

1 Multiple Choice

[28 points]

Each of the 4 multiple choice problems is worth 7 points.

(i) Consider the complex number $z = 1/(1 + i)$. Which point (labeled A to M, as shown) in the complex plane shown in the figure below is closest to z ?

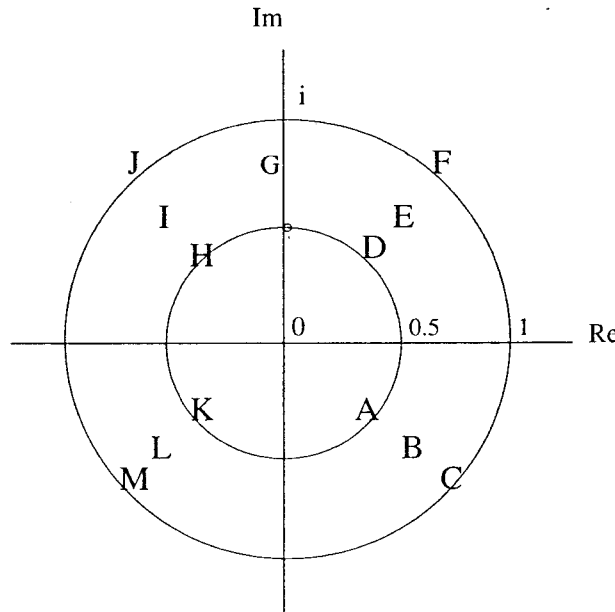


Figure 1: The complex number z on the complex plane.

$$\frac{1}{1+i} \cdot \frac{(1-i)}{(1-i)} = \frac{1-i}{2}$$

B

(ii) As we slowly increase the damping term of a slightly damped simple harmonic oscillator, which of the following is correct :

- (A) Both the resonance peak and resonance width increase
- (B) The resonance width narrows and the resonance peak goes higher
- (C) The resonance width increases but the resonance peak lowers
- (D) Both the resonance peak and the resonance width decreases
- (E) The resonance width broadens but no change in the resonance peak
- (F) The resonance peak decreases but no change in the resonance width

C

(iii) One end of a horizontal string is attached to an electrically-driven vibrator that vibrates at 200 Hz. The other end passes over a pulley and supports a weight of mass 2 Kg. The distance between two adjacent nodes on the string is 50cm. What is the string mass density μ ?

(Take g to be 10m/s^2 .)

- (A) 2×10^{-2} Kg/m
- (B) 10^{-2} Kg/m
- (C) 10^{-3} Kg/m
- (D) 2×10^{-4} Kg/m
- (E) 10^{-4} Kg/m
- (F) 5×10^{-4} Kg/m
- (G) 5×10^{-5} Kg/m

$$f = 200 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\tau = Mg = 20 \text{ N}$$

$$\lambda = 1 \text{ m}$$

$$c = f\lambda = 200 \text{ m/s}$$

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{\mu}}$$

$$\mu = \frac{\tau}{c^2} = \frac{20 \text{ N}}{(200 \text{ m/s})^2} = 5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Kg/m}$$

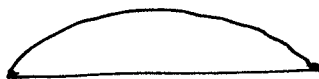
F

(iv) Consider a string (length L) with its two ends fixed. It is vibrating at the lowest mode, that is

$$y(x, t) = A \sin(kx) \cos(\omega t) \quad (1.1)$$

Consider the mid-point segment of the string (at $x = L/2$). Its maximum speed during the string vibration is

- (A) wL/π
- (B) $\sqrt{wL/\pi}$
- (C) $\sqrt{wL/2\pi}$
- (D) wA
- (E) $wA/2$
- (F) $\pi A/L$
- (G) $\sqrt{wLA/\pi}$



$x = \frac{L}{2}$ vibrates in SHM w/ amplitude A .
(i.e. $k \cdot \frac{L}{2} = \frac{\pi}{2}$) ($\sin k \frac{L}{2} = 1$)

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = (A \sin kx)(-\omega) \sin \omega t$$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = -A\omega \sin \omega t$$

$$\text{max} = A\omega \quad (\sin = \pm 1)$$

D

2 Standing Wave

[10 points]

Two strings of equal length L , with different densities, μ (on the right) and 4μ (on the left), are connected. Their other ends are fixed, as shown in the figure below.

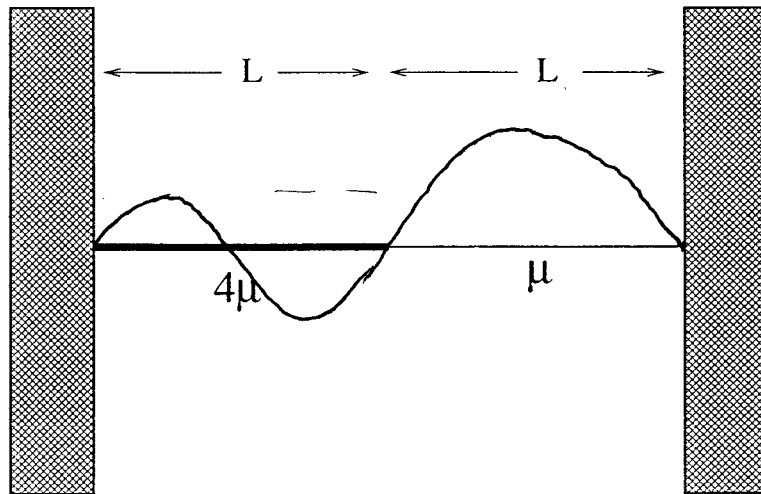


Figure 2: A string composed of two segments.

Sketch the lowest frequency standing wave which has a node at the point where the two strings meet.

You may draw your sketch directly in Figure 2.

(Hint: only simple algebraic calculations needed.)

tensions + frequencies are the same

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}} \quad \text{so wave speed on left} = \frac{1}{2} c \text{ on right}$$

$$c = \lambda f \quad \text{so } \lambda \text{ on left is } \frac{1}{2} \text{ of } \lambda \text{ on right}$$

(amplitude also double on the right but we didn't expect you to worry about that!)

3 Boundary Conditions

[20 points]

Consider a string with each of its two ends tied to a spring that can only move in the y-direction. The spring constants are K_1 (at $x = 0$) and K_2 (at $x = L$). The string tension is τ .

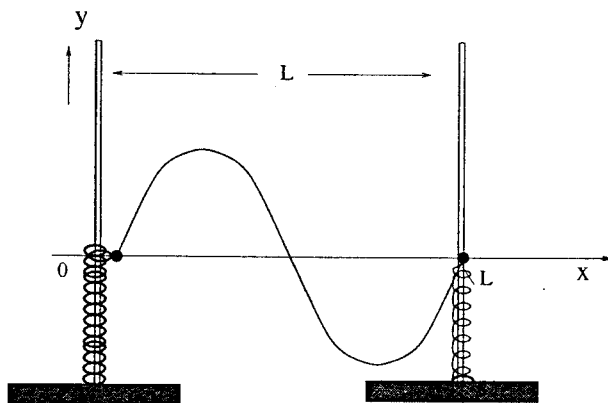


Figure 3: A string with each end tied to a spring

Consider

$$y(x, t) = A \cos(kx + \phi) \cos(\omega t) \quad (3.1)$$

Derive the two boundary conditions: one at $x = 0$ and one at $x = L$. Write them in terms of τ , K_1 , K_2 , L , k and ϕ .

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{x=0} \quad \Sigma F_y = -K_1 y + \tau \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = m a_y = 0 \quad \text{subst. in } y(x, t) \text{ at } x=0 \\ -K_1 A \cos \phi \cos \omega t + \tau (-k) A \sin \phi \cos \omega t = 0 \\ -K_1 \cos \phi - \tau k \sin \phi = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\tan \phi = -\frac{K_1}{\tau k}} \quad x=0$$

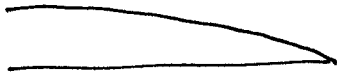
$$\begin{aligned} \underline{x=L} \\ \Sigma F_y = -K_2 y - \tau \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = 0 \quad \text{at } x=L \\ -K_2 \cos(\phi + kL) + \tau k \sin(kL + \phi) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\tan(kL + \phi) = \frac{K_2}{\tau k}} \quad x=L$$

What are the values of k and ϕ in terms of L for the lowest oscillating mode in the cases where

(a) $K_1 = 0$ and K_2 is infinite

free fixed



$$\lambda = 4L$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} = \frac{\pi}{2L}$$

free at $x=0$ so

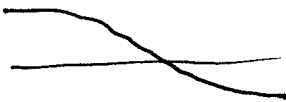
$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = 0 \Rightarrow \phi = 0$$

(or any multiple of π)

$$k = \frac{\pi}{2L} \quad \phi = 0$$

(b) $K_1 = K_2 \rightarrow 0$.

free - free



$$\lambda = 2L$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} = \frac{\pi}{L}$$

free at $x=0 \Rightarrow \phi = 0$
(or $n\pi$)

$$k = \frac{\pi}{L} \quad \phi = 0$$

4 Traveling Wave vs Standing Wave

[20 points]

Consider a string of length L with its two ends fixed (at $x = 0$ and $x = L$).

