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Lagrangian Equation of Motion

Purpose:

- To extend the *Energy* approach in deriving equations of motion (i.e. **Lagrange's Method**) for Mechanical Systems.

Topics:

- Generalized Coordinates
- Lagrangian Equation of Motion for Independent Set of Generalized Coordinates
- Lagrangian Equation of Motion for Dependent Set of Generalized Coordinates
- Hamiltonian Principle



Generalized Coordinates

Definition: A “*Generalized Coordinate System*” is any set of variables $\{q^m\}$ which defines the position of a mechanical system. Generalized coordinates are usually chosen as the best description of the mechanical configuration (i.e. Polar, Cylindrical, Spherical, etc.).

Definition: “*Degrees-of-Freedom*” is the minimum number of generalized coordinates which adequately define the position of the mechanical system.



Example:

A free **Particle** in space has: 3-DOF

A free **Rigid Body** in space has: 6-DOF

A **Structure** has: 0-DOF

An analyst for convenience may choose to use more generalized coordinates than the number of degrees-of-freedom of the system. In this case, the set of generalized coordinates is not independent. Therefore:

An Independent Coordinate Set: exists when the number of generalized coordinates correspond to the degree-of-freedom, and

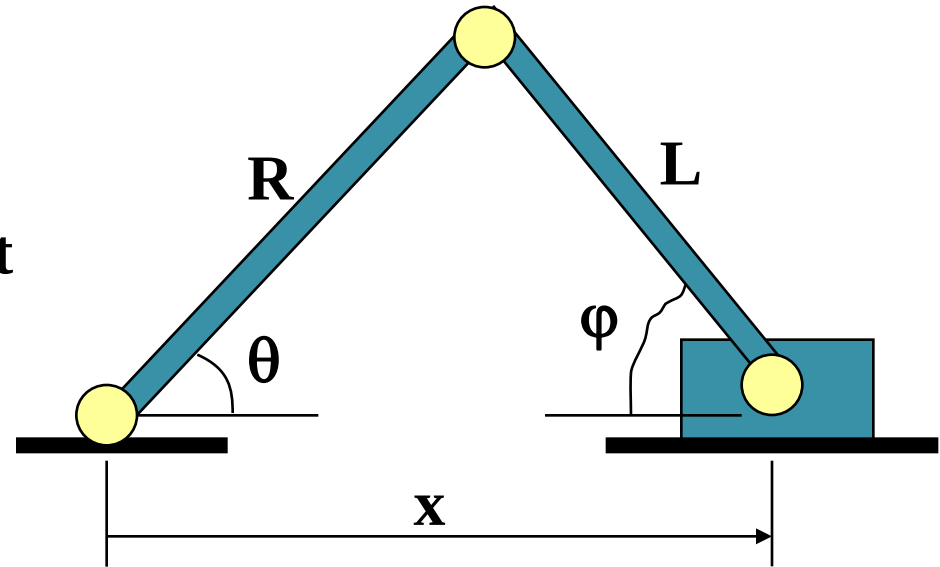
A Dependent Coordinate Set (Constraints): exists when we have a number of functional relations among the generalized coordinates.



Example: Consider the one degree-of-freedom system shown.

$\{\theta\}$: Independent Set

$\{\theta, \varphi, x\}$: Dependent Set



Constraints are:

$$\begin{cases} g_1 = R \sin \theta - L \sin \varphi = 0 \\ g_2 = R \cos \theta + L \cos \varphi - X = 0 \end{cases}$$

g_1 and g_2 functions of $\{q^m\}$



Definition: $\underline{\dot{q}}$ or $\{\dot{q}^m\}$ is defined as the *Generalized Velocity*.

Definition: $\delta \underline{q}$ or $\{\delta q^m\}$ is defined as the *Generalized Virtual Displacement*.

