

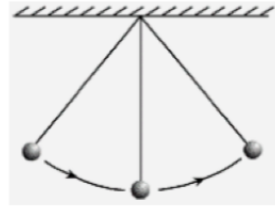
# Oscillations and Waves

IB 12

**Oscillation:** the vibration of an object

**Examples of oscillations:**

- a) a mass on a spring (eg. bungee jumping),
- b) a pendulum (eg. swing),
- c) an object bobbing in water (eg. buoy, boat),
- d) a vibrating cantilever (eg. diving board),
- e) musical instruments (eg. strings, percussion, brass, woodwinds, vocal chords)
- f) an earthquake (eg. P waves and S waves),



**Wave:** a transfer of energy without a transfer of matter

Connection: Waves are caused by oscillating objects



Quantity	Symbol	Units	Definition	Formula
Period	$T$	$[s]$	time taken for one complete oscillation	$\frac{\text{sec}}{\text{cycle}}$
Frequency	$f$	$[Hz] = [s^{-1}]$	number of oscillations per unit time	$\frac{\text{cycles}}{\text{sec}}$
Angular Frequency (Angular speed)	$\omega$	$\frac{[rad]}{[sec]}$	Angular displacement per unit time (measures rotation rate)	$\omega = 2\pi f$

a) Calculate its period.  
1. A pendulum completes 10 swings in 8.0 seconds.

$$T = 0.8 \text{ s}$$

b) Calculate its frequency.

$$1.25 \text{ Hz}$$

c) Calculate its angular frequency.

$$2\pi f = 7.8 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

**Mean Position (Equilibrium Position)** – position of object at rest

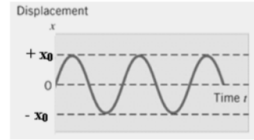
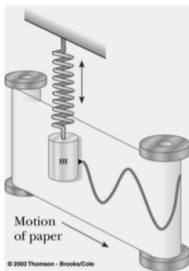
**Displacement** ( $x$ , meters) – distance in a particular direction of a particle from its mean position

Sign:  $+$  or  $-$

**Amplitude** ( $A$  or  $x_0$ , meters) – maximum displacement from the mean position

Sign:  $+$

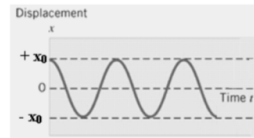
**The Displacement Function**



Initial condition:

starts at mean position

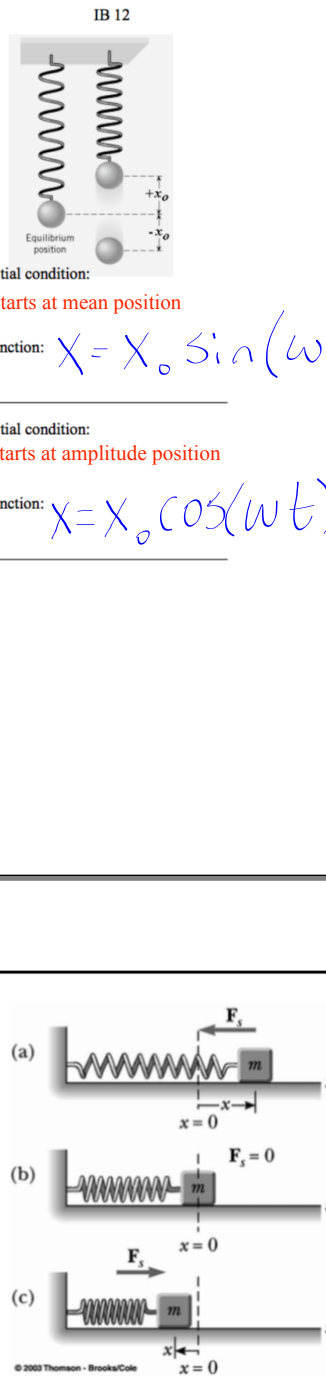
Function:  $x = x_0 \sin(\omega t)$



Initial condition:

starts at amplitude position

Function:  $x = x_0 \cos(\omega t)$



**Restoring Force:** A force that tends to restore the system to its equilibrium position.

Therefore, the restoring force is . . .

always opposite in direction to the displacement and points toward the equilibrium position

In general:

$\vec{a} \propto -\vec{x}$

For a spring:

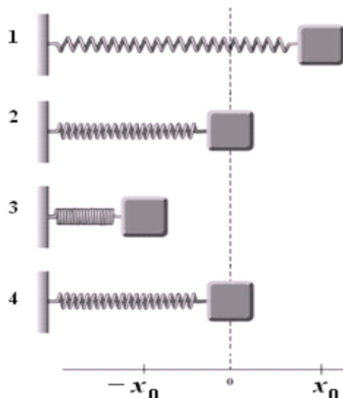
$\vec{F}_s = -k\vec{x}$

$\vec{a} = -\frac{k}{m}\vec{x}$

## Simple Harmonic Motion

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A mass oscillates on a horizontal spring without friction. At each position, analyze the restoring force, displacement, velocity and acceleration.



	Displacement	Velocity	Restoring Force	Acceleration
1	$+x_0$	0	$-F_0$	$-a_0$
2	0	$-v_0$	0	0
3	$-x_0$	0	$+F_0$	$+a_0$
4	0	$+v_0$	0	0

1. When is the velocity of the mass at its maximum value?

When the displacement = 0  
at equilibrium position

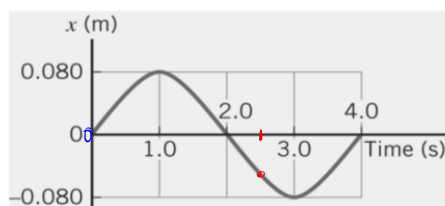
2. When is the acceleration of the mass at its maximum value?

When the displacement and force = max  
at extreme positions

4. The graph shows the displacement as a function of time for an oscillating object.

a) What is the amplitude of the motion?

b) Calculate the period, frequency, and angular frequency of the system.



$$x_0 = 0.08 \text{ m}$$

$$T = 4 \text{ s}$$

$$f = 0.25 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\omega = \pi/2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

c) At what time(s) is the displacement of the object at a maximum? 1 s 3 s

d) At what time(s) is the velocity of the object at a maximum? 0 s 2 s 4 s

e) At what time(s) is the acceleration of the object at a maximum? 1 s 3 s

f) Write a function for the displacement of the object versus time.

$$x = 0.08 \text{ m} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} t\right)$$

g) Use this function to determine the displacement of the mass at each of the times listed below. Then, check your answer by using the graph.

i)  $t = 1.0 \text{ s}$

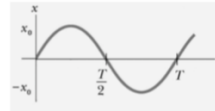
ii)  $t = 2.5 \text{ s}$   $-0.057 \text{ m}$

## Equations of Motion for Simple Harmonic Motion

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## a) Displacement Function

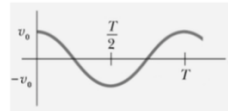
$$\vec{x} = x_0 \sin(\omega t)$$

Maximum displacement:  $x_0$ Occurs at  $t = \frac{T}{4}, \frac{3T}{4}$ 

## b) Velocity Function

$$\vec{v} = \omega x_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

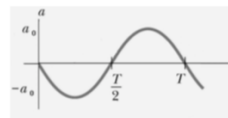
$$v = v_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

Maximum velocity:  $v_0 = \omega x_0$ Occurs at  $t = 0, T/2, T$ 

## c) Acceleration Function

$$\vec{a} = -\omega^2 x_0 \sin(\omega t)$$

$$a = -a_0 \sin(\omega t)$$

Maximum acceleration:  $a_0 = \omega^2 x_0$ Occurs at  $t = \frac{T}{4}, \frac{3T}{4}$ 

1. What is the phase difference between velocity and displacement?

Velocity "leads" displacement by  $90^\circ$  or  $\pi/2$  or  $T/4$ 

2. What is the phase difference between acceleration and displacement?

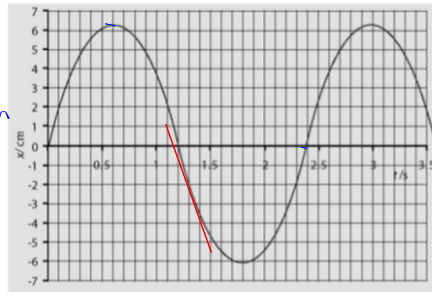
Acceleration "leads" displacement by  $180^\circ$  or  $\pi$  or  $T/2$

