

## Energy conservation examples



Total energy:

$$K_i + U_i = K_f + U_f$$

$$0 + mgh = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + \frac{1}{2}Iw^2 + 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2}MR^2 \qquad w = \frac{v}{R}$$

for a solid cylinder

Aside:  $K_{\text{tot}} = \sum_i \frac{1}{2}m_i v_i^2$  in general  
(bits of the object)

For a rigid object, separate out CM translational motion from the rotation of bits around the CM

rotation of bits around the CM

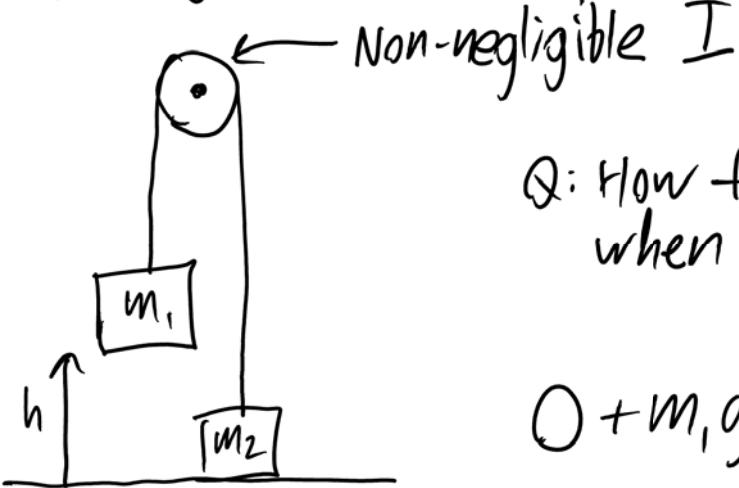
$$\rightarrow K_{\text{tot}} = \frac{1}{2} M V_{\text{CM}}^2 + \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$$

$$\text{with } I = \sum_i m_i r_{\text{from axis}}^2$$

$$\rightarrow mgh = \frac{1}{2} m V^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} m V^2 \right) = \frac{3}{4} m V^2$$

$$\Rightarrow V = \sqrt{\frac{4}{3} gh}$$

Atwood Machine



Q: How fast is mass 1 moving when it hits the ground?

$$0 + m_1 gh = \frac{1}{2} (m_1 + m_2) V^2 + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} I \omega^2}_{\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{I}{R^2} \right) V^2} + m_2 gh$$

$$(m_1 - m_2) gh = \frac{1}{2} \left( m_1 + m_2 + \frac{I}{R^2} \right) V^2$$

$$\Rightarrow V = \sqrt{\dots}$$

Follow-up: How much higher does mass 2 go?



$$\frac{1}{2} m_2 V^2 = m_2 g h_{\text{additional}}$$



$$\frac{1}{2}m_2V^2 = m_2g^2/\text{additional}$$

$$\Rightarrow h_{\text{add}} = \frac{V^2}{2g} = \frac{(m_1 - m_2)h}{m_1 + m_2 + I/R^2}$$

Notes:  $h_{\text{add}} \propto h$  (proportional)

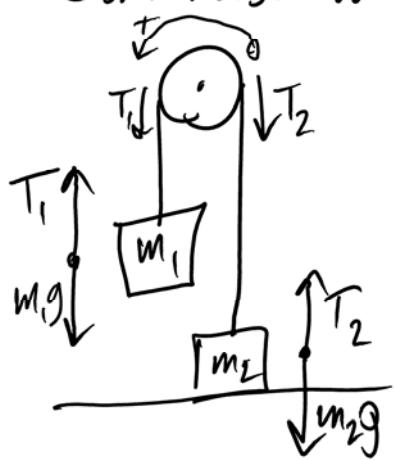
Limiting case:  $m_1 \gg m_2, m_1 \gg I/R^2$

$$\Rightarrow h_{\text{add}} \approx \frac{m_1 h}{m_1} \approx h$$

Limiting case:  $\frac{I}{R^2} \gg m_1, m_2$

$$\Rightarrow h_{\text{add}} \rightarrow 0$$

Contrast with using Newton's laws



$$T_{\text{net}} = RT_1 - RT_2 = I\alpha = I\frac{a}{R}$$

$$m_1g - T_1 = m_1a$$

$$T_2 - m_2g = m_2a$$

Combine 3 eqns, solve for things

$\Rightarrow$  Same answer for  $V$

& get  $T_1$  &  $T_2$

(forces which guarantee the constraint  
on string length & not slipping)

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work-KE theorem: — limited usefulness!

$$\Delta K = W_{\text{net, on}}$$

$\uparrow \quad \curvearrowleft$  on the system

Net work

$$W = \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

Consider potential energy too —

A function of the configuration of the system,  
parametrized in this ideal case by the length  
of a slinky, for example

