

# Ch 2. Investigation of the Equation of Motion

★ System with one degree of freedom  $\ddot{x} = f(x)$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Kinetic energy } T = \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 \\ \text{Potential energy } U(x) = - \int_{x_0}^x f(\xi) d\xi \end{array} \right\} \text{Total energy } E = T + U$$

Conservation of energy. If  $\ddot{x} = f(x)$ , then  $E(x(t), \dot{x}(t))$  is independent of  $t$ .

Phase flow.  $\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = f(x) \end{cases}$  (2) . Phase plane  $(x, y)$ .

The vector field  $(y, f(x))$ : phase velocity vector field.

A motion  $\varphi: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  solves (2). The image of  $\varphi$ : phase curve.  
 $(\varphi(t), \dot{\varphi}(t))$

Equilibrium position:  $\varphi(t) = \text{const}$ ,  $\dot{\varphi}(t) = \text{const}$   
 $(\varphi_0, 0)$

Energy level set:  $E(x, y) = h$ . By conservation of energy, each phase curve lies entirely in one energy level set.

Example 2. Equilibrium pt  $\leftrightarrow$  critical pt of  $U$ . Figures.

The ball cannot jump out of the potential well.

Phase flow.  $M(t) = g^t M \quad g^t: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$M(t)$  solves the system (2) and assumed exists  
 $g^t$ : one-parameter group of diffeomorphisms  
 the phase flow of system (2).

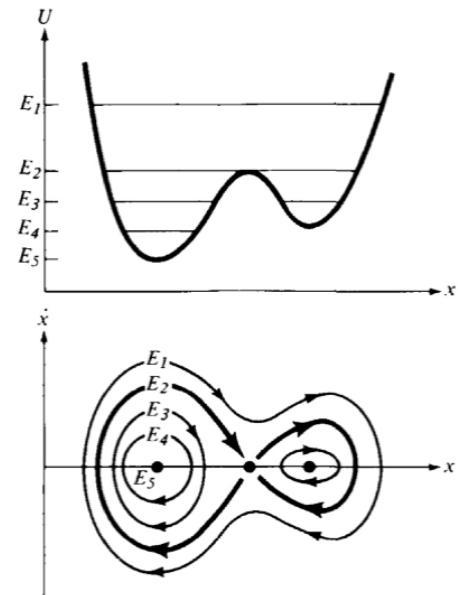


Figure 10 Potential energy and phase curves

## Systems with two degrees of freedom

$\ddot{x} = f(x), \quad x \in E^2$ . Conservative system:  $f = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}$

Th. The total energy of a conservative system is conserved.

For  $x \in E^2$ ,  $U = - \int^x f(\vec{z}) d\vec{z}$  is a potential. For  $x \in E^d$ ,  $d \geq 2$ , there exists non-conservative system.

Similar as before, we have the phase space  $(x_1, x_2, \dot{x}_1, \dot{x}_2)$

Phase flow: group of diffeomorphism of phase space.

Level set of energy  $\Pi_{E_0}$ . Then  $g^t \Pi_{E_0} = \Pi_{E_0}$ .

Visualization: project to  $(x_1, x_2)$  plane.

Example 1. Homework.

Example 2. Lissajous figures.  $\begin{cases} \ddot{x}_1 = -x_1, & U = \frac{1}{2}x_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 x_2^2 \\ \ddot{x}_2 = -\omega^2 x_2. & E = \frac{1}{2}(\dot{x}_1^2 + \dot{x}_2^2) + U(x_1, x_2) \end{cases}$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = A_1 \sin(t + \varphi_1) \\ x_2 = A_2 \sin(\omega t + \varphi_2) \end{cases}$$

Figures.

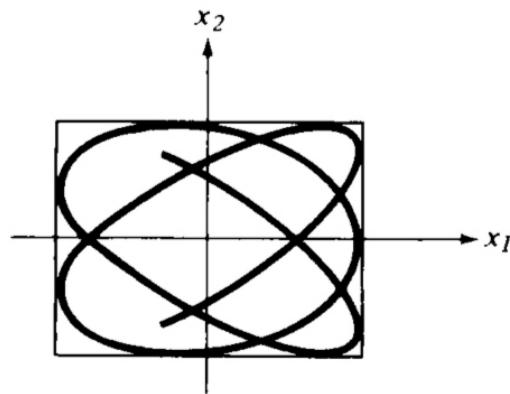


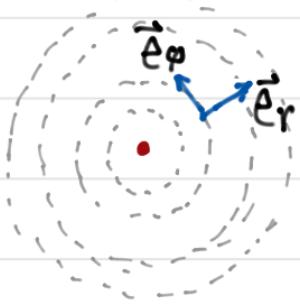
Figure 21 Lissajous figure with  $\omega \approx 1$

Work:  $\int_L \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{s}$  line integral.

**Theorem.**  $\vec{F}$  is conservative  $\Leftrightarrow \int_L \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{s}$  is independent of path.

**Definition.** A vector field is called **central** with center at 0, if it is invariant w.r.t. the group of motions of the plane which fix 0.

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}) = \Phi(r) \vec{e}_r$$



$$\vec{r} = (r, \phi), \quad \vec{e}_r = \frac{\vec{r}}{r} = \frac{\vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|} \text{ is the unit vector}$$

$$\begin{cases} x = r \cos \phi, \\ y = r \sin \phi. \end{cases} \quad \vec{e}_\phi \perp \vec{e}_r \text{ and } \vec{e}_r, \vec{e}_\phi \text{ form a RH coor.}$$

**Theorem.** Every central field is conservative and  $U(\vec{r}) = \int_0^{\vec{r}} \Phi(r) dr$ .

# Angular momentum

Motion in a central field

$$\ddot{\vec{r}} = \Phi(r) \vec{e}_r \quad (1)$$

The angular momentum:  $M = \vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}}$

**Conservation of the angular momentum**

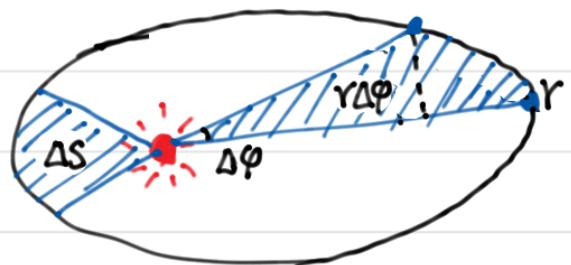
**THEOREM.** If  $\vec{r}$  is determined by (1), then  $M = \vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}}$  is a constant.

Pf.  $M = \vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}}$ . Then  $\dot{M} = \dot{\vec{r}} \times \dot{\vec{r}} + \vec{r} \times \ddot{\vec{r}} = 0 + \vec{r} \times \Phi(r) \vec{r} = 0$ . #.

**Kepler's law**

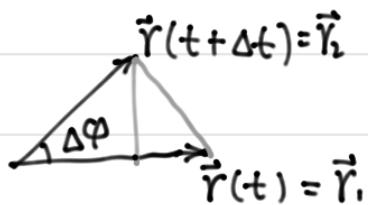
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \text{const}$$

is the law of conservation of angular momentum.



$$\Delta S = \frac{1}{2} r (r \Delta \phi) + o(\Delta t) = \frac{1}{2} r^2 \dot{\phi} \Delta t + o(\Delta t).$$

$$M = \vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}} = \vec{r} \times (\dot{r} \vec{e}_r + r \dot{\phi} \vec{e}_\phi) = r^2 \dot{\phi} (\vec{e}_r \times \vec{e}_\phi). \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ r^2 \dot{\phi} \text{ is const.} \end{array} \right\}$$



$$\vec{r}_2 = (r_2 \cos \Delta \phi) \vec{e}_r + (r_2 \sin \Delta \phi) \vec{e}_\phi$$

$$\vec{r}_1 = r_1 \vec{e}_r$$

$$\dot{\vec{r}} = \dot{r} \vec{e}_r + r \dot{\phi} \vec{e}_\phi$$

$$\frac{\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1}{\Delta t} = \frac{r_2 \cos \Delta \phi - r_1}{\Delta t} \vec{e}_r + \frac{r_2 \sin \Delta \phi}{\Delta t} \vec{e}_\phi$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \vec{e}_r = \dot{\phi} \vec{e}_\phi \\ \vec{e}_\phi = -\dot{\phi} \vec{e}_r \end{array} \right\} \text{rotation}$$

$$r_2 = r_1 + \dot{r}_1 \Delta t + o(\Delta t), \cos \Delta \phi = 1 + o(\Delta \phi), \sin \Delta \phi = \Delta \phi + o(\Delta \phi)$$

$$\dot{r}_1, \dot{\phi}$$

## ★ Investigation of motion in a central field

Solve  $\ddot{\vec{r}} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{r}}$ ,  $U = U(r)$  depends only on  $r = |\vec{r}|$ .

Although  $\vec{r} \in E^2$ , (2 d.o.f.) central field reduces it to 1-D problem.

$$\boxed{\ddot{r} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial r}}$$

$$V(r) = U(r) + \frac{M^2}{2r^2} \quad \text{effective potential}$$

Pf.  $\dot{\vec{r}} = \dot{r}\vec{e}_r + r\dot{\varphi}\vec{e}_\varphi$ ,  $\vec{e}_r = \dot{\varphi}\vec{e}_\varphi$ ,  $\vec{e}_\varphi = -\dot{r}\vec{e}_r$

$$\ddot{\vec{r}} = \ddot{r}\vec{e}_r + \dot{r}\dot{\vec{e}}_r + \dot{r}\dot{\varphi}\vec{e}_\varphi + r\ddot{\varphi}\vec{e}_\varphi + r\dot{\varphi}\dot{\vec{e}}_\varphi$$

$$= (\ddot{r} - r\dot{\varphi}^2)\vec{e}_r + (2\dot{r}\dot{\varphi} + r\ddot{\varphi})\vec{e}_\varphi \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \ddot{r} - r\dot{\varphi}^2 = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial r} \\ 2\dot{r}\dot{\varphi} + r\ddot{\varphi} = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial r} \vec{e}_r$$

$$\ddot{r} - r\dot{\varphi}^2 = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial r}$$

$$2\dot{r}\dot{\varphi} + r\ddot{\varphi} = 0$$

$$d(r^2\dot{\varphi}) = 0$$

$\dot{\varphi} = \frac{M}{r^2}$  substitute back to get the eqn. *angular momentum* #.

Try to solve ODE:  $\boxed{\ddot{r} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial r} + \frac{M^2}{r^3}}$ .

Use the method: conservation of energy.  $E = \frac{1}{2}\dot{r}^2 + V(r) = \text{const}$

$$\dot{r} = \sqrt{2(E - V(r))}, \quad \dot{\varphi} = \frac{M}{r^2} \quad \frac{d\varphi}{dr} = \frac{M}{r^2\sqrt{2(E - V(r))}}$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} \quad \frac{d\varphi}{dt} \quad \varphi = \int \frac{M}{r^2\sqrt{2(E - V(r))}} dr$$

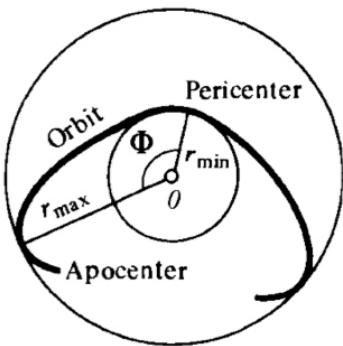
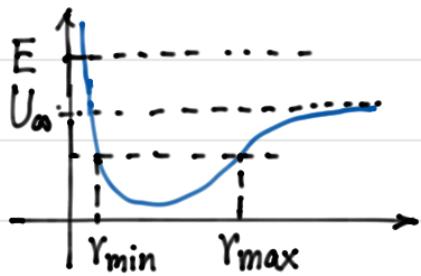


Figure 32 Orbit of a point in a central field



$$E = \frac{1}{2} \dot{r}^2 + V(r) \text{ is constant}$$

$$\text{if } \lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} V(r) = \lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} U(r) = U_\infty, \text{ then } \dot{r}_\infty = \sqrt{2(E - V_\infty)}$$

The point goes to infinity with speed  $\dot{r}_\infty$

Kepler's problem:  $U = -\frac{k}{r}$ ,  $V(r) = -\frac{k}{r} + \frac{M^2}{2r^2}$   
gravity potential

Integrate to get  $r = \frac{p}{1+e \cos \varphi}$ ,  $p$ : parameter;  $e$ : eccentricity.

The motion of a point in three-space.

Skip. Almost identical.

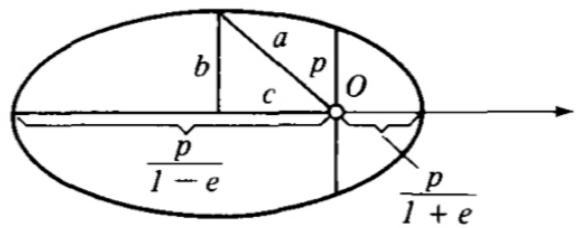


Figure 35 Keplerian ellipse

Motions of a System of  $n$  points

Newton's equations  $m_i \ddot{\vec{r}}_i = \vec{F}_i, i=1,2,\dots,n$ .

forces of interaction:  $\vec{F}_{ij} = -\vec{F}_{ji} = \vec{f}_{ij}, \vec{e}_{ij}$

closed system: all forces are interaction  $\vec{F}_i = \sum_j \vec{F}_{ij}$

# Kepler's Problem

- ① · First law: the planets describe ellipse, with the sun at one focus.
- ② · Second law: in equal times the radius vector sweeps out equal areas, so that the sectorial velocity is constant
- ③ · Third law: the period of revolution around an elliptical orbit depends only on the size of the major semi-axes. The squares of the revolution periods of two planets on different elliptical orbits have the same ratio as the cubes of their major semi-axes:  $T^2 \sim a^3$

Answer or Proofs. ② second law is the conservation of angular momentum which holds for all central field motion.

①, ③ can be derived by solving  $\ddot{\vec{r}} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{r}}$ , for  $U(\vec{r}) = -\frac{k}{\vec{r}}$ .

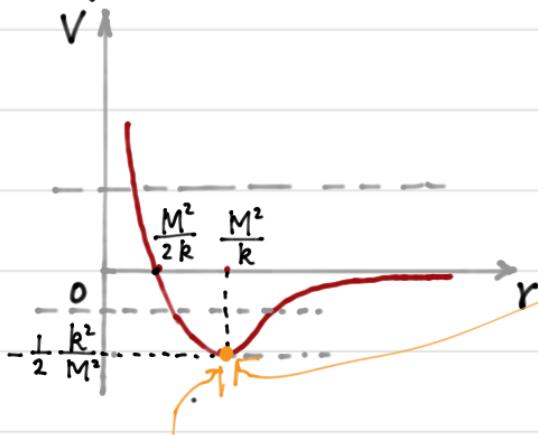
Use moving frame  $(\vec{e}_r, \vec{e}_\theta)$ , the egn  $\ddot{\vec{r}} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{r}}$  can be reduced to two  
 $\ddot{r} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial r}$ , with effective potential  $V(r) = U(r) + \frac{M^2}{2r^2}$   
 $\{ M := r^2 \dot{\varphi} = \text{const}$  conservation of angular momentum

Use conservation of energy,  $E = \frac{1}{2} \dot{r}^2 + V(r) = \text{const}$ , we can solve  
 $\dot{r} = \sqrt{2(E-V)}$ . Together with  $\dot{\varphi} = \frac{M}{r^2}$ , we get

$$\frac{d\varphi}{dr} = \frac{M/r^2}{\sqrt{2(E-V(r))}} . \quad \varphi = \int \frac{M/r^2}{\sqrt{2(E-V(r))}} dr.$$

initial location and velocity  $(\vec{r}_0, \dot{\vec{r}}_0) \rightarrow (E, M) \rightarrow \varphi = \varphi(r)$ .

For gravitational field,  $U(r) = -\frac{k}{r}$ ,  $V(r) = -\frac{k}{r} + \frac{M^2}{2r^2}$



For  $r_0 = \frac{M^2}{k}$ ,  $\dot{r}_0 = 0$ , the trajectory is a circle  $r = r_0$ . Note that only the norm remains the same. The vector  $\vec{r}(t)$  is changing as  $\dot{\varphi} = \frac{M}{r^2}$  is const.

When  $E > 0$ ,  $r(t) \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $V_\infty = 0$ ,  $\dot{r} = \sqrt{2E} > 0$ .

For  $U(r) = -\frac{k}{r}$ , it is integrable and the solution can be written as

$$r = \frac{p}{1 + e \cos \varphi}, \quad p = \frac{M^2}{k}, \quad e = \sqrt{1 + \frac{2EM^2}{k^2}}$$

eccentricity

when  $E = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{k^2}{M^2}$ ,  $e = 0$ . It reduces to  $r = p$  which is a circle.

For planets orbits,  $e \ll 1$ . It is almost a circle.

