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Course: 8.309 - Classical Mechanics III

Problem set: #2

### 1. Canonical Transformations.

(a) Consider the following two generating functions:

$$F_2(q, P) = q_i P_i$$
 and  $F_3(p, Q) = -p_i Q_i$ 

For  $F_2$ :

$$p_i = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial q_i} = P_i, \qquad Q_i = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial P_i} = q_i$$

as desired.

And for  $F_3$ :

$$q_i = -\frac{\partial F_3}{\partial p_i} = Q_i, \qquad P_i = -\frac{\partial F_3}{\partial Q_i} = p_i$$

as desired.

(b) Q = p/t, P = -qt. We can choose the following generating function  $F_1(q, Q, t) = Qqt$ . Let's check that it works:

$$p = \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial a} = Qt \implies Q = \frac{p}{t}, \qquad P = -\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial O} = qt.$$

(c) We want  $F_1 = F_1(q, Q, t)$ , so

$$P = -\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial O} = q^m p^n \implies F_1 = -Q q^m p^n + g(q).$$

We also want

$$p = \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial a} = -Qmq^{m-1}p^n + g'(q) = Q^{1/l}q^{-k/l}.$$

This equality forces g(q) = 0, and so m = -1, l = 1, n = 0, k = 2. The associated transformations are

$$Q = q^2 p \qquad P = q^{-1}$$

(d) Under the gauge transformation  $\vec{A} \to \vec{A}' = \vec{A} + \nabla f(\vec{x},t)$ ,  $\phi \to \phi' = \phi - \partial_t f(\vec{x},t)$ , we have

$$\mathcal{H}' = \frac{1}{2m}(\vec{P}-q\vec{A}')^2 + q\phi' = \frac{1}{2m}(\vec{P}-q\vec{A}-q\nabla f(\vec{X},t))^2 + q\phi(\vec{X},t) - q\frac{\partial}{\partial t}f(\vec{X},t).$$

Since the  $(\vec{p} - q\vec{A})$  term is unchanged, we must have

$$(\vec{P} - q\vec{A}')^2 = (\vec{P} - q\vec{A} - q\nabla f(\vec{X}, t))^2 = (\vec{p} - q\vec{A})^2.$$

which gives us one of the transformation:

$$\vec{P} = \vec{p} + q \nabla f(\vec{X}, t) \implies \vec{p} = \vec{P} - q \nabla f(\vec{X}, t)$$

The other transformation is simply  $\vec{x} = \vec{X}$ , and this gives

$$\mathcal{H}'(\vec{X}, \vec{P}, t) = \mathcal{H}(\vec{X}, \vec{P}, t) - q \frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(\vec{X}, t).$$

There is more than one way to show that the transformation

$$\vec{x} = \vec{X}$$
  $\vec{p} = \vec{P} - q \nabla f(\vec{X}, t)$ 

is canonical, but we will do this by checking that the fundamental Poissons brackets are correct:

$$\begin{split} \{X_i, X_j\}_{\vec{x}, \vec{p}} &= \sum_k \frac{\partial X_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial X_j}{\partial p_k} - \frac{\partial X_i}{\partial p_k} \frac{\partial X_j}{\partial x_k} = \sum_k \delta_{ik} \delta_{jk} - \delta_{ik} \delta_{jk} = 0 \\ \{P_i, P_j\}_{\vec{x}, \vec{p}} &= \sum_k \frac{\partial P_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial P_j}{\partial p_k} - \frac{\partial P_i}{\partial p_k} \frac{\partial P_j}{\partial x_k} = 0 \\ \{X_i, P_j\}_{\vec{x}, \vec{p}} &= \sum_k \frac{\partial X_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial P_j}{\partial p_k} - \frac{\partial X_i}{\partial p_k} \frac{\partial P_j}{\partial x_k} = \sum_k \delta_{ik} \delta_{jk} = \delta_{ij}. \end{split}$$

