

An 80 kg skier travels down a ski jump having a profile given by

$$y = y_0 - ax + bx^3;$$

$$y_0 = 50 \text{ m}, \quad a = 1, \quad b = \frac{1}{12500} \text{ m}^{-2}$$

Goal: Plot normal force exerted by slope on skier as function of time from $x=0$ to $x=50 \text{ m}$

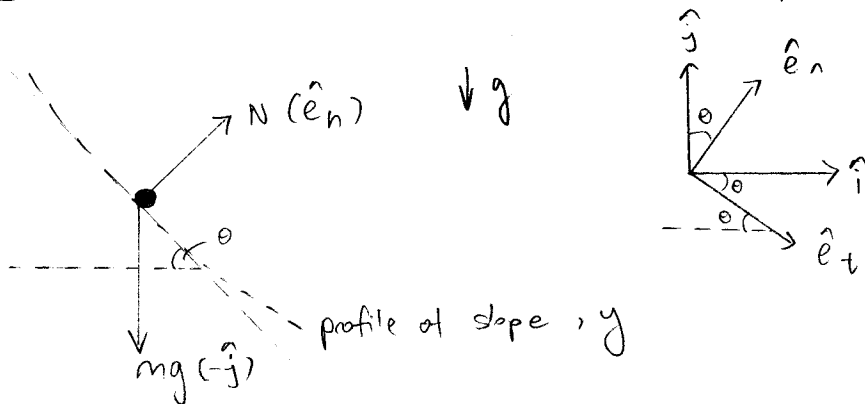
given: 1. $y = 50 - x + \frac{x^3}{12500}$

2. gravity, g

3. All units measured in SI units
m, kg, s

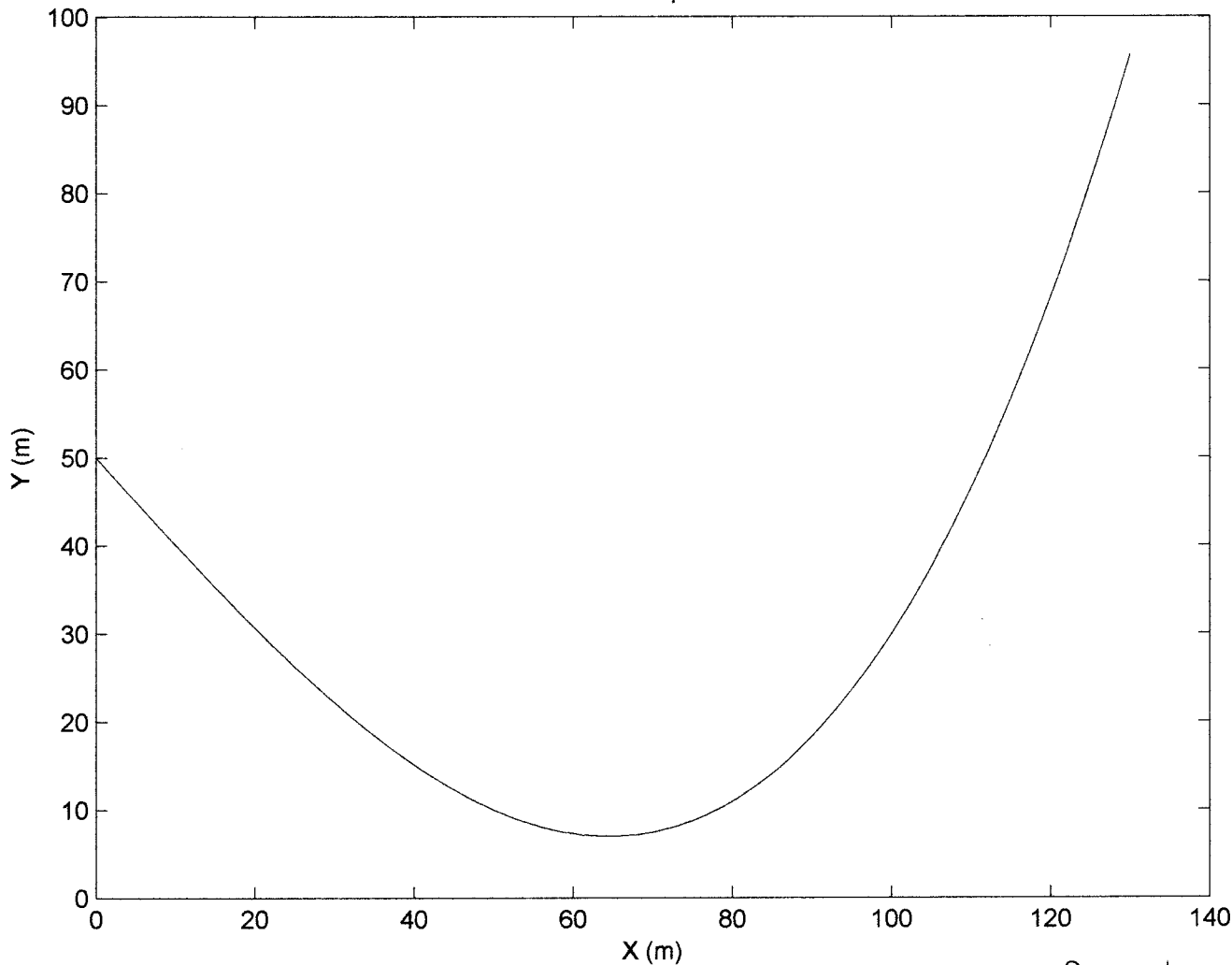
Solution:

1. FBD of skier idealized as particle



graph of $y = 50 - x + \frac{x^3}{12500}$

Profile of the ski slope. Y vs X curve



te: The question asks for N to be found across $0 \leq x \leq 50$. For purposes of ^{checking it} a solution obeys the law of conservation of energy, the solution should show that the maximum height the skier can achieve is 50m and not more. Hence, I have extended the range of X

2. Apply Newton's Second Law

$$m \underline{a}_p = \sum_i \underline{F}_i$$

$$m \underline{a}_p = N(\hat{e}_n) + mg(-\hat{j})$$

$$\left\{ m(\dot{v}\hat{e}_t + \frac{v^2}{R_c}\hat{e}_n) = N(\hat{e}_n) + mg(-\hat{j}) \right\} \text{---} \textcircled{\otimes}$$

$$\textcircled{\otimes} \cdot \hat{i} \text{ (aim: solve for } \ddot{x}(t)\text{)}$$

$$m \ddot{x}_i = N(\hat{e}_n \cdot \hat{i})$$

$$= N \sin \theta$$

$$m \ddot{x}_i = N \sin \theta \text{ ---} \textcircled{1}$$

$$\textcircled{\otimes} \cdot \hat{e}_n \text{ (aim: find an expression of } N\text{)}$$

$$m\left(\frac{v^2}{R_c}\right) = N + mg(-\hat{j} \cdot \hat{e}_n)$$

$$= N - mg \cos \theta$$

$$N = m\left(\frac{v^2}{R_c} + g \cos \theta\right) \text{ ---} \textcircled{2}$$

3. Using Eq² for the slope

$$y = 50 - x + \frac{1}{12500} x^3$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3x^2}{12500} - 1 \text{ ---} \textcircled{3}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{dy}{dx} \text{ ---} \textcircled{4}$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{6x}{12500} \text{ ---} \textcircled{5}$$

$$R_c = \frac{[1 + (\frac{dy}{dx})^2]^{3/2}}{|\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}|}$$

$$= \frac{[1 + \tan^2 \theta]^{3/2}}{|\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}|}$$

$$R_c = \frac{[\sec^2 \theta]^{3/2}}{|\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}|} \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

$$v^2 = \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2$$

$$= \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2$$

$$= \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 \left(1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2\right)$$

$$v^2 = \dot{x}^2 (1 + \tan^2 \theta)$$

$$v^2 = \dot{x}^2 \sec^2 \theta \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

4. Making sense of eq^s (1)-(7)

from (1)

$$m \ddot{x}_i = N \sin \theta$$

Substitute (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) → (1)

$$m \ddot{x}_i = m \sin \theta \left[\frac{\dot{x}^2 \sec^2 \theta |\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}|}{\sec^3 \theta} + g \cos \theta \right]$$

$$\ddot{x}_i = \sin \theta \left[\dot{x}^2 |\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}| \cos \theta + g \cos \theta \right]$$

$$\ddot{x}_i = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\theta^{-1}(\frac{-3}{12500}x^2 + 1)) \left[\dot{x}^2 \left(\frac{6x}{12500}\right) + g \right]$$

