

Prof. Vidya Sagar
Department of Physics
B.Sc (Part-1) Hons

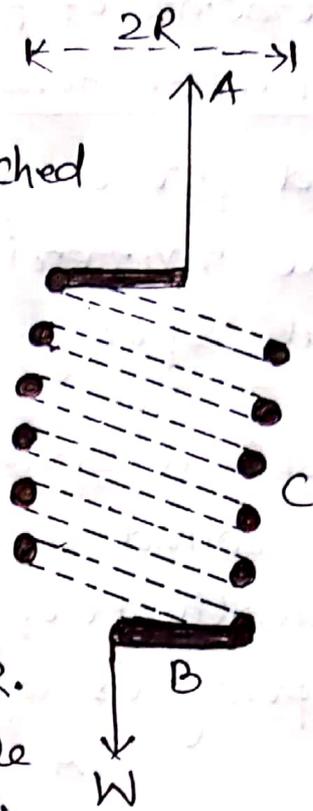
Method for determining the modulus of rigidity of the material in the form of a flat spiral spring.

Flat spiral spring!- When the plane of wire wound round a circular cylinder is everywhere practically perpendicular to the axis of cylinder the spring is called the flat spiral spring.

A common spiral spring consists of a uniform wire of radius r wound round a circular cylinder of radius R ($R \gg r$) in such a way that the axis of the wire makes constant axis of the wire makes constant angle with the generating lines of the cylinder. When the spring is unstained ~~is~~ the spring takes the form of a regular helix.

Experiment!- The top end is fixed at a point in line with the axis of the cylinder and a load is attached at the lower end which is also in a line with the axis of the cylinder. A force and couple are assumed to act along the axis of the spring and in a plane perpendicular to it, even in the altered condition of the spring.

Theory! — Let the top end of the spring is fixed at a point A and a load w is attached to its free end B. Let us consider the equilibrium of a portion CB. There must be a shearing force w acting vertically upward over this portion, and Couple of moment WR .



The moment of the Couple produces a uniform twist ϕ per unit length of the wire. The torsional rigidity for the unit length of the wire is

$$C = \frac{\pi \eta r^4}{2 \times 1} \cdot \phi$$

$$C = \frac{\pi \eta r^4 \phi}{2}$$

for equilibrium

$$WR = \frac{\pi \eta r^4 \phi}{2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Let l be the total length of the wire

\therefore Twist at the free end

$$\theta = l \phi$$

\therefore work done in twisting the wire through an angle

$$\phi = d\omega = \frac{\pi \eta r^4 \phi \cdot d\phi}{2l}$$

\therefore Total work done in twisting the wire through $l\phi$ is

$$W' = \int_0^{l\phi} \frac{\pi \eta r^4 \phi d\phi}{2l}$$

$$= \frac{\pi \eta r^4}{2l} \left[\frac{\phi^2}{2} \right]_0^{l\phi}$$

$$= \frac{\pi \eta r^4}{2l} \cdot \left[\frac{l^2 \phi^2}{2} \right]$$

$$\therefore W' = \frac{\pi \eta r^4 l \phi^2}{4} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

This work is stored up as potential energy in the wire. Let the weight w is depressed by a distance x and then released. In this case the twist in the wire is increased by an amount ϕ , per unit length.

$$x = l R \phi$$

\therefore Additional potential energy

$$W'' = \frac{\pi \eta r^4 l \phi^2}{4}$$

$$= \frac{\pi \eta r^4 l}{4} \left(\frac{x}{lR} \right)^2$$

$$W'' = \frac{\pi \eta r^4 x^2}{4lR^2} \quad \text{--- 3}$$

When w is ~~load~~ lowered by x , the centre of gravity of the Spring is lowered by $\frac{x}{2}$. Thus the change in PE from these effects is

$$P.E = \frac{\pi r^4 x^2}{4lR^2} - Wx - \frac{W_1 x}{2} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Where W_1 is the weight of the spring. The mass of the weight is $m = \frac{W}{g}$. On releasing W , it's up and down.

$$\text{velocity} = \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)$$

$$\therefore \text{Kinetic energy of } W = \frac{1}{2} m \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2$$

$$K.E \text{ of } W = \frac{1}{2} \frac{W}{g} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

The spring also possesses K.E. The vertical ~~at~~ ~~the~~ depression at any end, ~~measured along~~ the point in the spring is proportional to its distance s and from the fixed end, measured along the length of the wire.

$$\text{The velocity at a distance } l = \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)$$

$$\text{velocity at a distance } s = \frac{s}{l} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)$$

Let us consider an element of length ds at s . If μ be the mass per unit length, then the mass of the element $ds = \mu ds$

$$\therefore \text{K.E. of the element is} = \frac{1}{2} \mu ds \left(\frac{s}{l} \frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2$$

$$\therefore \text{K.E. of the whole spring is} = \int_0^l \frac{1}{2} \mu \left(\frac{s}{l} \frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 ds$$

$$= \frac{\mu}{2l^2} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 \int_0^l s^2 ds$$

$$= \frac{\mu}{2l^2} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 \frac{l^3}{3}$$

$$= \frac{\mu l}{2 \times 3} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2$$

$$\therefore \text{K.E of the whole spring} = \frac{w_1}{g \times 2 \times 3} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 \text{ --- (6)}$$

Where $\frac{w_1}{g}$ is the mass of the spring

$$\therefore \text{Total K.E} = \text{K.E of } w + \text{K.E of } w_1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{w}{g} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{w_1}{3g} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2g} \left(w + \frac{w_1}{3} \right) \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 \text{ --- (7)}$$

From the principal of conservation of energy

$$\text{K.E} + \text{P.E} = \text{Constant}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2g} \left(w + \frac{w_1}{3} \right) \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{\pi r^4 x^2}{4lR^2} - wx - \frac{w_1 x}{2} = \text{Constant}$$

Differentiating it with respect to t , we have

$$\frac{1}{2g} \left(w + \frac{w_1}{3} \right) \left(2 \frac{dx}{dt} \right) \left(\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \right) + \frac{\pi r^4 x \cdot 2x}{4lR^2} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right) - \left(w + \frac{w_1}{2} \right) \frac{dx}{dt} = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{1}{g} \left(w + \frac{w_1}{3} \right) \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right) \left(\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \right) + \frac{\pi r^4 x}{2lR^2} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right) - \left(w + \frac{w_1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right) = 0$$

Dividing by $\left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)$, we have

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \frac{\pi r^4 x g}{2lR^2 \left(w + \frac{w_1}{3} \right)} - g \left[\frac{w + \frac{w_1}{2}}{w + \frac{w_1}{3}} \right] = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = \text{Constant} \text{ --- (8)}$$

where

$$\omega^2 = \frac{\pi r^4 g}{2lR^2 \left(w + \frac{w_1}{3} \right)}$$

This equation represents a simple harmonic motion. If T be the time period of oscillations of the spring, then

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$$

$$\therefore T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{2lR^2(\omega + \frac{\omega l}{3})}{\pi \eta r^4 g}} \quad \text{--- (9)}$$

Thus measuring the time period T , the modulus of rigidity η can be calculated from ~~the~~ equation (9).