

**DYNAMICS SURVEY OF PHYSICAL PENDULUM  
WITH TWO DEGREES OF FREEDOM**

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**Abstract**

The paper presents a method of dynamics survey of the physical pendulum which from mechanical point of view is a system with two degrees of freedom. This method is based on matrix computation and it consists in writing the equations of motion for each solid rigid body which compound the system as if it were free. Then these equations of motion will be assembled taking into account the constraint forces. The method may be extended to any systems with three or more degrees of freedom as well. The physical pendulum with two degrees of freedom whose dynamics survey is shown in the paper serves only as a model of the application of the method.

Keywords: dynamics survey, matrix computation, physical pendulum

**1. INTRODUCTION**

We will consider the physical pendulum with two degrees of freedom which is shown in the figure 1. It is made up of the solid rigid bodies 1 and 2 against which are acting the gravitation forces  $\bar{G}_1$  and  $\bar{G}_2$  respectively. The solid rigid body "1" is connected with the stand by the joint (hinge) "O<sub>1</sub>" and the solid rigid body "2" is connected with the solid rigid body "2" by the joint "O<sub>2</sub>".

**2. WRITING THE EQUATIONS OF MOTION**

The differential equations which describe the motion of the solid rigid body "i" will be written in the following matrix form:

$$[S_{O_i}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -m_i \cdot O_i C_i \\ 0 & m_i \cdot O_i C_i & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$[J_{O_i}] = \begin{bmatrix} J_{x_i} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & J_{y_i} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & J_{z_i} \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$[\omega_i] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_{z_i} & \omega_{y_i} \\ \omega_{z_i} & 0 & -\omega_{x_i} \\ -\omega_{y_i} & \omega_{x_i} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

$$[M_i] = \begin{bmatrix} m_i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_i \end{bmatrix} = m_i \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

$$[M_{O_i}] \cdot \{\dot{v}_i\} = -[\Omega_i] \cdot \{v_i\} + \{Q_i\} \quad (1)$$

$$\{\dot{v}_i\} = [\dot{v}_{O_i x_i} \quad \dot{v}_{O_i y_i} \quad \dot{v}_{O_i z_i} \quad \dot{\omega}_{x_i} \quad \dot{\omega}_{y_i} \quad \dot{\omega}_{z_i}]^T \quad (8)$$

$$[M_{O_i}] = \begin{bmatrix} [M_i] & -[S_{O_i}] \\ [S_{O_i}] & [J_{O_i}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$\{v_i\} = [v_{O_i x_i} \quad v_{O_i y_i} \quad v_{O_i z_i} \quad \omega_{x_i} \quad \omega_{y_i} \quad \omega_{z_i}]^T \quad (9)$$

$$[\Omega_i] = \begin{bmatrix} [\omega_i] \cdot [M_i] & -[\omega_i] \cdot [S_{O_i}] \\ [S_{O_i}] \cdot [M_i] & [\omega_i] \cdot [J_{O_i}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$\{Q_i\} = \left[ \{G_i\}^T \cdot [R_i] \quad \{G_i\}^T \cdot [R_i] \cdot [r_i]^T \right]^T \quad (10)$$

$$\{G_i\} = [m_i \cdot g \quad 0 \quad 0]^T \quad (11)$$

$$[r_i] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -O_i C_i \\ 0 & O_i C_i & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

$$[R_i] = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\varphi_i) & -\sin(\varphi_i) & 0 \\ \sin(\varphi_i) & \cos(\varphi_i) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

In the relations from above the index "i" denotes the number of the solid rigid body which compound the system and "m<sub>i</sub>" the mass of the solid rigid body "i" from the system.

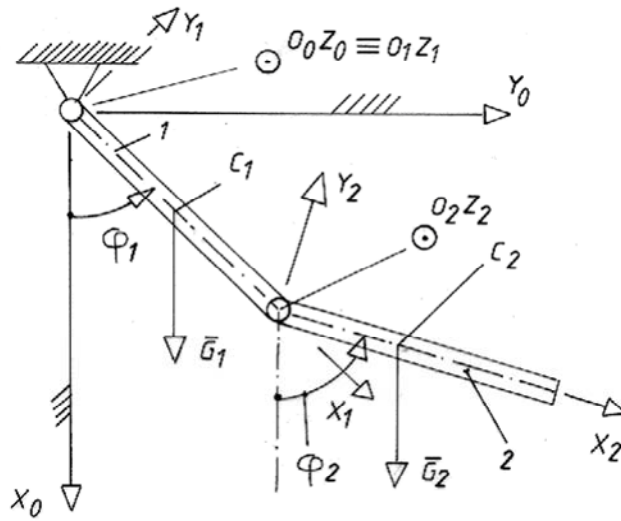


Fig.1 – The figure represents the physical pendulum with two degrees of freedom

- 1 – the first solid rigid body of the system
- 2 – the second solid rigid body of the system

- φ<sub>1</sub> - the angle of self-rotation of the first solid rigid body
- φ<sub>2</sub> - the angle of self-rotation of the second solid rigid body

### 3. WRITTING THE CONSTRAINT RELATIONS BETWEEN KINEMATICAL PARAMETERS OF THE FIRST ORDER.

$$\{v_2\} = [v_{O_2x_2} \quad v_{O_2y_2} \quad v_{O_2z_2} \quad \omega_{x_2} \quad \omega_{y_2} \quad \omega_{z_2}]^T \quad (17)$$

$$[L_\lambda] = \begin{bmatrix} [L_\lambda^{11}] & [L_\lambda^{12}] \\ [L_\lambda^{21}] & [L_\lambda^{22}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (18)$$

Between kinematical parameters the following matrix constraint relations may be written:

$$[L_\lambda] \cdot \{v\} = \{0\} \quad (14)$$

$$\{v\} = [\{v_1\}^T \quad \{v_2\}^T]^T \quad (15)$$

$$\{v_1\} = [v_{O_1x_1} \quad v_{O_1y_1} \quad v_{O_1z_1} \quad \omega_{x_1} \quad \omega_{y_1} \quad \omega_{z_1}]^T \quad (16)$$

$$[L_\lambda^{11}] = \begin{bmatrix} [R_1] & [0]_{3 \times 3} \\ [0]_{2 \times 3} & [R_1^{33}] \quad [0]_{2 \times 1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} L_{\lambda}^{12} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \end{bmatrix}_{5 \times 6} \quad (20)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} L_{\lambda}^{21} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_1 & R_1 \cdot O_1 O_2^T \\ 0 & R_i^{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad (21)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} L_{\lambda}^{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -R_2 & 0 \\ 0 & R_2^{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad (22)$$

$$R_i^{33} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\varphi_i) & -\sin(\varphi_i) \\ \sin(\varphi_i) & \cos(\varphi_i) \end{bmatrix} \quad (23)$$

The index "i" which appears in the above mentioned relations takes values from 1 to 2 (i=1,2).

#### 4. COMPUTATION OF THE CONSTRAINTS MATRIX

The relation (14) may be written under the following equivalent form:

$$L_{\lambda}^{extended} \cdot \{v\} = [A] \cdot \{\dot{q}\} \quad (24)$$

$$L_{\lambda}^{extended} = \begin{bmatrix} L_{\lambda}^{extended}_{11} & L_{\lambda}^{extended}_{12} \\ L_{\lambda}^{extended}_{21} & L_{\lambda}^{extended}_{22} \end{bmatrix} \quad (25)$$

$$L_{\lambda}^{extended}_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} R_1 & 0 \\ 0 & R_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (26)$$

$$L_{\lambda}^{extended}_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (27)$$

$$L_{\lambda}^{extended}_{21} = \begin{bmatrix} R_1 & R_1 \cdot O_1 O_2^T \\ 0 & R_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (28)$$

$$L_{\lambda}^{extended}_{22} = \begin{bmatrix} -R_2 & 0 \\ 0 & -R_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (29)$$

$$[A] = [[A]_1 \mid [A]_2]^T \quad (30)$$

$$[A]_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \mid 0 \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 5}^T \quad (31)$$

$$[A]_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \mid -1 \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 5}^T \quad (32)$$

