Synchronization of Huygens’ clocks: An elementary treatment
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discuss a Huygens’ model in the “language” for someone with a background in
algebra-based physics. The system consists of two pendulums mounted on a cart.
We show how the movement of the cart removes the degeneracy of the two bobs,
and use the conservation of linear momentum to describe the necessary escapement
mechanism. We present results from an Excel calculation for the decay of the sym-
metric and antisymmetric modes.

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