

Normal modes

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Demo: chaos pendulum

- ① fixed, small oscillations $\ddot{\theta} \sim -\sin\theta \sim -\theta$, constant period
- ② larger oscillations, longer period
- ③ unfixed, small oscillations $\rightarrow$ 2 normal modes
- ④ large oscillations, chaos



uncoupled oscillators, $\omega_a = \sqrt{\frac{k_a}{m_a}}$, $\omega_b = \sqrt{\frac{k_b}{m_b}}$



coupled oscillators: [complicated]

$\exists$ normal modes for which motion is "simple"

ie all parts oscillate w/ same frequency $\omega^{(1)}$ or $\omega^{(2)}$

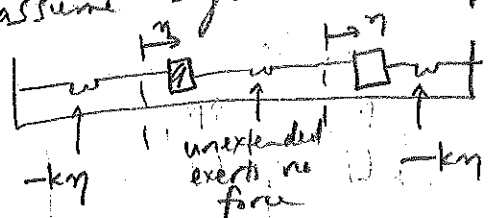
normal modes = # degrees of freedom = # 2nd order o.d.e's.

Simple case: $m_a = m_b = m$

$k_a = k_b = k \neq k_c$

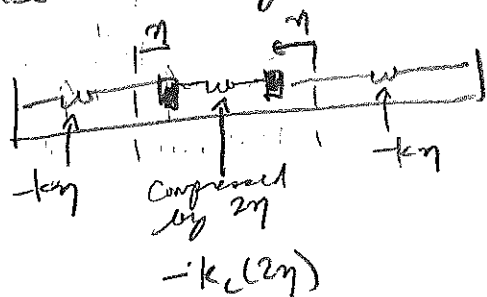
Guess the normal mode

- ① assume symmetric displacements



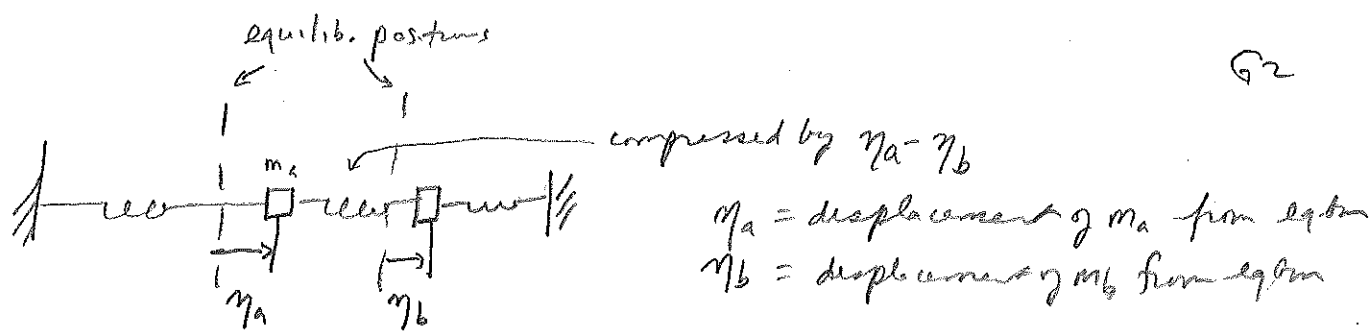
$$\omega^{(1)} = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

- ② assume antisymmetric displacement



$$F_{net} = -(k + 2k_c)\eta$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^{(2)} = \sqrt{\frac{k + 2k_c}{m}}$$



$$F_a = -k_a \eta_a - k_c (\eta_a - \eta_b)$$

forces are linear
in each displacement

$$F_b = -k_b \eta_b + k_c (\eta_a - \eta_b)$$

$$\begin{cases} m_a \ddot{\eta}_a = -(k_a + k_c) \eta_a + k_c \eta_b \\ m_b \ddot{\eta}_b = + k_c \eta_a - (k_b + k_c) \eta_b \end{cases} \quad (*)$$

coupled linear 2nd order o.d.e's.