Conservative forces  $\Rightarrow$  can define a potential energy

$$\rightarrow U(\vec{r}) = - \int_{\vec{r}_0}^{\vec{r}} \vec{F}(\vec{r}) \cdot d\vec{r}$$



$U$  is defined to be zero here

Minus sign because

$\vec{F}$  is force provided by the system, not on it



same  $U(\vec{r})$  from equal integrals



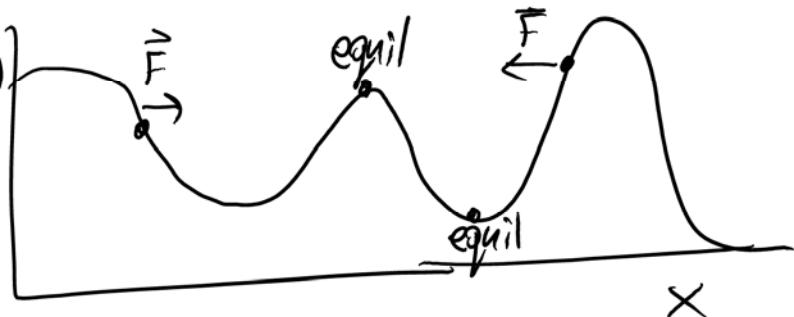
same  $U(\vec{r})$  from equal integrals

Force associated with the potential energy:

$$F(x) = -\frac{dU}{dx} \text{ in 1-D}, \quad -\nabla U(\vec{r}) \text{ in 3-D}$$

↑  
 gradient is "uphill"  
 negative sign  $\Rightarrow$   
 force is "downhill"

1-D picture:  $U(x)$



In 3-D, you get 3 force components from this single function  $U(\vec{r}) = U(x, y, z)$   
 i.e. get  $F_x, F_y, F_z$

What about if there are 2 particles?

$$\rightarrow U(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) \quad \text{e.g. Coulomb force potential} \quad \frac{kq_1 q_2}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|}$$

There's a force on each charge

$$F_{\text{on } 1} = -\nabla_1 U$$

I mean  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \hat{x}_1 + \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1} \hat{y}_1 + \frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} \hat{z}_1$

$$F_{\text{on } 2} = -\vec{\nabla}_2 U$$

Just an extension of  $(x, y, z)$

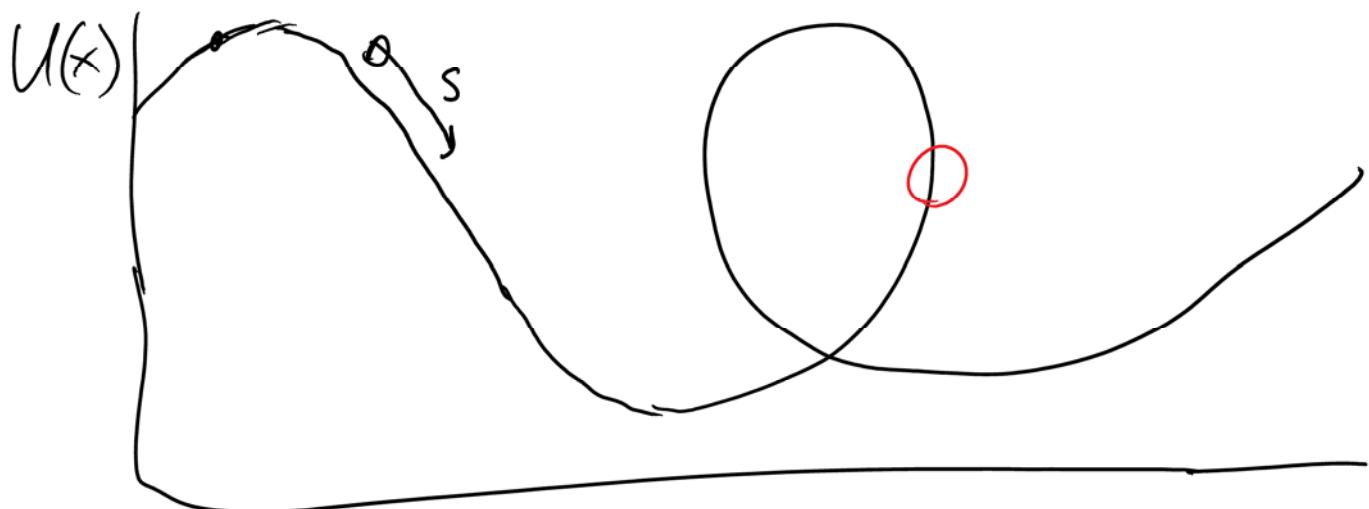
$\Rightarrow$  6 force components

$$F_{x_1}, F_{y_1}, F_{z_1}, F_{x_2}, F_{y_2}, F_{z_2}$$

could be 6 arbitrary unrelated coordinates

$\Rightarrow$  Generalized "gradient" of  $U(\cdot)$   
simultaneously gives forces on all  
degrees of freedom

What about a roller coaster?



