

# **Grade 12 Physics**

SPH4U

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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Unit 1A</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Review of Describing and Graphing Motion . . . . .	3
1.1.1	Position: $\vec{d}$ . . . . .	3
1.1.2	displacement: $\Delta\vec{d}$ . . . . .	3
1.1.3	Velocity: $\vec{v}$ . . . . .	3
1.1.4	Acceleration: $\vec{a}$ . . . . .	3
1.1.5	Graphing motion . . . . .	4
1.2	Equations of Motion . . . . .	5
1.2.1	Format requirements for answering Motion questionss . . . . .	5
1.3	Adding and Subtracting 2-Dimensional Vectors . . . . .	6
1.3.1	Vector addition and subtraction key words . . . . .	6
1.3.2	Steps for solving a vector problem . . . . .	6
1.3.3	Another question type . . . . .	6
1.4	Frame of Reference . . . . .	7
1.4.1	1 Dimension Frame of Reference . . . . .	7
1.5	Relative Velocities in Two Dimensions . . . . .	9
1.5.1	Recall . . . . .	9
1.5.2	Definition . . . . .	9
1.6	F.O.R in 2-D . . . . .	10
1.7	Review of Netwon's Laws of Montion . . . . .	12
1.7.1	Netwon's First Laws . . . . .	12
1.7.2	Newton's second Law . . . . .	12
1.7.3	Newton's Third Law . . . . .	12
1.7.4	Free Body Diagrams (FBD) . . . . .	13
1.7.5	Application of Newton's second Law . . . . .	13
1.8	Review of Projectile Motion . . . . .	14
1.8.1	basic . . . . .	14
1.8.2	Special formula . . . . .	14
1.8.3	An example question . . . . .	15
1.9	Friction . . . . .	15
1.9.1	Kinetic Friction . . . . .	16
1.9.2	Static Friction . . . . .	16
1.9.3	Remainder . . . . .	16
1.10	Tension, compression and Pulleys . . . . .	17
1.10.1	Tention: T . . . . .	17
1.10.2	Compression: C . . . . .	17
1.11	Inclined plane with Friction . . . . .	17
1.11.1	How to determine the direction that the system will likely to accelerate . . . . .	17
1.11.2	Example template . . . . .	18

<b>2</b>	<b>Unit 1B</b>	<b>19</b>
2.1	Proportionality . . . . .	19
2.2	Fictitious Forces and Apparent Weight . . . . .	20
2.2.1	Compare Inertial and non-inertial F.O.R . . . . .	20
2.2.2	Fictitious Forces . . . . .	20
2.2.3	Apparent Weight . . . . .	20
2.2.4	Some of the formulas . . . . .	20
2.3	Lecture 2.5 . . . . .	21
2.3.1	Uniform Circular Motion . . . . .	21
2.3.2	Centripetal acceleration . . . . .	21
2.3.3	Formulas . . . . .	21
2.4	Motion of a car on Banked Turn . . . . .	22
2.4.1	Forces . . . . .	22
2.4.2	Critical Speed . . . . .	22
2.5	Universal Gravitation, Gravitational field . . . . .	22
2.5.1	Force of Gravity . . . . .	22
2.5.2	Gravitational Fields . . . . .	23
2.5.3	Differences between strength of gravity and acceleration . . . . .	23
2.6	Satellites . . . . .	24
2.6.1	Newton's Cannon . . . . .	24
2.6.2	Geosynchronous . . . . .	24
2.6.3	Formulas related to satellite . . . . .	24
2.7	Rotating Frame of Reference . . . . .	26
2.7.1	Little problem . . . . .	26
2.7.2	Perceived Acceleration in a Rotating Frame of Reference . . . . .	27
<b>3</b>	<b>Unit 2: Energy and Momentum</b>	<b>29</b>
3.1	Work and Kinetic Energy . . . . .	29
3.1.1	Kinetic Energy . . . . .	29
3.1.2	Mechanical Work . . . . .	29
3.2	Gravitational Potential Energy . . . . .	30
3.2.1	Some boring definitions . . . . .	30
3.2.2	Formulas for GPE . . . . .	30
3.3	The law of the Conservation of Energy . . . . .	30
3.3.1	Boring Definitions . . . . .	30
3.3.2	Question solving techniques . . . . .	31
3.4	String & Elastic Potential Energy . . . . .	31
3.4.1	The Force of String . . . . .	31
3.4.2	Elastic Potential Energy . . . . .	32