Definition: *The Generalized Momentum* $\{P_m\}$ is the

Set $\left\{ \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}^m} \right\}$

$$\{P_m\} = \left\{ \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}^m} \right\} \quad (11.1)$$

Note that: In the Newtonian Mechanics, the momentum of β th particle is:

$$P_i^\beta = \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i^\beta} \quad (11.2)$$



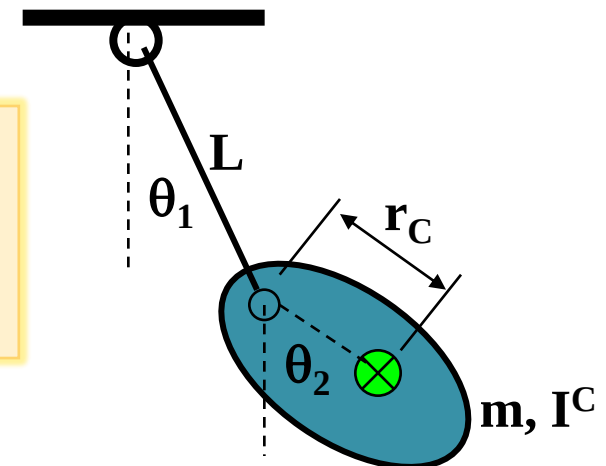
Definition: The *Generalized Force* $\underline{Q} = \{Q_m\}$ is the set of coefficients of generalized virtual displacement $\{\delta q^m\}$ in the expression of virtual work as:

$$\delta U = Q_m \delta q^m \quad (11.3)$$

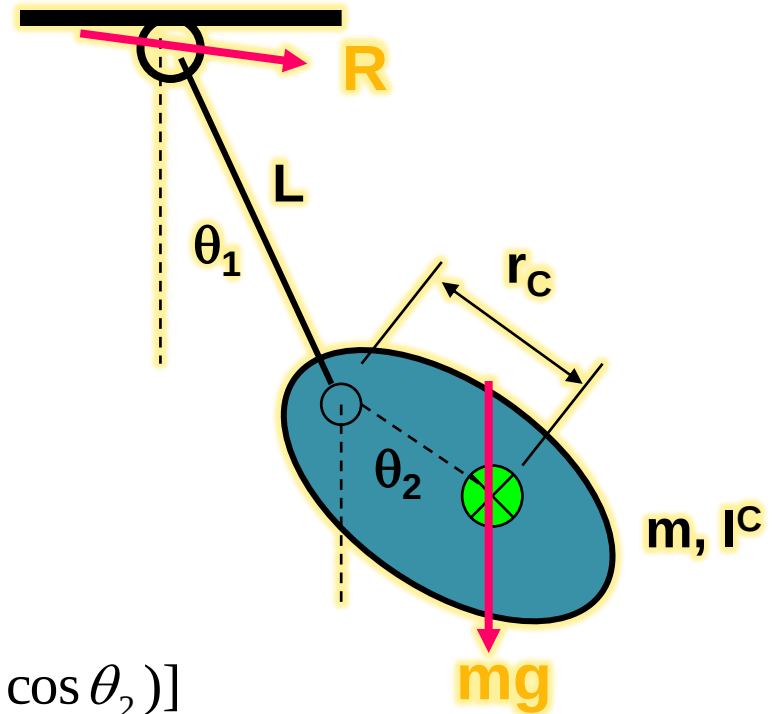
Note that: For a system of N particles, the working force in the expression of work is:

$$\delta U = \sum_{\beta=1}^N f_i^{\beta} \delta x_i^{\beta} \quad (11.4)$$

Example: Determine the Generalized Forces for the double pendulum shown?



Work done from equilibrium position to the existing position is:



$$U = -mg[L(1 - \cos \theta_1) + r_C(1 - \cos \theta_2)]$$

$$\delta U = -mgL \sin \theta_1 \delta \theta_1 - mgr_C \sin \theta_2 \delta \theta_2$$

Hence :

$$\text{Generalized Force} \equiv \underline{Q} = \begin{Bmatrix} Q_1 \\ Q_2 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} -mgL \sin \theta_1 \\ -mgr_C \sin \theta_2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

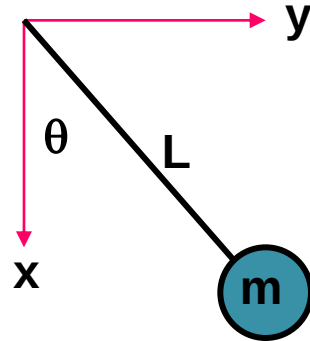


Some Useful Relations: Functional relations between Cartesian coordinates and generalized coordinates;

$$1). \begin{cases} \{x_i\} \overset{f_i}{\leftrightarrow} \{q^m\} \\ x_i = f_i(q^m) \end{cases}$$

