

[Wed. July 2, 08]

Continuing the problem from last class:

(see pg 55):

We found: $\bar{X}(t) \equiv x_1 + x_2 = V_0 t + \bar{X}_0$

and $Y(t) = C \cos(\sqrt{2} \omega_0 t - \phi)$

$x_1 - x_2$
(where $\omega_0 \equiv \sqrt{k/m}$)

describing \bar{x}



But our real goal is to find what $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ are:
and since we know $X = x_1 + x_2$ and $Y = x_1 - x_2$,

we get: $x_1(t) = \frac{X + Y}{2}$

and, $x_2(t) = \frac{X - Y}{2}$

$\Rightarrow x_1(t) = \frac{V_0}{2} t + \frac{\bar{X}_0}{2} + \frac{C}{2} \cos(\sqrt{2} \omega_0 t - \phi)$

(And from pg 57: $\frac{V_0}{2} = V_{com}$ ← uniform velocity of COM.)

(And to avoid constantly writing " $\frac{1}{2}$ ", we instead

define $\frac{X_0}{2} \equiv \tilde{X}_0$ and $\frac{C}{2} \equiv \tilde{C}$)

So $x_1(t) = V_{com} t + \tilde{X}_0 + \tilde{C} \cos(\sqrt{2} \omega_0 t - \phi)$

and $x_2(t) = V_{com} t + \tilde{X}_0 - \tilde{C} \cos(\sqrt{2} \omega_0 t - \phi)$

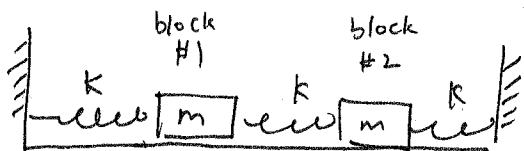


⚡ General solution to original EOMs

Another example, but this time, using "matrix" approach

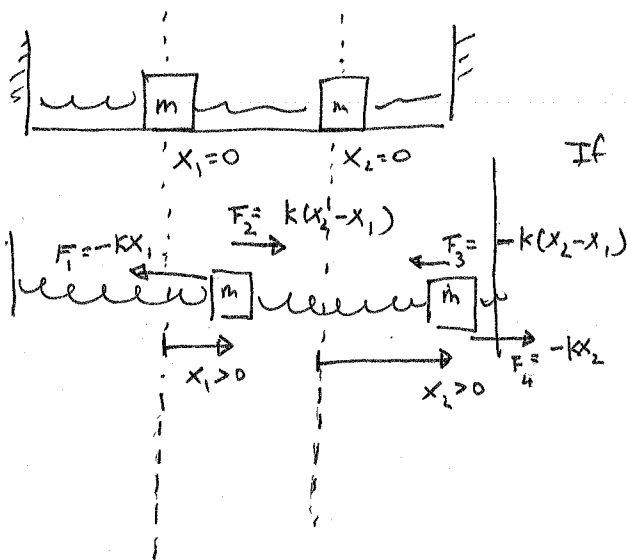
(Be sure to review your matrix addition, multiplication rules, etc.)

Ex



equal masses (No friction).

① Derive EOMs for the 2 blocks



If $x_2 > x_1$: ^{then} $(x_2 - x_1) > 0$

and this denotes the case in which the middle spring connecting the 2 blocks is stretched.

Similarly: if $(x_2 - x_1) < 0$, then middle spring is compressed.

Finally, if $x_2 = x_1$; $\Rightarrow x_2 - x_1 = 0$

(middle spring is unstretched/compressed!)

So, EOM for block #1 : $m\ddot{x}_1 = F_1 + F_2$
 $= -kx_1 + k(x_2 - x_1)$

EOM for block #2 : $m\ddot{x}_2 = F_3 + F_4$
 $= -k(x_2 - x_1) - kx_2$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\ddot{x}_1 + 2\omega_0^2 x_1 - \omega_0^2 x_2 = 0}$$

! EOM (1)

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\ddot{x}_2 + 2\omega_0^2 x_2 - \omega_0^2 x_1 = 0}$$

! EOM (2)

where we define

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{k/m}$$

②

Next, solve EOMs, but first, ~~rewrite~~ write the 2 EOMs in matrix notation,

over.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \ddot{x}_1 \\ \ddot{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

← EOMs written in matrix form.
Need to determine the actual values of a, b, c, d.

