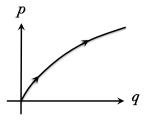
Solution of exercise 1: Questions

- (a) 2 pt Which Lagrangians are equivalent? L_1 and L_3 are equivalent to L, but L_2 is not.
- (b) 2 pt Incorporate constraint
 Method 1: Eliminate one of the three spacial coordinates from the Lagrangian, e.g. by using spherical coordinates (r = R, θ, φ).
 Method 2: Include a Lagrange multiplier term L → L + λf(x, y, z), with f(x, y, z) = x² + y² + z² R² = 0.
- (c) <u>1 pt</u> Invariance under spacial rotations The angular momentum is conserved.
- (d) 1 pt Virial theorem

$$\langle T\rangle = \frac{n}{2} \langle U\rangle$$

- (e) <u>1 pt</u> Value of the total cross section for Rutherford scattering The total cross section is infinite (due to contributions from small angle scattering)
- (f) 1 pt Property Poisson bracket The Poisson bracket $\{I_1, I_2\}$ is also time independent.
- (g) 1 pt Path in phase space



- (h) $\boxed{1 \text{ pt}}$ Number of different principal moments of inertia A symmetric top has 2 different principle moments of inertia: (I, I, I_3) .
- (i) 1 pt Bracket after canonical transformation A set of coordinates \vec{q} and their conjugate momenta \vec{p} satisfy by definition the Poisson bracket relation $\{q_i, p_j\} = \delta_{ij}$. The Poisson bracket is conserved under canonical transformations. Hence,

$$\{Q_i, P_j\} = \delta_{ij} \ . \tag{4}$$

(j) 3 pt Moment of inertia thin rod The mass is $m = \mu \ell$. The moment of inertia around axes through middle is

$$I = \mu \int_{-\ell/2}^{\ell/2} dr \ r^2 = \mu \frac{r^3}{3} \Big|_{r=-\ell/2}^{r=\ell/2} = \frac{\mu\ell^3}{12} = \frac{m\ell^2}{12} \ . \tag{5}$$

(k) 4 pt Oscillator with friction

Inserting the ansatz into the differential equation gives the equation

$$-\lambda^2 + 2i\kappa\lambda + \omega^2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda_{\pm} = i\kappa \pm \sqrt{\omega^2 - \kappa^2} \equiv i\kappa \pm \omega_0 \;. \tag{6}$$

The general solution is

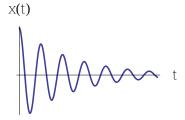
$$x = A_+ e^{i\lambda_+ t} + A_- e^{i\lambda_- t} \tag{7}$$

$$= A_{+}e^{-\kappa t}e^{i\omega_{0}t} + A_{-}e^{-\kappa t}e^{-i\omega_{0}t} .$$
(8)

Moreover x must be real, so we get

$$x = A e^{-\kappa t} \cos(\omega_0 t) .$$
(9)

The sketch is



(l) 4 pt Two-particle system

The symmetry transformation $x_i \to x_i + \epsilon$ leads to conservation of the centerof-mass momentum $(m_{\text{tot}}\dot{R})$.

To rewrite the Lagrangian, first solve the definitions $R = (m_1x_1 + m_2x_2)/(m_1 + m_2)$ and $r = x_1 - x_2$ for x_1 and x_2 :

$$x_1 = R + \frac{m_2}{m_1 + m_2} r , \qquad (10)$$

$$x_2 = R - \frac{m_1}{m_1 + m_2} r . (11)$$

Inserting this into the Lagrangian gives

$$L = \frac{m_1 + m_2}{2}\dot{R}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\frac{m_1m_2}{m_1 + m_2}\dot{r}^2 - U(r)$$
(12)

The motion of the center-of-mass is trivial and one can focus on the equations of motion for the relative position r with associated *reduced mass* $\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$.

Solution of exercise 2: KeplerProblem

(a) 4 pt Demonstrate reduction to one-dimensional problem The Lagrangian has a central potential and is thus symmetric under rotations r_i → r_i + ε ε_{ijk}n_jr_k. Hence, angular momentum *M* is conserved. From the expression *M* = *r* × *p* we see that *r* is always perpendicular to the constant vector *M*. If we pick the coordinate system such that *M* points along the z-axis, then *r* is confined to the two-dimensional x, y-plane. Thus z = 0. With polar coordinates (r, θ) in the x, y-plane, the Lagrangian reads

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\theta}^2) - U(r) .$$
(13)

Using the expression $M = mr^2 \dot{\theta}$, the energy of the particle can be written in terms of the coordinate r only:

$$E = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{r}^2 + \frac{M^2}{2mr^2} + U(r) .$$
 (14)

This can be solved for either t or θ as an integral over r:

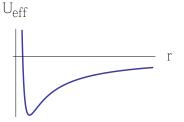
$$t = \int dr \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2/m)(E - U(r)) - M^2/(m^2 r^2)}},$$
(15)

$$\theta = \int dr \frac{M/r^2}{\sqrt{2m(E - U(r)) - M^2/r^2}} , \qquad (16)$$

(b) 5 pt Give and sketch $U_{\text{eff}}(r)$. Discuss orbits. From eq. (14) we see that

$$U_{\rm eff}(r) = \frac{M^2}{2mr^2} + U(r) .$$
 (17)

With U(r) = -k/r, we have a negative 1/r plus a positive $1/r^2$. For large values of r the 1/r dominates, so the potential is negative there. For small values of r the $1/r^2$ dominates and the potential goes to $+\infty$. The sketch is



The orbits are:

(i) $E = U_{\min} < 0$: circular orbit (closed) (ii) $U_{\min} < E < 0$: elliptic orbit (closed) (iii) E > 0: hyperbolic orbit (open) (c) 5 pt Compute $\{H, A_i\}$ and give interpretation The Runge-Lenz vector is conserved if $\{H, A_i\} = 0$ (since A_i is not explicitly time-dependent). So let's show that:

$$\{H, A_i\} = \left\{\frac{p^2}{2m} - \frac{k}{r}, \ \epsilon_{ijk} p_j M_k - mk \frac{r_i}{r}\right\}$$
(18)
$$= \frac{\epsilon_{ijk}}{2m} \left\{p^2, p_j M_k\right\} - \frac{k}{2} \left\{p^2, \frac{r_i}{r}\right\} - k \epsilon_{ijk} \left\{\frac{1}{r}, p_j M_k\right\} + mk^2 \left\{\frac{1}{r}, \frac{r_i}{r}\right\}$$

Calculate the four brackets in turn:

$$\begin{split} \{p^2, p_j M_k\} &= p_j \{p^2, M_k\} = 2p_j p_\ell \{p_\ell, M_k\} = 2p_j p_\ell \epsilon_{k\ell n} p_n = 0 ,\\ \left\{p^2, \frac{r_i}{r}\right\} &= 2p_k \left\{p_k, \frac{r_i}{r}\right\} = \frac{2p_k}{r} \left\{p_k, r_i\right\} + 2p_k r_i \left\{p_k, \frac{1}{r}\right\} = \frac{2p_i}{r} - \frac{2r_i r_k p_k}{r^3} ,\\ \left\{\frac{1}{r}, p_j M_k\right\} &= p_j \left\{\frac{1}{r}, M_k\right\} + M_k \left\{\frac{1}{r}, p_j\right\} = p_j \left\{\frac{1}{r}, \epsilon_{k\ell m} r_\ell p_m\right\} + M_k \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{r_j}{r} \\ &= p_j \epsilon_{k\ell m} r_\ell \left\{\frac{1}{r}, p_m\right\} + M_k \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{r_j}{r} = M_k \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{r_j}{r} = \frac{r_j M_k}{r^3} ,\\ \left\{\frac{1}{r}, \frac{r_i}{r}\right\} &= 0 . \end{split}$$

Inserting these results gives

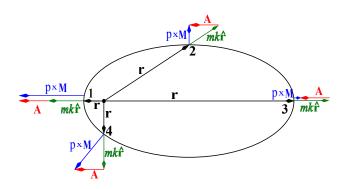
$$\{H, A_i\} = -\frac{k}{2} \left(\frac{2p_i}{r} - \frac{2r_i r_k p_k}{r^3}\right) - k\epsilon_{ijk} \frac{r_j M_k}{r^3} = -k \left(\frac{p_i}{r} - \frac{r_i r_k p_k}{r^3}\right) - \frac{k}{r^3} \epsilon_{ijk} r_j \epsilon_{k\ell m} r_\ell p_m = -k \left(\frac{p_i}{r} - \frac{r_i r_k p_k}{r^3}\right) - \frac{k}{r^3} \left(r_i r_k p_k - r_k r_k p_i\right) = 0 .$$
(19)

(d) 2 pt Argue RL-vector lies in orbital plane The Runge-Lenz vector is

$$\vec{A} = \vec{p} \times \vec{M} - \frac{mk}{r}\vec{r} .$$
⁽²⁰⁾

The second term is proportional to \vec{r} and therefore obviously lies in the plane of the orbit. The first term is perpendicular to \vec{M} . Also the orbital plane is perpendicular to \vec{M} . Hence, the first term is also in the orbital plane. Conclusion is that \vec{A} lies in the orbital plane.

(e) 4 pt Sketch sun, planet, elliptic orbit, and RL-vector at various locations



The first term of the RL vector, $\vec{p} \times \vec{M}$, points towards the outside of the orbit. Contrary, the second term, $-mk\hat{r}$, points towards the inside of the orbit. At the perihelion (point 1) and aphelion (point 3), these two vectors are paralel. At the perihelion, \vec{p} is large and \vec{r} is small, so the first term dominates and the vector sum is in the direction from aphelion to perihelion.

(f) **6** pt Determine the shape of the orbit $r(\phi)$ and eccentricity ϵ Compute $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{r}$ in two ways:

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{r} = Ar \cos(\phi) , \qquad (21)$$

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{r} = \left(\vec{p} \times \vec{M} - \frac{mk}{r}\vec{r}\right) \cdot \vec{r} = M^2 - mkr , \qquad (22)$$

where we used the cyclic symmetry of the triple product $(\vec{p} \times \vec{M}) \cdot \vec{r} = (\vec{r} \times \vec{p}) \cdot \vec{M} = M^2$. Hence,

$$Ar\cos(\phi) = M^2 - mkr \implies r = \frac{M^2}{mk + A\cos(\phi)} = \frac{\frac{M^2}{mk}}{1 + \frac{A}{mk}\cos(\phi)} .$$
(23)

Comparing this to the general formula $r = r_0/(1 + \epsilon \cos(\phi))$ we identify

$$\epsilon = \frac{A}{mk} \ . \tag{24}$$

Solution of exercise 3: CoupledPendulums

(a) 4 pt Construct Lagrangian

Let the origin of the coordinate system coincide with the equilibrium position of mass m_1 . Then the positions of the masses m_1 and m_2 are, respectively

$$(x_1, y_1) = (\ell \sin \theta_1, \ell (1 - \cos \theta_1)), \qquad (25)$$

$$(x_2, y_2) = (x + \ell \sin \theta_2, \ell (1 - \cos \theta_2)) .$$
(26)

The two pendulums thus have kinetic and potential energies

$$T_i = \frac{1}{2} m_i \ell^2 \dot{\theta}_i^2 , \quad U_i = m_i g \ell (1 - \cos \theta_i) .$$
⁽²⁷⁾

The spring has potential energy

$$U_{\rm spring} = k(d-x)^2 , \qquad (28)$$

where d is the length of the spring

$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2} = \sqrt{(x + \ell \sin \theta_2 - \ell \sin \theta_1)^2 + (\ell \cos \theta_1 - \ell \cos \theta_2)^2}$$
(29)

The Lagrangian is

$$L = T_1 + T_2 - U_1 - U_2 - U_{\text{spring}}$$
(30)

(b) [4 pt] Construct E-L equations

$$m_i \ell^2 \ddot{\theta}_i = -m_i g \ell \sin \theta_i - 2k(d-x) \frac{\partial d}{\partial \theta_i} \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2$$
(31)

with

$$\frac{\partial d}{\partial \theta_1} = \frac{1}{d} \Big[(x + \ell \sin \theta_2 - \ell \sin \theta_1) (-\ell \cos \theta_1) + (\ell \cos \theta_1 - \ell \cos \theta_2) (-\ell \sin \theta_1) \Big]$$
$$= \frac{1}{d} \Big[-\ell x \cos \theta_1 - \ell^2 \sin \theta_2 \cos \theta_1 + \ell^2 \sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 \Big]$$
$$= \frac{\ell}{d} \Big[-x \cos \theta_1 + \ell \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \Big] , \qquad (32)$$

Similarly,

$$\frac{\partial d}{\partial \theta_2} = \frac{\ell}{d} \left[x \cos \theta_2 - \ell \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \right] \,. \tag{33}$$

(c) [4 pt] Approximating Lagrangian When the angles are small, $d \approx x + \ell(\theta_2 - \theta_1)$, so

$$U_{\text{spring}} \approx k \ell^2 (\theta_2 - \theta_1)^2 , \quad U_i \approx \frac{1}{2} m_i g \ell \theta_i^2 .$$
 (34)

(d) 4 pt Eigenfrequencies

$$\omega_1^2 = \frac{g}{\ell}$$
, or $\omega_2^2 = \frac{g}{\ell}(1+2\eta)$. (35)

With $\eta = 2k\ell/(mg)$ the eigenfrequencies may also be written as

$$\omega_{\pm}^2 = \frac{g}{\ell} + \frac{k}{m} (2 \pm 2) . \tag{36}$$

(e) 4 pt Eigenvectors

$$\vec{a}_1 = A_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$$
, $\vec{a}_2 = A_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1\\-1 \end{bmatrix}$. (37)

(f) 3 pt Sketch eigenmodes Even without the explicit calculation of eigenvectors, one can easily guess that the modes are: Pendulums move in phase (same direction) $\Leftrightarrow \omega_1^2 = g/\ell$ Pendulums move out of phase (opposite directions) $\Leftrightarrow \omega_2^2 = g/\ell(1+2\eta)$

• Method 1: Decompose \vec{q} in the basis of eigenvectors: $\vec{q} = \sum_{s=1}^{2} r_s \vec{a}_s$. The eigenvectors should be properly normalized:

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{a}_s \cdot \hat{m} \cdot \vec{a}_{s'} &= \delta_{ss'} \\
\vec{a}_s \cdot \hat{k} \cdot \vec{a}_{s'} &= \omega_s^2 \delta_{ss'}
\end{aligned} \tag{38}$$

Then the Lagrangian is, in terms of the normal coordinates r_s , guaranteed to be diagonal and "canonically" normalized:

$$L = \sum_{s=1}^{2} L_s , \quad L_s = \frac{1}{2} \dot{r}_s^2 - \frac{1}{2} \omega_s^2 r_s^2 \Rightarrow r_s = C_s \cos(\omega_s t + \phi_s) .$$
(39)

Inserting this into $\vec{q} = \sum_{s=1}^{2} r_s \vec{a}_s$ gives the final result for \vec{q} .

• Method 2: Construct the matrix \hat{A} , whose columns are comprised of the two eigenvectors with the normalisation factors $A_{1,2}$ set to 1:

$$\hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} . \tag{40}$$

Insert $\vec{q} = \hat{A} \cdot \vec{Q}$ into the Lagrangian, which diagonalises: $L = L_1 + L_2$, but the L_i are not necessarily "canonically" normalized. Find the corresponding Euler-Lagrange equations, and solve them. Insert the solutions into $\vec{q} = \hat{A} \cdot \vec{Q}$ to find \vec{q} .

