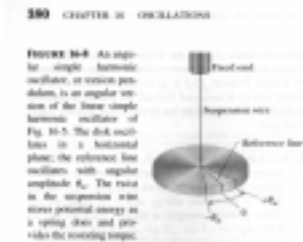


Lecture 3 Angular SHM Torsion Pendulum

- “Springiness” replaced by “twisting”



Torsion Pendulum

- Restoring torque $\tau = -\kappa \theta$ *angular form of 'tau' = - 'kappa' 'theta' Hooke's Law*
- replace $F=ma$ by $\tau = I\alpha$
I = moment of inertia, α = angular acceleration
- $I(d^2\theta/dt^2) = -\kappa \theta \iff m(d^2x/dt^2) = -kx$
- $T = 2\pi(I/\kappa)^{1/2}$ $T = 2\pi(m/k)^{1/2}$

Pendula

- Now replace the spring by gravity
- energy is now kinetic and gravitational
- simple pendulum : particle of mass m at the end of a massless, non-elastic string of length L
- consider the forces involved

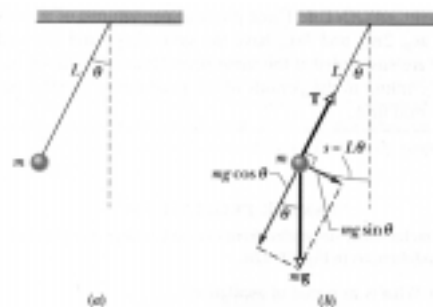
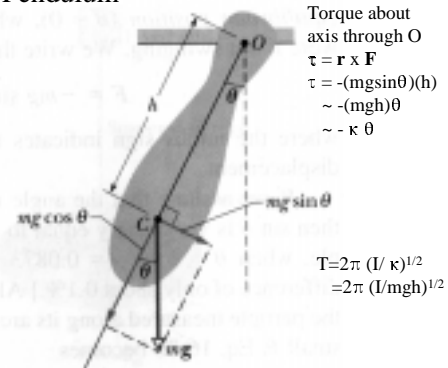


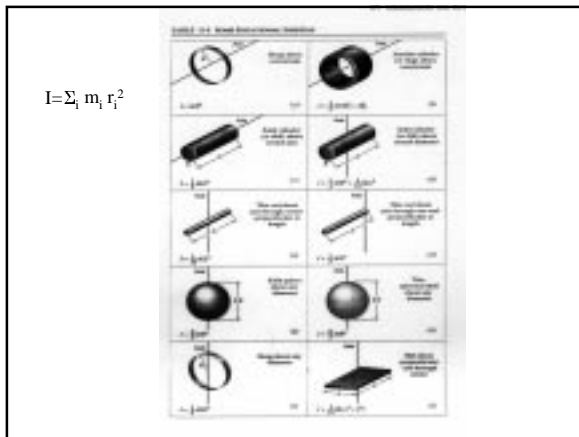
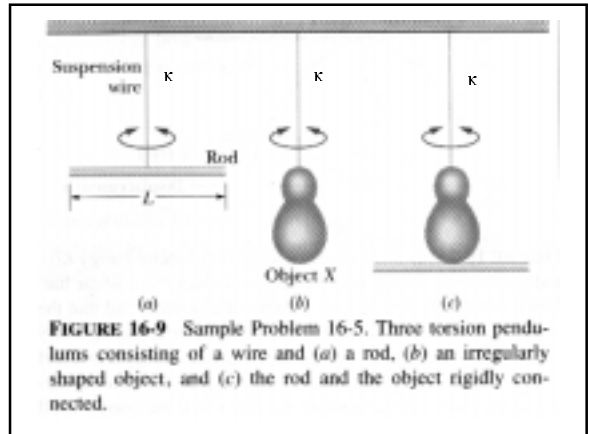
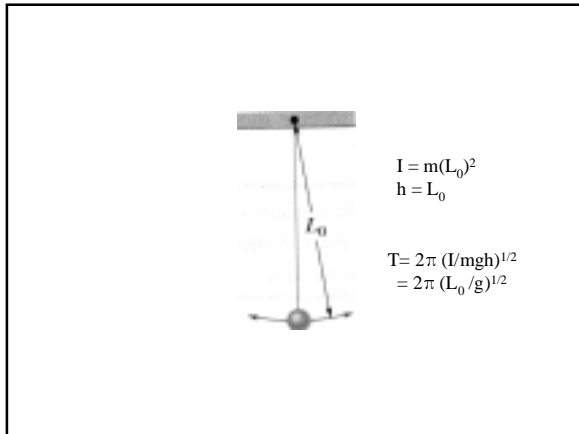
FIGURE 16-10 (a) A simple pendulum. (b) The forces acting on the bob are its weight mg and the tension T in the string. The tangential component $mg \sin \theta$ of the weight is a restoring force that brings the pendulum back to the central position.

