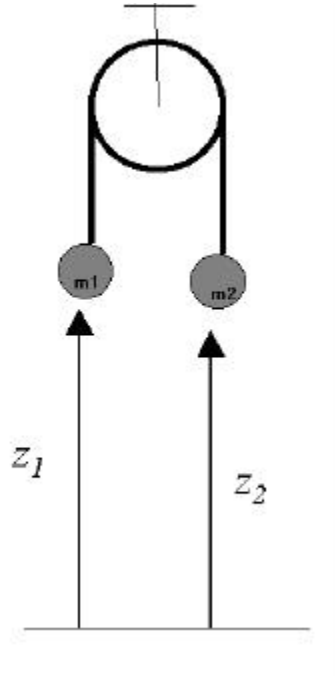


September 8, 1999

PHY 337– Problem Set # 6



Consider a stationary pulley (assumed to be massless and frictionless) with masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  at heights  $z_1(t)$  and  $z_2(t)$  held by a massless rope. Write the equations of motion for the heights  $z_1(t)$  and  $z_2(t)$  using the Lagrangian formalism and the constraint  $z_1(t) + z_2(t) - C = 0$ . Here  $C$  is a constant related to the length of the rope. Show that the Lagrange multiplier is related to the tension.