

Question 1 (20 Marks)

A cone of semi-angle α has its axis vertical and vertex downwards, as in Figure 1 (overleaf). A point mass m slides without friction on the inside of the cone under the influence of gravity which acts along the negative z direction. The Lagrangian for the particle is

$$L(r, \theta, \dot{r}, \dot{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2}m \left(r^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + \frac{\dot{r}^2}{\sin^2 \alpha} \right) - \frac{mgr}{\tan \alpha},$$

where (r, θ) are plane polar coordinates as shown in Figure 1 (overleaf).

- (a) Show that the generalized momenta p_r and p_θ corresponding to the coordinates r and θ , respectively, are given by

$$p_r = \frac{m\dot{r}}{\sin^2 \alpha} \quad \text{and} \quad p_\theta = mr^2\dot{\theta}.$$

- (b) Show that the Hamiltonian for this system is given by

$$H(r, \theta, p_r, p_\theta) = \frac{\sin^2 \alpha}{2m} p_r^2 + \frac{p_\theta^2}{2mr^2} + \frac{mgr}{\tan \alpha}.$$

- (c) Explain why the Hamiltonian H and generalized momentum p_θ are constants of the motion.
- (d) In light of the information in part (c) above, we can express the Hamiltonian in the form

$$H(r, \theta, p_r, p_\theta) = \frac{\sin^2 \alpha}{2m} p_r^2 + V(r),$$

where

$$V(r) = \frac{p_\theta^2}{2mr^2} + \frac{mgr}{\tan \alpha}.$$

In other words, we can now think of the system as a particle moving in a potential given by $V(r)$.

Sketch V as a function of r . Describe qualitatively the different dynamics for the particle you might expect to see.

