

(4)

[CO3]

9. (a) Find the moment of inertia (by first finding the moment of inertia tensor about appropriate principal set of axes) of a uniform rod of mass M and length L about an axis that passes through a point at distance l ($l < L$) from one end of the rod and makes an angle θ with the rod.
- (b) A horizontal circular disc rotates about a vertical axis that passes through a point on the edge of the disc. An insect moves along the circumference of the disc with a uniform velocity with respect to the disc. What are the directions of the centrifugal and Coriolis forces as observed from an origin fixed with the axis of rotation?
7+3=10
10. (a) Consider a dumbbell consisting of two masses m_1 and m_2 connected by a massless rod of length l . Find the torque required to keep this setup rotating with a uniform angular velocity ω about an axis that passes through the centre of mass, making an angle β with the rod.
- (b) A particle of mass m , located in the northern hemisphere at a latitude λ , moves towards south with a velocity v . The earth rotates from west to east with a uniform angular velocity Ω . Find the direction and magnitude of the Coriolis force acting on the particle. 6+4=10

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Ex/SC/PHYS/UG/MAJOR/TH/21/205/2025

B. SC. PHYSICS EXAMINATION, 2025

(2nd Year, 1st Semester)

(Classical Mechanics)

Time : Two hours

Full Marks : 40

Use separate script for each group.

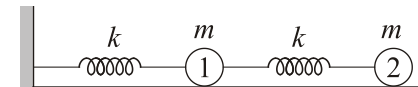
GROUP—A

Answer **two** from 1, 2 and 3 [CO1] and

two from 4, 5 and 6 [CO4]

1. Consider a simple pendulum with its support moving at a uniform velocity v vertically downward.
- (a) Write down the constraint equation(s). Define and clearly identify allowed displacement and virtual displacement for the pendulum bob.
- (b) State the principle of zero virtual work. Hence identify the direction of the constraint force for above system.
- (c) For a coupled system, e.g. a double pendulum, will the zero virtual work apply independently for each bob? Explain. 1+2+2

2. Consider the mass-spring system given below :



(2)

- (a) Find the Lagrangian of the system.
(b) Hence obtain the equations of motion.
(c) Find the normal mode frequencies and amplitudes for the system. 1+1+3

3. Consider a double pendulum.

- (a) Write down the equations of constraint.
(b) Find the degrees of freedom and identify suitable generalized coordinates.
(c) Find Lagrangian and Lagrange's equation for the system. 1+1+3

4. Consider a simple pendulum, motion governed by $\ddot{\theta} = -\sin(\theta)$.

- (a) Identify the fixed points between $-2 < \theta < 5$.
(b) Use linear stability analysis and obtain the Jacobian at the fixed points.
(c) Hence find local phase portrait. 1+2+2

5. Consider the one-dimensional dynamical system, $\dot{x} = rx + x^3$. Obtain the fixed point(s) for relevant values of the parameter r , identify their stability and hence obtain the bifurcation diagram. Identify the bifurcation. 5

6. Equation describing two competing species may look like $\dot{x} = x(3 - x - 2y)$ and $\dot{y} = y(2 - x - y)$. Identify the fixed points. Find the phase portrait relevant for the system ($x > 0, y > 0$). 5

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[Continued]

(3)

GROUP—B

Answer **one** from 7 and 8 [CO2] and
one from 9 and 10 [CO3]

7. (a) Compare the Lagrangian formalism and the Hamiltonian formalism. How does the Hamiltonian 'phase space' differ from Lagrangian 'coordinate space'?

(b) Let the Lagrangian of a particle of mass m be

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2) - V(r, \theta)$$

Find out the Hamiltonian of the system in terms of phase space coordinates. Show that p_ϕ is conserved.

(c) A dynamical system has generalized coordinates q_i and generalized momenta p_i . Verify the following properties of the Poisson brackets : $[p_i, p_j] = [q_i, q_j] = 0$.

(2+1)+(3+1)+3

8. (a) What is canonical transformation? What is the role of generating function in this context? Write four forms of generating functions.

(b) Show that for a canonical transformation, the Lagrangian in old and new coordinates differ only by an exact differential.

(c) Show that transformation $Q = 1/p, P = qp^2$ is canonical. Find the generating function. (1+1+1)+3+(3+1)

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[Turn Over]