

Math 1210 #32

Work

$$\mathbf{Work = Force \cdot Distance}$$

If force is measured in Newtons, distance is measured in meters, then work units are joules.

If force is measured in pounds, distance is measured in feet, then work units are foot-pounds.

Force is sometimes variable, in which case we need to approximate the work done in little 'chunks' and then add up all the 'chunks' of work.

Springs

Hooke's law says $F(x) = kx$ where k is a constant for that spring, and $F(x)$ is the force necessary to keep the spring stretched (or compressed) x units beyond (or short of) its natural length.

EX 1

A force of 6 lbs is required to keep a spring stretched 1/2ft beyond its normal length.

1a)

Find the spring constant.

1b)

Find the work done in stretching the spring 1/2ft beyond its natural length.

EX 2

A force of 1.8 newtons is required to keep a spring of natural length of 0.5 m compressed to a length of 0.3 m. Find the work done in compressing the spring from its natural length to a length of 0.2 m.

EX 3

A tank with the triangular cross-section has a length of 10 ft and is full of water. The water is to be pumped to a height of 5 ft above the top of the tank. Find the work done in emptying the tank.

