

Tuesday, October 8

Score: \_\_\_\_/17 points

The following equations might be useful:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} \quad L = T - V \quad \delta W = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n Q_{\alpha} \delta q_{\alpha} \quad Q_{\alpha} = \sum_{i=1}^{3N} F_i \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial q_{\alpha}}$$

$$\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1 \quad \sin \alpha \cos \beta - \cos \alpha \sin \beta = \sin(\alpha - \beta)$$

1. Find the constant(s) of motion for the following five Lagrangians. If there are no constants of motion please explain how you know this.

a. (1 point)  $L = \frac{1}{2} m (\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{z}^2)$

b. (1 point)  $L = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{z}^2 - mgz$

c. (1 point)  $L = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2} I \dot{\theta}^2 - mg(l - x) \sin \alpha$

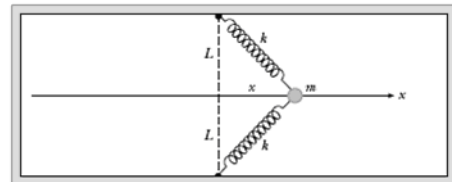
(Disk with radius  $R$  and moment of inertia  $I$  rolling down an inclined plane.)

d. (1 point)  $L = \frac{ml^2}{2} (\dot{\theta}^2 + \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta) + mgl \cos \theta$

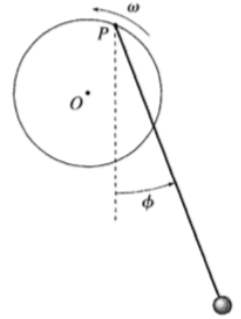
e. (1 point)  $L = \frac{m}{2} (\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2) + \frac{GMm}{r}$

2. Find the Lagrangians in appropriate generalized coordinates for the following four systems.
- a. (1 point) A box sliding down a frictionless inclined ramp with inclination angle  $\alpha$ .

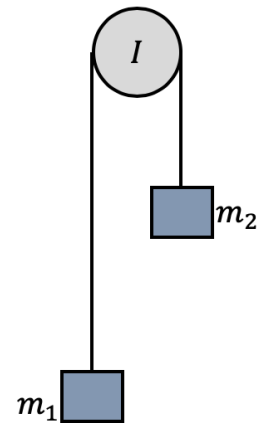
- b. (1 point) A mass attached between two identical springs with spring constant  $k$  and rest length  $L$  on a horizontal frictionless tabletop. (The figure on the right shows the view from above the table.)



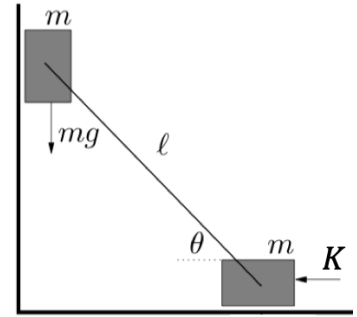
- c. (2 points) A pendulum of mass  $m$  and length  $l$  attached to the edge of a wheel with radius  $R$  that rotates at angular velocity  $\omega$ .



- d. (2 points) Atwood's machine with a pulley with mass  $M$ , radius  $R$  and moment of inertia  $I = \frac{1}{2}MR^2$ . The rope length is  $l$ .



3. (3 points) Two blocks on frictionless surfaces are constrained by a rod of length  $l$  to move together. Use the principle of virtual work to determine the force  $K$  needed to keep the system in static equilibrium.



4. (3 points) The figure on the right shows a disk of mass  $m_1$  tethered to a hanging mass  $m_2$  by a massless string of length  $l$ . The disk is free to move on a frictionless, horizontal table. The string is threaded through a small hole in the table.  $m_2$  can move vertically but cannot swing back and forth. The Lagrangian of this system is

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m_1 (\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2) + \frac{1}{2} m_2 \dot{r}^2 + m_2 g (l - r)$$

Derive the equation(s) of motion using the Lagrangian formalism.

