

S13 PHY321: Final

May 1, 2013

NOTE: Show all your work. No credit for unsupported answers.**Turn the front page only when advised by the instructor!**

The exam consists of 6 problems (60 points) plus one extra credit problem (10 points).

Contextual informationDamped harmonic oscillator equation: $\ddot{x} + 2\beta\dot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = 0$ General solution: $x(t) = e^{-\beta t} \left[A_1 \exp\left(\sqrt{\beta^2 - \omega_0^2} t\right) + A_2 \exp\left(-\sqrt{\beta^2 - \omega_0^2} t\right) \right]$ Driven harmonic oscillator equation: $\ddot{x} + 2\beta\dot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = A \cos \omega t$ Amplitude of stationary oscillations: $D = \frac{A}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\omega^2\beta^2}}$ Phase lag: $\delta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2\omega\beta}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}\right)$ Acceleration vector in polar coordinate: $\mathbf{a} = (\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2)\mathbf{e}_r + (r\ddot{\theta} + 2\dot{r}\dot{\theta})\mathbf{e}_\theta$

$$G = 6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{kg s}^2}$$

Calculus in spherical coordinates:

$$\vec{\text{grad}} \Psi = \vec{e}_r \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial r} + \vec{e}_\theta \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} + \vec{e}_\phi \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \phi}$$

$$\vec{\text{div}} \vec{A} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 A_r) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta A_\theta) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial \phi}$$

$$\nabla^2 \Psi = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial \phi^2}$$

Orbits in a gravitational field:

$$\frac{\alpha}{r} = 1 + \epsilon \cos \theta \qquad a = \frac{k}{2|E|} \qquad b = \frac{\ell}{\sqrt{2\mu|E|}} \qquad \alpha = \frac{\ell^2}{\mu k}$$

1. Consider the two forces

$$\vec{F}_A = (2y, x, 0), \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{F}_B = (y+1, x, 0).$$

where the force and position components are, respectively, in newtons and meters.

- (a) [2 pts] Find magnitude of the force \vec{F}_B at the location $(x, y, z) = (-2, 3, 0)$.

$$\vec{F}_B(-2, 3, 0) = 4\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} \Rightarrow |\vec{F}_B| = \sqrt{16+4} = \sqrt{20} = 4.47 \text{ Newtons}$$

- (b) [3 pts] Find the angle that the force \vec{F}_B makes with the positive direction of the x -axis at the location $(x, y, z) = (-2, 3, 0)$.

$$F_{B,x} = \vec{F}_B \cdot \hat{i} = |\vec{F}_B| \cos \theta \Rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{F_{B,x}}{|\vec{F}_B|} = \frac{4}{4.47} = .895$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{4.47}\right) = 26.49^\circ$$

- (c) [5 pts] Are either of the forces conservative? If so, determine the corresponding potential(s).

If $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = 0$, then \vec{F} is conservative & can be written $\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla} U$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ F_x & F_y & F_z \end{vmatrix} = \hat{i}(\partial_y F_z - \partial_z F_y) + \hat{j}(\partial_z F_x - \partial_x F_z) + \hat{k}(\partial_x F_y - \partial_y F_x)$$

* we see $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}_A \neq 0$ while $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}_B = \hat{i}(0-0) + \hat{j}(0-0) + \hat{k}(1-1) = 0$

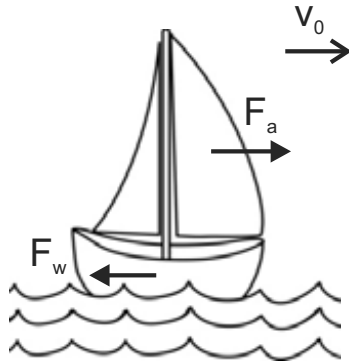
$\therefore \vec{F}_B$ is conservative. we find it using:

$$\textcircled{1} F_x = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = y+1 \Rightarrow U(x,y) = -xy - x + C(y)$$

$$\textcircled{2} F_y = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = x = x - \frac{\partial C}{\partial y} \Rightarrow C = \text{constant}$$

