

# Boundedness of solutions for a bouncing ball model with quasiperiodic potential

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## Abstract

In this work, we consider the model of a free falling ball on a wall that is elastically reflected. The wall is supposed to move in the vertical direction according to a given quasiperiodic function. Based on the invariant curve theorem of smooth quasiperiodic twist map, we prove the boundedness of all solutions and the existence of quasi-periodic solutions for the system.

*Keywords:* bouncing ball, invariant curve, quasiperiodic motion, boundedness.

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## 1. Introduction

Mechanical systems with impacts appear widely in science and engineering [1, 2]. This kind of system also appears in theoretical physics, such as the Fermi-Ulam model which describes the motion of a particle between two moving walls. This system was introduced by Fermi in an attempt to explain the origin of the high-energy cosmic radiation. The main question about this model is whether the particle will attain unlimited energy (called Fermi acceleration)? When the motion of wall is periodic, it has been shown that the existence of Fermi acceleration depends on the smoothness. If the motion of boundary is real analytic or at least  $C^6$ , then all solutions are bounded in phase space [3, 4]. While the Fermi acceleration occurs when the motion of the wall is only piecewise smooth [5–7]. See [8, 9] for more results about this model.

This paper concentrates on an impact oscillator of one degree of freedom. Consider the model of a free falling ball on a moving wall. The wall moves in the vertical direction according to a function  $f(t)$  and the ball is reflected according to the law of elastic bouncing when hitting the wall. When the initial velocity of the ball is sufficiently large, a good strategy to describe the motion of the ball is to establish a map that sends  $(t_0, v_0)$  representing the time of impact and the velocity immediately after it to the next impact

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time and corresponding velocity  $(t_1, v_1)$ . The implicit map is given by

$$\begin{cases} t_1 = t_0 + \frac{2}{g}v_0 - \frac{2}{g}f[t_1, t_0], \\ v_1 = v_0 + 2\dot{f}(t_1) - 2f[t_1, t_0], \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where

$$f[t_1, t_0] = \frac{f(t_1) - f(t_0)}{t_1 - t_0}.$$

The map is a twist map preserving the symplectic form  $dv^2 \wedge dt$  on the cylinder. This model has inspired many authors as it represents a simple mechanical model exhibiting complex dynamics. Marò [10] proved the existence of periodic and quasiperiodic solutions by Aubry-Mather theory. The destruction of invariant curves is strictly correlated with the presence of chaotic motion [11, 12]. Moreover, if  $f$  also has some singularity it is possible to study its statistical and ergodic properties [13].

In order to study the chaotic dynamics of the bouncing ball model, Holmes [14] considered an approximation of the map (1), which is given by the assumption of a large amplitude of the motion of the ball with respect to the amplitude of the motion of the wall. As an example, he considered the case  $f(t) = \beta \sin(\omega t)$ . In this case the model is described by the so-called standard map

$$\begin{cases} t_1 = t_0 + \frac{2}{g}v_0, \\ v_1 = v_0 + 2\beta\omega \cos(\omega t_0). \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

The existence of chaotic motion of the map (2) is widely studied both theoretically and numerically, see e.g. [15–17].

For the piecewise smooth Hamiltonian systems with periodic perturbations, Moser’s invariant curve theorem plays a fundamental role to address the stability of the solutions [18–22]. The invariant curves separating the phase space into two invariant parts prevent the trajectories from escaping to infinity. When the perturbations of the twist map are quasiperiodic analytic functions, Zehnder [23] proved the existence of invariant curves and the result was applied to the stability of motions in the Fermi-Ulam problem. Huang et al extend the invariant curves theorem to smooth quasiperiodic twist maps [24], and proved the boundedness of all solutions and the existence of quasi-periodic solutions for an asymmetric oscillator [25].

Inspired by the work mentioned above, in this work we investigate the dynamics of the bouncing ball model when  $f(t)$  is a quasiperiodic function. Our purpose is to prove the existence of quasiperiodic motion and the boundedness of all motion for the model based on the quasiperiodic version of the invariant curve theorem in [24]. Instead of considering the map (1) defined implicitly, we use action-angle variables to establish a twist map. The remaining of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we will recall some notations that will be used in what follows. Section 3 gives precise statement of the model and of the result we want to prove. In Section 4, we reduce the system into action-angle variables and establish the twist map. Section 5 devotes to prove the existence of invariant curves. In Section 6, we present the conclusions.