So, the transformation is indeed canonical. To find  $F_2(\vec{x}, \vec{P}, t)$ , we require that

$$p_i = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_i} = P_i - q \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} f(\vec{x}, t)$$
 and  $X_i = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial P_i} = x_i$ 

where we have used  $\vec{x} = \vec{X}$  to bring the independent variables to  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{P}$ . The first equation implies

$$F_2(\vec{x}, \vec{P}, t) = x_i P_i - f(\vec{x}, t) + g(\vec{P}).$$

With this and the second equation we have

$$X_i = x_i - \frac{\partial}{\partial P_i} g(\vec{P}).$$

We can just set  $g(\vec{P}) = 0$ . With these, we may write

$$F_2(\vec{x}, \vec{P}, t) = x_i P_i - q f(\vec{x}, t) = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{P} - q f(\vec{x}, t)$$

## 2. Harmonic Oscillator.

(a)

$$\begin{split} \{Q,Q\}_{\vec{q},\vec{p}} &= \frac{\partial Q}{\partial q} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} - \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} = 0 \\ \{P,P\}_{\vec{q},\vec{p}} &= \frac{\partial P}{\partial q} \frac{\partial P}{\partial p} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial p} \frac{\partial P}{\partial q} = 0 \\ \{Q,P\}_{\vec{q},\vec{p}} &= \frac{\partial Q}{\partial q} \frac{\partial P}{\partial p} - \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} \frac{\partial P}{\partial q} = \frac{ia}{2ia} - \frac{-ia}{2ia} = 1. \end{split}$$

Thus, the given transformation is indeed canonical.

(b) From the given transformations, we could solve for q, p in terms of P, Q:

$$q = \frac{1}{2ia}(Q - 2iaP)$$
 and  $p = \frac{1}{2}(Q + 2iaP)$ .

The linear harmonic oscillator Hamiltonian can thus be written as

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2 q^2}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2m} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (Q + 2iaP) \right]^2 + \frac{m\omega^2}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{2ia} (Q - 2iaP) \right]^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{8m} \left[ (Q + 2iaP)^2 - \frac{m^2\omega^2}{a^2} (Q - 2iaP)^2 \right].$$

An obvious choice for a would be  $a = m\omega$ , which gives

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{8m} \left[ (Q + 2im\omega P)^2 - (Q - 2im\omega P)^2 \right] = \frac{1}{8m} 8im\omega QP = i\omega QP.$$

It is clear that the canonical transformation is not explicitly time-dependent, therefore the generating function is not time-dependent. As a result,  $K = H = i\omega QP$ . Now we solve for the equations of motion:

$$\begin{split} \dot{Q} &= \frac{\partial K}{\partial P} = i\omega Q \implies Q(t) = Q_0 e^{i\omega t} \\ \dot{P} &= -\frac{\partial K}{\partial O} = -i\omega P \implies P(t) = P_0 e^{-i\omega t}, \end{split}$$

where

$$Q_0 = p(0) + im\omega q(0)$$

$$P_0 = \frac{p(0) - im\omega q(0)}{2im\omega}.$$

From Q(t), P(t), we can invert to solve for q(t), p(t):

$$\begin{split} \boxed{p(t)} &= \frac{1}{2} \left( Q(t) + 2im\omega P(t) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \left( p(0) + im\omega q(0) \right) e^{i\omega t} - 2im\omega \frac{p(0) - im\omega q(0)}{2im\omega} e^{-i\omega t} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \left( p(0) + im\omega q(0) \right) (\cos\omega t + i\sin\omega t) - \left( p(0) - im\omega q(0) \right) (\cos\omega t - i\sin\omega t) \right) \\ &= \boxed{p(0)\cos\omega t - m\omega q(0)\sin\omega t} \end{split}$$

and

$$\begin{split} \boxed{q(t)} &= \frac{1}{2im\omega}(Q(t) - 2im\omega P(t)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2ia}((p(0) + im\omega q(0))e^{i\omega t} - 2im\omega \frac{p(0) - im\omega q(0)}{2im\omega}e^{-i\omega t}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2ia}\left((p(0) + im\omega q(0))(\cos\omega t + i\sin\omega t) - (p(0) - im\omega q(0))(\cos\omega t - i\sin\omega t)\right) \\ &= \boxed{q(0)\cos\omega t + \frac{p(0)}{m\omega}\sin\omega t} \end{split}$$

