

Question 2: Version J

2. In Scenario 1, a system composed of two springs, A and B, and a block of mass m is at rest on a horizontal surface. Friction between the block and the surface is negligible. Each spring is attached to a fixed wall and the block, as shown in Figure 1. Spring A has a spring constant k and Spring B has a spring constant $2k$. Each spring is at its relaxed length when the block is at position $x = 0$, as shown.

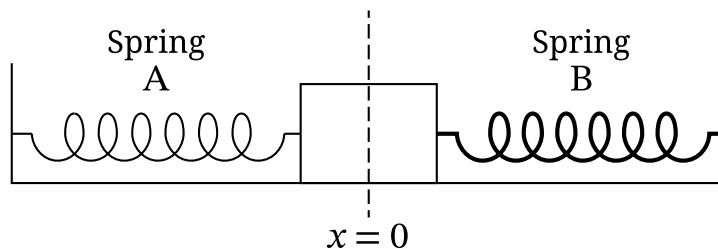


Figure 1

The block is moved to $x = x_1$ and held at rest, as shown in Figure 2.

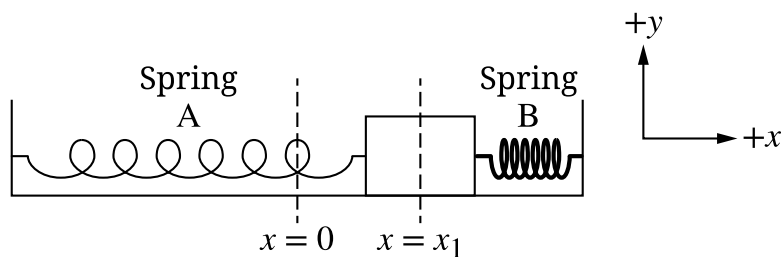


Figure 2

- A. An energy bar chart can be used to represent the elastic potential energy U_A of Spring A, the elastic potential energy U_B of Spring B, and the kinetic energy K_{block} of the block. On the energy bar chart in Figure 3, **draw** shaded bars to represent the energy of the system for when the block is at $x = x_1$.
- The height of the shaded bars should be proportional to the relative values of U_A , U_B , and K_{block} .
 - Any energy that is equal to zero should be represented by a distinct line on the zero-energy line.

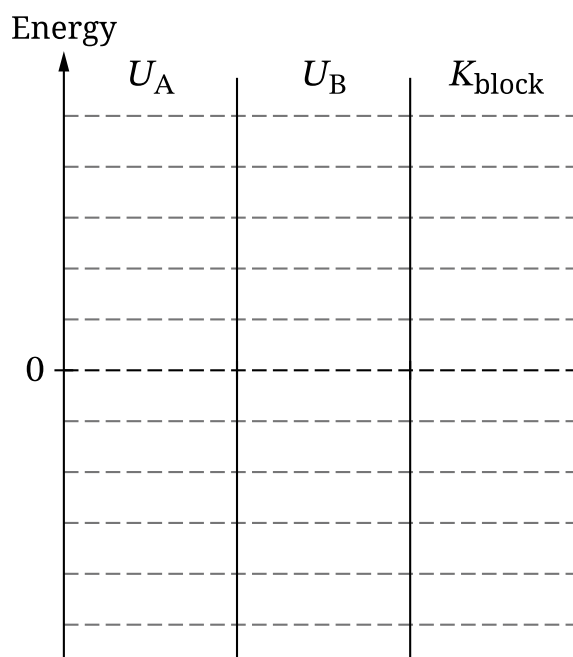
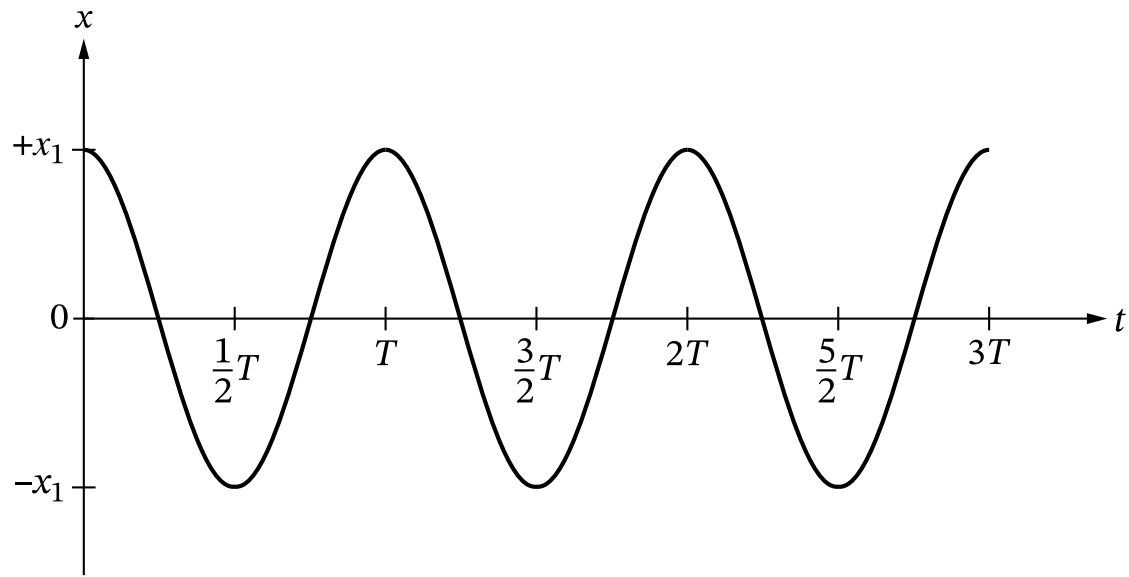