## 2. Some preliminaries

### 2.1. Quasiperiodic function

**Definition 2.1.**  $f : \mathbb{R}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  is called a  $C^p$  quasiperiodic function with frequency  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ , if there exists a  $C^p$  function  $F(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n)$  which has period  $2\pi$  in each

variable such that

$$f(t) = F(\omega_1 t, \omega_2 t, \dots, \omega_n t).$$

$F$  is called a shell function of  $f$ .

A continuous quasiperiodic function can be represented by a Fourier series:

$$f(t) = \sum_k f_k e^{i\langle k, \omega \rangle t},$$

where  $k = (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ ,  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ ,  $\langle k, \omega \rangle = k_1 \omega_1 + \dots + k_n \omega_n \neq 0$  if  $k \neq 0$ .

Denote by  $Q(\omega)$  the space of quasiperiodic functions with frequency  $\omega$ .  $Q(\omega)$  forms a vector space over the real numbers and is closed under forming products and quotients, in the latter case provided that the denominator is bounded away from 0. To each quasiperiodic function  $f(t)$ , the mean value

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^T f(t) dt$$

exists. (c.f. Chapter 3 of [26]).

## 2.2. Quasiperiodic twist map

Let  $\mathcal{S} = \mathbb{R} \times [a, b]$ . Consider the planar map

$$M : \begin{cases} \theta_1 = \theta_0 + r_0 + f(\theta_0, r_0), \\ r_1 = r_0 + g(\theta_0, r_0), \end{cases} \quad (\theta_0, r_0) \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (3)$$

defined on the strip  $\mathcal{S}$ , where the perturbations  $f(r_0, \theta_0)$  and  $g(r_0, \theta_0)$  are quasiperiodic in  $\theta_0$  with frequency  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ , and  $C^p$  smooth. Then  $M$  is called a quasiperiodic twist map of class  $C^p$ .

**Definition 2.2.** For the map  $M$  given by (3), we say that it satisfies the intersection property if

$$M(\Gamma) \cap \Gamma \neq \emptyset$$

for every curve  $\Gamma : \theta = \xi + \varphi(\xi), r = \psi(\xi)$  in  $\mathcal{S}$ , where the continuous functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are quasiperiodic in  $\xi$  with frequency  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ .

Let  $p \geq 0$  be an integer. For a function  $h : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of class  $C^p$ , let

$$\|h\|_p = \sum_{0 \leq k_1 + k_2 \leq p} \sup_{(\theta, r) \in \mathcal{S}} \left| \frac{\partial^{k_1 + k_2} h(\theta, r)}{\partial \theta^{k_1} \partial r^{k_2}} \right|.$$

Choose a rotation number  $\alpha$  satisfying the inequalities

$$\begin{cases} a + 12^{-3}\gamma \leq \alpha \leq b - 12^{-3}\gamma, \\ \left| \langle k, \omega \rangle \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} - j \right| \geq \frac{\gamma}{|k|^\tau}, \text{ for all } k \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}, j \in \mathbb{Z} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

with constants  $\gamma, \tau$  satisfying

$$0 < \gamma < \frac{1}{2} \min\{1, 12^3(b-a)\}, \quad \tau > n. \quad (5)$$

If  $\tau > n$ , then for suitably small  $\gamma$ , the set of  $\alpha$  satisfying (4) has a positive measure.

**Theorem 2.1.** ([24]) *Suppose that the quasiperiodic twist map  $M$  given by (3) is of class  $C^p$  with  $p > 2\tau + 1$ , satisfies the intersection property and the following smoothness conditions*

$$\|f\|_p + \|g\|_p \leq \varepsilon_0$$

where  $\varepsilon_0$  is a small positive constant. Then for any number  $\alpha$  satisfying the inequalities (4),  $M$  has an invariant curve  $\Gamma_0$  having the form

$$\theta = \mu + \xi(\mu), \quad r = \eta(\mu),$$

where  $\xi, \eta$  are quasiperiodic functions with frequency  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ , and the invariant curve  $\Gamma_0$  is continuous. Moreover, the restriction of  $M$  onto  $\Gamma_0$  is the rigid rotation

$$\mu_1 = \mu_0 + \alpha.$$

**Definition 2.3.** *For the quasiperiodic twist map  $M$  given by (3), we say that it is an exact symplectic if  $dr_0 \wedge d\theta_0 = dr_1 \wedge d\theta_1$  and for every curve  $\Gamma : \theta_0 = \xi + \phi(\xi), r_0 = \psi(\xi)$  we have*

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^T r_0 d\theta_0 = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^T r_1 d\theta_1,$$

where the continuous functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are quasiperiodic in  $\xi$  with frequency  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ .

**Remark 2.1.** *If the map  $M$  is exact symplectic, then it has the intersection property, see [25, Lemma 2.9].*

### 3. The model

Consider the model of a ball with unit mass bouncing on a horizontal wall that is moving in the vertical direction according to a given regular quasiperiodic function  $f(t)$ . Suppose that the gravity force is acting on the ball. At the impact, the change of velocity is assumed to be elastic. See Figure 1.

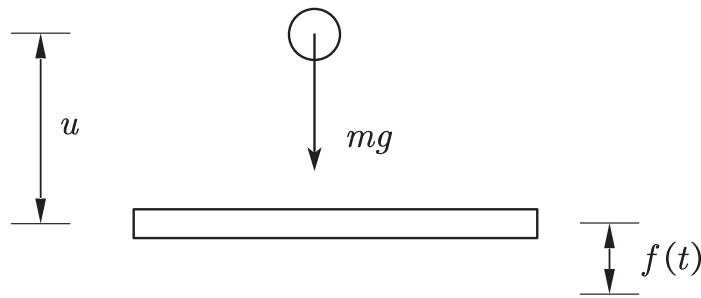


Figure 1: The bouncing ball model

In the coordinate system fixed at the wall, the equation of motion of the bouncing ball is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{u} &= -(g + \ddot{f}(t)), \\ u(t) &\geq 0, \\ u(\tau) = 0 &\Rightarrow \dot{u}(\tau^+) = -\dot{u}(\tau^-), \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

where  $f$  is a  $C^\nu$  quasiperiodic function with frequency  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ .

The main result of this work is the following

**Theorem 3.1.** *Suppose that  $\nu > 2n + 4$  and  $f(t)$  satisfies  $\|f\|_\nu \leq \varepsilon_0$ , where  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$  is a constant sufficiently small. Then the system (6) has infinitely many quasiperiodic solutions. Moreover, all solutions of the system are bounded, i.e., for every solution  $u(t)$ ,*

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} (|u(t)| + |\dot{u}(t)|) < +\infty.$$

**Remark 3.1.** *Note that  $n = 1$  corresponds to the periodic case, the results of Theorem 3.1 is consistent with that obtained by the Moser's twist theorem.*

#### 4. Reduction to a twist map

Set  $\ddot{f}(t) = \varepsilon p(t)$ . Then  $p(t)$  is a quasiperiodic function of class  $C^{\nu-2}$ . The Hamiltonian of the system (6) is

$$H(u, v, t) = \frac{1}{2}v^2 + gu + \varepsilon p(t)u, \quad u \geq 0,$$

where  $v = \dot{u}$ .

We will express the equation of the system in terms of action-angle variables  $I$  and  $\theta$ . As usual (c.f. [27]), the action  $I$  is defined as the area bounded by the level curve  $\gamma$  in region  $\{(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | u \geq 0\}$  defined by

$$H_0(u, v) = \frac{1}{2}v^2 + gu = h(I),$$

that is

$$I(h) = 2 \int_0^{\frac{h}{g}} \sqrt{2h - 2gu} du = \frac{4\sqrt{2}h^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3g}. \quad (7)$$

It follows from (7) that

$$h(I) = \frac{(3gI)^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2 \cdot 4^{\frac{1}{3}}}. \quad (8)$$

We define now the generating function as the area (shaded in Figure 2):

$$\begin{aligned} S(I, v) &= \int_v^{\sqrt{2h}} u(s) ds = \int_v^{\sqrt{2h}} \frac{1}{g} \left( h - \frac{1}{2}s^2 \right) ds \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{2}h^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3g} - \frac{hv}{g} + \frac{v^3}{6g}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $h$  is given by the equation (8).