$$\therefore U = -x(y+1) + \text{const}$$

2. A sailboat of mass m is moving on water, in the direction of wind. The sailboat is subject to two forces in the horizontal direction: $\vec{F} = \vec{F}_a + \vec{F}_w$, where \vec{F}_a is due to air and \vec{F}_w is due to water. The force of air is propelling the sailboat and it is proportional to the difference between the constant velocity of the wind \vec{v}_0 and the boat velocity \vec{v} , $\vec{F}_a = A(\vec{v}_0 - \vec{v})$. The force of water resists the motion of the boat and is proportional to the boat velocity, $\vec{F}_w = -B\vec{v}$. Here, A and B are positive proportionality constants.



- (a) [2 pt] For what velocity \vec{v} of the boat is the net horizontal force on the boat going to be zero?
- (b) [8 pts] Find the dependence of the boat's velocity v on time t , when the boat starts from rest at $t = 0$.

By taking the limit $t \rightarrow \infty$, verify that the expression you found is consistent with the answer to (a).

$$a) \vec{F} = 0 = A(\vec{v}_0 - \vec{v}) - B\vec{v} \Rightarrow A\vec{v}_0 - \vec{v}(A+B) = 0$$

$$\therefore \vec{v} = \frac{A}{A+B} \vec{v}_0$$

$$b) m \frac{dv}{dt} = -Bv + A(v_0 - v) = -(A+B)v + Av_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dt} + \left(\frac{A+B}{m}\right)v = \frac{A}{m}v_0 \quad \text{IHG eqn} \Rightarrow v = v_{\text{IHG}} + v_{\text{IAG}}$$

where: $\frac{d}{dt}v_{\text{IHG}} = -\left(\frac{A+B}{m}\right)v_{\text{IHG}} \Rightarrow v_{\text{IHG}} = C e^{-\frac{A+B}{m}t}$ C TBD from $v(0) = 0$

* per the trick discussed in class, we try to "guess" v_{IAG} by assuming $\frac{d}{dt}v_{\text{IAG}} = 0$

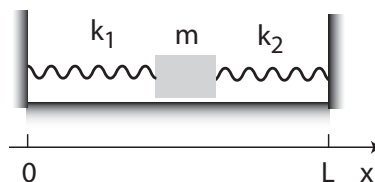
$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{A+B}{m}\right)v_{\text{IAG}} = \frac{A}{m}v_0 \Rightarrow v_{\text{IAG}} = \frac{A}{A+B}v_0$$

$$\therefore v = C e^{-\frac{A+B}{m}t} + \frac{A}{A+B}v_0 \quad * \text{Demanding } v(0) = 0 \Rightarrow C = -\frac{A}{A+B}v_0$$

$$\Rightarrow v = \frac{A}{A+B}v_0 \left(1 - e^{-\frac{A+B}{m}t}\right)$$

$$\text{check: } v(\infty) = \frac{A}{A+B}v_0 \text{ as in part a) } \checkmark$$

3. A small object of mass m is positioned on a smooth plane and attached to walls on its two sides, at $x = 0$ and $x = L$, with stretched massless horizontal springs of spring constants k_1 and k_2 , respectively, as displayed in the figure.



The unstretched lengths of both springs are negligible.

- (a) [2 pts] Find the equilibrium position x_0 for the mass.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F_1 = -k_1 x_0 \\ F_2 = k_2(L - x_0) \end{array} \right\} F = F_1 + F_2 = 0 = -x_0(k_1 + k_2) + k_2 L$$

$$\Rightarrow x_0 = \frac{k_2}{k_1 + k_2} L$$

- (b) [2 pts] What is the net force acting on the mass in the x direction, if the mass is at a location x , $x \neq x_0$ and $0 < x < L$?

