

PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and Mathematical Methods 10-10:50 AM MWF Olin 103

Plan for Lecture 17:

Start reading Chapter 7

1. Comments on linear vs. non-linear equations
2. Masses coupled by springs $\longleftrightarrow$ masses coupled by string
3. Mechanics one-dimensional continuous system
4. The wave equation

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Events

Colloquium: Reality, Truth, and Objectivity: Reflections on Steven Weinberg's "Against Philosophy" – Wednesday, October 10, 2018, at 4PM
 Professor Gordon Brittan, Montana State University George P. Williams, Jr. Lecture Hall, (Olin 101) Wednesday, October 10, 2018, at 4:00 PM There will be a reception with refreshments at 3:30 ...

News

[Two Tenure Track Faculty Positions](#)

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	Date	F&W Reading	Topic	Assignment Due
1	Mon, 8/27/2018	Chap. 1	Introduction	#1 9/7/2018
	Wed, 8/29/2018	No class		
2	Fri, 8/31/2018	Chap. 1	Scattering theory	#2 9/7/2018
3	Mon, 9/03/2018	Chap. 1	Scattering theory	
4	Wed, 9/05/2018	Chap. 1	Scattering theory	#3 9/10/2018
5	Fri, 9/07/2018	Chap. 2	Non-inertial coordinate systems	#4 9/12/2018
6	Mon, 9/10/2018	Chap. 3	Calculus of Variation	#5 9/12/2018
7	Wed, 9/12/2018	Chap. 3	Calculus of Variation	#6 9/17/2018
	Fri, 9/14/2018	No class	University closed due to weather.	
8	Mon, 9/17/2018	Chap. 3	Lagrangian Mechanics	#7 9/19/2018
9	Wed, 9/19/2018	Chap. 3 and 6	Lagrangian Mechanics and constraints	#8 9/24/2018
10	Fri, 9/21/2018	Chap. 3 and 6	Constants of the motion	
11	Mon, 9/24/2018	Chap. 3 and 6	Hamiltonian formalism	#9 9/28/2018
12	Wed, 9/26/2018	Chap. 3 and 6	Liouville theorem	#10 10/3/2018
13	Fri, 9/28/2018	Chap. 3 and 6	Canonical transformations	
14	Mon, 10/1/2018	Chap. 4	Small oscillations about equilibrium	#11 10/5/2018
15	Wed, 10/3/2018	Chap. 4	Normal modes of vibration	
16	Fri, 10/5/2018	Chap. 1-4, 6	Review	
17	Mon, 10/8/2018	Chap. 7	Strings	
18	Wed, 10/10/2018	Chap. 7	Wave equation	
	Fri, 10/12/2018	No class	Fall break	
19	Mon, 10/15/2018	Chap. 7	Wave equation	

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Linear oscillator equations (example from one dimension)

$$V(x) \approx V(x_{eq}) + \frac{1}{2}(x - x_{eq})^2 \left. \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} \right|_{x_{eq}} + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}kx^2 \equiv \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 x^2$$

$$L(x, \dot{x}) = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 x^2$$

Euler-Lagrange equations: $\ddot{x} = -\omega^2 x$

Superposition property of linear equations: --

Suppose that the functions $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ are solutions

$\Rightarrow Ax_1(t) + Bx_2(t)$ are also solutions (all A, B)

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Non-linear oscillator equations (example from one dimension)

$$V(x) \approx V(x_{eq}) + \frac{1}{2}(x - x_{eq})^2 \left. \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} \right|_{x_{eq}} + \frac{1}{4!}(x - x_{eq})^4 \left. \frac{d^4V}{dx^4} \right|_{x_{eq}} + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon x^4 \right)$$

$$L(x, \dot{x}) = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon x^4 \right)$$

Euler-Lagrange equations:

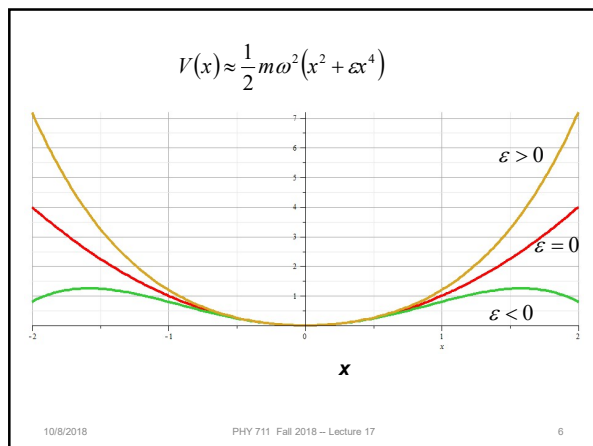
$$\ddot{x} = -\omega^2(x + \epsilon x^3)$$

Superposition -- no longer applies

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Non - linear example -- continued

$$L(x, \dot{x}) = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon x^4 \right)$$

