Centripetal Force

Reference---CH. 5

Objective - The basic purpose of this lab is to test whether the equation $F = mv^2 / r$

for uniform circular motion is correct.

Concepts - You should know that centripetal force is the name given to any force or sum of forces that causes a change in the direction of motion of an object to produce circular motion. In this experiment, you are testing Newton's 2nd Law for the case of uniform circular motion.

Computations --- You should be able to:

1. Calculate the theoretical value of the centripetal force m_1v^2/r from the measured value of the period of revolution, the radius of the path and the mass m1 of the object.

2. Compute the measured value of the centripetal force F from m2g, the weight of the hanging mass described in the procedure, and compare this result with the

theoretical value.

EQUIPMENT

centripetal force apparatus (hand-operated) weight set string

weight balance carpenter's level meter stick

PROCEDURE

The experiment is based on part B of the procedure in the text, which employs the manual centripetal force device. Following is a summary of the steps needed to complete the lab:

1. Level the base of the centripetal force apparatus. Turn knobs and use carpenter's level.

2. Find the mass m1 of the bob using the mass balance. You may need to add extra COUNTER-weights since the mass of the bob exceeds the mass balance maximum.

3. Measure r, the radius of the circular motion.

4. Place the vertical pointer rod directly under the mass m1 of the bob while mass m1 is hanging freely. (i.e. no spring attached to the bob.)

5. Attach the spring to the bob m1.

- 6. Rotate the shaft so that m1, while rotating, stretches the spring and lines up with the vertical pointer.
- 7. Find the period of rotation by timing 10 revolutions. (T = t/10.) Practice this action before you actually take data.

8. Repeat the timing procedures 6 and 7 TEN more times.

- 9. Using the weight set, find the force required to stretch the spring the same amount as when m₁ was rotating.
- 10. Compare the force $m_2 g$ required to stretch the spring with $m_1 v^2 / r$.

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150 + 6.10 = 156.18 + 0.05 (Bisector 6.1 Man Scall

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2 CENTRIPETAL FORCE	CONTEMPTEDICE
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STDM=	
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mg = WANGAG WEIGHT TAU	Emostanty,
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(B) IMVAI -mal	SIM HERRORS
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TRIBE/TEV-T				
	Trial 4	Trial 5	Trial 6	
No of Revs				
Total time(s)				
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	Trial 7	Trial 8	Trial 9	
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	Trial 10	Trial 11	Trial 12	
				
No of Revs				
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Time/rev=T'				

NOTES/ADDITIONS/COMMENTS