

Simple Harmonic Motion

PreLab submission with a pass grade is required to begin the lab.
Must be submitted no later than right before the start of the lab.

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Readings

You can review the concepts using Wikipedia or your favorite textbook,
Simple Harmonic Motion, Error Propagation Rules

Review the least-squares fitting using Chapter 8 of John R Taylor's book or the shorter version given in Lab 3,
Readings section.

Spring Force

Mathematically, the restoring force exerted by a spring, stretched from length l_0 to a length l , is given by Hooke's law,
 $F = -k(l - l_0)$,
where the constant k , called the **spring constant**, characterizes the stiffness of the spring. A large k means a large force is needed to stretch (or compress) the spring a certain distance.
When the spring is relaxed at length l_0 the exerted force is zero.

If there is a mass hanging from the spring, the two forces acting on the mass must add up to zero in order to have equilibrium. This means,
 $mg - k(l - l_0) = 0$.

Dialog:

Length versus load for a spring; for Problem

"x": Load m (grams)	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900
"y": Length l (cm)	5.1	5.5	5.9	6.8	7.4	7.5	8.6	9.4

To find the spring constant of a spring, a student loads it with various masses m and measures the corresponding lengths l . Her results are shown in the table above. Because the force $mg=k(l-l_0)$, where

l_0 is the unstretched length of the spring, these data should fit a straight line, $l=l_0+(g/k)m$.

- Save the data in a two column format [you can use Insert Table from the top menu].
- Make least-squares fit to this line for the given data, and find the best estimates for the unstretched length l_0 and the spring constant k .
- Check your answers using the LinearModelFit functions in *Mathematica*.
- Find the uncertainty in the g/k constant and then use the error propagation rules to find the uncertainty in the k constant.

In[107]:=

```
data = 

|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 200 | 300 | 400 | 500 | 600 | 700 | 800 | 900 |
| 5.1 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 6.8 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 8.6 | 9.4 |


```

Out[107]=

200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900
5.1	5.5	5.9	6.8	7.4	7.5	8.6	9.4

In[108]:=

```
loads = 0.001 * data[[All, 1]]
lengths = 0.01 * data[[All, 2]]
```

Out[108]=

```
{0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9}
```

Out[109]=

```
{0.051, 0.055, 0.059, 0.068, 0.074, 0.075, 0.086, 0.094}
```

In[187]:=

```
num = Length[loads];
sumx = Sum[loads[[x]], {x, 1, num}];
sumy = Sum[lengths[[y]], {y, 1, num}];
sumx2 = Sum[loads[[x]]^2, {x, 1, num}];
sumxy = Sum[loads[[x]] * lengths[[x]], {x, 1, num}];

del = num * sumx2 - sumx^2;

B = (num * sumxy - sumx * sumy) / del
A = (sumx2 * sumy - sumx * sumxy) / del
l0 = A
k = 9.81 / B
```

Out[193]=

```
0.0607143
```

Out[194]=

```
0.0368571
```

Out[195]=

```
0.0368571
```

Out[196]=

```
161.576
```

LINEAR FIT MODEL

$y = A + Bx \iff l = l_0 + (g/k)m$

hence, $l_0 = A$ & $g/k = B$

$\Rightarrow y = 0.369 + 0.0607x$

$y = \text{length}$

$x = \text{load}$

```

In[166]:= lm = LinearModelFit[Transpose[{loads, lengths}], x, x]

Out[166]= FittedModel[0.0369 + 0.0607 x]

In[216]:= standardError = Sqrt[1 / (num - 2) * Sum[(lengths[[i]] - A - B * loads[[i]])^2, {i, 1, num}]]

(*Calculate uncertainty in B*)
meanLoad = Mean[loads];
sumXSquared = Total[(loads - meanLoad)^2];
sigmaB = standardError / Sqrt[sumXSquared];

g = 9.81

(*Propagate uncertainty to find uncertainty in k*)
sigmaK = (g / B^2) * sigmaB;
sigmaA = sigmay * Sqrt[sumx2 / del];
{A, sigmaA, B, sigmaB, k, sigmaK}

Out[216]= 0.00242507

Out[220]= 9.81

Out[223]= {0.0368571, 0.00222953, 0.0607143, 0.00374196, 161.576, 9.95833}

```

Results

- Record your results in the table below.

```

In[228]:= Grid[{{Text["Simple Harmonic Motion"], SpanFromLeft},
  {"l0 (Mathematica), m", "l0 (calculated), m", "Δl0(calculated), m", "k (Mathematica), N/m",
    "k (calculated), N/m", "Δk (calculated), N/m"}, {0.0369, 0.0369, NumberForm[sigmaA, 3],
    NumberForm[k, 4], NumberForm[k, 4], NumberForm[sigmaK, 4]}}], Frame → All]

```

Out[228]=

Simple Harmonic Motion					
l0 (Mathematica) , m	l0 (calculated) , m	Δl0(calculated) , m	k (Mathematica) , N/m	k (calculated) , N/m	Δk (calculated) , N/m
0.0369	0.0369	0.00223	161.6	161.6	9.958

- Use the example below to plot the data with error bars. sigmay is the uncertainty in the measured length values that you calculated from Eq. 8.15 in Taylor's Chapter 8.

In the code below, the data is not complete and sigmay is not defined. So fix it based on your needs.

In[235]:=

```
Needs["ErrorBarPlots`"];
data = Transpose[{loads, lengths}];
sigmay = sigmay ;
line = LinearModelFit[data, x, x]
line["ParameterConfidenceIntervalTable"]
Show[
  ListPlot[data, PlotStyle -> Red],
  Plot[line[x], {x, 0, 5}],
  ErrorListPlot[Join[data, Table[{sigmay}, {i, 1, Length[data]}], 2]],
  AxesLabel -> {"Load m (Kg)", "Length (m)"}]
```

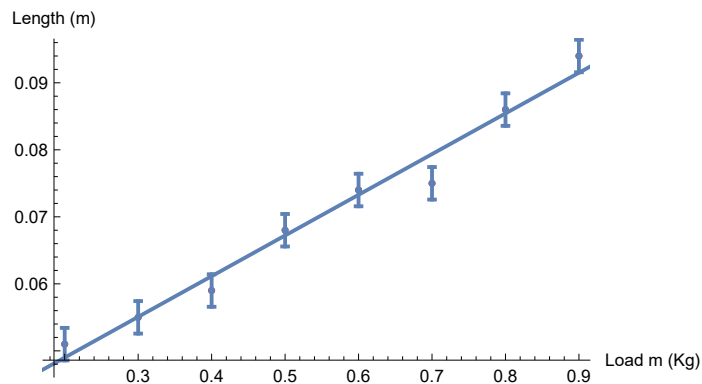
Out[238]=

```
FittedModel[ 0.0369 + 0.0607 x ]
```

Out[239]=

	Estimate	Standard Error	Confidence Interval
1	0.0368571	0.002222953	{0.0314017, 0.0423126}
x	0.0607143	0.00374196	{0.051558, 0.0698705}

Out[240]=



This error bar plot represents our data set and the linear fit model (least squares) which happens to match with a fairly low error.

Rutgers 275 Classical Physics Lab

“Simple Harmonic Motion”

Contributed by Maryam Taherinejad and Girsh Blumberg ©2014