### 3. Poisson Brackets and Conserved Quantities. Given

$$\mathcal{H} = q_1 p_1 - q_2 p_2 + a q_1^2 + b q_2^2$$

where a, b are constants. To show that  $u_1 = (p_1 + aq_1)/q_2$  and  $u_2 = q_1q_2$  are constants of motion we check that  $du_1/dt = 0 = du_2/dt$ . Since  $\partial u_1/\partial t = \partial u_2/\partial t = 0$ , it suffices to check that  $\{u_1, \mathcal{H}\} = \{u_2, \mathcal{H}\} = 0$ :

$$\{u_{1}, \mathcal{H}\} = \left(\frac{\partial u_{1}}{\partial q_{1}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_{1}} - \frac{\partial u_{1}}{\partial p_{1}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_{1}}\right) + \left(\frac{\partial u_{1}}{\partial q_{2}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_{2}} - \frac{\partial u_{1}}{\partial p_{2}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_{2}}\right)$$

$$= \left[\frac{a}{q_{2}} q_{1} - \frac{1}{q_{2}} (p_{1} + 2aq_{1})\right] + \left[-\frac{(p_{1} + aq_{1})}{q_{2}^{2}} (-q_{2}) - 0\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{q_{2}} \left[aq_{1} - p_{1} - 2aq_{1} + p_{1} + aq_{1}\right]$$

$$= 0 \qquad \checkmark$$

$$\{u_{2}, \mathcal{H}\} = \left(\frac{\partial u_{2}}{\partial q_{1}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_{1}} - \frac{\partial u_{2}}{\partial p_{1}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_{1}}\right) + \left(\frac{\partial u_{2}}{\partial q_{2}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_{2}} - \frac{\partial u_{2}}{\partial p_{2}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_{2}}\right)$$
$$= \left[q_{2}q_{1} - 0\right] + \left[q_{1}(-q_{2})\right]$$
$$= 0. \qquad \checkmark$$

# 4. Angular Momentum and the Laplace-Runge-Lenz vector.

(a) To avoid unnecessary repeated indices we will replace i, j, k by a, b, c when needed:

$$\boxed{\{x_i, L_j\}} = \{x_i, \epsilon_{jka} x_k p_a\} = \sum_{l} \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x_l} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{jka} x_k p_a}{\partial p_l} - \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial p_l} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{jka} x_k p_a}{\partial x_l} = \sum_{l} \delta_{il} \epsilon_{jki} x_k \delta_{al} = \epsilon_{jki} x_k = \boxed{\epsilon_{ijk} x_k}$$

$$\boxed{\{p_i, L_j\}} = \{p_i, \epsilon_{jka} x_k p_a\} = \sum_{l} \frac{\partial p_i}{\partial x_l} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{jka} x_k p_a}{\partial p_l} - \frac{\partial p_i}{\partial p_l} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{jka} x_k p_a}{\partial x_l} = \sum_{l} -\delta_{il} \epsilon_{jka} p_a \delta_{kl} = -\epsilon_{jia} p_a = \boxed{\epsilon_{ijk} p_k}$$

Next,

$$\begin{aligned} \{L_{i}, L_{b}\} &= \{\epsilon_{ijk}x_{j}p_{k}, \epsilon_{bca}x_{c}p_{a}\} \\ &= \sum_{l} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{ijk}x_{j}p_{k}}{\partial x_{l}} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{bca}x_{c}p_{a}}{\partial p_{l}} - \frac{\partial \epsilon_{ijk}x_{j}p_{k}}{\partial p_{l}} \frac{\partial \epsilon_{bca}x_{c}p_{a}}{\partial x_{l}} \\ &= \sum_{l} \delta_{jl}\epsilon_{ijk}p_{k}\delta_{al}\epsilon_{bca}x_{c} - \delta_{kl}\epsilon_{ijk}x_{j}\delta_{cl}\epsilon_{bca}p_{a} \\ &= \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon_{bcj}p_{k}x_{c} - \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon_{bka}x_{j}p_{a} \\ &= -\epsilon_{ikj}\epsilon_{bcj}p_{k}x_{c} + \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon_{bak}x_{j}p_{a} \\ &= -(\delta_{ib}\delta_{kc} - \delta_{ic}\delta_{kb})p_{k}x_{c} + (\delta_{ib}\delta_{ja} - \delta_{ia}\delta_{jb})x_{j}p_{a} \\ &= -\delta_{ib}p_{k}x_{k} + x_{i}p_{b} + \delta_{ib}x_{j}p_{j} - x_{b}p_{i} \\ &= x_{i}p_{b} - x_{b}p_{i}. \end{aligned}$$

