

Section 6.7: Physical Applications

Group work:

Problem 1 A metal bar 8 meters long has density (in kg/m) x meters from the left end of the bar given by

$$\rho(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 3 \\ \frac{4}{x} & \text{if } 3 < x \leq 8. \end{cases}$$

Find the mass of the portion of the bar from 2 meters to 5 meters from its left end.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{mass} &= \int_a^b \rho(x) dx \\ &= \int_2^3 \rho(x) dx + \int_3^5 \rho(x) dx \\ &= \int_2^3 x^2 dx + \int_3^5 \frac{4}{x} dx \\ &= \left[\frac{1}{3}x^3 \right]_2^3 + \left[4 \ln |x| \right]_3^5 \\ &= \left(9 - \frac{8}{3} \right) + (4 \ln(5) - 4 \ln(3)) \\ &= \left(\frac{19}{3} + 4 \ln \left(\frac{5}{3} \right) \right) \text{ kg}. \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2 Assume that a spring, whose equilibrium length is 1 meter, obeys Hooke's law. It requires 25J of work to compress this spring to 0.7m in length.

(a) Find the work required to compress the spring to 0.6m in length.

Solution: Let W denote the amount of work done. Recall that

$$W = \int_a^b F(x) dx$$

Learning outcomes:

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where F denotes the variable force applied to move the object (in a straight line) from $x = a$ to $x = b$ in the direction of the force. Recall that Hooke's law says that

$$F(x) = kx$$

where k is a constant that depends only on the spring.

To solve this problem, we first need to solve for k . Using the given information, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} 25 J &= \int_0^{-0.3} kx \, dx \\ &= \left[\frac{k}{2} x^2 \right]_0^{-0.3} \\ &= \frac{k}{2} (0.09 - 0) = \frac{9k}{200} \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$k = \frac{200}{9} \cdot 25 = \frac{5000}{9} \frac{N}{m}.$$

Now, to answer part (a), we evaluate the integral

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_0^{-0.4} \frac{5000}{9} x \, dx \\ &= \left[\frac{2500}{9} x^2 \right]_0^{-0.4} \\ &= \frac{2500}{9} \cdot \left(\frac{2}{5} \right)^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{2500}{9} \right) \left(\frac{4}{25} \right) = \frac{400}{9} J \end{aligned}$$

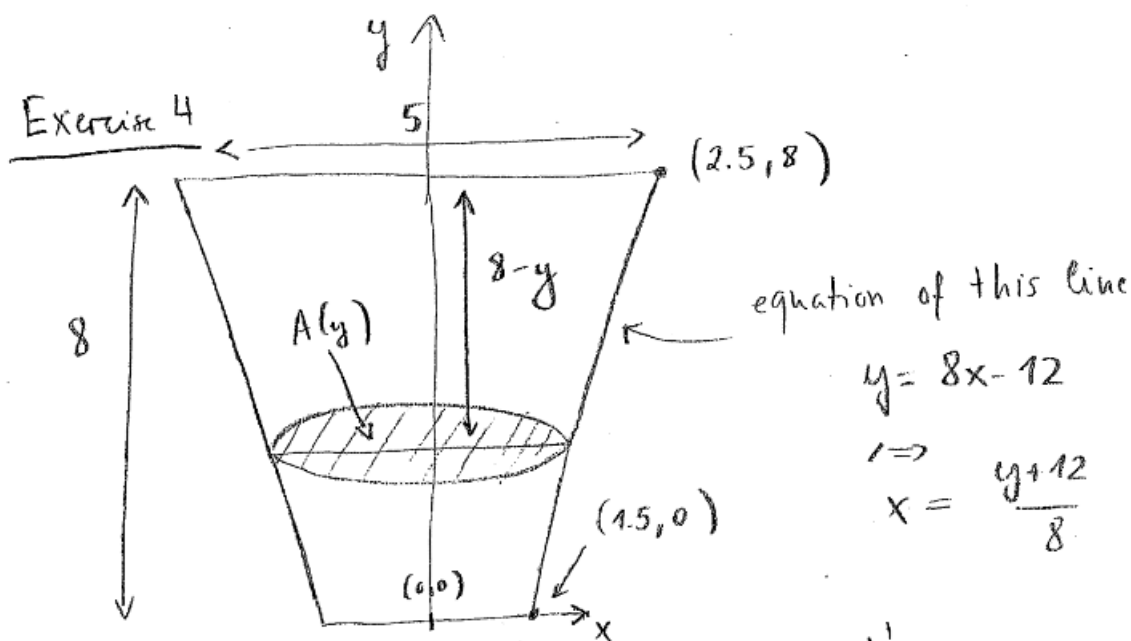
(b) Find the work required to stretch the spring from $1.4m$ to $1.8m$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_{0.4}^{0.8} kx \, dx \\ &= \frac{5000}{9} \int_{0.4}^{0.8} x \, dx \quad \text{we know } k \text{ from part (a)} \\ &= \left[\frac{2500}{9} x^2 \right]_{0.4}^{0.8} \\ &= \frac{2500}{9} \left(\frac{16}{25} - \frac{4}{25} \right) \\ &= \frac{400}{3} J. \end{aligned}$$

Problem 3 A truncated conical tank that is 8 feet tall, 5 feet across the top, and 3 feet across the bottom is filled with water (water weighs 62.5 pounds per cubic foot).

- (a) Set up an integral that will compute the work needed to pump the water out of the top of the tank.



Note that

$$\rho = 62.5$$

g = gravitational constant

$$D(y) = 8 - y$$

$$A(y) = \pi r^2 = \pi x^2 = \pi \left(\frac{y+12}{8} \right)^2.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_a^b \rho g A(y) D(y) dy \\ &= 62.5g\pi \int_0^8 \left(\frac{y+12}{8} \right)^2 (8-y) dy. \end{aligned}$$

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- (b) Set up an integral that will compute the work needed to pump the water out of a pipe that sticks 2 feet above the top of the tank.

Solution: Since the pump is now 10ft away from the point $(0,0)$ instead of 8ft, we just replace $D(y) = 8 - y$ by $D(y) = 10 - y$. So

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_a^b \rho g A(y) D(y) dy \\ &= 62.5g\pi \int_0^8 \left(\frac{y+12}{8}\right)^2 (10-y) dy. \end{aligned}$$

Problem 4 A bucket with mass 100kg when filled with oil is lifted at a constant rate by a pulley from the bottom to the top of a 60-meter hole.

- (a) Assuming the chain used to lift the bucket has negligible mass, compute the work needed to lift the bucket from the bottom of the hole to the top.

Solution: Let

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \text{mass} = 100 \text{ kg} \\ g &= \text{gravitational constant} \\ y &= \text{height} = 60 \text{ m} \\ W &= \text{work}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$W = m \cdot g \cdot y = 6000g$$

- (b) Assuming the chain used to lift the bucket has an evenly-distributed mass of 12kg, set up an integral that will compute the amount of work needed to lift the bucket from the bottom to the top of the hole.

Solution: First notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total Work} &= \text{work to lift the bucket} + \text{work to lift the chain} \\ &= 6000g + \text{work to lift the chain}. \end{aligned}$$

Next, the weight of the chain has an even distribution of $\rho = \frac{12}{60} = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}}$. Also, at any generic height y , the remaining distance that this link in the

chain needs to be raised is $(60 - y)$. Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{work to lift the chain} &= \int_0^{60} \frac{1}{5}(60 - y)g \, dy \\
 &= \frac{g}{5} \int_0^{60} (60 - y) \, dy \\
 &= \frac{g}{5} \left[60y - \frac{1}{2}y^2 \right]_0^{60} \\
 &= \frac{g}{5} (3600 - 1800) = 360g.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$W = 6000g + 360g = 6360g.$$

- (c) Assuming the chain used to lift the bucket has an evenly-distributed mass of 12kg and that oil is leaking out of a hole in the bucket at a constant rate such that the bucket and the remaining oil has a mass of 27kg when it reaches the top, set up an integral that will compute the amount of work to lift the bucket from the bottom of the hole to the top (assuming that the bucket is lifted at a constant rate).

Solution: Similar to part (b), we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Total Work} &= \text{work to lift the bucket} + \text{work to lift the chain} \\
 &= \text{work to lift the bucket} + 360g.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, when $y = 0$ the mass of the bucket is 100kg . When $y = 60$ the mass of the bucket is 27kg . So the bucket loses $\frac{73}{60}\text{kg}$ of mass per meter. Thus, the mass of the bucket at height y is $100 - \frac{73}{60}y$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{work to lift the bucket} &= \int_0^{60} \left(100 - \frac{73}{60}y \right) g \, dy \\
 &= g \left[100y - \frac{73}{120}y^2 \right]_0^{60} \\
 &= g(6000 - 2190) = 3810g.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$W = 3810g + 360g = 4170g.$$