We obtain the map  $(\phi, I) \mapsto (u, v)$  via

$$\phi(I, v) = \frac{\partial S}{\partial I}(I, v), \quad u(I, v) = -\frac{\partial S}{\partial v}(I, v). \quad (9)$$

This map is symplectic. Indeed, using (9) gives

$$\begin{aligned} du \wedge dv &= (-S_{vI}dI - S_{vv}dv) \wedge dv = -S_{vI}dI \wedge dv = S_{vI}dv \wedge dI; \\ d\phi \wedge dI &= (S_{II}dI + S_{Iv}dv) \wedge dI = S_{Iv}dv \wedge dI \end{aligned}$$

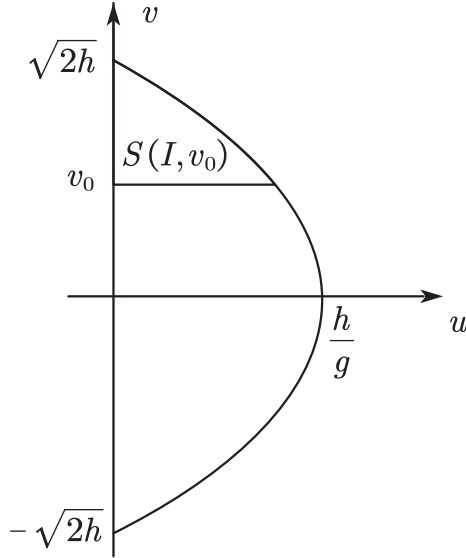


Figure 2: The definition of action and angle variables

so that  $du \wedge dv = d\phi \wedge dI$ .

A simple computation shows that

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(I, v) &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{v}{(12gI)^{\frac{1}{3}}}, \\ v &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - 2\phi)(12gI)^{\frac{1}{3}}, \\ u(I, \phi) &= \left( h(I) - \frac{1}{2}v(I, \phi)^2 \right) / g = \frac{(12gI)^{\frac{2}{3}}\phi(1 - \phi)}{2g}.\end{aligned}$$

The Hamiltonian of the system (6) is transformed into

$$\begin{aligned}H(\phi, I, t) &= h(I) + \varepsilon p(t)u(I, \phi) \\ &= \frac{(3gI)^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2 \cdot 4^{\frac{1}{3}}} + \frac{(12gI)^{\frac{2}{3}}\phi(1 - \phi)}{2g}\varepsilon p(t).\end{aligned}$$

where  $\phi \in [0, 1]$ .

Without loss of generality, it suffices to study the system with Hamiltonian

$$H(\phi, I, t) = I^{\frac{2}{3}} + \frac{4}{g}I^{\frac{2}{3}}\phi(1 - \phi)\varepsilon p(t), \quad \phi \in [0, 1]. \quad (10)$$

Clearly, the system (10) is near integrable in the region where  $I$  is finite provided that  $\varepsilon$  is small enough. However, using some tricks based on the fact that the flow of the Hamiltonian system and the 1-form  $I d\phi - H dt$  are invariantly related, we will show that the system (10) is also near integrable in the region with arbitrarily high energy.

Rescale the system (10) via

$$\kappa I = P, \quad \kappa H = K,$$

where  $\kappa > 0$  is a small constant. Based on  $Pd\phi - Kdt = \kappa(Id\phi - Hdt)$ , the system (10) in the new coordinates has the Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} K(\phi, P, t) &= \kappa \left( \left( \frac{P}{\kappa} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} + \left( \frac{P}{\kappa} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} \phi(1-\phi)\varepsilon p(t) \right) \\ &= \kappa^{\frac{1}{3}} \left( P^{\frac{2}{3}} + P^{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{4}{g} \phi(1-\phi)\varepsilon p(t) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since the integral curves of the Hamiltonian system are invariantly associated with the differential form

$$\kappa Id\phi - \kappa Hdt = -(Kdt - Pd\phi),$$

we choose  $P$  as the new Hamiltonian, the variables  $t$ ,  $K$  and  $\phi$  as the new position, momentum and time, respectively. Then we obtain the system

$$\frac{dt}{d\phi} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial K}, \quad \frac{dK}{d\phi} = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial t}, \quad (11)$$

where

$$P = \left( \frac{K\kappa^{-\frac{1}{3}}}{1 + \frac{4}{g}\phi(1-\phi)\varepsilon p(t)} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}, \quad \phi \in [0, 1].$$

The system (11) is equivalent to the one with Hamiltonian

$$F(K, t, \phi, \varepsilon) = K^{3/2} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{4}{g}\phi(1-\phi)\varepsilon p(t)} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}, \quad \phi \in [0, 1].$$

It is clear that  $F$  is well defined for small  $\varepsilon$ .