Euler - Lagrange equations :

$$\ddot{x} + \omega^2 (x + \varepsilon x^3) = 0$$

Perturbation expansion :

$$x(t) = x_0(t) + \varepsilon x_1(t) + \dots$$

Euler - Lagrange equations :

$$\text{zero order : } \ddot{x}_0 + \omega^2 x_0 = 0$$

$$\text{first order : } \ddot{x}_1 + \omega^2 x_1 + \omega^2 x_0^3 = 0$$

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Non - linear example -- continued

$$\ddot{x} + \omega^2 (x + \varepsilon x^3) = 0$$

Initial conditions :

$$\text{Perturbation expansion : } x(0) = X_0 \quad \dot{x}(0) = 0$$

$$x(t) = x_0(t) + \varepsilon x_1(t) + \dots$$

Euler - Lagrange equations :

$$\text{zero order : } \ddot{x}_0 + \omega^2 x_0 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow x_0(t) = X_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

$$\text{first order : } \ddot{x}_1 + \omega^2 x_1 + \omega^2 x_0^3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{x}_1(t) + \omega^2 x_1(t) = -X_0^3 \cos^3(\omega t) = -\frac{X_0^3}{4} (3 \cos(\omega t) + \cos(3\omega t))$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1(t) = -\frac{X_0^3}{8\omega^2} \left\{ 3\omega t \sin(\omega t) + \frac{1}{4} [\cos(\omega t) - \cos(3\omega t)] \right\}$$

$$x(t) = X_0 \cos(\omega t) - \varepsilon \frac{X_0^3}{8\omega^2} \left\{ 3\omega t \sin(\omega t) + \frac{1}{4} [\cos(\omega t) - \cos(3\omega t)] \right\} + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

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Non - linear example -- continued

$$\ddot{x} + \omega^2 (x + \varepsilon x^3) = 0$$

Initial conditions :

$$x(0) = X_0 \quad \dot{x}(0) = 0$$

Perturbation expansion :

$$x(t) = x_0(t) + \varepsilon x_1(t) + \dots$$

Previous result (blows up at large t):

$$x(t) = X_0 \cos(\omega t) - \varepsilon \frac{X_0^3}{8\omega^2} \left\{ 3\omega t \sin(\omega t) + \frac{1}{4} [\cos(\omega t) - \cos(3\omega t)] \right\} + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

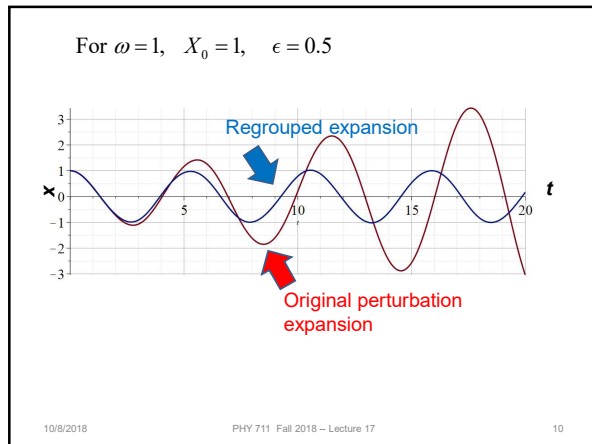
By rearranging terms (allowing effective frequency to vary):

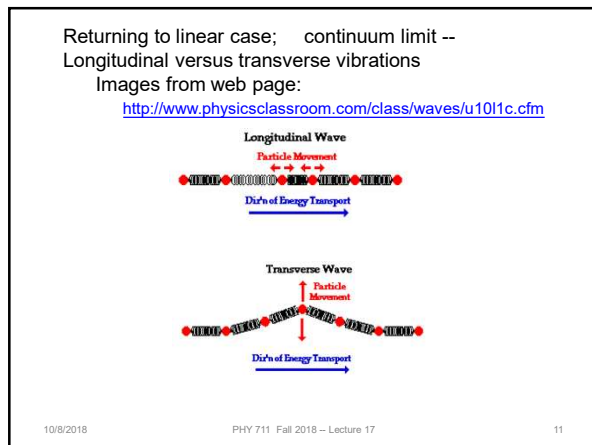
$$x(t) = X_0 \cos \left(\omega \left(1 + \varepsilon \frac{3X_0^2}{8\omega} \right) t \right) - \varepsilon \frac{X_0^3}{32\omega^2} \{ \cos(\omega t) - \cos(3\omega t) \} + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

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Longitudinal case: a system of masses and springs:

$$L = T - V = \frac{1}{2} m \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \dot{x}_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} k \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (x_{i+1} - x_i)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow m \ddot{x}_i = k(x_{i+1} - 2x_i + x_{i-1})$$

