



School of Engineering
Brown University

EN40: Dynamics and Vibrations

Midterm Examination
Thursday March 9 2017

NAME: _____

General Instructions

- No collaboration of any kind is permitted on this examination.
- You may bring 2 double sided pages of reference notes. No other material may be consulted
- Write all your solutions in the space provided. No sheets should be added to the exam.
- Make diagrams and sketches as clear as possible, and show all your derivations clearly. Incomplete solutions will receive only partial credit, even if the answer is correct.
- If you find you are unable to complete part of a question, proceed to the next part.

Please initial the statement below to show that you have read it

By affixing my name to this paper, I affirm that I have executed the examination in accordance with the Academic Honor Code of Brown University. **PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ABOVE ALSO!**

1 (10 points) _____

2. (12 points) _____

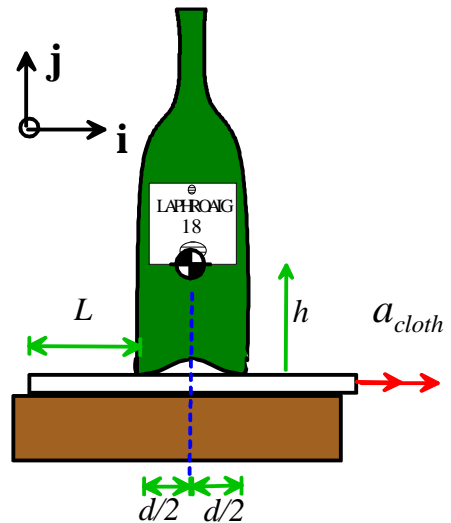
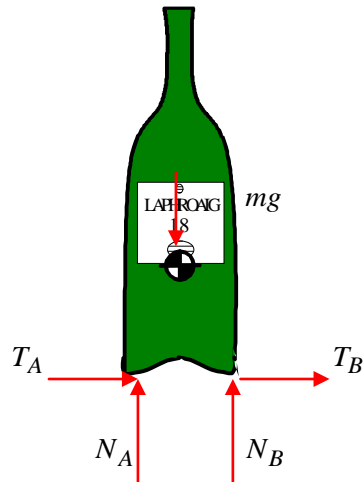
3. (3 points) _____

4. (10 points) _____

TOTAL (35 points) _____

1. A bottle with mass m rests on a table-cloth. The contact between them has friction coefficient μ . At time $t=0$ the object and cloth are both stationary. For time $t>0$, the cloth is pulled with constant acceleration $a_{cloth} = 5\mu g$ the right. Note that since $a_{cloth} > \mu g$, slip must occur at the contact just after $t=0$.

1.1 Draw a free body diagram showing the forces acting on the object on the figure below.



[3 POINTS]

1.2 Find a formula for the horizontal acceleration of the bottle. Assume that the bottle does not tip over.

$$\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a} \text{ gives } (T_A + T_B)\mathbf{i} + (N_A + N_B - mg)\mathbf{j} = ma_x\mathbf{i}$$

$$\text{The friction law (since there is slip) gives } T_A = \mu N_A \quad T_B = \mu N_B$$

$$\text{Hence } N_A + N_B = mg, \quad a_x = \frac{T_A + T_B}{m} = \mu \frac{N_A + N_B}{m} = \mu g$$

[2 POINTS]

1.3 Find a formula for the horizontal distance moved by the bottle as a function of time.

$$\text{The straight line motion formula gives } x = \frac{1}{2}\mu g t^2$$

[1 POINT]

1.4 Find a formula for the distance moved by the cloth as a function of time

The straight line motion formula gives $x_{cloth} = \frac{5}{2} \mu g t^2$

[1 POINTS]

1.5 At time $t=0$ the bottle is a distance L from the edge of the cloth. Calculate the distance that the bottle has moved in the \mathbf{i} direction at the instant that the edge of the cloth reaches the edge of the bottle ($L=0$ at this instant). Express your answer in terms of L and any other parameters you think are relevant.

