

# CH 15: Oscillations

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Chapter 15: Oscillations

Chapter 16: Waves I

Chapter 17: Waves II

All very closely related:

Oscillating charges generate electro-magnetic waves

Electro-magnetic waves force charges to oscillate

Motion of a boat on a lake generates water waves

Water waves move boat around

...

Also related to circular motion.

# CH 15: Oscillations

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## Oscillations and waves are everywhere!

### Clocks:

- The time standard is an oscillator
- Your wrist watch contains an oscillator

### Radio, TV, Talking, Listening, Seeing, ... :

- The submitted waves are generated by oscillators
- The receiver is an oscillator driven by the received waves

### Heat in or from a solid body:

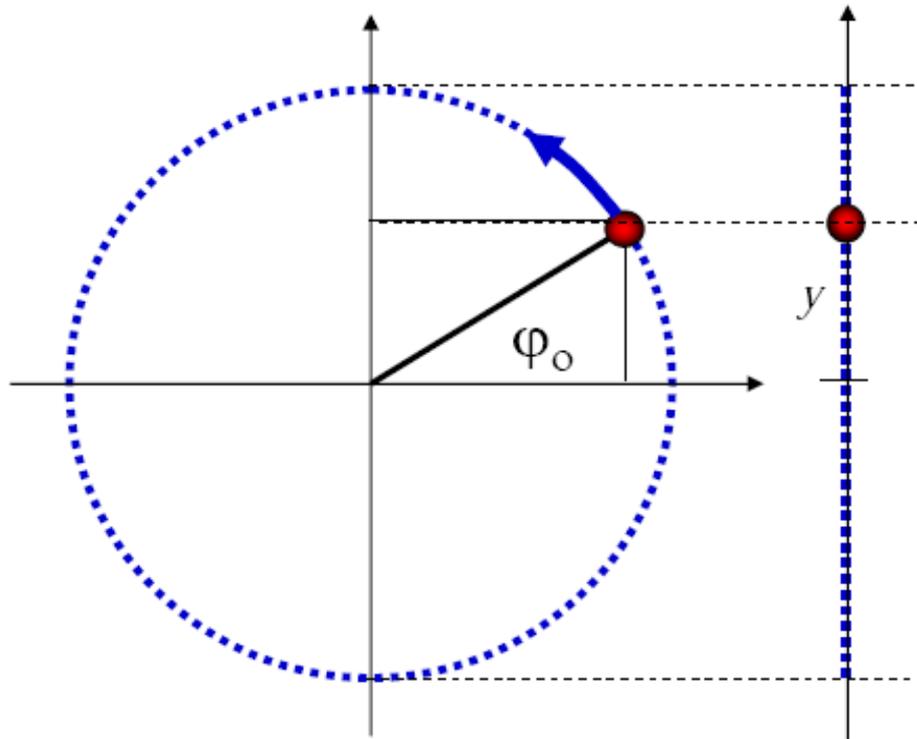
- The random oscillatory motion of atoms in their lattice
- The radiation emitted from a hot body like our sun are waves

### Structural failures:

- Vibrations of bridges, buildings, machines, ...  
caused by wind, earthquakes, engines, ...
- ...

The ultimate question for a physics student could be:  
Do you really understand the harmonic oscillator?

# Circular Motion $\rightarrow$ Simple Harmonic Motion $y(t)$



$$\varphi = \varphi_0 + \omega t$$

$$y = y_m \sin(\varphi)$$

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} \rightarrow \text{period}$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} \rightarrow \text{frequency}$$

