

# Penning Trap Lagrangian

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Lagrangian in the lab frame:

$$L = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ \frac{1}{2} m_i (\dot{x}_i^2 + \dot{y}_i^2 + \dot{z}_i^2) - \frac{1}{2} m_i \omega_z^2 \left( z_i^2 - \frac{x_i^2 + y_i^2}{2} \right) - \frac{1}{2} m_i \omega_z^2 G V_w \left[ (x_i^2 - y_i^2) \cos 2\omega t - 2x_i y_i \sin 2\omega t \right] - \frac{eB}{2} (\dot{x}_i y_i - \dot{y}_i x_i) - \frac{ke^2}{2} \sum_{j \neq i}^N \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \right] \quad (1)$$

with  $\frac{\omega_z}{2\pi}$  the axial trapping frequency,  $\frac{\omega_z}{2\pi}$  the crystal rotation frequency,  $G$  a geometrical factor relating trap electrodes, and  $V_w$  relating to the strength of the rotating wall potential. Moving to a frame rotating at  $\omega$  we have the new Lagrangian:

$$L = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ \frac{1}{2} m_i (\dot{x}_i^2 + \dot{y}_i^2 + \dot{z}_i^2) + \frac{1}{2} m_i \left( 2\omega - \frac{eB}{m_i} \right) (\dot{x}_i y_i - \dot{y}_i x_i) - \frac{1}{2} m_i \omega_z^2 z_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_i \left( \omega^2 + \frac{\omega_z^2}{2} - \frac{eB\omega}{m_i} \right) (x_i^2 + y_i^2) - \frac{1}{2} m_i \omega_z^2 G V_w (x_i^2 - y_i^2) - \frac{ke^2}{2} \sum_{j \neq i}^N \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \right] \quad (2)$$

with all coordinates in rotating frame. Let's write the characteristic length and time scales as  $l_0^3 = \frac{ke^2}{\frac{1}{2} m_{Be} \omega_z^2}$  and  $t_0 = \frac{1}{\omega_z}$  where  $m_{Be}$  is the Beryllium ion mass. We also write the cyclotron frequency  $\frac{eB}{m_{Be}} = \omega_c \omega_z$  and the rotation frequency as  $\omega = \omega_r \omega_z$ . With these definitions and substitutions we divide the Lagrangian by  $\frac{ke^2}{t_0}$ :

$$L = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ m_i (\dot{x}_i^2 + \dot{y}_i^2 + \dot{z}_i^2) + m_i \left( 2\omega_r - \frac{\omega_c}{m_i} \right) (\dot{x}_i y_i - \dot{y}_i x_i) - m_i z_i^2 + m_i \left( \omega_r^2 + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\omega_c \omega_r}{m_i} \right) (x_i^2 + y_i^2) - G V_w m_i (x_i^2 - y_i^2) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq i}^N \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \right] \quad (3)$$

with all coordinates in dimensionless form and  $m_i$  overloaded as fraction of Beryllium ion mass.

Now we expand the Lagrangian about the equilibrium positions in all variables. We assume at equilibrium all velocities are zero and force a planar structure so that all  $z_i = 0$ . This causes the

expanded Lagrangian to separate in to a Lagrangian for the axial direction and one in the plane. For the axial direction,

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{z}_\alpha} = -2m_\alpha z_\alpha + \sum_{j \neq \alpha}^N \frac{z_\alpha - z_j}{r_{\alpha j}^3} \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial z_\alpha} = 2m_\alpha \dot{z}_\alpha \quad (5)$$

which both vanish at equilibrium as do the partials involving x and z or y and z (or  $\dot{z}$ ). The only partials that don't vanish at equilibrium are

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{z}_\beta} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{z}_\alpha} = 2m_\alpha \delta_{\alpha\beta} \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial z_\beta} \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_\alpha} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} \left[ -2m_\alpha + \sum_{j \neq \alpha}^N \frac{r_{\alpha j}^2 - 3(z_\alpha - z_j)^2}{r_{\alpha j}^5} \right] - (1 - \delta_{\alpha\beta}) \frac{r_{\alpha\beta}^2 - 3(z_\alpha - z_\beta)^2}{r_{\alpha\beta}^5} \quad (7)$$

Thus, the expanded Lagrangian in the axial direction is

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N 2m_i \dot{z}_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j}^N z_i z_j \left( \delta_{ij} \left[ -2m_i + \sum_{k \neq i}^N \frac{1}{\bar{r}_{ik}^3} \right] - (1 - \delta_{ij}) \frac{1}{\bar{r}_{ij}^3} \right) \quad (8)$$

where  $z_i$  is overloaded to be the distance away from equilibrium position and  $\bar{r}_{ji}$  is the equilibrium distance between ions.