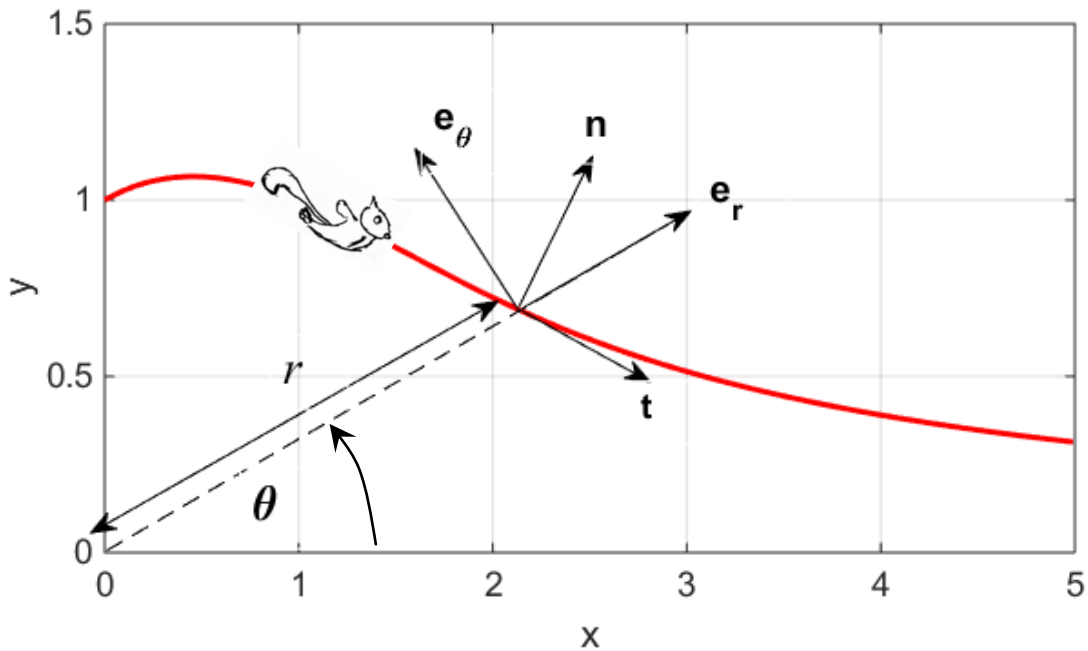
The cloth must move a distance L further than the bottle, so

$$x_{cloth} - x = \frac{4}{2} \mu g t^2 = L \Rightarrow t = \sqrt{\frac{L}{2\mu g}}$$

The bottle therefore moves a distance

$$x = \frac{1}{2} \mu g \frac{L}{2\mu g} = \frac{1}{4} L$$

[3 POINTS]



2. The figure shows the trajectory of a flying squirrel, which is measured (in polar coordinates) to be

$$r = (1+t) \text{ (meters)} \quad \theta = \frac{\pi}{2(1+t)^2} \text{ (radians)}$$

(Note that $\theta = \pi/2$ at time $t=0$, and decreases as t increases).

2.1 Find a formula for the velocity vector (in polar coordinates $\{\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta\}$) terms of time

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{dr}{dt} \mathbf{e}_r + r \frac{d\theta}{dt} \mathbf{e}_\theta = \mathbf{e}_r - \frac{\pi}{(1+t)^2} \mathbf{e}_\theta$$

[1 POINT]

2.2 Find a formula for the acceleration vector in polar coordinates $\{\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta\}$ as a function of time

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a} &= \left\{ \frac{d^2r}{dt^2} - r \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt} \right)^2 \right\} \mathbf{e}_r + \left\{ r \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dr}{dt} \frac{d\theta}{dt} \right\} \mathbf{e}_\theta \\ &= -\frac{\pi^2}{(1+t)^5} \mathbf{e}_r + \left\{ (1+t) \cdot \frac{2.3\pi}{2(1+t)^4} - 2 \cdot \frac{\pi}{(1+t)^3} \right\} \mathbf{e}_\theta \\ &= -\frac{\pi^2}{(1+t)^5} \mathbf{e}_r + \frac{\pi}{(1+t)^3} \mathbf{e}_\theta = \frac{\pi}{(1+t)^5} \left\{ -\pi \mathbf{e}_r + (1+t)^2 \mathbf{e}_\theta \right\} \end{aligned}$$

[2 POINTS]

2.3 Find unit vectors normal and tangent to the path of the squirrel **AT TIME $t=0$** , in the $\{\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta\}$ basis. Choose the sign of \mathbf{n} so that the \mathbf{n} has a positive \mathbf{e}_r component.

The tangent vector is parallel to \mathbf{v} , and the normal vector can be found as $\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{t}$, which gives

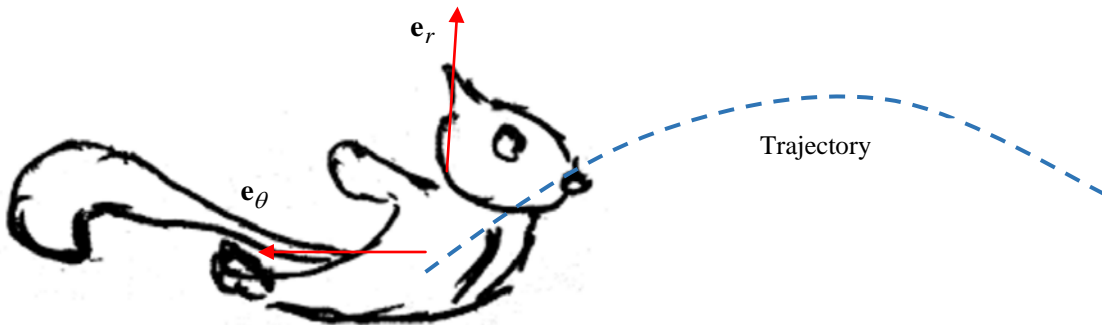
$$\mathbf{t} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\pi^2}}(\mathbf{e}_r - \pi\mathbf{e}_\theta)$$

$$\mathbf{n} = \pm \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{t} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\pi^2}}(\pi\mathbf{e}_r + \mathbf{e}_\theta)$$

Take the positive sign to give a positive \mathbf{e}_r component.