Suppose the resulting standing wave is described by


$$y(x, t) = A \sin(kx + \omega t + \phi) + f(x - ct) \quad (4.1)$$

where A is a real constant.

Express ω in terms of c and k .


$$\omega = ck$$

Give the lowest two values of k in terms of L .



$$\lambda = 2L \quad k = \frac{2\pi}{2L}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{L}, \frac{2\pi}{L}$$



$$\lambda = L \quad k = \frac{2\pi}{L}$$

Give the explicit form of the function $f(x - ct)$ in terms of A , k , ϕ and c .

(Hint : Either go to the complex plane, or use a trigonometric relation given in the formula sheet.)

$f(x-ct)$ must be sinusoidal with same amplitude, λ , and frequency.

$$\Rightarrow f(x-ct) = A \sin(kx - \omega t + \phi')$$

what's ϕ' ? Apply B.C. at $x=0$

$$y(0, t) = 0$$

$$A \sin(kx - \omega t - \phi)$$

$$A \sin(\omega t + \phi) + A \sin(-\omega t + \phi') = 0$$

$$\text{true if } \phi' = -\phi$$

5 Superposition of Traveling Waves

[20 points]

The string has a length of $4d$, extending from $-2d$ (with free boundary condition) to $+2d$ (with fixed boundary condition). At $t = 0$, the string is plucked in a way so that it has an initial shape as shown in the figure, and is initially motionless. At $t = 0$, the string is released.

Sketch the shape of the string at $t = d/c, 2d/c, 3d/c$. Here c is the wave speed.

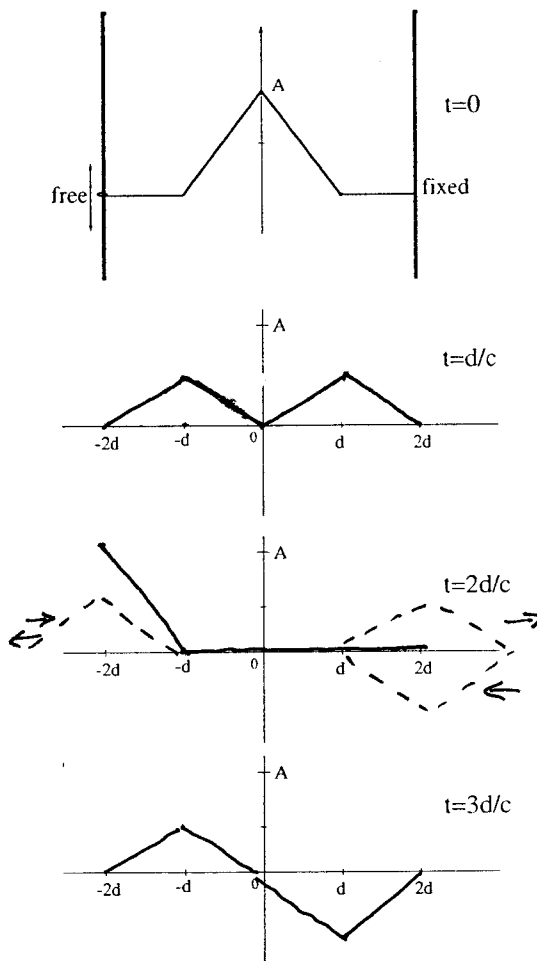


Figure 4: The plucked string.

What is the earliest time T (i.e., the period) that the string will again have its original shape (i.e., that at $t = 0$). Express T in terms of d and c .

- at $t = \frac{4d}{c}$, pulses at center but 1 inverted
- " $t = \frac{8d}{c}$, " " " " both inverted
- " $t = \frac{12d}{c}$, " " " " 1 inverted
- " $t = \frac{16d}{c}$, " " " and neither inverted

$$\frac{16d}{c}$$