

So, since  $\frac{x}{a} \ll 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2} &\approx 1 - \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^4 - \dots \\ &\approx 1 - \frac{x^2}{a^2} \\ &\approx 1 \end{aligned}$$

In our case, that means the accel on particle in X-dir is approximately

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} &\approx -\left(\frac{10E}{ma^2}\right) x \left[ 1 - \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{x^4}{a^4} - \dots \right] \\ &\approx -\left(\frac{10E}{ma^2}\right) x [1] \\ \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} &\approx -\left(\frac{10E}{ma^2}\right) x \quad \text{therefore SHM} \end{aligned}$$

c) Frequency of motion given by

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \approx -\omega^2 x$$

$$\rightarrow \omega = \sqrt{\frac{10E}{ma^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{10(6 \times 10^{-11} \text{ kg} \cdot \frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{s}^2})}{(2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ kg})(3.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m})^2}}$$

$$\omega = 1.56 \times 10^3 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}$$