

Acceleration of simple harmonic oscillator

Acceleration is defined as the time rate of change of velocity

$$\text{New velocity } v = a\omega \cos(\omega t + \phi) \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Acceleration } \frac{dv}{dt} = \gamma &= -a\omega^2 \sin(\omega t + \phi) \\ &= a\omega^2 \sin(\omega t + \phi + \pi) \quad \text{--- (ii)} \end{aligned}$$

Maximum acceleration:— The acceleration of the oscillator is maximum when $\sin(\omega t + \phi + \pi) = 1$ and is given by $\left(\frac{d^2y}{dt^2}\right)_{\max} = a\omega^2$

Phase relationship between displacement, velocity and acceleration.

$$\text{The velocity } v = a\omega \cos(\omega t + \phi) = a\omega \sin\left(\omega t + \phi + \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

Comparing (ii) and (iii) we find that the acceleration of a simple harmonic oscillator leads the velocity by $\pi/2$ radian in phase.

$$\text{The displacement } y = a \sin(\omega t + \phi)$$

Comparing (ii) and (iv), we find that the acceleration of a simple harmonic oscillator leads the displacement by π radian or (180°) in phase i.e. the acceleration and displacement are in antiphase.

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