

NAME _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

- WRITE YOUR SOLUTIONS ON THE EXAM PAGES.
- IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE, USE THE BACK OF A PAGE.
- YOU CAN REFER TO THE EQUATIONS BELOW.

REMINDERS:

Euler's problem

Consider $A[y(x)] = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} f(y(x), y'(x); x) dx$

$y(x_0) = y_0$ and $y(x_1) = y_1$ are fixed

Find $y(x)$ such that $\delta A = 0$.

The Euler-Lagrange equation, $\partial f / \partial y = (d / dx) \partial f / \partial y'$

Lagrangian mechanics

$S[q(t)] = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \mathcal{L}(q(t), dq(t)/dt; t) dt$

$q(t_0) = q_0$ and $q(t_1) = q_1$ are fixed

$\mathcal{L} = T - U$

Hamilton's principle $\delta S = 0$ implies

$\partial \mathcal{L} / \partial q = (d / dt) \partial \mathcal{L} / \partial (dq/dt)$ (Lagrange's equation)