HW 1: Due 2/4/04

1. Spring-Mass:

$$\Pi(u) = \frac{1}{2}ku^2 + Mg(h-u)$$
(1)



- (a) Consider the spring-mass system shown. Plot the potential energy of the system versus the spring displacement and verify the potential is a minimum at static equilibrium.
- (b) Take the derivative of Π , apply the necessary condition for an extremal value, and derive the static equilibrium equations.
- 2. Consider a functionally graded torsion bar as shown; the potential energy is given by

$$\Pi(\phi(z)) = \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} G(z) J (d\phi/dz)^2 \, dz - \hat{T}\phi(L) \,, \tag{2}$$

where J is the polar moment of inertia, $G(z) = G_1 + G_2 z$ is a spatially varying shear modulus, and ϕ is the section rotation.



Assume

$$\mathcal{S} = \left\{ \phi \mid \phi = \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} Az & z \leq L/2 \\ B(z - L/2) + AL/2 & z > L/2 \end{array} \right\}.$$
(3)

Find $\phi \in \mathcal{S}$ which minimizes Π . Compare to the exact solution $\phi(z) = \frac{\hat{T}}{JG_2} \ln(1 + \frac{G_2}{G_1}z)$.

3. Consider the following potential for an elastic bar which is loaded by a force P at x = L, a body force b(x), and held fixed at x = 0.

$$\Pi(u(x)) = \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} AE(du/dx)^2 \, dx - \int_0^L bu \, dx - Pu(L) \,. \tag{4}$$

Take the variational derivative of Π and derive the classical governing equation:

$$AE\frac{d^2u}{dx^2} + b = 0\tag{5}$$