

### 1. Conservative force (10 marks)

Is the centrifugal force  $\vec{F}(\vec{r}) = -m\vec{\omega} \times (\vec{\omega} \times \vec{r})$  conservative? If yes, state its potential energy.

### 2. One-dimensional periodic motion (20=6+9+5 marks)

A point mass  $m$  moves along the  $x$  axis under the influence of the force

$$F(x) = -a(x^2 - x_0^2),$$

where  $a$  and  $x_0$  are positive constants.

- (a) The force vanishes for  $x = \pm x_0$ . Which of them is the location of a stable equilibrium?
- (b) What is the period of small-amplitude oscillations about the stable-equilibrium position?
- (c) Without any calculation: Is the period longer or shorter for oscillations with amplitudes that are not small? Explain.

### 3. Lagrange function, Hamilton function (20=10+10 marks)

The dynamics of point particle (mass  $m$ , position  $\vec{r}(t)$ , velocity  $\vec{v}(t)$ ) is described by the Lagrange function

$$L = \frac{m}{2}\vec{v}^2 - V(\vec{r}) + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}u(\vec{r}),$$

where  $V(\vec{r})$  is the potential energy and  $u(\vec{r})$  is some given function of position  $\vec{r}$ .

- (a) Derive the Newton's equation of motion for the particle and so show that the same physical system is described, irrespective of which  $u(\vec{r})$  is chosen.
- (b) Find the corresponding Hamilton function. Does it depend on the choice of  $u(\vec{r})$ ?

#### 4. Moments of inertia (20=15+5 marks)

A rigid body of mass  $M$  has the shape of an oblate ellipsoid whose surface is given by

$$x^2 + y^2 + 4z^2 = 4R^2 \quad \text{with } R > 0.$$

The body has a homogeneous mass density  $\rho_0$ , except for a ball-shaped core of radius  $R$  that has density  $2\rho_0$ .

- (a) Find the inertia dyadic in terms of  $M$  and  $R$ .
- (b) The body rotates with angular velocity  $\vec{\omega} = \omega(\vec{e}_x \sin \theta + \vec{e}_z \cos \theta)$  about an axis through its center. What is the angular momentum?

#### 5. Upside-down pendulum (30=15+15 marks)

A thin rigid homogeneous rod of length  $\ell$  and mass  $m$  is standing upright, but is slightly off the exact vertical position and tends to fall over because the gravitational acceleration  $g$  is pulling it down. The bottom end of the rod is periodically moved vertically up and down along the  $z$  axis, such that its acceleration switches between  $\lambda g$  and  $-\lambda g$  at regular instants separated by the half-period  $T/2$ , whereby  $\lambda$  is a positive constant parameter.

- (a) With the top of the rod at distance  $s(t) = \sqrt{x(t)^2 + y(t)^2}$  from the  $z$  axis, state the equations of motion for  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  when  $s \ll \ell$ .
- (b) Which condition must be met by  $\lambda$  and  $T$ , so that the rod stays upright and does not fall over?