MEEG 2013 Quiz #3.m18

A bumper made of a nonlinear spring is to stop a 30-ton gondola car that is traveling at a speed of v = 5 ft/s as shown. The magnitude of the restoring force developed in the spring is $F = 100x + 12x^3$ kips when it is compressed by an amount of x ft. Determine the maximum deflection δ of the bumper.



$$T_{1} + U_{1\to2} = T_{2}:$$

$$T_{1} = \frac{1}{2}mv^{2} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{30(2000)}{32.2} \cdot (5)^{2} \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft} = 23.2919 \times 10^{3} \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft} \qquad (2)$$

$$U_{1\to2} = -10^{3} \cdot \int_{0}^{\delta} (100x + 12x^{3}) dx \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft} = -10^{3} (50\delta^{2} + 3\delta^{4}) \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft} \qquad (3)$$

$$T_{2} = 0 \qquad (1)$$

$$23.2919 \times 10^{3} - 10^{3} (50\delta^{2} + 3\delta^{4}) = 0$$

$$3\delta^{4} + 50\delta^{2} - 23.2919 = 0 \qquad (2)$$

$$\delta^{2} = 0.4535 \text{ or } -17.1202 \text{ (discard)}$$

$$\delta = 0.6734 \text{ ft} \qquad (2)$$