

1. Prove that the magnitude R of the position vector for the center of mass from an arbitrary origin is given by the equation

$$M^2 R^2 = M \sum_i m_i r_i^2 - 1/2 \sum_{ij} m_i m_j r_{ij}^2$$

- 1) $M \vec{R} = \sum_i m_i \vec{r}_i$
 2) $M^2 R^2 = (\sum_i m_i \vec{r}_i) \cdot (\sum_i m_i \vec{r}_i) = \sum_{ij} m_i m_j \vec{r}_i \cdot \vec{r}_j$
 3) $\|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j\|^2 = r_{ij}^2 = r_i^2 + r_j^2 - 2\vec{r}_i \cdot \vec{r}_j$
 4) $\frac{1}{2} (r_i^2 + r_j^2 - r_{ij}^2) = \vec{r}_i \cdot \vec{r}_j$
 now let's plug 4) into 2) to substitute for $\vec{r}_i \cdot \vec{r}_j$

$$\begin{aligned} M^2 R^2 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} m_i m_j (r_i^2 + r_j^2 - r_{ij}^2) \\ M^2 R^2 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} m_i m_j r_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} m_i m_j r_j^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} m_i m_j r_{ij}^2 \\ M^2 R^2 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_j m_j \sum_i m_i r_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_i m_i \sum_j m_j r_j^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} m_i m_j r_{ij}^2 \\ M^2 R^2 &= \frac{1}{2} M \sum_i m_i r_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} M \sum_j m_j r_j^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} m_i m_j r_{ij}^2 \\ M^2 R^2 &= M \sum_i m_i r_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} m_i m_j r_{ij}^2 \end{aligned}$$

So $a = 1$, $b = -1/2$, and $r_{ij}^2 = \|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j\|^2$

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2. Two wheels of radius a are mounted on the ends of a common axle of length b such that the wheels rotate independently. The whole combination rolls without slipping on a plane. Show that there are two nonholonomic equations of constraint,

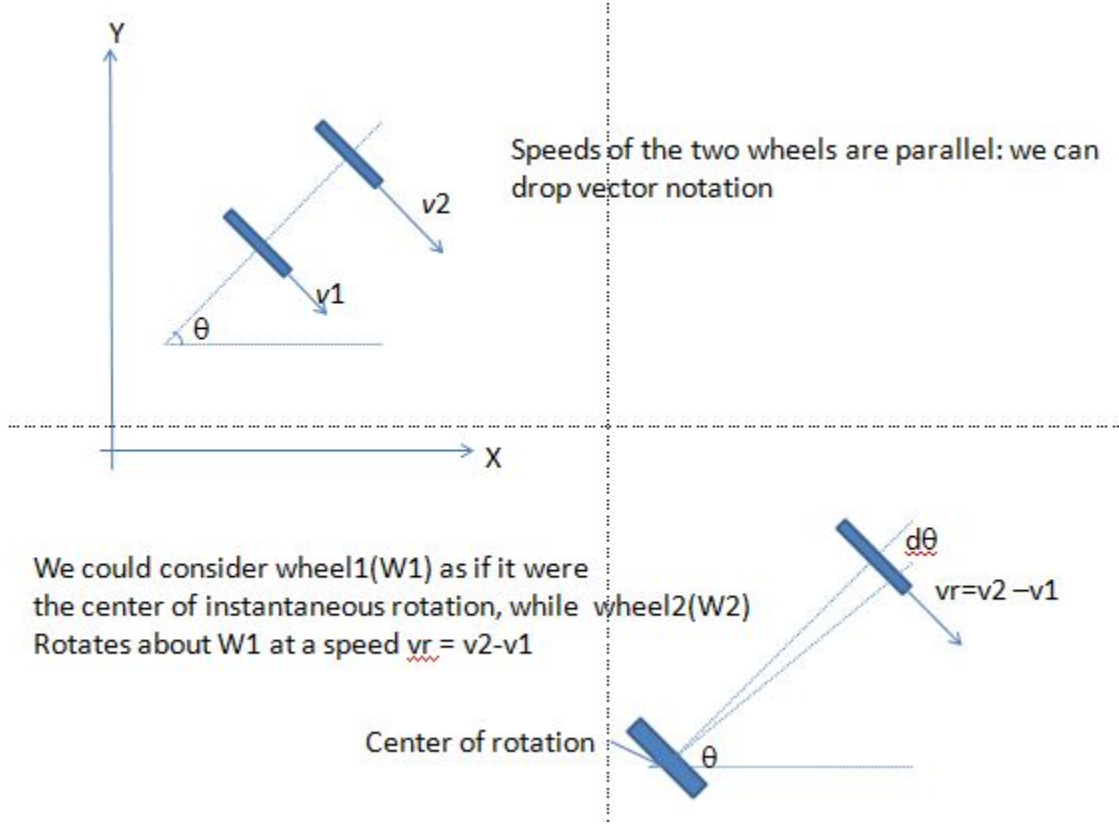
$$\cos \theta \, dx + \sin \theta \, dy = 0$$

