

Homework Assignment #7

Name grading

due in class Friday, October 21

**Cover sheet : Staple this page in front of your solutions.**

Write the *answers* (without calculations) on this page;  
write the detailed *solutions* on your own paper.

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[31] Problem 4.3.\*\* *Answer: Is  $F$  conservative? Why or why not?*  
 $F$  is not conservative because  $W$  depends on the path.

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[32] Problem 4.8.\*\* *Answer: The angle when the puck comes off the  
..surface is%  $\arccos( ) = 0.841 = 48.2$  degrees*

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[33] Problem 4.9.\*\* *Answer: How does the frequency depend on  $g$ ?*  
The frequency =  $\sqrt{k/m}/(2\pi)$ ; the frequency does not depend on  $g$ .

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[34] Problem 4.10.\*  
*Answer: Consider points on the line with  $x = 0$  and  $z = 1$ ;  
what is the gradient of  $h$ ?  $\nabla h(0,y,1) = \{ ay, 0, 0 \} = a y \mathbf{e}_x$*

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[35] Problem 4.18.\*\* *Answer:*  
 $df = \nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{r} = |\nabla f| |d\mathbf{r}| \cos \theta$  is maximum at  $\theta = 0$ .

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[36] Problem 4.23.\*\*  
*Answer: The potential energy function for part (b) is*  
 $U(x,y,z) = -kxy$

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# Homework Assignment #7

## Problem 4.3

$$Work = \int \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \dots$$

Consider the force field  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) = -y \mathbf{e}_x + x \mathbf{e}_y$ .

Calculate the work done for 3 paths from P to Q.

$$\begin{aligned} (a) W_a &= \int_{\Gamma_a} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_{\Gamma_a} \{ F_x dx + F_y dy \} \\ &= \int_1^0 F_x(x,0) dx + \int_0^1 F_y(0,y) dy \\ &= 0 + 0 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) W_b = \int_{\Gamma_b} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_{\Gamma_b} \{ F_x dx + F_y dy \}$$

Along  $\Gamma_b$ ,  $x + y = 1$ ; that is,  $y = 1 - x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore W_b &= \int_1^0 \{ F_x(x,1-x) dx + F_y(x,1-x)(-dx) \} \\ &= \int_1^0 \{ -(1-x) - x \} dx = 1. \end{aligned}$$

$$(c) W_c = \int_{\Gamma_c} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_{\Gamma_c} \{ F_x dx + F_y dy \}$$

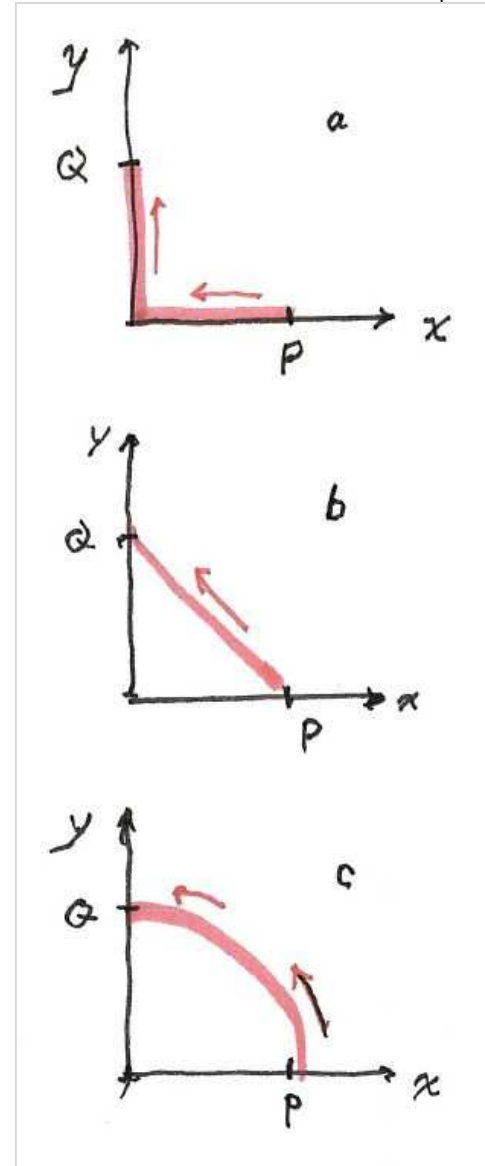
Along  $\Gamma_c$ ,  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ ; that is,  $y = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$ .

Continuing with Cartesian coordinates,

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore W_c &= \int_1^0 \{ F_x(x, (1-x^2)^{1/2}) \\ &+ F_y(x, (1-x^2)^{1/2}) (-x) (1-x^2)^{-1/2} \} dx \end{aligned}$$

*finish this*

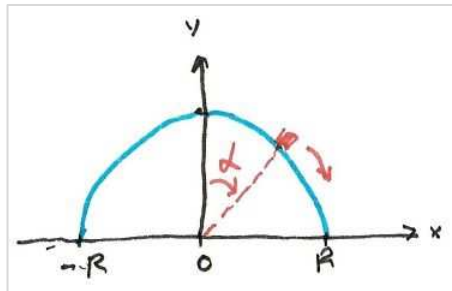
(It is easier to calculate  $W_c$  using polar coordinates.)