From relation (24) results:

$$\{v\} = [L_{\lambda}^{extended}]^{-1} \cdot [A] \cdot \{\dot{q}\} \quad (33)$$

In the relation (33) the following relation will be introduced:

$$[L_{\tau}] = [L_{\lambda}^{extended}]^{-1} \cdot [A] \quad (34)$$

Using the notation (34) the relation (33) becomes:

$$\{v\} = [L_{\tau}] \cdot \{\dot{q}\} \quad (35)$$

$$\{\dot{q}\} = [\omega_{z_1} \mid \omega_{z_2}]^T \quad (36)$$

#### 5. WRITTING THE CONSTRAINT RELATIONS BETWEEN KINEMATICAL PARAMETERS OF THE SECOND ORDER.

The relations of constraint between kinematical parameters of the second order will be written under the following matrix form:

$$[\dot{L}_\lambda^{\text{extended}}] \cdot \{\dot{v}\} + [\dot{L}_\lambda^{\text{extended}}] \cdot \{v\} = [A] \cdot \{\ddot{q}\} \quad (37)$$

$$[\dot{L}_\lambda^{\text{extended}}]_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} [R_1] \cdot [\omega_1] & \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} & [\omega_1] \cdot [R_1] \end{bmatrix} \quad (38)$$

$$[\dot{L}_\lambda^{\text{extended}}]_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \end{bmatrix} \quad (39)$$

$$[\dot{L}_\lambda^{\text{extended}}]_{21} = \begin{bmatrix} [R_1] \cdot [\omega_1] & [R_1] \cdot [\omega_1] \cdot [O_1 O_2]^T \\ \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} & [\omega_1] \cdot [R_1] \end{bmatrix} \quad (40)$$

$$[\dot{L}_\lambda^{\text{extended}}]_{22} = \begin{bmatrix} -[R_1] \cdot [\omega_1] & \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} & -[\omega_2] \cdot [R_2] \end{bmatrix} \quad (41)$$

The column matrix  $\{\dot{v}\}$  which contains the kinematical parameters of the second order will be deduced from relation (37):

$$\{\dot{v}\} = [L_\tau] \cdot \{\ddot{q}\} + [\dot{L}_\tau] \cdot \{q\} \quad (42)$$

In the relation (42) the matrix  $[\dot{L}_\tau]$  may be expressed as following:

$$[\dot{L}_\tau] = -[L_\lambda^{\text{extended}}]^{-1} \cdot [\dot{L}_\lambda^{\text{extended}}] \cdot [L_\tau] \quad (43)$$

In the relation (43) the matrix  $[L_\tau]$  has the following expression:

$$[L_\tau] = [L_\lambda^{\text{extended}}]^{-1} \cdot [A] \quad (44)$$

## 6. WRITING THE EQUATIONS OF MOTION OF THE MECHANICAL SYSTEM IN THE PRESENCE OF CONSTRAINTS

In the presence of constraints the equations of motion of the mechanical system will have the following matrix form:

$$[M] \cdot \{\dot{v}\} = -[\Omega] \cdot \{v\} + \{Q\} + [L_\lambda]^T \cdot \{\lambda\} \quad (45)$$

$$\{\dot{v}\} = [\{\dot{v}\}_1^T \mid \{\dot{v}\}_2^T]^T \quad (46)$$

$$\{v\} = [\{v\}_1^T \mid \{v\}_2^T]^T \quad (47)$$

$$\{\dot{v}\}_1 = [\dot{v}_{O_1 x_1} \mid \dot{v}_{O_1 y_1} \mid \dot{v}_{O_1 z_1} \mid \dot{\omega}_{x_1} \mid \dot{\omega}_{y_1} \mid \dot{\omega}_{z_1}]^T \quad (48)$$

$$\{\dot{v}\}_2 = [\dot{v}_{O_2 x_2} \mid \dot{v}_{O_2 y_2} \mid \dot{v}_{O_2 z_2} \mid \dot{\omega}_{x_2} \mid \dot{\omega}_{y_2} \mid \dot{\omega}_{z_2}]^T \quad (49)$$

$$\{v\}_1 = [v_{O_1 x_1} \mid v_{O_1 y_1} \mid v_{O_1 z_1} \mid \omega_{x_1} \mid \omega_{y_1} \mid \omega_{z_1}]^T \quad (50)$$

$$\{v\}_2 = [v_{O_2 x_2} \mid v_{O_2 y_2} \mid v_{O_2 z_2} \mid \omega_{x_2} \mid \omega_{y_2} \mid \omega_{z_2}]^T \quad (51)$$

$$[M] = \begin{bmatrix} [M_{O_1}] & \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} & [M_{O_2}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (52)$$

$$[\Omega] = \begin{bmatrix} [\Omega_1] & \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 \\ 0 \end{matrix} & [\Omega_2] \end{bmatrix} \quad (53)$$

$$\{Q\} = [\{Q\}_1^T \mid \{Q\}_2^T]^T \quad (54)$$

$$\{\lambda\} = [\lambda_1 \mid \lambda_2 \mid \lambda_3 \mid \dots \mid \lambda_8 \mid \lambda_9 \mid \lambda_{10}]^T \quad (55)$$