Putting back b = i we get the final result

$$\boxed{\{L_i,L_j\}} = x_i p_j - x_j p_i = (\delta_{iu}\delta_{jv} - \delta_{iv}\delta_{ju})x_u p_v = \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon_{uvk}x_u p_v = \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon_{kuv}x_u p_v = \boxed{\epsilon_{ijk}L_k}$$

To calculate  $\{L_i\vec{L}^2\}$ , we have to be more explicit with our index notation. To be explicit we will say  $L_aL_a=L_a^2\neq\vec{L}^2$  and use the "product rule" for Poisson brackets  $\{uv,w\}=u\{v,w\}+\{u,w\}v$ .

$$\{L_i, \vec{L}^2\} = \{L_i, L_i L_i + L_j L_j + L_k L_k\} = \{L_i, L_i L_i\} + \{L_i, L_j L_j\} + \{L_i, L_k L_k\}$$

since  $\{L_i, L_i\} = 0$ , the first term on the RHS is zero, which leaves us with

$$\begin{aligned}
\{L_i, \vec{L}^2\} &= -\{L_j L_j, L_i\} - \{L_k L_k, L_i\} \\
&= -L_j \{L_j, L_i\} - \{L_j, L_i\} L_j - L_k \{L_k, L_i\} + \{L_k, L_i\} L_k \\
&= 2L_j \epsilon_{ijk} L_k + 2L_k \epsilon_{ika} L_a \\
&= 2\epsilon_{ijk} L_j L_k - 2\epsilon_{iak} L_a L_k \\
&= \boxed{0}
\end{aligned}$$

(b) Since  $\vec{A} = \vec{p} \times \vec{L} - \mu k \vec{r} / r$ , to show that  $\vec{A}$  is conserved we check that  $\{\vec{A}, \mathcal{H}\} = 0$ , i.e.,  $\{A_i, \mathcal{H}\} = 0$ . To do this, we must first write everything in terms of components and computer their derivatives

$$\vec{A} = \vec{p} \times \vec{L} - \frac{\mu k \vec{r}}{r} \implies A_i = \epsilon_{ijk} p_j L_k - \frac{\mu k \vec{r}_i}{r}$$

$$= \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{kab} p_j r_a p_b - \frac{\mu k r_i}{r}$$

$$= \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{abk} p_j r_a p_b - \frac{\mu k r_i}{r}$$

$$= (\delta_{ia} \delta_{jb} - \delta_{ib} \delta_{ja}) p_j r_a p_b - \frac{\mu k t_i}{r}$$

$$= r_i p_j p_j - p_j r_j p_i - \frac{\mu k r_i}{r}$$

$$= r_i \vec{p}^2 - p_j r_j p_i - \frac{\mu k r_i}{r}$$

With this,

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial r_l} &= \delta_{il} \vec{p}^2 - p_j p_i \delta_{jl} - \mu k \left( \delta_{il} \frac{1}{r} - \frac{r_i}{r^2} \frac{\partial r}{\partial r_l} \right) \\ &= \delta_{il} \vec{p}^2 - p_l p_i - \mu k \left( \frac{\delta_{il}}{r} - \frac{r_i r_l}{r^3} \right) \\ &= \delta_{il} \vec{p}^2 - p_l p_i - \frac{\mu k}{r} \left( \delta_{il} - \frac{r_i r_l}{r^2} \right) \end{split}$$

where we have used the fact that

$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial r_l} = \frac{\partial \sqrt{r_l r_l}}{\partial r_l} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r_l r_l}} 2\frac{1}{2} r_l = \frac{r_l}{r}.$$