Set

$$w(x) = \left( \frac{1}{1+x} \right)^{3/2}.$$

Since we assume that  $\varepsilon$  is small, expanding the term  $w(\frac{4}{g}\phi(1-\phi)\varepsilon p(t))$  within  $F$  in Taylor series, we get:

$$F(K, t, \phi, \varepsilon) = K^{3/2} + K^{3/2}m(\phi, t, \varepsilon), \quad (12)$$

where  $m(\phi, t, \varepsilon)$  is the remainder of the Taylor series in integral form:

$$m(\phi, t) = \int_0^x w'(s)ds, \quad x = \frac{4}{g}\phi(1-\phi)\varepsilon p(t). \quad (13)$$

It follows from (13) that  $m(\phi, t, \varepsilon)$  is quasiperiodic about  $t$  and as smooth as  $\frac{4}{g}\phi(1-\phi)\varepsilon p(t)$ . Moreover,  $\|m(\phi, t, \varepsilon)\|_{\nu-2} = O(\varepsilon)$ .

The system with the Hamiltonian given by (12) is

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{dt}{d\phi} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial K} = \frac{3}{2}K^{1/2} + \frac{3}{2}K^{1/2}m(\phi, t, \varepsilon), \\ \frac{dK}{d\phi} = -\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = -K^{3/2}\frac{\partial m}{\partial t}(\phi, t, \varepsilon). \end{array} \right. \quad (14)$$

Introducing the new coordinates  $(r, t) = (\frac{3}{2}K^{1/2}, t)$ , then the system (14) in the new coordinates becomes

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dt}{d\phi} = r + rm(\phi, t, \varepsilon), \\ \frac{dr}{d\phi} = -\frac{1}{3}r^2 \frac{\partial m}{\partial t}(\phi, t, \varepsilon). \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

Integrating the system (15) on the interval  $[0, 1]$  formally, the time-1-map has the following expression:

$$\mathcal{M} : \begin{cases} t_1 = t_0 + r_0 + R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon), \\ r_1 = r_0 + R_2(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon), \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

where  $R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  and  $R_2(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  are the  $O(\varepsilon)$  terms of the time-1-map. In the following subsection, we will show that  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are  $C^{\nu-3}$  smooth and quasiperiodic functions about  $t_0$ .

**Remark 4.1.** *Note that the time-1-map of the system (15) corresponds to the usual impact map of the system (6). In fact, by the definition of  $\phi$ , the orbits of (15) from  $\phi = 0$  to  $\phi = 1$  correspond to the orbits of (6) from  $\{(u, \dot{u}, t) : u = 0, \dot{u} > 0\}$  to  $\{(u, \dot{u}, t) : u = 0, \dot{u} < 0\}$ . Moreover, since the impact does not change the Hamiltonian, the time-1-map of the system (15) is just the impact map in the coordinates with the impact time and the rescaled energy.*

## 5. Proof of the Theorem 3.1

In this Section, we show that the map (16) on  $\mathbb{R} \times [a, b]$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem 2.1 provided that  $\varepsilon$  is sufficiently small, where  $0 < a < b$ . The proof is divided into three parts. First we show that the functions  $R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  and  $R_2(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  are quasiperiodic about  $t_0$ . Then a simple argument, based on the estimate of the remainders of time-1-map on differential equations, implies that the  $C^{\nu-3}$  norm of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  tends to zero uniformly as  $\varepsilon$  tends to zero. Finally, we use the Poincaré-Cartan integral invariant to show that the map (16) has the intersection property.

### 5.1. Quasiperiodicity of the remainders

To show that  $R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  and  $R_2(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  are quasiperiodic about  $t_0$ , we rewrite equations (15) in the form:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dt}{d\phi} = r + M_1(\omega_1 t, \dots, \omega_n t, r, \phi, \varepsilon), \\ \frac{dr}{d\phi} = M_2(\omega_1 t, \dots, \omega_n t, r, \phi, \varepsilon), \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

where  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are the shell functions of  $rm(\phi, t, \varepsilon)$  and  $-\frac{1}{3}\frac{\partial m}{\partial t}(\phi, t, \varepsilon)$  about  $t$ , respectively. Let  $\theta_i = \omega_i t$ . The system (17) is equivalent to

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d\theta_i}{d\phi} = \omega_i(r + M_1(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n, r, \phi, \varepsilon)), \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \\ \frac{dr}{d\phi} = M_2(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n, r, \phi, \varepsilon). \end{cases} \quad (18)$$



Denoted by

$$\theta_i(\phi; \theta_{10}, \dots, \theta_{n0}, r_0, \varepsilon), \quad r(\phi; \theta_{10}, \dots, \theta_{n0}, r_0, \varepsilon), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

the solution of the system (18) with initial condition  $(\theta_{10}, \dots, \theta_{n0}, r_0)$  at  $\phi = 0$ , where  $\theta_{i0} = \omega_i t_0$ . Then it is clear that  $\theta_i(\phi; \theta_{10}, \dots, \theta_{n0}, r_0, \varepsilon) - \theta_{i0}$  and  $r(\phi; \theta_{10}, \dots, \theta_{n0}, r_0, \varepsilon)$  are  $2\pi$ -periodic about  $\theta_{i0}$ . Since

$$t(\phi; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) = \frac{1}{\omega_i} \theta_i(\phi; \theta_{10}, \dots, \theta_{n0}, r_0, \varepsilon) = \frac{1}{\omega_i} \theta_i(\phi; \omega_1 t_0, \dots, \omega_n t_0, r_0, \varepsilon),$$

$$r(\phi; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) = r(\phi; \theta_{10}, \dots, \theta_{n0}, r_0, \varepsilon) = r(\phi; \omega_1 t_0, \dots, \omega_n t_0, r_0, \varepsilon),$$

it follows that  $R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  and  $R_2(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  are quasiperiodic about  $t_0$  with frequency  $\omega$ , where  $t(\phi; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon), r(\phi; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  is the solution of (15) with initial condition  $(t_0, r_0)$  at  $\phi = 0$ ,

### 5.2. Regularity of the remainders

Take  $\Delta > 0$  and a compact interval  $[a, b]$  with  $0 < a < b$ . First note that the vector field of system (15) is  $C^{\nu-3}$  about  $(t, r, \phi)$ ,  $C^\infty$  about  $\varepsilon$ , and uniformly bounded on  $(t, r, \phi, \varepsilon) \in \mathbb{R} \times [a, b] \times [0, 1] \times [0, \Delta]$ . By general theory of differential equations, see e.g. [28], for  $(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) \in \mathbb{R} \times [a, b] \times [0, \Delta] := \mathcal{D}$ , the solution  $(t(\phi; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon), r(\phi; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon))$  of the system (15) is well defined in  $[0, 1]$  and keeps the regularity  $C^{\nu-3}$  and  $C^\infty$  about  $(t_0, r_0)$  and  $\varepsilon$ , respectively.

For each  $(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) \in \mathcal{D}$ , by the mean value theorem,

$$\begin{cases} R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) = t(1; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) - t(1; t_0, r_0, 0) = \frac{\partial t}{\partial \varepsilon}(1; t_0, r_0, \zeta_1) \varepsilon, \\ R_2(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) = r(1; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) - r(1; t_0, r_0, 0) = \frac{\partial r}{\partial \varepsilon}(1; t_0, r_0, \zeta_2) \varepsilon, \end{cases} \quad (19)$$

