

Section - Overview of Lagrangians

Suppose we have a dynamical system composed of N mass and subject to M holonomic constraints.

Holonomic Constraints - $f(x_i, y_i, z_i, t) = 0$

\Rightarrow Not velocity dependent

\Rightarrow Example - Bead confined to

loop $x_i^2 + y_i^2 + z_i^2 = R^2$

\Rightarrow Don't worry about terminology, almost any constraint that does not involve losses (friction) meets this criteria

Generalized Coordinates - Any set of coordinates that fully specifies the location of all mass in the system $\{q_i\}$

⇒ Problem with Newton's Laws, we have to use cartesian or other mutually orthogonal coordinates that are not the most convenient for specifying the system.

⇒ We have to deal with forces of explicitly.

Alternate Formulations of ~~New~~ Mechanics (all equivalent)

(1) Newton's Laws

(2) Hamilton's Variational Principle

(3) Hamilton's Equations

(4) D'Alembert's Principle (Virtual Work)

(5) Lagrange's Eqs.

Lagrange's Eqs - Weaknesses - Not intuitive

Strengths - Use any coordinate system you want. Forces of constraints taken care of automatically.

⇒ You want intuition use Newton, you want to do a nasty calculation easily use Lagrange.

Lagrangian - $L \equiv T - V$

↗ ↖

Kinetic energy potential energy

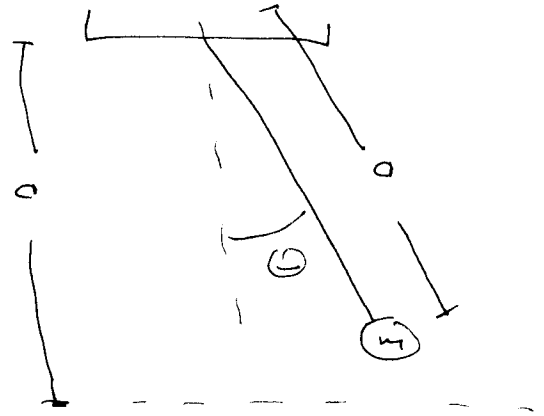
Lagrange's Equations - For each generalized coordinate q_i ,

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

⇒ Equivalent to $\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$

Simple Examples

Simple Pendulum



$$T = \frac{1}{2} m (a \dot{\theta})^2$$

$$V = mg(a - a \sin \theta)$$

⇒ Generalized coordinate $\theta = q_1$

$$L = T - V$$

Lagrangian

$$= \frac{1}{2} m a^2 \dot{\theta}^2 - m g a + m g a \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial q_1} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} = -m g a \cos \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_1} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = m a^2 \dot{\theta}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = m a^2 \ddot{\theta}$$

Apply Lagrange's Eqn

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = 0$$

$$-mga \sin \theta - ma^2 \ddot{\theta} = 0$$

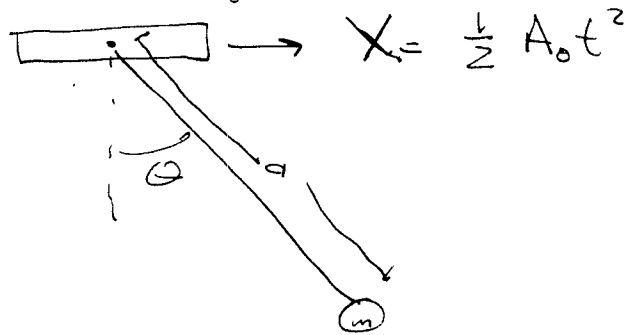
$$\ddot{\theta} + \frac{g}{a} \sin \theta = 0$$

→ Degree of Freedom - Number of
generalized coordinates required to
fully specify system $3N - M$

Well that wasn't easier. Newton worked
better for simple system.

Section - A little harder

Simple pendulum with accelerating support



\Rightarrow Moving constraint

\Rightarrow General procedure for Lagrange

(I). Write location of all masses in terms of generalized coordinates.

(II). Compute kinetic energy, and potential energy.