$$y = y_m \sin(\omega t + \varphi_0) \rightarrow \text{simple harmonic motion}$$

$$\varphi \rightarrow \text{phase}$$

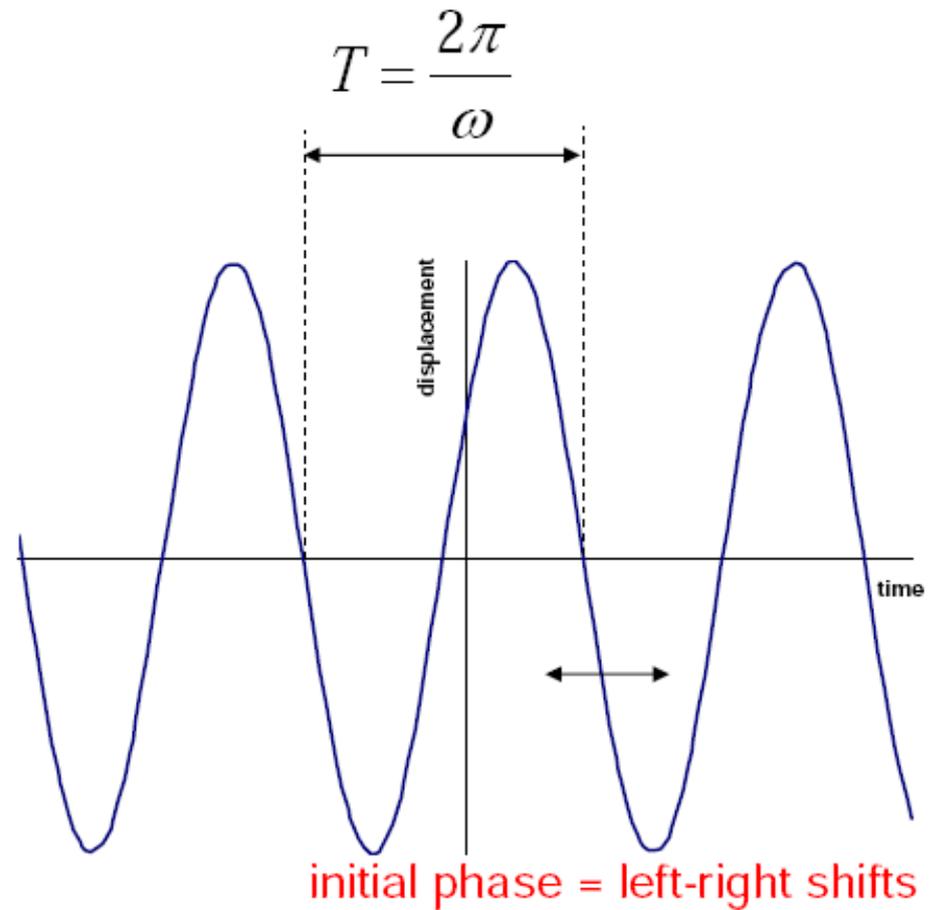
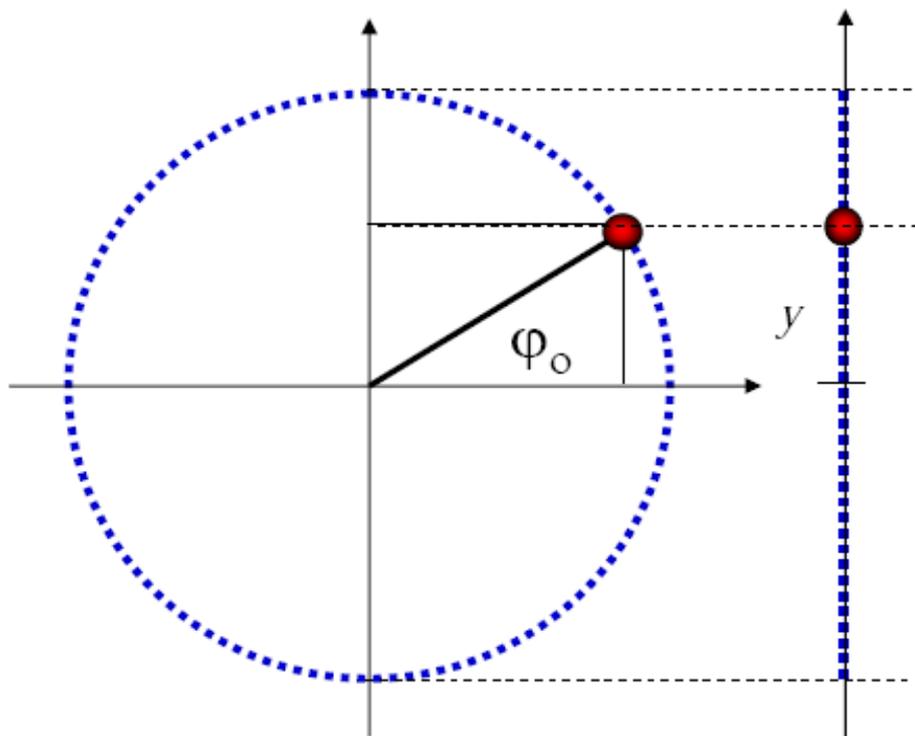
$$\varphi_0 \rightarrow \text{initial phase (phase const)}$$

