

Virtual Work

Elastic Potential Energy (V_e)

Consider a **linear and elastic** spring compressed by a force $F \rightarrow F = kx$

k = spring constant or stiffness of the spring

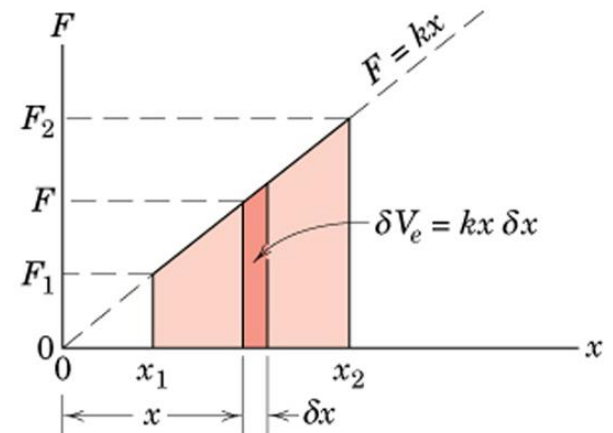
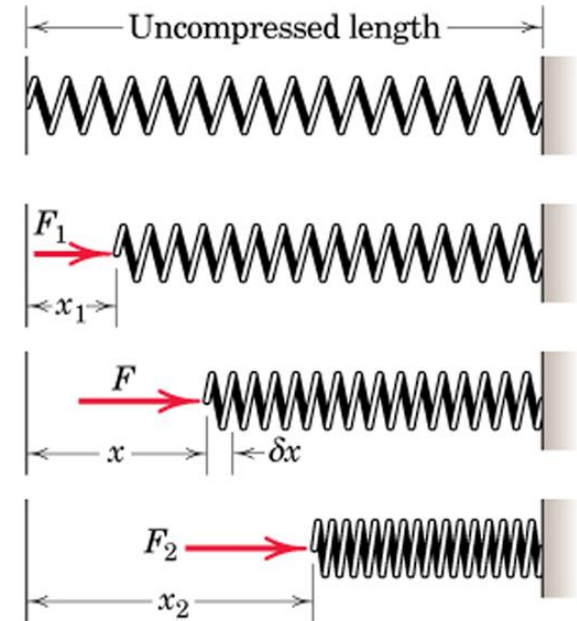
Work done on the spring by F during a movement dx : $dU = F dx$

Elastic potential energy of the spring for compression x = total work done on the spring

$$V_e = \int_0^x F dx = \int_0^x kx dx$$

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

→ Potential Energy of the spring = area of the triangle in the diagram of F versus x from 0 to x



Virtual Work

Gravitational Potential Energy (V_g)

Treatment of Gravitational force till now:

For an upward displacement δh of the body, work done by the weight ($W=mg$) is: $\delta U = -mg\delta h$

For downward displacement (with h measured positive downward): $\delta U = mg\delta h$

Alternatively, work done by gravity can be expressed in terms of a change in potential energy of the body.

The Gravitational Potential Energy of a body is defined as the work done on the body by a force **equal and opposite to the weight** in bringing the body to the position under consideration from some arbitrary datum plane where the potential energy is defined to be zero. $\rightarrow V_g$ is negative of the work done by the weight.

$$V_g = 0 \text{ at } h=0$$

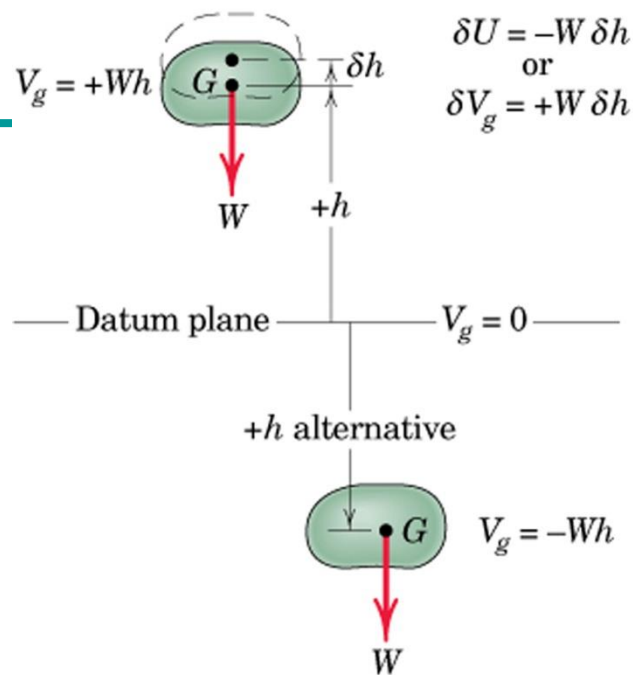
\rightarrow at height h above the datum plane, V_g of the body = mgh

\rightarrow If the body is at distance h below the datum plane, V_g of the body = $-mgh$

Virtual change in the gravitational potential energy: $\delta V_g = +mg\delta h$

δh is the upward virtual displacement of the mass centre of the body

If mass centre has downward virtual displacement $\rightarrow \delta V_g = -mg\delta h$



Virtual Work :: Energy Equation

Work done by the linear spring on the body to which the spring is attached (during displacement of the spring) is the negative of the change in the elastic potential energy of the spring.