III Apply Lagrange

(I) Write locations in terms of generalized coordinates.

$$x = X + a \sin \theta$$

$$y = a - a \cos \theta$$

$$\dot{x} = \dot{X} + a \cos \theta \dot{\theta} = A_0 t + a \cos \theta \dot{\theta}$$

$$\dot{y} = a \sin \theta \dot{\theta}$$

II Compute kinetic energy

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \frac{1}{2} m (\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} m \left((A_0 t + a \cos \theta \dot{\theta})^2 + a^2 \sin^2 \theta \dot{\theta}^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} m A_0^2 t^2 + m A_0 t a \cos \theta \dot{\theta} + \frac{1}{2} m a^2 \dot{\theta}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$V = m g a (1 - \cos \theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} L = T - V &= \frac{1}{2} m A_0^2 t^2 + m A_0 a t \cos \theta \dot{\theta} + \frac{1}{2} m a^2 \dot{\theta}^2 \\ &\quad - m g a (1 - \cos \theta) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} = -m A_0 a t \sin \theta \dot{\theta} - m g a \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = m A_0 a t \cos \theta + m a^2 \dot{\theta}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = m A_0 a \cos \theta - m A_0 a t \sin \theta \dot{\theta} + m a^2 \ddot{\theta}$$

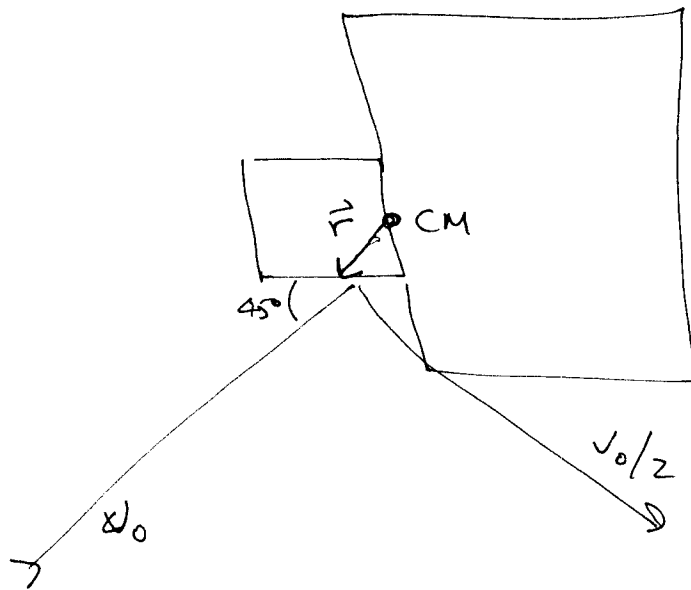
Lagrange's Eqs

$$\begin{aligned} -m A_0 a t \sin \theta \dot{\theta} - m g a \sin \theta - m A_0 a \cos \theta + m A_0 a t \sin \theta \dot{\theta} \\ - m a^2 \ddot{\theta} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$m a^2 \ddot{\theta} + m g a \sin \theta + m A_0 a \cos \theta = 0$$

Stu

Section - Test Problem



Strategy - Linear and angular momentum conserved.
Energy?

$$\vec{P}_{\text{truck}} = \Delta \vec{P}_{\text{ball}}$$

$$\vec{v}_{\text{cm, truck}} = \frac{\vec{P}_{\text{truck}}}{M_{\text{truck}}}$$

$$\vec{L}_{\text{truck}} = \vec{r} \times \Delta \vec{P}_{\text{truck}} = I \omega$$

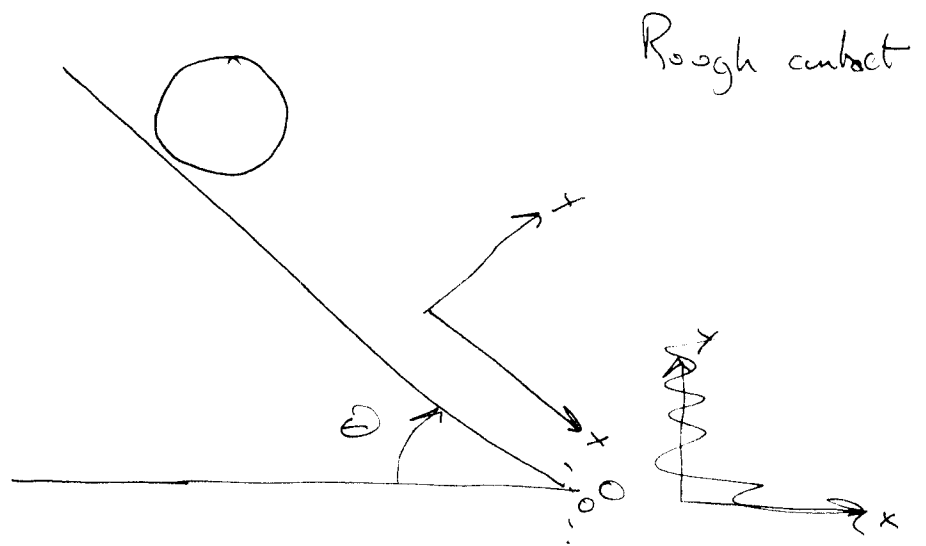
$$\omega_{\text{truck}} = \frac{L}{I}$$

$$I = I_1 + M_1 \left(\frac{\rho_1}{2} \right)^2 + I_2 + M_2 \left(\frac{\rho_2}{2} \right)^2 \quad (\text{Parallel axis thm.})$$

$$E_{\text{before}} = \frac{1}{2} m_{\text{ball}} v_0^2 = \frac{1}{2} m_{\text{ball}} \left(\frac{v_0}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2 + Q$$

if $Q=0$ elastic.