Solution of exercise 4: Hamiltonian

(a) 4 pt Derive Hamiltonian equations It is useful to write the Hamiltonian in index notation

$$H = \frac{p_k^2}{2m} - \gamma \epsilon_{k\ell m} B_k r_\ell p_m \tag{41}$$

The Hamilton equations are then

$$\dot{r}_i = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} = \frac{p_i}{m} - \gamma \epsilon_{k\ell i} B_k r_\ell = \frac{p_i}{m} + \gamma (\vec{r} \times \vec{B})_i , \qquad (42)$$

$$\dot{p}_i = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial r_i} = \gamma \epsilon_{kim} B_k p_m = \gamma (\vec{p} \times \vec{B})_i \tag{43}$$

(b) 6 pt Compute time derivative of \vec{M}

 \vec{M} can be computed with the EOM or with Poisson brackets. \bullet With EOM:

$$\dot{\vec{M}} = \dot{\vec{r}} \times \vec{p} + \vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{p}}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\vec{p}}{m} + \gamma(\vec{r} \times \vec{B})\right) \times \vec{p} + \vec{r} \times \left(\gamma(\vec{p} \times \vec{B})\right)$$

$$= \gamma \left[(\vec{r} \times \vec{B}) \times \vec{p} + \vec{r} \times (\vec{p} \times \vec{B})\right]$$

$$= \gamma \left[(\vec{r} \times \vec{p}) \times \vec{B}\right] = \gamma \vec{M} \times \vec{B} .$$
(44)

Here we used the Jacobi identity for the cross product,

$$\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + \vec{c} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) + \vec{b} \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) = 0$$
,

Alternatively, we could have written out the cross products in index notation:

$$[(\vec{r} \times \vec{B}) \times \vec{p}]_{i} = \epsilon_{ijk} (\vec{r} \times \vec{B})_{j} p_{k}$$

$$= \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{j\ell m} r_{\ell} B_{m} p_{k}$$

$$= (\delta_{k\ell} \delta_{im} - \delta_{km} \delta_{i\ell}) r_{\ell} B_{m} p_{k}$$

$$= (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}) B_{i} - (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{B}) r_{i} , \qquad (45)$$

and similarly

$$[\vec{r} \times (\vec{p} \times \vec{B})]_i = (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{B})p_i - (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{p})B_i .$$

$$(46)$$

Adding the two terms gives what we claimed:

$$[(\vec{r} \times \vec{B}) \times \vec{p} + \vec{r} \times (\vec{p} \times \vec{B})]_i = (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{B})p_i - (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{B})r_i$$
$$= (\delta_{i\ell}\delta_{mk} - \delta_{ik}\delta_{m\ell})r_k p_\ell B_m$$
$$= \epsilon_{xim}(\vec{p} \times \vec{r})_x B_m$$
$$= [(\vec{r} \times \vec{p}) \times \vec{B}]_i .$$
(47)

page 14 of 16

• With Poisson brackets:

$$\dot{\vec{M}} = \frac{d\vec{M}}{dt} = \frac{\partial\vec{M}}{\partial t} + \{H, \vec{M}\} = \{H, \vec{M}\} .$$

$$(48)$$

The Poisson bracket is

$$\{H, M_i\} = \left\{\frac{p_k^2}{2m} - \gamma B_k M_k, M_i\right\} = \frac{p_k}{m} \{p_k, M_i\} - \gamma B_k \{M_k, M_i\} .$$
(49)

Calculating and inserting the following results

$$\{M_i, p_j\} = -\epsilon_{ijk}p_k , \quad \{M_i, M_j\} = -\epsilon_{ijk}M_k , \qquad (50)$$

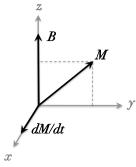
gives

$$\{H, M_i\} = \frac{p_k}{m} (\epsilon_{ik\ell} p_\ell) - \gamma B_k (\epsilon_{ik\ell} M_\ell) = \gamma (\vec{M} \times \vec{B})_i .$$
 (51)

Thus

$$\dot{\vec{M}} = \gamma \vec{M} \times \vec{B} .$$
 (52)

(c) 4 pt Sketch the vectors and argue for precession Sketch must have $\dot{\vec{M}}$ along the positive x-axis (assuming $\gamma > 0$).



