

Tutorial 9 (Answer key)

Central Force motion

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P1. (a) $\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla}U = -2Ax\hat{i} - 2By\hat{j} - 2Cz\hat{k}$

(b) $\vec{F} = -2A \left(\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \hat{i} + \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \hat{j} + \frac{z}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \hat{k} \right)$

(c) $\vec{F} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial r} \hat{r} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial U}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} = \frac{2A \cos \theta}{r^3} \hat{r} - \frac{A \sin \theta}{r^3} \hat{\theta}$

P2. (a) $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = 0$, So $\mathbf{F} = A(3\hat{i} + z\hat{j} + y\hat{k})$ is conservative force,

Potential energy is defined with respect to a reference. Our U expression should satisfy $\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla}U$.

Let $U = -3Ax + U_1$, then $-\frac{\partial U_1}{\partial y}$ should be Az and $-\frac{\partial U_1}{\partial z}$ should be Ay . This is possible if $U_1 = -Ayz$.

So, $U = -A(3x + yz)$.

(b) $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} \neq 0$, So \mathbf{F} is non-conservative force,

(c) $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = 0$, So \mathbf{F} is a conservative force,
 $U = -Ax^3y^5e^{\alpha z}$

P3. $\mathbf{F}_a = -Ar^3\hat{r}$ is conservative, $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = 0$,

$\mathbf{F}_b = B(y^2\hat{i} - x^2\hat{j})$ is a non-conservative force, $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} \neq 0$,

Let the initial coordinate be $P(1,1)$ and the final coordinate be $Q(0,0)$. Now, Work-energy theorem

$$W^{Total} = \int_P^Q \vec{F}^{Conservative} \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_P^Q \vec{F}^{Non-conservative} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$KE_Q - KE_P = -U_Q + U_P + \int_P^Q \vec{F}^{Non-conservative} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

Now, $KE_Q = \frac{1}{2}mv_Q^2$; $KE_P = \frac{1}{2}mv_0^2$; $U_Q = 0$; and $U_P = A$

$$\int_P^Q \vec{F}^{Non-conservative} \cdot d\vec{r} = -\frac{B}{5} + \frac{B}{2}. \text{ So}$$

$$v_Q = (v_0^2 + \frac{2A}{m} + \frac{3B}{5m})^{1/2}.$$

P4. $W = \int_{(0,0)}^{(d,0)} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_{(d,0)}^{(d,d)} \dots + \int_{(d,d)}^{(0,d)} \dots + \int_{(0,d)}^{(0,0)}$

$$W = 0 + 2Ad^3 - Ad^3 + 0 = Ad^3$$

Stoke's theorem

$$\iint_S (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}) \cdot d\vec{a} = \oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}. \text{ (You can check this yourself).}$$