3. The graph shown at right shows the displacement of an object in SHM. Determine the:

a) angular frequency

$$T = 2.4 \text{ s}$$

$$X_0 = 6.2 \text{ cm}$$



b) maximum velocity and the times it occurs

$$16 \text{ cm/s}$$

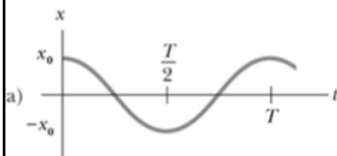
c) maximum acceleration and the times it occurs

$$42 \text{ cm/s}^2$$

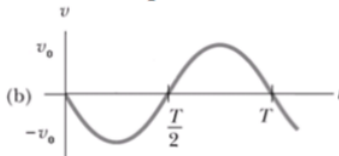
d) Determine the velocity of the object at 1.3 seconds.

$$-15.5 \text{ cm/s}$$

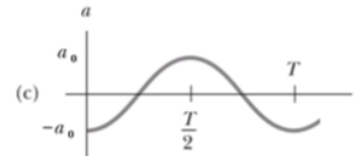
### Alternative Equations of Motion



$$x = x_0 \cos \omega t$$



$$v = -v_0 \sin \omega t$$



$$a = -a_0 \cos \omega t$$

When would these equations be used?

When the object starts at its maximum position

## Alternate Velocity Function

Derivation:

$$v = \omega x_o \cos(\omega t)$$

$$\sin^2(\omega t) + \cos^2(\omega t) = 1$$

$$\cos^2(\omega t) = 1 - \sin^2(\omega t)$$

$$\cos(\omega t) = \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2(\omega t)}$$

$$v = \omega x_o \left( \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2(\omega t)} \right)$$

$$v = \omega \left( \pm \sqrt{x_o^2 - \underbrace{x_o^2 \sin^2(\omega t)}_x} \right)$$

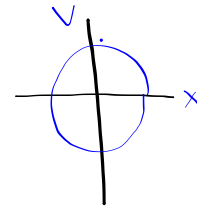
$$x = x_o \sin(\omega t)$$

$$x^2 = x_o^2 \sin^2(\omega t)$$

Formula:

$$V = \pm \omega \sqrt{x_o^2 - x^2}$$

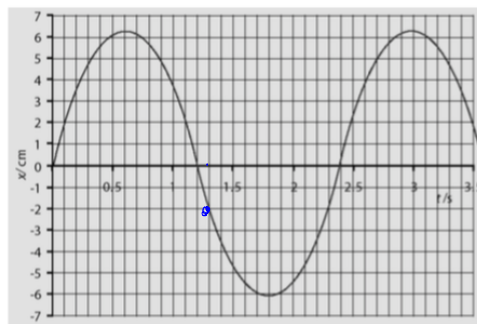
variable



4. (Same graph as question #3) Determine the velocity of the object at 1.3 seconds by this new formula. Compare this to your answer for question #3 part (d) above.

$$V = \pm \omega \sqrt{x_o^2 - \underbrace{x^2}_{\text{variable}}}$$

2 cm



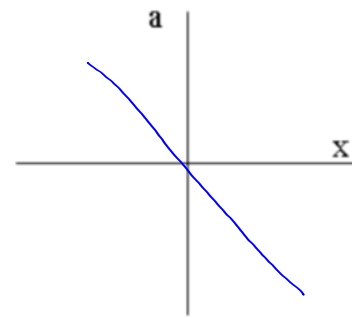
**Simple Harmonic Motion (SHM)** – motion that takes place when the acceleration of an object is proportional to its displacement from its equilibrium position **and** is always directed toward its equilibrium position

**Relationship**

$$a \propto -x$$

**Defining Equation for SHM:**

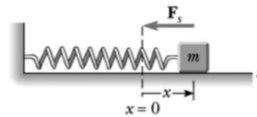
$$\vec{a} = -\omega^2 \vec{x}$$



## Two Simple Harmonic Systems

### I. Mass on a spring

- i) Show that this is simple harmonic motion.



- ii) Determine the frequency, angular frequency, and period of oscillation.

- iii) What factors influence the period of a mass – spring system?