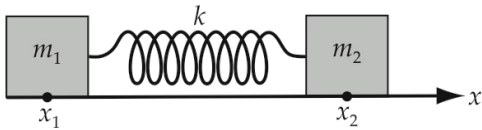
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### Problem 3.6

- Two masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  slide freely on a horizontal frictionless track and are connected by a spring whose force constant is  $k$ . Find the frequency of oscillatory motion for this system.



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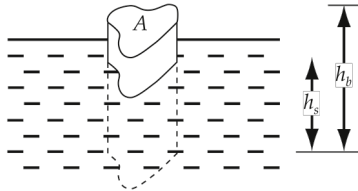
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### Problem 3.7

- A body of uniform cross-sectional area  $A$  and of mass density  $\rho$  floats in a liquid of density  $\rho_0$ . When it is in equilibrium, the body displaces a volume  $V$ . Show that the period of small oscillations about the equilibrium position is given by

$$\tau = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{V}{gA}}$$



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### Solving Second-order Differential Equations.

- General form:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + a\frac{dy}{dx} + by = f(x)$$

- If you find two linearly independent solutions, every other solution will be a linear combination of these two solutions.
- The general solution has two constants, defined by the initial conditions.

- Homogeneous equation:**

- $f(x)$  is equal to 0.

- Inhomogeneous equation:**

- $f(x)$  is not equal to 0.

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Homogeneous Equation:  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + a \frac{dy}{dx} + by = 0$

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- Three different scenarios:
  - $a^2 > 4b$
  - $a^2 = 4b$
  - $a^2 < 4b$

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Inhomogeneous Equation:  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + a \frac{dy}{dx} + by = f(x)$

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- Suppose:
  - $v$  is a solution of the inhomogeneous equation.
  - $u$  is the general solution of the homogeneous equation.
- Then:
  - $u + v$  is the general solution of the inhomogeneous equation.

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**ENOUGH FOR TODAY?**

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