

Normal Modes

- 1) What is a normal mode: periodic vs. quasiperiodic motion
- 2) Small oscillation limit: oscill. near stable equilibrium.
- 3) Construct Lagrangian $\mathcal{L}(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}) = T - V$
 \uparrow
 generalized coordinates (position, angle, ...)

Pick $\vec{q} = 0$ at equilibrium ($\dot{\vec{q}}$ has to be 0)

Kinetic Energy:

$$T = \sum_{ij} \frac{1}{2} M_{ij} \dot{q}_i \dot{q}_j + \text{h.o.t.} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\vec{q}}^T M \dot{\vec{q}} + \text{h.o.t.}$$

Potential Energy:

$$V = V(\vec{q}) = V_0 + \sum_i \frac{\partial V}{\partial q_i} q_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial q_i \partial q_j} q_i q_j + \text{h.o.t.}$$

||
0 (equilibrium)

$$= V_0 + \sum_{ij} \frac{1}{2} U_{ij} q_i q_j + \text{h.o.t.} = V_0 + \frac{1}{2} \vec{q}^T U \vec{q} + \text{h.o.t.}$$

Note: We are free to split cross-terms, so that both M and U are symmetric

Lagrange's equations:

$$0 = \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta q} = -\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}_i} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial q_i} = -\frac{d}{dt} \sum_j \left(\frac{1}{2} M_{ij} \dot{q}_j + \frac{1}{2} \dot{q}_j M_{ji} \right) - \sum_j \left(\frac{1}{2} U_{ij} q_j + \frac{1}{2} q_j U_{ji} \right) =$$

$$= -\sum_j (M_{ij} \ddot{q}_j + U_{ij} q_j)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{M \ddot{\vec{q}} + U \vec{q} = 0}$$

Seek special solutions: $q_j = \text{Re} \{ a_j e^{i\omega t} \} \Rightarrow \ddot{q}_j = -\omega^2 q_j$

$$\Rightarrow -\omega^2 M \vec{q} + U \vec{q} = \boxed{(U - \omega^2 M) \vec{q} = 0}$$

almost eigenvalue problem!

Can convert into actual EV problem:

$$M\ddot{\vec{q}} \equiv \ddot{\vec{Q}} \Rightarrow (MUM^{-1} - \omega^2 \mathbb{I})M\vec{q} = (U' - \omega^2 \mathbb{I})\vec{Q} = 0$$

$(U - \omega^2 M)\vec{q} = 0 \leftarrow$ system (homogeneous) of algebraic eq's.

has nontrivial solutions when

$$\boxed{\det(U - \omega^2 M) = 0}$$

equation for normal frequencies \uparrow

For each ω_i find normal mode \vec{q}_i : $\vec{q} = \sum_i a_i \vec{q}_i$

Example (CO_2 -molecule)



Coordinates: $\vec{q} = (x_1, x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3, z_1, z_2, z_3)$

K.E.:

$$T = \frac{m}{2} \dot{\vec{r}}_1^2 + \frac{M}{2} \dot{\vec{r}}_2^2 + \frac{m}{2} \dot{\vec{r}}_3^2$$

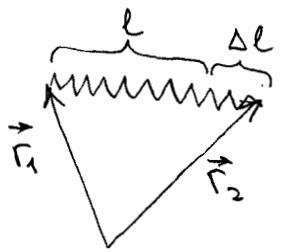
$$= \frac{m}{2} (\dot{x}_1^2 + \dot{y}_1^2 + \dot{z}_1^2) + \frac{M}{2} (\dot{x}_2^2 + \dot{y}_2^2 + \dot{z}_2^2) + \frac{m}{2} (\dot{x}_3^2 + \dot{y}_3^2 + \dot{z}_3^2)$$

P.E.:

$$V = \frac{k}{2} (\Delta l_{12})^2 + \frac{k}{2} (\Delta l_{23})^2$$

$$\Delta l_{12} = |\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2| - l$$

$$\vec{r}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -l + x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{r}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2| = \sqrt{(-l + x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2 + (z_1 - z_2)^2} =$$

$$= \sqrt{l^2 - 2l(x_1 - x_2) + (x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2 + (z_1 - z_2)^2} =$$

$$= l \left(1 - 2 \frac{x_1 - x_2}{l} + o(l^{-2}) \right)^{1/2} = l - (x_1 - x_2) + o(l^{-1})$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta l_{12} = -(x_1 - x_2) + o(l^{-1})$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2}k(x_1 - x_2)^2 + \frac{k}{2}(x_2 - x_3)^2 =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(kx_1^2 - 2kx_1x_2 + kx_2^2 + kx_2^2 - 2kx_2x_3 + kx_3^2)$$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} m & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m \end{pmatrix} \quad U = \begin{pmatrix} k & -k & 0 & 0 \\ -k & 2k & -k & 0 \\ 0 & -k & k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Normal frequencies:

$$\det(U - \omega^2 M) = \left[((k - \omega^2 m)(2k - \omega^2 m) - k^2)(k - \omega^2 m) + (k - \omega^2 m)(-k^2) \right] \times$$

$$\times \underbrace{(0 - \omega^2 m)^4 (0 - \omega^2 m)^2}_{\omega^2 = 0, 6 \text{ times}} = 0. \quad \leftarrow y, z \text{-directions}$$

$$\left((k - \omega^2 m)(2k - \omega^2 m) - k^2 - k^2 \right) (k - \omega^2 m) =$$

$$= (2k^2 - k^2 - k^2 - k(2m + m)\omega^2 + m\mu\omega^4)(k - \omega^2 m) =$$

$$= \omega^2 (\omega^2 m\mu - k(2m + \mu))(k - \omega^2 m) = 0$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\omega^2 = 0, \quad \omega^2 = \frac{k}{m}, \quad \omega^2 = k \frac{2m + \mu}{m\mu} \quad \leftarrow x \text{-directions}$$

