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1) $V(r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r}$, use m and L . energy E , r_{\min} .

$$r(\phi) = \frac{1}{\frac{m\omega^2}{L^2} + A\cos(\phi)} \quad \text{using } r_{\min} \Rightarrow E = \frac{-\alpha}{r_{\min}} + \frac{L^2}{2mr_{\min}^2}$$

and $\dot{r}=0$

From the hint I'll start looking at the energy.

The potential $V(r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r}$ is simply the gravitational potential.

$$F_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{dV}{dr} + \frac{L^2}{mr^3}$$

$$V_{\text{eff}} = V(r) + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2}$$

kinetic energy $\rightarrow K = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2)$ we know $\dot{r}=0$ at r_{\min} .

\Downarrow at r_{\min} , $K = \frac{1}{2}mr_{\min}^2\dot{\phi}^2$

$$\bullet E = K + V = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) + -\frac{\alpha}{r}$$

in HW 8 showed $\dot{\phi} = \frac{L}{mr^2} \Rightarrow L = mr^2\dot{\phi}$

$$\rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) - \frac{\alpha}{r} = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{r}^2 + \frac{r^2\dot{\phi}^2}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{r} = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{r}^2 + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2} - \frac{\alpha}{r}$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{r}^2 + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2} - \frac{\alpha}{r} \quad \text{help, I've basically just derived the hint, since } \dot{r}=0 \text{ at } r_{\min}.$$

The only thing I can think of is ~~solving~~ solving for A in terms of E and r_{\min} . Using hint we could find r_{\min} and plug that in.

$$r(\phi) = \frac{1}{\frac{m\omega^2}{L^2} + A\cos\phi}$$

$$r(\phi) \left[\frac{m\omega^2}{L^2} + A\cos\phi \right] = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{m\omega^2}{L^2} + A\cos\phi = \frac{1}{r(\phi)}$$

$$A\cos\phi = \frac{1}{r(\phi)} - \frac{m\omega^2}{L^2}$$

$$A = \frac{\frac{1}{r(\phi)} - \frac{m\omega^2}{L^2}}{\cos\phi}$$

we showed in class $r(\phi) = \frac{C}{1 + \frac{C}{2}\cos\phi} = \frac{L^2/m\omega^2}{1 + D\tilde{C}/m\omega^2}$

Shows $\phi=0$ gives r_{\min} .

with $\phi = 0$ giving r_{\min} , $\cos(\phi) = \cos(0) = 1$, so we can simplify our equation to

$$\text{From } A = \frac{1/r_{\min} - \frac{\mu\omega}{L^2}}{1} \Rightarrow \boxed{A = \frac{1}{r_{\min}} - \frac{\mu\omega}{L^2}}$$

So we just need r_{\min} . Write it in terms of energy maybe?

$$E = \frac{-\alpha}{r_{\min}} + \frac{L^2}{2\mu r_{\min}^2}$$

$$Er_{\min}^2 = -\alpha r_{\min} + \frac{L^2}{2\mu}$$

$$Er_{\min}^2 + \alpha r_{\min} - \frac{L^2}{2\mu} = 0$$

$$r_{\min} = \frac{-\alpha \pm \sqrt{\alpha^2 - 4E(-\frac{L^2}{2\mu})}}{2E}$$

I missed a negative

If we had minus here we'd have negative distance, which is impossible

~~$r_{\min} = \frac{-\alpha \pm \sqrt{\alpha^2 + 4E(-\frac{L^2}{2\mu})}}{2E}$~~

$$r_{\min} = \frac{-\alpha \pm \sqrt{\alpha^2 + 4E\frac{L^2}{2\mu}}}{2E}$$

~~if $\alpha^2 + 4E\frac{L^2}{2\mu}$ is always larger than αL , so I think we're free to take negative if get smallest possible r for r_{\min} .~~

~~$r_{\min} =$~~ E should be negative!

$$\text{With negative } E, \sqrt{\alpha^2 + 4E\frac{L^2}{2\mu}} = \sqrt{\alpha^2 - \text{something}} < \alpha$$

Numerator will be negative regardless. I think we can choose the + to get smallest possible numerator.

$$r_{\min} = \frac{-\alpha + \sqrt{\alpha^2 + 4E\frac{L^2}{2\mu}}}{2E}$$

-larger + smaller

$$\text{gives } A = \frac{2E}{-\alpha + \sqrt{\alpha^2 + 4E\frac{L^2}{2\mu}}} - \frac{\mu\omega}{L^2}$$

2) $V(r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r}$, $F = -\frac{\alpha \hat{r}}{r^2}$, M, L .

$$\ddot{r} = -\frac{1}{m} \frac{dV(r)}{dr} + r\dot{\phi}^2 = -\frac{\alpha}{mr^2} + r\dot{\phi}^2$$

$$\ddot{\phi} = \frac{L}{mr^2}$$

a) r_{min} of circular orbit. At r_{min} , $\ddot{r} = \dot{r} = 0$.

$$V_{eff} = V(r) + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2}$$

$$V_{eff} = -\frac{\alpha}{r} + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2}$$

$$\text{at } r_{min}, \frac{dV_{eff}}{dr} = 0.$$

$$\frac{\alpha}{r^2} - \frac{2L^2}{2mr^3} = 0$$

$$r\alpha - \frac{L^2}{m} = 0 \Rightarrow r_{min} = \frac{L^2}{m\alpha}$$

b) $\dot{r} = \ddot{r} = 0$, $\dot{\phi} = \frac{L}{mr_{min}}$ Not sure why we can't just plug in $r_{min} = \frac{L^2}{m\alpha}$

This would give $\dot{\phi} = \frac{L}{m(\frac{L^2}{m\alpha})^{1/2}}$ ~~$\dot{\phi} = \pm \frac{L}{m^{1/2}\alpha^{1/2}}$~~

$$= \frac{L}{m \cdot \frac{L^2}{m^2\alpha^2}} = \frac{L}{\frac{L^2}{m\alpha^2}} = \frac{m\alpha^2}{L^3}$$

We've ~~only~~ found magnitude, so $\dot{\phi} = \pm \frac{m\alpha^2}{L^3}$

Using method mentioned in problem, $\ddot{r} = 0 = \frac{F}{m} + \dot{\phi}^2 r$

$$\dot{\phi}^2 r = -\frac{F}{m} = \frac{\alpha}{mr^2}$$

$$\dot{\phi}^2 = \frac{\alpha}{mr^3}$$

$$\dot{\phi} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{mr^3}}$$

Plugging in $r_{min} = r_{min} = \frac{L^2}{m\alpha}$, we get

$$\dot{\phi} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{mL^2}} = \frac{\pm \sqrt{\alpha}}{m^{1/2}L^{1/2}}$$

which is exactly what I had found before

$$\dot{\phi} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{mL^2}} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{m^2\alpha^2}{L^6}} = \pm \frac{m\alpha^2}{L^3}$$

c) Effective spring constant, k .

We may have talked about this in class, but I forgot so I looked through some old textbooks online. Found that k equals second derivative of the potential evaluated at the equilibrium point.

For our effective spring constant, we'll need the second derivative of $V_{\text{eff}} = V(r) + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2}$

$$\frac{d}{dr} V_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\alpha}{r^2} - \frac{2L^2}{2mr^3} = \frac{\alpha}{r^2} - \frac{L^2}{mr^3}$$

$$= \frac{\alpha}{r} + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dr^2} V_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{2\alpha}{r^3} + \frac{3L^2}{mr^4}$$

I wrote μ , but it's actually m in this case.

Our equilibrium point is just r_{\min} as found in part a, $r_{\min} = \frac{L}{m\alpha}$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{2\alpha}{\left(\frac{L^2}{m\alpha}\right)^3} + \frac{3L^2}{m \cdot \left(\frac{L^2}{m\alpha}\right)^4} = -\frac{2\alpha m^3}{L^6} + \frac{3L^2}{m \cdot \frac{L^8}{m^4\alpha^4}}$$

$$= -\frac{2\alpha^4 m^3}{L^6} + \frac{3L^2 \cdot m^3 \alpha^4}{L^8} = -\frac{2\alpha^4 m^3}{L^6} + \frac{3m^3 \alpha^4}{L^6}$$

$$= \boxed{-\frac{m^3 \alpha^4}{L^6}}$$

I originally dropped a negative and ended with -5 . This.

d) Should be able to just use $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{m^3 \alpha^4 / L^6}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{m^2 \alpha^4}{L^6}} = \boxed{\frac{m \alpha^2}{L^3}}$$

This is the same magnitude as our solution for $\dot{\phi}$ in part b !!

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3) Given $\dot{r}(\theta, \omega r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r}$ $L \gg r$ so that $A = \frac{mv^2}{L^2}$ $r = \frac{1}{\frac{mv^2}{L^2} + A \cos \theta}$ $t \xrightarrow{\text{since } v^2 \text{ before}}$
 $r = \frac{2r_0}{1+\cos \theta}$ $r_0 = \frac{L^2}{2m\alpha}$

a) Total energy $E = K + V$. Same equation as 1 where t used $E = K + V = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\theta}^2) - \frac{\alpha}{r}$
 As in HW 8 we showed $\dot{\theta} = \frac{L}{mr^2}$
 we have $\dot{\theta}$ and r , so we can calculate \dot{r} and plug everything in.

~~$r = \frac{2r_0}{1+\cos \theta} \Rightarrow r_0 \text{ has no } \dot{\theta} \text{ dependence, so}$~~

$$\dot{r} = 2r_0 \frac{d}{d\theta} [(1+\cos \theta)^{-1}]$$

$$\dot{r} = 2r_0 \left(-1/(1+\cos \theta)^2 \cdot -\sin \theta \right) = \frac{2r_0 \sin \theta}{(1+\cos \theta)^2} \quad \leftarrow \dot{r}$$

Plugging things in, $E = \frac{1}{2}m \left(\left(\frac{2r_0 \sin \theta}{(1+\cos \theta)^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{2r_0}{1+\cos \theta} \right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{L}{mr^2} \right)^2 \right) - \frac{\alpha(1+\cos \theta)}{2r_0}$
 ~~$r = L \sin \theta$ still have r here~~

$$E = \frac{1}{2}m \left[\left(\frac{2r_0 \sin \theta}{(1+\cos \theta)^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{2r_0}{1+\cos \theta} \right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{L(1+\cos \theta)^2}{m^2 r_0^2} \right)^2 \right] - \frac{\alpha(1+\cos \theta)}{2r_0}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}m \left[\left(\frac{L^2 \sin^2 \theta}{m^2 (1+\cos \theta)^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{L^2}{m^2 (1+\cos \theta)} \right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{L(1+\cos \theta)^2}{4m^2 r_0^2} \right)^2 \right] - \frac{\alpha(1+\cos \theta)}{2r_0}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}m \left[\left(\frac{L^2 \sin^2 \theta}{m^2 (1+\cos \theta)^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{L^2}{m^2 (1+\cos \theta)} \right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{m(1+\cos \theta)^2 \cdot \alpha^2}{L^3} \right)^2 \right] - \frac{\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta) \cdot m}{L^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}m \left[\left(\frac{L^2 \sin^2 \theta}{m^2 (1+\cos \theta)^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{L^2}{m^2 (1+\cos \theta)} \right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{m\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta)^2}{L^3} \right)^2 - \frac{2\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta) \cdot m}{L^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}m \left[\left(\frac{L^2 \sin^2 \theta}{m^2 (1+\cos \theta)^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta)}{L} \right)^2 - \frac{2\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta)}{L^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}m \left[\frac{L^4 \sin^4 \theta}{m^4 (1+\cos \theta)^4} + \frac{\alpha^4 (1+\cos \theta)^2}{L^2} - \frac{2\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta)}{L^2} \right]$$

$$2\cancel{\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta)} \left[\frac{L^4 \sin^4 \theta}{m^4 (1+\cos \theta)^4} + \frac{\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta)^2}{L^2} - \frac{2\alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta)}{L^2} \right] = \frac{m}{L^2 m^2 \alpha^2 (1+\cos \theta)^4} \left[L^6 \sin^4 \theta + m^2 \alpha^4 (1+\cos \theta)^6 - 2m^2 \alpha^4 (1+\cos \theta)^5 \right]$$

After some hairy math, this should equal zero.

This substitution and stuff. //

b) $x = x_0 - \frac{y^2}{R}$. Refer back to question 1 where I mentioned $r(\phi) = \frac{C}{1 + \epsilon \cos \phi}$
 we showed in class back on 3/31/23 that $\epsilon = 0$ (from part a)
 implies that $\epsilon = 1$, so we have

$$r(\phi) = \frac{C}{1 + \cos \phi}$$

We could also show $\epsilon = 1$ since $\epsilon = \frac{AL^2}{\alpha m}$, and with

$$A = \frac{m\omega}{L^2} \Rightarrow \epsilon = \frac{m\omega}{L^2} \cdot \frac{L^2}{\alpha m} = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

Either way, $r(\phi) = \frac{C}{1 + \cos \phi}$ where $C = \frac{L^2}{\alpha m}$

$$r(\phi) = \frac{C}{1 + \cos \phi} \Rightarrow r(1 + \cos \phi) = C$$

$$\Rightarrow r + r \cos \phi = C$$

$$\Rightarrow r + x = C \text{ since } x = r \cos \phi$$

$$r = C - x$$

$$r^2 = C^2 - 2Cx + x^2$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = C^2 - 2Cx + x^2 \quad \text{since } r^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

$$y^2 = C^2 - 2Cx$$

$$y^2 = \left(\frac{L^2}{\alpha m}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{L^2}{\alpha m}\right)x$$

I want to rewrite in terms of x , so I'll actually go back to $y^2 = C^2 - 2Cx$ and put C in after.

$$-2Cx = y^2 - C^2$$

$$x = \frac{-y^2}{2C} + \frac{C^2}{2C} = \frac{-y^2}{2C} + \frac{C}{2}$$

Now I'll plug in $C = \frac{L^2}{\alpha m}$

$$x = \frac{-y^2}{2\frac{L^2}{\alpha m}} + \frac{\left(\frac{L^2}{\alpha m}\right)^2}{2} = \frac{\frac{L^2}{\alpha m} - \frac{y^2}{2L^2/\alpha m}}{2}$$

$\frac{L^2}{2\alpha m} - \frac{y^2}{2L^2/\alpha m}$
 ↓ should be m, α, μ

$$x = \frac{L^2}{2\alpha m} - \frac{y^2}{2L^2/\alpha m}$$

$$\text{so } x = x_0 - \frac{y^2}{R} \text{ where } x_0 = \frac{L^2}{2\alpha m}$$

$$x_0 = \frac{L^2}{2\alpha m} = \frac{2L^2}{\alpha m}$$

in terms of $r_0 = \frac{L^2}{2\alpha m}$, ~~$x = r_0 - \frac{y^2}{4r_0}$~~ and $R = \frac{2L^2}{\alpha m}$

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4) $r(\phi) = \frac{c}{1+\epsilon\omega\phi}$, same as I've been using for E71, $\frac{(x-s)^2}{\alpha^2} - \frac{y^2}{B^2} = 1$

find α, B, S in terms of c and ϵ .

we have $\epsilon > 1, \epsilon > 0$

$$r(\phi) = \frac{c}{1+\epsilon\omega\phi}$$

Denominator vanishes when $\omega\phi = -\frac{1}{\epsilon}$, so it must diverge.
↑ goes to 0

~~at first~~

$$\rightarrow r(1+\epsilon\cos\phi) = c$$

$$r + r\epsilon\cos\phi = c$$

using $x = r\cos\phi, r + \epsilon x = c$, or $r = c - \epsilon x$

squaring gives $r^2 = c^2 + \epsilon^2 x^2 - 2c\epsilon x$

since $r^2 = x^2 + y^2, x^2 + y^2 = c^2 + \epsilon^2 x^2 - 2c\epsilon x$

$$x^2(1-\epsilon^2) + y^2 + 2c\epsilon x = c^2$$

$$x^2(\epsilon^2 - 1) - y^2 - 2c\epsilon x = -c^2$$

If we define $S = \frac{c\epsilon}{\epsilon^2 - 1}$ and ~~$\omega\phi = \theta$~~ , so $S = \epsilon\alpha$.