$$\omega \rightarrow \text{angular frequency } (\omega = 2\pi f)$$

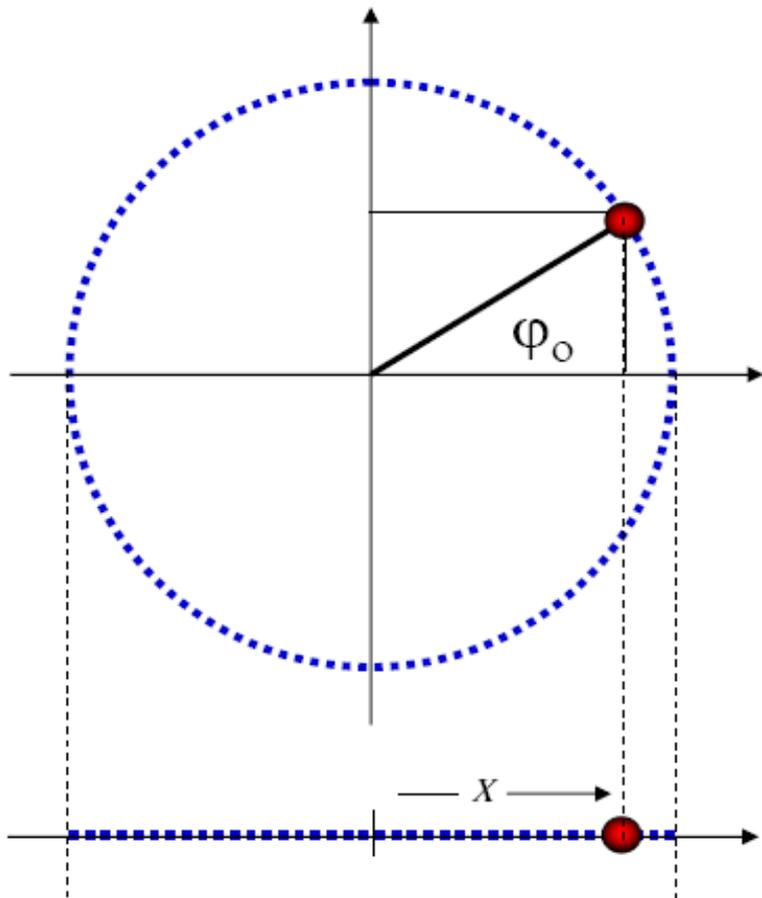
$$y_m \rightarrow \text{amplitude}$$

# Circular Motion $\rightarrow$ Simple Harmonic Motion $y(t)$

$$y = y_m \sin(\omega t + \varphi_0)$$



# Circular Motion $\rightarrow$ Simple Harmonic Motion $x(t)$



$$\varphi = \varphi_0 + \omega t$$

$$x = x_m \cos(\varphi)$$

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} \rightarrow \text{period}$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} \rightarrow \text{frequency}$$

$$x = x_m \cos(\omega t + \varphi_0) \rightarrow \text{simple harmonic motion}$$

$$\varphi \rightarrow \text{phase}$$

$$\varphi_0 \rightarrow \text{initial phase (phase const)}$$

$$\omega \rightarrow \text{angular frequency } (\omega = 2\pi f)$$

$$x_m \rightarrow \text{amplitude}$$

# Simple Harmonic Motion $x(t)$

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displacement  $x(t) = x_m \cos(\omega t + \varphi_0), \quad T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$

velocity  $v(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} = -(x_m \omega) \cdot \sin(\omega t + \varphi_0)$

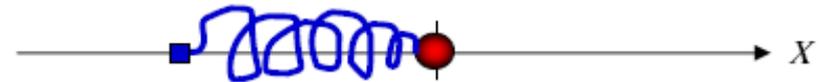
acceleration  $a(t) = \frac{dv}{dt} = (x_m \omega) \cdot (-\omega) \cdot \cos(\omega t + \varphi_0) = -\omega^2 \cdot x_m \cos(\omega t + \varphi_0)$

$$\frac{d^2 x(t)}{dt^2} = a(t) = -\omega^2 \cdot x(t)$$

2<sup>nd</sup> order differential equation for  $x(t)$ !

