

Prob 1  $\vec{v} = \dot{r} \hat{r} + r \dot{\theta} \hat{\theta} + r \sin(\theta) \dot{\phi} \hat{\phi}$

$$v^2 = \dot{r}^2 + (r \dot{\theta})^2 + (r \dot{\phi} \sin \theta)^2$$

$$\mathcal{L}(r, \theta, \phi, \dot{r}, \dot{\theta}, \dot{\phi}) = T - U = \frac{1}{2} m (\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + r^2 \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta) - U(r)$$

The r Equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial r} = m r \dot{\theta}^2 + m r \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta - U'(r)$$

(For this prob,  $U$  is a function of  $r$  only)

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{r}} = m \dot{r}$$

$$m r \dot{\theta}^2 + m r \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta - U'(r) = m \ddot{r}$$

$$F_r = m (\ddot{r} - r \dot{\theta}^2 - r \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta)$$

$$F_r = m a_r$$

radial acceleration =  $\vec{a} \cdot \hat{r}$

The  $\theta$  Equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta} = m r^2 \dot{\phi}^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = m r^2 \dot{\theta}$$

$$m r^2 \dot{\phi}^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta = m r^2 \ddot{\theta} + 2 m r \dot{r} \dot{\theta}$$

$$0 = r \ddot{\theta} + 2 \dot{r} \dot{\theta} - r \dot{\phi}^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$0 = \vec{a} \cdot \hat{\theta}$$

The  $\phi$  Equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\phi}} = m r^2 \dot{\phi} \sin^2 \theta = m (r \sin \theta)^2 \dot{\phi}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Note: } \hat{z} \cdot (\vec{r} \times \vec{v}) = \vec{v} \cdot (\hat{z} \times \vec{r}) = \vec{v} \cdot (r \sin \theta \hat{\phi}) = (r \sin \theta)^2 \dot{\phi} \end{array} \right\} \boxed{L_z = \text{const}}$$

(z-component of angular momentum)



$$\textcircled{2} (a) \quad \left. \begin{aligned} q_1 &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ q_2 &= \sqrt{(x-a)^2 + y^2} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$x = \frac{q_1^2 - q_2^2 + a^2}{2a}$$

$$y = \sqrt{q_1^2 - x^2} = y(q_1, q_2)$$

$\uparrow x(q_1, q_2)$

$$\dot{x} = \frac{1}{a}(q_1 \dot{q}_1 - q_2 \dot{q}_2), \quad \dot{y} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial y}{\partial q_1} \dot{q}_1}_{\leftarrow} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial y}{\partial q_2} \dot{q}_2}_{\rightarrow}$$

These are functions of  $(q_1, q_2)$ . Evaluate later.

$$\mathcal{L}(q_1, q_2, \dot{q}_1, \dot{q}_2) = \frac{m}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{a^2} (q_1 \dot{q}_1 - q_2 \dot{q}_2)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial y}{\partial q_1} \dot{q}_1 + \frac{\partial y}{\partial q_2} \dot{q}_2 \right)^2 \right] - U(q_1, q_2)$$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial q_1} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{y} \left( 2q_1 - 2x \frac{\partial x}{\partial q_1} \right) = \frac{q_1 - x \frac{\partial x}{\partial q_1}}{y} \quad \leftarrow \frac{q_1}{a}$$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial q_2} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{y} \left( -2x \frac{\partial x}{\partial q_2} \right) = -\frac{x}{y} \frac{\partial x}{\partial q_2} \quad \leftarrow -\frac{q_2}{a}$$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial y}{\partial q_1} &= \frac{q_1 - x q_1 / a}{y} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial q_2} &= \frac{x q_2}{y a} \end{aligned}}$$

part (b)  
 $U(q_1, q_2)$   
 $= -mgy(q_1, q_2)$

### Problem 3

$$(a) \quad T = \frac{1}{8} m a^2 (\cosh^2 \mu - \cos^2 \nu) (\dot{\mu}^2 + \dot{\nu}^2)$$

$$(b) \quad \begin{aligned} q_1 &= \frac{a}{2} (\cosh \mu + \cos \nu) \\ q_2 &= \frac{a}{2} (\cosh \mu - \cos \nu) \end{aligned}$$

## Taylor 7.8

### Part a

The Lagrangian is:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}_2^2 - \frac{1}{2}k(x_1 - x_2 - l)^2$$

