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a) (Please see the figure on page 4).

$$\text{Kinetic Energy} = \frac{1}{2}\rho \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}\right)^2$$

$$\text{Potential} = \frac{1}{2}T\theta^2 = \frac{1}{2}T \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)^2,$$

Since, $\theta \approx \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}$.

Hence the Lagrangian can be written as

$$L = \frac{1}{2}\rho \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2}T \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)^2$$

The Euler-Lagrange equation can be written as

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial(\partial_t y)} \right) + \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial(\partial_x y)} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial y}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} - \frac{T}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

b)

The force on an element of length dx is given by

$$F = T \left(\theta + \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} dx \right) - T\theta = T \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} dx$$

where, $\theta \approx \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}$, Hence the force on the element is given by

$$F = T \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} dx,$$

The equation of motion is given by,

$$F = ma \Rightarrow T \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} dx = \rho dx \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} - T \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

c)

$y = A \sin(\omega t) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$ is a solution of the above equation if,

$$-\rho A \omega^2 \sin(\omega t) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + T_0 A \left(\frac{\pi}{L}\right)^2 \sin(\omega t) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) = 0$$

Hence the frequency is given by,

$$\omega = \left(\frac{T_0}{\rho}\right)^{1/2} \frac{\pi}{L}$$

d) The wave equation can be reduced to ordinary differential equations using variable separation technique as follows,

$$\frac{\rho}{T(t)Y} \frac{d^2 Y}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{X} \frac{d^2 X}{dx^2}$$

The equation above holds good only if both sides of the equation are constant, i.e.

$$\frac{1}{X} \frac{d^2 X}{dx^2} = -k^2 = \frac{\rho}{T(t)} \frac{d^2 Y}{dt^2}$$

$$X = A \exp(ikx) + B \exp(-ikx)$$

(k could be complex and is determined from the boundary conditions)

$$X(0) = 0 \text{ and } X(L) = 0$$

$$\text{Hence } k = n\pi/L, X = A \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$$\frac{d^2 Y}{dt^2} + \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \frac{T(t)}{\rho} Y = 0$$

Where,

$$\begin{aligned} T(t) &= T_0 \text{ for } t < 0 \\ &= T_0(1 + \varepsilon) \text{ for } 0 < t < t_0 \\ &= T_0 \text{ for } t > t_0 \end{aligned}$$

Or $T(t) = T_0(1 + \varepsilon\theta(t)\theta(t_0 - t))$. Hence,

$$\frac{d^2 Y}{dt^2} + \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \frac{T_0}{\rho} Y = -\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \frac{T_0 \varepsilon \theta(t)\theta(t_0 - t)}{\rho} Y \quad (*)$$

The complete solution is a superposition of all modes and can be written as

$$y = \sum_n Y_n(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

where $Y_n(t)$ satisfies equation (*). Since the string shape for $t < 0$ is $y = A \sin(\omega t) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$, the string vibrates only in the first mode i.e., $Y_n = 0$ for $n \geq 2$ and the sum reduces to a single term namely,

$$y = Y_1(t) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$$

The solution for Y_1 can be obtained using perturbation technique as follows:

$$Y_1 = Y_1^{(0)} + \varepsilon Y_1^{(1)} + h.o.t.$$

Substituting the expansion for Y_1 in Eq. (*) and equating terms of $O(\varepsilon^0)$ we find that $Y_1^{(0)}$ is the solution of,

$$\frac{d^2 Y_1^{(0)}}{dt^2} + \left(\frac{\pi}{L}\right)^2 \frac{T_0}{\rho} Y_1^{(0)} = 0$$

Since the string shape for $t < 0$ is $y = A \sin(\omega t) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$,

$$Y_1^{(0)} = A \sin(\omega t)$$

where $\omega = (\pi/L) [T_0/\rho]^{1/2}$ [derived in part (c)]. By equating terms of $O(\varepsilon^1)$ we find that

$$\frac{d^2 Y_1^{(1)}}{dt^2} + \omega^2 Y_1^{(1)} = -T_0 \theta(t_0 - t) \theta(t) Y_1^{(0)}$$

The above equation can be solved using Green's function technique as follows: The Green's function satisfies the following

$$\frac{d^2 G}{dt^2} + \omega^2 G = \delta(t - t')$$

G also satisfies the following jump conditions:

$$G(t'_+) = G(t'_-); \quad \frac{dG}{dt}(t'_+) = \frac{dG}{dt}(t'_-) + 1;$$

The Green's function is given by,

$$G(t, t') = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin \omega(t-t')}{\omega} & \text{for } t > t' \\ 0 & \text{for } t < t' \end{cases}$$

The solution of $Y_1^{(1)}$ is given by,

$$Y_1^{(1)}(t) = -\frac{T_0}{\rho} \int G(t, t') \theta(t') \theta(t_0 - t') Y_1^{(0)}(t') dt'$$

Since, $t > t_0 \geq t'$, the solution can be written as,

$$Y_1^{(1)}(t) = -\frac{AT_0}{\rho} \int_0^{t_0} dt' \frac{\sin[\omega(t-t')]}{\omega} \sin \omega t' = -\frac{AT_0}{2\rho\omega} \int_0^{t_0} [\cos(\omega(t-2t')) - \cos(\omega t)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1^{(1)}(t) &= -\frac{AT_0}{2\rho\omega} \int_0^{t_0} [\cos(\omega(t-2t')) - \cos(\omega t)] = -\frac{AT_0}{2\rho\omega} \left[\frac{-\sin(\omega t) + \sin(\omega(2t_0 - t))}{2\omega} - t_0 \cos \omega t \right] \\ &= -\frac{AT_0}{2\rho\omega} \left[\frac{\sin(\omega t_0) \cos(\omega(t_0 - t))}{\omega} - t_0 \cos \omega t \right] \end{aligned}$$

Hence, for $t > t_0$

$$Y(t) = A \sin \omega t - \frac{AT_0 \varepsilon}{2\rho\omega} \left[\frac{\sin(\omega t_0) \cos(\omega(t_0 - t))}{\omega} - t_0 \cos \omega t \right] + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

