

$N$  coupled harmonic oscillators

$$F_{i,i+1} = -k(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_{i+1}) = -m\omega^2(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_{i+1})$$

$$V_{i,i+1} = -\frac{1}{2}m\omega^2(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_{i+1})^2$$

The Lagrangian is

$$L = K - V$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2}m\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_{i+1})^2$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{x}_i^2 + \dot{y}_i^2) + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2[(x_i - x_{i+1})^2 + (y_i - y_{i+1})^2]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2}m\dot{y}_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2(x_i - x_{i+1})^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2(y_i - y_{i+1})^2$$

Lagrange's equations are

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} = 0$$

There are two equations of motion per particle.

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}_j} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial x_j} = \frac{d}{dt}(m\dot{x}_j) + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 \cdot 2(x_j - x_{j+1}) - \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 \cdot 2(x_{j-1} - x_j) = m\ddot{x}_j + m\omega^2(x_j - x_j)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{y}_j} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial y_j} = m\ddot{y}_j + m\omega^2(y_j - y_{j+1}) - m\omega^2(y_{j-1} - y_j) = 0$$

Which alternatively can be written as a system of four coupled first order differential equations.

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{v}_{x,j} &= -\omega^2(x_j - x_{j+1}) + \omega^2(x_{j-1} - x_j) \\ \dot{v}_{y,j} &= -\omega^2(y_j - y_{j+1}) + \omega^2(y_{j-1} - y_j) \\ \dot{x}_j &= v_{x,j} \\ \dot{y}_j &= v_{y,j}\end{aligned}$$

Simplified:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{v}_{x,j} &= \omega^2(x_{j-1} - 2x_j + x_{j+1}) \\ \dot{v}_{y,j} &= \omega^2(y_{j-1} - 2y_j + y_{j+1}) \\ \dot{x}_j &= v_{x,j} \\ \dot{y}_j &= v_{y,j}\end{aligned}$$

Boundary conditions:

$$\dot{v}_{x,1} = \dot{v}_{x,N} = 0$$

Initial conditions:

$$x_i(0) = il, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

$$y_i(0) = 0 \quad \forall \quad i$$

$$v_{x,j}(0) = 0 \quad \forall \quad i$$

$$v_{y,j}(0) = \text{To be determined.}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \heartsuit & 0 \\ 0 & \heartsuit \end{bmatrix}$$