We also need to find  $\partial A_i/\partial p_l$ :

$$\frac{\partial A_i}{\partial p_l} = 2r_i p_j \delta_{jl} - r_j \delta_{jl} p_i - p_j r_j \delta_{il} = 2r_i p_l - r_l p_i - p_j r_j \delta_{il}.$$

The next step is to do the same for  $\mathcal{H} = \vec{p}^2/2\mu - k/r$ :

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial r_l} = -k \frac{\partial}{\partial r_l} \frac{1}{r} = \frac{k}{r^2} \frac{\partial r}{\partial r_l} = \frac{k r_l}{r^3}.$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_l} = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial p_i p_i}{\partial p_l} = \frac{1}{\mu} p_i \delta_{il} = \frac{p_l}{\mu}.$$

With these, we are ready:

$$\begin{split} \{A_i,\mathcal{H}\} &= \sum_{l} \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial r_l} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_l} - \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial p_l} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial r_l} \\ &= \sum_{l} \left( \delta_{il} \vec{p}^2 - p_l p_i - \frac{\mu k}{r} \left( \delta_{il} - \frac{r_i r_l}{r^2} \right) \right) \frac{p_l}{\mu} - (2r_i p_l - r_l p_i - p_j r_j \delta_{il}) \frac{k r_l}{r^3} \\ &= \frac{1}{\mu} p_i \vec{p}^2 - \frac{1}{\mu} p_i \vec{p}^2 - \frac{k}{r} \left( p_i - \frac{r_i r_l p_l}{r^2} \right) - \frac{k}{r^3} (2r_i p_l r_l - r_l p_i r_l - p_j r_j r_i) \\ &= -p_i \frac{k}{r} + r_i \frac{k \vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^3} - r_i \frac{2k \vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^3} + p_i \frac{k}{r} + r_i \frac{k \vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^3} \\ &= \left( -p_i \frac{k}{r} + p_i \frac{k}{r} \right) + \left( r_i \frac{k \vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^3} - r_i \frac{2k \vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^3} + r_i \frac{k \vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^3} \right) \\ &= 0. \end{split}$$

So, the Laplace-Runge-Lenz vector is conserved, as desired.

(c) We first find what  $\vec{L}^2$  is in terms of  $\vec{x}$ ,  $\vec{p}$ :

$$\begin{split} \vec{L}^2 &= L_i L_i \\ &= \epsilon_{ijk} L r_j p_k \epsilon_{ibc} r_b p_c = \epsilon_{jki} \epsilon_{bci} r_j r_b p_k p_c \\ &= (\delta_{jb} \delta_{kc} - \delta_{jc} \delta_{kb}) r_j r_b p_k p_c \\ &= r_j r_j p_k p_k - r_j p_j r_k p_k \\ &= \vec{r}^2 \vec{p}^2 - (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{p})^2 \end{split}$$

With this, we expand the LHS and simplify to get  $\vec{A}^2$ :

$$\mu^{2}k^{2} + 2\mu\mathcal{H}\vec{L}^{2} = \mu^{2}k^{2} + 2\mu\left(\frac{\vec{p}^{2}}{2\mu} - \frac{k}{r}\right)\left[\vec{r}^{2}\vec{p}^{2} - (\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})^{2}\right]$$

$$= \mu^{2}k^{2} + \left(\vec{p}^{2} - \frac{2\mu k}{r}\right)\left[\vec{r}^{2}\vec{p}^{2} - (\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})^{2}\right]$$

$$= \mu^{2}k^{2} + \vec{p}^{2}\vec{r}^{2}\vec{p}^{2} - \vec{p}^{2}(\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})^{2} - \frac{2\mu k}{r}\vec{r}^{2}\vec{p}^{2} + \frac{2\mu k}{r}(\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})^{2}$$