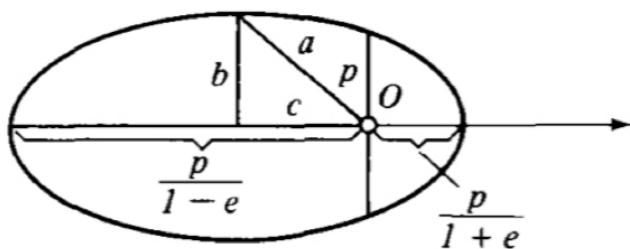


Figure 35 Keplerian ellipse

$$a = \frac{p}{1 - e^2}, \quad b = a\sqrt{1 - e^2} \approx a(1 - \frac{1}{2}e^2), \quad c = ae$$

external force:  $\vec{F}_i$

Momentum:  $P = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \dot{\vec{r}}_i$ ,  $\frac{dP}{dt} = \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{F}_i$

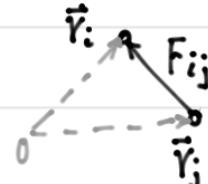
Center of mass:  $\vec{r} = \frac{\sum m_i \vec{r}_i}{\sum m_i}$

Equation for the center of mass:  $(\sum m_i) \ddot{\vec{r}} = \sum \vec{F}_i$  1-D problem

Angular momentum of a system:  $M = \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{r}_i \times m_i \dot{\vec{r}}_i$

Equation:  $\frac{dM}{dt} = \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{r}_i \times \vec{F}_i$  only external force.

$$\vec{r}_i \times \vec{F}_{ij} + \vec{r}_j \times \vec{F}_{ji} = (\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) \times \vec{F}_{ij} = 0$$



Kinetic energy  $T = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_i \dot{\vec{r}}_i^2}{2}$

Equation:  $\frac{dT}{dt} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\dot{\vec{r}}_i, \vec{F}_i)$

$$\vec{r} = (\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_n)$$

$$\vec{F} = (\vec{F}_1, \vec{F}_2, \dots, \vec{F}_n)$$

Conservative system:  $\int_{M_1}^{M_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \Phi(M_1, M_2)$  independent of path

$$\Leftrightarrow \vec{F} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{r}}$$

For a conservative system  $E = T + U$  is preserved.

Interaction force  $f_{ij} = f_{ij}(|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|)$ , then  $U_{ij}(\vec{r}) = \int_{r_0}^r f_{ij}(\rho) d\rho$

$U(\vec{r}) = \sum_{i>j} U_{ij}(|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|)$  is the potential.

Pf. verify  $-\frac{\partial U_{ij}(|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|)}{\partial \vec{r}_i} = -f_{ij} \frac{\partial |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|}{\partial \vec{r}_i} = f_{ij} \vec{e}_{ij}$

## The two-body problem.

$$\begin{cases} m_1 \ddot{\vec{r}}_1 = \vec{F}_1, & \vec{F}_i = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{r}_i} \\ m_2 \ddot{\vec{r}}_2 = \vec{F}_2, & U = U(|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|) \end{cases} \quad \text{conservative}$$

so  $m_1 \dot{\vec{r}}_1 + m_2 \dot{\vec{r}}_2 = \vec{P}$  is constant.  $\vec{r}_0 = \frac{m_1}{m_1+m_2} \vec{r}_1 + \frac{m_2}{m_1+m_2} \vec{r}_2$

Then  $\dot{\vec{r}}_0 = \frac{1}{m_1+m_2} \vec{P}$ . So the center of mass moves uniformly and linearly.

$$m_1 m_2 (\ddot{\vec{r}}_1 - \ddot{\vec{r}}_2) = -(m_1 + m_2) \frac{\partial U}{\partial (\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2)}$$

For planets, the center's eqn is  $\dot{\vec{r}}_0 = 0$ . Not moving. It becomes the foci of the ellipse.

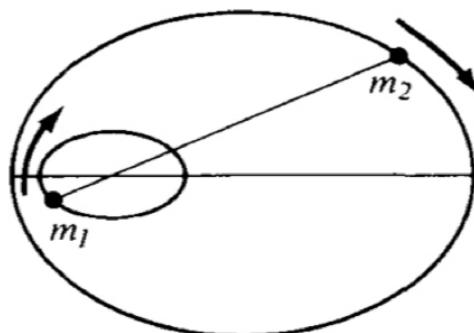


Figure 40 The two body problem