

- (1) 1D oscillator: A block whose mass  $m$  is 1000g is tied to a spring whose spring constant  $k$  is 65 N/m. The block is pulled a distance  $x = 11\text{cm}$  from its equilibrium position at  $x = 0$ . Assume that the surface is frictionless and the block is released from rest at  $t = 0$ .
- What are the angular frequency, the frequency and the period of the resulting motion?
  - What is the amplitude of the oscillation?
  - What is the maximum speed  $\nu_m$  of the oscillating block, and where is the block when it occurs?
  - What is the magnitude  $a_m$  of the maximum acceleration of the block?
  - What is the phase constant  $\phi$  of the motion?
  - What is the displacement function  $x(t)$  for the spring-block system?
  - What is the mechanical energy  $E$  of the linear oscillator when the block's position is at  $x = 11\text{cm}$  and its speed is  $\nu = 0\text{cm/s}$ ?
  - What is the potential energy  $U$  and kinetic energy  $K$  of the oscillator when the block is at  $x = \frac{1}{2}x_m$ ? What are they when the block is at  $x = -\frac{1}{2}x_m$ ?
  - Write a simple program in MATLAB or Python to graph the position, velocity and acceleration of a particle as a function of time executing a simple harmonic motion given the input parameters of initial position, force constant, mass and position of maximum displacement are given. Make a plot for the above parameters.
  - Also plot, using your program  $x(t)$  versus  $v(t)$ . What is the shape of this graph? Why? What you have drawn is a 'phase diagram'! This is the set of all possible paths that the particle can take given a certain set of initial conditions. If you change the initial conditions, you will simply trace out another curve (that does not cross the previous one) and so on.
- (2) 2D oscillator The restoring force for a particle moving in 2D is  $\mathbf{F} = -k_x\hat{x} - k_y\hat{y}$  giving us the components  $F_x = -k_x$  and  $F_y = -k_y$ . This gives us the equations of motion

$$\ddot{x} + \omega_x^2 x = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\ddot{y} + \omega_y^2 y = 0 \quad (2)$$

where  $\omega_x = \sqrt{k_x/m}$  and  $\omega_y = \sqrt{k_y/m}$  with solutions

$$x(t) = A \cos(\omega_x t - \alpha) \quad (3)$$

$$y(t) = B \cos(\omega_y t - \beta) \quad (4)$$

where the frequency, amplitude and phase can be different along  $\hat{x}$  and  $\hat{y}$  directions.

- We can obtain the equation for the path of the particle by eliminating the time  $t$  between the two quantities  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$ . Add and subtract  $\alpha$  inside the cos term in  $y(t)$ , and use the sum of angles in cosines trigonometric identity to get a term containing  $(\alpha - \beta)$ .
- Let's define  $\delta \equiv \alpha - \beta$ , and assume  $\omega_x = \omega_y = \omega_0$ . Use the expression in Eq. 3 to get the expression

$$Ay - Bx \cos(\delta) = -B\sqrt{A^2 - x^2} \sin(\delta). \quad (5)$$

- Square Eq. 5 on both sides and group the terms so that all the  $x$  and  $y$  terms are to one side of the equation.
- Set  $\delta = \pm\pi/2$ . What is the form of the equation you have obtained? Write a program to plot  $x$  versus  $y$ .
- Set  $\delta = \pm\pi/2$  and  $A = B$ . What is the form of the equation you have now? Write a program to plot  $x$  versus  $y$ .

- (f) Set  $\delta = 0$ . What is the form of the equation now? How about if you set  $\delta = \pm\pi$ ? Plot these two cases as well.
- (g) In your program, now make a plot of  $x$  versus  $y$  for  $\delta = 90^\circ, 120^\circ, 150^\circ, 180^\circ, 210^\circ, 240^\circ, 270^\circ, 300^\circ, 330^\circ$  and  $360^\circ$ . Make sure to use a subplot feature of the software so that we can see the 10 plots as 10 panels in the same figure with a label under each subplot panel of that particular  $\delta$  value.
- (h) Can we comment on the direction in which the particle is moving in 2D in each of the above cases?
- (i) Now assume that  $\omega_x \neq \omega_y$ ,  $A = B$  and  $\delta = 0$ . In a program, generate two arrays  $x$  and  $y$  using the parameters  $\omega_x = [1, 3, 5, 7]$  and  $\omega_y = [2, 4, 6, 8]$  and  $A = B = 1$  as a function of time according to Eqs 3 and 4. Now plot  $x$  versus  $y$  for each of these cases (you should get 16 plots in all) in one figure with 16 panels and their corresponding labels of the  $(\omega_x, \omega_y)$  set of parameters. What sort of behaviors do you see? Are all figures showing closed loops? Such figures have a name – Lissajous figures (after the French physicist Jules Lissajous in the 19th century).