

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS

PH1010-2020

Mini-Test 3 ($3 \times 7 = 21$ Marks)

Undertaking of ACADEMIC HONESTY:

By submitting this test, it is understood that you promise to uphold academic honesty by neither giving nor receiving any unauthorised help on this mini-test. The answers should be based on your individual effort. Any deviation, if identified, may lead to reduction in marks.

Important instructions:

1. Write your answers with ALL required steps in good quality A4 sheets.
2. Begin your answers for every question on a fresh A4 sheet.
3. Use only dark blue or black ink for writing answers (strictly no pencil).
4. Write the **name and IITM roll no** at the top right corner of the A4 sheet. Number the pages in order.
5. Use of calculator, books, and online resources are permitted.
6. Digitise/scan your answer scripts neatly taking into account proper cropping and contrast.
7. Upload only a single, combined PDF file.
8. Please check your PDF file completely before uploading the same.
9. DO NOT FORGET to click **SUBMIT** button after uploading your answer file.
10. The marks you earn in this test will count towards your aggregate in the course.
11. If your answer is a vector quantity, make sure that its direction is clearly indicated (e.g., by using appropriate unit vectors).

Submission deadline: Monday, 28-12-2020, 9:00 AM.

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1. A rocket of mass m is launched “horizontally” from a tower of height h on the earth’s surface (see Fig.1). The initial speed of the rocket is $v_0 = \alpha\sqrt{2GM/R}$, where α is a positive number. Here, R the radius of earth and M , its mass. Assume that the earth is a solid, smooth sphere. Neglect the height of the tower in comparison with R . Ignore air resistance.

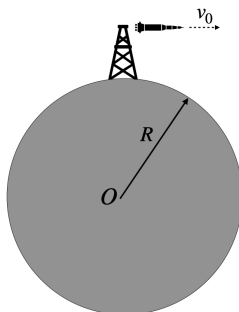


Figure 1: (not drawn to scale)

- Write down expressions for the energy and angular momentum of the rocket in terms of the given parameters (1 MARK).
- Using (a), determine r_0 , the “radius of the circular orbit” for the rocket, and E_0 , the energy of the circular orbit (1 MARK).
- Using (a) and (b), determine the eccentricity ϵ of the orbit of the rocket (1 MARK).
- Using (b) and (c), determine the conditions on α such that the rocket will become a satellite for earth (2 MARKS).
- For $\alpha = 3/4$, determine the maximum “height” reached by the rocket, with respect to the earth’s surface (1 MARK).
- Determine the nature (i.e., shape) of the orbit for $\alpha = 1$, and give your reasons for the same (1 MARK).¹

2. Consider the vector field,

$$\mathbf{F} = \rho \sin^2 \phi \hat{\rho} + \rho \sin \phi \cos \phi \hat{\phi} + 4z \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

and the seamless structure shown in Figure 2. A cone is placed on the top surface of a cylinder. The origin is located at the centre of the bottom flat surface of the cylinder. Use cylindrical polar coordinates.

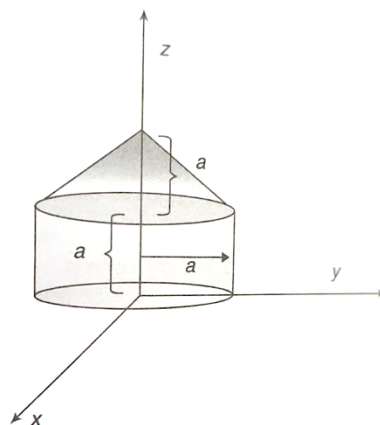


Figure 2:

- Write down the surface area elements for (i) the curved surface of the cylinder ($d\mathbf{S}_1$), (ii) the bottom flat surface of the cylinder ($d\mathbf{S}_2$), (iii) the curved surface of the cone placed on top of the cylinder ($d\mathbf{S}_3$) indicating the sense(direction) of the surface normals. Also write down the expression for the volume element dV (2 MARKS).
- Determine the flux of the vector field \mathbf{F} passing through the
 - curved surface of the cylinder (1 MARK).
 - bottom flat surface of the cylinder (1 MARK).
 - curved surface of the cone placed on top of the cylinder (2 MARKS).
- Calculate the divergence of the vector field and verify Gauss’ divergence theorem using the seamless structure shown in Figure 2 (1 MARK).

¹The reasoning here should be based on the rigorous classification of orbits on the basis of....., and not just a simple statement.

3. Give **ONLY THE FINAL ANSWERS** to the questions below in your answer sheet, against the question number. Each question is worth 1 MARK, NO partial marks here.

- (a) A particle of mass m is constrained to move on the inner surface of a paraboloid, described by the equation $z = \rho^2/4a$ (where $\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$). Here, the gravitational force on the particle is $-mg\hat{\mathbf{z}}$. The initial angular momentum is $\mathbf{\ell} = \ell_\rho\hat{\boldsymbol{\rho}} + \ell_\phi\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + \ell_z\hat{\mathbf{z}}$. The total energy of the particle, in cylindrical coordinates, can be expressed as

$$E = \frac{m_{\text{eff}}(\rho)}{2}\dot{\rho}^2 + U_{\text{eff}}(\rho)$$

where $m_{\text{eff}} = \dots\dots\dots$ and $U_{\text{eff}} = \dots\dots\dots$

- (b) A satellite in a circular orbit is given a tangential thrust at its apogee, so that its speed is doubled. The eccentricity of the resulting orbit is $\epsilon = \dots\dots\dots$
- (c) For a satellite in elliptical orbit around earth with period T , the orbital speed at perigee is 4 times the same at apogee. If the orbital speed at apogee is v , the semi-major axis of the orbit is $a = \dots\dots\dots$
- (d) A particle of mass m is moving in a central force field with $F(r) = -\alpha\frac{e^{-\lambda r}}{r^2}$ where $\alpha, \lambda > 0$. The condition on its angular momentum ℓ such that at least one circular orbit is possible is $\dots\dots\dots$
- (e) State whether **TRUE** or **FALSE**: $\nabla \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}} = 0$ everywhere in space, except at the origin.
- (f) An incompressible fluid (of uniform and constant density, denoted by ρ_m) leaks out of a point source at the origin, and spreads isotropically in space, in the absence of gravity. If the rate of mass efflux from the container is \dot{M} , the velocity field of the fluid, in spherical polar coordinates, after the fluid has spread in all available space, is $\mathbf{v}(r) = \dots\dots\dots$
- (g) State whether **TRUE** or **FALSE** : For *any* closed loop \mathcal{C} lying in the $x - y$ plane, $\oint_{\mathcal{C}} \hat{\mathbf{n}} dl = 0$, where $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ is the local unit outward normal to the loop, also lying in the $x - y$ plane (see Fig.3), and dl is the infinitesimal arc-length along the loop.

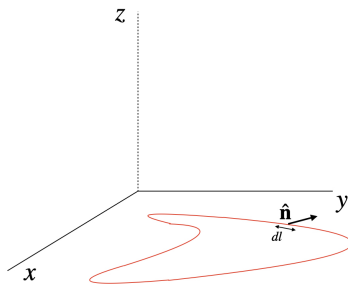


Figure 3: