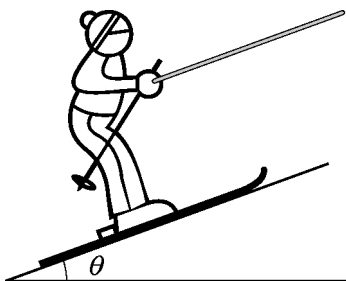


2010 AP<sup>®</sup> PHYSICS C: MECHANICS FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS



Mech. 3.

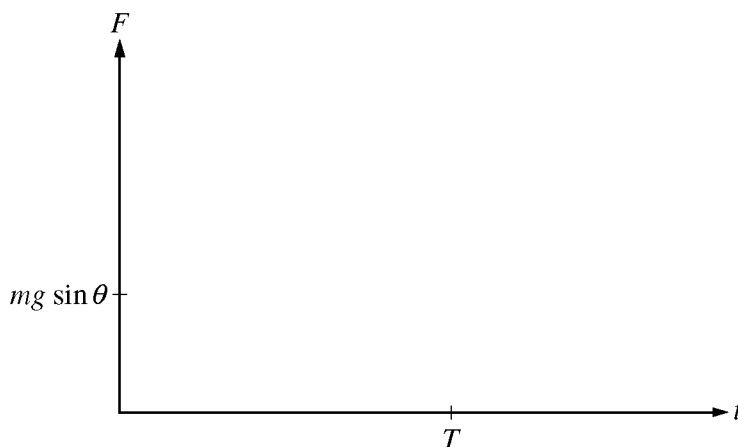
A skier of mass  $m$  will be pulled up a hill by a rope, as shown above. The magnitude of the acceleration of the skier as a function of time  $t$  can be modeled by the equations

$$a = a_{\max} \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} \quad (0 < t < T)$$

$$= 0 \quad (t \geq T),$$

where  $a_{\max}$  and  $T$  are constants. The hill is inclined at an angle  $\theta$  above the horizontal, and friction between the skis and the snow is negligible. Express your answers in terms of given quantities and fundamental constants.

- Derive an expression for the velocity of the skier as a function of time during the acceleration. Assume the skier starts from rest.
- Derive an expression for the work done by the net force on the skier from rest until terminal speed is reached.
- Determine the magnitude of the force exerted by the rope on the skier at terminal speed.
- Derive an expression for the total impulse imparted to the skier during the acceleration.
- Suppose that the magnitude of the acceleration is instead modeled as  $a = a_{\max} e^{-\pi t/2T}$  for all  $t > 0$ , where  $a_{\max}$  and  $T$  are the same as in the original model. On the axes below, sketch the graphs of the force exerted by the rope on the skier for the two models, from  $t = 0$  to a time  $t > T$ . Label the original model  $F_1$  and the new model  $F_2$ .



END OF EXAM

**AP<sup>®</sup> PHYSICS C: MECHANICS  
2010 SCORING GUIDELINES**

**Question 3**

**15 points total**

**Distribution  
of points**

(a) 4 points

For a correct relationship between velocity and acceleration

1 point

$$v = \int a(t) dt \quad \text{OR} \quad v = \int_0^t a(t) dt \quad \text{OR} \quad \frac{dv}{dt} = a$$

For a correct substitution of the expression for acceleration into the integral relationship

1 point

$$v = \int \left( a_{\max} \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} \right) dt \quad \text{OR} \quad v = \int_0^t \left( a_{\max} \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} \right) dt \quad (0 < t < T)$$

For a correct evaluation of the integral, with an integration constant or correct limits

1 point

$$v = -\frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} \cos \frac{\pi t}{T} + C \quad \text{OR} \quad v = -\frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} \cos \frac{\pi t}{T} \Big|_0^t \quad (0 < t < T)$$

For a correct determination of the integration constant or evaluation between the limits

1 point

$$v(0) = -\frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} \cos 0 + C = 0 \Rightarrow C = \frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} \quad \text{OR} \quad v = -\frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} \left( \cos \frac{\pi t}{T} - 1 \right) \quad (0 < t < T)$$

$$v = \frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} \left( 1 - \cos \frac{\pi t}{T} \right) \quad (0 < t < T)$$

(b) 2 points

For indicating that the work done by the net force is equal to the change in kinetic energy

1 point

$$W = \frac{1}{2} m (v_f^2 - v_i^2)$$

For a correct substitution of velocity from (a) into the work-energy expression

1 point

$$v_f = v_T = \frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} (1 - \cos \pi) = \frac{2a_{\max} T}{\pi}$$

$$v_i = v_0 = \frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} (1 - \cos 0) = 0$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} m \left( \frac{2a_{\max} T}{\pi} \right)^2$$

$$W = \frac{2ma_{\max}^2 T^2}{\pi^2}$$

*Alternate solution (integral form)*

*Alternate points*

$$W = \int F \cdot dx$$

*For a correct substitution of the expression for force into the integral*

*1 point*

$$W = \int m a_{\max} \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} dx$$

*For a correct expression for dx in terms of time*

*1 point*

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**Question 3 (continued)**

**Distribution  
of points**

(b) (continued)

$$W = \int_0^T m a_{\max} \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} \left( \frac{a_{\max} T}{\pi} \left( 1 - \cos \frac{\pi t}{T} \right) \right) dt$$

$$W = \frac{m a_{\max}^2 T}{\pi} \int_0^T \left( \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} - \left( \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} \cos \frac{\pi t}{T} \right) \right) dt$$

$$W = \frac{m a_{\max}^2 T}{\pi} \int_0^T \left( \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} - \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} \right) dt$$

$$W = \frac{m a_{\max}^2 T^2}{\pi^2} \left( -\cos \frac{\pi t}{T} - \frac{1}{4} \cos \frac{2\pi t}{T} \right) \Big|_0^T$$

$$W = \frac{2 m a_{\max}^2 T^2}{\pi^2}$$

(c) 1 point

Starting with Newton's second law:

$$F_{\text{net}} = F_{\text{rope}} - mg \sin \theta = ma$$

At terminal velocity, the net force and acceleration are zero:

$$F_{\text{rope}} - mg \sin \theta = 0$$

For a correct expression for the force

$$F_{\text{rope}} = mg \sin \theta$$

1 point

(d) 2 points

$$J = \int F dt$$

For a correct substitution of force into the impulse-time relationship

1 point

$$J = m a_{\max} \int_0^T \sin \frac{\pi t}{T} dt$$

$$J = \frac{m a_{\max} T}{\pi} \left( -\cos \frac{\pi t}{T} \right) \Big|_0^T$$

For evaluation at the limits of integration

1 point

$$J = \frac{m a_{\max} T}{\pi} [-\cos \pi + \cos 0]$$

$$J = \frac{2 m a_{\max} T}{\pi}$$

*Alternate solution (impulse-momentum)*

*Alternate points*

$$J = \Delta p = mv_T$$

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2010 SCORING GUIDELINES**

**Question 3 (continued)**

**Distribution  
of points**

(d) (continued)

*For a correct substitution of the velocity*

*1 point*

$$J = \frac{ma_{\max}T}{\pi} \left( 1 - \cos \frac{\pi t}{T} \right)$$

*For setting  $t = T$*

*1 point*

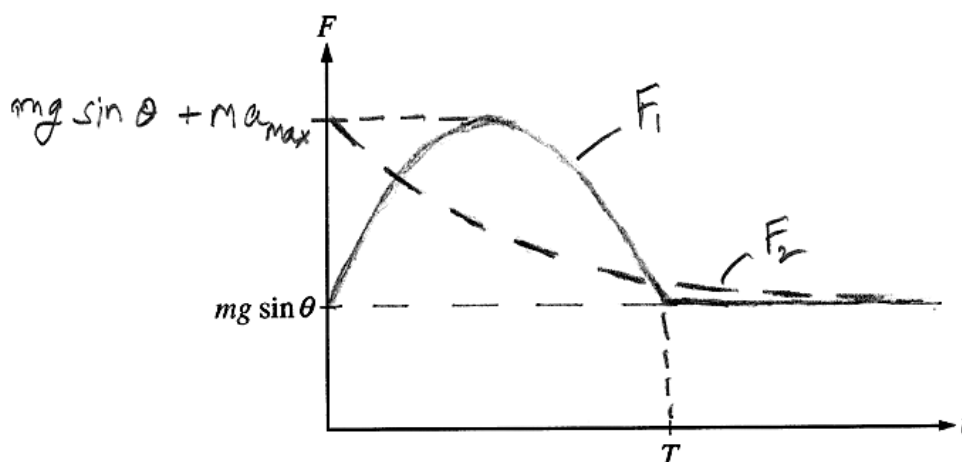
$$J = \frac{ma_{\max}T}{\pi} (1 - \cos \pi)$$

$$J = \frac{2ma_{\max}T}{\pi}$$

(e) 6 points

$$F_1 = mg \sin \theta + ma_{\max} \sin \left( \frac{\pi t}{T} \right) \quad (0 < t < T)$$

$$F_2 = mg \sin \theta + ma_{\max} e^{-\pi t/2T}$$



For a graph labeled  $F_1$ :

for starting at  $mg \sin \theta$

1 point

for half a sine wave with a maximum at  $\sim T/2$

1 point

for returning to original starting point at  $t = T$

1 point

for a horizontal line at the original starting point for  $t > T$

1 point

For a graph labeled  $F_2$ :

for starting on the vertical axis at a point above the starting point of  $F_1$  (if there is no  $F_1$  graph, this point was awarded if the  $F_2$  graph starts above  $mg \sin \theta$ )

1 point

for an exponential decay graph

1 point