# Chapter 3

## Unit 2: Energy and Momentum

### 3.1 Work and Kinetic Energy

#### 3.1.1 Kinetic Energy

**Definition 3.1.1.** *Kinetic energy is the energy of **motion**. There are two types of kinetic energy*

##### Type 1: Translational Kinetic Energy

The kinetic energy that an object has because it is *moving from one location to another*. It can be described by this formula:

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \quad (3.1)$$

$E_k$  is the translational kinetic energy of the object (in  $J$  or  $kgm^2/s^2$ )

$m$  is the mass in  $kg$

$v$  is the speed in  $m/s$

Because all motion is relative, an object's speed (and therefore  $E_k$ ) *depends on the chosen Frame of Reference*

**Notes:**

Do not solve the conservation of energy problem involving a change of Frame of Reference. Start from your perspective

$E_k$  is a scalar, not a vector

##### Type 2: Rotational Kinetic Energy

Not testable, don't give a shit about this question.

#### 3.1.2 Mechanical Work

**Definition 3.1.2.** *Mechanical work: Transfer of energy into  $E_k$  or the transfer of kinetic energy into another type of energy*

**Definition 3.1.3.** *Potential energy: Energy which is stored in a system of objects due to forces acting in between those objects*

The formula to describe the work is:

$$W = F_{A/B} * \Delta \vec{d}_B * \cos\theta \quad (3.2)$$

$W_{A/B}$  is the work that  $F_{A/B}$  does on the object  $B$ . This is also the amount of  $E_k$  that object A transfers into object B when A exerts a force on B(in J)

$F_{A/B}$  is the magnitude of force that A exerts on B(in J)

$\theta$  is the angle between  $F_{A/B}$  and  $B$ 's displacement

Remainder: Only forces on the direction of displacement is responsible for the work

## 3.2 Gravational Potential Energy

### 3.2.1 Some boring definitions

**Definition 3.2.1.** (*Gravational Potential Energy*): The energy stored in a system of objects due to the force of gravity acting between those objects. In other words, the energy is stored collectively **among all** the objects in the system

When the force of gravity acting on the two objects causes this stored GPE to be converted into kinetic energy, the kinetic energy is not **shared evenly** between these two objects. In the class Example, the earth effectively gets **zero** and the car effectively gets **all of them**. Due to this reason, when we have two objects with a very large difference in mass, we can always assume that the GPE is **stored only in the smaller object**

### 3.2.2 Formulas for GPE

Formula 1

$$\Delta E_g = mg\Delta h \quad (3.3)$$

$\Delta E_g$  is the change in Potential gravational energy(in J)

$m$  is the mass of the object (in kg)

$\Delta h$  is the change in height (in m)

$g$  is the acceleration due to gravity (in  $m/s^2$ )

Formula 2

$$E_g = mg\Delta h \quad (3.4)$$

$E_g$  is related to the GPE of the object

*Remark.* For all questions related to the **Gravational Potential Energy**, you must set your reference height in the diagram. Or, Mr McCumber will forget to add 0.5 for your test!

## 3.3 The law of the Conservation of Energy

### 3.3.1 Boring Definitions

**Definition 3.3.1.** (*Law of the Conservation of Energy*): Energy will neither be created nor destroyed, only change from one form to another

*Remark.* The law of the conservation of energy only works in a **closed isolated** system. In reality, the only true **closed and isolated** system is the Universe

## Mechanical Energy

**Definition 3.3.2.** (*Mechanical Energy*): is the sum of the **kinetic energy** and **gravitational potential energy**.

