

Examination II for PHYS 6220/7220, Fall 2014

1. A one dimensional simple harmonic oscillator has mass m , and generalized canonical coordinates q and p , and vibrational angular frequency ω , and Hamiltonian $H(q, p)$.

- (a) Evaluate $[u, H]$ where $u = -i\omega t + \ln(p + im\omega q)$ and $i \equiv \sqrt{-1}$. **(2 points)**
- (b) Use result in part (a) to obtain du/dt . Comment on your result. **(2 points)**
- (c) Express H as $H = H(u)$. **(1 point)**

2. Two successive rotations are performed on a rigid body with a common fixed point on the body for both rotations. Each rotation is through π radians. The two rotation axes are defined by unit vectors in the laboratory Cartesian coordinate system given by

$\mathbf{n}_1 = (1, 1, 0)/\sqrt{2}$, and $\mathbf{n}_2 = (0, 0, 1)$ respectively.

- (a) Find all elements of the matrix \mathbf{A} corresponding to the first rotation. **(1 point)**
- (b) Find all elements of the matrix \mathbf{B} corresponding to the second rotation. **(1 point)**
- (c) If the resulting net displacement of the body is represented by a matrix \mathbf{R} then find all its elements. **(2 points)**
- (d) Another single rotation about a fixed axis is carried out to bring the body back to its original configuration. Find the needed angle of rotation and the axis of rotation. **(2 point)**
- (e) If the rotation in part (d) is carried out by three Euler angle rotations find these angles. **(3 points)**

3. Consider the motion of a particle of mass m and magnitude of angular momentum ℓ , moving in a potential $V(r) = -(k/r) + (k'/r^3)$, where r is the distance of the particle from the origin and k and k' are positive constants of appropriate dimensions.

- (a) Find the radius r_0 of a circular orbit for the particle in terms of k , k' , m , and ℓ . **(2 points)**
- (b) Find the critical radius $r_{0c} = r_{0c}(k, k')$ for which circular orbits will be marginally stable. **(2 points)**
- (c) State if orbits for which $r_0 > r_{0c}$ are stable. State if orbits for which $r_0 < r_{0c}$ are stable. Give justifications for both answers. **(2 points)**
- (d) If a circular orbit exists with radius r_{0c} find its angular speed $\omega = \omega(m, k, k')$. **(2 points)**