

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.

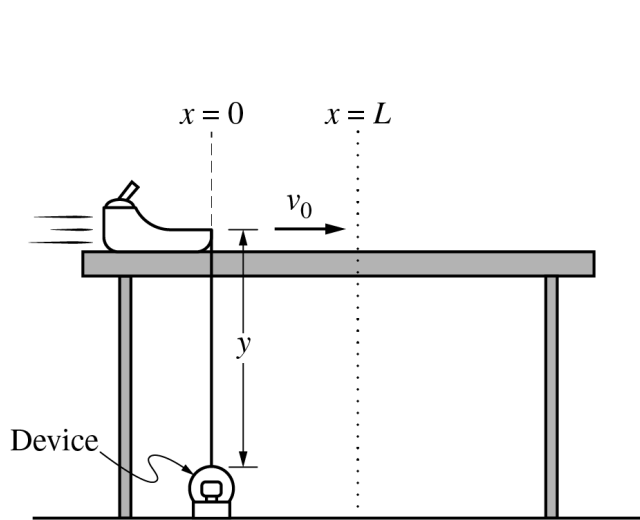


Figure 1

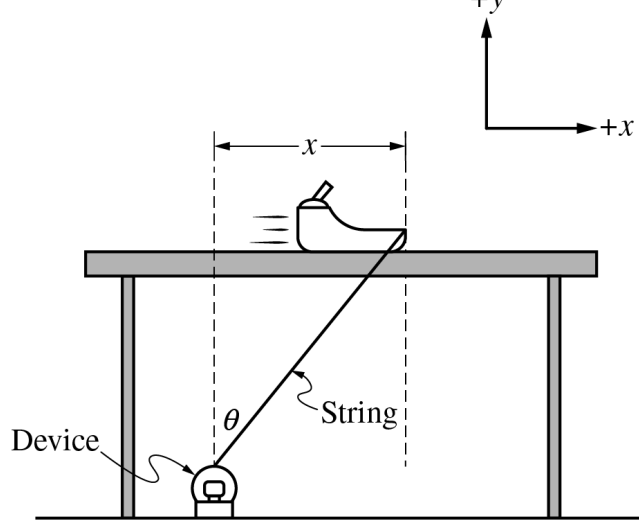


Figure 2

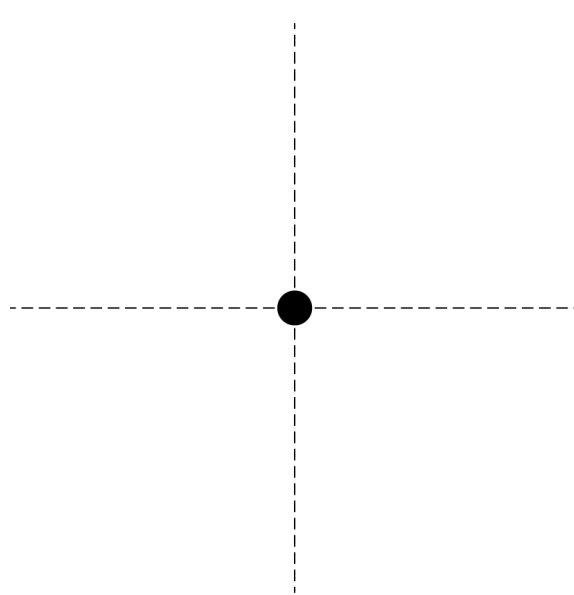
Note: Figures not drawn to scale.

A small sled slides across a rough horizontal table with an initial velocity  $v_0$ . The coefficient of kinetic friction between the sled and the table is  $\mu_k$ . A string connects the sled to a device on the ground. The device maintains constant tension  $F_T$  in the string by unwinding the string as the sled slides to the right. The total mass of the sled is  $m$ . The string is attached to the device at  $x = 0$  and at a height of  $y$ , as shown in Figure 1. The horizontal position of the sled is represented by  $x$ , as shown in Figure 2. Express all algebraic answers in terms of  $m$ ,  $\mu_k$ ,  $F_T$ ,  $x$ ,  $y$ , and physical constants, as appropriate.

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

- (a) On the dot below that represents the sled, draw and label the forces (not components) that are exerted on the sled a short time after  $t = 0$  but before the sled has come to rest. Each force must be represented by a distinct arrow starting on, and pointing away from, the dot.



- (b) Determine an expression for the angle  $\theta$  that the string makes with the vertical when the sled has traveled a horizontal distance  $x$ .

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

- (c)
- Derive an expression for the normal force  $F_N$  exerted on the sled by the table as a function of the position  $x$ .
  - Derive an expression for the magnitude of the net horizontal force  $F_{\text{net}}$  exerted on the sled as a function of the position  $x$ .

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

- (d) Derive an expression for the work  $W$  done by the string on the sled as the sled moves from  $x = 0$  to  $x = L$ .

- (e) The sled comes to rest after traveling a horizontal distance  $x = 2L$ . As the system slides from  $x = 0$  to  $x = L$ , the energy dissipated by friction is  $E_1$ . As the sled slides from  $x = L$  to  $x = 2L$ , the energy dissipated by friction is  $E_2$ . Is  $E_1$  greater than, less than, or equal to  $E_2$ ?

☐  $E_1 > E_2$       ☐  $E_1 < E_2$       ☐  $E_1 = E_2$

Justify your answer.

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