5. Use Matlab to solve for \ddot{x} ; ($v_x \text{ dot}$)

```

function skier

%t = time taken
%let time frame be from 0 to 5s
%let 'z' be a 2X1 matrix, where z(1) = x, 'x' is position of the skier in
%the 'i' direction
%w.r.t an arbitrary position. z(2) = xdot = v, 'v' is the velocity of the
%skier in the 'i' direction

%initial conditions
x = 0; xdot = 0;

%column vector to hold initial conditions
zNot = [0,0]';

%timespan integrate over 9 seconds
tSpan = [0,9];

%ODE
[t,z] = ode45(@f,tSpan,zNot);

%-----
figure(1);

% X vs Y plots the profile of the ski slope
X=(0:130);
Y = 50 - X + (X.^3)/12500;

%plot the results
plot(X,Y,'b-');
xlabel('X (m)');
ylabel('Y (m)');
title('Profile of the ski slope. Y vs X curve');
%-----
figure(2);

%unpack variables from z
velocityX = z(:,2)';
positionX = z(:,1)';

% units of Kg and m/s^2
m = 80;
g = 9.81;

%N was broken up into n1 and n2 to facilitate multiplication of row vectors
n1 = m*(positionX.*velocityX.^2*6/12500+g);
n2 = (cos(atan(3/12500*positionX.^2-1)));
N = n1.*n2;

%plot Normal force vs time position
plot(t,N,'color','b');
xlabel('Time (S)');

```

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ylabel('Normal Force (N) ');
title('Normal Force of Slope on Skier (N) vs Time (s)');
%-----
figure(3);

% S vs yP plots the position of the skier on the 'ski slope'
S=(z(:,1));
yP = 50 -S + (S.^3)/12500;

% X vs Y plots the profile of the ski slope
X=(0:130);
Y = 50 - X + (X.^3)/12500;

%plot the results
plot(X,Y, 'b-', S,yP, 'ro');
xlabel('X (m) ');
ylabel('Y(m) curve(1)');

%text annotations to differentiate curve 1 and curve 2
text(80,80,['curve (2) '],...
     'VerticalAlignment','bottom',...
     'HorizontalAlignment','left',...
     'FontSize',10);
text(8,45,['curve (1) '],...
     'VerticalAlignment','bottom',...
     'HorizontalAlignment','left',...
     'FontSize',10);
text(5,3,['Red circles represents the Skier.This graph shows the skier oscillating be
y=50, x=0 and x ~= 112'],...
     'VerticalAlignment','bottom',...
     'HorizontalAlignment','left',...
     'FontSize',10);

% superimposing Normal Force vs Position curve on Y vs X curve
h1 = gca;
h2 = axes('Position',get(h1, 'Position'));

%unpack variables from z
velocityX = z(:,2)';
positionX = z(:,1)';

% units of Kg and m/s^2
m = 80;
g = 9.81;

%N was broken up into n1 and n2 to facilitate multiplication of row vectors
n1 = m*(positionX.*velocityX.^2*6/12500+g);
n2 = (cos(atan(3/12500*positionX.^2-1)));
N = n1.*n2;