Work done by the gravitational force or weight is the negative of the change in gravitational potential energy

Virtual Work eqn to a system with springs and with changes in the vertical position of its members → **replace the work on springs and the work by weights by negative of the respective potential energy changes**

Total Virtual Work $\delta U =$ work done by all active forces ($\delta U'$) other than spring forces and weight forces + the work done by the spring forces and weight forces, i.e., $-(\delta V_e + \delta V_g)$

$$\delta U' - (\delta V_e + \delta V_g) = 0$$

or

$$\delta U' = \delta V$$

$V = V_e + V_g \rightarrow$ Total Potential Energy of the system

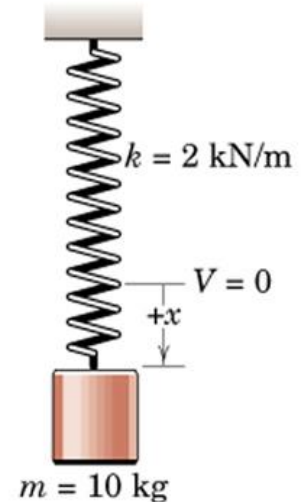
Virtual Work :: Energy Equation

Stability of Equilibrium

Consider a system where movement is accompanied by changes in gravitational and elastic potential energy:

If work done by all active forces other than spring forces and weight forces is zero $\rightarrow \delta U' = 0$ (No work is done on the system by the non-potential forces)

$$\rightarrow \delta(V_e + V_g) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \delta V = 0$$



\rightarrow Equilibrium configuration of a mechanical system is one for which the total potential energy V of the system has a **stationary value**.

For a SDOF system (where **potential energy** and its **derivatives** are **continuous functions of a single variable**, x that **describes the configuration**), it is equivalent to state that:

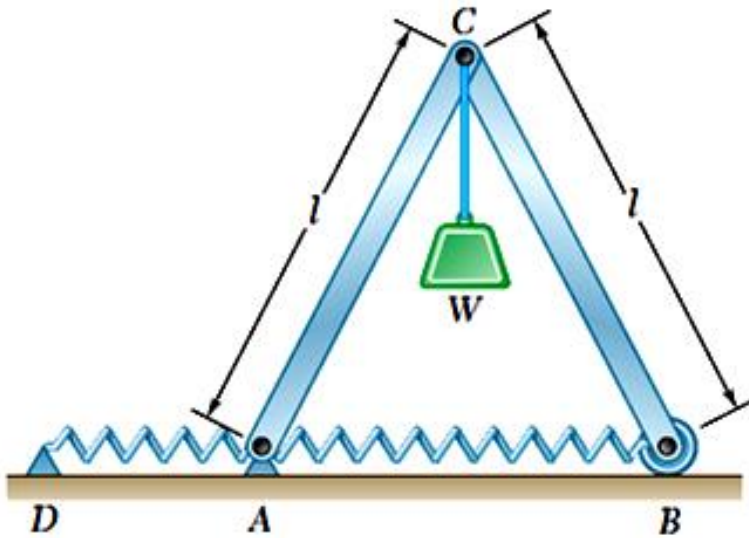
$$\frac{dV}{dx} = 0$$

\rightarrow A mechanical system is in equilibrium when the derivative of its total potential energy is zero

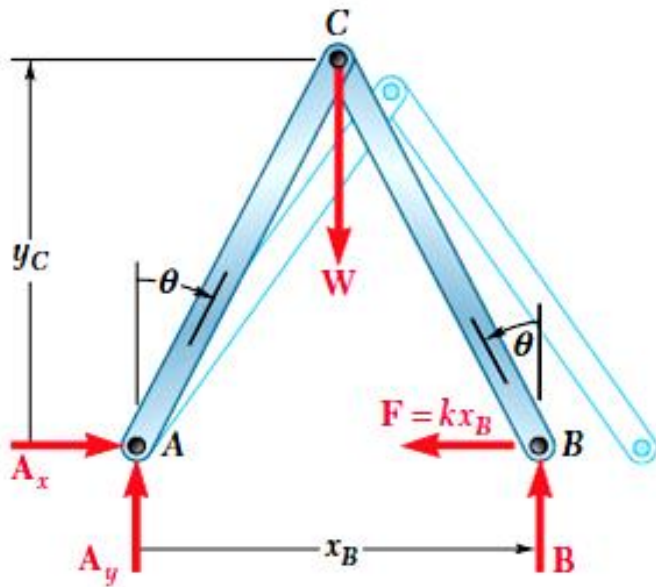
\rightarrow For systems with **multiple DOF**, **partial derivative of V wrt each coordinate must be zero for equilibrium**.

Example on Potential

A two-membered structure is supporting a weight W . The original length of the spring is AD . Neglecting the friction forces and the weight of the members obtain the possible equilibrium configurations.



