

LESSON 5: WORK

- Objectives:
1. To distinguish between constant-force and variable-force work problems
 2. To solve a variety of applications that model physical situations
 3. To learn and apply Hooke's Law for springs

Work

Constant Force

$$W = Fd$$

Variable Force

$$W = \int_a^b F(x)dx$$

Hooke's Law for Springs

The force needed to stretch a spring x units from its natural length is $F = kx$ where K is a constant depending on the spring. A formula for the work done to stretch a spring x units is

$$W = \int_0^x kx dx$$

Units of Measure

US System of Measurement: foot-pounds, inch-pounds, foot-tons

Metric System: The basic unit of force is the **dyne** – the force required to produce an acceleration of one centimeter per second per second in a gram mass. In this system work is expressed in dyne-centimeters (ergs) or newton-meters (joules). $1 \text{ joule} = 10^7 \text{ ergs}$.

App. Int. Lesson 5 cont.



Examples:

1. Determine the work done in lifting a 120-pound object 3 feet.
2. A particle is moving along the x -axis under the action of a force of $F(x)$ pounds when the particle is x feet from the origin. If $F(x) = x^3 + 2x + 5$, find the work done as the particle moves from the point where $x = 2$ to the point where $x = 6$.
3. A 15-foot chain hangs from a winch 15 feet above ground level. Find the work done by the winch in winding up the required amount of chain, if the chain weighs 3 pounds per foot. (Larson/Hostetler, p. 445)
 - a. Wind up the entire chain.
 - b. Wind up one-third of the chain.
 - c. Run the winch until the bottom of the chain is at the 10-foot level.
 - d. Wind up the entire chain with a 100-pound load attached.
4. Find the work done in lifting the bottom of the chain in problem (3) to the 15-foot level, leaving the chain doubled and still hanging vertically.
5. A force of 5 pounds compresses a 15-inch spring a total of 4 inches. How much work is done in compressing the spring 7 inches.

