
Double Pendulum

Completed and Analyzed in class, February 25, 2025

This is the tenth notebook for you to complete.

Double Pendulum — Angular Accelerations — Recap

Copied over from the theory we just examined, which used the simplifying values, $\frac{m_2}{m_1} = \frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{L_2}{L_1} = \frac{1}{4}$, and $\frac{g}{L_1} = 4 \pi^2$, we have:

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{-28 \pi^2 \sin \theta_1 - 4 \pi^2 \sin(\theta_1 - 2 \theta_2) - 2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \left(\frac{1}{4} \omega_2^2 + \omega_1^2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \right)}{7 - \cos 2(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}$$

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{8 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \left(4 \omega_1^2 + 16 \pi^2 \cos \theta_1 + \frac{1}{4} \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \right)}{7 - \cos 2(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}$$

```
alpha1[theta1_, theta2_, omega1_, omega2_] :=  
  1 / (7 - Cos[2 (theta1 - theta2)]) * (-28 Pi^2 Sin[theta1] - 4 Pi^2 Sin[theta1 - 2 theta2] -  
    2 Sin[theta1 - theta2] * (1/4 omega2^2 + omega1^2 Cos[theta1 - theta2]));
```

(* I did the harder one. You do alpha2, which is still pretty messy: *)

```
alpha2[theta1_, theta2_, omega1_, omega2_] := sheep dog;
```

Initial Conditions

First set up the duration. Let's also define **steps** and **deltaT** while we are at it:

```
In[3]:= tInitial = 0.0;  
tFinal = 20.0;  
steps = 60000;  
deltaT = (tFinal - tInitial) / steps;
```

We'll start the pendulum horizontally:

```
In[7]:= theta1Initial = -90 °;  
theta2Initial = 90 °;  
omega1Initial = 0.0;  
omega2Initial = 0.0;
```

```
In[11]:= initialConditions =
      {tInitial, theta1Initial, theta2Initial, omega1Initial, omega2Initial};
```

“Goofer King” likes to start his horizontally in his YouTube video:



Second-Order Runge-Kutta — Double Pendulum — Recap

Also copied over from the theory:

$$t_{i+1} = t_i + \Delta t$$

$$\theta_1^* = \theta_1(t_i) + \omega_1(t_i) \cdot \frac{\Delta t}{2}$$

$$\theta_2^* = \theta_2(t_i) + \omega_2(t_i) \cdot \frac{\Delta t}{2}$$

$$\omega_1^* = \omega_1(t_i) + \alpha_1(\theta_1(t_i), \theta_2(t_i), \omega_1(t_i), \omega_2(t_i)) \cdot \frac{\Delta t}{2}$$

$$\omega_2^* = \omega_2(t_i) + \alpha_2(\theta_1(t_i), \theta_2(t_i), \omega_1(t_i), \omega_2(t_i)) \cdot \frac{\Delta t}{2}$$

$$\omega_1(t_{i+1}) = \omega_1(t_i) + \alpha_1(\theta_1^*, \theta_2^*, \omega_1^*, \omega_2^*) \cdot \Delta t$$

$$\omega_2(t_{i+1}) = \omega_2(t_i) + \alpha_2(\theta_1^*, \theta_2^*, \omega_1^*, \omega_2^*) \cdot \Delta t$$

$$\theta_1(t_{i+1}) = \theta_1(t_i) + (\omega_1(t_i) + \omega_1(t_{i+1})) \frac{\Delta t}{2}$$

$$\theta_2(t_{i+1}) = \theta_2(t_i) + (\omega_2(t_i) + \omega_2(t_{i+1})) \frac{\Delta t}{2}$$

Second-Order Runge-Kutta — Implementation

```
In[12]:= rungeKutta2[cc_] := (
  curTime = cc[[1]];
  curTheta1 = cc[[2]];
  the quick brown fox;
  {newTime, newTheta1, newTheta2, newOmega1, newOmega2}
)
rungeKutta2[initialConditions]
(* I get {0.000333333,-1.57079,1.5708,0.0131595,1.35978x10-20}. *)
```

