

K Can Be Chosen Conveniently To Make the Boundary Conditions Match, Where $K = \rho g l^2$. **a) Determine the Explicit Potential Energy Functional, U , as a Definite Integral Over x , And Identify the Integrand f .** **b) Determine the Extremum Solution, $z(x)$,** Which Represents the Cable Configuration That Corresponds To the Minimum Potential Energy, Where You Can Use $K = \rho g l^2$, **And Specify the End Point, (x_0, z_0) , In Terms Of x_0 .** **c) Sketch the 2D Cable Curve,** Where the First End Point Is $(0,1)$, And Second (Elevated) End Point Is (x_0, z_0) , Noting the Specific z_0 Value As a Function Of x_0 , And Describe If the Solution Function, $z(x)$, Is Well Known (Stating Where You Have Seen It Before). **d) Calculate the Potential Energy, U_{straight} , For the Path Which Is the Straight Line Path; Calculate the Potential Energy, U_{low} , For the Low Path That Goes Horizontally Along $z=1$, And Then Vertically Along $x=x_0$; And Calculate the Potential Energy, U_{min} , For Your Minimum Solution Path, $z(x)$,** All Between the Same Two End Points That You Have Identified (As Shown Below), Where All Results Should Be Expressed In the Given Parameters, ρ, g, l, x_0 . **e) Finally, Compare All Potential Energy Results, $U_{\text{straight}}, U_{\text{low}}, U_{\text{min}}$, By Calculating the Ratio, $U / \rho g l^2$, For Dimensionless x_0 Length Values Of $x_0 = 0.1, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0$ (If Necessary, To 5 Decimals), Also, Expand Each Result For a Small $x_0 \ll 1$, Up To the First Two Lowest Order Powers In x_0 , So That You Can Finally Give An**