

## PHY 301 Assignment 7

---

1. Consider a double pendulum composed of two identical pendula of massless rods of length  $l$ , and masses  $m$ , attached along the vertical direction. Obtain the Hamiltonian of this system, and derive Hamilton's equations of motion.
2. The Lagrangian for a system can be written as

$$L = a\dot{x}^2 + b\frac{\dot{y}}{x} + c\dot{x}\dot{y} + fy^2\dot{x}\dot{z} + g\dot{y} - k\sqrt{x^2 + y^2},$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $f$ ,  $g$ , and  $k$  are constants. What is the Hamiltonian? What quantities are conserved?

3. A dynamical system has the Lagrangian

$$L = \dot{q}_1^2 + \frac{\dot{q}_2^2}{a + bq_1^2} + k_1q_1^2 + k_2\dot{q}_1\dot{q}_2,$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $k_1$ , and  $k_2$  are constants. Find the equations of motion in the Hamiltonian formalism.

4. A Hamiltonian of one degree of freedom has the form

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2\alpha} - bqpe^{-\alpha t} + \frac{ba}{2}q^2e^{-\alpha t}(\alpha + be^{-\alpha t}) + \frac{kq^2}{2},$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $\alpha$ , and  $k$  are constants.

- (a) Find a Lagrangian corresponding to this Hamiltonian
  - (b) Is it possible to find an equivalent Lagrangian that is not explicitly dependent on time?
  - (c) If you are able to solve part (b), what is the Hamiltonian corresponding the new Lagrangian, and what is the relationship between the two Hamiltonians?
5. (a) The Lagrangian for a system of one degree of freedom can be written as

$$L = \frac{m}{2} \left( \dot{q}^2 \sin^2 \omega t + \dot{q}q\omega \sin 2\omega t + q^2\omega^2 \right).$$

What is the corresponding Hamiltonian? Is it conserved?

- (b) Introduce a new coordinate defined by

$$Q = q \sin \omega t.$$

Find the Lagrangian in terms of the new coordinate and the corresponding Hamiltonian. Is  $H$  conserved?