We now Taylor expand the Lagrangian in  $x_i$ ,  $y_i$ ,  $\dot{x}_i$ , and  $\dot{y}_i$ . I'll write out all the derivatives explicitly:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_\alpha} = -m_\alpha [2\omega_r - \omega_c] \dot{y}_\alpha + 2m_\alpha \left( \omega_r^2 + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\omega_r \omega_c}{m_\alpha} - GV_w \right) x_\alpha + \sum_{j \neq \alpha}^N \frac{x_\alpha - x_j}{r_{\alpha j}^3} \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial y_\alpha} = m_\alpha [2\omega_r - \omega_c] \dot{x}_\alpha + 2m_\alpha \left( \omega_r^2 + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\omega_r \omega_c}{m_\alpha} + GV_w \right) y_\alpha + \sum_{j \neq \alpha}^N \frac{y_\alpha - y_j}{r_{\alpha j}^3} \quad (10)$$

The above derivatives vanish at equilibrium, by definition. The following two derivatives DO NOT vanish...

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}_\alpha} = 2m_\alpha \dot{x}_\alpha + m_\alpha [2\omega_r - \omega_c] y_\alpha \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{y}_\alpha} = 2m_\alpha \dot{y}_\alpha - m_\alpha [2\omega_r - \omega_c] x_\alpha \quad (12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\alpha} L &= \delta_{\alpha\beta} \left[ 2m_\alpha \left( \omega_r^2 + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\omega_r \omega_c}{m_\alpha} - GV_w \right) + \sum_{j \neq \alpha}^N \frac{r_{\alpha j}^2 - 3(x_\alpha - x_j)^2}{r_{\alpha j}^5} \right] + \\ &\quad - (1 - \delta_{\alpha\beta}) \frac{r_{\alpha\beta}^2 - 3(x_\alpha - x_\beta)^2}{r_{\alpha\beta}^5} \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_\alpha} L &= \delta_{\alpha\beta} \left[ 2m_\alpha \left( \omega_r^2 + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\omega_r \omega_c}{m_\alpha} + GV_w \right) + \sum_{j \neq \alpha}^N \frac{r_{\alpha j}^2 - 3(y_\alpha - y_j)^2}{r_{\alpha j}^5} \right] + \\ &\quad - (1 - \delta_{\alpha\beta}) \frac{r_{\alpha\beta}^2 - 3(y_\alpha - y_\beta)^2}{r_{\alpha\beta}^5} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{x}_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{x}_\alpha} L = 2m_\alpha \delta_{\alpha\beta} \quad (15)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{y}_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{y}_\alpha} L = 2m_\alpha \delta_{\alpha\beta} \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{x}_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\alpha} L = 0 \quad (17)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{y}_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_\alpha} L = 0 \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{y}_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\alpha} L = -m_\alpha \delta_{\alpha\beta} [2\omega_r - \omega_c] \quad (19)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{x}_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_\alpha} L = m_\alpha \delta_{\alpha\beta} [2\omega_r - \omega_c] \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y_\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\alpha} L = \delta_{\alpha\beta} \left[ -3 \sum_{j \neq \alpha}^N \frac{(y_\alpha - y_j)(x_\alpha - x_j)}{r_{\alpha j}^5} \right] + (1 - \delta_{\alpha\beta}) 3 \frac{(y_\alpha - y_\beta)(x_\alpha - x_\beta)}{r_{\alpha\beta}^5} \quad (21)$$

Thus the expanded Lagrangian is:

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N 2m_i (\dot{x}_i^2 + \dot{y}_i^2) + m_i (2\omega_r - \omega_c) (\dot{x}_i(2\bar{y}_i + y_i) - \dot{y}_i(2\bar{x}_i + x_i)) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q}^T V \mathbf{q} \quad (22)$$

where  $x_i$ , etc is overloaded to be distance away from equilibrium position  $\bar{x}_i$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  is appropriate vector of positions to make sense with  $V$  as matrix of derivatives (Hessian) (just a convenient way to write all the partials compactly). I do not quite understand the factor of two in front of  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$  but doesn't seem to matter. Here are the planar equations of motion.

$$\ddot{z}_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{m_i} z_j \left( \delta_{ij} \left[ -2m_i + \sum_{k \neq i}^N \frac{1}{\bar{r}_{ik}^3} \right] - (1 - \delta_{ij}) \frac{1}{\bar{r}_{ij}^3} \right) = 0 \quad (23)$$

$$\ddot{x}_i + (2\omega_r - \omega_c) \dot{y}_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \frac{V_{ij}^{xx}}{m_i} + x_j \frac{V_{ij}^{xy}}{m_i} = 0 \quad (24)$$

$$\ddot{y}_i - (2\omega_r - \omega_c) \dot{x}_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N y_j \frac{V_{ij}^{yy}}{m_i} + y_j \frac{V_{ij}^{xy}}{m_i} = 0 \quad (25)$$

$V_{ij}^{xy}$  is the second order partial with respect to  $y_j$  then  $x_i$ .

I will add to this how to get both planar and axial normal modes. Hopefully there were no typos or mistakes above!