

In spherical coordinates with $r = R = \text{const.}$

$$L = \frac{m}{2} R^2 (\sin^2(\theta) \dot{\phi}^2 + \dot{\theta}^2) + mgR \cos \theta$$

Euler-Lagrange equations:

$$\phi: \frac{d}{dt} m R^2 \dot{\phi} \sin^2 \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\phi} \sin^2 \theta = \text{const.}$$

(Angular momentum conservation)

$$\theta: m R^2 \ddot{\theta} = m R^2 \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta) \dot{\phi}^2 - mgR \sin(\theta)$$

Special solution: $\theta = \theta_0 = \text{const.} \Rightarrow$

$$\dot{\phi} = \omega_0 = \text{const} \Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\phi = \omega_0 t + \phi_0}}$$

$$\text{and } \ddot{\theta} = 0 \Rightarrow (\theta_0 \neq 0, \pi) \quad \underline{\underline{\omega_0^2 = \frac{g}{R \cos \theta_0}}}$$

Note: $\omega_0^2 > 0 \Rightarrow \theta_0 < \frac{\pi}{2}$

(Note the unconventional definition of θ)