### Part b

Letting  $X = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2)$  and  $x = x_1 - x_2 - l$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{X}^2 + \frac{1}{4}\dot{x}^2 &= \left[ \frac{1}{2}(\dot{x}_1 + \dot{x}_2) \right]^2 + \frac{1}{4}[\dot{x}_1 - \dot{x}_2]^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4}[\dot{x}_1^2 + 2\dot{x}_1\dot{x}_2 + \dot{x}_2^2] + \frac{1}{4}[\dot{x}_1^2 - 2\dot{x}_1\dot{x}_2 + \dot{x}_2^2] \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\dot{x}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}\dot{x}_2^2\end{aligned}$$

Substituting:

$$\mathcal{L} = m\dot{X}^2 + \frac{1}{4}m\dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

Then Lagrange's equations of motion are:

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial X} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{X}} = 0 - \frac{d}{dt} 2m\dot{X} = -2m\ddot{X} \\0 &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}} = -kx - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x} = -kx - \frac{1}{2}m\ddot{x}\end{aligned}$$

### 2.3 Part c

Let  $\omega^2 = \frac{2k}{m}$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned}X(t) &= X(0) + \dot{X}(0) t \\x(t) &= A \cos(\omega t - \delta)\end{aligned}$$

The first equation says that  $X$  (the center of mass) moves with constant velocity, while the second equation says that  $x$  (the extension of the spring relative to equilibrium) oscillates.

## Taylor 7.14

Because the yoyo rolls around the string without slipping,  $\dot{x} = \omega R$ . The moment of inertia of a cylinder is  $I = \frac{1}{2}mR^2$ , thus the Lagrangian is:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2 - mg(-x) \\ &= \frac{3}{4}m\dot{x}^2 + mgx\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, Lagrange's equation of motion is:

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}} \\ &= mg - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{3}{2}m\dot{x} \\ &= mg - \frac{3}{2}m\ddot{x}\end{aligned}$$

Hence the downwards acceleration is  $\ddot{x} = \frac{2}{3}g$ .

## Taylor 7.33

Say the motion is in the  $yz$ -plane with  $z$  vertical, then the position and the velocity are:

$$\vec{r} = x \cos \omega t \hat{y} + x \sin \omega t \hat{z}$$

$$\dot{\vec{r}} = (\dot{x} \cos \omega t - \omega x \sin \omega t) \hat{y} + (\dot{x} \sin \omega t + \omega x \cos \omega t) \hat{z}$$

Therefore, the kinetic energy is:

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \frac{1}{2} m \left\| \dot{\vec{r}} \right\|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} m \left[ (\dot{x}^2 \cos^2 \omega t - 2\omega x \dot{x} \cos \omega t \sin \omega t + \omega^2 x^2 \sin^2 \omega t) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (\dot{x}^2 \sin^2 \omega t + 2\omega x \dot{x} \cos \omega t \sin \omega t + \omega^2 x^2 \cos^2 \omega t) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} m [\dot{x}^2 + \omega^2 x^2] \end{aligned}$$

Thus the Lagrangian is:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} m [\dot{x}^2 + \omega^2 x^2] - mgx \sin \omega t$$

Lagrange's equation of motion become:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}} \\ &= [m\omega^2 x - mg \sin \omega t] - \frac{d}{dt} [m\dot{x}] \\ &= m\omega^2 x - mg \sin \omega t - m\ddot{x} \end{aligned}$$

Or, rewriting:

$$\ddot{x} - \omega^2 x = -g \sin \omega t$$

The general solution of the homogeneous differential equation is  $x_h = C_- e^{-\omega t} + C_+ e^{\omega t}$ . For a particular solution, guess the ansatz  $x_p = A \sin \omega t$ , then:

$$-\omega^2 A \sin \omega t - \omega^2 A \sin \omega t = -g \sin \omega t$$

Thus  $A = \frac{g}{2\omega^2}$ , which yields the general solution:

$$x = \frac{g}{2\omega^2} \sin \omega t + C_- e^{-\omega t} + C_+ e^{\omega t}$$

The initial conditions are  $x(0) = x_0$  and  $\dot{x}(0) = 0$ , and substituting:

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 &= C_- + C_+ \\ 0 &= \frac{g}{2\omega} - \omega C_- + \omega C_+ \end{aligned}$$

The solution is  $C_+ = \frac{x_0}{2} - \frac{g}{4\omega^2}$  and  $C_- = \frac{x_0}{2} + \frac{g}{4\omega^2}$ . Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{g}{2\omega^2} \sin \omega t + \left( \frac{x_0}{2} + \frac{g}{4\omega^2} \right) e^{-\omega t} + \left( \frac{x_0}{2} - \frac{g}{4\omega^2} \right) e^{\omega t} \\ &= \frac{g}{2\omega^2} \sin \omega t + x_0 \cosh \omega t - \frac{g}{2\omega^2} \sinh \omega t \end{aligned}$$

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