Try normal mode ansatz: all parts oscillate w/ same frequency
(not necessarily same amplitude or phase)

$$\begin{cases} \eta_a = f_a e^{i\omega t} \\ \eta_b = f_b e^{i\omega t} \end{cases}$$

f_a, f_b are complex (includes amp. & phase)
Take real part at the end.

$$\begin{aligned} -m_a \omega^2 f_a e^{i\omega t} &= -(k_a + k_c) f_a e^{i\omega t} + k_c f_b e^{i\omega t} \\ -m_b \omega^2 f_b e^{i\omega t} &= k_c f_a e^{i\omega t} - (k_b + k_c) f_b e^{i\omega t} \end{aligned}$$

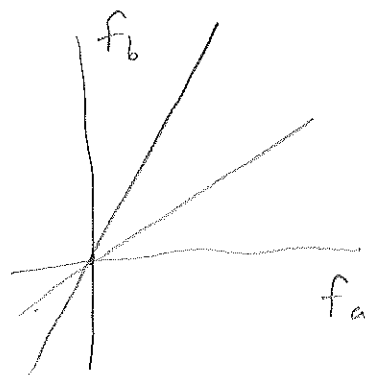
$e^{i\omega t}$'s cancel out

$$[m_a \omega^2 - k_a - k_c] f_a + k_c f_b = 0$$

$$k_c f_a + [m_b \omega^2 - k_b - k_c] f_b = 0$$

$$f_b = - \frac{(m_a \omega^2 - k_a - k_c)}{k_c} f_a$$

$$f_b = - \frac{k_c}{(m_b \omega^2 - k_b - k_c)} f_a$$



in general only solution is $f_a = f_b = 0$ (lines intersect at origin)

unless the equations are not independent (i.e. slopes equal)

$$\frac{m_a \omega^2 - k_a - k_c}{k_c} = \frac{k_c}{m_b \omega^2 - k_b - k_c}$$

$$(m_a \omega^2 - k_a - k_c)(m_b \omega^2 - k_b - k_c) = k_c^2 = 0$$

quadratic eqn for ω^2

$\Rightarrow$ two roots $\omega^{(1)2}, \omega^{(2)2}$

$\therefore$ The positive square root

$\omega^{(1)}, \omega^{(2)}$

are the normal mode frequencies

Start again y (*)

$$\ddot{\eta}_a = - \left(\frac{k_a + k_c}{m_a} \right) \eta_a + \frac{k_c}{m_a} \eta_b$$

$$\ddot{\eta}_b = \frac{k_c}{m_b} \eta_a - \left(\frac{k_b + k_c}{m_b} \right) \eta_b$$

Rewrite as matrix equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \ddot{\eta}_a \\ \ddot{\eta}_b \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{(k_a + k_c)}{m_a} & \frac{k_c}{m_a} \\ \frac{k_c}{m_b} & -\frac{(k_b + k_c)}{m_b} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{IM}} \begin{pmatrix} \eta_a \\ \eta_b \end{pmatrix}$$

Normal mode ansatz:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta_a \\ \eta_b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix} e^{i\omega t} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \ddot{\eta}_a \\ \ddot{\eta}_b \end{pmatrix} = -\omega^2 \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix} e^{i\omega t}$$

$e^{i\omega t}$ cancels out

$$\underbrace{\text{IM}}_{\text{eigenvech of IM}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{eigenvalue of IM}} = \underbrace{-\omega^2}_{\text{eigenvalue of IM}} \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix}$$

eigenvalue equation

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -\omega^2 & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= -\omega^2 \mathbb{1} \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(M + \omega^2 I) \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

unique solution is $\begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix} = 0$ unless $\det(M + \omega^2 I) = 0$

$$M + \omega^2 I = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{(k_a + k_c)}{m_a} + \omega^2 & -\frac{k_c}{m_a} \\ \frac{k_c}{m_b} & -\frac{(k_b + k_c)}{m_b} + \omega^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Recall $\det \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} = AD - BC$

