

Q State and prove Hamilton's principle for conservative system. Give physical significance.

Ans Statement:- According to Hamilton's principle "The possible path along which a dynamical system may move from one point to another in the configuration space within a given interval of time, the actual path followed is that for which the time integral of the Lagrangian function for the system is an extremum."

Mathematically Hamilton's principle states that the motion of the system from time t_1 to t_2 such that the line integral

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} L dt = I \quad \text{--- --- --- --- ---} \quad (1)$$

where $L = T - V$ is an extremum for time path of motion

Here I is the extremum value of the time integral of the Lagrangian and is known as Hamilton's principle for the path eqⁿ (1) may be represented as in terms of the calculus of variation

$$\delta \int_{t_1}^{t_2} L dt = 0$$

Deduction: \rightarrow Let us consider that the conservative holonomic dynamical system moves from P to Q which are initial and final configuration of the system at time t_1 and t_2 .

Let PQR be the actual path and $PR'Q$ and $PR''Q$ be the two neighbouring paths out of infinite nos of possibilities

For the derivation of H.P, the following assumptions are satisfied.

- (1) δt must be equal to zero at the end point
- (2) δt should be equal to zero at the end point i.e. the point 'P' and 'Q' are fixed in space.

Let us consider the system be acted upon by no of forces represented by F . Let the i th particle acted upon force F_i acquire acceleration γ_i , so that

$$F_i = m_i \gamma_i$$

from D'Alembert's eq particle, we get

$$\sum (F_i - m_i \gamma_i) \cdot \delta r_i = 0$$

$$\sum (F_i \delta r_i - m_i \gamma_i \delta r_i) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma_i \cdot \delta r_i = \frac{d}{dt} (\gamma_i \cdot \delta r_i) - \gamma_i \frac{d}{dt} (\delta r_i) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

If there is little variation in actual and neighbouring paths we have $\delta r_i = r_i' - r_i$ (Let

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\delta r_i) = \frac{d}{dt} (r_i' - r_i) = \frac{d r_i'}{dt} - \frac{d r_i}{dt} = \delta \left\{ \frac{d r_i}{dt} \right\} = \delta v_i$$

from eqⁿ (2)

$$\gamma_i \cdot \delta r_i = \frac{d}{dt} (\gamma_i \cdot \delta r_i) - \gamma_i \cdot \delta (r_i)$$

$$\text{from eqⁿ (1)} \quad \sum_i F_i \delta r_i - \sum_i m_i \left[\frac{d}{dt} (\gamma_i \cdot \delta r_i) - \gamma_i \cdot \delta (r_i) \right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_i F_i \delta r_i - \sum_i m_i \left[\frac{d}{dt} (\gamma_i \cdot \delta r_i) - \delta \left(\frac{1}{2} \gamma_i^2 \right) \right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_i F_i \delta r_i + \delta \left(\frac{1}{2} m_i \gamma_i^2 \right) = \sum_i m_i \frac{d}{dt} (\gamma_i \cdot \delta r_i)$$

In the above equation that $\sum \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2$ is the K.E (T) of the system of the particle and if the forces are conservative $\sum F_i \delta r_i = -\delta V$. Here V is P.E. Then the above eqⁿ becomes

$$\{ \delta T - \delta V \} = \frac{d}{dt} \left[\sum_i (m_i \gamma_i) \delta r_i \right]$$

on integrating from t_1 to t_2 ,

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \delta (T - V) dt = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \frac{d}{dt} \sum_i (m_i \gamma_i) \delta r_i dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (T - V) dt = \sum_i \left[(m_i \gamma_i) \delta r_i \right]_{t_1}^{t_2} = \sum_i \left[(m_i \gamma_i) \delta r_i \right]_P^Q = 0$$

Since $\delta r_i = 0$ at end path point

$$\text{or } \delta \int_{t_1}^{t_2} L dt = 0$$

$$\therefore \int_{t_1}^{t_2} L dt = I = \text{extremum}$$

This is the Hamilton's principle.

Physical Significance:-

Eqⁿ ① represents that the integral of the variation of the K.E plus virtual work done during the virtual displacement from actual to ~~virtual path~~ varied path must be zero which is extended Hamilton's principle.