Mathematically:

$$E_m = E_g + E_k \quad (3.5)$$

### 3.3.2 Question solving techniques

When you solve a question about conservation of energy, always write this:

$$E_{m1} = E_{m2} \quad (3.6)$$

$$E_{k2} + E_{g2} = E_{k1} + E_{g1} + W_{ap} + W_f \quad (3.7)$$

Then, cross out terms which equal to **zero**

*Remark.* Remember to write this, or teacher will forget to add your marks!

## 3.4 String & Elastic Potential Energy

### 3.4.1 The Force of String

**Definition 3.4.1.** (*Spring Force*): Can be wrote as  $F_{spring}$ . It is the force exerted by the spring on a object.

According to the Hooke's Law, the **force exerted by a string** is proportional to the string's displacement. So we can express the relationships between them by some formulas:

Vector Version:

$$\vec{F}_x = -k\Delta\vec{x} \quad (3.8)$$

Scalar Version:

$$F_x = k\Delta x \quad (3.9)$$

$F_x$  is the force exerted by the string on whatever stretches it.

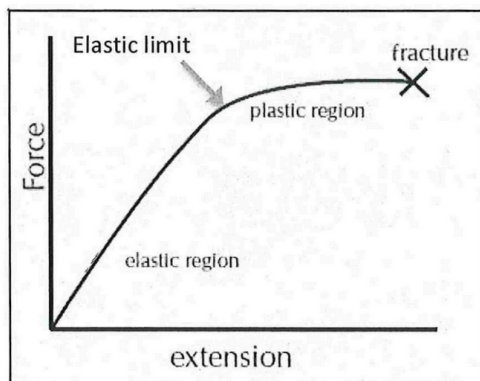
$k$  is the constant of string

$x$  is the displacement of the spring from its unstratched

An essential feature of Hooke's law is that the direction of the spring force is **opposite** to the direction of displacement from equilibrium.

*Remark.* When you use the Scalar version, you must clearly understand the direction of the force in you heart.

### Deeper explanation about Hooke's law



**Definition 3.4.2.** (*Elastic Region*): Elastic objects obey Hooke's Law in this region. If the applied force removed, the object will naturally return back to its original shape

**Definition 3.4.3.** (*Elastic Limit*): The maximum amount of deformation an object can withstand, and still return to its original shape.

**Definition 3.4.4.** (*Plastic region*): The object no longer obeys Hooke's Law. The object's shape is now permanently changed.

**Definition 3.4.5.** (*Fracture*): The maximum amount of shape change the object can take, prior to failing (breaking).

### 3.4.2 Elastic Potential Energy

**Definition 3.4.6.** (*elastic potential energy*): The potential energy due to the stretching or compressing of an elastic material

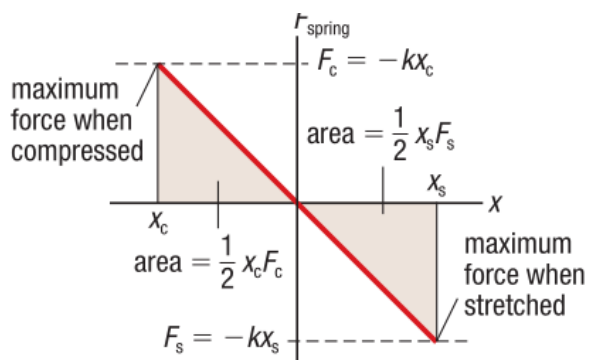


Figure 3.1: The work done by a variable force is equal to the area under the the force-displacement graph

**Formula**

$$W = \frac{1}{2} * \Delta x * F_{spring} \quad (3.10)$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} * \Delta x * (k * \Delta x) \quad (3.11)$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} * k * (\Delta x)^2 \quad (3.12)$$

The work done by the spring force is the negative of this amount, and is also the negative of the change in Potential Energy. That means that the work done stretching or compressing the spring is transformed into elastic potential energy.

$$E_e = \frac{1}{2} k (\Delta x)^2 \quad (3.13)$$