

Our normal modes are

$$a_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3m}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad a_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2m}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad a_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6m}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We use these vectors as a basis set to set to write an arbitrary displacement as $\eta(t) = \xi_1 \vec{a}_1 + \xi_2 \vec{a}_2 + \xi_3 \vec{a}_3$

Suppose we apply a force $\vec{F}(t)$, \Rightarrow

$$\vec{T} \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \ddot{\xi}_i \vec{a}_i \right) + \vec{V} \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \xi_i \vec{a}_i \right) = \vec{F}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{\xi}_j + \omega_j^2 \xi_j = f_j(t) \quad \text{where } f_j = \vec{a}_j^T \vec{F}(t)$$

In this problem. $\vec{F} = \begin{pmatrix} f \cos \omega t \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\therefore f_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3m}} f \cos \omega t \quad f_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2m}} f \cos \omega t \quad f_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6m}} f \cos \omega t.$$

with initial conditions $\dot{\xi}_i = 0 \quad \xi_i = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \xi_1 = \frac{f}{\sqrt{3m} \omega^2} (1 - \cos \omega t) \quad \xi_2 = \frac{f}{\sqrt{2m} (\omega_2^2 - \omega^2)} (\omega_2 \cos \omega t - \omega \cos \omega_2 t).$$

$$\xi_3 = \frac{f}{\sqrt{6m} (\omega_3^2 - \omega^2)} (\omega_3 \cos \omega t - \omega \cos \omega_3 t).$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta(t) = \frac{f}{m} \left[\frac{1}{3\omega^2} (1 - \cos \omega t) - \frac{1}{2(\omega_2^2 - \omega^2)} (\omega_2 \cos \omega t - \omega \cos \omega_2 t) + \frac{1}{6(\omega_3^2 - \omega^2)} (\omega_3 \cos \omega t - \omega \cos \omega_3 t) \right].$$