$$\det(M + \omega^2 I) = \left(\omega^2 - \frac{k_a + k_c}{m_a}\right)\left(\omega^2 - \frac{k_b + k_c}{m_b}\right) - \left(\frac{k_c}{m_a}\right)\left(\frac{k_c}{m_b}\right) = 0$$

quadratic equation for ω^2 ,

Can show that solutions are real + positive

Call the positive square roots $\omega^{(1)}$ and $\omega^{(2)}$

Simple case: $m_a = m_b = m$

$$k_a = k_b = k \neq k_c$$

$$\left(\omega^2 - \frac{k + k_c}{m}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{k_c}{m}\right)^2$$

$$\omega^2 - \left(\frac{k + k_c}{m}\right) = \pm \frac{k_c}{m}$$

$$\omega^2 = \frac{k}{m} + \frac{k_c}{m} \pm \frac{k_c}{m}$$

$$\omega^{(1)2} = \frac{k}{m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^{(1)} = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

$$\omega^{(2)2} = \frac{k + 2k_c}{m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^{(2)} = \sqrt{\frac{k + 2k_c}{m}}$$

$$0 = \begin{vmatrix} \omega^2 - (\alpha + \beta) & \beta \\ \gamma & \omega^2 - (\delta + \gamma) \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\hbar c}{m_a}$$

$$\beta = \frac{\hbar c}{m_e}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{\hbar c}{m_b}$$

$$\delta = \frac{\hbar c}{m_b}$$

$$0 = [\omega^2 - (\alpha + \beta)][\omega^2 - (\delta + \gamma)] - \gamma\beta$$

$$= \omega^4 - (\alpha + \beta + \delta + \gamma)\omega^2 + \underbrace{(\alpha + \beta)(\delta + \gamma) - \gamma\beta}_{\alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma + \alpha\delta}$$

$$\omega^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left[(\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta) \pm \sqrt{(\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta)^2 - 4(\alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma + \alpha\delta)} \right]$$

$$\leq (\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta)^2$$

$$\therefore \omega^2 > 0$$

(Also discriminant

$$= (\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta)^2 - 4(\alpha + \beta)(\delta + \gamma) + 4\gamma\beta$$

$$= (\alpha + \beta - \gamma - \delta)^2 + 4\beta\gamma > 0$$

so ω^2 are real)

Now find the eigenvectors $\begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix}$ for each normal mode

$$(IM + \omega^2 \mathbb{I}) \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \omega^2 - \frac{k+kc}{m} & \frac{kc}{m} \\ \frac{kc}{m} & \omega^2 - \frac{k+kc}{m} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(\omega^2 - \frac{k+kc}{m}) f_a + \frac{kc}{m} f_b = 0$$

First normal mode: $\omega^{(1)} = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{kc}{m} f_a^{(1)} + \frac{kc}{m} f_b^{(1)} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f_a^{(1)} = f_b^{(1)} \quad (\text{symmetric})$$

overall amplitude is arbitrary so choose $f_a^{(1)} = f_b^{(1)} = 1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta_a^{(1)} \\ \eta_b^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}t}$$

2nd normal mode: $\omega^{(2)} = \sqrt{\frac{k+2kc}{m}}$

$$+\frac{kc}{m} f_a^{(2)} + \frac{kc}{m} f_b^{(2)} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f_b^{(2)} = -f_a^{(2)} \quad (\text{antisymmetric})$$

choose $f_a^{(2)} = 1, f_b^{(2)} = -1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta_a^{(2)} \\ \eta_b^{(2)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\sqrt{\frac{k+2kc}{m}}t}$$

Strategy for normal mode problems

- identify degrees of freedom ($\# = N$)

let $\eta_a, \eta_b, \dots =$ (small) displacements from eqbm

- identify forces acting on each d.o.f.

then $m_a \ddot{\eta}_a = F_a$ where F_a is linear in all the η 's.