Using NestList[] to Repeatedly Apply rungeKutta2[]

```
In[14]:= rk2Results = Transpose[NestList[rungeKutta2, initialConditions, steps]];
```

Transposing to Get Points for ListLinePlot[]

```
In[15]:= times = rk2Results[[1]];
theta1s = rk2Results[[2]];
theta2s = rk2Results[[3]];
timesAndTheta1s = Transpose[{times, theta1s}];
timesAndTheta2s = Transpose[{times, theta2s}];
ListLinePlot[{timesAndTheta1s, timesAndTheta2s}]
```

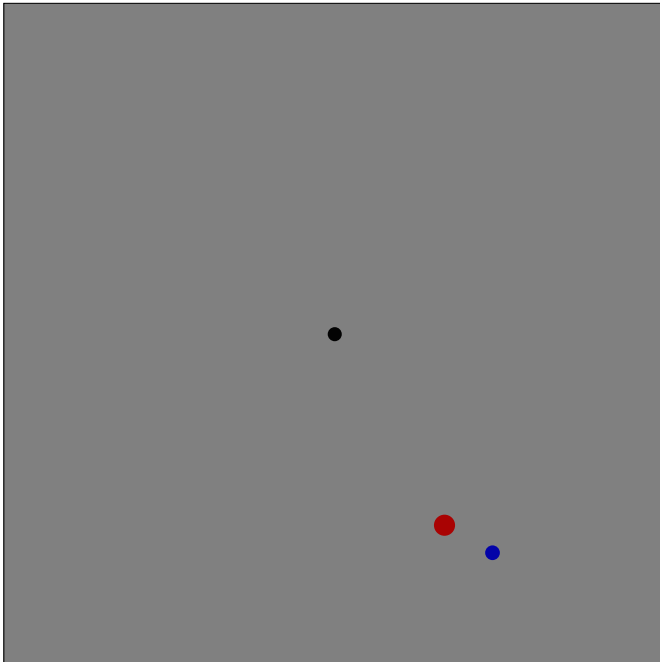
A Graphic

```

largerPointSize = 0.03;
smallerPointSize = N[largerPointSize / Power[3, 1 / 3]];
largerRodLength = 4;
smallerRodLength = 1;
doublePendulumGraphic[{theta1_, theta2_}] := Graphics[{
  buffer = 1.0;
  halfWidth = largerRodLength + smallerRodLength + buffer;
  pivotPoint = {0.0, 0.0};
  mass1Point = largerRodLength {Sin[theta1], -Cos[theta1]};
  mass2Offset = smallerRodLength {Sin[theta2], -Cos[theta2]};
  mass2Point = mass1Point + mass2Offset;
  (* the next line makes a gray square *)
  {EdgeForm[Thin], Gray, Polygon[{{-halfWidth, -halfWidth},
    {-halfWidth, halfWidth}, {halfWidth, halfWidth}, {halfWidth, -halfWidth}}]},
  (* If you want your graphic to be pretty draw the rods. *)
  (* Otherwise just draw the pivot points and the masses. *)
}]
(* Does the code draws something reasonable? *)
doublePendulumGraphic[{30 °, 60 °}]

```

It should look like this:



Animating The Graphics

```
theta1sAndtheta2s = Transpose[{theta1s, theta2s}];  
slomoFactor = 3; (* the thing is hard to follow at full speed *)  
Animate[doublePendulumGraphic[theta1sAndtheta2s[[i]],  
  {i, 1, steps, 1}, DefaultDuration → slomoFactor (tFinal - tInitial)]
```

Comparing with YouTube

Check out Goofer King's video of the crazy, chaotic double pendulum, <https://youtu.be/6nhzrq4ALMc>.

Here is an Oxford Mathematics professor admiring a similar setup: <https://youtu.be/hv4fFWncyfM>.