where  $\zeta_1, \zeta_2 \in (0, \varepsilon)$ . It follows from (19) that  $R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon), R_2(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$  are  $C^{\nu-3}$  about  $(t_0, r_0)$  and  $C^\infty$  about  $\varepsilon$ . We now show that the functions  $\frac{\partial t}{\partial \varepsilon}(1; t_0, r_0, \alpha), \frac{\partial r}{\partial \varepsilon}(1; t_0, r_0, \alpha)$  are bounded on  $(t_0, r_0, \alpha) \in \mathcal{D}$ . First, note that a quasiperiodic function depending on parameters continuously is uniformly bounded if the parameters are within a compact set. We have  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) = \frac{\partial t}{\partial \varepsilon}(1; t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)$ , it follows that the function  $\frac{\partial t}{\partial \varepsilon}(1; t_0, r_0, \alpha)$  is quasiperiodic about  $t_0$ . Besides,  $(r_0, \alpha) \in [a, b] \times [0, \Delta]$ . Therefore,  $\frac{\partial t}{\partial \varepsilon}(1; t_0, r_0, \alpha)$  is bounded on  $(t_0, r_0, \alpha) \in \mathcal{D}$ . Similarly, we can show that  $\frac{\partial r}{\partial \varepsilon}(1; t_0, r_0, \alpha)$  is bounded on  $(t_0, r_0, \alpha) \in \mathcal{D}$ . Thus, by (19) we obtain that  $R_i(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Note that the derivative of a quasiperiodic function is also a quasiperiodic function with the same frequency. Repeating the above procedure, we can prove inductively that  $\frac{\partial^{k+l} R_i}{\partial t_0^k \partial r_0^l}(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , where  $0 \leq k + l \leq \nu - 3$ . Therefore,

$$\|R_1(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)\|_{\nu-3} + \|R_2(t_0, r_0, \varepsilon)\|_{\nu-3} \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_{\nu-3}$  is taken about  $t_0$  and  $r_0$ .

### 5.3. Intersection property of the twist map $\mathcal{M}_0$

Since the transformation  $(t_0, r_0) = (t_0, \frac{3}{2}K_0^{1/2})$  is a homeomorphism when  $K > 0$ , to prove that the map  $\mathcal{M}$  has the intersection property, it suffices to deal with

$$\mathcal{M}_0 : (t_0, K_0) \mapsto (t_1, K_1),$$

which is the time-1-map of the system (14). We verify next that  $\mathcal{M}_0$  satisfies the exact symplectic condition which implies the intersection property. To this end, we fix a strip

$$\mathcal{A} = \{(t_0, K_0) : t_0 \in \mathbb{R}, K_0 \in [4, 16]\}.$$

Now,  $r_0 \in [3, 6]$ .

$\mathcal{M}_0$  is the time-1-map of the Hamiltonian system (14), so it preserves the symplectic structure  $dt \wedge dK$ . It remain to prove that  $\mathcal{M}_0$  is exact. Let  $\gamma_1 : t = \xi + \alpha(\xi), K = \beta(\xi)$  be a parametric curve on the surface  $\phi = 0$ , which lies in the region  $\mathcal{A}$ , where  $\xi \in [-T, T]$  for some  $T > 0$ . The continuous functions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are quasiperiodic in  $\xi$  with frequency  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ ,  $\gamma_2$  the image of  $\gamma_1$  under the map  $\mathcal{M}_0$ .  $\gamma_3$  and  $\gamma_4$  are the integral curves of the system (14), which connect the corresponding endpoints of  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$ . See Figure 3.

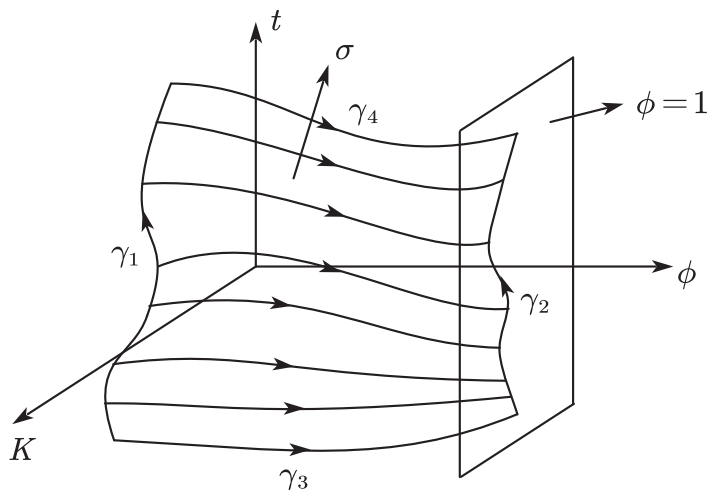


Figure 3: The definition of  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$  and  $\gamma_4$