$$\sin \theta \, dx - \cos \theta \, dy = a/2 (d\phi + d\phi')$$

(where θ , ϕ , and ϕ' are similar in meaning as for the case of a simple disk rolling on a plane and x and y are the coordinates of a point on the axle midway between the two wheels) and one holonomic equation of constraint

$$\theta = C - a/b (\phi - \phi')$$

where C is a constant.



We can use the following 5 coordinates to describe the system:

center of mass (x, y) , orientation angle (θ) , angles ϕ_1, ϕ_2

We have the 4 constraints:

$$\vec{v}_1 = -a\dot{\phi}_1 \hat{r}_\perp \quad (1) \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{v}_2 = -a\dot{\phi}_2 \hat{r}_\perp \quad (2),$$

where $\hat{r} = (\cos \Theta, \sin \Theta)$, $\hat{r}_\perp = (-\sin \Theta, \cos \Theta)$

$$\text{Now } \vec{v}_{CM} = \frac{\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2}{2} \propto \hat{r}_\perp \quad \text{and thus } \vec{v}_{CM} \cdot \hat{r} = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Also } \vec{v}_2 - \vec{v}_1 \propto \hat{r}_\perp \quad \text{and thus } \vec{v}_2 - \vec{v}_1 = b\dot{\Theta} \hat{r}_\perp \quad (5).$$

$$\text{In addition using (1) and (2) we find } \vec{v}_{CM} \cdot \hat{r}_\perp = -\frac{a\dot{\phi}_1 + a\dot{\phi}_2}{2} \quad (6).$$

Now note that $\vec{v}_{CM} = (\dot{x}, \dot{y})$.

$$\text{Therefore (3) yields } \dot{x} \cos \Theta + \dot{y} \sin \Theta = 0 \quad (3b),$$

$$\text{while (6) gives } -\dot{x} \sin \Theta + \dot{y} \cos \Theta = -\frac{a}{2}(\dot{\phi}_1 + \dot{\phi}_2) \quad (6b).$$

$$\text{From (5) we get (using (1) and (2)) } -a(\dot{\phi}_2 - \dot{\phi}_1) = b\dot{\Theta} \quad (5b).$$

(3b) and (6b) can be written as

$$dx \cos \Theta + dy \sin \Theta = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad dx \sin \Theta - dy \cos \Theta = \frac{a}{2}(d\phi_1 + d\phi_2).$$

$$(5b) \text{ can be integrated to yield } a(\phi_1 - \phi_2) = b\Theta - C.$$

qed.

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4. If L is a Lagrangian for a system of n degrees of freedom satisfying Lagrange's equations, show by direct substitution that

$$L' = L + \frac{dF(q_1, \dots, q_n, t)}{dt}$$

also satisfies Lagrange's equations where F is any arbitrary, but differentiable, functions of its arguments.

3.

$$1) \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L'}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L'}{\partial q_i} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L'}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \left(L + \frac{dF}{dt} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} + \frac{\partial \dot{F}}{\partial \dot{q}_i}$$

Note: $\dot{F} = \frac{dF}{dt} = \sum_i \frac{\partial F}{\partial q_i} \dot{q}_i + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t}$. Thus $\frac{\partial \dot{F}}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial q_i}$ as well as $\frac{\partial}{\partial q_j} \frac{dF}{dt} = \sum_i \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial q_i \partial q_j} \dot{q}_i + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial t \partial q_j}$.

We also note that $\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial F}{\partial q_j} = \sum_i \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial q_j \partial q_i} \dot{q}_i + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial q_j \partial t}$, so that really $\frac{\partial}{\partial q_j} \frac{dF}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial F}{\partial q_j}$.