Figure 3

- B. The block is released from rest at $x = x_1$ and begins to oscillate. **Derive** an expression for the speed v of the block as the block passes through $x = \frac{1}{2}x_1$. Express your answer in terms of m , k , x_1 , and physical constants, as appropriate. Begin your derivation by writing a fundamental physics principle or an equation from the reference information.

- C. In Scenario 1, the block oscillates with period T . The position x of the block in Scenario 1 as a function of time t is shown in Figure 4.

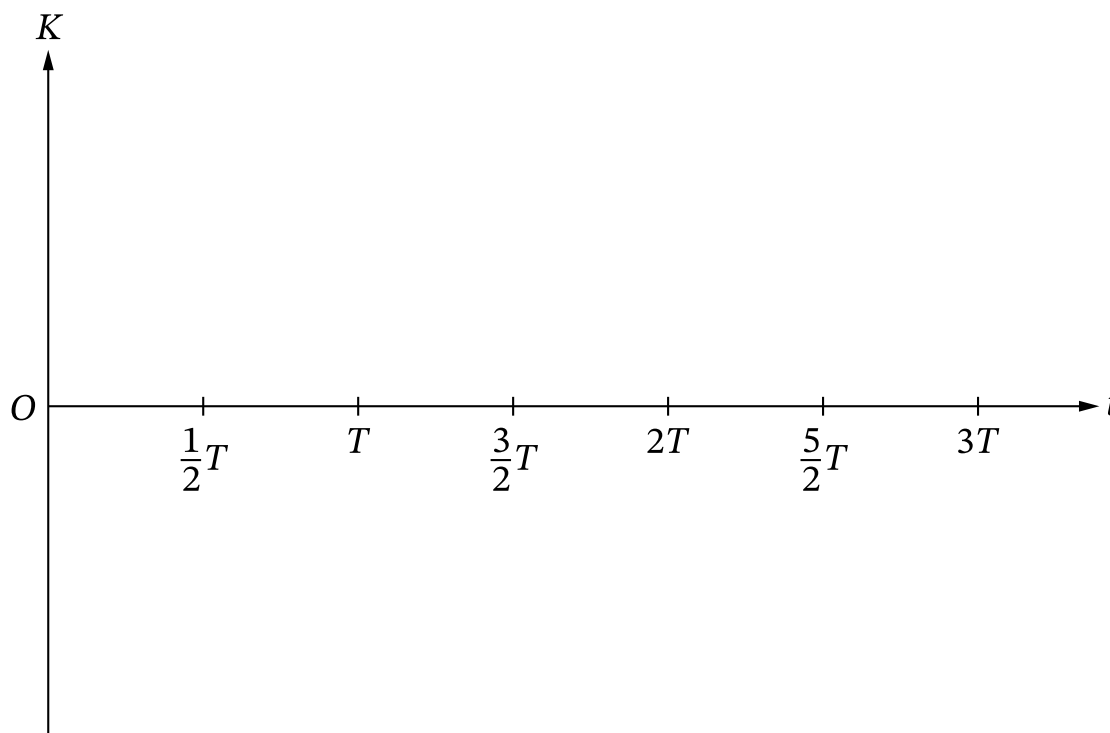


Scenario 1

Figure 4

In Scenario 2, the block-springs system is placed on a new surface. There is friction between the block and the new surface. The block is again moved to the same position $x = x_1$ and released from rest. The block completes multiple oscillations with the same period as in Scenario 1 before coming to rest.

On the axes shown in Figure 5, **sketch** a graph of the kinetic energy K of the block as a function of t for Scenario 2.