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F_1 = -k_1 x \\ F_2 = k_2(L - x) \end{array} \right\} F = F_1 + F_2 = -(k_1 + k_2)x + k_2 L \quad * \text{but } L = x_0 \frac{k_1 + k_2}{k_2}$$

$$= -(k_1 + k_2)x + (k_1 + k_2)x_0$$

$$F = -(k_1 + k_2)(x - x_0)$$

- (c) [4 pts] What is the angular frequency of oscillations about the equilibrium position, in absence of friction? Compute the value for $m = 2.50$ kg, $k_1 = 3.50$ N/m, $k_2 = 1.50$ N/m and $L = 0.90$ m. Are all constants needed?

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k_{\text{eff}}}{m}} \quad \text{where } k_{\text{eff}} = k_1 + k_2 \quad (\text{see part b})$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{3.5 + 1.5}{2.5}} = \sqrt{2} = 1.41 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}$$

- (d) [2 pt] If a friction force acts on the mass, opposite and proportional to velocity, $F_f = -b\dot{x}$, with a proportionality constant of $b = 0.80$ kg/s, is the motion underdamped, overdamped or approximately critically damped?

$$\beta = \frac{b}{2m} = \frac{0.8}{5} = 0.16 < \omega_0$$

\Rightarrow Underdamped.

4. A spherical planet of radius R has a density ρ that is the largest at its center, and decreases with distance r from the center as $\rho(r) = A(2R - r)$, where A is a constant with the appropriate units.

(a) [4 pts] Determine the mass of the planet.

$$\begin{aligned}
 M &= \int \rho(r) d^3r = 4\pi \int_0^R \rho(r) r^2 dr \\
 &= 4\pi A \int_0^R (2Rr^2 - r^3) dr = 4\pi A \left[\frac{2}{3} R^3 - \frac{R^4}{4} \right] \\
 &= \frac{4\pi A}{12} [8R^3 - 3R^4] = \boxed{\frac{5\pi A}{3} R^3 = M}
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) [6 pts] Determine the gravitational field at distance r from the center of the planet.

$$\oint_S \vec{g} \cdot d\vec{r} = -4\pi G M_{\text{enc}} \quad * \text{take } S = \text{sphere radius } r$$

$$g(r) 4\pi r^2 = -4\pi G M_{\text{enc}}(r)$$

$$\Rightarrow g(r) = -\frac{G M_{\text{enc}}(r)}{r^2}$$

* for $r > R$, $M_{\text{enc}}(r) = M$ from part a).

* for $r < R$, $M_{\text{enc}}(r) = 4\pi A \left[\frac{2}{3} Rr^3 - \frac{r^4}{4} \right]$

5. A satellite is in a circular orbit of radius R around Earth (mass $M = 5.97 \times 10^{24}$ kg).

(a) [2 pt] How is the velocity v of the satellite related to the radius R , mass M and gravitational constant G ?

$$\frac{mv^2}{R} = \frac{GmM}{R^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow v^2 = \frac{GM}{R} \Rightarrow v = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{R}}$$

(b) [4 pts] What needs to be the radius R to make the orbit semisynchronous, i.e. with a period of 12h? (GPS satellites move on such orbits.) Obtain a value for R .

$$\tau = \frac{2\pi R}{v} = 2\pi R \times \sqrt{\frac{R}{GM}} = \frac{2\pi R^{3/2}}{\sqrt{GM}}$$

$$R^{3/2} = \frac{\sqrt{GM} \tau}{2\pi} \Rightarrow R = \left(\frac{\sqrt{GM} \tau}{2\pi}\right)^{2/3} = 26,601 \text{ km}$$

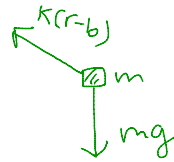
(c) [4 pts] Now imagine that the satellite has a parabolic orbit. If the satellite has the same angular momentum as it did for the circular orbit, how big is r_{min} (i.e., the perihelion) compared to R in part a.

$$\frac{\alpha}{r_{min}} = 1 + \epsilon$$

$$\therefore r_{min} = \frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{R}{2} \quad (\text{recall, } R = \alpha)$$

6. Consider a pendulum consisting of a mass m suspended by a massless spring. The spring has a unextended length of b , and a spring constant k . The pendulum is in a uniform gravitational field g .