The use of $\frac{\partial \dot{F}}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial q_i}$ leads to

$$\frac{\partial L'}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial q_i}$$

$$2) \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L'}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial q_i} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) + \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_i} \right)$$

$$3) \frac{\partial L'}{\partial q_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} \left(L + \frac{dF}{dt} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} \left(\frac{dF}{dt} \right)$$

we plug in 2), 3) into 1)

$$4) \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} + \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_i} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} \left(\frac{dF}{dt} \right)$$

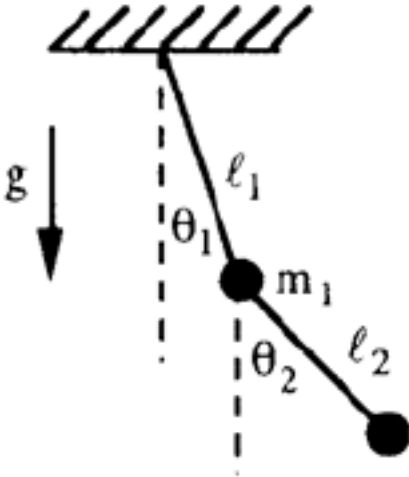
substituting $\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_i} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} \left(\frac{dF}{dt} \right)$ into 4)

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

which proves that

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

4. using Lagrangian we can find the equations of motion for the double pendulum



a)

let's assume $q_1 = \theta_1$ and $q_2 = \theta_2$

$$\vec{v}_1 = l_1 \dot{\theta}_1 \hat{\theta}_1$$

$$v_1^2 = l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_2 &= l_1 \dot{\theta}_1 \hat{\theta}_1 + l_2 \dot{\theta}_2 \hat{\theta}_2 \\ v_2^2 &= l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1^2 + l_2^2 \dot{\theta}_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \cdot \dot{\theta}_2 \\ v_2^2 &= l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1^2 + l_2^2 \dot{\theta}_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \dot{\theta}_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \\ T &= \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} m_1 l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 \left[l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1^2 + l_2^2 \dot{\theta}_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \dot{\theta}_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \right] \\ U &= -(gm_1 l_1 \cos \theta_1 + gm_2 l_1 \cos \theta_1 + gm_2 l_2 \cos \theta_2) \\ L &= T - U = \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} m_1 l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 \left[l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1^2 + l_2^2 \dot{\theta}_2^2 + 2l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \dot{\theta}_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \right] + (m_1 + m_2) g l_1 \cos(\theta_1) + m_2 g l_2 \cos(\theta_2)\end{aligned}$$

b)

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta_1} &= m_1 l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1 + m_2 l_1^2 \dot{\theta}_1 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \\ \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}_1} \right) &= l_1^2 \ddot{\theta}_1 (m_1 + m_2) + m_2 l_1 l_2 \ddot{\theta}_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) - m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_2 (\dot{\theta}_1 - \dot{\theta}_2) \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta_1} &= -m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \dot{\theta}_2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) - (m_1 + m_2) g l_1 \sin(\theta_1) \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta_2} &= m_2 l_2^2 \dot{\theta}_2 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \\ \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}_2} \right) &= m_2 l_2^2 \ddot{\theta}_2 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \ddot{\theta}_1 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) - m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 (\dot{\theta}_1 - \dot{\theta}_2) \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta_2} &= m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \dot{\theta}_2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) - g m_2 l_2 \sin \theta_2\end{aligned}$$

First eq of motion is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}_1} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta_1} &= 0 \\ l_1^2 \ddot{\theta}_1 (m_1 + m_2) + m_2 l_1 l_2 \ddot{\theta}_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_2^2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) - m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1 \dot{\theta}_2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + (m_1 + m_2) g l_1 \sin(\theta_1) \\ 1) \quad l_1^2 \ddot{\theta}_1 (m_1 + m_2) + m_2 l_1 l_2 \ddot{\theta}_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_2^2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + (m_1 + m_2) g l_1 \sin(\theta_1) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

the second eq of motion is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}_2} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta_2} &= 0 \\ 2) \quad m_2 l_2^2 \ddot{\theta}_2 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \ddot{\theta}_1 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) - m_2 l_1 l_2 \dot{\theta}_1^2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + g m_2 l_2 \sin \theta_2 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

these two equations are coupled equations

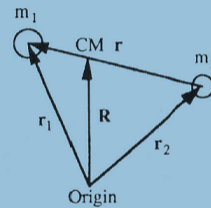
7. The Lagrangian for two particles of masses m_1 and m_2 and coordinates $\mathbf{r}_1$ and $\mathbf{r}_2$ that interact via a potential $V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$ is

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m_1 \left| \frac{d\mathbf{r}_1}{dt} \right|^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 \left| \frac{d\mathbf{r}_2}{dt} \right|^2 - V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$$

a) Rewrite the Lagrangian in terms of the center of mass coordinates $\mathbf{R}$ and relative coordinates $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2$.

b) Use Lagrange's equations to show that the center of mass and relative motions separate, the center of mass moving with constant velocity and the relative motion being that of a particle of reduced mass

$\eta = (m_1 m_2) / (m_1 + m_2)$ in a potential $V(\mathbf{r})$.