Scenario 2

Figure 5

- D.** In Scenario 3, the block is replaced with a new block of larger mass. The coefficient of kinetic friction between the new block and the surface in Scenario 3 is the same as the coefficient of kinetic friction between the original block and the surface in Scenario 2.

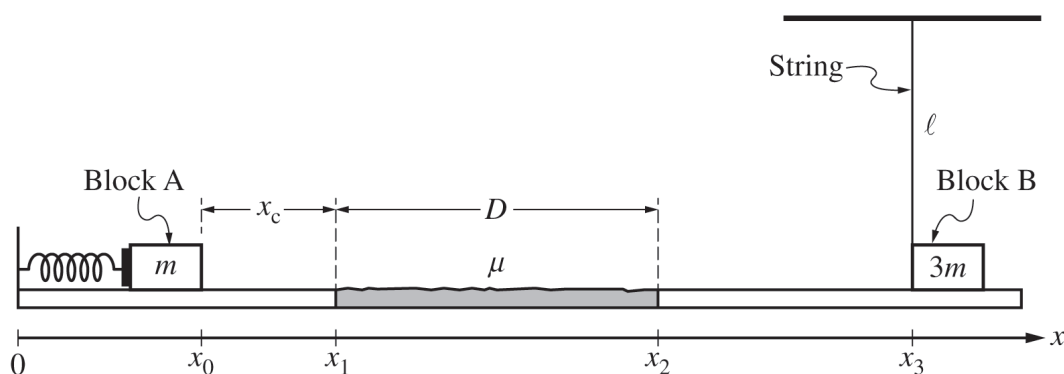
The new block is moved to position $x = x_1$ and released from rest. The kinetic energy of the new block is plotted as a function of time.

Describe how one feature of the graph of K as a function of t in Scenario 3 would differ from the graph you drew in Figure 5 for Scenario 2.

Briefly **justify** your answer.

Begin your response to **QUESTION 1** on this page.**PHYSICS C: MECHANICS****SECTION II****Time—45 minutes****3 Questions**

Directions: Answer all three questions. The suggested time is about 15 minutes for answering each of the questions, which are worth 15 points each. The parts within a question may not have equal weight. Show all your work in this booklet in the spaces provided after each part.



Note: Figure not drawn to scale.

Figure 1

1. Block A and Block B of masses m and $3m$, respectively, are arranged in a setup consisting of an ideal spring with spring constant k and a horizontal surface. Friction between the surface and the blocks is negligible except in a region of length D , where the coefficient of kinetic friction between Block A and the surface is μ . Block B is attached to a string of length ℓ and negligible mass, as shown in Figure 1. Block A is held against the spring, compressing the spring a distance x_c .

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Continue your response to **QUESTION 1** on this page.

At time $t = 0$, Block A is located at position $x = x_0$ and is released from rest. After the block is released, the following occurs.

- At time $t = t_1$, Block A is at $x = x_1$ after traveling a distance x_c . Block A moves with speed v , and the spring is at its equilibrium position.
- At time $t = t_2$, the left side of Block A is at $x = x_2$ after passing through a distance D across the region with nonnegligible friction.
- At time $t = t_3$, Block A is at $x = x_3$ and Block A collides with and sticks to Block B.

(a) For parts (a)(i) and (a)(ii), express your answer in terms of m , k , D , μ , x_c , and physical constants, as appropriate.

i. **Derive** an expression for the speed v of Block A at time t_1 .

ii. **Derive** an expression for the speed $v_{A,B}$ of the two-block system immediately after the collision at time t_3 .