Argue that \vec{M} precesses around B by noting that

(i) The length $|\vec{M}|$ is constant $(\dot{\vec{M}}$ is perpendicular to \vec{M}); and

(ii) The component of \vec{M} along \vec{B} is constant ($\dot{\vec{M}}$ is perpendicular to \vec{B}). Therefore, in general \vec{M} will rotate around \vec{B} .

(d) $\boxed{6 \text{ pt}}$ Solve for \vec{M} The equations are

$$\dot{M}_1 = -\gamma B M_2 , \qquad (53)$$

$$\dot{M}_2 = +\gamma B M_1 , \qquad (54)$$

$$\dot{M}_3 = 0$$
 . (55)

Decoupling the differential equations gives $\ddot{M}_i = -(\gamma B)^2 M_i \equiv -\omega^2 M_i$ for i = 1, 2. The solution is, after imposing the boundary condition,

$$M_1 = (M_0)_1 \cos(\omega t) + (M_0)_2 \sin(\omega t) , \qquad (56)$$

$$M_1 = -(M_0)_1 \sin(\omega t) + (M_0)_2 \cos(\omega t) , \qquad (57)$$

$$M_3 = (M_0)_3 . (58)$$

(e) $\fbox{6 pt}$ Construct Lagrangian and EOM With \vec{B} along the z-axis, the Hamiltonian becomes

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} - \gamma B M_3 . \tag{59}$$

The Lagrangian is then

$$L = \vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{r}} - H$$

= $\vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{r}} - \frac{p^2}{2m} + \gamma B M_3$ (60)

We must substitute the canonical momentum in terms of $\dot{\vec{r}}$. Using the first Hamilton equation we find

$$\vec{p} = m[\dot{\vec{r}} + \gamma \vec{B} \times \vec{r}] = m[\dot{\vec{r}} + \gamma B(r_1 \hat{e}_2 - r_2 \hat{e}_1)] = m\begin{bmatrix} \dot{r}_1 - \gamma B r_2\\ \dot{r}_2 + \gamma B r_1\\ \dot{r}_3 \end{bmatrix} .$$
(61)

With this the three terms in the Lagrangian become

$$\vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{r}} = m\dot{r}^2 + m\gamma B(r_1\dot{r}_2 - r_2\dot{r}_1) , \qquad (62)$$

$$-\frac{p^2}{2m} = -\frac{m}{2}\dot{r}^2 - \frac{m}{2}(\gamma B)^2(r_1^2 + r_2^2) - m\gamma B(r_1\dot{r}_2 - r_2\dot{r}_1) , \qquad (63)$$

$$\gamma B M_3 = m \gamma B (r_1 \dot{r}_2 - r_2 \dot{r}_1) + m (\gamma B)^2 (r_1^2 + r_2^2) .$$
(64)

Adding these terms up gives

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{r}^2 + m\gamma B(r_1\dot{r}_2 - r_2\dot{r}_1) + \frac{m}{2}(\gamma B)^2(r_1^2 + r_2^2) .$$
 (65)

The Euler-Lagrange equations are

$$\ddot{r}_1 - \gamma B \dot{r}_2 = \gamma B \dot{r}_2 + \gamma^2 B^2 r_1 , \qquad (66)$$

$$\ddot{r}_2 - \gamma B \dot{r}_1 = \gamma B \dot{r}_1 + \gamma^2 B^2 r_2 ,$$
 (67)

$$\ddot{r}_3 = 0$$
 . (68)