

This is the title

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1 Introduction

Theorem 1.1 (Newton's 2nd law). The force acting on a particle is related to

$$\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a} \quad (1)$$

The Kepler's problem in 2D is shown in the figure below. Where the force

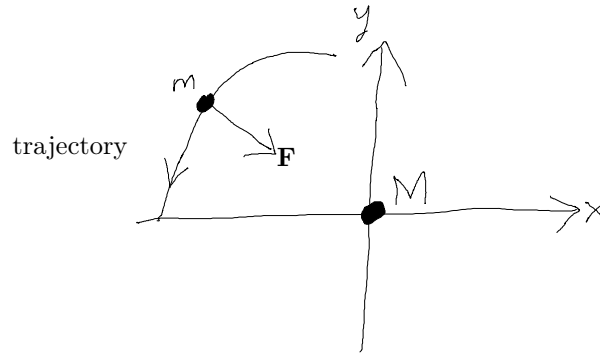


Figure 1: L1F1

follow the inverse square law

$$\left| \mathbf{F} = \frac{GMm}{x^2 + y^2} \right| \quad (2)$$

We switch to 2D polar coordinates (r, θ) , where

$$x = r \cos \theta \quad (3)$$

$$y = r \sin \theta \quad (4)$$

The new basic vector is $\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta$, they are not fixed, they are defined as

$$\mathbf{r} = r\mathbf{e}_r \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \dot{\mathbf{r}} = \dot{r}\mathbf{e}_r + r\dot{\theta}\mathbf{e}_\theta \quad (6)$$

$$\mathbf{a} = (\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2)\mathbf{e}_r + (r\ddot{\theta} + 2\dot{r}\dot{\theta})\mathbf{e}_\theta \quad (7)$$

The general coordinate system such as spherical polar can be complicated.

1.1 Constraint force

Simple example is the simple pendulum The equation of motion is given by

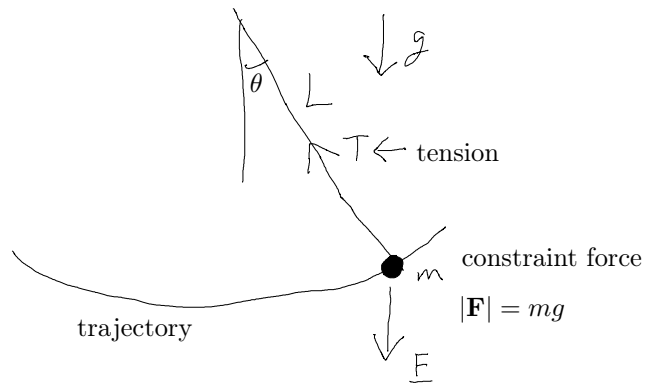


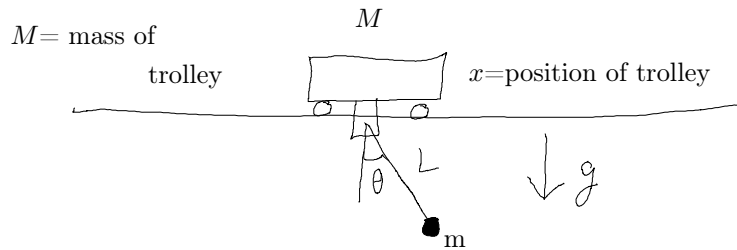
Figure 2: L1F2

$$\ddot{\theta} = -\frac{g}{L} \sin \theta \quad (8)$$

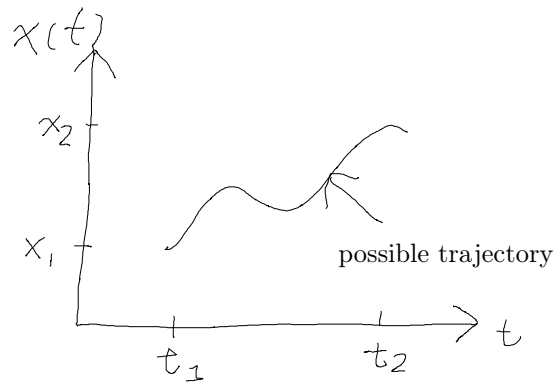
A more intricate problem is shown in figure 3

We cannot analyse constraint force, need a sidestep using a variational principle. 'Hamilton's principle' or 'principle of least action'.

Consider the trajectory of a particle (1d) mass m



Figuur 3: L1F3



Figuur 4: L1F4

$$x_1 = x(t_1) = \text{initial position} \quad (9)$$

$$x_2 = x(t_2) = \text{final position} \quad (10)$$

Consider the integral

$$S = \int_{t_1}^t L \, dt \quad (11)$$

Where S is the action, L is the Lagrangian defined as

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2 - V(x) = T - V \quad (12)$$

Where $V(x)$ is the potential energy. It is defined through

$$F(x) = -\frac{dV}{dx} \quad (13)$$

Where the force F is conservative. One can compute the action S for any hyperthetical trajectory. The trajectory that minimizes S is the true trajectory of particle.

2 Calculus of Variation