Section - Another Lagrange



$$V(x) = -mgx \sin \theta$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{I}{a^2} \dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2$$

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \left(m + \frac{I}{a^2} \right) \dot{x}^2 + mgx \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = +mg \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}} = \left(m + \frac{I}{a^2} \right) \dot{x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}} = \left(m + \frac{I}{a^2} \right) \ddot{x}$$

Lagrange's Eqn

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}} = 0$$

$$+ mg \sin \theta - \left(m + \frac{I}{a^2} \right) \ddot{x} = 0$$

$$\ddot{x} = \frac{mg \sin \theta}{m + I/a^2}$$

If $I = \frac{2}{5} m a^2$ (sphere)

$$\ddot{x} = \frac{5}{7} g \sin \theta$$

Lecture 4/23

- Do 10.18 instead of 10.17

- Work 10.19 down to eqns ~~A~~ (r, θ) then

$$\text{use } \ddot{\theta} = \frac{d\dot{\theta}}{dt} = \frac{d\theta}{dt} \frac{d\dot{\theta}}{d\theta} = \dot{\theta} \frac{d\dot{\theta}}{d\theta}$$

to integrate θ eqn.

- Do 10.27(a) only.

Section - Ignorable Coordinates

~~Suppose L is not~~

Generalized Momentum $p_i = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i}$

why? $L = T = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2$ $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}} = m \dot{x} = p$

Ignorable Coordinate - Suppose L is not
a function of ~~the~~ q_i , then Lagrange's eqn for
 q_i is

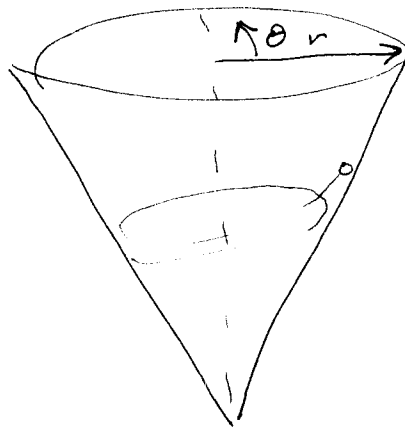
$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i}}_0 - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = 0$$

$p_i = \text{constant.}$
 \Rightarrow The generalize momentum is conserved.

Section - Example with conserved momenta

Ex Motion of particle confined to cone,
surface of cone $z = \gamma r$ in polar.



Generalized coordinate r, θ

What kind of motion do we expect?

$$V(r, \theta) = mgz = mg\gamma r$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{1}{2} m \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}$$

\Rightarrow Velocity in polar coordinates (recall)

$$\vec{v}(r, \theta) = \dot{r} \hat{e}_r + r \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta + \dot{z} \hat{e}_z$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} m \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{1}{2} m \left[\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + \dot{z}^2 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} m \left[\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + \gamma^2 \dot{r}^2 \right]$$

$$L = T - V$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} m \left[(1 + \gamma^2) \dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2 \right] - mg\gamma r$$

(Note - L is independent of θ) θ ignorable.

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} = 0 \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = m r^2 \dot{\theta} = p_{\theta} \text{ (angular momentum)}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} p_{\theta} = 0 \quad p_{\theta} = \text{constant.}$$

~~$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} = -mg\gamma$$~~

~~$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = m(1 + \gamma^2) \dot{r}$$~~

~~$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = m(1 + \gamma^2) \ddot{r}$$~~

~~$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = -mg\gamma - m(1 + \gamma^2) \ddot{r} = 0$$~~

~~$$\ddot{r} = \frac{-g}{1 + \gamma^2}$$~~

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} = \cancel{m} r \dot{\theta}^2 - mg \gamma$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = m(1+\gamma^2) \dot{r}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = m(1+\gamma^2) \ddot{r}$$

Lagrange's Eqn

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = 0$$

$$\cancel{m} r \dot{\theta}^2 - mg \gamma - m(1+\gamma^2) \ddot{r} = 0$$

$$\ddot{r} - \frac{r \dot{\theta}^2}{1+\gamma^2} + \frac{g \gamma}{1+\gamma^2} = 0$$