Example on Potential



:: The only forces contributing to the work done are: (a) W and (b) spring force F

:: Total potential energy = Gravitational potential energy + Elastic potential energy

Choosing a coordinate system with origin at A and noting that the deflection of the spring, measured from its undeformed position, is $AB = x_B$, we write

$$V_e = \frac{1}{2}kx_B^2 \quad V_g = Wy_C$$

Example on Potential

Expressing the coordinates x_B and y_C in terms of the angle θ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}x_B &= 2l \sin \theta & y_C &= l \cos \theta \\V_e &= \frac{1}{2}k(2l \sin \theta)^2 & V_g &= W(l \cos \theta) \\V &= V_e + V_g = 2kl^2 \sin^2 \theta + Wl \cos \theta\end{aligned}$$

The positions of equilibrium of the system are obtained by equating to zero the derivative of the potential energy V . We write

$$\frac{dV}{d\theta} = 4kl^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta - Wl \sin \theta = 0$$

or, factoring $l \sin \theta$,

$$\frac{dV}{d\theta} = l \sin \theta (4kl \cos \theta - W) = 0$$

There are therefore two positions of equilibrium, corresponding to the values $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = \cos^{-1}(W/4kl)$, respectively.

Virtual Work

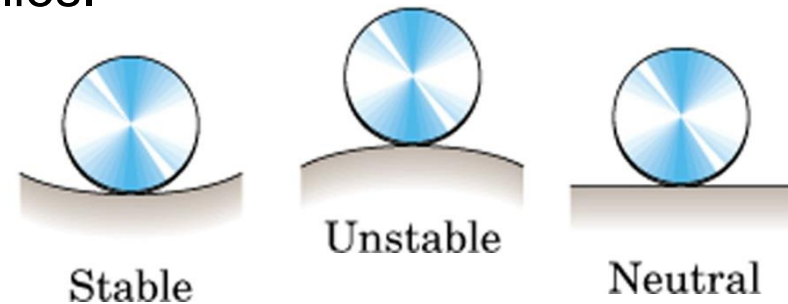
$$\frac{dV}{dx} = 0$$

Stability of Equilibrium: SDOF

Three Conditions under which this eqn applies.

when total potential energy is:

- A Minimum (Stable Equilibrium)
- A Maximum (Unstable Equilibrium)
- A Constant (Neutral Equilibrium)



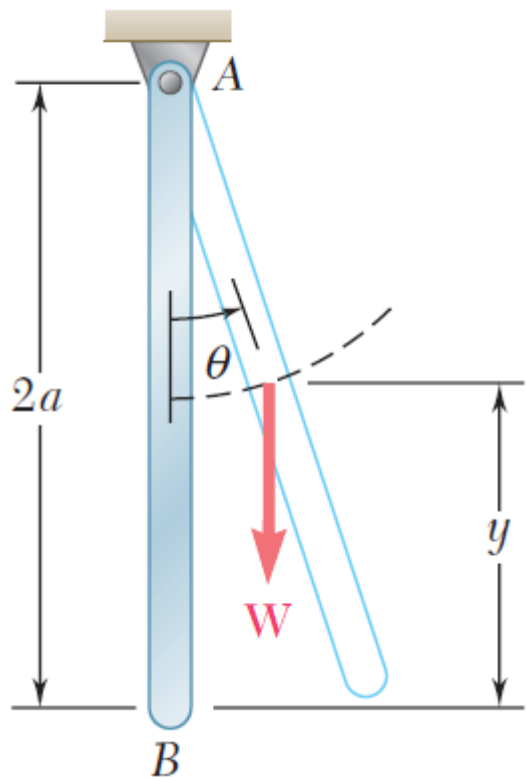
Total Potential Energy: Minimum Maximum Constant

A small displacement away from the **STABLE** position results in an increase in potential energy and a tendency to return to the position of lower energy.

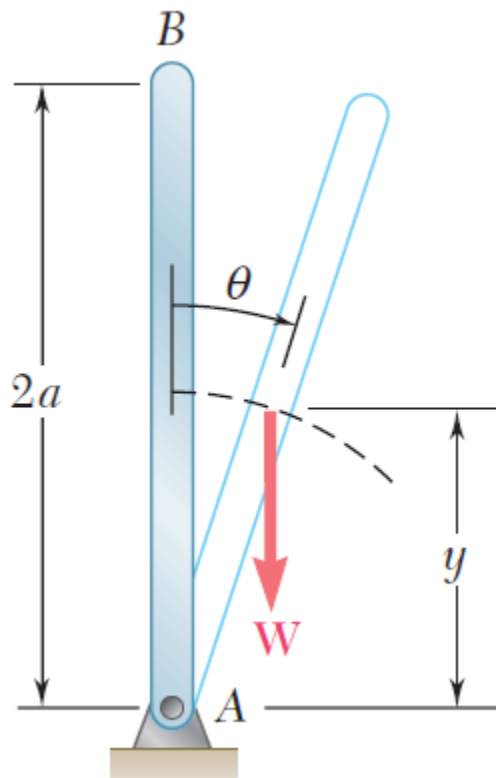
A small displacement away from the **UNSTABLE** position results in a decrease in potential energy and a tendency to move farther away from the equilibrium position to a position of still lower energy.

For a **NEUTRAL** position, a small displacement one way or the other results in no change in potential energy and no tendency to move either way.