Motion of the roller coaster car is along the track,  
not along  $x$

For force from gradient, look at  $U(s)$



$$F_s = -\frac{dU(s)}{ds}$$



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I'll post a pdf of today's lecture at  
[ter.ps/phys410 - Sep 04](http://ter.ps/phys410-Sep04)

## Generalized coordinates

Let "q" be some arbitrary type of coordinate  
(doesn't have to be a position)

Can talk about the generalized force,  $-\frac{\partial U}{\partial q}$   
"trying to change q"

e.g. torsion on a rod or wire

$$\Rightarrow U = \frac{1}{2} K \theta^2$$

$\uparrow$  twist in radians

"spring constant" for rotation

Units of K: Joules (energy units)

Generalized force associated with rotation:

$$F_\theta = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial \theta} = -K\theta$$

units of  $F_\theta$ : Energy units  
again  
(N·m or J)

This is actually torque

11-5.1 11- as we can do ... the moment ... 10...

Useful things you can do with energy conservation:

- Get speed at some position, i.e.  $v(x)$

$$E_{\text{total}} = K + U \quad \text{is conserved}$$

$$\ddot{E} = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 + U(x) \Rightarrow \dot{x} = \sqrt{\frac{2(E-U(x))}{m}}$$

for whatever  $x$

Tells you the speed there, but not the direction

- Get the elapsed time between two points

Separate vars and integrate

$$\int_{x_i}^{x_f} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{m}(E-U(x))}} = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} dt = \Delta t$$

e.g. a mass on a spring

$$U = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \int_{x_i}^{x_f} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{E - \frac{1}{2}kx^2}}$$

$$\text{let } \sqrt{\frac{k}{2}}x = \sqrt{E}y$$

$$\Rightarrow dx = \sqrt{\frac{2E}{k}}y$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{2E}{k}} \int \frac{dy}{\sqrt{E-Ey^2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \int \frac{dy}{\sqrt{E-Ey^2}}$$

$$\int_{\arcsin(y)}^{\arcsin(-y)} \sqrt{1-y^2} dy = \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}} \arcsin\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{2E}} x\right) \Big|_{x_0}^{x_f} = \Delta t$$

if  $x_0 = 0$ , then

$$\Delta t = \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}} \arcsin\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{2E}} x_f\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_f = \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{2E}{k}}}_{\text{Amplitude}} \sin\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \Delta t\right) \quad \uparrow \omega \text{ for this system}$$

Notes:

- You might have to integrate numerically  
e.g. Mathematica : NIntegrate  
Matlab: int  
Excel, etc.

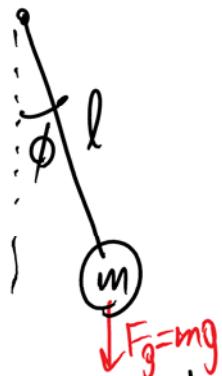


- Assumes that the object doesn't change direction at a turning point - would have to break up the integral
- Get the equation of motion

If  $K+U = \text{constant}$ , take deriv.

e.g.  $\frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 + U(x) = \text{const}$   $\Rightarrow m\ddot{x} + \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = 0$   
 (simple)  $\Rightarrow m\ddot{x} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}$

Another example:



$$U(\phi) = mg \times \text{height} = mgl(1 - \cos\phi)$$

rel. to bottom of swing

$$\Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2}m(l\dot{\phi})^2 + mgl(1 - \cos\phi)$$

$$\text{Take } \frac{d}{dt} \Rightarrow 0 = ml^2\ddot{\phi} + Q + mgl\sin\phi\dot{\phi}$$

$$= \dot{\phi} [ml^2\ddot{\phi} + mgl\sin\phi]$$

moment of  
inertia of the  
mass at the end  
of the string

must be zero —  
eqn of motion for  $\phi$   
(solve this diff. eqn. to)  
get motion

net  
torque  
from  
gravity

$$I\alpha = T_{\text{net}}$$

# What's conserved in a collision?

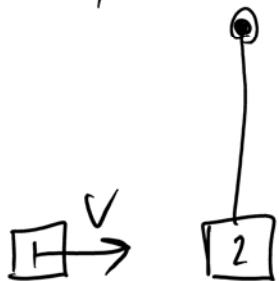
Mechanical energy is not always conserved

Momentum is conserved in a collision if the system is isolated, specifically: no net force on it

Mass — in a classical collision (not a relativistic one!)

Angular momentum is conserved in a collision if there's no net torque on the system

## Example 1: Ballistic pendulum



stick together when they collide

In this collision,

mech. energy — no — it's inelastic  
linear mom. — yes (in x direction)  
angular mom. — yes

$$\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$$

$$(|\vec{L}| = \vec{r} \cdot \vec{p})$$

Next time: Another example,  
and then Lagrangian mechanics