

a) The Lagrangian of the system is defined as:

$$L = T - U + \lambda(3x_1 + x_2 - c)$$

$$L = \frac{m}{2}(\dot{x}_1^2 + \dot{x}_2^2) - \frac{k}{2}(x_1^2 + (x_2 - x_1)^2 + x_2^2) + \lambda(3x_1 + x_2 - c)$$

$$L = \frac{m}{2}(\dot{x}_1^2 + \dot{x}_2^2) - k(x_1^2 - x_1x_2 + x_2^2) + \lambda(3x_1 + x_2 - c)$$

b) The equations of motion can then be derived :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{dL}{d\dot{x}_i} - \frac{dL}{dx_i} = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{dL}{d\dot{x}_i} = m\ddot{x}_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2$$

$$\frac{dL}{dx_1} = k(-2x_1 + x_2) + 3\lambda$$

$$\frac{dL}{dx_2} = k(-2x_2 + x_1) + \lambda$$

$$\frac{dL}{d\lambda} = 3x_1 + x_2 - c = 0 \quad (*)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow m\ddot{x}_1 - k(-2x_1 + x_2) - 3\lambda &= 0 \\ m\ddot{x}_2 - k(-2x_2 + x_1) - \lambda &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

c)

Eliminate λ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow m\ddot{x}_1 - k(-2x_1 + x_2) - 3m\ddot{x}_2 + 3k(-2x_2 + x_1) \\ = m(\ddot{x}_1 - 3\ddot{x}_2) + k(5x_1 - 7x_2) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Use (*) to eliminate x_2 :

$$\begin{aligned} x_2 &= c - 3x_1 \\ \Rightarrow m(\ddot{x}_1 - 3\ddot{x}_2) + k(5x_1 - 7x_2) &= \\ = m(\ddot{x}_1 - 9\ddot{x}_1) + k(5x_1 - 7(c - 3x_1)) & \end{aligned}$$

$$= -8m\ddot{x}_1 + k(26x_1 - 7c) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = \frac{8m\ddot{x}_1 + 7kc}{26k}$$

We can now find the equilibrium positions under the constraint.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Equilibrium} &\Rightarrow \ddot{x}_i = 0 \\ \Rightarrow x_1 &= \frac{7c}{26} \quad \Rightarrow \quad x_2 = c \left(1 - \frac{21}{26} \right) = \frac{5c}{26} \end{aligned}$$

d)

To find the eigenfrequencies we first define :

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{x}_1 &= \frac{k(26x_1 - 7c)}{8} = \frac{k(5x_1 - 7x_2)}{8} \\ \ddot{x}_2 &= \frac{-3k(26x_1 - 7c)}{8} = \frac{-3k(5x_1 - 7x_2)}{8} \end{aligned}$$

$$\ddot{X}(t) = K \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where } K = \frac{k}{8} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -7 \\ 15 & -21 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{pmatrix} * \exp(i\omega t) = X(t)$$

Thus we have :

$$\det(K + I\omega^2) = 0 = \begin{vmatrix} 5 + \omega^2 & -7 \\ 15 & -21 + \omega^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow (5 + \omega^2)(-21 + \omega^2) + 105 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^4 - 16\omega^2 - 105 + 105 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^2(\omega^2 - 16) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^2 = \pm 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_1 = \omega_2 = 2$$