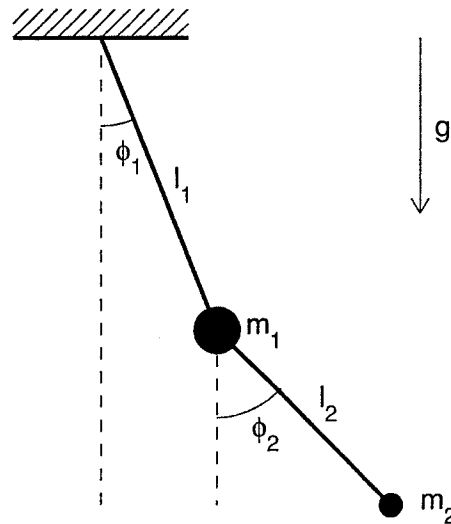


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A double pendulum consists of one pendulum attached to another. Consider a double bob pendulum with masses $m_1 = M$ and $m_2 = m$ attached by rigid massless wires of length $l_1 = l_2 = l$. Further, let the angles the two wires make with the vertical be denoted ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 , as illustrated above. Finally, let the acceleration due to gravity be g . The motion is in the x-y plane and frictionless.

1. Show that the Lagrange function is

$$L = \frac{1}{2} (M + m) l^2 \dot{\phi}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m l^2 \dot{\phi}_2^2 + m l^2 \dot{\phi}_1 \dot{\phi}_2 \cos(\phi_1 - \phi_2) + (M + m) g l \cos \phi_1 + m g l \cos \phi_2$$

2. Determine the generalized momenta p_1 and p_2 that are conjugate to ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 .
3. Determine the Euler-Lagrange equations of motion for ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 .

Next we study small oscillations, i.e. $|\phi_1| \ll 1$ and $|\phi_2| \ll 1$.

4. Determine the characteristic frequencies. Sketch ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 as a function of time on the same graph to show the phase relation.
5. What are the limiting values for the frequencies for large M ? What is special about this case?