# Simple Harmonic Motion $x(t)$

(our friend the mass on a spring)



$$x(t) = x_m \cos(\omega t + \varphi_0), \quad T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$$

$$a(t) = -\omega^2 \cdot x(t)$$

$$F = ma$$

$$F = -m\omega^2 \cdot x(t)$$

$$F = -k \cdot x(t)$$

$$m\omega^2 = k$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}, \quad T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$$

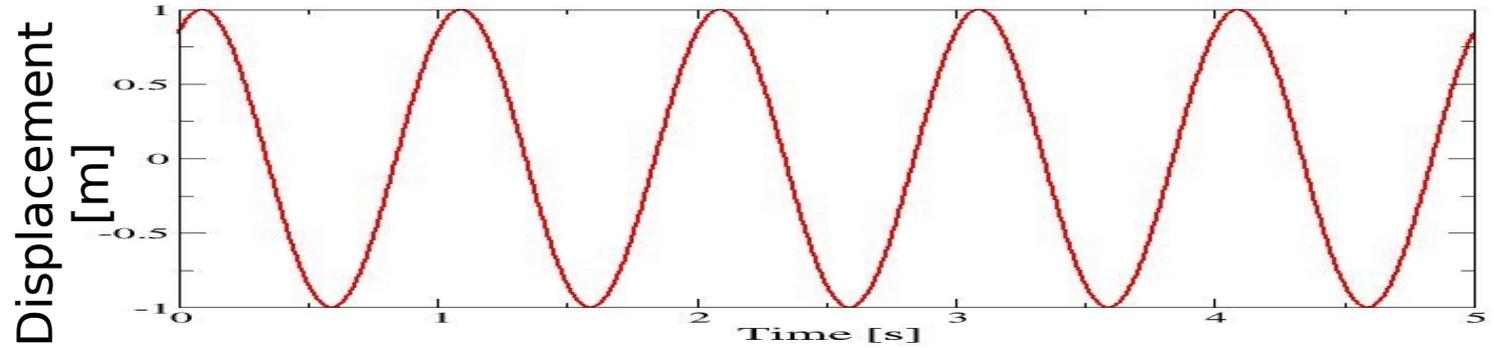
$$x(t) = x_m \cos(\omega t + \varphi_0)$$

Force proportional to displacement!

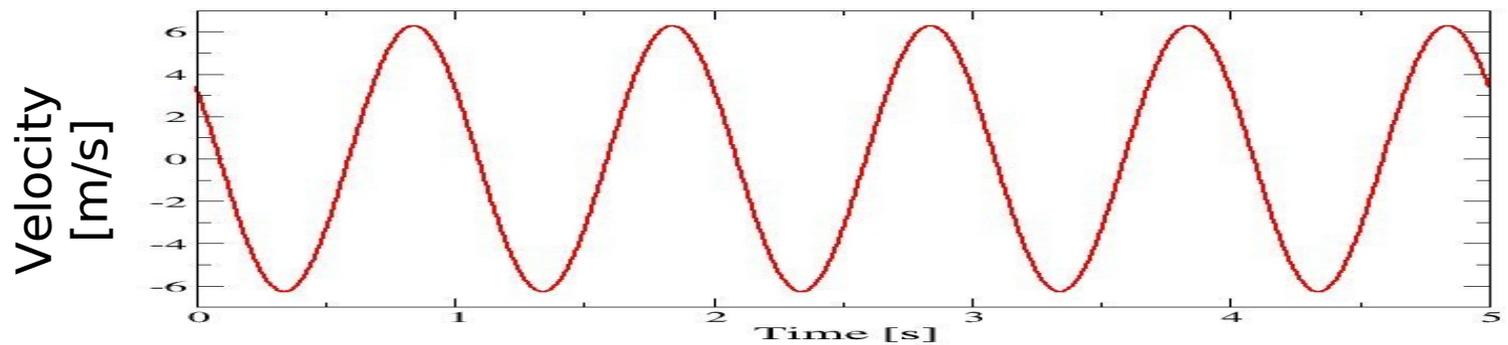
Mass on a spring is **one** (of many) examples for SHM