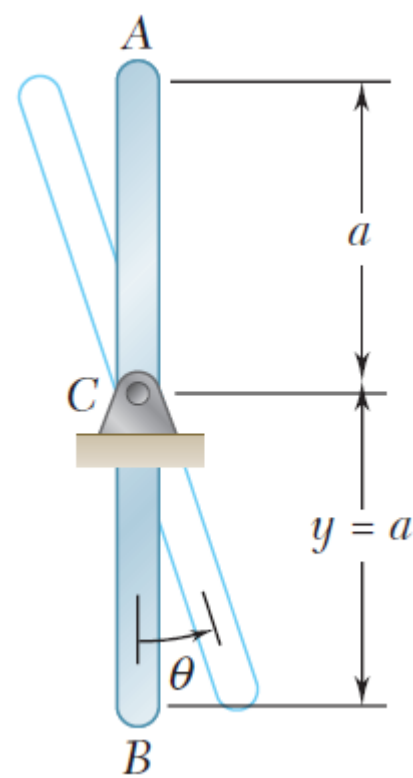
Stability of Equilibrium



Stable
Equilibrium



Unstable
Equilibrium



Neutral
Equilibrium

Stability of Equilibrium

Evaluation for SDOF systems

When a function and its derivatives are continuous:

→ the **second derivative** is **positive** at a point of minimum value of function

→ the **second derivative** is **negative** at a point of maximum value of function

Mathematical conditions for equilibrium and stability of a system with a SDOF x :

$$\text{Equilibrium: } \frac{dV}{dx} = 0$$

$$\text{Stable Equilibrium: } \frac{dV}{dx} = 0, \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} > 0$$

$$\text{Unstable Equilibrium: } \frac{dV}{dx} = 0, \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} < 0$$

$$\text{Neutral Equilibrium: } \frac{dV}{dx} = \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = \frac{d^3V}{dx^3} = \dots = 0$$

If $d^2V/dx^2 = 0$ at the equilibrium position, examine the sign of a higher derivative to ascertain the type of equilibrium.

- If the **order** of the **lowest remaining non-zero derivative** is **even**, the **equilibrium** will be **stable or unstable** according to the **whether the sign of this derivative is positive or negative**
- If the **order** of the **derivative** is **odd**, the **equilibrium** is classified as **unstable**

Example on Equilibrium

A 10 kg cylinder is suspended by the spring.
Plot the potential energy of the system and show that it is minimum at the equilibrium position.

No external active forces. Choosing datum plane for zero potential energy at the position where the spring is un-extended.

For an arbitrary position x : Elastic potential energy: $V_e = \frac{1}{2} kx^2$

Gravitational Potential Energy: $V_g = -mgx$ (-ve of work done)

Total Potential Energy: $V = V_e + V_g = \frac{1}{2} kx^2 - mgx$

Equilibrium occurs where $dV/dx = 0$

$$\rightarrow kx - mg = 0 \rightarrow x = mg/k$$

$d^2V/dx^2 = +k \rightarrow$ Stable Equilibrium since positive

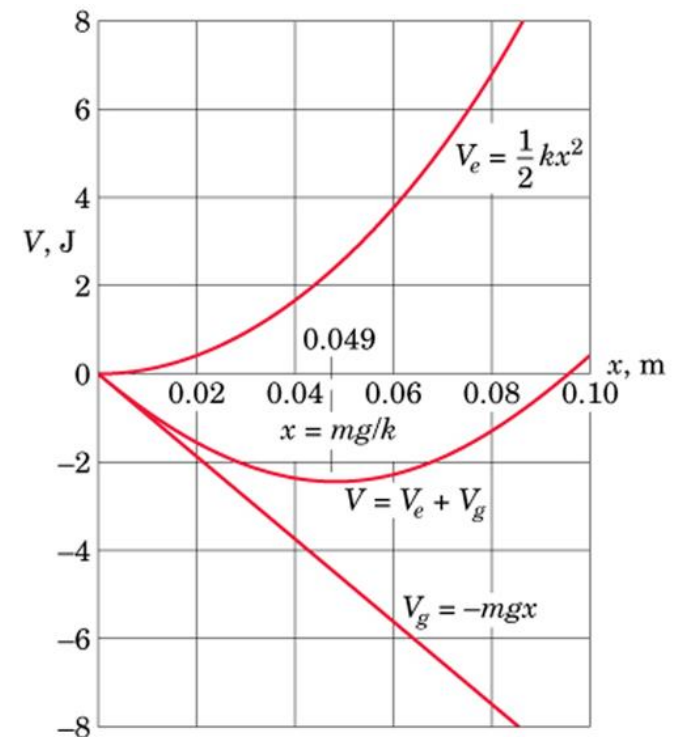
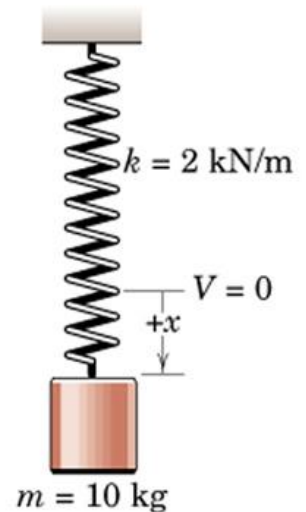
Substituting values of m and k

