



EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
THIRD EXAMINATION IN SCIENCE - 2012/2013
SECOND SEMESTER (Sep./Oct., 2015)
AM 307 - CLASSICAL MECHANICS
(PROPER)

Answer all Questions

Time: Three hours

1. Two frames of reference S and S' have a common origin O and S' rotates with an constant angular velocity $\underline{\omega}$ relative to S . If a moving particle P has its position vector as \underline{r} relative to O at time t , show that :

(a) $\frac{d\underline{r}}{dt} = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial t} + \underline{\omega} \wedge \underline{r}$, and

(b) $\frac{d^2 \underline{r}}{dt^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \underline{r}}{\partial t^2} + 2\underline{\omega} \wedge \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \underline{\omega}}{\partial t} \wedge \underline{r} + \underline{\omega} \wedge (\underline{\omega} \wedge \underline{r})$.

If a projectile is fired due east from a point on the earth's surface at a northern latitude λ with a velocity of magnitude v_0 and at an angle of inclination to the horizontal of α , show that the literal deflection when the projectile strikes the earth is

$$\frac{4v_0^3}{g^2} \omega \sin \lambda \sin^2 \alpha \cos \alpha,$$

where ω is the rotation speed of the earth.

2. (a) With the usual notations obtain the *Euler's* equations for the motion of the rigid body, having a point fixed, in the form:

$$A\dot{\omega}_1 - (B - C)\omega_2\omega_3 = N_1,$$

$$B\dot{\omega}_2 - (C - A)\omega_1\omega_3 = N_2,$$

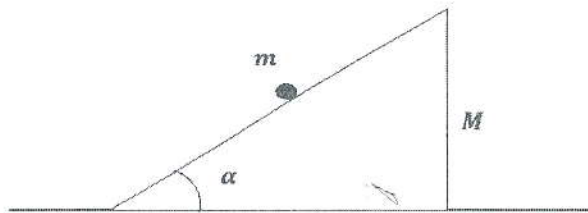
$$C\dot{\omega}_3 - (A - B)\omega_1\omega_2 = N_3.$$

A body moves about a point O under no forces. The principle moment of inertia at O being $3A$, $5A$ and $6A$. Initially the angular velocity has components $\omega_1 = n$, $\omega_2 = 0$, $\omega_3 = 3$ about the corresponding principal axes. Show that at time t ,

$$\omega_2 = \frac{3n}{\sqrt{5}} \tan\left(\frac{nt}{\sqrt{5}}\right).$$

3. Obtain the *Lagrange's* equations of motion using D'Alembert's principle for a conservative holonomic dynamical system.

A point object mass m is free to slide without friction down the planar surface of a wedge that is inclined at an angle α to the horizontal. The wedge has mass M and is itself free to slide without friction on a horizontal surface (as shown in the following figure).



- (a) Find the Lagrange's equations for this system subject to the force of gravity at the surface of the earth.
- (b) Show that the accelerations of the object and the wedge are constant.

4. With the usual notations, derive the Lagrang's equation for the impulsive motion from the Lagrange's equations for a holonomic system in the following form

$$\Delta \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) = S_j \quad \text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

A uniform rod AB of length l and mass m is at rest on a horizontal smooth table. An impulse of magnitude I is applied to one end A in the direction perpendicular to AB . Prove that, immediate after the application of impulse,

- the one end A of the rod AB has the velocity of magnitude $\frac{4I}{m}$,
- center of mass of the rod AB has the velocity of magnitude $\frac{I}{m}$,
- the rod rotates about the center of mass with angular velocity of magnitude $\frac{6I}{m}$.

5. (a) Define *Hamiltonian* function in terms of Lagrangian function .

Show that, with the usual notations, that the Hamiltonian equations are given by

$$\dot{q}_j = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_j}, \quad \dot{p}_j = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_j} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial L}{\partial t}.$$

- Prove that if the time t does not occur in Lagrangian function L , then the Hamiltonian function H is also not involved in t .
- Write down the Hamiltonian function H and then find the equation of motion for a simple pendulum.

6. (a) Define the *poisson bracket*.

Show that for any function $f(q_i, p_i, t)$,

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + [f, H],$$

where H is a Hamiltonian function.

(b) With the usual notations, prove that:

i.
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} [f, g] = \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}, g \right] + \left[f, \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} \right];$$

ii.
$$[f, q_k] = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial p_k};$$

iii.
$$[f, p_k] = \frac{\partial f}{\partial q_k}.$$

(c) Show that, if f and g are constants of motion then their poisson bracket $[f, g]$ is also a constant of motion.