(11.5)

$$\text{Ex: } \begin{cases} x = L \cos \theta \\ y = L \sin \theta \end{cases}$$



q^m : Generalized – Coordinates

2). By Chain Rule expansion of derivatives:

$$\dot{x}_i = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \dot{q}^m = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^1} \dot{q}^1 + \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^2} \dot{q}^2 + \dots \quad (11.6)$$



$$3). : \delta x_i = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \delta q^m \quad (11.7)$$

4). From relation (11.6), since $\dot{x}_i$ is a linear function of $\dot{q}^m$, we have:

$$\frac{\partial \dot{x}_i}{\partial \dot{q}^m} = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \quad (11.8)$$

5). By Chain Rule expansion of derivatives, we can write:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \right) = \frac{\partial \dot{x}_i}{\partial q^m} \quad (11.9)$$



5). By Chain Rule expansion of derivatives, we can write:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \right) = \frac{\partial \dot{x}_i}{\partial q^m} \quad (11.9)$$

Proof:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial q^r} \left(\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \right) \dot{q}^r = \frac{\partial^2 x_i}{\partial q^m \partial q^r} \dot{q}^r =$$

But q^m is independent of $\dot{q}^r$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial q^m} \left(\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^r} \dot{q}^r \right) = \frac{\partial \dot{x}_i}{\partial q^m}$$

from $\underbrace{\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^r} \dot{q}^r}_{\text{Eq. (11.6)}} = \dot{x}_i$



Lagrangian Equation of Motion for (*Independent Set of Generalized Coordinates*)

A mechanical system classified according to the coordinate description generally fall under one of the following categories:

Rheonomic Systems: The description of configuration by the generalized coordinates varies with time throughout the dynamic process.

$$x_i = f_i(q^m, t) \quad q^m = \text{Gen. Coords.} \quad (11.10)$$

Scleronomic Systems: The description is not explicitly time dependent.

$$x_i = f_i(q^m) \quad (11.11)$$



Theorem-43: Throughout the dynamic process of a mechanical system, the motion in the Independent Set of generalized coordinates $\{q^m\}$ will satisfy the equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}^m} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q^m} = Q_m \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (11.12)$$

Proof: Based on Leibniz Principle; $\delta T - \delta U = 0$

In $\{x_i\}$ space: Kinetic Energy expression for a single particle is;

$$T = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}_i \dot{x}_i \Rightarrow$$

$$\dot{T} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}_i \dot{x}_i \right) = m \ddot{x}_i \dot{x}_i = \frac{d}{dt} (m \dot{x}_i) \dot{x}_i = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \right) \dot{x}_i$$



$$\dot{T} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}_i \dot{x}_i \right) = m \ddot{x}_i \dot{x}_i = \frac{d}{dt} (m \dot{x}_i) \dot{x}_i = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \right) \dot{x}_i$$

$$dT = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \right) dx_i$$

$$\delta T = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \right) \delta x_i \quad \text{\textcolor{orange}{\{Virtual Change in K.E. in terms of Virtual Displacement\}}} \quad \text{\textcolor{orange}{(11.13)}}$$

Going to $\{q^m\}$ space: Since by eq. (11.7); $\delta x_i = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \delta q^m$

$$\delta T = \left[\underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \right)}_U \underbrace{\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m}}_V \right] \delta q^m$$

but : $(dU)V = d(UV) - UdV$



$$\delta T = \left[\underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \right)}_U \underbrace{\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m}}_V \right] \delta q^m, \quad \text{but : } (dU)V = d(UV) - UdV$$

$$\delta T = \left[\underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \right)}_{\text{Eq.(11.8)}} - \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \right)}_{\text{Eq.(11.9)}} \right] \delta q^m$$

$$\delta T = \left[\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q^m} \right] \delta q^m$$

$$\delta T = \left[\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}^m} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q^m} \right] \delta q^m \quad (11.14)$$



$$\delta T = \left[\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}^m} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q^m} \right] \delta q^m \quad (11.14)$$

But : $\begin{cases} \delta U = \delta T & (\text{From Leibniz Principle}) \\ \delta U = Q_m \delta q^m & (\text{Def. of Generalized Force}) \end{cases}$

(11.3)

From Equations (11.14) and (11.3) we have:

$$\left[\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}^m} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q^m} - Q_m \right] \delta q^m = 0 \quad (11.15)$$

Since δq^m is independent and arbitrary, then:

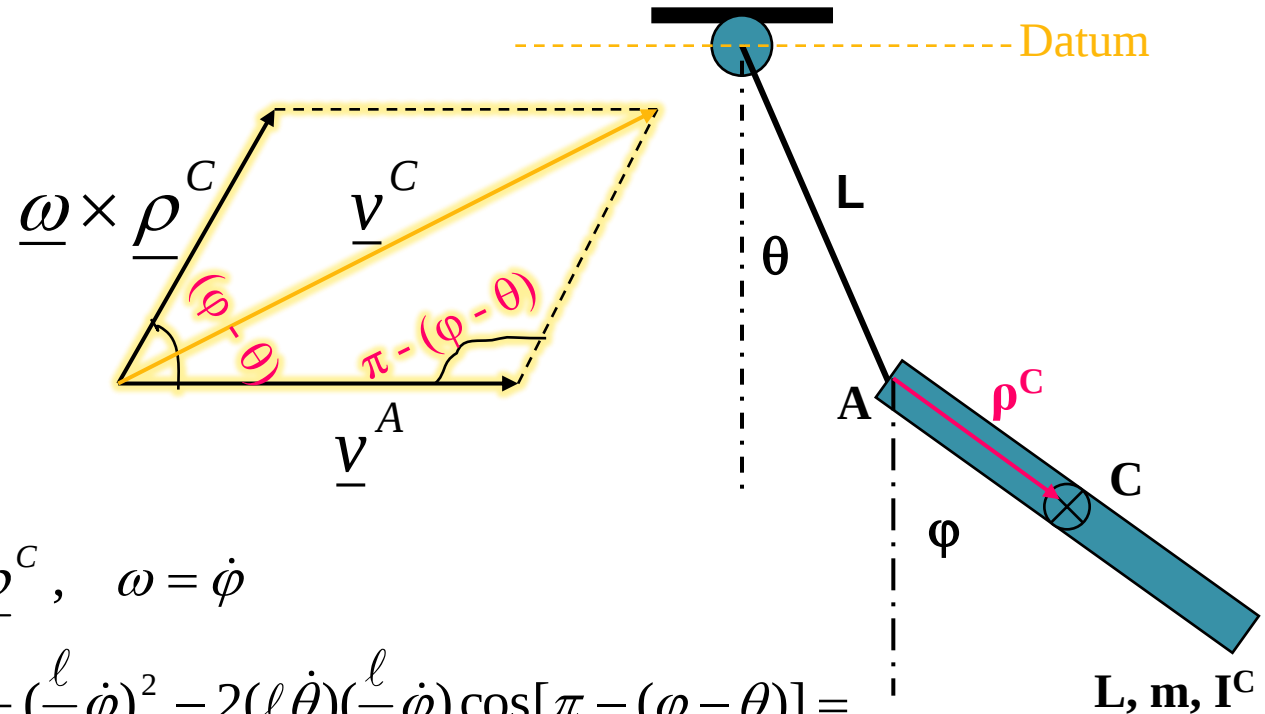
$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}^m} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q^m} = Q_m \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (11.12)$$

Lagrangian Equation of Motion for Independent Set of Generalized Coordinates. Applies to both Scleronomic and Rheonomic Systems.



Example: Express Differential Equations of Motion of the following system:

1. Motion:



$$\underline{v}^C = \underline{v}^A + \underline{\omega} \times \underline{\rho}^C, \quad \omega = \dot{\varphi}$$

$$(v^C)^2 = (\ell \dot{\theta})^2 + \left(\frac{\ell}{2} \dot{\varphi}\right)^2 - 2(\ell \dot{\theta})\left(\frac{\ell}{2} \dot{\varphi}\right) \cos[\pi - (\varphi - \theta)] =$$

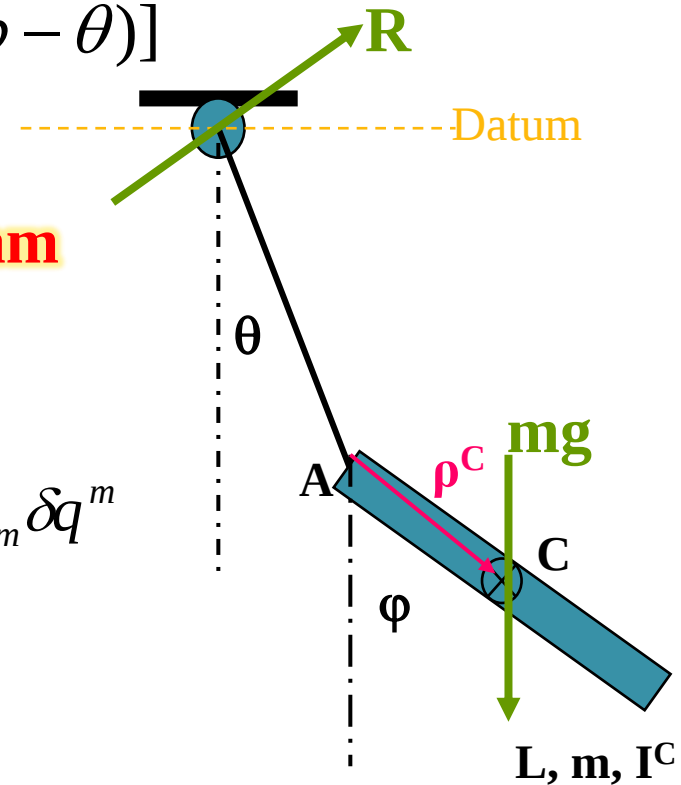
$$= (\ell^2 \dot{\theta}^2) + \frac{1}{4} \ell^2 \dot{\varphi}^2 + \ell^2 \dot{\theta} \dot{\varphi} \cos(\varphi - \theta)$$

2. Kinetic Energy:

$$T = T^{(e)} + T^{(i)} = \frac{1}{2} m v_C^2 + \frac{1}{2} I^C \omega^2$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} m \left[\ell^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + \frac{1}{4} \ell^2 \dot{\phi}^2 + \ell^2 \dot{\theta} \dot{\phi} \cos(\phi - \theta) \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{m \ell^2}{12} \right) \dot{\phi}^2$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} m \left[\ell^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + \frac{1}{3} \ell^2 \dot{\phi}^2 + \ell^2 \dot{\theta} \dot{\phi} \cos(\phi - \theta) \right]$$



3. Virtual Work: Free Body Diagram

$$U = mg \left[\ell \cos \theta + \frac{\ell}{2} \cos \phi \right]$$

$$\delta U = mg \ell \left[-\sin \theta \delta \theta - \frac{1}{2} \sin \phi \delta \phi \right] \equiv Q_m \delta q^m$$

$$\{Q_m\} = \begin{Bmatrix} Q_\theta \\ Q_\phi \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} -mg \ell \sin \theta \\ -\frac{1}{2} mg \ell \sin \phi \end{Bmatrix}$$



4. Apply the Lagrangian Equation of Motion:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}^m} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q^m} = Q_m; \quad m = 1, 2$$

For $q^1 = \theta \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = m\ell^2 \dot{\theta} + \frac{1}{2} m\ell^2 \dot{\phi} \cos(\phi - \theta)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{\theta}} \right) = m\ell^2 \ddot{\theta} + \frac{1}{2} m\ell^2 \ddot{\phi} \cos(\phi - \theta) + \frac{1}{2} m\ell^2 \dot{\phi} (\dot{\phi} - \dot{\theta}) [-\sin(\phi - \theta)]$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} = \frac{1}{2} m\ell^2 \dot{\theta} \dot{\phi} \sin(\phi - \theta)$$

Substituting into the Lagrange's equation, we get:

$$m\ell^2 \ddot{\theta} + \frac{1}{2} m\ell^2 \ddot{\phi} \cos(\phi - \theta) + \frac{1}{2} m\ell^2 \dot{\phi}^2 \sin(\phi - \theta) = -mg\ell \sin \theta \leftarrow$$

For $q^2 = \phi$, we can similarly solve for the second equation of motion.



Example: Express Differential Equation of Motion of the **YOYO** shown (an example for *Rheonomic* System where $\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{q}^m, t)$)?

Consider the Pendulum as a 1-DOF system described by “ θ ”. Then “ $\underline{\mathbf{F}}$ ” (tensile force) does no virtual work, because “ $\underline{\mathbf{L}}$ ” does not change in virtual displacement, which holds time constant.