Simple Pendulum

- The net force is $F = -mg \sin \theta$ and is tangential to the path and opposite to the displacement
- $\sin \theta \sim \theta - \theta^3/3 + \dots$ (θ in radians!)
- displacement along path $s = L \theta$
- hence for small θ , $F \sim -mg\theta = -mg s/L$
- i.e. $F = -k s$ where $k = mg/L$
- \implies SHM for small θ
- Recall $T = 2\pi(m/k)^{1/2}$ for mass-spring
- here $T = 2\pi[m/(mg/L)]^{1/2} = 2\pi(L/g)^{1/2}$

Physical Pendulum



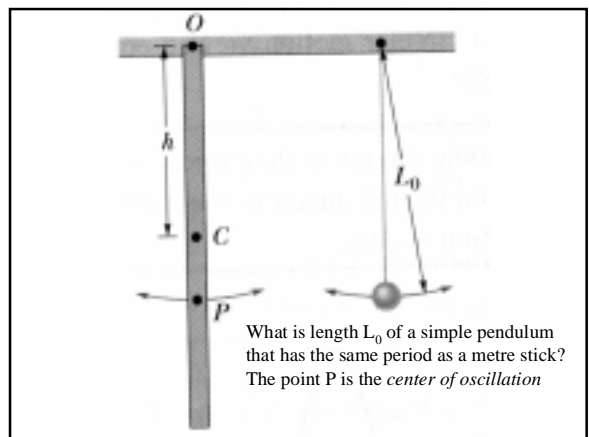


Example

- Length of rod $L=12.4$ cm and mass $m=135$ g
- T_a is measured to be 2.53 s
- the object in (b) has a period of $T_b = 4.76$ s
- (1) what is I_b of the object?
- Solution: for (a) $I_a = (1/12)mL^2 = 1.73 \times 10^{-4}$ kg.m²
- $T_a = 2\pi(I_a/\kappa)^{1/2}$ $T_b = 2\pi(I_b/\kappa)^{1/2}$
- since κ is the same (due to wire) we have
 $I_b = I_a T_b^2/T_a^2 = (1.73 \times 10^{-4} \text{ kg.m}^2)(4.76/2.53)^2 = 6.12 \times 10^{-4} \text{ kg.m}^2$

Cont'd

- (2) what is period if both are fastened together as in (c)?
- Since $I_c = I_a + I_b$ we have $T_c = T_a(I_c/I_a)^{1/2}$
- $I_c/I_a = (I_a + I_b)/I_a = 1 + I_b/I_a$
- $T_c = 5.39$ s



Solution

- $T = 2\pi(L_0/g)^{1/2} = 2\pi(I/mgh)^{1/2}$
- Hence $L_0 = I/mh$
- For metre stick $h=L/2$
and $I = mL^2/3$
- hence $L_0 = 2L/3$ “sweet spot”
- and $T = 2\pi(2L/3g)^{1/2}$

Measuring g

- We can use any physical pendulum to measure ‘g’
- For the metre stick, $I = mL^2/3$, $h=L/2$
- $T = 2\pi(I/mgh)^{1/2} = 2\pi(2L/3g)^{1/2}$
- Plot T^2 versus L $\implies T^2 = (8\pi^2/3g)L$