- (a) [5pts] Using Newton's formulation of mechanics (i.e., $\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a}$), find equations of motion for the mass in terms of the variables r and θ . (Note: The acceleration vector in polar coordinates is given on the formula sheet.)



$$F_r = mg \cos \theta - k(r-b)$$

$$F_\theta = -mg \sin \theta$$

$$\therefore F_r = ma_r \Rightarrow m(\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2) = mg \cos \theta - k(r-b)$$

$$F_\theta = ma_\theta \Rightarrow \ddot{\theta} + 2\frac{\dot{r}}{r}\dot{\theta} + \frac{g}{r} \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2 - g \cos \theta + \frac{k}{m}(r-b) = 0$$

- (b) [5pts] Using the Lagrangian formulation of mechanics, find the Euler-Lagrange equations for r and θ . Should they agree with part a)?

$$T = \frac{m}{2}(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\theta}^2) \quad \text{and} \quad U = -mgr \cos \theta + \frac{1}{2}k(r-b)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow L = \frac{m}{2}(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\theta}^2) + mgr \cos \theta - \frac{1}{2}k(r-b)^2$$

$$\text{EL in } r: \left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial L}{\partial r} &= m\dot{\theta}^2 + mg \cos \theta - k(r-b) \\ \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} &= m\dot{r} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2 - g \cos \theta + \frac{k}{m}(r-b) = 0$$

$$\text{EL in } \theta: \left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} &= -mgr \sin \theta \\ \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} \right) &= \frac{d}{dt} (mr^2\dot{\theta}) = mr^2\ddot{\theta} + 2mr\dot{r}\dot{\theta} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow mr^2\ddot{\theta} + 2mr\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + mgr \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{\theta} + 2\frac{\dot{r}}{r}\dot{\theta} + \frac{g}{r} \sin \theta = 0$$

*It agrees w/part a) as it should.

7. [Extra Credit] A simple pendulum consists of a massless rod of fixed length b with a mass m attached to the end. There is a uniform gravitational field g pointing downwards. Starting at $t = 0$, the pendulum is moved upward with uniform acceleration a .



- (a) [4 pts] Write down the Lagrangian in the appropriate set of generalized coordinates. (Hint: Start in cartesian coordinates, and write x, y in terms of θ, b, a , and t .)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x &= b \sin \theta \\ y &= \frac{at^2}{2} - b \cos \theta \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= b \dot{\theta} \cos \theta \\ \dot{y} &= at + b \dot{\theta} \sin \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$T = \frac{m}{2} (\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2) = \frac{m}{2} (b^2 \dot{\theta}^2 \cos^2 \theta + a^2 t^2 + b^2 \dot{\theta}^2 \sin^2 \theta + 2atb \dot{\theta} \sin \theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{m}{2} (b^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + a^2 t^2 + 2atb \dot{\theta} \sin \theta)$$

$$U = mgy = mg \left(\frac{at^2}{2} - b \cos \theta \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow L = T - U = \frac{m}{2} (b^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + a^2 t^2 + 2atb \dot{\theta} \sin \theta) - mg \left(\frac{at^2}{2} - b \cos \theta \right)$$

- (b) [3 pts] Derive the Euler-Lagrange equation of motion.

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} = matb \dot{\theta} \cos \theta - mgb \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} [mb^2 \dot{\theta} + matb \sin \theta] = mb^2 \ddot{\theta} + matb \dot{\theta} \cos \theta + mab \sin \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow mb^2 \ddot{\theta} + \cancel{matb \dot{\theta} \cos \theta} + mab \sin \theta = \cancel{matb \dot{\theta} \cos \theta} - mgb \sin \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{\theta} + \left(\frac{a+g}{b} \right) \sin \theta = 0$$

- (c) [3 pts] Find the period of oscillations in the limit of small θ .

$$\sin \theta \approx \theta \Rightarrow \ddot{\theta} + \left(\frac{a+g}{b} \right) \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_0^2 = \frac{a+g}{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_0} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{b}{a+g}}$$

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