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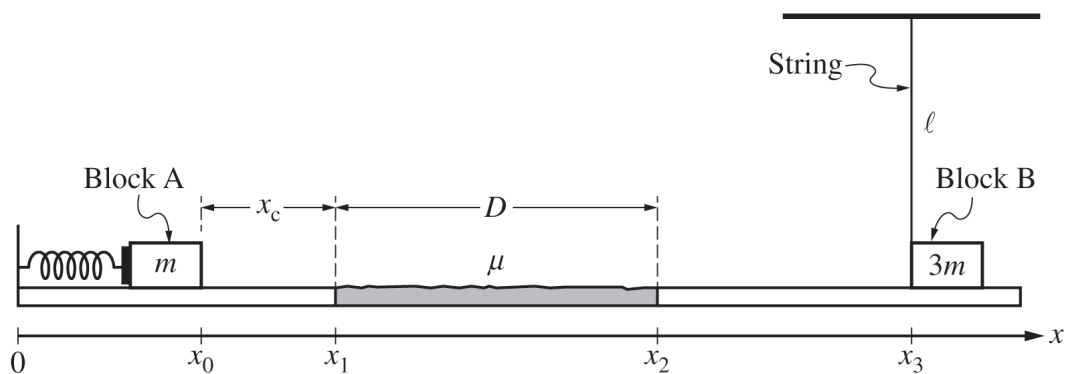
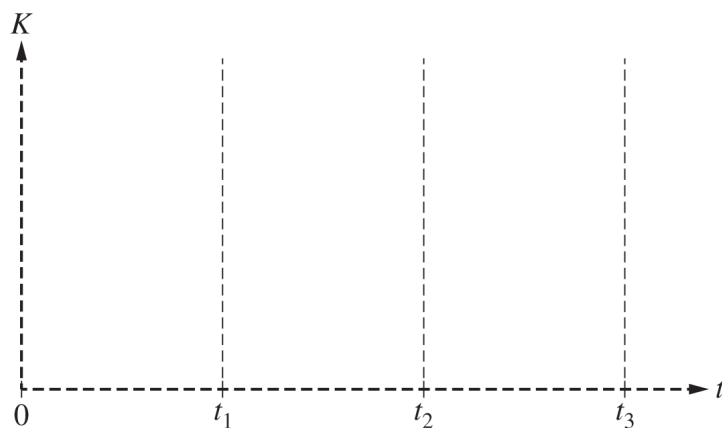
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Figure 1

(b)

- i. On the following axes, **sketch** a graph of the kinetic energy K of Block A as a function of time t from time $t = 0$ to time t_3 .



- ii. Use principles of work and energy to **justify** the graph drawn in part (b)(i) for the time interval $t = 0$ to $t = t_1$. Explicitly reference features of the shape of the graph you drew in part (b)(i).

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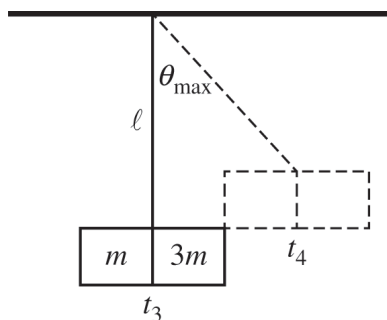
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Figure 2

After the collision, the two-block system instantaneously comes to rest at time t_4 , which occurs when the string makes a small angle $\theta_{\max}$ with the vertical, as shown in Figure 2. For times $t > t_4$, the system oscillates with frequency f_ℓ . The support holding the string is raised, and the procedure is then repeated using a new string of length 2ℓ .

(c) **Indicate** how the new frequency of oscillation $f_{2\ell}$ of the system on the new string of length 2ℓ will compare to the frequency of oscillation f_ℓ from the original procedure.

_____ $f_{2\ell} > f_\ell$ _____ $f_{2\ell} < f_\ell$ _____ $f_{2\ell} = f_\ell$

Briefly **justify** your answer.

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Note: Figure not drawn to scale.

2. A block of mass m starts at rest at the top of an inclined plane of height h , as shown in the figure above. The block travels down the inclined plane and makes a smooth transition onto a horizontal surface. While traveling on the horizontal surface, the block collides with and attaches to an ideal spring of spring constant k . There is negligible friction between the block and both the inclined plane and the horizontal surface, and the spring has negligible mass. Express all algebraic answers for parts (a), (b), and (c) in terms of m , h , k , and physical constants, as appropriate.

- (a)
- Derive an expression for the speed of the block just before it collides with the spring.
 - Is the speed halfway down the incline greater than, less than, or equal to one-half the speed at the bottom of the inclined plane?

_____ Greater than _____ Less than _____ Equal to

Justify your answer.

- (b) Derive an expression for the maximum compression of the spring.
- (c) Determine an expression for the time from when the block collides with the spring to when the spring reaches its maximum compression.

The block is again released from rest at the top of the incline, and when it reaches the horizontal surface it is moving with speed v_0 . Now suppose the block experiences a resistive force as it slides on the horizontal surface.

The magnitude of the resistive force F is given as a function of speed v by $F = \beta v^2$, where β is a positive constant with units of kg/m .

- (d)
- Write, but do NOT solve, a differential equation for the speed of the block on the horizontal surface as a function of time t before it reaches the spring. Express your answer in terms of m , h , k , β , v , and physical constants, as appropriate.
 - Using the differential equation from part (d)i, show that the speed of the block $v(t)$ as a function of time t can be written in the form $\frac{1}{v(t)} = \frac{1}{v_0} + \frac{\beta t}{m}$, where v_0 is the speed at $t = 0$.

- (e) Sketch graphs of position x as a function of time t , velocity v as a function of time t , and acceleration a as a function of time t for the block as it is moving on the horizontal surface before it reaches the spring.

