

- 3 A mass P is attached to the free end of a horizontal spring on a smooth surface. The spring-mass system is set into simple harmonic motion by pulling P to the right of the equilibrium position and is released from rest as shown in Fig. 3.1.

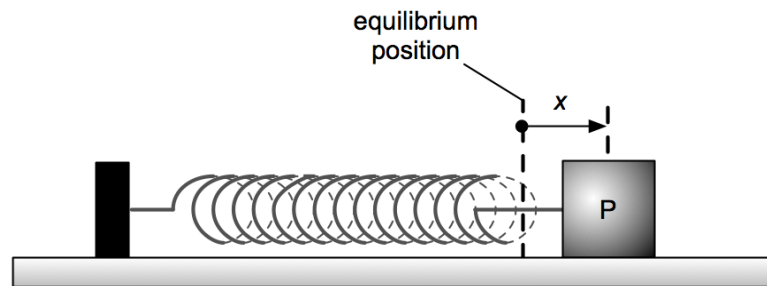


Fig. 3.1

If the air resistance on P is negligible, the variation of the velocity v of P with displacement x is shown in Fig. 3.2. Vectors to the right are taken to be positive.

$v / \text{m s}^{-1}$

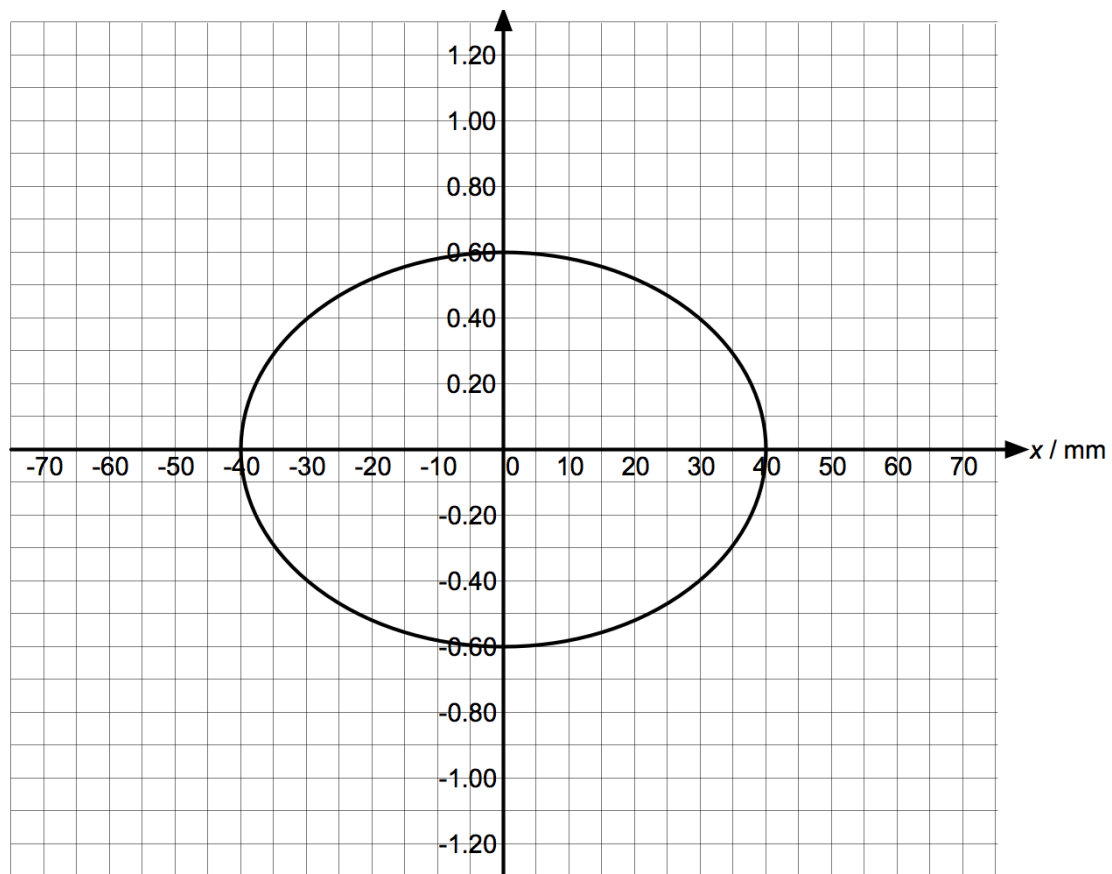


Fig. 3.2

- (a) For the motion of P, determine

- (i) the amplitude and

amplitude = mm [1]

- (ii) the frequency.

frequency = Hz [2]

- (b) If the air resistance on P is not negligible, sketch on Fig. 3.2 the variation of the velocity of P with displacement x . Label it “air resistance”. [3]

- (c) A periodic force is now exerted on the spring-mass system. When the periodic force is at a certain frequency, P is in resonance.

- (i) Given that the total energy of the spring-mass system at steady state is doubled.

Determine the new maximum speed of P.

maximum speed of P = m s^{-1} [2]

- (ii) On Fig. 3.2, sketch the variation of the velocity of P, at resonance, with displacement x . Label it “resonance”.

[2]