Normal modes:

"0"s: $\vec{e}_y^{(1,2,3)}$, $\vec{e}_z^{(1,2,3)}$, $\vec{e}_x^1 + \vec{e}_x^2 + \vec{e}_x^3 \leftarrow \text{check! (total of 7)}$

$$\vec{q} = \vec{e}_y^1 + \vec{e}_y^2 + \vec{e}_y^3: \quad y_1 = y_2 = y_3$$

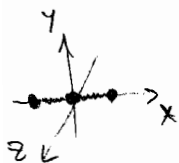
- uniform translation
along y-axis

same for x, z-axis

$$\vec{q} = \vec{e}_y^1 - \vec{e}_y^3: \quad y_1 = -y_3, y_2 = 0$$

- rigid body rotation
about z-axis

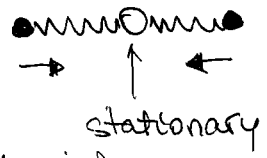
same for y-axis



that's 3+2=5. What are the other 2 "0" modes?

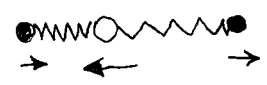
$$\omega^2 = \frac{k}{3M} : \begin{pmatrix} k & -k & 0 \\ -k & 2k & -k \\ 0 & -k & k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = k \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - x_2 \\ -x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 \\ x_3 - x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{k}{M} \begin{pmatrix} Mx_1 \\ Mx_2 \\ Mx_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_2 = 0, x_1 = -x_3$$



$$\omega^2 = k \frac{2m+M}{mM} : \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - x_2 \\ -x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 \\ x_3 - x_2 \end{pmatrix} = k \frac{2m+M}{mM} \begin{pmatrix} mx_1 \\ Mx_2 \\ mx_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = +x_3, x_2 = -2 \frac{m}{M} x_1$$



Center of mass stationary in both cases!

Example: (Elastic medium - another comp. exercise)



K.E.: $T = \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}_i^2$

P.E.: $V = \sum_i \frac{1}{2} k (x_i - x_{i-1})^2$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \ddots & & & & \\ & m & & & 0 \\ & & m & & \\ 0 & & & m & \\ & & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, \quad U = \left. \begin{pmatrix} & & & & 0 \\ & 2k-k & & & \\ & -k & 2k-k & & \\ & & -k & 2k-k & \\ 0 & & & -k & 2k \\ & & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \right\} N = \infty$$

Can diagonalize by choosing:

$$x_j = \text{Re} \{ a e^{iqj + i\omega t} \}$$

translational symmetry in space (discrete)

translational symmetry in time (continuous)

$$-\pi < q < \pi$$

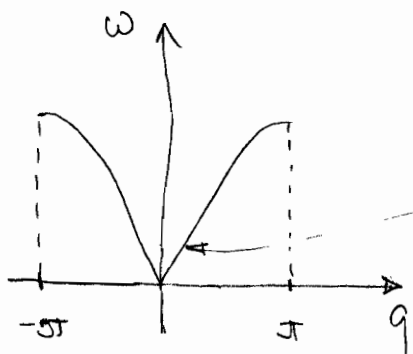
Lagrange's eq's:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta q_e} &= - \sum_j (M_{lj} \ddot{x}_j + U_{lj} x_j) = \\ &= - \sum_j m \delta_{lj} a e^{iqj + i\omega t} (-\omega^2) \\ &\quad - \sum_j k \delta_{lj} a (-e^{iq(j-1) + i\omega t} + 2e^{iqj + i\omega t} - e^{iq(j+1) + i\omega t}) \\ &= - m a (-\omega^2) e^{iql + i\omega t} - k a (-e^{-iq} + 2 - e^{iq}) e^{iql + i\omega t} \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad \underbrace{2(1 - \cos q) = 4 \sin^2(q/2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow m \omega^2(q) = k \cdot 4 \sin^2(q/2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^2(q) = 4 \sin^2(q/2) \cdot \frac{k}{m}$$

Dispersion relation: normal frequency vs. wavenumber of normal mode

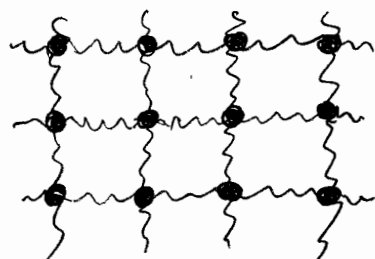


linear for small q : $\omega \approx \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} q$

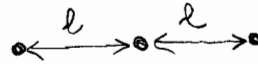
Solution:

$$x_j = \text{Re} \left\{ \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} a(q) \exp[iqj + i 2 \sqrt{k/m} |\sin(q/2)| t] dq \right\}$$

Can easily generalize for 2-d, 3-d



Continuum limit



$$j \rightarrow l/e$$

$$q \rightarrow lq'$$

$$\frac{m}{e} = \rho - \text{density}, \quad kl = T - \text{elastic modulus}$$

$$X(y) = \lim_{l \rightarrow 0} \text{Re} \left\{ \int_{-\pi/l}^{\pi/l} a(q'l) \exp \left[i q' y + 2i \frac{\sqrt{T/\rho}}{e} |\sin(q'l/2)| t \right] dq' \cdot l \right\}$$

$$= \text{Re} \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A(q) \exp \left[i q' y + i \sqrt{T/\rho} |q'| t \right] dq' \right\}$$

Dispersion relation:

