

1. One of the attempts at combining two sets of Hamilton's equations into one tries to take q and p as forming a complex quantity. Show directly from Hamilton's equations of motion that for a system of one degree of freedom the transformation

$$Q = q + ip, \quad P = Q^*$$

is not canonical if the Hamiltonian is left unaltered. Can you find another set of coordinates Q' and P' that are related to Q, P by a change of scale only, and that are canonical?

2. Show that the transformation for a system of one degree of freedom,

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= q \cos \alpha - p \sin \alpha \\ P &= q \sin \alpha + p \cos \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

satisfies the symplectic condition for any value of the parameter α . Find a generating function for the transformation. What is the physical significance of the transformation for $\alpha = 0$? For $\alpha = \pi/2$? Does your generating function work for both the cases?

3. Show directly that the transformation

$$Q = \log \left(\frac{1}{q} \sin p \right), \quad P = q \cot p$$

is canonical.

4. Show directly that for a system of one degree of freedom the transformation

$$Q = \arctan \frac{\alpha q}{p}, \quad P = \frac{\alpha q^2}{2} \left(1 + \frac{p^2}{\alpha^2 q^2} \right)$$

is canonical, where α is an arbitrary constant of suitable dimensions.

5. The transformation between two sets of coordinates are

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= \log(1 + q^{1/2} \cos p), \\ P &= 2(1 + q^{1/2} \cos p)q^{1/2} \sin p. \end{aligned}$$

- (a) Show directly from these transformation equations that Q, P are canonical variables if q and p are.
- (b) Show that the function that generates this transformation is

$$F_3 = -(e^Q - 1)^2 \tan p.$$

6. Prove directly that the transformation

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1 &= q_1, & P_1 &= p_1 - 2p_2, \\ Q_2 &= p_2, & P_2 &= -2q_1 - q_2 \end{aligned}$$

is canonical and find a generating function.

7. (a) Using the fundamental Poisson brackets find the values of α and β for which the equations

$$Q = q^\alpha \cos \beta p, \quad P = q^\alpha \sin \beta p$$

represent a canonical transformation.

- (b) For what values of α and β do these equations represent an extended canonical transformation? Find a generating function of the F_3 form for the transformation.

8. Show by the use of Poisson brackets that for a one-dimensional harmonic oscillator, there is a constant of motion u defined as

$$u(q, p, t) = \ln(p + im\omega q) - i\omega t, \quad \omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}.$$

9. A system of two degrees of freedom is described by the Hamiltonian

$$H = q_1 p_1 - q_2 p_2 - a q_1^2 + b q_2^2,$$

where a and b are constants. Show that

$$F_1 = \frac{p_1 - a q_1}{q_2} \quad \text{and} \quad F_2 = q_1 q_2$$

are constants of the motion.