$$B = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon^2 - 1}}$$

Doing this allows us to rewrite as $(x-S)^2(\epsilon^2 - 1) - y^2 = c^2 + \frac{\epsilon^2 c^2}{\epsilon^2 - 1}$

which simplifies to $\frac{(x-S)^2}{\alpha^2} - \frac{y^2}{B^2} = 1$

so we have the desired form, with

$$\alpha = \frac{c}{\epsilon^2 - 1}, B = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon^2 - 1}}$$

$$\text{and } S = \frac{c\epsilon}{\epsilon^2 - 1} = \epsilon\alpha$$

Note when I write something like \vec{r}_i , it's actually a vector \vec{r}_i , I just don't like writing dots and vector symbols at once.

5) $V(r) = 4\pi \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^12 - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^6 \right] \quad r = |\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|$

a) we start off with the usual $\vec{R} = \frac{m_1 \vec{r}_1 + m_2 \vec{r}_2}{m_1 + m_2}$ and $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2$

We quite trivially get $M\dot{\vec{R}} = 0$ where $M = m_1 + m_2$, so $\vec{R} = \text{constant}$

insert here

If we choose to set $\vec{r} = 0$, we then have $L_{CM} = 0$ since we have $L_{CM} = \frac{1}{2}M\dot{\vec{r}}^2 = \frac{1}{2}M \cdot 0^2 = 0$.

Thus our total Lagrangian L is simply $L = L_{CM} + L_{rel} = L_{rel} = \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{\vec{r}}^2 - V(r)$

In general $\vec{L} = \vec{r}_1 \times \vec{p}_1 + \vec{r}_2 \times \vec{p}_2 = m_1 \vec{r}_1 \times \vec{v}_1 + m_2 \vec{r}_2 \times \vec{v}_2$

We also showed very early on in class that $\vec{r}_1 = \vec{R} + \frac{m_2}{M} \vec{r}$
 $\vec{r}_2 = \vec{R} - \frac{m_1}{M} \vec{r}$

pretty straightforward from definition of \vec{R} and \vec{r} above

This gives kinetic energy ~~if \vec{r}_1 and \vec{r}_2 are constant~~

$K = \frac{1}{2}(m_1 \vec{v}_1^2 + m_2 \vec{v}_2^2)$ vs standard kinetic energy $= \frac{1}{2}M\vec{v}^2$ formula.

$= \frac{1}{2}(m_1 [\vec{R} + \frac{m_2}{M} \vec{r}]^2 + m_2 [\vec{R} - \frac{m_1}{M} \vec{r}]^2)$ by assuming $\frac{dM}{dt} = 0$

$= \frac{1}{2}(M\dot{\vec{R}}^2 + \frac{m_1 m_2}{M} \vec{r}^2)$

$= \frac{1}{2}M\dot{\vec{R}}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{\vec{r}}^2$ using standard $\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{M} = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$

$\Rightarrow L = K - V = \frac{1}{2}M\dot{\vec{R}}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{\vec{r}}^2 - V(r)$

call $L_{CM} = \frac{1}{2}M\dot{\vec{R}}^2$ and $L_{rel} = \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{\vec{r}}^2 - V(r)$

If we plug $\vec{r}_1 = \vec{R} + \frac{m_2}{M} \vec{r}$ and $\vec{r}_2 = \vec{R} - \frac{m_1}{M} \vec{r}$, ~~then~~ ~~the~~ ~~we~~ ~~get~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~zero~~

then $\vec{L} = M_1 \vec{r}_1 \times \vec{v}_1 + M_2 \vec{r}_2 \times \vec{v}_2$

in CM frame we get $\vec{L} = \frac{m_1 m_2}{M^2} (M_2 \vec{r} \times \vec{v}_1 + M_1 \vec{r} \times \vec{v}_2) = \frac{\mu}{M} (m_2 \vec{r} \times \vec{v}_1 + m_1 \vec{r} \times \vec{v}_2)$

$= \frac{\mu(m_1 + m_2)}{M} (\vec{r} \times \vec{v}) = \boxed{\mu(\vec{r} \times \vec{v})}$