$$V = \frac{1}{2} (2000)x^2 - 10(9.81)x$$

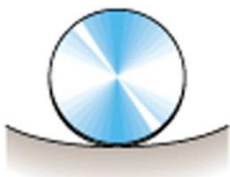
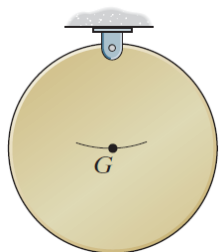
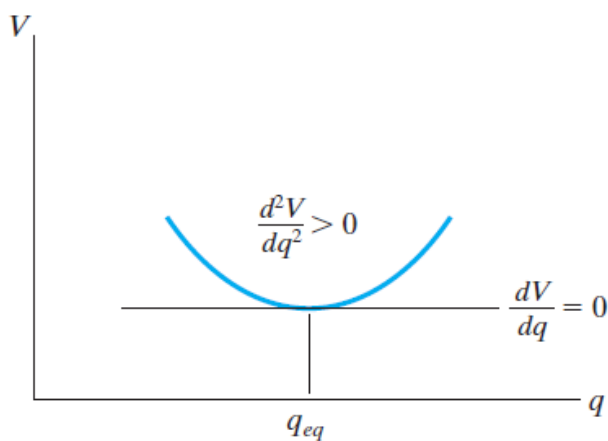
$$x = 10(9.81)/2000 = 0.049 \text{ m} = 49 \text{ mm}$$

Plot V vs x graph for various values of x

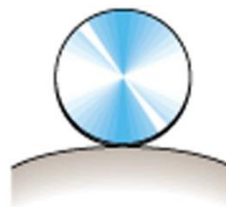
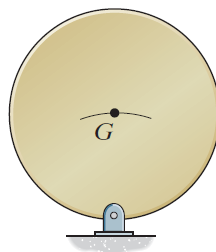
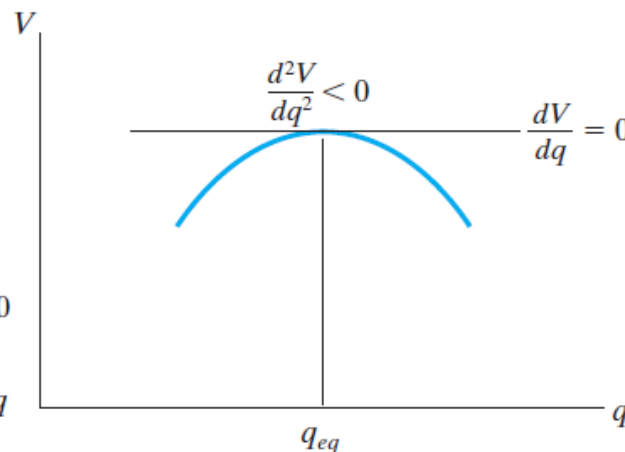
Minimum value of V occurs at $x = 49 \text{ mm}$ where $dV/dx = 0$ and d^2V/dx^2 is positive



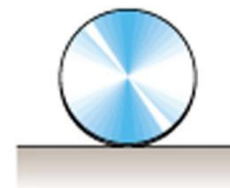
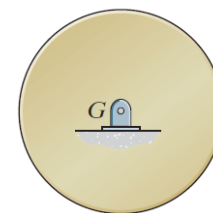
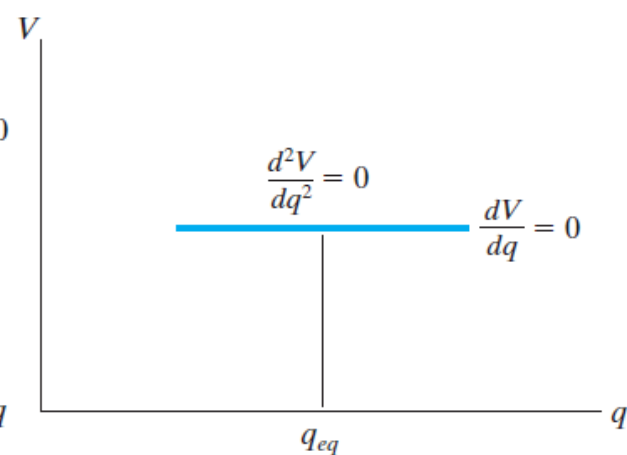
Stability of Equilibrium