In relation (55) the elements of the column matrix  $\{\lambda\}$  represents Lagrange's multipliers which are unknown for now. We will multiply the matrix relation (55) to the left with the matrix  $[L_\tau]^T$  and we will obtain:

$$[L_\tau]^T [M] \cdot \{\dot{v}\} = -[L_\tau]^T [\Omega] \cdot \{v\} + [L_\tau]^T \{Q\} \quad (56)$$

The product between the matrix  $[L_\tau]^T$  and  $[L_\lambda]^T$  are equal with the null matrix. From this reason this product does not appear any more in relation (56).

$$\underbrace{[L_\tau]^T}_{2 \times 12} \cdot \underbrace{[L_\lambda]^T}_{12 \times 10} = \underbrace{[0]}_{2 \times 10} \quad (57)$$

We will replace the relations (35) and (42) into relation (56) and we will obtain:

$$[\tilde{M}] \cdot \{\ddot{q}\} = [\tilde{\Omega}] \cdot \{\dot{q}\} + \{\tilde{Q}\} \quad (58)$$

In the matrix relation (58) the terms have the followings expressions:

$$[\tilde{M}] = [L_\tau]^T \cdot [M] \cdot [L_\tau] \quad (59)$$

$$[\tilde{\Omega}] = -([L_\tau]^T \cdot [\Omega] \cdot [L_\tau] + [L_\tau]^T \cdot [M] \cdot [\dot{L}_\tau]) \quad (60)$$

The relation (60) may be written under the following equivalent form:

$$[\tilde{\Omega}] = -[L_\tau]^T \cdot ([\Omega] \cdot [L_\tau] + [M] \cdot [\dot{L}_\tau]) \quad (61)$$

$$\{\tilde{Q}\} = [L_\tau]^T \cdot \{Q\} \quad (62)$$

$$\{\ddot{q}\} = [\dot{\omega}_{z_1} \quad \dot{\omega}_{z_2}]^T = \{\dot{\omega}\} \quad (63)$$

$$\{\dot{q}\} = [\omega_{z_1} \quad \omega_{z_2}]^T = \{\omega\} \quad (64)$$

The relation (64) will be replaced into relation (58) and we will obtain:

$$[\tilde{M}] \cdot \{\dot{\omega}\} = [\tilde{\Omega}] \cdot \{\omega\} + \{\tilde{Q}\} \quad (65)$$

Relation (58) represents a system of differential equations of the second order. In order to solve this system it must be transformed into a system of differential equations of the first order.

$$\begin{bmatrix} [\tilde{M}] & [0] \\ [0] & [I]_2 \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 2} \cdot \begin{Bmatrix} \{\dot{\omega}\} \\ \{\dot{q}\} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} [\tilde{\Omega}] & [0] \\ [0] & [I]_2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{Bmatrix} \{\omega\} \\ \{\dot{q}\} \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} \{\tilde{Q}\} \\ [0] \end{Bmatrix}_{2 \times 1} \quad (66)$$

$[I]_2$  - represents the unit matrix of the second order

The matrix relation (66) represents a system of four differential equations of the first order which can be integrate using numerical methods (Runge-Kutta method for instance). Thus one will find the values of the angular speeds and of the angles of self-rotation respectively:

$$\{\omega\} = [\omega_{z_1} \quad \omega_{z_2}]^T \quad (67)$$

$$\{q\} = [\varphi_1 \quad \varphi_2]^T \quad (68)$$

$\omega_{z_1}$  - represents the angular speed around  $O_1z_1$  axe of the solid rigid body ‘‘1’’

$\omega_{z_2}$  - represents the angular speed around  $O_2z_2$  axe of the solid rigid body ‘‘2’’

$\varphi_1$  - represents the angle of self-rotation of the solid rigid body ‘‘1’’

$\varphi_2$  - represents the angle of self-rotation of the solid rigid body ‘‘2’’

