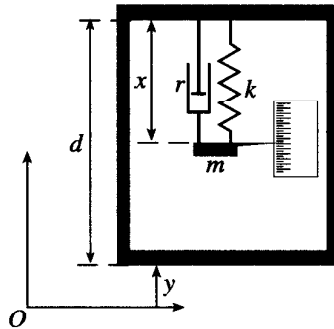


A seismograph is a scientific instrument that is used to detect earthquakes. A simple model of a seismograph is shown below. It consists of a particle of mass  $m$  to which a pointer is attached. The particle is suspended by a spring of natural length  $l_0$  and stiffness  $k$  and a damper of damping constant  $r$  from a platform of height  $d$  which is fixed to the Earth. Let the vertical displacements of the Earth, relative to a fixed origin  $O$ , be denoted by  $y$  and let the length of the spring and the damper be  $x$ , as shown in the following diagram.



- Draw a force diagram showing all the forces acting on the particle.
- Express the forces acting on the particle in terms of the given variables and parameters.
- Show that the displacement  $x(t)$  of the pointer with respect to the platform satisfies the differential equation

$$m\ddot{x} + r\dot{x} + kx = mg + kl_0 + m\ddot{y}.$$