

Solutions Manual to Mechanics

Hiromichi Inawashiro

January 25, 2026

Contents

1 The Equations of Motion	1
---------------------------	---

1 The Equations of Motion

1.1

Let the field be a uniform gravitational one with the acceleration g . Let the system be a coplanar double pendulum of the strings with the lengths l_1 and l_2 and the particles with masses m_1 and m_2 with the angles ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 from the y axis. Then,

$$\mathbf{r}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 \sin \phi_1 \\ l_1 \cos \phi_1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{r}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 \sin \phi_1 + l_2 \sin \phi_2 \\ l_1 \cos \phi_1 + l_2 \cos \phi_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.1)$$

so that

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 \dot{\phi}_1 \cos \phi_1 \\ -l_1 \dot{\phi}_1 \sin \phi_1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 \dot{\phi}_1 \cos \phi_1 + l_2 \dot{\phi}_2 \cos \phi_2 \\ -l_1 \dot{\phi}_1 \sin \phi_1 - l_2 \dot{\phi}_2 \sin \phi_2 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (1.2)$$

The Lagrangian is given by

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m_1\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2 + m_1 g r_{1y} + \frac{1}{2}m_2\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2 + m_2 g r_{2y}. \quad (1.3)$$

The right hand side can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2}m_1 l_1^2 \dot{\phi}_1^2 + m_1 g l_1 \cos \phi_1 \\ & + \frac{1}{2}m_2 \left(l_1^2 \dot{\phi}_1^2 + l_2^2 \dot{\phi}_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2 \dot{\phi}_1 \dot{\phi}_2 \cos(\phi_1 - \phi_2) \right) \\ & + m_2 g (l_1 \cos \phi_1 + l_2 \cos \phi_2). \end{aligned} \quad (1.4)$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} L = & \frac{1}{2}(m_1 + m_2)l_1^2 \dot{\phi}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2 l_2^2 \dot{\phi}_2^2 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\phi}_1 \dot{\phi}_2 \cos(\phi_1 - \phi_2) \\ & + (m_1 + m_2)g l_1 \cos \phi_1 + m_2 g l_2 \cos \phi_2. \end{aligned} \quad (1.5)$$

1.2

Let the field be a uniform gravitational one with the acceleration g . Let the system be a pendulum of the string with the length l and the particles with

the mass m_1 at the point of support which can move on the x axis and the mass m_2 at the end of the string with the angle ϕ from the y axis. Then,

$$\mathbf{r}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{r}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} x + l \sin \phi \\ l \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.6)$$

so that

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} + l \dot{\phi} \cos \phi \\ -l \dot{\phi} \sin \phi \end{bmatrix}. \quad (1.7)$$

Then, the Lagrangian is given by

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m_1\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2 + m_1 g r_{1y} + \frac{1}{2}m_2\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2 + m_2 g r_{2y}. \quad (1.8)$$

The right hand side can be written as

$$\frac{1}{2}m_1\dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2\left(\dot{x}^2 + l^2\dot{\phi}^2 + 2\dot{x}l\dot{\phi} \cos \phi\right) + m_2gl \cos \phi. \quad (1.9)$$

Therefore,

$$L = \frac{1}{2}(m_1 + m_2)\dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2l^2\dot{\phi}^2 + m_2\dot{x}l\dot{\phi} \cos \phi + m_2gl \cos \phi. \quad (1.10)$$

1.3

Let the field be a uniform gravitational one with the acceleration g . Let the system be a pendulum of the string with the length l and the particle with the mass m with the angle ϕ from the y axis.

(a)

If the point of support moves according to the law

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \cos \gamma t \\ a \sin \gamma t \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.11)$$

then

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{bmatrix} a \cos \gamma t + l \sin \phi \\ a \sin \gamma t + l \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.12)$$

so that

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -a\gamma \sin \gamma t + l \dot{\phi} \cos \phi \\ -a\gamma \cos \gamma t - l \dot{\phi} \sin \phi \end{bmatrix}. \quad (1.13)$$

Then, the Lagrangian is given by

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m\|\mathbf{v}\|^2 + mgr_y. \quad (1.14)$$

Therefore,

$$L = \frac{1}{2}ma^2\gamma^2 + \frac{1}{2}ml^2\dot{\phi}^2 + mal\gamma\dot{\phi}\sin(\phi - \gamma t) + mg(a\sin\gamma t + l\cos\phi). \quad (1.15)$$

(b)

If the point of support moves according to the law

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a\cos\gamma t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.16)$$

then

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{bmatrix} a\cos\gamma t + l\sin\phi \\ l\cos\phi \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.17)$$

so that

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -a\gamma\sin\gamma t + l\dot{\phi}\cos\phi \\ -l\dot{\phi}\sin\phi \end{bmatrix}. \quad (1.18)$$

Then, the Lagrangian is given by

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m\|\mathbf{v}\|^2 + mgr_y. \quad (1.19)$$

Therefore,

$$L = \frac{1}{2}ma^2\gamma^2\sin^2\gamma t + \frac{1}{2}ml^2\dot{\phi}^2 - mal\gamma\dot{\phi}\sin\gamma t\cos\phi + mgl\cos\phi. \quad (1.20)$$