- assemble $\eta_a, \dots$ into a vect $\eta = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_a \\ \eta_b \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$

Then $\ddot{\eta} = \mathbb{M} \eta$ where $\mathbb{M} = (N \times N)$ matrix constructed from the force

- normal mode ansatz

$$\eta = f e^{i\omega t} \quad \text{ie} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \eta_a \\ \eta_b \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_a \\ f_b \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} e^{i\omega t} \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \text{same frequency} \\ \text{for all parts} \end{matrix}$$

$$\ddot{\eta} = -\omega^2 f e^{i\omega t} = \mathbb{M} f e^{i\omega t}$$

$$(\mathbb{M} + \omega^2 \mathbb{1}) f = 0 \quad \text{eigenvalue equation}$$

- Eigenvalue equation has nontrivial solutions iff

$$\det(\mathbb{M} + \omega^2 \mathbb{1}) = 0$$

N th order eqn for $\omega^2 \Rightarrow$ find N roots $\Rightarrow \omega^{(i)}, i=1, \dots, N$

- For each $\omega^{(i)}$, solve $(\mathbb{M} + \omega^{(i)2} \mathbb{1}) f^{(i)} = 0$ for eigenvectors $f^{(i)}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{normal mode solutions} \quad \boxed{\eta^{(i)} = f^{(i)} e^{i\omega^{(i)} t}}$$

• Write the most general solution

$$\eta(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n f^{(i)} \operatorname{Re} [c_i e^{i\omega^{(i)} t}] \quad \leftarrow \text{Form III}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n f^{(i)} A_i \cos(\omega^{(i)} t + \beta^{(i)}) \quad \leftarrow \text{form I}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n f^{(i)} [a_i \cos(\omega^{(i)} t) + b_i \sin(\omega^{(i)} t)] \quad \leftarrow \text{form II}$$

There are $2N$ arbitrary constants $a_i, b_i, (i=1, \dots, N)$
just enough for $2N$ initial conditions, $\eta_a(0), \dot{\eta}_a(0), \eta_b(0), \dot{\eta}_b(0), \dots$

a_i, b_i "normal mode coordinates"

• use initial conditions to solve for a_i, b_i . Done!

Special case: zero mode

If $\omega=0$, the solutions above only give one of the two solutions

$$\eta = a \cos \omega t + b \sin \omega t \rightarrow a$$

Need a second solution.

Recall the eqn: $\ddot{\eta} + \omega^2 \eta = 0$

$$\eta = a + b t$$

~~or Taylor series $\eta = a(1 - \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 t^2 + \dots) + b(\omega t - \frac{1}{6}\omega^3 t^3 + \dots)$~~

$$\rightarrow a + \frac{(b\omega)t}{1}$$

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{z} = -g \\ z_p = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 \\ \dot{z}_v = \dot{z}_i + v_0 t \\ z = z_p + z_v \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow f^{(i)} [a_i + b_i t]$$

For our problem use form II

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta_a \\ \eta_b \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^2 \begin{pmatrix} f_a^{(i)} \\ f_b^{(i)} \end{pmatrix} [a_i \cos \omega^{(i)} t + b_i \sin \omega^{(i)} t] \\ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} [a_1 \cos \omega^{(1)} t + b_1 \sin \omega^{(1)} t] + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} [a_2 \cos \omega^{(2)} t + b_2 \sin \omega^{(2)} t]$$

4 undetermined constants a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2

4 init. conditions $\begin{pmatrix} \eta_a(0) \\ \eta_b(0) \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} \dot{\eta}_a(0) \\ \dot{\eta}_b(0) \end{pmatrix}$

Example: both masses initially at rest.

m_2 at equilibrium

m_1 displaced δ from equilibrium

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta_a(0) \\ \eta_b(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} a_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} a_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \delta \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} a_1 - a_2 &= 0 \\ a_1 + a_2 &= \delta \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow a_1 = a_2 = \frac{\delta}{2}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{\eta}_a(0) \\ \dot{\eta}_b(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \omega^{(1)} b_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \omega^{(2)} b_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow b_1 = b_2 = 0$$

Solution:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta_a(t) \\ \eta_b(t) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\delta}{2} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cos \omega^{(1)} t + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cos \omega^{(2)} t \right]$$

check initial conditions

Define $\omega = \frac{\omega_1 + \omega_2}{2}$ $\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \omega_1 = \omega + \Delta \\ \omega_2 = \omega - \Delta \end{cases}$