For the system (14), consider the integral

$$\oint_{\gamma_1 + \gamma_4 - \gamma_2 - \gamma_3} K dt - F d\phi = \iint_{\sigma} dK \wedge dt - dF \wedge d\phi,$$

where  $\sigma$  is the surface generated by piecewise of integral curves, which is enclosed by curves  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$  and  $\gamma_4$ . Since  $K dt - F d\phi$  is the Poincaré-Cartan integral invariant of (14), we have  $\oint_{\gamma_1 + \gamma_4 - \gamma_2 - \gamma_3} K dt - F d\phi = 0$ . Thus,

$$\int_{\gamma_1 - \gamma_2} K dt - F d\phi = \int_{\gamma_3 - \gamma_4} K dt - F d\phi. \quad (20)$$

Note that  $\phi = 0$  on  $\gamma_1$ , and  $\phi = 1$  on  $\gamma_2$ . We have

$$\int_{\gamma_1 - \gamma_2} K dt - F d\phi = \int_{\gamma_1 - \gamma_2} K dt, \quad (21)$$

and

$$\int_{\gamma_3-\gamma_4} K dt - F d\phi = \int_{\gamma_3-\gamma_4} \left( K \frac{\partial F}{\partial K} - F \right) d\phi = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\gamma_3-\gamma_4} F d\phi. \quad (22)$$

The solutions of (14) starting from  $\gamma_1 : t_0 = \xi + \alpha(\xi), K_0 = \beta(\xi)$  can be written as  $t(\phi; \xi), K(\phi; \xi)$ . Consider the differential equation

$$\frac{dK}{d\phi} = -K^{3/2} \frac{\partial m}{\partial t}(\phi, t(\phi; \xi), \varepsilon), \quad (23)$$

where  $\phi \in [0, 1], \xi \in [-T, T], t(0; \xi) = \xi + \alpha(\xi), K(0; \xi) = \beta(\xi)$ . Since  $m(\phi, t, \varepsilon)$  is quasiperiodic about  $t$ , the vector field of (23) is bounded. Besides, the initial condition and the interval of the integral are also bounded. Therefore,  $K(\phi; \xi)$  is bounded on  $(\phi, \xi) \in [0, 1] \times [-T, T]$  independent of  $T$ , and hence, so does to  $F(\phi; \xi)$ . Thus, by (22), we have

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{\gamma_3-\gamma_4} K dt - F d\phi = 0. \quad (24)$$

Now, it follows from (20), (21) and (24) that

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^T K_0 dt_0 = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^T K_1 dt_1.$$

This proves that  $\mathcal{M}_0$  satisfies the exact symplectic condition. By Remark 2.1, it has the intersection property.

For  $\nu - 3 > 2n + 1$ , i.e.,  $\nu > 2n + 4$ , we have verified that the map  $\mathcal{M}$  satisfies all conditions of Theorem 2.1. Thus, it turns out that  $\mathcal{M}_0$  has invariant curves on  $\mathcal{A}$ . By the definitions of  $K, H$ , it follows that  $K \in [4, 16]$  and  $H \in [\frac{4}{\kappa}, \frac{16}{\kappa}]$ . Thanks to the form of the Hamiltonian (10), the rescaled parameter  $\kappa > 0$  has no influence on the dynamics. Therefore, if the map (16) has invariant curves in the region  $\mathbb{R} \times [3, 6]$  for small  $\varepsilon$ , then the system (10) possesses invariant tori in  $H \in [\frac{4}{\kappa}, \frac{16}{\kappa}]$  for any  $\kappa > 0$ . Take  $\kappa$  sufficiently small, there exist invariant curves in the region with arbitrary high energy, which provide barriers for any solution of the system (6), i.e., any solution of (6) is bounded.

## 6. Conclusion

A fundamental dynamical problem on the bouncing ball model is whether the energy of the ball can go to infinity (called Fermi acceleration) under collision. In this work, we consider the bouncing ball model in the case that the motion of the wall is quasiperiodic, and prove that when the motion of the wall is sufficiently regular and the frequency satisfies the Diophantine condition, the energy of the ball is always bounded. The processes of the proof, including the establishment of the twist map, the verifications of the intersection property and regularity conditions, are robust, which can be applied to other nonsmooth dynamical systems with quasiperiodic perturbations.

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