

# Solutions to Homework 1

February 11, 2003

## Problem 1

**a:** Angular frequency  $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{mass}}$ ,  $\kappa = 800N/m$ ,  $mass = 2kg$ , therefore,  $\omega = 20rad/s$ .

**b:**Block released from rest  $A=20cm$ . displacement  $y = 20 \cos(\omega t)$ , velocity  $\nu = dy/dt$ , Acceleration  $a = d\nu/dt = -\omega^2 y$ . For downward positive  $y = 12cm$ ,  $a = -4800cm/s^2$ , upward negative  $y = -12cm$ ,  $a = 4800cm/s^2$ ; With Energy conservation,  $E = 1/2\kappa A^2 = 1/2m\nu^2 + 1/2\kappa y^2$ . we have  $\nu = \pm\omega\sqrt{A^2 - y^2}$ , for  $y = \pm 12cm$ ,  $\nu = \pm 320cm/s$

## Problem 2

**a** Consider what happens when the mass is given a displacement  $x > 0$ , one spring will be stretched  $x$  and the other will be compressed  $x$ , they will each exert a force of magnitude  $20\frac{N}{m} \times x$  on the mass in the direction opposite to the displacement. Hence the total restoring force is  $F = -20 \times x - 20 \times x = -40N/m \times x$ ,  $F = -\kappa x$  tell us the system has a spring constant  $\kappa = 40N/m$ . Hence, the period  $T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{mass}{\kappa}} = 0.54s$ .

**b:** when the mass is displaced a distance  $y$  downward, each spring is stretched a distance  $y$ . The net restoring force is then  $F = 2 \times (-20N/m)y$ , Hence, again, from  $F = -\kappa x$ , we have  $\kappa = 40N/m$ , the same as in (a).  $T = 0.54s$ .

## Problem 3

Mass  $m_2$  shoots off when the spring stretched maximally and carrying kinetic energy  $K$  away from the system. so the amplitude of oscillation of  $m_1$  satisfies  $1/2\kappa A^2 = 1/2m_1\nu^2$ , where  $\nu$  is the velocity at the equilibrium position.

To find  $\nu$ , potential U of spring = maximum  $K_t$  of masses.  
 $\kappa d^2/2 = (m_1 + m_2)\nu^2$ , giving  $\nu^2 = (\kappa d^2)/(m_1 + m_2)$ .  
 Then we have  $1/2\kappa A^2 = 1/2m_1\nu^2 = 1/2(\kappa d^2)/(m_1 + m_2)$ , then  $A = d\sqrt{m_1/(m_1 + m_2)}$ .

## Problem 4

- a:** If the stick is rotated through a small angle  $\theta$ , each spring is stretched a distance  $L\theta/2$ . Each spring causes a torque =  $\theta/2 \times L/2$  with both torque in the same direction. The torque equation is  
 $-2\kappa\theta(L/2)(L/2) = I_{cm}\alpha$   
 where  $I_{cm} = mL^2/12$ , the momentum of inertia to center of mass;  $\alpha = d^2\theta/d^2t$   
 then  $\alpha = -(6\kappa/m)\theta$ . This is the equation for harmonic motion.  
**b)** frequency  $f = \sqrt{6\kappa/m}/2\pi$ .  
**c)** The velocity reach the maximum when the stick passes the horizontal. Let  $\theta_0$  be the initial angle, so the maximum velocity =  $(L/2)(2\pi f)\theta_0 = L\theta_0(1.5\kappa/m)^{1/2}$ .

## Problem H1

Equation of motion is  $\tau = I\alpha$ , where  $\tau$  is the external torque, I is the momentum of inertia,  $\alpha$  is the angular acceleration, and  $\tau$  and I are about to the pivot point.  
 The contribution to  $\tau$  is due to the rod and disk  
 $\tau = -mg(L/2)\sin\theta - Mg(R + L)\sin\theta$   
 where  $\theta$  is a small angular displacement from the vertical.  
 $I = I_{rod} + I_{disk} = (mL^2)/3 + [(MR^2)/2 + M(R + L)^2]$ .  
 where we used the parallel axis law to calculate  $I_{disk}$ .  
 For small  $\theta$ ,  $\sin\theta \simeq \theta$ , so the equation of the motion is  
 $-g[MR + ML + (mL)/2]\theta = [mL^2/3 + 3MR^2/2 + 2MRL + ML^2]\alpha$   
 so easily to get the period  $f = 1/T$ ,  $(2\pi f)^2$  is the coefficient of the  $\theta$  term.  
 $T^2 = [4\pi^2/g][mL^2/3 + (3MR^2)/2 + 2MRL + ML^2]/[ML + MR + (mL)/2]$ .