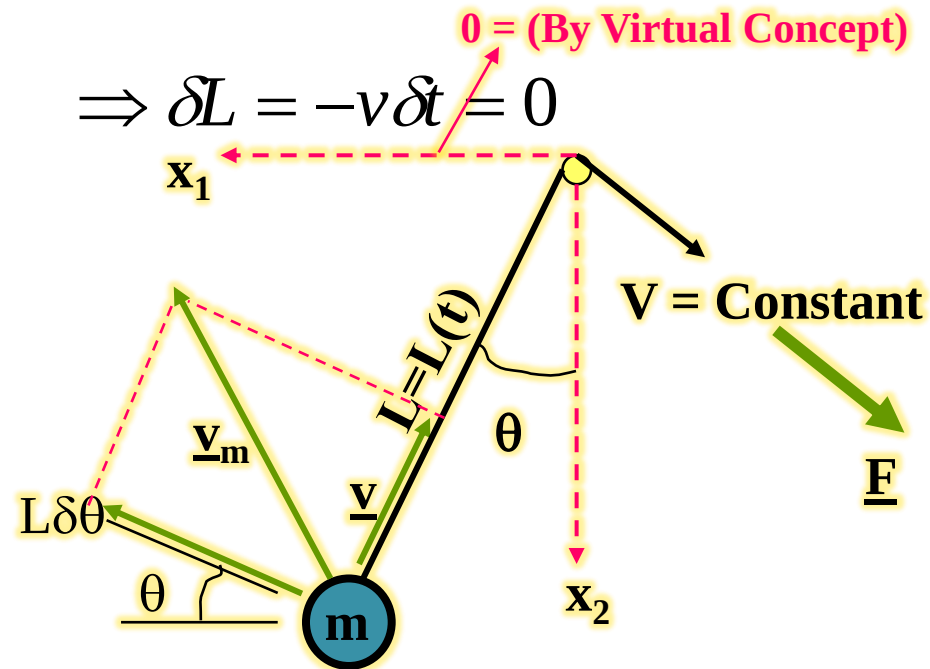
$$L = L_0 - vt \quad \Rightarrow \quad \dot{L} = -v \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta L = -v \delta t = 0$$

$$\delta U = \underline{\mathbf{F}} \cdot \delta \underline{\mathbf{L}} = 0$$

1. Motion:

Initial Length is; $\mathbf{L}_0$

Current Length is; $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{L}_0 - vt$



$$\underline{r} = L \sin \theta \underline{e}_1 + L \cos \theta \underline{e}_2 =$$

$$= \underbrace{(L_0 - vt) \sin \theta}_{\underline{x}_1} \underline{e}_1 + \underbrace{(L_0 - vt) \cos \theta}_{\underline{x}_2} \underline{e}_2$$

Note that: $\underline{x}_i = \underline{f}_i(\theta, t)$

$$\dot{\underline{r}} = L \dot{\theta} \cos \theta \underline{e}_1 - L \dot{\theta} \sin \theta \underline{e}_2 - v \sin \theta \underline{e}_1 - v \cos \theta \underline{e}_2$$

$$(v_m)^2 = L^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + v^2$$

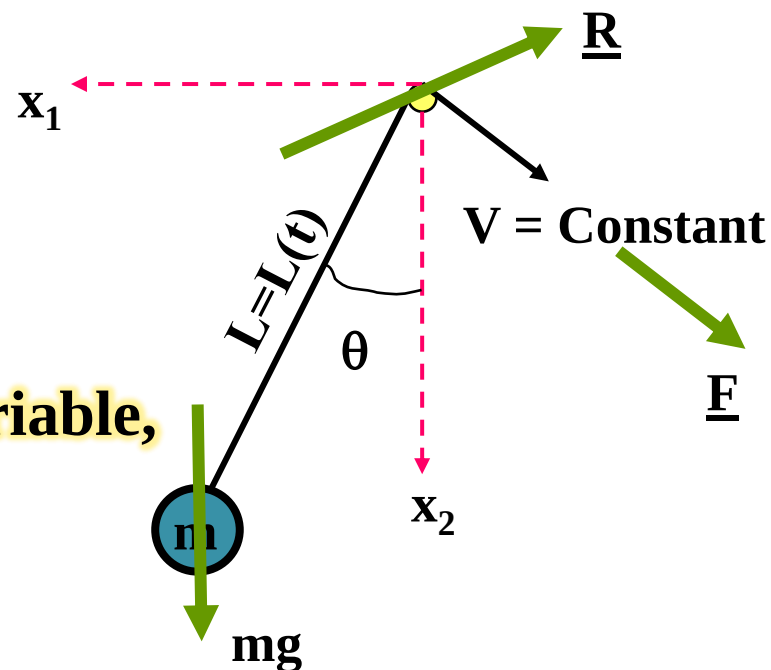
2. Kinetic Energy:

$$T = \frac{1}{2} m v_m^2 = \frac{1}{2} m (L^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + v^2)$$