We want $ax_1 + bx_2 = -2\omega_0^2 x_1 + \omega_0^2 x_2$
 $cx_1 + dx_2 = -2\omega_0^2 x_2 + \omega_0^2 x_1$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{a = -2\omega_0^2}, \quad \underline{b = \omega_0^2}, \quad \underline{c = +\omega_0^2}, \quad \underline{d = -2\omega_0^2}$$

So:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \ddot{x}_1 \\ \ddot{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2\omega_0^2 & \omega_0^2 \\ \omega_0^2 & -2\omega_0^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \ddot{x}_1 \\ \ddot{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} = -\omega_0^2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

③ Guess and solve: Let's look at the \mathbb{C} -equivalent EOM (also in matrix form),
 guess its solution, and check. Then at the end, we'll take the real part of the solution. That will be our $\begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix}$.

\therefore \mathbb{C} -equivalent EOM: $x \rightarrow z$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \ddot{z}_1 \\ \ddot{z}_2 \end{pmatrix} = -\omega_0^2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Guess: $\begin{pmatrix} z_1(t) \\ z_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t}$

where
 A & B are some constants
 and $\alpha =$ yet to be determined parameter.

check: First, note that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \ddot{z}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \ddot{z}_L \end{pmatrix} = -\alpha^2 \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t}$$

(Pg 63)

So: EGM become:

$$-\alpha^2 \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t} = -\omega_0^2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha^2 & 0 \\ 0 & -\alpha^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t} = -\omega_0^2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t}$$

↓

↑ used the fact that

$$-\alpha^2 = -\alpha^2 \mathbb{1} = -\alpha^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\uparrow \text{identity matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha^2 & 0 \\ 0 & -\alpha^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha^2 & 0 \\ 0 & -\alpha^2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2\omega_0^2 & -\omega_0^2 \\ -\omega_0^2 & 2\omega_0^2 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t} = 0$$

⇒

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 & -\omega_0^2 \\ -\omega_0^2 & 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} \cancel{e^{i\alpha t}} = 0 / e^{i\alpha t} = 0$$

↑ call this matrix "M".

So, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 & -\omega_0^2 \\ -\omega_0^2 & 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \boxed{\text{Eqn (1)}}$$

Eqn (1) : $M \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

* For a moment, let's suppose that M has an inverse M^{-1} . That is, there exists a matrix (called " M^{-1} ") such that

$$M \cdot M^{-1} = M^{-1} \cdot M = \mathbb{1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

↑
"Identity" matrix (like $\mathbb{1}$)

(Notice that not all matrices have ~~this~~ such an inverse matrix:

For example, $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ times any 2×2 matrix yields zero, not $\mathbb{1}$.

Thus, $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ has no inverse matrix.)

Going back to our original question, if M has an inverse, then:

$$M^{-1} \cdot M \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = M^{-1} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

← We can multiply both sides of Eqn (1) with M^{-1} .

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{(M^{-1} \cdot M)}_{\mathbb{1}} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{1} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow A \text{ and } B \text{ are both simultaneously } \underline{\underline{zero}}.$$

But this is a trivial solution.

Since we now have $\begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t} = 0.$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Both } z_1(t) = 0 \text{ and } z_2(t) = 0$$

and hence their real parts: $x_1(t) = 0 \quad x_2(t) = 0.$

This is merely describing the situation in which both blocks are at rest, in their equilibrium positions. This is indeed a perfectly allowed motion (this ~~is~~ solution to our EOMs)

but ~~this~~ this case happens to be uninteresting! (This is what it means to be a solution to EOM)

Hence, it follows that we need to look for situations in which the matrix M has no inverse. (since then our argument on pg 64 doesn't apply.)
So, when is " M " not invertible?
(i.e. has no inverse?)