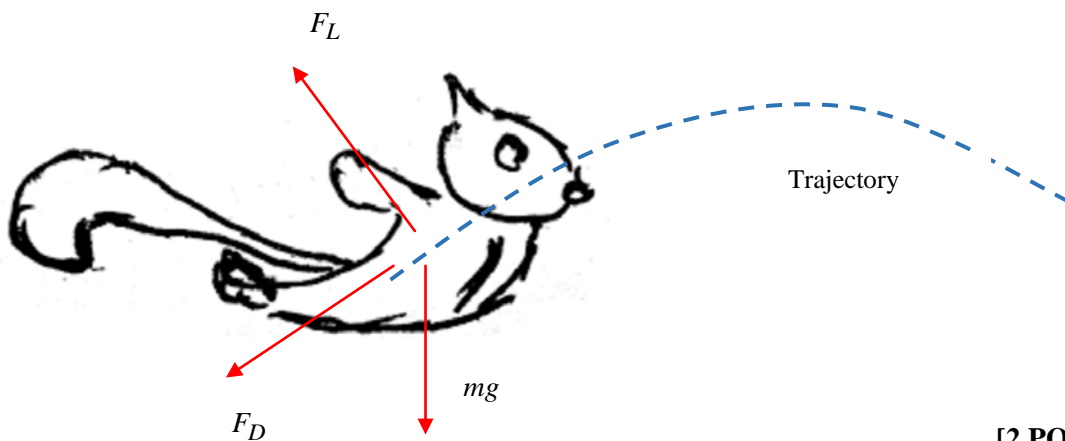
[2 POINTS]

2.4 Draw the unit vectors $\{\mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_\theta\}$ **AT TIME $t=0$** on the figure provided below



[1 POINT]

2.5 Draw a free body diagram showing the forces acting on the squirrel **at time $t=0$** on the figure provided. Include lift and drag forces, and any other forces you think are relevant.



[2 POINTS]

2.6 If the squirrel has mass 100 grams, calculate the magnitude of the lift and drag force acting on the squirrel **at time $t=0$** (you can use the approximation $g \approx 10m/s^2$ and leave your answer in terms of π - there is no need to get a number for the answer)

Newton's law $\mathbf{F}=\mathbf{ma}$ gives

$$-F_D \mathbf{t} + F_L \mathbf{n} - mg \mathbf{j} = m \mathbf{a}$$

(we use the positive sign for \mathbf{n} in . We can solve for F_D, F_L by taking the dot product with \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{n} and recalling $\mathbf{t} \cdot \mathbf{t} = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 1$ $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{t} = 0$

$$F_D = -m \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{t} - mg \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{t}$$

$$F_L = m \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n} + mg \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

Note that at time $t=0$ $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{e}_r$, and we can substitute for the other vectors from previous parts of the problem

$$F_D = -m\pi(-\pi\mathbf{e}_r + \mathbf{e}_\theta) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\pi^2}}(\mathbf{e}_r - \pi\mathbf{e}_\theta) - mg\mathbf{e}_r \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\pi^2}}(\mathbf{e}_r - \pi\mathbf{e}_\theta) = m \frac{2\pi^2 - 10}{\sqrt{1+\pi^2}}$$

$$F_L = m\pi(-\pi\mathbf{e}_r + \mathbf{e}_\theta) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\pi^2}}(\pi\mathbf{e}_r + \mathbf{e}_\theta) + mg\mathbf{e}_r \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\pi^2}}(\pi\mathbf{e}_r + \mathbf{e}_\theta) = m \frac{\pi(11 - \pi^2)}{\sqrt{1+\pi^2}}$$

[4 POINTS]

3. The attractive force between two atoms in a diatomic molecule is related to the distance r between them by

$$F = 8F_0 \left(\left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^5 - \left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^9 \right)$$



where F_0 and a are constants. (**NB:** the spring in the figure is used to indicate the atomic bond – it does not obey the usual force-v-length relation for a linear spring)

Show that the potential energy of the interatomic bond is (to within an arbitrary constant)

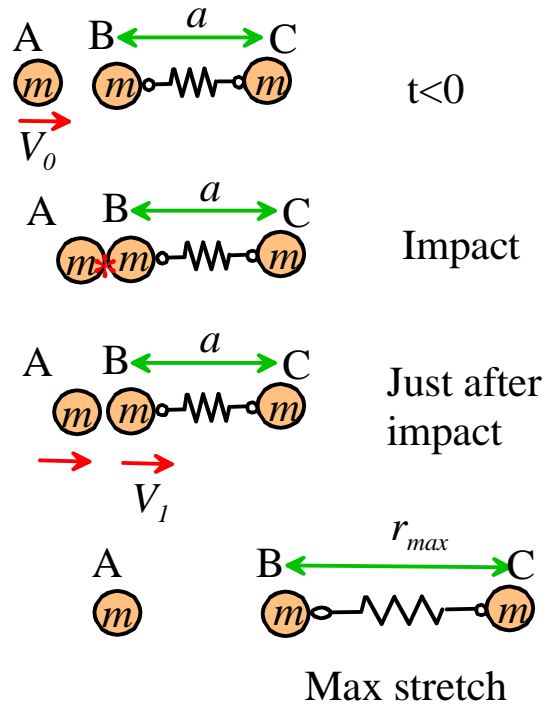
$$V(r) = F_0 a \left(1 - 2 \left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^4 + \left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^8 \right)$$

By definition $V = -\int_a^r \mathbf{F}(r) \cdot d\mathbf{r} + C = -\int_a^r -8F_0 \left(\left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^5 - \left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^9 \right) \mathbf{i} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = F_0 a \left(1 - 2 \left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^4 + \left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^8 \right)$

[3 POINTS]

4. The figure shows a straight-line collision between an ion (A) and a (neutral) diatomic molecule (B-C)

- The ion and each atom are idealized as hard spheres with mass m .
- **The bond between atoms B and C has potential energy given in problem 3**
- For time $t < 0$ atoms the bond between B and C has zero force (i.e. the distance between atoms $r = a$); and the ion A is moving to the right with speed V_0 .
- The ion A collides with atom B at time $t = 0$. The collision has restitution coefficient $e = 1$.



NB: the spring in the figure is used to indicate the atomic bond – it does not obey the usual force-v-length relation for a linear spring. Use the potential energy relation from problem 3, not the potential energy for a spring!

4.1 Calculate the velocity V_1 of atom B just after the collision, in terms of V_0 (note that the bond between B and C exerts no forces during the collision)

This is a straight line perfectly elastic collision. The velocity of A is zero after impact, and the velocity of B is equal to V_0 . Note that C is stationary at this instant (no force acts on C during the impulse because there is no force in the bond).

[2 POINTS]

4.2 What is the total linear momentum of the molecule with atoms (BC) just after the impact, in terms of m and V_0 ?

$$\mathbf{p} = mV_0\mathbf{i}$$

[1 POINT]

4.3 What is the total kinetic energy of the molecule with atoms (BC) just after the impact, in terms of m and V_0 ?

$$T = \frac{1}{2}mV_0^2$$

[1 POINT]

4.4 Using energy and momentum conservation, show that the maximum separation between atoms in molecule BC following the collision is (Hint: at the instant of maximum separation both atoms B and C have the same velocity).

$$r = a \frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{mV_0^2}{F_0 a}}\right)^{1/4}}$$

Note that (1) momentum is conserved; and (3) energy is conserved for the molecule with atoms BC

Let V_2 denote the velocity of C and D at the instant of maximum separation. Momentum and energy conservation give

$$\begin{aligned} mV_0 &= 2mV_2 \\ \frac{1}{2}mV_0^2 &= F_0 a \left(1 - 2\left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^8\right) + mV_2^2 \end{aligned}$$

Eliminating V_2

$$0 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{4} \frac{mV_0^2}{F_0 a} - 2\left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^8\right)$$

This is a quadratic equation for $(a/r)^4$ with solution

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^4 &= 1 \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{4 - 4\left(1 - \frac{1}{4} \frac{mV_0^2}{F_0 a}\right)} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{mV_0^2}{F_0 a}} \\ \Rightarrow r &= a \frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{mV_0^2}{F_0 a}}\right)^{1/4}} \end{aligned}$$

(we took the negative square root in the quadratic because we are looking for solutions with $r > a$)

[4 POINTS]

4.5 Determine the critical value of V_0 that will just break the bond between the atoms (assume that the bond breaks if $r \rightarrow \infty$ after the collision).

The bond breaks when $r \rightarrow \infty$ (so there is no more attractive force between the atoms in the molecule) which gives

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{mV_0^2}{F_0 a}} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{mV_0^2}{F_0 a} = 4 \Rightarrow V_0 = 2 \sqrt{\frac{F_0 a}{m}}$$

[2 POINTS]