

37. The total energy is given by  $E = \frac{1}{2}kx_m^2$ , where  $k$  is the spring constant and  $x_m$  is the amplitude. We use the answer from part (b) to do part (a), so it is best to look at the solution for part (b) first.

(a) The fraction of the energy that is kinetic is

$$\frac{K}{E} = \frac{E - U}{E} = 1 - \frac{U}{E} = 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

where the result from part (b) has been used.

(b) When  $x = \frac{1}{2}x_m$  the potential energy is  $U = \frac{1}{2}kx^2 = \frac{1}{8}kx_m^2$ . The ratio is

$$\frac{U}{E} = \frac{\frac{1}{8}kx_m^2}{\frac{1}{2}kx_m^2} = \frac{1}{4}.$$

(c) Since  $E = \frac{1}{2}kx_m^2$  and  $U = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$ ,  $U/E = x^2/x_m^2$ . We solve  $x^2/x_m^2 = 1/2$  for  $x$ . We should get  $x = x_m/\sqrt{2}$ .