Though I don't give a rigorous proof here, it turns out that the inverse of any matrix M (i.e. M can be 2×2 , 3×3 , 4×4 , ... $N \times N$ matrix)

is $M^{-1} = \frac{1}{\text{Det}(M)} \times \left(\text{some matrix you get by doing some matrix operations on } M \right)$

where $\text{Det}(M) =$ determinant of matrix M .

↑ some #.

So, if ~~det~~ $\text{Det}(M) = 0$, then we'd be dividing by zero, ~~and~~ hence above equation doesn't hold. $\Rightarrow M^{-1}$ does not exist as long as $\text{Det}(M) = 0$

For a 2×2 matrix $M = \begin{pmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} \end{pmatrix}$; $\text{Det}(M) = m_{11}m_{22} - m_{12}m_{21}$

Going back to our original question,

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 & -\omega_0^2 \\ -\omega_0^2 & 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

← see pg 63

Notice that we have not yet defined what "α" is

so, to make Det(M) = 0, we will pick just the right values of α

so that Det(M) = 0.

Let's do this: We want: $0 = \text{Det}(M) = (2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2)^2 - \omega_0^4$ ← using formula on pg 65

$$\Rightarrow \omega_0^4 = (2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \pm \omega_0^2 = 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2$$

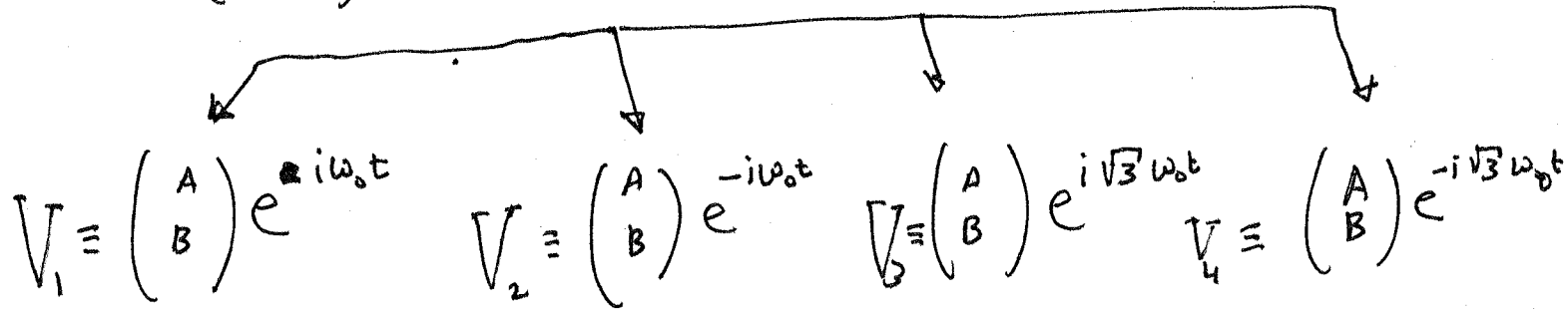
$$\Rightarrow \alpha^2 = 2\omega_0^2 \mp \omega_0^2$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \alpha_1 = \pm \omega_0$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \alpha_2 = \pm \sqrt{3} \omega_0$$

(4 possible values of α)

So: $\begin{pmatrix} z_1(t) \\ z_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha t}$



Define $V_{1,2,3,4}$.

Now, notice that:

($\alpha = \omega_0$ here.):

$$M \cdot V_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 & -\omega_0^2 \\ -\omega_0^2 & 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0^2 & -\omega_0^2 \\ -\omega_0^2 & \omega_0^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\alpha = \omega_0$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0^2 A - \omega_0^2 B \\ -\omega_0^2 A + \omega_0^2 B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \boxed{A = B}$$

(so A & B are not independent of each other!)

Thus: $V_1(t) = A_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\omega_0 t}$

Also, $V_2(t) = A_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega_0 t}$

A_1 & A_2 are independent free parameters

Similarly: for $\alpha_2 = \pm \sqrt{3}\omega_0$:

$$M \cdot V_{3,4} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 & -\omega_0^2 \\ -\omega_0^2 & 2\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(plug in $\alpha = \pm \sqrt{3}\omega_0$) $\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -\omega_0^2 & -\omega_0^2 \\ -\omega_0^2 & -\omega_0^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_0^2 \begin{pmatrix} A + B \\ A + B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \boxed{A = -B}$$

so for V_3 & V_4 , A & B are not independent of each other!

Thus, $V_3(t) = A_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t}$

$V_4(t) = A_4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t}$

A_3 & A_4 are free parameters

And so the following are solutions of \mathcal{H} -equivalent EOM:

$V_1(t) = A_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\omega_0 t}$
 $V_2(t) = A_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega_0 t}$
 $V_3(t) = A_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t}$
 $V_4(t) = A_4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t}$

But what's the general solution?

Use linearity (superposition principle) again!

Notice that

$M \cdot (V_1 + V_2 + V_3 + V_4) \stackrel{\text{distributive law for Matrix multiplication}}{=} \underbrace{M \cdot V_1 + M V_2 + M V_3 + M V_4}_{V_{\text{general}} = 0}$

$\therefore V_{\text{general}}(t)$ is also a solution. And in fact, since it contains 4 free parameters: A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4 ; it's the most general sol'n to EOM. (2 free parameters per particle) x 2 particles = 4 free params.

∴ The most general solution to C-equivalent zoms:

$$\begin{pmatrix} z_1(t) \\ z_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = A_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\omega_0 t} + A_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ +1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega_0 t} \\ + A_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t} + A_4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t}$$

To get the actual, physically meaningful part of answer: $\begin{pmatrix} X_1(t) \\ X_2(t) \end{pmatrix}$, we need to extract the real part of $\begin{pmatrix} z_1(t) \\ z_2(t) \end{pmatrix}$.

But by now, we can just "read" it off / recognize the real part from $\underline{z(t)}_{1,2}$:

$$\textcircled{1} A_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\omega_0 t} + A_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega_0 t} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 e^{i\omega_0 t} + A_2 e^{-i\omega_0 t} \\ A_1 e^{i\omega_0 t} + A_2 e^{-i\omega_0 t} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{real part}} \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \cos(\omega_0 t - \phi_1) \\ C_1 \cos(\omega_0 t - \phi_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{2} A_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t} + A_4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} A_3 e^{i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t} + A_4 e^{-i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t} \\ -A_3 e^{i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t} - A_4 e^{-i\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{real part}} \begin{bmatrix} C_2 \cos(\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t - \phi_2) \\ -C_2 \cos(\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t - \phi_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus: the real, physically meaningful, general solⁿ to EOM: (Pg 70)

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1(t) \\ X_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cos(\omega_0 t - \phi_1) + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cos(\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t - \phi_2)$$

Note: 4 free parameters:

$$C_1, C_2, \phi_1, \phi_2.$$

Final answer: General solⁿ to EOM.

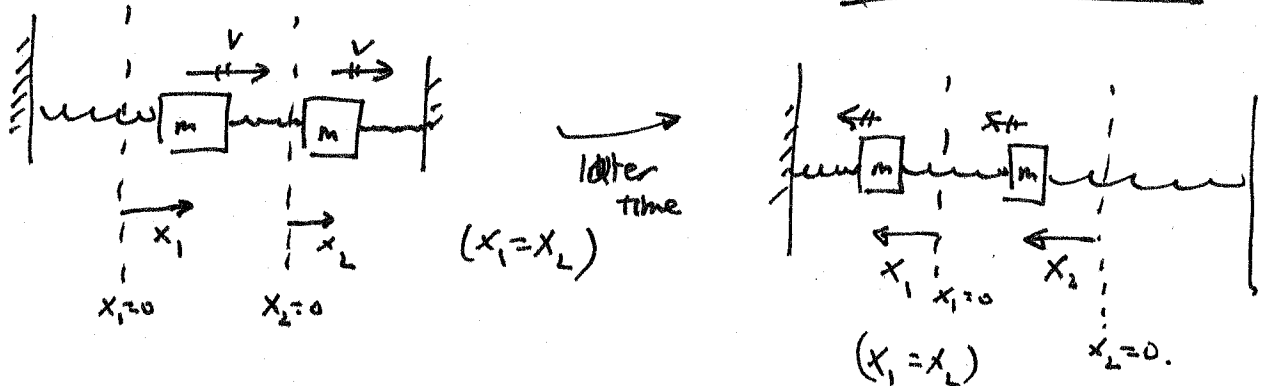
physical interpretation:

Notice that $[C_1 \cos(\omega_0 t - \phi_1)] \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ describes a normal mode

in which both blocks are oscillating in phase w/ each other.

i.e.

w/ angular frequency ω_0 :



* The middle spring always remains at its rest length

$$(x_2 - x_1 = 0)$$

So one block doesn't know the presence of the other block.