$$= \vec{r}^{2}\left(\vec{p}^{2}\vec{p}^{2} - \frac{2\mu k}{r}\vec{p}^{2} + \frac{\mu^{2}k^{2}}{r^{2}}\right) - 2(\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})^{2}\left(\vec{p}^{2} - \frac{\mu k}{r}\right) + (\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})^{2}\vec{p}^{2}$$

$$= (r_{i}r_{i})\left(\vec{p} - \frac{\mu k}{r}\right)^{2} - 2(r_{i}p_{i})(\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})\left(\vec{p}^{2} - \frac{\mu k}{r}\right) + (\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})p_{i}p_{i}$$

$$= \underbrace{\left[r_{i}\left(\vec{p} - \frac{\mu k}{r}\right) - (\vec{r}\cdot\vec{p})p_{i}\right]^{2}}_{A_{i}}$$

$$= \vec{A}^{2} \checkmark$$

where we have used the previously derived result:

$$A_i = r_i \vec{p}^2 - p_j r_j p_i - \frac{k \mu r_i}{r} = r_i \left( \vec{p}^2 - \frac{\mu k}{r} \right) - (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}) p_i.$$

### 5. An Exponential Potential.

(a)  $\mathcal{H} = p^2 + e^x$ . We want  $K = P^2 = H = p^2 + e^x$ . Since p > 0, we have  $p = \sqrt{P^2 - e^x}$ . With this,

$$p = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} = \sqrt{P^2 - e^x} \implies F_2(x, P) = 2\sqrt{P^2 - e^x} - 2P \tanh^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{P^2 - e^x}}{P}\right) + g(P).$$

Since we don't have any requirements from X = X(x, P), we may as well set g(P) = 0, so that

$$F_2(x, P) = 2\sqrt{P^2 - e^x} - 2P \tanh^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{P^2 - e^x}}{P} \right)$$

Mathematica code:

(b) The transformation equations can be obtained from  $F_2$ . First, assuming P > 0 we have that

$$P(x,p) = \sqrt{p^2 + e^x}$$

Next,

$$X(x,p) = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial P} = \frac{\partial}{\partial P} \left[ 2\sqrt{P^2 - e^x} - 2P \operatorname{arctanh}\left(\frac{\sqrt{P^2 - e^x}}{P}\right) \right] = -2\operatorname{arccoth}\left(\frac{P}{\sqrt{P^2 - e^x}}\right)$$

Substituting in the result for *P* we find

$$\boxed{X(x,p)} = -2\operatorname{arccoth}\left(\frac{\sqrt{p^2 + e^x}}{\sqrt{p^2 + e^x - e^x}}\right) = \boxed{-2\operatorname{arccoth}\left(\frac{\sqrt{p^2 + e^x}}{p}\right)}$$

Mathematica code:

Assuming P < 0 gives us another set of transformation equations:

$$\boxed{P(x,p) = -\sqrt{p^2 + e^x}} \qquad X(x,p) = -2\operatorname{arccoth}\left(\frac{-\sqrt{p^2 + e^x}}{p}\right)$$

(c) To determine x(t), p(t) we may solve for the Hamilton EOMs for K first:

$$\dot{P} = -\frac{\partial K}{\partial X} = 0 \implies P = \pm \sqrt{p^2 + e^x} = \text{constant} = \pm P_0 := \pm \sqrt{p(0)^2 + e^{x(0)}}$$

$$\dot{X} = \frac{\partial K}{\partial P} = 2P \implies X = 2Pt + X_0$$

$$\implies -2\operatorname{arccoth}\left(\frac{\pm \sqrt{p^2 + e^x}}{p}\right) = -2\operatorname{arccoth}\left(\frac{\pm P_0}{p(t)}\right) = \pm 2P_0t + X_0$$

$$\implies p(t) = \mp P_0 \tanh\left(\frac{X_0}{2} \pm tP_0\right)$$

From this, we can invert to find x(t):