$\Delta = \frac{\omega_1 - \omega_2}{2}$

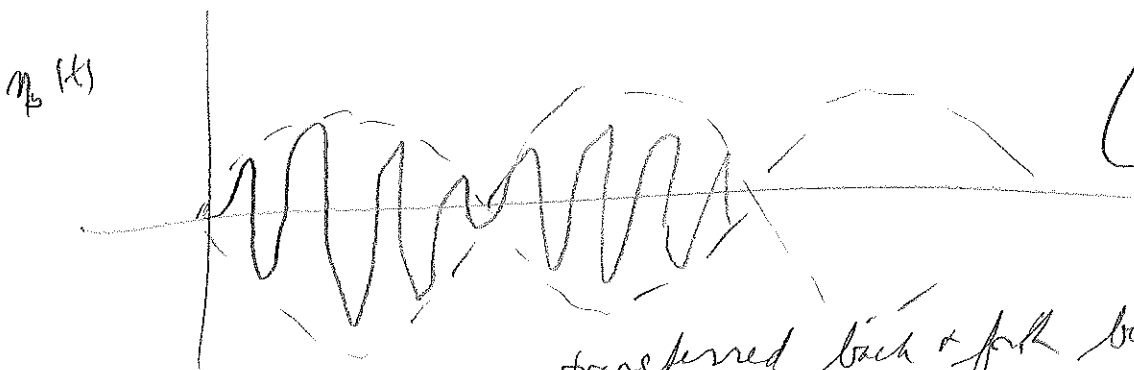
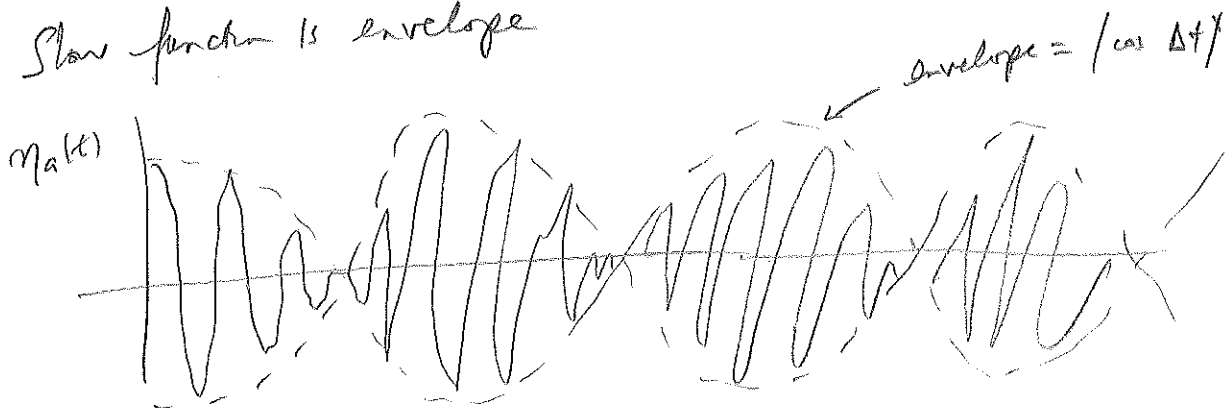
$$\cos \omega^{(1)} t = \cos \omega t \cos \Delta t - \sin \omega t \sin \Delta t$$

$$\cos \omega^{(2)} t = \cos \omega t \cos \Delta t + \sin \omega t \sin \Delta t$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \eta_a(t) \\ \eta_b(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\omega t) \cos(\Delta t) \\ \sin(\omega t) \sin(\Delta t) \end{pmatrix}$$

If coupling is weak then $k_c \ll k$ so $\omega^{(1)} \approx \omega^{(2)}$
 and $\Delta \ll \omega$
 $\cos(\Delta t)$ is slowly changing fun

Slow function is envelope



demo of coupled pendula

energy transferred back & forth between the 2 oscillators