(The only way for block #1 to feel the presence of block #2 is if

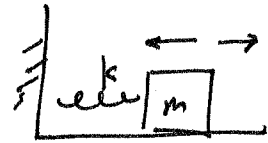
the middle spring connecting the two ~~is~~ is stretched or

compressed. But since $x_2 - x_1 = 0$ at all times, ($\because x_1(t) = x_2(t)$)

they can't feel each other.)

So as far as block #1 alone (or block #2 alone)

is concerned, ~~it is~~ it's equivalent to:



⇒ oscillates w/ angular freq.

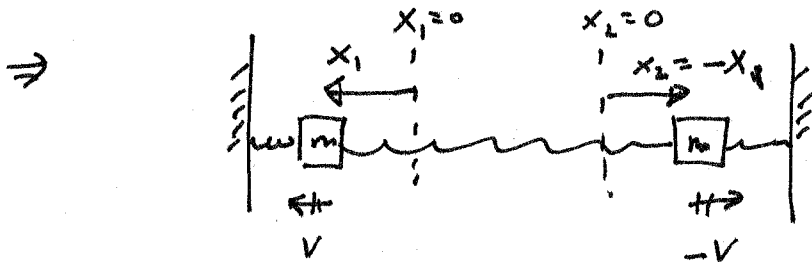
$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{k/m}$$

Next, notice that $C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cos(\sqrt{3}\omega_0 t - \phi_2)$ describes a normal mode in which the 2 blocks are oscillating out of phase with respect to each other, w/ "normal angular frequency"

$$\sqrt{3}\omega_0$$

this is because

$$X_1(t) = -X_2(t) \text{ at all times.}$$

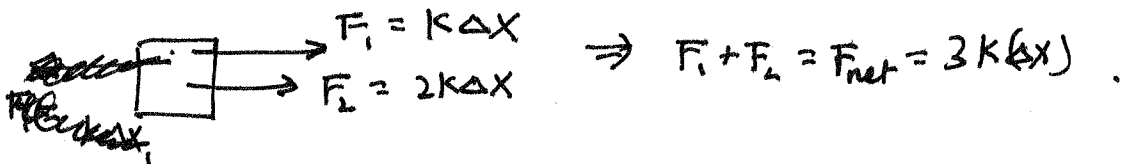


So, if ~~the~~ particle #1 moves to the left by Δx_1 (from initially $x_1 = 0$), the left spring compresses by Δx_1 . But by this time, block #2 has moved to the right by Δx_1 ($\because x_1(t) = -x_2(t)$).

↑ "because"

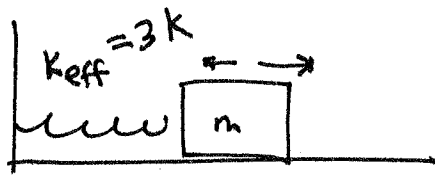
so, the middle spring has now been stretched by $2\Delta x_1$.

so, the ~~net force~~ free body diagram of block #1 is:



So, this is ~~not~~ equivalent to the following system:

(Pg 72)



whose natural angular frequency is $\sqrt{\frac{k_{\text{eff}}}{m}} = \sqrt{3} \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} = \sqrt{3} \omega_0$.

This is indeed what our normal mode angular frequency is!

Some Language / terms: The 2 " α "'s we found:

$\alpha_1 = \pm \omega_0$ (ignoring sign difference)
and $\alpha_2 = \pm \sqrt{3} \omega_0$ are called normal mode angular frequencies.

The motion that each of these 2 describe ~~are~~ are called "normal modes".

Normal coordinates are: $\left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$.