- This result shows that the angular momentum can be interpreted as that of a single particle mass μ at position $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2$.
- By conservation of angular momentum, $\frac{d\vec{L}}{dt} = 0$ implies that $\mu(\vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}})$ is also constant. Since μ is constant (defined by masses) $\vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}}$ is also constant. This means (since the direction of $\vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}}$ is constant) that \vec{r} and $\dot{\vec{r}}$ always lie in the same plane, we can just define ~~this~~ ~~plane~~ ~~in~~ two dimensions (e.g. x and y) to span this plane, so we've reduced it to a ~~3D~~ problem in only two dimensions.

b) $r \in [0, \infty)$, $\phi \in [0, 2\pi]$. Show $K = \frac{1}{2}\mu(r^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2)$

We know kinetic energy $K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$.

We need v_x and v_y .

We need v_r and v_ϕ instead of v_x and v_y

~~We can take~~ v_r is trivially $\dot{r}\hat{r}$

$v_\phi = r\dot{\phi}$, since it's tangential velocity.

In cartesian $K = \frac{1}{2}m(v_x^2 + v_y^2)$

In polar, $K = \frac{1}{2}m(v_r^2 + v_\phi^2) = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + (r\dot{\phi})^2) = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2)$

In part a we proved the 2 particles can be interpreted as a singular particle of mass μ at position \vec{r} ,

thus $\boxed{K = \frac{1}{2}\mu(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2)}$

B) I actually did this using general potential energy in part a.

$$\text{Then I did } L = K - V = \frac{1}{2}M\dot{R}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mu r^2\dot{\phi}^2 - V(r)$$

Using part b, I can now write

$$L = K - V = \frac{1}{2}\mu(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) - V$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{L = \frac{1}{2}\mu(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) - 4\varepsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^6 \right]}$$

No, the potential energy is just $V = 4\varepsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^6 \right]$, which doesn't depend on ϕ .

d) $\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = 0$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} = \mu r \dot{\phi}^2 - 4\varepsilon \left[\frac{6\sigma^6}{r^7} - \frac{12\sigma^{12}}{r^{13}} \right] \quad \cancel{\text{symmetries}}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = \mu \ddot{r}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = \mu \ddot{r}'$$

Plugging into $\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = 0$ gives

$$\mu r \dot{\phi}^2 - 4\varepsilon \left[\frac{6\sigma^6}{r^7} - \frac{12\sigma^{12}}{r^{13}} \right] - \mu \ddot{r}' = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\mu \ddot{r}' = \mu r \dot{\phi}^2 - 4\varepsilon \left[\frac{6\sigma^6}{r^7} - \frac{12\sigma^{12}}{r^{13}} \right]}$$

$$\frac{\dot{L}^2}{\mu r^3} = \frac{(\mu r^2 \dot{\phi}^2)^2}{\mu r^3} = \mu r \dot{\phi}^2$$

Yes, this is exactly what we'd expect. $\mu \ddot{r}'$ is mass times acceleration, so force. The $\mu r \dot{\phi}^2$ is equal to the $\frac{\dot{L}^2}{\mu r^3}$ that we expect to be present when looking at the center of mass frame (centrifugal force) ~~(kinetic energy term)~~. So we essentially have mass times acceleration equals the forces present.

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$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\phi}} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \ddot{\phi}} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\phi}} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \ddot{\phi}} = \mu r^2 \ddot{\phi} \quad \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \ddot{\phi}} = \frac{d}{dt} (\mu r^2 \ddot{\phi}) \cancel{\text{cancel}}$$

plugging this in we have $0 - \frac{d}{dt} (\mu r^2 \ddot{\phi}) = 0$

can drop negative $\rightarrow \boxed{-\frac{d}{dt} (\mu r^2 \ddot{\phi}) = 0}$

We could take this derivative,
but this is a nice final form
for part e.

~~$\frac{d}{dt} (\mu r^2 \ddot{\phi}) = 0$~~

e) Using $\frac{d}{dt} (\mu r^2 \ddot{\phi}) = 0$

Recall $\dot{\phi} = \frac{L}{r^2 \mu} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} (\mu r^2 \cdot \frac{L}{r^2 \mu}) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{d}{dt} (L) = 0}$

Thus angular momentum is indeed conserved \square