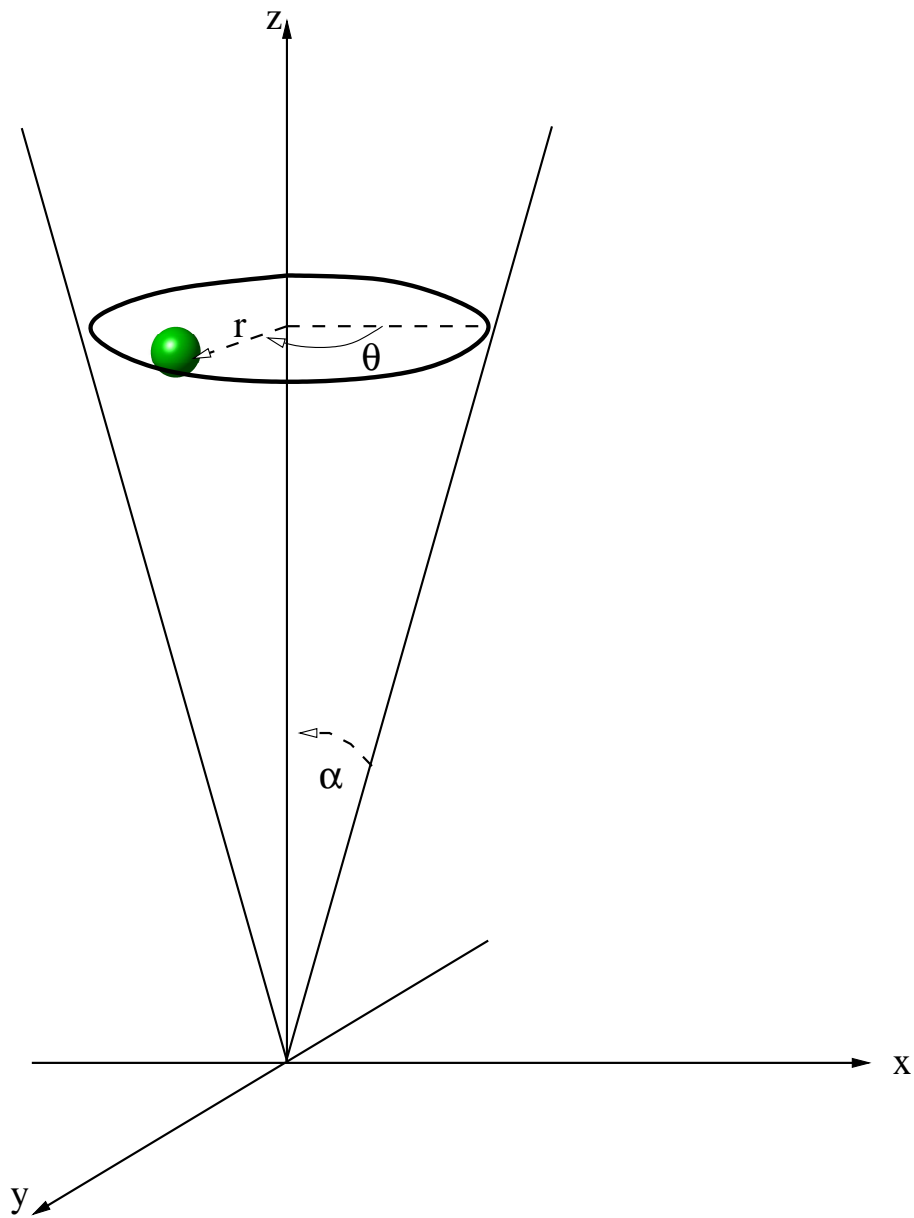


Figure 1: Particle sliding without friction inside a cone of semi-angle α , axis vertical and vertex downwards.

Question 2 (20 Marks)

- (a) For a given velocity flow field $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t)$ prescribed at position \mathbf{x} and time t , the particle trajectories are given by the solutions to the system of ordinary differential equations

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}(t), t).$$

Explain what particle trajectories are. Streamlines are given by the solutions to the system of ordinary differential equations (where t is fixed)

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{ds} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}(s), t).$$

Explain what streamlines are. For the two-dimensional flow in Cartesian coordinates given by

$$\begin{aligned} u &= u_0, \\ v &= v_0 \cos(kx - \alpha t), \end{aligned}$$

where u_0 , v_0 , k and α are constants, find the general equation for a streamline. Show that the streamline passing through $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ at $t = 0$ is

$$y = \frac{v_0}{ku_0} \sin(kx).$$

Find the equation for the path of a particle which is at $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ at $t = 0$.

- (b) Euler's equations of motion for an ideal homogeneous incompressible fluid are

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} &= -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla p + \mathbf{f}, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t)$ is the fluid velocity at position \mathbf{x} and time t , ρ_0 is the uniform constant density, $p = p(\mathbf{x}, t)$ is the pressure, and \mathbf{f} is the body force per unit mass.

Suppose that the flow is stationary so that

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = 0,$$

and that the body force is conservative so that $\mathbf{f} = -\nabla \phi$ for some potential function $\phi = \phi(\mathbf{x})$. Using the identity

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{2} \nabla(|\mathbf{u}|^2) - \mathbf{u} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{u}),$$

show from Euler's equations of motion that the Bernoulli quantity

$$H := \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{u}|^2 + \frac{p}{\rho_0} + \phi$$

is constant along streamlines.

Question 3 (20 Marks)

- (a) Using the Euler equations for an ideal incompressible flow in cylindrical coordinates (see formula sheet) show that at position (r, θ, z) , for a flow which is independent of θ with $u_r = u_z = 0$, we have

$$\frac{u_\theta^2}{r} = \frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial p}{\partial r},$$

$$0 = \frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + g,$$

where $p = p(r, z)$ is the pressure and g is the acceleration due to gravity (assume this to be the body force per unit mass). Verify that any such flow is indeed incompressible.