Now imagine the continuum version of this system :

$$x_i(t) \Rightarrow \mu(x, t) \quad \ddot{x}_i \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2}$$

$$x_{i+1} - 2x_i + x_{i-1} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2} (\Delta x)^2$$

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Discrete equation : $m\ddot{x}_i = k(x_{i+1} - 2x_i + x_{i-1}))$

Continuum equation : $m \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} = k(\Delta x)^2 \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2}$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} = \left(\frac{k\Delta x}{m/\Delta x} \right) \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2}$$

 system parameter with units of (velocity)²

For transverse oscillations on a string
with tension τ and mass/length σ :

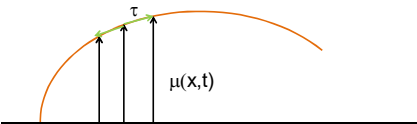
$$\left(\frac{k\Delta x}{m/\Delta x} \right) \Rightarrow \frac{\tau}{\sigma}$$

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Transverse displacement:



Wave equation :

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2}$$

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Lagrangian for continuous system :

Denote the generalized displacement by $\mu(x,t)$:

$$L = L\left(\mu, \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t}; x, t\right)$$

Hamilton's principle :

$$\delta \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \int_{x_i}^{x_f} L\left(\mu, \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t}; x, t\right) dx dt = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mu} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial \mu / \partial x)} - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial \mu / \partial t)} = 0$$

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Euler - Lagrange equations for continuous system :

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mu} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial \mu / \partial x)} - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial \mu / \partial t)} = 0$$

Example :

$$L = \frac{\sigma}{2} \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \frac{\tau}{2} \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial x} \right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} - \tau \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad \text{for } c^2 = \frac{\tau}{\sigma}$$

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General solutions $\mu(x,t)$ to the wave equation :

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

Note that for any function $f(q)$ or $g(q)$:

$$\mu(x,t) = f(x-ct) + g(x+ct)$$

satisfies the wave equation.

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Initial value solutions $\mu(x,t)$ to the wave equation;
attributed to D' Alembert :

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad \text{where } \mu(x,0) = \phi(x) \text{ and } \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t}(x,0) = \psi(x)$$

Assume :

$$\mu(x,t) = f(x-ct) + g(x+ct)$$

$$\text{then: } \mu(x,0) = \phi(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t}(x,0) = \psi(x) = -c \left(\frac{df(x)}{dx} - \frac{dg(x)}{dx} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) - g(x) = -\frac{1}{c} \int \psi(x') dx'$$

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Solution -- continued: $\mu(x,t) = f(x-ct) + g(x+ct)$

then: $\mu(x,0) = \phi(x) = f(x) + g(x)$

$$\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t}(x,0) = \psi(x) = -c \left(\frac{df(x)}{dx} - \frac{dg(x)}{dx} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) - g(x) = -\frac{1}{c} \int \psi(x') dx'$$

For each x , find $f(x)$ and $g(x)$:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\phi(x) - \frac{1}{c} \int \psi(x') dx' \right)$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\phi(x) + \frac{1}{c} \int \psi(x') dx' \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(x,t) = \frac{1}{2} (\phi(x-ct) + \phi(x+ct)) + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(x') dx'$$

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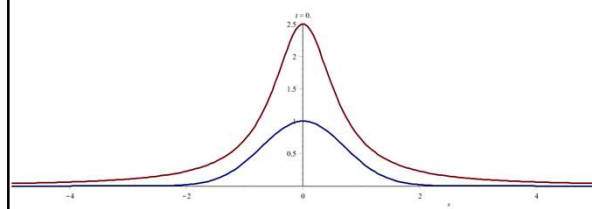
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Example:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad \text{where } \mu(x,0) = e^{-x^2/\sigma^2} \text{ and } \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t}(x,0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(x,t) = \frac{1}{2} \left(e^{-(x+ct)^2/\sigma^2} + e^{-(x-ct)^2/\sigma^2} \right)$$



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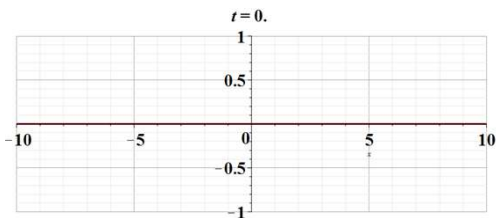
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Example:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 \mu}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad \text{where } \mu(x,0) = 0 \text{ and } \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t}(x,0) = -\frac{2x}{\sigma^2} e^{-x^2/\sigma^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(x,t) = \frac{1}{2c} \left(e^{-(x+ct)^2/\sigma^2} - e^{-(x-ct)^2/\sigma^2} \right)$$

Note that $\frac{\partial \mu(x,t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left((x+ct) e^{-(x+ct)^2/\sigma^2} + (x-ct) e^{-(x-ct)^2/\sigma^2} \right)$



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