Answers:  $\{ 0, 1, \pi/2 \}$

**Problem 4.8**

*A puck slides down the surface of a fixed sphere ...*



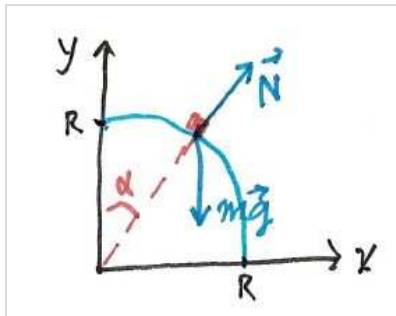
When the puck is at an angle  $\alpha$ ,  
 $y = R \cos \alpha$ .

- Energy is conserved,

$$\frac{1}{2} m v^2 + mgy = \text{constant} = \text{the initial value} = mgR;$$

Therefore,  $v^2 = 2g(R - y)$ .

- Now calculate the normal force, when the puck is at angle  $\alpha$ .



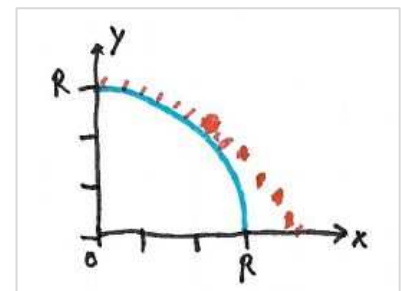
The radial acceleration is  $a_r = -R \alpha'^2$  ;  
 the velocity is  $v = R \alpha'$  (tangential) ;  
 thus  $a_r = -v^2 / R$ .

By Newton's second law,  $a_r = F_r / m = (N - mg \cos \alpha) / m$ .

So

- The puck comes off the surface when  $N = 0$ .

That is,  $y = \frac{2}{3} R$ .



**Problem 4.9****Mass and spring suspended from the ceiling ...**

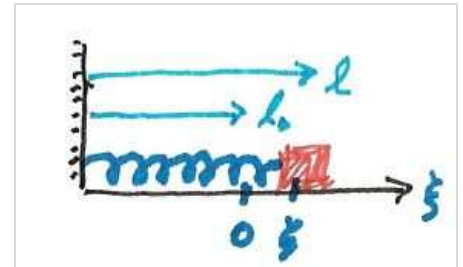
(a) First, consider the horizontal spring.

Unstressed length =  $l_0$ ;

force  $F = -k(l - l_0) = -k\xi$ ;

( $\xi$  = displacement from horizontal equilibrium point)

potential energy =  $\frac{1}{2}k\xi^2$ .



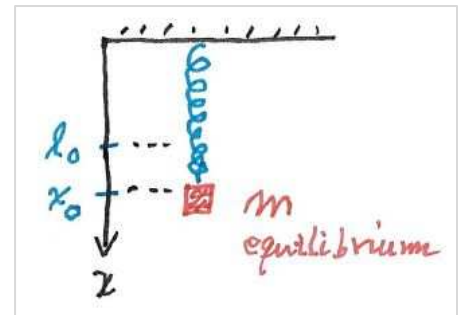
(b) Now, the spring is suspended from the ceiling.

The  $x$  axis points downward from the suspension point.

Let  $x_0$  = the equilibrium position of  $m$ .

At equilibrium,  $F_x = 0$ ;

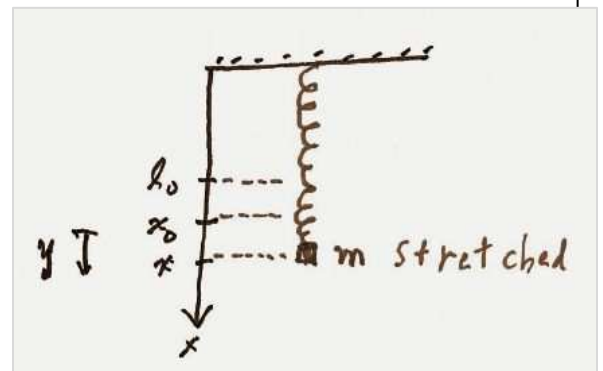
the force is  $F_x = mg - k(x - l_0)$ , so  $x_0 = l_0 + mg/k$ .



(c) Now suppose the mass is displaced from the equilibrium point; let  $y$  = the displacement;

i.e.  $y = x - x_0$ .

Calculate the total potential energy.



$$U = \frac{1}{2}k(x - l_0)^2 - mgx + \text{constant}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Reference point: } U(y=0) &= 0 \\ &= \frac{1}{2}k(x_0 - l_0)^2 - mgx_0 + C \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore C = -\frac{1}{2}k(x_0 - l_0)^2 + mgx_0$$

$$\begin{aligned} U(y) &= \frac{1}{2}k(x_0 + y - l_0)^2 - mg(x_0 + y) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2}k(x_0 - l_0)^2 + mgx_0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} U(y) &= \frac{1}{2}k \underbrace{2(x_0 - l_0)}_{k(x_0 - l_0) = mg \text{ by part (b)}} y + \frac{1}{2}ky^2 - mgy \\ &= \frac{1}{2}ky^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$U(y) = \frac{1}{2}ky^2$$

**Problem 4.10***Examples of partial derivatives ...*

(a)  $f(x,y,z) = a x^2 + b x y + c y^2$

$\partial f / \partial x$

$= 2ax + by$

$\partial f / \partial y$

$= bx + 2cy$

$\partial f / \partial z$

$= 0$

(b)  $g(x,y,z) = \sin ( a xyz^2 )$

$\partial g / \partial x$

$= ayz^2 \cos(axyz^2)$

$\partial g / \partial y$

$= axz^2 \cos(axyz^2)$

$\partial g / \partial z$

$= 2axyz \cos(axyz^2)$

(c)  $h(x,y,z) = a \exp ( xy/z^2 )$  ; let  $S = xy/z^2$

$\partial h / \partial x$

$= ay/z^2 \exp S$

$\partial h / \partial y$

$= ax/z^2 \exp S$

$\partial h / \partial z$

$= -2axy/z^3 \exp S$

**Problem 4.18****Properties of the gradient ...**

Use equation (4.35) :  $df = \nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{r}$

**(a) Theorem:**  $\nabla f$  is perpendicular to any surface on which  $f(\mathbf{r})$  is constant.

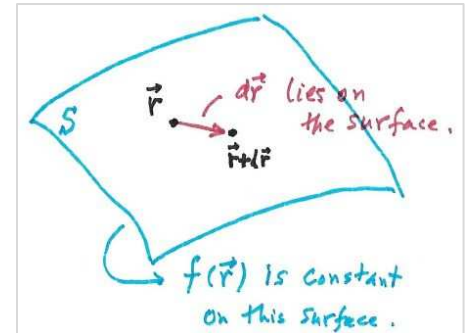
Proof:

Let  $d\mathbf{r}$  be a small displacement *on the surface*.

$df = f(\mathbf{r}+d\mathbf{r}) - f(\mathbf{r}) = 0$  because  $f$  is constant on  $S$ .

$\nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 0$  implies  $\nabla f$  is  $\perp$  to  $d\mathbf{r}$ .

$d\mathbf{r}$  is an arbitrary displacement on  $S$ , so  $\nabla f$  is  $\perp$  to  $S$ .



**(b) Theorem:**  $\nabla f$  points in the direction in which the rate of change of  $f(\mathbf{r})$  is maximum.

Proof: Consider a small displacement  $\delta\mathbf{r} = \hat{\mathbf{u}} \delta l$ ;

(  $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$  = a unit vector and  $\delta l$  = an infinitesimal distance.)

Then  $f(\mathbf{r}+\delta\mathbf{r}) = f(\mathbf{r}) + \nabla f \cdot \delta\mathbf{r}$  by Taylor's theorem.

$$= f(\mathbf{r}) + \nabla f \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}} \delta l = f(\mathbf{r}) + |\nabla f| \delta l \cos \theta$$

where  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\nabla f$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ .

The maximum change of  $f$  occurs for  $\cos \theta = 1$ ; that is, for  $\theta = 0$ .

So, the maximum of  $\delta f / \delta l$  occurs if the direction vector  $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$

is in the same direction as  $\nabla f$ .

**Problem 4.23***Is the force conservative or nonconservative ?*A conservative force has  $\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = 0$  , and  $\mathbf{F} = -\nabla U$ .

**(a)**  $\mathbf{F} = k \{ x, 2y, 3z \}$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{e}_x & \mathbf{e}_y & \mathbf{e}_z \\ \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ x & 2y & 3z \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{e}_x \cdot 0 + \mathbf{e}_y \cdot 0 + \mathbf{e}_z \cdot 0 = 0$$

**F is conservative;**  $U = -\frac{1}{2} k (x^2 + 2y^2 + 3z^2)$ .

**(b)**  $\mathbf{F} = k \{ y, x, 0 \}$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{e}_x & \mathbf{e}_y & \mathbf{e}_z \\ \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ y & x & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{e}_x \cdot 0 + \mathbf{e}_y \cdot 0 + \mathbf{e}_z \cdot (1-1) = 0$$

**F is conservative;**  $U = -kxy$ .

**(c)**  $\mathbf{F} = k \{ -y, x, 0 \}$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{e}_x & \mathbf{e}_y & \mathbf{e}_z \\ \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ -y & x & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{e}_x \cdot 0 + \mathbf{e}_y \cdot 0 + \mathbf{e}_z \cdot (1+1) = 2\mathbf{e}_z$$

**F is not conservative.**