

Question: A moving ball compresses a spring and temporarily comes to rest.



$$v = 0$$

A horizontal line representing a path ends in a circle representing a ball.

System: ball + spring

$$\Delta E_{sys} = W_{surr} = 0$$

$$E_i = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$$

$$E_f = 0$$

$$\boxed{\Delta E_{sys} = -\frac{1}{2} mv^2} ?$$

Ex: Ball falling toward Earth

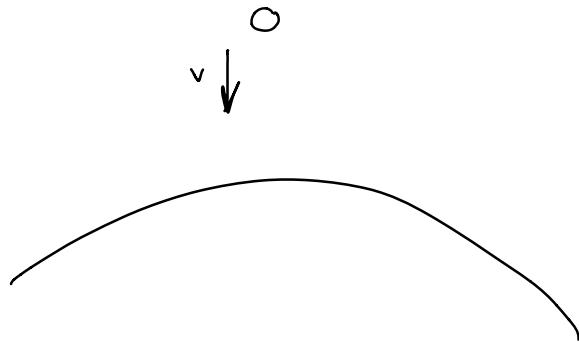
System: ball + Earth

Surr: None

$$\Delta E_{sys} = 0$$

$$\Delta E_{sys} = \Delta K_{ball} + \Delta K_{Earth} > 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} & \nearrow \\ >0 & & & \nearrow \\ & >0 & & ? \end{matrix}$$



- When the ball was stopped by the spring, where did its energy go?
- When the ball + Earth both gained speed, where did that energy come from?

Another form of Energy:
Potential Energy

Potential energy: energy associated w/ interactions in multi-particle systems



$$v = 0$$



System: ball + spring

$$\Delta E_{sys} = W_{surr} = 0$$

$$E_i = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + U_{ball-sp}$$

$$E_f = U_f$$

ball-sp

$$\Delta E = \Delta U - \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = 0$$

$$\Delta U = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

The Kinetic energy of the ball was transformed into potential energy "stored" in the spring

Ex: Ball falling toward Earth

System: ball + Earth

Surr: None

$$\Delta E_{sys} = 0$$

$$\Delta E_{sys} = \Delta K_{ball} + \Delta K_{earth} + \Delta U_{ball-earth} = 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} >0 \\ \nearrow \\ >0 \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} >0 \\ \nearrow \\ ? \end{matrix}$$

$$\Delta U_{ball-earth} = -(\Delta K_{ball} + \Delta K_{earth})$$



Potential energy stored in the gravitational field was converted into kinetic energy

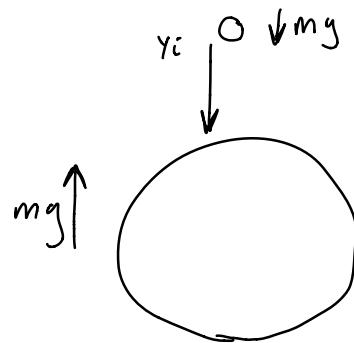
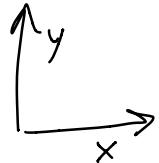
Potential energy:

- "Stored" energy in multiparticle systems
- Has the "potential" to turn into kinetic energy
- Depends on relative position of interacting objects
- A spring which is highly compressed will launch an object faster (it has more potential energy)
- A ball dropped from above the Earth is moving faster when it hits the surface if it was released higher

To calculate potential energy:

$$\Delta K_{\text{earth}} + \Delta K_{\text{ball}} + \Delta U_{\text{ball-earth}} = 0$$

$$\Delta U = -(\Delta K_{\text{earth}} + \Delta K_{\text{ball}})$$



Earth moves up a small distance

$$W_{\text{onearth}} = mg \Delta y_{\text{earth}} \approx 0$$

$$W_{\text{onball}} = -mg \Delta y$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta U &= -(\Delta K_{\text{earth}} + \Delta K_{\text{ball}}) \\ &= -(0 + -mg \Delta y)\end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta U = mg \Delta y$$

Ex: 100 g ball falls from a height of 1m

What is its speed when it lands?

