

LECTURE - 4

- WE SHOWED THAT IF THE FORCE IS CONSERVATIVE, THE TOTAL ENERGY IS INDEPENDENT OF THE POSITION OF THE PARTICLE.

↳ CONSERVATION OF ENERGY

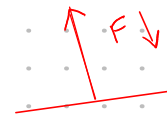
- WE ALSO LEARNED ABOUT POTENTIAL ENERGY.

$$U_b - U_a = - \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

- NOW, EXAMPLE: POTENTIAL ENERGY OF A UNIFORM FORCE FIELD

eg - UNIFORM GRAV. FIELD

$$\vec{F} = mg \hat{k}$$



$$\begin{aligned} U_b - U_a &= - \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} \\ &= - \int_{z_a}^{z_b} (-mg) dz = mg(z_b - z_a) \end{aligned}$$

ASSUMING

$U = 0$ AT GROUND

HENCE, $U(h) = mgh$, $h \rightarrow$ HEIGHT

ALSO USING, CONSERVATION LAW,

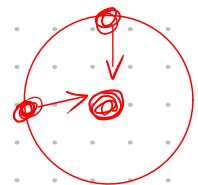
$$\begin{aligned} K_0 + U_0 &= K(h) + U(h) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} m v_0^2 + 0 &= \frac{1}{2} m v(h)^2 + mgh \\ \Rightarrow v(h) &= \sqrt{v_0^2 - 2gh} \end{aligned}$$

- EXAMPLE: INVERSE SQUARE FIELD

GENERALLY, CENTRAL FORCE $\vec{F} = f(r) \hat{r}$

eg - COULOMB FORCE, GRAVITATIONAL FORCE

$$F \propto \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}, \quad F \propto \frac{M M}{r^2}$$



$$\text{BASICALLY } F \propto \frac{1}{r^2} \Rightarrow F = A \frac{1}{r^2}$$

THE POTENTIAL ENERGY OF A PARTICLE IN CENTRAL FORCE

$$U_b - U_a = - \int_{r_a}^{r_b} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = - \int_{r_a}^{r_b} f(r) dr$$

SO, FOR $f(r) = A/r^2$,

$$U_b - U_a = - \int_{r_a}^{r_b} \frac{A}{r^2} dr$$

$$\Rightarrow U_b - U_a = \frac{A}{r_b} - \frac{A}{r_a}$$

TO OBTAIN POTENTIAL ENERGY FUNCTION, WE REPLACE r_b BY RADIAL VARIABLE r .

$$U(r) = \frac{A}{r} + \left(U_a - \frac{A}{r_a} \right)$$

$$= \frac{A}{r} + C$$

SO, WE ARE FREE TO GIVE C ANY VALUE

$$C = 0, \text{ i.e. } U(\infty) = 0.$$

WHERE, $C = \text{CONSTANT}$,
HAS NO
PHYSICAL MEANING

THEREFORE, $U(r) = \frac{A}{r}$

eg. SPRING FORCE, $\vec{F} = -k(r - r_0)\hat{r}$

CENTRAL FORCE, HENCE CONSERVATIVE,

$$U(r) - U(a) = - \int_a^r (-k)(r - r_0)\hat{r} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$= + \int_a^r k(r - r_0) dr$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} k (r - r_0)^2 \Big|_a^r$$

So, $U(r) = \frac{1}{2} k (r - r_0)^2 + C$

$$U(r) = \frac{1}{2} k (r - r_0)^2 //$$

WE CHOOSE THE
POTENTIAL ENERGY TO
BE ZERO AT
EQUILIBRIUM,

$$U(r_0) = 0$$

• Q: WHAT POTENTIAL ENERGY TELLS US ABOUT FORCE?

WE KNOW,

$$U_b - U_a = - \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

BUT IT IS EASIER TO USE POTENTIAL AS MORE FUNDAMENTAL QUANTITY, BECAUSE IT IS A SCALAR.

SO CONSIDER, CHANGE IN POTENTIAL ΔU WHEN THE PARTICLE MOVES FROM x TO $x + \Delta x$.

$$U(x + \Delta x) - U(x) \equiv \Delta U = - \int_x^{x + \Delta x} F(x) dx$$

FOR SMALL Δx , $F(x)$ IS CONSTANT OVER THE RANGE OF INTEGRATION.

SO,

$$\Delta U = -F(x)(x + \Delta x - x)$$

$$= -F(x) \Delta x$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x) = - \frac{\Delta U}{\Delta x} //$$

Force is negative derivative of potential.

IN THE LIMIT, $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$,

$$F(x) = - \frac{dU}{dx} //$$

• STABILITY AND STUFF

- POTENTIAL CAN BE USED TO ANALYZE THE STABILITY OF THE SYSTEM.

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

AT POINT a,

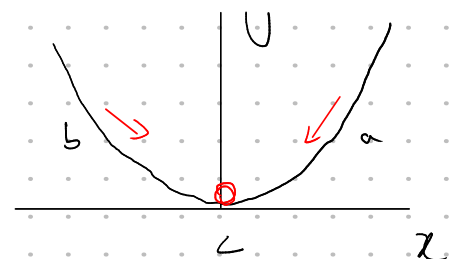
$$\frac{dU}{dx} > 0, \text{ FORCE} < 0$$

AT POINT b,

$$\frac{dU}{dx} < 0, \text{ FORCE} > 0$$

AT POINT c,

$$\frac{dU}{dx} = 0, \text{ FORCE VANISHES.}$$



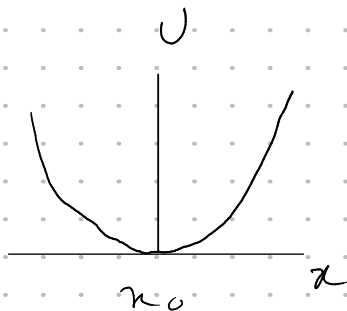
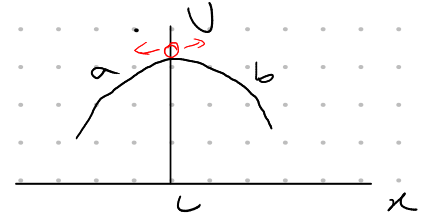
SO, THE FORCE IS DIRECTED TOWARDS ORIGIN, NO MATTER WHICH WAY THE PARTICLE IS DISPLACED.