Stable



Unstable



Neutral

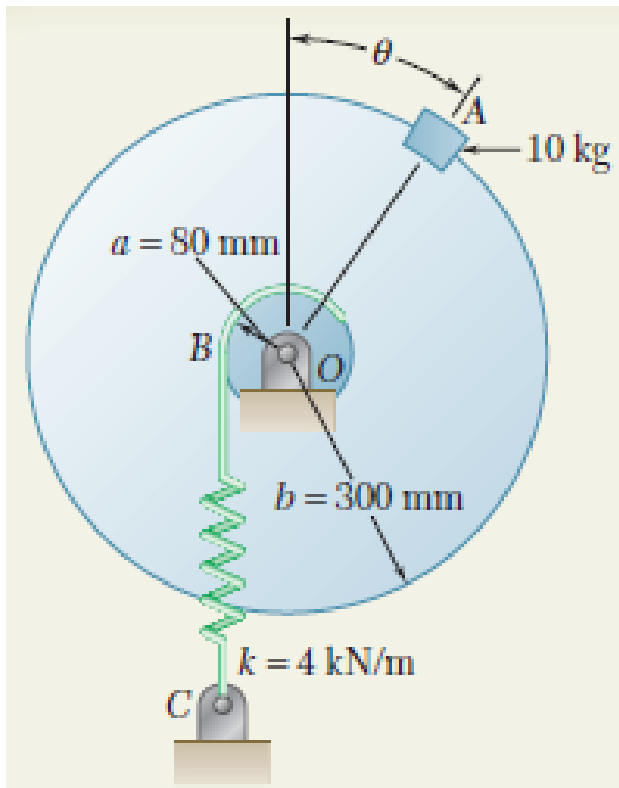
V : Minimum

Maximum

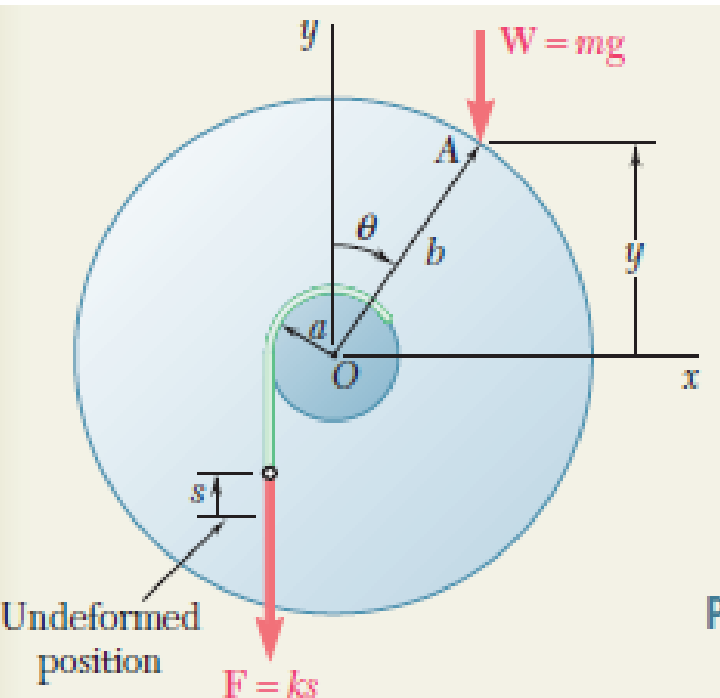
Constant

Example (1) on Stability of Equilibrium

A 10-kg block is attached to the rim of a 300-mm-radius disk as shown. Knowing that spring BC is unstretched when $\theta = 0$, determine the position or positions of equilibrium, and state in each case whether the equilibrium is stable, unstable, or neutral.



Example (1) on Stability of Equilibrium



$$V_e = \frac{1}{2}ks^2 \quad V_g = Wy = mgy$$

Measuring θ in radians, we have

$$s = a\theta \quad y = b \cos \theta$$

Substituting for s and y in the expressions for V_e and V_g ,

$$V_e = \frac{1}{2}ka^2\theta^2 \quad V_g = mgb \cos \theta$$

$$V = V_e + V_g = \frac{1}{2}ka^2\theta^2 + mgb \cos \theta$$

Positions of Equilibrium. Setting $dV/d\theta = 0$, we write

$$\frac{dV}{d\theta} = ka^2\theta - mgb \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{ka^2}{mgb} \theta$$

Substituting $a = 0.08$ m, $b = 0.3$ m, $k = 4$ kN/m, and $m = 10$ kg,

$$\sin \theta = \frac{(4 \text{ kN/m})(0.08 \text{ m})^2}{(10 \text{ kg})(9.81 \text{ m/s}^2)(0.3 \text{ m})} \theta$$

$$\sin \theta = 0.8699 \theta$$

Example (1) on Stability of Equilibrium

Stability of Equilibrium. The second derivative of the potential energy V with respect to θ is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d^2V}{d\theta^2} &= ka^2 - mgb \cos \theta \\ &= (4 \text{ kN/m})(0.08 \text{ m})^2 - (10 \text{ kg})(9.81 \text{ m/s}^2)(0.3 \text{ m}) \cos \theta \\ &= 25.6 - 29.43 \cos \theta\end{aligned}$$

For $\theta = 0$: $\frac{d^2V}{d\theta^2} = 25.6 - 29.43 \cos 0^\circ = -3.83 < 0$

The equilibrium is unstable for $\theta = 0$ ◀

For $\theta = 51.7^\circ$: $\frac{d^2V}{d\theta^2} = 25.6 - 29.43 \cos 51.7^\circ = +7.36 > 0$

The equilibrium is stable for $\theta = 51.7^\circ$ ◀

Example (2) on Stability of Equilibrium

Both ends of the uniform bar of mass m slide freely along the guides.

Examine the stability conditions for the position of equilibrium. The spring of stiffness k is un-deformed when $x=0$

Solution: The system consists of the spring and the bar. There are no external active forces. The Figure shows active force diagram. Choosing the x -axis as the datum plane for zero gravitational potential energy.

