

Double Pendulum

Equations of Motion

This notebook shows derivation of the equations of motion for the double pendulum simulation. See http://www.mypphysicslab.com/dbl_pendulum.html.

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We regard y as increasing upwards. Origin is at the fixed base pivot.

θ_1 is the angle at the (fixed) base pivot between the rod and the downward vertical position.

θ_2 is the angle between the downward vertical from mass 1 and the second rod.

d is the derivative operator with respect to time.

L_1, L_2 are the lengths of the rods.

m_1, m_2 are masses.

g is gravitational constant.

x_1, y_1 is position of mass 1.

x_2, y_2 is position of mass 2.

We start with the following:

$$x_1 = L_1 \sin[\theta_1]$$

$$y_1 = -L_1 \cos[\theta_1]$$

$$x_2 = x_1 + L_2 \sin[\theta_2]$$

$$y_2 = y_1 - L_2 \cos[\theta_2]$$

Then take two derivatives to get $dd\theta_1$ and $dd\theta_2$ as given below.

Naming convention: the letter d indicates derivative (with respect to time), dd indicates second derivative. For example:

$$x_1' = dx_1$$

$$x_1'' = ddx_1$$

$$\theta_1' = d\theta_1$$

$$\theta_1'' = dd\theta_1$$

$$ddx_1 = -d\theta_1^2 L_1 \sin[\theta_1] + dd\theta_1 L_1 \cos[\theta_1]$$

General::spell11 :

Possible spelling error: new symbol name "dd\theta_1" is similar to existing symbol "d\theta_1".

$$dd\theta_1 L_1 \cos[\theta_1] - d\theta_1^2 L_1 \sin[\theta_1]$$

$$ddy_1 = d\theta_1^2 L_1 \cos[\theta_1] + dd\theta_1 L_1 \sin[\theta_1]$$

General::spell11 :

Possible spelling error: new symbol name "ddy_1" is similar to existing symbol "ddx_1".

$$d\theta_1^2 L_1 \cos[\theta_1] + dd\theta_1 L_1 \sin[\theta_1]$$

$$ddx_2 = ddx_1 - d\theta_2^2 L_2 \sin[\theta_2] + dd\theta_2 L_2 \cos[\theta_2]$$

General::spell11 :

Possible spelling error: new symbol name "dd\theta_2" is similar to existing symbol "d\theta_2".

$$dd\theta_1 L_1 \cos[\theta_1] + dd\theta_2 L_2 \cos[\theta_2] - d\theta_1^2 L_1 \sin[\theta_1] - d\theta_2^2 L_2 \sin[\theta_2]$$

$$ddy_2 = ddy_1 + d\theta_2^2 L_2 \cos[\theta_2] + dd\theta_2 L_2 \sin[\theta_2]$$

General::spell11 :

Possible spelling error: new symbol name "ddy_2" is similar to existing symbol "ddx_2".

$$d\theta_1^2 L_1 \cos[\theta_1] + d\theta_2^2 L_2 \cos[\theta_2] + dd\theta_1 L_1 \sin[\theta_1] + dd\theta_2 L_2 \sin[\theta_2]$$

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eq1 = -Cos[θ1] (m1 ddx1 + m2 ddx2) == Sin[θ1] (m1 ddy1 + m2 ddy2 + m2 g + m1 g)

-Cos[θ1] (m1 (ddθ1 L1 Cos[θ1] - dθ12 L1 Sin[θ1]) +
  m2 (ddθ1 L1 Cos[θ1] + ddθ2 L2 Cos[θ2] - dθ12 L1 Sin[θ1] - dθ22 L2 Sin[θ2])) ==
Sin[θ1] (g m1 + g m2 + m1 (dθ12 L1 Cos[θ1] + ddθ1 L1 Sin[θ1]) +
  m2 (dθ12 L1 Cos[θ1] + dθ22 L2 Cos[θ2] + ddθ1 L1 Sin[θ1] + ddθ2 L2 Sin[θ2]))

eq2 = -Cos[θ2] m2 ddx2 == Sin[θ2] (m2 ddy2 + m2 g)

-m2 Cos[θ2] (ddθ1 L1 Cos[θ1] + ddθ2 L2 Cos[θ2] - dθ12 L1 Sin[θ1] - dθ22 L2 Sin[θ2]) ==
Sin[θ2] (g m2 + m2 (dθ12 L1 Cos[θ1] + dθ22 L2 Cos[θ2] + ddθ1 L1 Sin[θ1] + ddθ2 L2 Sin[θ2]))

Solve[{eq1, eq2}, {ddθ1, ddθ2}] // Simplify

{{ddθ1 →
  - (g (2 m1 + m2) Sin[θ1] + m2 (g Sin[θ1 - 2 θ2] + 2 (dθ22 L2 + dθ12 L1 Cos[θ1 - θ2]) Sin[θ1 - θ2])) /
  (L1 (2 m1 + m2 - m2 Cos[2 (θ1 - θ2)])) ,
ddθ2 → (2 (dθ12 L1 (m1 + m2) + g (m1 + m2) Cos[θ1] + dθ22 L2 m2 Cos[θ1 - θ2]) Sin[θ1 - θ2]) /
  (L2 (2 m1 + m2 - m2 Cos[2 (θ1 - θ2)])) }}

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