# Single Harmonic Motion

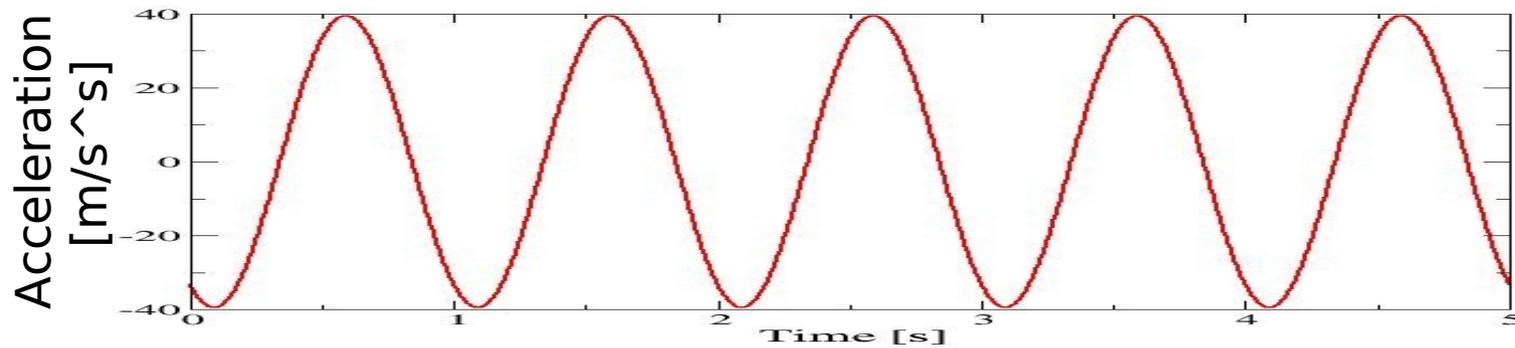
$$x(t) \sim \cos(2\pi \frac{t}{T} + 1)$$



$$v(t) \sim \sin(2\pi \frac{t}{T} + 1)$$



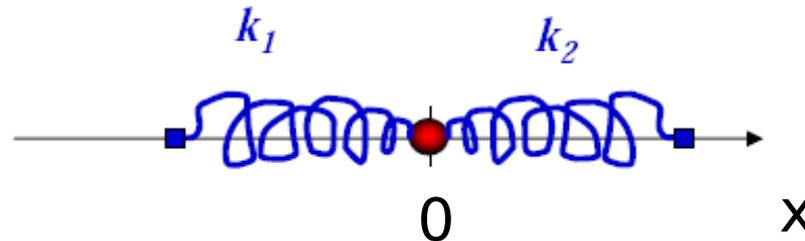
$$a(t) \sim -\cos(2\pi \frac{t}{T} + 1)$$



# Example 1

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An object of mass  $m$  is attached to two springs with Hooke's constants  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ . Find the period of oscillations.



$x=0$  is the rest point where  $|\mathbf{F}_1| = k_1 d_1$      $|\mathbf{F}_2| = k_2 d_2$      $\mathbf{F}_2 = -\mathbf{F}_1$

Spring 1 and 2 pull with the same force in opposite directions:

If we move the mass to a new position  $x$ :

$|\mathbf{F}_1| = k_1(d_1 + x)$  pulls now more than  $|\mathbf{F}_2| = k_2(d_2 - x)$

**The new net Force:**

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{net}} = |\mathbf{F}_1| - |\mathbf{F}_2| = k_1(d_1 + x) - k_2(d_2 - x) = (k_1 + k_2)x$$

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{(k_1 + k_2)}}$$

## Example 2

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An mass  $m=1\text{kg}$  oscillates with SH motion according to

$$x(t)=2.0 \cos[(\pi/2)t+\pi/4] \text{ meters.}$$

1. what are the displacement, velocity, acceleration at  $t=2\text{s}$ ?
2. what are phase angle, frequency  $f$ , and period  $T$  of motion?
3. what is the kinetic energy as a function of time?
4. what is the total energy as a function of time?

$$x(t)=2.0 \cos[(\pi/2)t+\pi/4]$$

$$v(t)= -\pi \sin[(\pi/2)t+\pi/4]$$

$$a(t)= -0.5\pi^2 \cos[(\pi/2)t+\pi/4]$$

$$x(t=2\text{s}) = 2.0 (-0.5)^{1/2} = -2^{1/2}$$

$$v(t=2\text{s}) = \pi (0.5)^{1/2}$$

$$a(t=2\text{s}) = \pi^2/8^{1/2}$$

Phase angle:  $\pi /4$

Frequency:  $f= (\pi /2) / (2\pi )\text{Hz} = 0.25\text{Hz}$

Period  $T = 1/f = 4\text{s}$

## Example 2

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An mass  $m=1\text{kg}$  oscillates with SH motion according to  $x(t)=2.0 \cos[(\pi/2)t+\pi/4]$  meters.