In the displaced position x :

$$V_e = \frac{1}{2} kx^2 = \frac{1}{2} k (b^2 \sin^2 \theta)$$

$$V_g = mg (b/2) \cos \theta \quad (-ve \text{ of work done})$$

$$V = V_e + V_g = \frac{1}{2} k (b^2 \sin^2 \theta) + mg (b/2) \cos \theta$$

Equilibrium occurs for $dV/d\theta = 0$

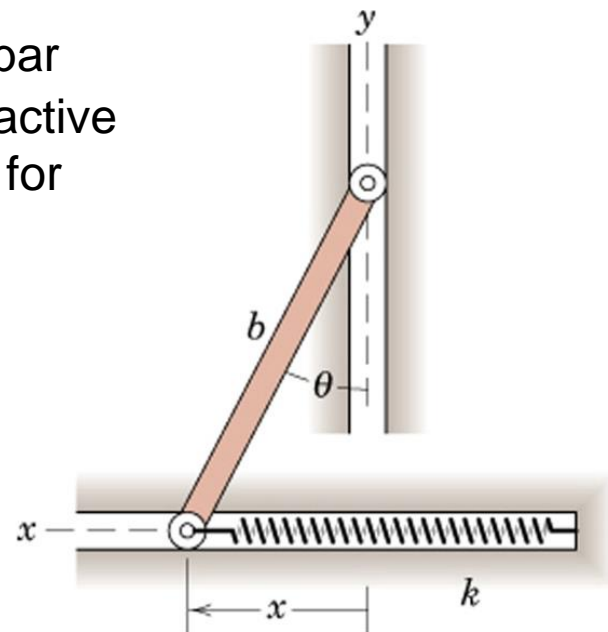
$$\rightarrow kb^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta - \frac{1}{2} mgb \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\rightarrow (kb^2 \cos \theta - \frac{1}{2} mgb) \sin \theta = 0 \rightarrow \text{Two Solutions}$$

\rightarrow Two equilibrium positions at:

$$\rightarrow \sin \theta = 0 \text{ (and } \theta = 0) \text{ and } \cos \theta = mg/(2kb)$$

Determine the stability for each of the two equilibrium position by examining the sign of $d^2V/d\theta^2$



Example (2) on Stability of Equilibrium

$$\begin{aligned}d^2 V/d\theta^2 &= kb^2(\cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta) - \frac{1}{2} mgb \cos\theta \\ &= kb^2(2\cos^2\theta - 1) - \frac{1}{2} mgb \cos\theta\end{aligned}$$

Solution I: $\sin\theta = 0$ and $\theta = 0$

$$d^2 V/d\theta^2 = kb^2(1 - mg/2kb)$$

If $mg/2kb < 1$, i.e., $mg/2b < k \rightarrow d^2 V/d\theta^2$ is positive (**Stable**)

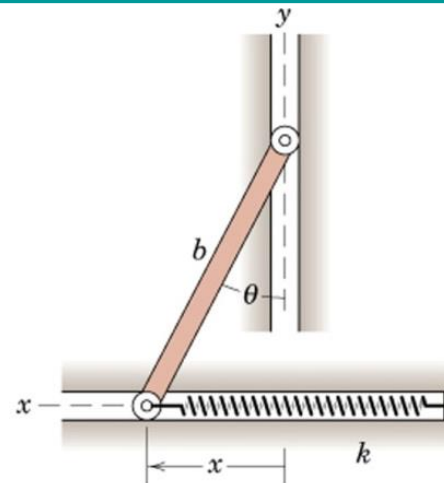
If $mg/2kb > 1$, i.e., $mg/2b > k \rightarrow d^2 V/d\theta^2$ is negative (**Unstable**)

\rightarrow If the spring is sufficiently stiff, the bar will return to its original vertical position, even though there is no force in the spring at that position.

Solution II: $\cos\theta = mg/(2kb)$ and $\theta = \cos^{-1}(mg/2kb)$

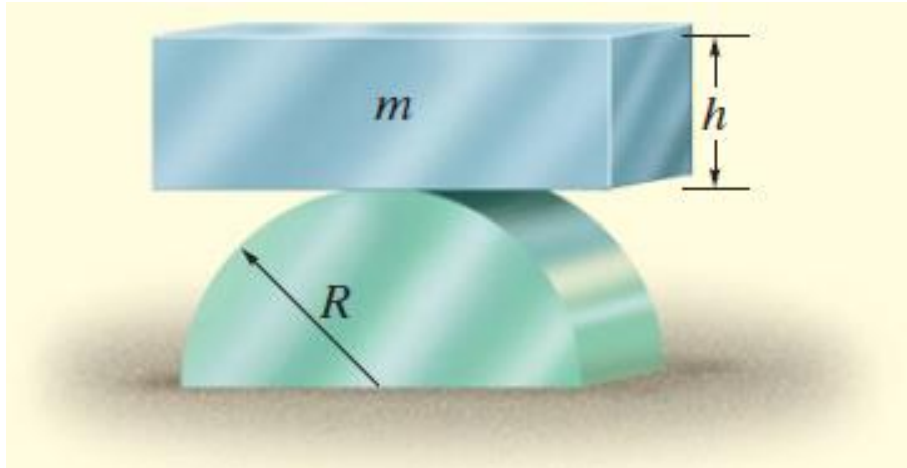
$$d^2 V/d\theta^2 = kb^2 [(mg/2kb)^2 - 1]$$

\rightarrow this will be always be negative (**Unstable**) because $\cos\theta$, i.e., $mg/(2kb)$, must be less than unity



