

Vibrations and Waves by George C. King Problems

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1 Simple Harmonic Motion

1.1

- (a) (i) $T = 4\text{ s}$
(ii) $\omega = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ rad/s}$
(iii) $\omega^2 = \frac{k}{m} \Rightarrow k = m\omega^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{8} \text{ N/m}$

1.2

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}x &= A \cos \omega t \\&= A \cos 2\pi f t \\v &= -2\pi f A \sin 2\pi f t \\v_{\max} &= 2\pi f A \\&= 1.38 \text{ m/s}\end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}a &= -4\pi^2 f^2 A \cos 2\pi f t \\a_{\max} &= 4\pi^2 f^2 A \\&= 3.82 \times 10^3 \text{ m/s}^2\end{aligned}$$

1.3

$$\begin{aligned}a_{\max} &\leq g \\4\pi^2 f^2 A &\leq g \\f &\leq \sqrt{\frac{g}{4\pi^2 A}} \\&\leq 1.11 \text{ Hz}\end{aligned}$$

1.4

(a)

$$\frac{U}{E} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}k\left(\frac{1}{2}A\right)^2}{\frac{1}{2}kA^2} = \frac{1}{4} \Rightarrow \frac{K}{E} = \frac{3}{4}$$

- (b)
- (i) The total energy will increase by a factor of 4
 - (ii) The maximum velocity will increase by a factor of 2
 - (iii) The maximum acceleration will increase by a factor of 2 and the period won't change

1.5

(a) $E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx^2 = 0.41 \text{ J}$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 E &= \frac{1}{2}kA^2 \\
 A &= \sqrt{\frac{2E}{k}} \\
 &= 4.5 \text{ cm} \\
 \omega &= \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \\
 &= \sqrt{\frac{1600}{3}} \\
 &= \frac{40}{\sqrt{3}} \\
 &= 23 \text{ rad/s} \\
 x &= A \cos(\omega t + \phi) \\
 \phi &= \arccos\left(\frac{x}{A}\right) - \omega t \\
 &= 2.7 \text{ rad} \\
 x &= 0.045 \cos(23t + 2.7) \text{ m}
 \end{aligned}$$

1.6

Using the angular frequency of system (b) ω_b as the baseline, the angular frequency of system (a) ω_a is

$$\begin{aligned}
 F &= ma = -2kx \\
 a &= -\frac{2k}{m}x \\
 \omega_a &= \sqrt{\frac{2k}{m}} \\
 &= \sqrt{2}\omega_b
 \end{aligned}$$

and the angular frequency of system (c) ω_c is

$$\begin{aligned}
 F &= ma = -\frac{k}{2}x \\
 a &= -\frac{k}{2m}x \\
 \omega_c &= \sqrt{\frac{k}{2m}} \\
 &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}\omega_b
 \end{aligned}$$

1.7

- (a) The test tube experiences a buoyancy force of $F = Ag\rho x$ so its equation of motion is

$$F = ma = -Ag\rho x$$

$$a = -\frac{Ag\rho}{m}x$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{Ag\rho}{m}}$$

- (b) The work done by the buoyancy force when moving from equilibrium to x and thus the potential energy is

$$\begin{aligned} U &= \int_0^x Ag\rho x' dx' \\ &= \frac{1}{2}Ag\rho x^2 \end{aligned}$$

so the total energy of the system is

$$E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + \frac{1}{2}Ag\rho x^2$$

1.8

$$s \propto \text{kg}^\alpha \text{m}^\beta (\text{m/s}^2)^\gamma$$

so $\alpha = 0$, $\beta = 1/2$, and $\gamma = -1/2$ meaning

$$T \propto \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$$

1.9

- (a)

$$x = A \cos \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}}t$$

$$v = -\sqrt{\frac{g}{l}}A \sin \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}}t$$

$$v_{\max} = \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}}A$$

$$= 0.018 \text{ m/s}$$

- (b) The pendulum reaches its maximum speed at the bottom of its swing which occurs after a quarter cycle

$$\frac{1}{4}T = \frac{1}{4} \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{g/l}} = 0.43 \text{ s}$$

1.10

$$\begin{aligned} I \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} &= \tau \\ \frac{1}{3}ML^2 \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} &= -kL \sin \theta L \cos \theta \\ \frac{1}{3}M \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} &= -k\theta \\ \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} &= -\frac{3k}{M}\theta \\ T &= \frac{2\pi}{\omega} \\ &= 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{M}{3k}} \end{aligned}$$

1.11

- (a)

$$\begin{aligned} F &= -\frac{dU}{dx} = -\left(\frac{6a}{x^7} - \frac{12b}{x^{13}}\right) \\ 0 &= \frac{12b}{x^{13}} - \frac{6a}{x^7} \\ &= \frac{12b}{x^6} - 6a \\ 6a &= \frac{12b}{x^6} \\ x^6 &= \frac{2b}{a} \\ x &= \left(\frac{2b}{a}\right)^{1/6} \end{aligned}$$

1.12

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 K &= \frac{1}{2}Mv^2 + \int dK \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}Mv^2 + \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} \frac{m}{L} \left(\frac{l}{L}v \right)^2 dl \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}Mv^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{mv^2}{L^3} \int_0^L l^2 dl \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}Mv^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{mv^2}{L^3} \frac{1}{3}L^3 \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}Mv^2 + \frac{1}{6}mv^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}(M + m/3)v^2 \\
 E &= K + U \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}(M + m/3)v^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx^2
 \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{M + m/3}}$$

1.13

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 K &= E - U \\
 \frac{1}{2}mv^2 &= U(A) - U(x) \\
 v &= \sqrt{2[U(A) - U(x)]/m}
 \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 T &= 4 \int_0^A \frac{dx}{v} \\
 &= 4 \int_0^A \sqrt{\frac{m}{2[U(A) - U(x)]}} dx \\
 &= 4 \sqrt{\frac{m}{2U(A)}} \int_0^A \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1 - U(x)/U(A)}}
 \end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned} T &= 4\sqrt{\frac{m}{2\alpha A^n}} \int_0^A \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-(x/A)^n}} \\ &= 4\sqrt{\frac{m}{2\alpha A^n}} \int_0^1 \frac{A d\xi}{\sqrt{1-\xi^n}} \\ &= cA^{(n/2)-1} \end{aligned}$$