%plot Normal force vs position
plot(z(:,1),N, 'color', 'k');

```

```
Axis ('Square');
ylabel('Normal Force (N). curve(2) ');
title('Y (m) vs X (m) graph superimposed with Normal Force (N) vs X(m) graph'
set(h2,'YAxisLocation','right','Color','none','XTickLabel',[]);
set(h2,'XLim',get(h1,'XLim'),'Layer','top');
set(gcf,'PaperPositionMode','auto');
*-----
function zdot = f(t,z)
%desired output
x = z(1); v= z(2);
%input for ODE
xdot = v;
vxDot = 0.5*(sin(2*(atan(-3/12500*x^2 + 1))))*(xdot^2*(6/12500*x)+9.81);
%pack up input
z1dot = xdot;
z2dot = vxDot;
%this is what the function returns
zdot = [z1dot;z2dot];
```

6. Express Normal force, N in terms of x & \dot{x}

from (2)

$$N = m \left(\frac{v^2}{R_c} + g \cos \theta \right)$$

Substitute

(6) & (7)

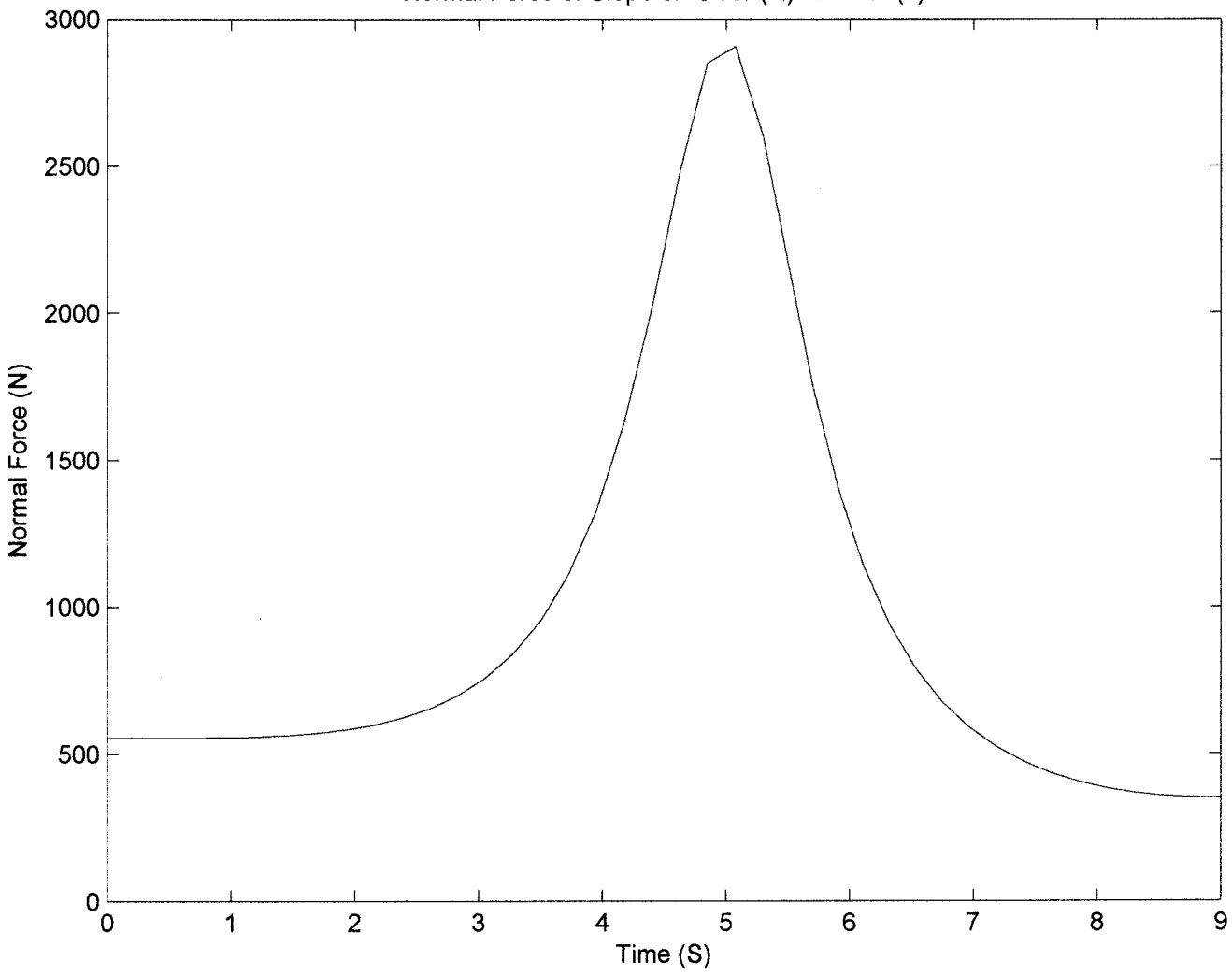
$$N = m \cos \left(\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{3}{12500} x^2 - 1 \right) \right) \left[\dot{x}^2 \left(\frac{6x}{12500} \right) + \right]$$

7. Since Matlab has solved for x & \dot{x}

I am able to plot N vs t

• look at Figure (2) of Matlab code.

Normal Force of Slope on Skier (N) vs Time (s)



8. Superimposing the Normal Force as a function of (X) on the curve of $Y-X$, it is observed that, N_{max} occurs at the base of the slope.

At valley
• Velocity is greatest and R_c the least
 $\Rightarrow \frac{v^2}{R_c}$ is maximum
 \Rightarrow curve (2) matches up with reality.

9. If matlab code is integrated for a longer time period, by increasing t_{span} , it is observed that the skier oscillates in the manner shown in the following graph.
(assuming no energy loss - closed system)

10. Indeed, the skier never goes past $y = 50$ m.
This verifies the validity of the solution.