3. Virtual Work: θ is the only variable, and Free Body Diagram;

$$\delta U = -mgL \sin \theta \delta \theta \Rightarrow$$

$$Q_\theta = -mgL \sin \theta$$



4. Apply Lagrange's Equation of Motion:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{\theta}}\right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} = Q_{\theta}$$

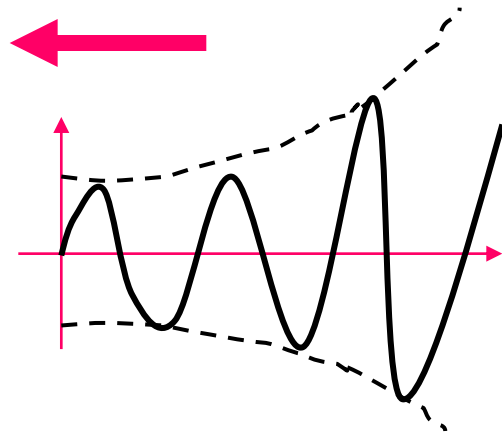
$$\frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{\theta}}\right) = \frac{d}{dt}(mL^2 \dot{\theta}) = mL^2 \ddot{\theta} + 2mL\dot{L}\dot{\theta} = mL^2 \ddot{\theta} - 2mLv\dot{\theta}$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} = 0$$

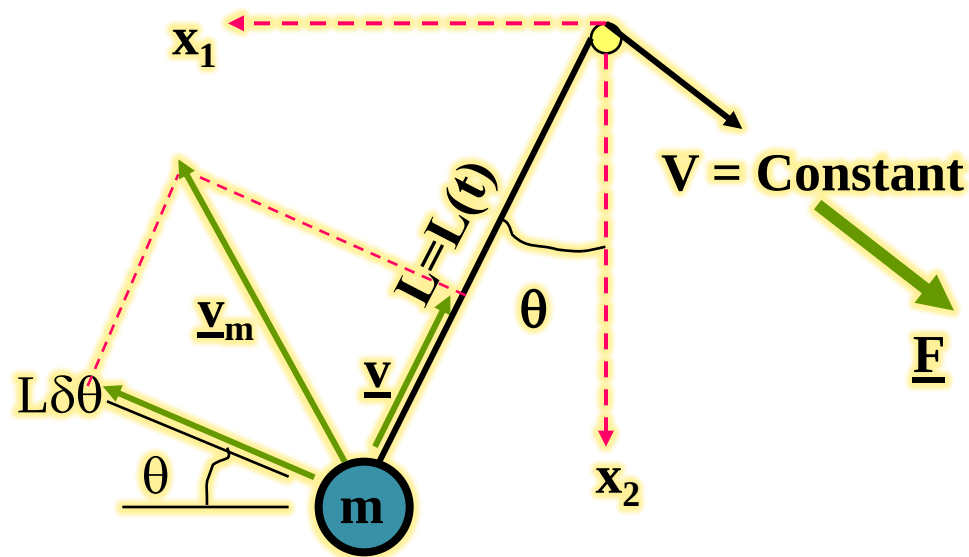
$$mL^2 \ddot{\theta} - 2mLv\dot{\theta} + mgL \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\ddot{\theta} - \frac{2v}{L}\dot{\theta} + \frac{g}{L}\theta = 0 \quad (\text{For Small Angles})$$

(Negative damping results in an Unstable system)



Another Approach to the YOYO Problem: “ θ ” and “ L ” are constrained generalized coordinates that satisfy $L=L(t)$. Then, “ L ” increases by “ δL ” in a virtual movement, and “ $\underline{F}$ ” does virtual work. Then, we need to formulate the problem by **Lagrange’s Equation for Dependent Set of Generalized Coordinates**.



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