MINIMA $\rightarrow$ EQUILIBRIUM

$\hookrightarrow$ STABLE

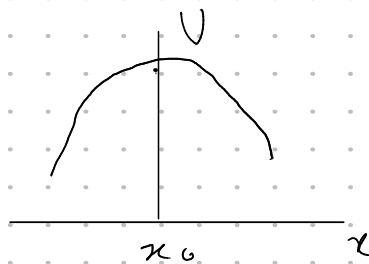
HOWEVER, IF $\frac{dU}{dx} = 0$ AT MAXIMA, $\rightarrow$ UNSTABLE.

UNSTABLE SYSTEM



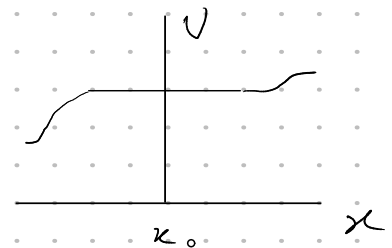
$$\frac{d^2U}{dx^2} > 0$$

STABLE



$$\frac{d^2U}{dx^2} < 0$$

UNSTABLE



$$\frac{d^2U}{dx^2} = 0$$

NEUTRAL

• NON-CONSERVATIVE FORCES

- USUALLY, CONSERVATIVE FORCES ARE DISCUSSED MORE BECAUSE THEY ARE MORE IMPORTANT.
- IN SOME CASES, NON-CONSERVATIVE FORCES ARE PRESENT. SO LET'S DISCUSS THEM.
- eg: OBJECTS FALLING UNDER GRAVITY, FEELS AIR RESISTANCE AS WELL.

TOTAL FORCE IN THAT CASE -

$$\vec{F} = \vec{F}_c + \vec{F}_{nc}$$

- WORK-ENERGY THEOREM IS TRUE WHETHER OR NOT THE FORCES ARE CONSERVATIVE.

$$\therefore W_{ba} = \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_a^b \vec{F}_c \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_a^b \vec{F}_{nc} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow W_{ba} = \underbrace{-U_b + U_a}_{\text{POTENTIAL ENERGY ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSERVATIVE FORCE}} + \underbrace{W_{ba}^{nc}}_{\text{WORK DONE BY THE NC FORCE}}$$

AGAIN FROM WE THEOREM,

$$K_b - K_a = -U_b + U_a + W_{ba}^{nc}$$

$$\Rightarrow (K_b + U_b) - (K_a + U_a) = W_{ba}^{nc}$$

$$\Rightarrow E_b - E_a = W_{ba}^{nc} //$$

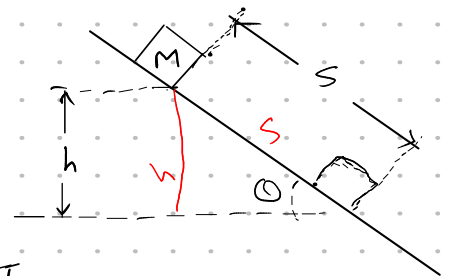
SO IF NC FORCES DO NOT WORK, $E_b = E_a$ (MECHANICAL ENERGY IS CONSERVED)

EXAMPLE: BLOCK IN AN INCLINED PLANE.

MASS $\rightarrow M$

ANGLE $\rightarrow \theta$, COEFF. FRICTION $= \mu$

TO FIND: THE SPEED OF THE BLOCK AFTER IT HAS DESCENDED THROUGH HEIGHT 'h', ASSUMING IT STARTS FROM REST.



$$U_a = Mgh$$

$$K_a = 0$$

$$E_a = Mgh$$

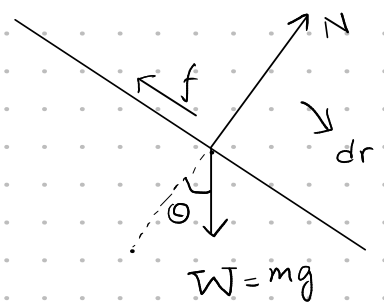
$$U_b = 0$$

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

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

NON-CONSERVATIVE FORCE $f = \mu N$

$$= \mu Mg \cos \theta$$



NON-CONSERVATIVE WORK DONE, $W_{ba}^{nc} = \int_a^b \vec{f} \cdot d\vec{r} = -f s = -f \frac{h}{\sin \theta}$

SO, WE HAVE,

$$W_{ba}^{nc} = -\mu Mg \cos \theta \frac{h}{\sin \theta}$$

$$= -\mu \cot \theta Mgh$$

WHEN THERE IS A NON CONSERVATIVE FORCE INVOLVED,

$$E_b - E_a = W_{ba}^{nc}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} Mv^2 - Mgh = -\mu \cot \theta Mgh$$

$$\Rightarrow v = \sqrt{2(1 - \mu \cot \theta)gh} //$$

NOTE: IN THE ABOVE PROBLEM, FORCES ARE CONSTANT.
CAN BE DONE EASILY USING LAWS OF MOTION.
HOWEVER, THIS METHOD IS USEFUL WHEN WE HAVE
VARIABLE FORCES.