Method 1: Use $y(t) = y_i - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 = 0$ to find Δt
 $v_f = -mg \Delta t$

Method 2:

System = ball + Earth

Surr = None

$$\Delta E_{sys} = 0$$

$$\Delta K_{Earth} + \Delta K_{ball} + \Delta U = 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \approx 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$\Delta K_{ball} = -\Delta U$$

$$= -mg \Delta y$$

$$= -mg(y_f - y_i)$$

$$\Delta K_{ball} = mg(y_i - y_f)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}mv_f^2 - \frac{1}{2}mv_i^2 = mg(y_i - y_f)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}mv_f^2 = mg y_i$$

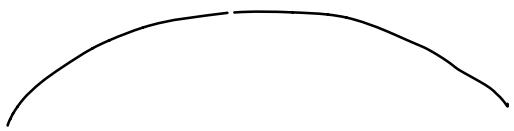
$$v_f = \sqrt{2gy_i}$$

$$v_f = \sqrt{(2)(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(1 \text{ m})}$$

$$v_f = 4.43 \text{ m/s}$$

Potential energy only exists between objects

- Earth doesn't have a potential energy
- The ball doesn't have potential energy
 - The Earth + ball system does
- Two ways of looking at the same thing:



System = ball

$$\Delta E_{\text{ball}} = W_{\text{Earth}}$$

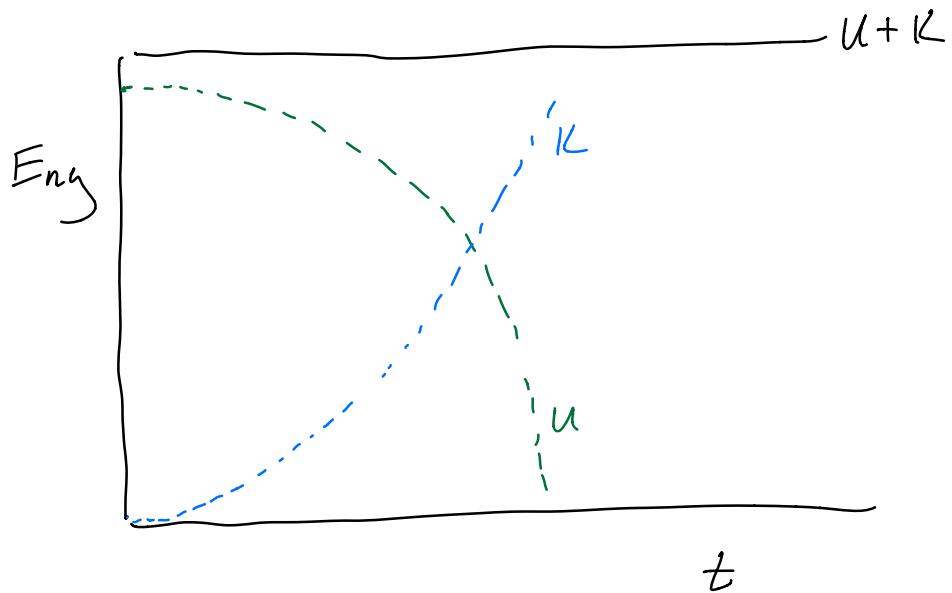
"The gravitational force of the Earth did work on the ball, increasing its speed"

System = ball + Earth

$$\Delta E_{sys} = 0$$

$$\Delta E_{sys} = \Delta U + mg\Delta y$$

"Gravitational potential energy between the Earth + the ball was converted into kinetic energy, increasing the speed of the ball"

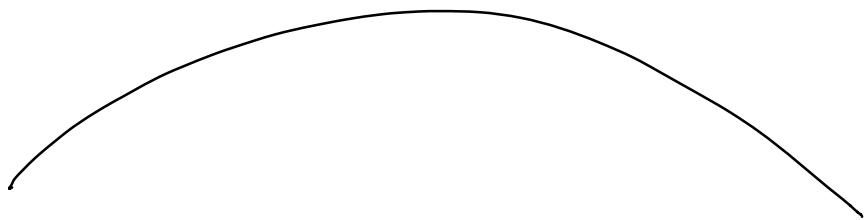


How do I know if I need to include potential energy?

Internal vs External Forces

- Only forces exerted by objects in the surroundings can do work on the system
- We call these external forces
- Not the only possible forces

Ex:



system = ball + spring

External forces act on the system



Internal forces act within the system

$$F_{(\text{on ball by spring})} = ks$$

$$F_{(\text{on spring by ball})} = -ks$$

Internal Forces

-Exerted by & on objects
within the system

$$\Delta E_{\text{sys}} = W_{\text{surr}}$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{ball}} = W_{\text{by spring}} + W_{\text{by Earth}}$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{spring}} = W_{\text{by ball}} + W_{\text{by Earth}}$$

$$\Delta E_{sys} = W_{(ball \rightarrow spring)} + W_{(spring \rightarrow ball)} + W_{(ball \rightarrow Earth)} \\ + W_{(spring \rightarrow Earth)}$$