It is assumed that we are working with vectors and can avoid using arrows notation.

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2$$

$$M\mathbf{R} = m_1 \mathbf{r}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{r}_2$$

$$M\mathbf{R} = m \mathbf{r}_1 + m(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r})$$

$$M\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{r}_1(m_1 + m_2) - m_2 \mathbf{r}$$

$$1) \quad \mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{R} + \frac{m_2}{M} \mathbf{r}$$

$$MR = m_1(r_2 + r) + m_2r_2$$

$$MR = r_2(m_1 + m_2) + m_1r$$

$$2) r_2 = R - \frac{m_1}{M}r$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2}(m_1\dot{r}_1^2 + m_2\dot{r}_2^2)$$

$$3)\dot{r}_1^2 = (\dot{R} + \frac{m_2}{M}\dot{r})^2$$

$$4)\dot{r}_2^2 = (\dot{R} - \frac{m_1}{M}\dot{r})^2$$

replace 3) and 4) in the kinetic energy

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \left[m_1 \left(\dot{R} + \frac{m_2}{M}\dot{r} \right)^2 + m_2 \left(\dot{R} - \frac{m_1}{M}\dot{r} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$m_1 \left(\dot{R} + \frac{m_2}{M}\dot{r} \right)^2 = m_1\dot{R}^2 + \dot{r}^2 \frac{m_1m_2^2}{M^2} + \frac{2m_1m_2}{M}(\dot{R} \cdot \dot{r})$$

$$m_2 \left(\dot{R} - \frac{m_1}{M}\dot{r} \right)^2 = m_2\dot{R}^2 + \dot{r}^2 \frac{m_2m_1^2}{M^2} - \frac{2m_1m_2}{M}(\dot{R} \cdot \dot{r})$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \left[\dot{R}^2(m_1 + m_2) + \dot{r}^2 \left(\frac{m_1m_2}{M^2} \right) (m_1 + m_2) \right]$$

$$\mu = \left(\frac{m_1m_2}{m_1+m_2} \right) \text{ is the reduced mass}$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2}M\dot{R}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{r}^2$$

finally the Lagrangian is

$$L = T - U$$

$$L = \frac{1}{2}M\dot{R}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{r}^2 - U(r)$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{R}} = M\dot{R}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial R} = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{R}} \right) = M\ddot{R}$$

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

$M\ddot{R} = 0$ which means the velocity of the center of mass is a constant of the motion

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = \mu\dot{r}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} \right) = \mu\ddot{r}$$

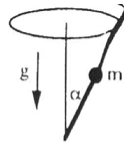
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} = -\partial U(r)$$

$$\mu\ddot{r} = -\partial U(r)$$

Like a particle of mass μ moving in a potential $U(r)$

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6. A bead of mass m slides along a straight wire which makes an angle and rotates with constant angular velocity. Find the Lagrange's equations of motion.



a)

Let's assume $q_1 = R$ and $q_2 = \theta$, where R is the displacement of the bead measured along the wire.

$$\dot{\theta} = \omega$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{R}^2 + \omega^2 R^2 \sin^2 \alpha)$$

$$U = mgR \cos \alpha$$

$$L = T - U = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{R}^2 + \omega^2 R^2 \sin^2 \alpha) - mgR \cos \alpha$$

b)

$$\partial L / \partial \dot{R} = m \dot{R}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\partial L / \partial \dot{R}) = m \ddot{R}$$

$$\partial L / \partial R = m \omega^2 R \sin^2 \alpha - mg \cos \alpha$$

the eq of motion is:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\partial L / \partial \dot{R}) - \partial L / \partial R = 0$$

$$m \ddot{R} - m \omega^2 R \sin^2 \alpha + mg \cos \alpha = 0$$

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ALTERNATIVE: polar coords:

use $z = R \cos \alpha$

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m \left(\frac{\dot{z}^2}{\cos^2 \alpha} + \omega^2 z^2 \tan^2 \alpha \right) - mgRz$$