$$e^{x(t)} = P^2 - p^2 = P_0^2 - P_0^2 \tanh^2\left(\frac{X_0}{2} \pm tP_0\right) \implies x(t) = \ln\left[P_0^2 - P_0^2 \tanh^2\left(\frac{X_0}{2} \pm tP_0\right)\right]$$

where  $P_0$  is already defined above and  $X_0 = -2\operatorname{arccoth}(\pm P_0/p(0))$ . We also answer whether the signs matter i.e., whether there is a "preferred" set of transformation equations. Suppose that P > 0, then

$$p(t) = -P_0 \tanh\left(\frac{X_0}{2} + tP_0\right).$$

At t = 0, we have  $p(0) = -P_0 \tanh(X_0/2)$  where  $X_0 = -2\operatorname{arccoth}(P_0/p(0)) < 0$ , and so p(t) > 0.

On the other hand if we pick the P < 0 transformation then

$$p(t) = P_0 \tanh\left(\frac{X_0}{2} - tP_0\right).$$

At t = 0, we have  $p(0) = P_0 \tanh(X_0/2)$  where  $X_0 = -2\operatorname{arccoth}(-P_0/p(0)) > 0$ , and so p(t) > 0.

Therefore, either transformation works, so we may as well choose the positive transformation can obtain the following solution:

$$p(t) = -P_0 \tanh\left(\frac{X_0}{2} + tP_0\right) \quad \text{and} \quad x(t) = \ln\left[P_0^2 - P_0^2 \tanh^2\left(\frac{X_0}{2} + tP_0\right)\right]$$

where

$$X_0 = -2\operatorname{arccoth}\left(\frac{\sqrt{p(0) + e^{x(0)}}}{p(0)}\right)$$
 and  $P_0 = \sqrt{p(0)^2 + e^{x(0)}}$ 

Mathematica code:

```
(* Positive solution *)
Solve[-2 ArcCoth[Z/p[t]] == 2*Z*t + C, p[t]] // FullSimplify

p[t] -> -Z Tanh[C/2 + tZ]

(* Negative solution *)
Solve[-2 ArcCoth[-Z/p[t]] == -2*Z*t + C, p[t]] // FullSimplify

p[t] -> Z Tanh[C/2 - tZ]
```

### 6. Projectile with Hamilton-Jacobi.

Our (Hamiltonian) coordinates will be  $p_x$ ,  $p_y$ , x, y. The Hamiltonian is simply the energy:

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{p_x^2}{2m} + \frac{p_y^2}{2m} + mgy = E$$

The Hamilton-Jacobi equation says

$$\mathcal{H}\left(x, y, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial y}, t\right) + \frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = 0$$

which in our case becomes

$$\frac{1}{2m} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right] + mgy + \frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = 0 \implies \frac{1}{2m} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial S_{xy}}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial S_{xy}}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right] + mgy = \alpha_1 = -\frac{\partial S_t}{\partial t}$$

where we have used the fact that  $p_i = \partial S/\partial x_i$  and that S is separable in spatial and time coordinates:  $S = S_{xy} + S_t$  where  $S_{xy}$  has no t-dependence and  $S_t$  has no spatial dependence. From here we find that

$$S_t = -\alpha_1 t$$
.

We now solve the spatial part:

$$\frac{1}{2m}\left[\left(\frac{\partial S_{xy}}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial S_{xy}}{\partial y}\right)^2\right] + mgy = \alpha_1 \implies \frac{1}{2m}\left(\frac{\partial S_{xy}}{\partial x}\right)^2 = \alpha_1 - \frac{1}{2m}\left(\frac{\partial S_{xy}}{\partial y}\right)^2 - mgy = \alpha_2$$

where  $\alpha$  is constant. By separability we may as well write  $S_{xy} = S_x + S_y$  where  $S_x$  has no y-dependence and  $S_y$  has no x-dependence. From here we find that

$$\frac{\partial S_x}{\partial x} = \pm \sqrt{2m\alpha_2} \implies S_x = \pm \int \sqrt{2m\alpha_2} \, dx$$

and

$$\frac{\partial S_y}{\partial y} = \pm \sqrt{2m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - mgy)} \implies S_y = \pm \int \sqrt{2m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - mgy)} \, dy.$$

The full solution is therefore

$$S = S_x + S_y + S_t = \pm \int \sqrt{2m\alpha_2} \, dx \pm \int \sqrt{2m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - mgy)} \, dy - \alpha_1 t.$$

From here, we solve for the constants  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$ :

$$\beta_1 = \frac{\partial S}{\partial \alpha_1} = -t \pm \int \frac{m}{\sqrt{2m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - mgy)}} dy$$

$$\beta_2 = \frac{\partial S}{\partial \alpha_2} = \pm \int \frac{m}{\sqrt{2m\alpha_2}} dx \mp \int \frac{m}{\sqrt{2m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - gmy)}} dy = \pm \int \frac{m}{\sqrt{2m\alpha_2}} dx \mp (\beta_1 + t)$$

Solving the first equation for *y* we find

$$t + \beta_1 = \pm \frac{1}{mg} \sqrt{2m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - mgy)} \implies y(t) = \frac{\alpha_1 - \alpha_2}{mg} - \frac{1}{2}g(t + \beta_1)^2.$$

Inverting the first equation we find

$$x(t) = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2m\alpha_2}}{m} \left[ \beta_2 \pm (\beta_1 + t) \right].$$

It remains to solve for  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$ ,  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$ . We know that  $\alpha_1 = E$ , the total energy, which is just the initial kinetic energy (as the object was launched from the ground), so  $E = \alpha_1 = mv_0^2/2$ . At t = 0, we have

$$x(0) = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2m\alpha_2}}{m} [\beta_2 \pm \beta_1] = y(0) = \frac{mv_0^2/2 - \alpha_2}{mg} - \frac{1}{2}g\beta_1^2 = 0.$$

So  $\beta_2 = \mp \beta_1$ . Since x(t) > 0, we may take the positive solution:

$$x(t) = \frac{\sqrt{2m\alpha_2}}{m}t \implies \dot{x}(0) = v_0 \cos \theta = \frac{\sqrt{2m\alpha_2}}{m} \implies \alpha_2 = \frac{mv_0^2 \cos^2 \theta}{2}.$$

We then solve for  $\beta_1$ :

$$\frac{mv_0^2/2 - mv_0^2\cos^2\theta/2}{mg} = \frac{1}{2}g\beta_1^2 \implies \beta_1 = \pm \sqrt{\frac{v_0^2\sin^2\theta}{g^2}}.$$

In order for  $\dot{y}(0) > 0$ ,  $\beta_2 < 0$ . Thus, we take the negative solution for  $\beta_2$ :

$$\dot{y}(0) = -g\beta_1 > 0 \implies \beta_1 < 0 \implies \beta_1 = -\frac{v_0 \sin \theta}{g}$$

Putting everything back we get the equations for x(t) and y(t):

$$\boxed{x(t) = v_0 t \cos \theta} \quad \checkmark \qquad \boxed{y(t) = \frac{v_0^2 \sin^2 \theta}{2g} - \frac{1}{2}g\left(t - \frac{v_0 \sin \theta}{g}\right)^2 = v_0 t \sin \theta - \frac{1}{2}gt^2} \quad \checkmark$$

From here, it is easy to find the momentum coordinates:

$$p_x = \frac{\partial S}{\partial x} = \sqrt{2m\alpha_2} = mv_0 \cos \theta$$

$$p_y = \frac{\partial S}{\partial y} = \sqrt{2m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - mgy)} = m(v_0 \sin \theta - gt)$$

Finally, we want to solve for the equation of the trajectory, i.e. we want to solve for y(x). To do this, we solve for t in terms of x:

$$t(x) = \frac{x}{v_0 \cos \theta}$$

and plug into the equation for y(t):

$$y(x) = \frac{v_0 \sin \theta x}{v_0 \cos \theta} - \frac{1}{2} g \left( \frac{x^2}{v_0^2 \cos \theta^2} \right) = x \tan \theta - \frac{x^2}{2g^2 v_0^2 \cos^2 \theta}$$