

Differential equation of S.H.M

If a particle undergoes SHM about a mean position then if 'F' is restoring force and 'x' is displacement from the mean position then from the condition of SHM we have

$$F \propto -x$$

$$\Rightarrow [F = -kx] \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where k is a constant of proportionality called force constant or spring factor and is expressed in Nm^{-1} in SI system

-ve sign shows that restoring force is directed towards mean position i.e opposite to the direction of displacement

From Newtons 2nd law of Motion:

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$$F = m\alpha$$

$$\text{or } F = m \frac{dv}{dt}$$

$$F = m \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)$$

} m = being mass of the body

$\alpha =$ acceleration

$$\text{or } F = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

using this in equation (1) we have

$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -kx$$

$$\text{or } m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + kx = 0$$

Dividing both sides by 'm'

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \left(\frac{k}{m}\right)x = 0 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\text{let us put } \frac{k}{m} = \omega^2 \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

then eqⁿ (3) becomes

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = 0 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

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eqⁿ (3) or eq (5) represents the differential eqⁿ of S.H.M