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63 (FY)SEM-5/MAJ/PHYMAJ3014

2025

**PHYSICS**

(MAJOR)

Paper : PHYMAJ3014

**(Classical Mechanics)**

Full Marks : 70

Pass Marks : 28

Time : Three hours

**The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.**

1. Choose the correct answer :  $1 \times 6 = 6$

(a) Number of degrees of freedom of a rigid body in 3 dimensional (3D) space is:

(i) 3

(ii) 4

~~(iii) 6~~

(iv) 9

(b) D'Alembert's principle is based on:

- (i) Principle of least action
- (ii) Principle of virtual work
- (iii) Principle of infinitesimal transformations
- (iv) Principle of Euler's transformations

(c) Lagrange's equation for non-conservative system is:

(i) 
$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_j} = Q_j$$

(ii) 
$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) + \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_j} = -Q_j$$

(iii) 
$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_j} = 0$$

(iv) 
$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) + \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_j} = 0$$

(d) Holonomic constraints are:

- (i) Independent of time
- (ii) Explicitly depends on time
- ~~(iii) Independent of velocity~~
- (iv) Explicitly depends on velocity

(e) For two functions  $F$  and  $G$ , depends upon the position coordinate  $q_k$  and momentum coordinate  $p_k$ , which of the following is correct:

(i)  $[F, G] = [F, F]$

(ii)  $[F, G] = [G, F]$

(iii)  $[F, G] = -[F, G]$

~~(iv)  $[F, G] = -[G, F]$~~

(f) If the potential energy function is given by  $V(x) = x^2 - x^4$ . The system has the stable equilibrium at

~~(i) At  $x = 0$~~

(ii) At  $x = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$

(iii) At  $x = -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$

(iv) At  $x = \frac{2}{3}$

2. Answer the following questions : **(any five)**  
2×5=10

- (a) Define phase space and write its importance in dynamical system.
- (b) State and define canonical momentum.
- (c) Write *two* advantages of using Hamiltonian dynamics over Lagrangian dynamics.
- (d) A charged particle with charge "q" is under the influence of crossed electric and magnetic field. Write the equation of motion.
- (e) Lagrangian of a moving particle is given by  $L = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\theta}^2) - V(r)$ . Find the generalized momentum corresponding to  $r$  and  $\theta$ .
- (f) Prove that Poisson bracket of two constants of motion is itself a constants of motion.

(g) What do you mean by normal modes of a system?

3. Answer the following questions : **(any six)**  
5×6=30

- (a) Derive the equation of motion of a simple harmonic oscillator using Lagrange's equation.
- (b) For a simple pendulum with mass 'm', deduce the Hamiltonian and hence the equation of motion.
- (c) For a particle moving in one dimension whose Lagrangian is given by  $L = \frac{\dot{x}^2}{2} - V(x)$ . Prove that its Hamiltonian is given by  $H = \frac{1}{2}xp^2 + V(x)$ .
- (d) Show that the transformations  $P = \frac{1}{2}(p^2 + q^2), Q = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$  is canonical.
- (e) What is a rigid body? Obtain Euler's equations of motion for a rigid body.

(f) Using Hamilton's equation of motion, describe the motion of the particle of mass " $m$ ", moving near the surface of the Earth under Earth's uniform gravitational field.

(g) Find the kinetic energy of a rigid body rotating about a fixed point.

(h) Deduce Hamilton's principle from D'Alembert principle.

(i) Show that the fundamental Poisson bracket is invariant under canonical transformation.

4. Answer the following questions: **(any two)**

12×2=24

(a) State and prove Liouville's theorem.

2+10=12

(b) Define and distinguish between stable and unstable equilibrium using a potential energy curve. Two beads of masses  $m$  and  $2m$  are connected to a fixed wall with two springs of spring constants  $k$  and  $2k$  over a massless, frictionless horizontal wire. Construct the Lagrangian. Find the eigenfrequencies of small amplitude oscillations of the system. 2+2+2+6=12

(c) (i) Derive the Lagrange equation of motion for a conservative system.

6

(ii) Show that the generalized momentum corresponding to a cyclic coordinate remains conserved.

6

(d) For any three function  $F(q_k, p_k)$ ,  $G(q_k, p_k)$  and  $K(q_k, p_k)$ , Prove that

$$[F, [G, K]] + [G, [K, F]] + [K, [F, G]] = 0 \quad 12$$