1. what are the displacement, velocity, acceleration at  $t=2\text{s}$ ?
2. what are phase angle, frequency  $f$ , and period  $T$  of motion?
3. what is the kinetic energy as a function of time?
4. what is the total energy as a function of time?

$$K = 0.5mv^2 = 0.5 * 1 * \pi^2 * \sin^2[(\pi/2)t+\pi/4] \text{ J}$$

For a force  $F=-kx$ , the potential is  $U=0.5kx^2$

$$U = 0.5kx^2 = 0.5 * k * 4.0 * \cos^2[(\pi/2)t+\pi/4]$$

$$\text{Use: } k = 4\pi^2m/T^2 = \pi^2/4 \quad U=0.5*1*\pi^2 * \cos^2[(\pi/2)t+\pi/4] \text{ J}$$

$$K+U = 0.5 * 1 * \pi^2 \text{ J} = \text{const.}$$

# Potential Energy and SHM

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**Simple harmonic motion requires a force proportional to a coordinate (for example: x)  
Example:**

$$F = -kx$$

**Such a force has a potential of**

$$U = 0.5kx^2$$

Remember: A stable equilibrium position is where the potential energy has a minimum.

The potential energy around that minimum can always be approximated by a parabola:  $U \sim x^2$

Leads always to SHM for small displacements

## Example 3

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15.2: A particle of mass  $m=1.0 \times 10^{-20}$ kg is oscillating with simple harmonic motion with a period of  $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$ s and a maximum speed of  $1.0 \times 10^3$ m/s.

Calculate the:

- angular frequency
- maximum displacement
- potential energy as a function of the displacement

to a)  $f = 1/T = \omega/2\pi$

$\longrightarrow \omega = 2\pi/T = 6.28 \times 10^5$ rad/s

to b)  $v(t) = v_{\max} \cos(\omega t) = x_{\max} \omega \cos(\omega t)$

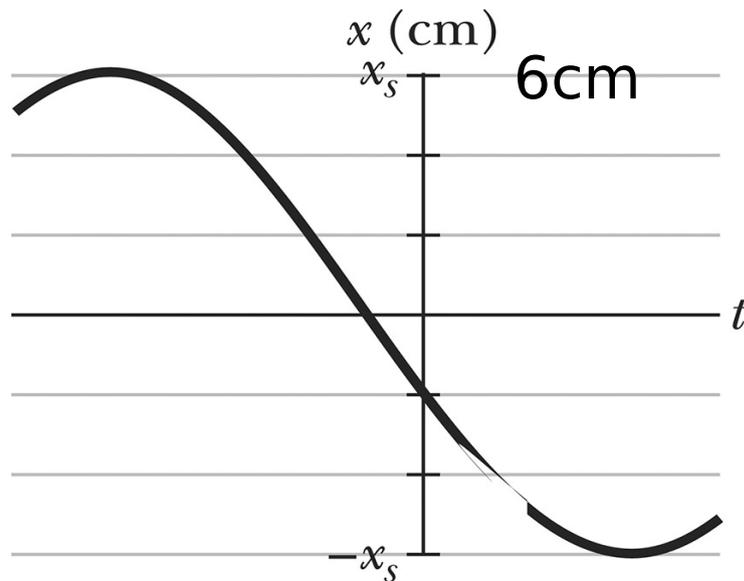
$\longrightarrow x_{\max} = v_{\max}/\omega = 1.59$ mm

to c)  $\omega = (k/m)^{1/2} \longrightarrow k = \omega^2 m = 4 \times 10^{-9}$ N/m  $\longrightarrow U = 0.5 k x^2 \sim 2 \times 10^{-9} x^2$

## Example 4

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Problem 15.10: What is the phase constant for the harmonic oscillator with the position  $x(t)$  given in the Figure below if the displacement has the form  $x(t) = x_m \cos(\omega t + \phi)$ ?



$$x_m = 6\text{ cm}$$

$$x(0) = -2\text{ cm}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos(\phi) = -1/3$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi = 1.91\text{ rad}$$