Homework 2: PCA

DUE: Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018

On the webpage are movie files (turned into matlab files) created from three different cameras (videos are from 2011). The experiments are an attempt to illustrate various aspects of the PCA and its practical usefulness and the effects of noise on the PCA algorithms.

- **(test 1) Ideal case:** Consider a small displacement of the mass in the z direction and the ensuing oscillations. In this case, the entire motion is in the z directions with simple harmonic motion being observed (cam$N$_1.mat where N=1,2,3).

- **(test 2) noisy case:** Repeat the ideal case experiment, but this time, introduce camera shake into the video recording. This should make it more difficult to extract the simple harmonic motion. But if the shake isn't too bad, the dynamics will still be extracted with the PCA algorithms. (cam$N$_2.mat where N=1,2,3)

- **(test 3) horizontal displacement:** In this case, the mass is released off-center so as to produce motion in the $x-y$ plane as well as the z direction. Thus there is both a pendulum motion and a simple harmonic oscillations. See what the PCA tells us about the system. (cam$N$_3.mat where N=1,2,3)

- **(test 4) horizontal displacement and rotation:** In this case, the mass is released off-center and rotates so as to produce motion in the $x-y$ plane, rotation as well as the z direction. Thus there is both a pendulum motion and a simple harmonic oscillations. See what the PCA tells us about the system. (cam$N$_4.mat where N=1,2,3)

Explore the PCA method on this problem and see what you find.