Virtual Work: Stability of Equilibrium

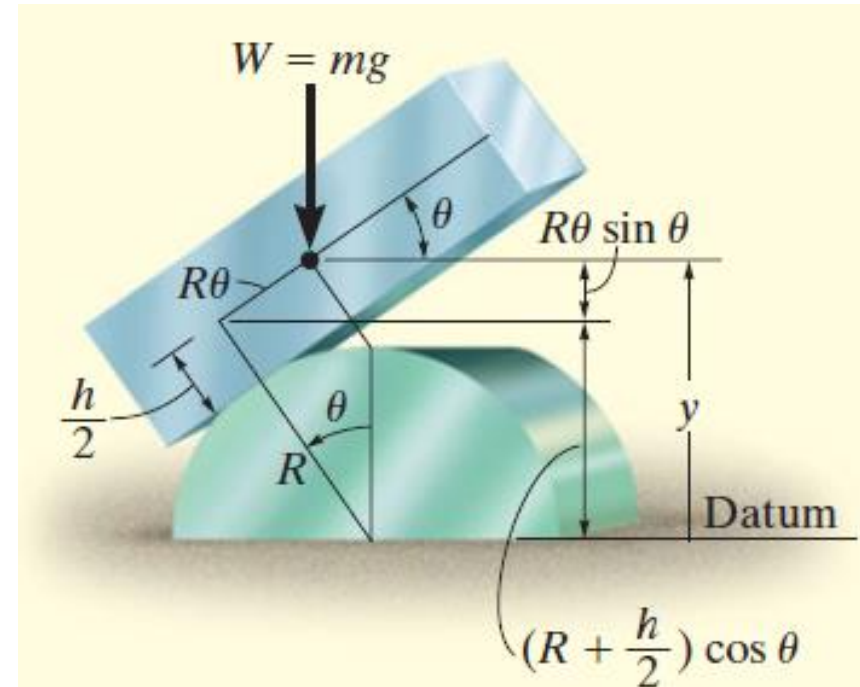
Example: A homogenous block of mass m rests on top surface of the cylinder. Show that this is a condition of unstable equilibrium if $h > 2R$



Solution: Choosing the base of the cylinder as the datum plane for zero gravitational potential energy.

$$V = V_e + V_g = 0 + mgy \text{ (-ve of work done)}$$

$$y = \left(R + \frac{h}{2}\right) \cos \theta + R\theta \sin \theta$$



Virtual Work: Stability of Equilibrium

Example: Solution

$$V = mg \left[\left(R + \frac{h}{2} \right) \cos \theta + R\theta \sin \theta \right]$$

At equilibrium:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dV}{d\theta} &= mg \left[- \left(R + \frac{h}{2} \right) \sin \theta + R \sin \theta + R\theta \cos \theta \right] = 0 \\ &= mg \left(- \frac{h}{2} \sin \theta + R\theta \cos \theta \right) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

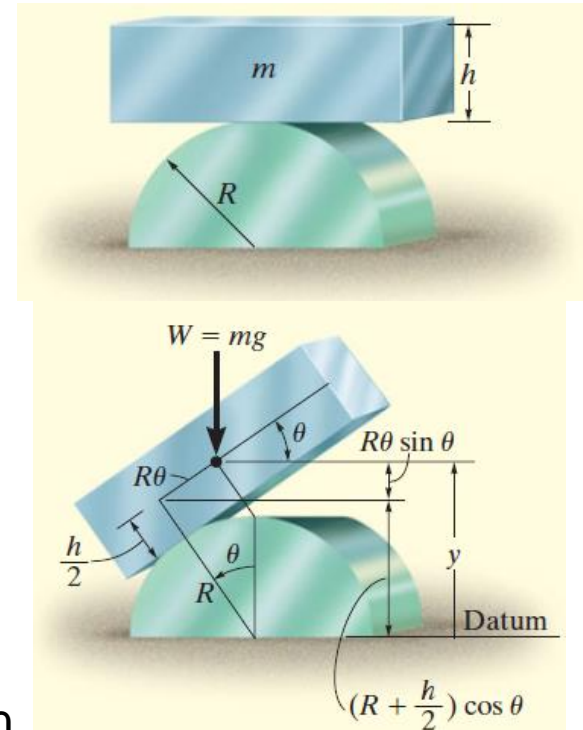
$\theta = 0$ is the equilibrium position that satisfies this equation

Determine the stability of the system at $\theta = 0$ by examining the sign of $d^2V/d\theta^2$

$$\frac{d^2V}{d\theta^2} = mg \left(- \frac{h}{2} \cos \theta + R \cos \theta - R\theta \sin \theta \right)$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2V}{d\theta^2} \right|_{\theta=0^\circ} = -mg \left(\frac{h}{2} - R \right)$$

Since all the constants are positive, the block is in unstable equilibrium if $h/2 > R$, i.e., $h > 2R$ because then $d^2V/d\theta^2$ will be negative.



ME101 Mid Semester Examination

Answer Sheets will be shown on 11 March 2015 during Tutorial
(Lesser number of tutorial questions that day)

- Verify your answer sheet (including total marks)
- Write “I have verified and there is no error in evaluation” on the cover page.
- Put your signature with date and return the answer sheet back to the tutor.
- Do not plead for additional marks if you do not deserve.
- In case you think that re-evaluation is necessary, submit your answer sheet to the tutor without writing the above statement and without signing.
- **Re-evaluation will be carried out and once the marks are finalized, no further request will be entertained**
- **After re-evaluation, your marks may get reduced!!**