$$\Delta E_{sys} = W_{int} + W_{surr}$$

$$\text{We want: } \Delta E_{sys} = W_{surr}$$

$$\Delta E_{sys} - W_{int} = W_{surr}$$

$$\Delta U = -W_{int}$$

$$\Delta E_{sys} = \Delta K + \Delta U$$

$$\Delta E_{sys} = W_{surr}$$

$$\Delta K + \Delta U = W_{surr}$$

Main point

$$\Delta E_{sys} = \Delta K + \Delta U, \quad \Delta U = -W_{int}$$

total work done by forces
internal to the system

Ex: Two stars



IF star 1 moves a distance Δr_1 ,

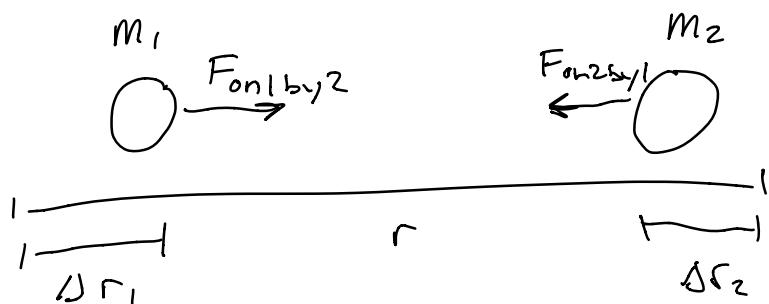
star 2 moves Δr_2

What is ΔU ?

System: Star 1 + Star 2

Surr: None

$$\Delta U = -W_{int}$$



$$W_{int} = |\vec{F}_{1,2}| |\Delta \vec{r}_1| + |\vec{F}_{2,1}| |\Delta \vec{r}_2|$$

$$|\vec{F}_{1,2}| = |\vec{F}_{2,1}| \equiv F$$

$$W_{int} = F \Delta r_1 + F \Delta r_2$$

$$W_{int} = F(\Delta r_1 + \Delta r_2)$$

$$\Delta U = -F(\Delta r_1 + \Delta r_2)$$

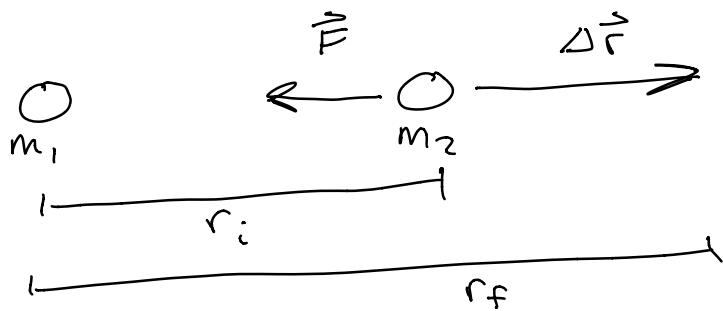
$$\Delta U = -F \Delta r$$

It's the same as one star moving the entire distance Δr

If Δr is large enough, then F will change and $F \Delta r$ is not valid

We need to integrate

Consider:



$\vec{F} \cdot \vec{dr}$ is negative

$$\begin{aligned}W_{int} &= - \int_{r_i}^{r_f} F dr \\&= - \int_{r_i}^{r_f} \frac{G m_1 m_2}{r^2} dr \\W_{int} &= G m_1 m_2 \left(\frac{1}{r_f} - \frac{1}{r_i} \right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta U = -W = -G m_1 m_2 \left(\frac{1}{r_f} - \frac{1}{r_i} \right)$$

$$\Delta U = U_f - U_i = -G m_1 m_2 \left(\frac{1}{r_f} - \frac{1}{r_i} \right)$$

If the two objects start out very far apart, then F is 0

and so U_i is 0

$$r_i \rightarrow \infty, U(r_i) \rightarrow 0$$

$$U_f - \mathcal{O} = -Gm_1 m_2 \left(\frac{1}{r_f} - \frac{1}{\infty} \right)$$

$$U(r) = -\frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r}$$

is the total potential

energy \propto distance of
sep r.

Another interesting result:

$$\Delta U = -W_{int} = - \int_i^f \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$U(r) = U_i - \int_{r_i}^r \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

if $\vec{F} + d\vec{r}$ align, $\vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = F dr$

$$U(r) = U_i - \int_{r_i}^r F dr$$

$$\frac{dU}{dr} = \frac{dU_i}{dr} - \frac{d}{dr} \int_{r_i}^r F dr$$

$$\frac{dU}{dr} = -F$$

$$F = -\frac{dU}{dr}$$

Force wants to minimize
potential energy

