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Modeling Harpsichord Plucking: The Plectrum and the String JACK PERNG, Department of Physics, Stanford University, THOMAS ROSSING, JULIUS SMITH, Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics, Stanford University — The harpsichord is a plucked string keyboard instrument that was popular during the Renaissance and Baroque music eras. Although it was later replaced by the more expressive piano, it has mounted a comeback due to the early music movement today. A physical model of the harpsichord's plucking mechanism is presented, detailing the plectrum-string interaction which illustrates many aspects of the harpsichord's characteristic sound.

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