- (b) In a *simple* model for a hurricane the air is taken to have uniform constant density ρ_0 and each fluid particle traverses a horizontal circle whose centre is on the fixed vertical z -axis. The (angular) speed u_θ at a distance r from the axis is

$$u_\theta = \begin{cases} \Omega r, & \text{for } 0 \leq r \leq a, \\ \Omega \frac{a^{3/2}}{r^{1/2}}, & \text{for } r > a, \end{cases}$$

where Ω and a are known constants.

- (i) Now consider the flow given above in the inner region $0 \leq r \leq a$. Using the equations in part (a) above, show that the pressure in this region is given by

$$p = P_0 + \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 \Omega^2 r^2 - g \rho_0 z,$$

where P_0 is a constant. A free surface of the fluid is one for which the pressure is constant. Show that the shape of a free surface for $0 \leq r \leq a$ is a paraboloid of revolution, i.e. it has the form

$$z = Ar^2 + B,$$

for some constants A and B . Specify the exact form of A and B .

- (ii) Now consider the flow given above in the outer region $r > a$. Again using the equations in part (a) above, and that the pressure must be continuous at $r = a$, show that the pressure in this region is given by

$$p = P_0 - \frac{\rho_0}{r} \Omega^2 a^3 - g \rho_0 z + \frac{3}{2} \rho_0 \Omega^2 a^2,$$

where P_0 is the same constant (reference pressure) as that in part (i) above.

Question 4 (20 Marks)

(a) Find the solution of the heat equation

$$u_t = ku_{xx}$$

where k is a known diffusion parameter, for $0 < x < L$, $t > 0$ subject to the boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(L, t) = 0$$

for $t > 0$ and an initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} T_0, & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}L, \\ 0, & \text{for } \frac{1}{2}L < x \leq L. \end{cases}$$

Explain briefly the physical situation represented by the equation above.

(b) Suppose $u = u(x, t)$ satisfies the heat equation

$$u_t = u_{xx}$$

for $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and $t > 0$, the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = 0$$

for $0 \leq x \leq 1$, and the boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0$$

for $t > 0$. Show, by considering the function

$$E(t) := \int_0^1 u^2(x, t) \, dx,$$

that $u(x, t) \equiv 0$.

Question 5 (20 Marks)

- (a) Solve Laplace's equation, $\nabla^2 u = 0$ for $u = u(x, y)$ on the rectangle $0 \leq x \leq 2$, $0 \leq y \leq 1$ subject to the boundary conditions

$$u(x, 0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(x, 1) = \sin x$$

for $0 \leq x \leq 2$, and

$$u(0, y) = u(2, y) = 0$$

for $0 \leq y \leq 1$.

- (b) The steady state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ of a plate in the shape of the circle, with centre the origin and radius equal to 1, satisfies the differential equation

$$u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}u_{\theta\theta} = 0$$

where r and θ denote plane polar coordinates. If the steady state solution satisfies the boundary condition that

$$u(1, \theta) = \cos^2 \theta,$$

find the solution to the differential equation $u = u(r, \theta)$.

Formulae

Euler's equations for an ideal homogeneous incompressible fluid in cylindrical coordinates (r, θ, z) with the velocity field expressed as $\mathbf{u} = (u_r, u_\theta, u_z)$ are

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial u_r}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)u_r - \frac{u_\theta^2}{r} &= -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} + f_r, \\ \frac{\partial u_\theta}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)u_\theta + \frac{u_r u_\theta}{r} &= -\frac{1}{\rho_0 r} \frac{\partial p}{\partial \theta} + f_\theta, \\ \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)u_z &= -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + f_z,\end{aligned}$$

where $p = p(r, \theta, z, t)$ is the pressure, ρ_0 is the uniform constant density and $\mathbf{f} = (f_r, f_\theta, f_z)$ is the body force per unit mass. Here we also have

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla = u_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{u_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + u_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z}.$$

Further the incompressibility condition $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$ is given in cylindrical coordinates by

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial (ru_r)}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial z} = 0.$$