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- A long-standing fear is a biological attack using an agent like anthrax or smallpox.
- The natural spread of the disease and its indiscriminate nature can amplify the impact.
- Some weaponized forms could cause mass casualties.
- Defense against such an attack is focused on rapid identification and mitigation.



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#### Have We Been Attacked?

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- The attack will not be obvious; it may take hours or days to know.
- Current biological diagnostics are very effective, but they're slow.
- Fast response time is essential to avoid overwhelming the health-care system

 $\Rightarrow$  rapid response is vital.

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  ⇒ rapid response is vital.
- Nanosized oscillators cantilevers can be coated with antibodies to bind to spores of specific diseases.
- As the spores bind, the oscillations of the device change.
- The change is measured by deflection of a laser beam shining on the cantilever.

You're a program manager for DARPA and you're evaluating a proposal to use a nano-sized cantilever to detect the presence of anthrax spores. To test the validity of the proposal consider the following problem. The cantilever can be treated as a simple harmonic oscillator of mass  $m_c$  (see below). Suppose  $n_a = 300$  anthrax spores each with mass  $m_a = 10^{-15} kg$ accumulate on the cantilever beam. What is the change  $\Delta \omega$  in the angular frequency of the cantilever? We can detect angular frequency changes of  $\approx 10^6 rad/s$ . Is this change detectable? WILL IT WORK?



$$L_c = 100 \mu m$$
  
 $m_c = 1.49 \times 10^{-12} \ kg$   
 $k_0 = 370 \ kg/s^2$ 

**(**) The Force:  $F_s = -kx$  where x is the displacement from equilibrium.

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- 2 Measurements:



3 The Solution: x(t) = A cos (ωt + φ)
3 Newton's Second Law yields

$$\frac{d^2x(t)}{dt^2} = -\frac{k}{m}x(t)$$

### **One-Dimensional Motion**



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#### time (t)

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Parameters:  $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \quad T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} \quad f = \frac{1}{T} \quad A \text{ and } \phi \text{ are initial conditions.}$ 

#### Music!

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The end of the prong of a tuning fork that executes simple harmonic motion with a frequency of 1024 Hz has an amplitude A = 0.4 mm. What is the maximum velocity  $v_{max}$  and maximum acceleration  $a_{max}$  of the end of a prong? What is the angular frequency? How long does it take for the prong to go from the equilibrium point to  $x_1 = 0.1 \text{ mm}$ ?



# Energy in the Harmonic Oscillator

Carbon and oxygen are bound together by a force that can be modeled as a harmonic oscillator (see below). If the angular frequency is  $\omega = 3.8 \times 10^{14} \ rad/s$  and the mass is  $m = 1.14 \times 10^{-26} \ kg$ , then what is the spring constant k? If the energy of the ground state is  $E = 2 \times 10^{-20} \ J$ , then what is the amplitude of the oscillation?



# How Do you Weigh a Weightless Person?

To weigh astronauts on the International Space Station NASA uses a chair of mass  $m_c$  mounted on a spring of spring constant  $k_c = 605.6 \ N/m$  that is anchored to the spacecraft. The period of the oscillation of the empty chair is  $T_c = 0.90149 \ s$ . When an astronaut is sitting in the chair the new period is  $T_a = 2.12151 \ s$ . What is the mass of the astronaut?



# Medical Oscillators?

A transducer used in medical ultrasound imaging is a very thin disk (m = 0.10 g) oscillating back and forth at a frequency  $f = 10^6 \text{ Hz}$  driven by an electromagnetic coil. The maximum restoring force that can be applied to the disk without breaking it is  $F_{max} = 40,000 \text{ N}$ . (a) What is the maximum oscillation amplitude that won't rupture the disk? (b) What is the disk's maximum speed at this amplitude?



## **Biomechanics!**

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Human cadavers have been used to measure the moments of inertia of different body parts for orthopedics and biomechanics. Consider the center of mass of a lower leg  $m = 5.2 \ kg$  was found to be  $\ell = 0.19 \ m$  from the knee. When the leg was allowed to pivot at the knee and swing freely as a pendulum, the oscillation frequency was  $f = 1.6 \ Hz$ . What was the moment of inertia of the lower leg about the knee joint?



The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp by Rembrandt

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### An Oscillating Cantilever



# The Harmonic Oscillator Approximation

Periodic Motion 2.0 (ME) = 0.025 J  $\Delta ME = 0.003$  ] 1.5 Counts 1.0 0.5 0.0 0.020 0.035 0.025 0.030 ME(J)

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Jerry Gilfoyle
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# The Center of Mass Frame of Reference





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- **()** The Force:  $F_s = -kx$  where x is the displacement from equilibrium.
- 2 The Potential Energy:  $V_s(x) = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$

Measurements:



• The Solution:  $x(t) = A\cos(\omega t + \phi)$ 

Parameters:

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$
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- 2 The Potential Energy:  $V_s(x) = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$
- For many molecules (and atoms and nuclei) they're potential energies are, sometimes, well described by the harmonic oscillator.



## Angular Momentum Conservation

