

Solution (Class Test)

Topic: Mechanics (Stability Analysis)

Ans. 1: (a)

Solution: $V(x) = -k^2 x^4 + \omega^2 x^2$

For equation point

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = 0 \Rightarrow -4k^2 x^3 + 2\omega^2 x = 0, \quad x = 0 \text{ or } x^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{2k^2}$$

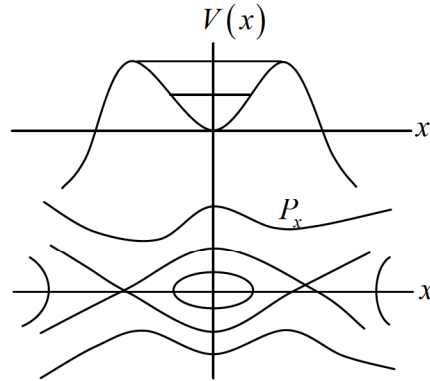
Now, $\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = -12k^2 x^2 + 2\omega^2$ At, $x = 0$

$$\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = 2\omega^2, \quad x = 0 \text{ is minimum.}$$

At, $x^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{2k^2}$

And, $\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = -12k^2 \frac{\omega^2}{2k^2} + 2\omega^2 = -4\omega^2$

Hence, $x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\omega^2}{2k^2}}$ is maxima. Both bounded and unbounded motions are possible



Ans. 2: (c)

Solution: At $x = x_0$ potential energy is minimum. Since total energy is constant therefore, K. E. is maximum. So momentum is maximum.

From Taylor's expansion $V(x)$ can be approximated as

$$V(x) = V(x_0) + (x - x_0) \left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \right|_{x=x_0} + \frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x=x_0} + \dots$$

$(x - x_0)^3 = (x - x_0)^4 = \dots$ is very small.

So it can be zero.

$$\therefore V(x) = V(x_0) + (x - x_0) \left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \right|_{x=x_0} + (x - x_0)^2 \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x=x_0}$$

hence $V(x)$ is min $\left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \right| = 0$

so force = 0

hence $V(x) = V(x_0) + (x - x_0)^2 \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x=x_0}$ so $k = \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x=x_0}$

Ans. 3: (b)

Solution: $V(x) = x(x-4)^2$ for equilibrium point

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = 0 \Rightarrow (x-4)^2 + 2x(x-4) = 0 \Rightarrow (x-4)(3x-4) = 0$$

$$x = 4, x = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} = (3x-4) + 3(x-4) = 6x-16$$

At $x = 4$, $\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} = 6x-16 = 8 > 0$; which is stable equilibrium point

and at $x = \frac{4}{3}$, $\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} = 6x-16 = -4 < 0$, so it is an unstable equilibrium point.

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{\left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x=4}}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{1}} = \sqrt{8}$$

Ans. 4: (a)

Solution: $V(x) = ax + \frac{b}{x} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = 0 \Rightarrow a - \frac{b}{x^2} = 0 \Rightarrow ax^2 - b = 0 \Rightarrow x_0 = \pm \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$.

Since $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$, $m = 1$ and $k = \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x=x_0}$ where x_0 is stable equilibrium point.

$$\text{Hence } k = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} = \frac{2b}{x_0^3} = 2\sqrt{\frac{a^3}{b}}$$

$$\text{Thus } \omega = \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{a^3}{b}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

Ans. 5: (a)

Solution: $\frac{dU}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow k(6x^2 - 10x + 4) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1, x = \frac{2}{3}$

$$\frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} = k(12x - 10)$$

For $x = 1$, $\frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} = 2k > 0$ and for $x = \frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} = -2k < 0$

$$\text{So } \omega = \sqrt{\frac{2k}{m}} \Rightarrow \frac{2\pi}{T} = \sqrt{\frac{2k}{m}} \Rightarrow T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{m}{2k}} \Rightarrow \pi\sqrt{\frac{2m}{k}}$$

Ans. 6: (a)

Solution: $\therefore V(x) = -\frac{1}{4}ax^4 + \frac{1}{6}bx^6$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = 0 \Rightarrow -ax^3 + bx^5 = 0 \Rightarrow x^3[-a + bx^2] = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} = -3ax^2 + 5bx^4 \Rightarrow \text{At } x=0, \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

Thus $x=0$ is a saddle point.

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x=\pm\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = -3a\frac{a}{b} + 5b\frac{a^2}{b^2} = \frac{2a^2}{b} \text{ (Positive, so it is a stable point)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = \sqrt{\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2a^2}{bm}}$$

Ans. 7: (b)

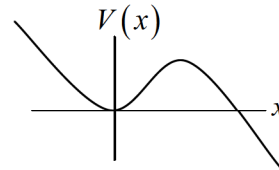
Solution: $\frac{dV}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow x - x^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0, x = 1$ are equilibrium points.

$$\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = 1 - 2x$$

At $x = 0, \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = 1 > 0$, which is stable equilibrium point.

So, it is minima of the curve.

At $x = 1, \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = -1 < 0$, which is unstable equilibrium point. So it is maxima of the curve.



Ans. 8: (c)

Ans. 9: (b)

Solution: $V = \frac{1}{2}kx^2 - \frac{1}{4}\lambda x^4$

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow kx - \lambda x^3 = 0$$

$$x = 0, x^2 = \frac{k}{\lambda} \Rightarrow x = x_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{\lambda}}$$

$$\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = k \quad \text{at } x=0 \quad \text{so } x=0 \text{ is stable equilibrium point} \quad \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = -2k \quad \text{at } x_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{\lambda}}$$

so $x_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{x}}$ is unstable equilibrium point $\omega = \sqrt{\left. \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} \right|_{x=0}} = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \Rightarrow f = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

Ans. 10: (d)

Solution: $E = \frac{p_x^2}{2m} - kx^2$ which is shape of hyperbola

Ans. 11: (a)

Ans. 12: (d)

Solution: $V(x) = (\sqrt{x^2 + l^2} - l)^2$

Using Taylor expansion $V(x) = (\sqrt{x^2 + l^2} - l)^2 = l^2 \left(\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{x}{l}\right)^2} - 1 \right)^2 = l^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{l}\right)^2 \dots - 1 \right)^2$

so $V(x) \propto x^4$

Ans. 13: (d)

Solution: Amplitude is $A = \sqrt{\frac{2E}{k}}$

Ans. 14: (a)

Ans. 15: (c)