

1 Sliding Car

A car traveling down an incline with a 8% grade (raise/run) locks his brakes and skids 30 m before hitting a parked car. The coefficient of kinetic friction between the tires and the road is $\mu_k = 0.45$. Was the car exceeding the 25 MPH speed limit? Explain.

2 Grandfather Clock

A grandfather clock has a pendulum length of 0.7 m and a bob mass of 0.4 kg. A weight of mass 2 kg falls 0.8 m in seven days to keep the amplitude (from equilibrium) of the pendulum oscillating steady at 0.03 rad. What is the quality factor, Q , of this clock? Assume that all the energy is lost in the oscillating pendulum.

3 Gravitation

A uniform solid sphere of mass M and a radius R is fixed a distance h above a thin infinite sheet of mass density ρ_s (mass/area). h is greater than R . What is the force on the sheet from the sphere?

4 A Particle in a Cone

A particle, with mass m , is constrained to move on the surface of a cone. The cone has its vertex pointing down in the direction of gravity (g). The cone has a half-angle α .

4.1 Lagrangian

Write the Lagrangian, $L(r, \phi, \dot{r}, \dot{\phi})$, in terms of spherical polar coordinates r , and ϕ , where the θ coordinate is fixed at value α on the surface of the cone.

4.2 Equations of Motion

Find the equations of motion for r and ϕ . Interpret the ϕ equation in terms of the angular momentum along the z direction, l_z . Use l_z to eliminate the $\dot{\phi}$ from the r equation of motion.

4.3 Find an Equilibrium r Position

Find the equilibrium r position, r_0 . Determine if this equilibrium r position is stable or not. If this position is stable, find the frequency of oscillation about this equilibrium position.

5 Non-unique Lagrangian

Show that if a Lagrangian $L(q_1, \dots, q_s, \dot{q}_1, \dots, \dot{q}_s, t)$ is related to another Lagrangian $L'(q_1, \dots, q_s, \dot{q}_1, \dots, \dot{q}_s, t)$ by $L' = L + \frac{dF}{dt}$, where $F = F(q_1, \dots, q_s, t)$, then the two Lagrangians will give exactly the same equations of motion.