

- 4 A mass is suspended vertically from a fixed point by means of a spring, as illustrated in Fig. 4.1.

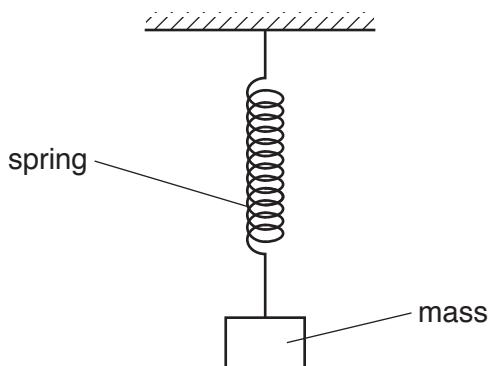


Fig. 4.1

The mass is oscillating vertically. The variation with displacement x of the acceleration a of the mass is shown in Fig. 4.2.

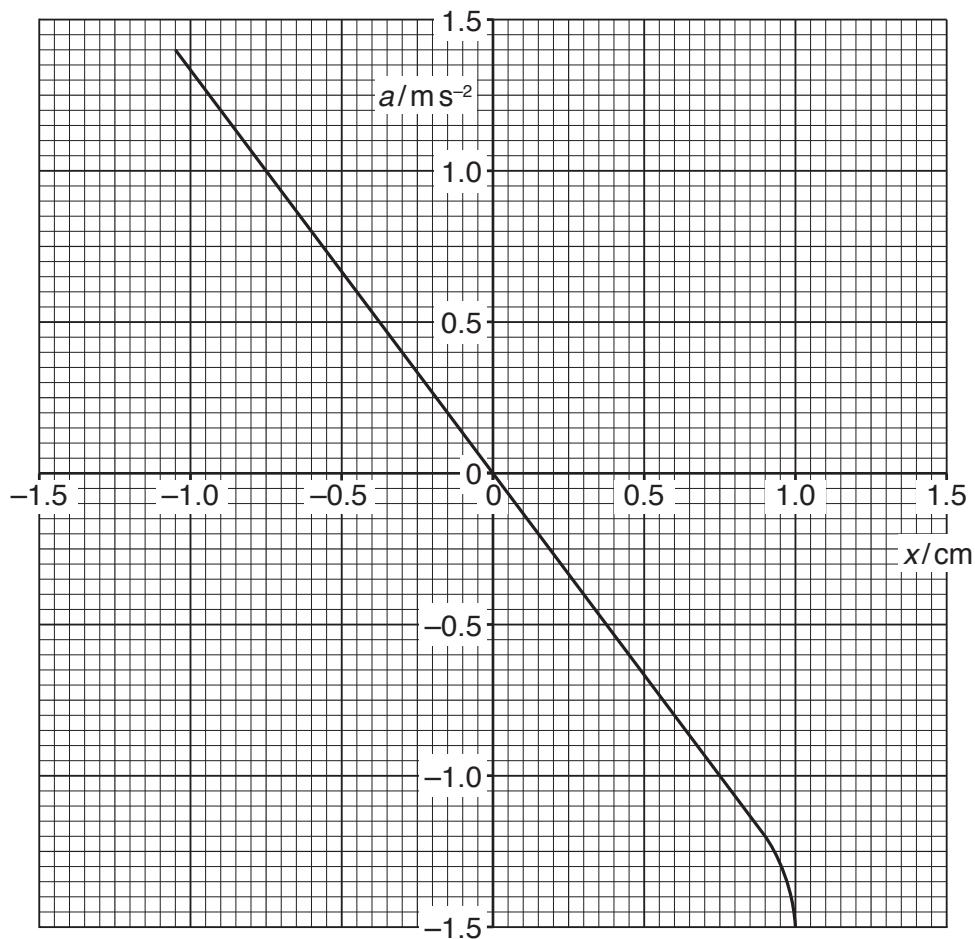


Fig. 4.2

- (a) (i) State what is meant by the *displacement* of the mass on the spring.

[1]

- (ii) Suggest how Fig. 4.2 shows that the mass is not performing simple harmonic motion.
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..... [1]

- (b) (i) The amplitude of oscillation of the mass may be changed.

State the maximum amplitude x_0 for which the oscillations are simple harmonic.

$$x_0 = \dots \text{cm} \quad [1]$$

- (ii) For the simple harmonic oscillations of the mass, use Fig. 4.2 to determine the frequency of the oscillations.

$$\text{frequency} = \dots \text{Hz} \quad [3]$$

- (c) The maximum speed of the mass when oscillating with simple harmonic motion of amplitude x_0 is v_0 .

On Fig. 4.3, show the variation with displacement x of the velocity v of the mass for displacements from $+x_0$ to $-x_0$.

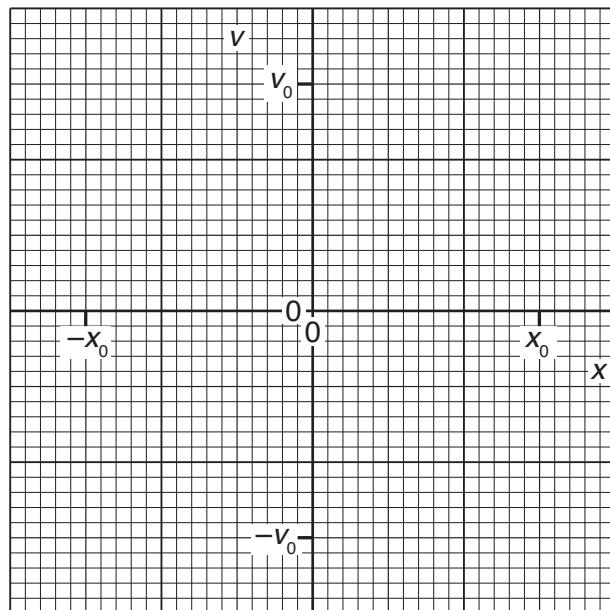


Fig. 4.3

[2]

[Total: 8]