

November 19, 2012

Physics 131

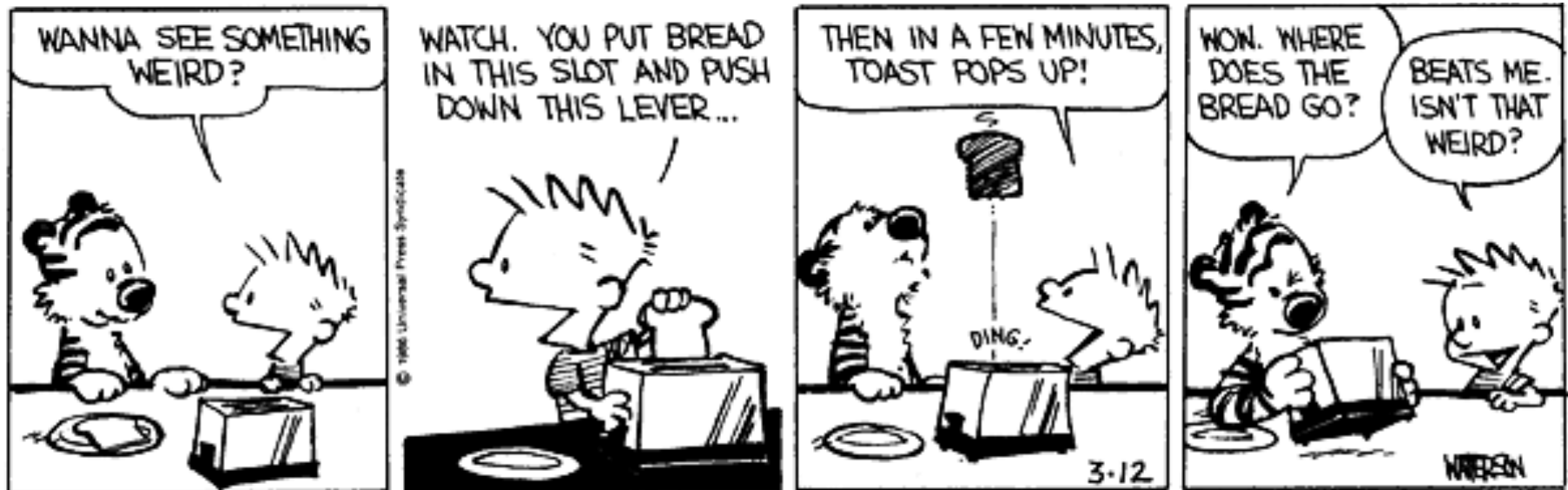
Prof. E. F. Redish

■ Theme Music: Cannonball Adderly

Work Song

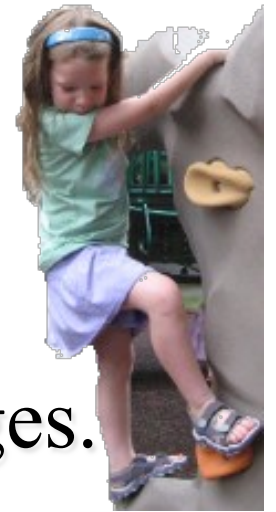
■ Cartoon: Bill Watterson

Calvin & Hobbes



Foothold ideas:

Kinetic Energy and Work



- Newton's laws tell us how velocity changes.

The Work-Energy theorem tells us how speed (independent of direction) changes.

- Kinetic energy = $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$
- Work done by a force = $\vec{F} \cdot \Delta\vec{r}$ or $F_{\parallel}\Delta r$
(part of force \parallel to displacement)
- Work-energy theorem: $\Delta(\frac{1}{2}mv^2) = F_{\parallel}^{net}\Delta r$

Foothold ideas: Potential Energy



- For some forces (gravity, electricity, springs) work only depends of the change in position. Such forces are called conservative.

- For these forces the work done by them is written

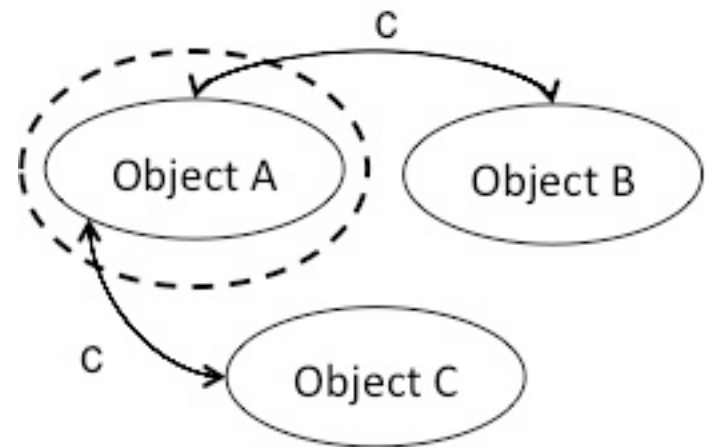
$$\vec{F} \cdot \Delta\vec{r} = -\Delta U$$

- U is called a *potential energy*.

- For gravity, $U_{gravity} = mgh$

Reading questions

- Can the work be negative?
- Where does the ΔU come from?
- Why shouldn't the PE belong to the object?



Mechanical An Energy Conservation Theorem

- Suppose the only force that has a component along the direction of motion is gravity.
 - The only force that changes the object's speed is gravity.
 - Other forces (normal forces) can change direction.
 - Friction must be negligible.
- Examples:
 - free fall
 - object rolling on a track.

$$\Delta\left(\frac{1}{2}mv^2 + mgh\right) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2}mv_i^2 + mgh_i = \frac{1}{2}mv_f^2 + mgh_f$$