We will multiply to the left the relation (65) with the matrix  $[\tilde{M}]^{-1}$  and we will obtain the values of the angular accelerations:

$$\{\dot{\omega}\} = [\tilde{M}]^{-1} \cdot [\tilde{\Omega}] \cdot \{\omega\} + [\tilde{M}]^{-1} \cdot \{\tilde{Q}\} \quad (69)$$

$$\{\dot{\omega}\} = [\dot{\omega}_{z_1} \quad \dot{\omega}_{z_2}]^T \quad (70)$$

$\dot{\omega}_{z_1}$  - represents the angular acceleration around  $O_1z_1$  axe of the solid rigid body ‘‘1’’

$\dot{\omega}_{z_2}$  - represents the angular acceleration around  $O_2z_2$  axe of the solid rigid body ‘‘2’’

## 7. DETERMINING THE CONSTRAINT FORCES OF THE MECHANICAL SYSTEM

We will multiply the matrix relation (55) to the left with the matrix  $[L_\lambda]^T$  and we will obtain:

$$[L_\lambda][M] \cdot \{\dot{v}\} = -[L_\tau][\Omega] \cdot \{v\} + [L_\lambda]\{Q\} + [L_\lambda][L_\lambda]^T \{\lambda\} \quad (71)$$

In the relation (71) the followings notations will be introduced:

$$[L_1] = [L_\lambda] \cdot [M] \quad (72)$$

$$[L_2] = [L_\tau] \cdot [\Omega] \quad (73)$$

$$[L_3] = [L_\lambda] \cdot \{Q\} \quad (74)$$

$$[L_4] = [L_\lambda] \cdot [L_\lambda]^T \quad (75)$$

Using the notations given by the relations (72), (73), (74) and (75) the relation (71) will be written thus:

$$[L_1] \cdot \{\dot{v}\} = -[L_2] \cdot \{v\} + [L_3] + [L_4] \cdot \{\lambda\} \quad (76)$$

From the matrix relation (76) we can find the values of Lagrange multipliers:

$$\{\lambda\} = [L_4]^{-1} \cdot ([L_1]\{\dot{v}\} + [L_2]\{v\} - [L_3]) \quad (77)$$

$$\{v\} = [L_\tau] \cdot \{\dot{q}\} \quad (78)$$

$$\{\dot{v}\} = [L_\tau] \cdot \{\ddot{q}\} + [\dot{L}_\tau] \cdot \{\dot{q}\} \quad (79)$$

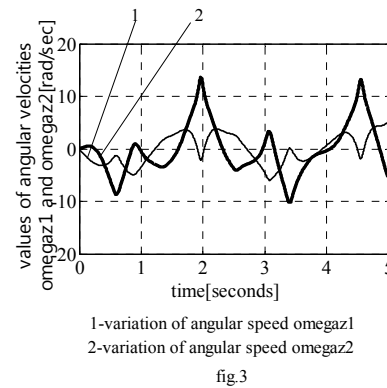
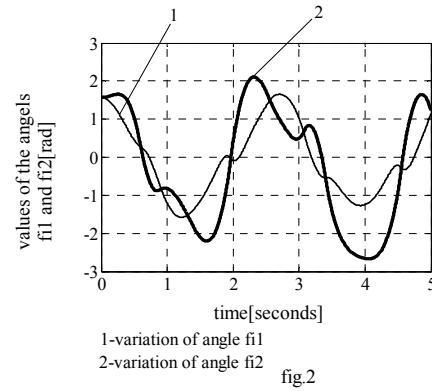
The vectors  $\{v\}$  and  $\{\dot{v}\}$  which are given by the relations (78) and (79) will be replaced in the relation (77) and we will obtain:

$$\{\lambda\} = [L_4]^{-1} \cdot \left( [L_1][L_\tau]\{\ddot{q}\} + [L_1][\dot{L}_\tau]\{\dot{q}\} + [L_2][L_\tau]\{\dot{q}\} - [L_3] \right) \quad (80)$$

Once Lagrange's multipliers have been determined, the vector of constrained forces will be written as following:

$$\{R^{(const.)}\} = [L_\lambda]^T \cdot \{\lambda\} \quad (81)$$

After the integration of the system we will find out the values of angular speed and angular accelerations. These values are represented in the figure 2 and figure 3.



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