

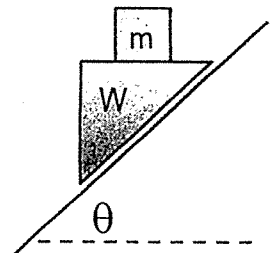
1. (25%) A particle of mass m at rest starts to move from the origin in a straight line under the action of a variable force $F(t)$ as a function of time t in the following manner:

$$F(t) = \begin{cases} K/2, & 0 < t < \lambda \\ K/4, & \lambda < t < 2\lambda \\ K/8, & 2\lambda < t < 3\lambda \\ \dots \\ K/2^n, & (n-1)\lambda < t < n\lambda \\ \dots \\ K/2^N, & (N-1)\lambda < t < N\lambda = T \end{cases}$$

where K , λ , and N are given constants and T is the total traveling time.

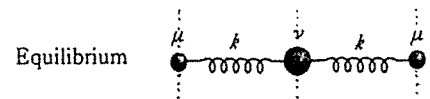
- (a) Draw the plots for the particle's velocity and traveling distance as functions of time. (10%)
 (b) Find the particle's final velocity at time T . (10%)
 (c) Find the particle's overall distance from the origin at time T . (5%)

2. (25%) In a constant gravitational field g , consider a system of two wedges of masses m and W (shown in the plot) sliding down an inclined plane which is at an angle θ with respect to the horizontal ground. The wedge m is constrained to be always in contact with the wedge W and the contact surface is parallel to the ground. Assume that there is no dynamical friction force between the wedge W and the inclined plane, but there is a static friction force between the two wedges.



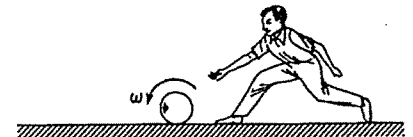
- (a) Determine the accelerations of the two wedges. (10%)
 (b) Find the static friction force between the two wedges. (10%)
 (c) Find the apparent weight of the wedge m . (5%)

3. (25%) An idealized linear classical water molecule consists of three particles in a line connected by equal springs and constrained to move along the line joining them (shown in the plot). The outer two particles 1 and 3 have equal masses μ and the central one has mass ν , and the spring constant is k .



- (a) Find the normal modes (describe them) and normal frequencies. (10%)
 (b) Write down the general solution. (10%)
 (c) Write down the solution with initial conditions $x_1(0) = -A$, $x_2(0) = A\mu/\nu$, $x_3(0) = 0$, and $\dot{x}_1(0) = \dot{x}_2(0) = \dot{x}_3(0) = 0$. (5%)

4. (25%) A bowler releases his ball at a speed of 3 m/s. The ball has a diameter of 250 mm and its mass is 1.8 kg. The coefficient of friction between the ball and the floor is 0.1. Neglect wind resistance and rolling resistance.



- (a) What spin ω should be put on the ball so there is no slipping? (10%)
 (b) If the bowler puts on only half of this spin ω , keeping the same speed of 3 m/s, what is the final speed of the ball? (10%)
 (c) In the case (b), what is the speed after 0.3 sec? (5%)