

## PHYS 4A – Spring 2024 – Final

2 Hours – Scientific calculator allowed

Lecture Notes, Books, Mobile Phones, Tablets, or Laptops are not allowed.

| Question:     | 1 | 2  | 3  | 4 | 5  | Total |
|---------------|---|----|----|---|----|-------|
| Points:       | 5 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 10 | 40    |
| Bonus Points: | 2 | 2  | 2  | 0 | 2  | 8     |
| Score:        |   |    |    |   |    |       |

1. A rock is dropped vertically from a cliff and falls under the influence of gravity. A second rock is released 1.00 s later. *Ignore air friction.*
- (a) (5 points) How many seconds after the *first* rock is dropped, will the distance between two rocks be equal to 10.0 m?

**Solution:** At the time the distance between the two rocks is equal to 10.0 m we can write using  $\Delta t = 1.00$  s and  $d = 10.0$  m:

$$\frac{1}{2}gt^2 = \frac{1}{2}g(t - \Delta t)^2 + d$$

where the left-hand side is the distance traveled by the first rock and the right-hand side is 10.0 m plus the distance traveled by the second rock which started  $\Delta t$  later. Solving for  $t$  we get:

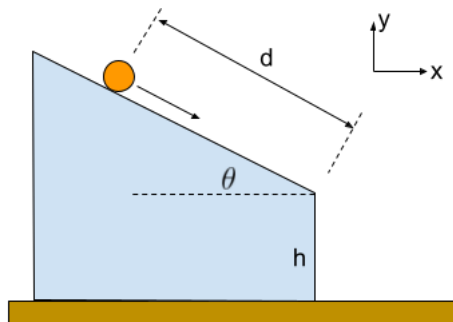
$$0 = -gt\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}g(\Delta t)^2 + d \Rightarrow t = \frac{g(\Delta t)^2/2 + d}{g\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta t}{2} + \frac{d}{g\Delta t} = 1.52 \text{ s}$$

- (b) (2 points (bonus)) Calculate the *relative velocity* of the first rock to the second rock when they are 10.0 m apart.

**Solution:** The first rock will have a velocity of  $v_1 = gt = 14.9$  m/s and the second rock will have a velocity of  $v_2 = g(t - \Delta t) = 5.10$  m/s. Therefore the relative velocity of the first rock compared to the second rock will be:

$$v_{1/2} = v_1 - v_2 = 9.80 \text{ m/s}$$

2. A uniform cylinder of mass  $m = 2.00$  kg and radius  $R$ , initially at rest, rolls down a roof with a rough surface. The inclination is  $\theta = 30.0^\circ$  and the total distance is  $d = 20.0$  m. ( $I_{\text{CM}} = mR^2/2$ ) Hint: You don't need the value of  $R$  for the calculations below.



- (a) (3 points) Calculate the change in potential energy as the cylinder travels the distance  $d$  on the roof.

**Solution:** The potential energy change will be equal to  $\Delta U = mg\Delta y = -196$  J

- (b) (4 points) Calculate the total kinetic energy, the rotational kinetic energy, and the translational kinetic energy of the cylinder as it's leaving the edge of the roof.

**Solution:** As this is a rolling motion we have  $\omega = v_{\text{CM}}/R$ . The total kinetic energy is due to the potential energy change where energy is conserved  $E_i = E_f$ :

$$E_i = mgd \sin \theta \quad \text{and} \quad E_f = \frac{1}{2}mv_{\text{CM}}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\frac{mR^2}{2}\left(\frac{v_{\text{CM}}}{R}\right)^2$$

with the first term in  $E_f$  being the translational kinetic energy and the second term being the rotational kinetic energy. This gives us after simplification:

$$mgd \sin \theta = \frac{3}{4}mv_{\text{CM}}^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad v_{\text{CM}} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{3}gd \sin \theta} = 11.437 \text{ m/s.}$$

Hence  $K_{\text{rot.}} = 65.0$  J and  $K_{\text{trans.}} = 131$  J. From this,  $K_{\text{tot}} = 196$  J.

- (c) (3 points) What is the velocity vector  $\vec{v}_{\text{CM}}$  of the center of mass of the cylinder as it's leaving the edge of the roof in the coordinate frame shown on the graph?

**Solution:** The velocity will be given by:

$$\vec{v}_{\text{CM}} = \begin{pmatrix} v_{\text{CM}} \cos \theta \\ -v_{\text{CM}} \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 9.90 \text{ m/s} \\ -5.72 \text{ m/s} \end{pmatrix}$$

- (d) (2 points (bonus)) If the edge of the roof is  $h = 8.00 \text{ m}$  above the ground, how far from the building will the cylinder fall?

**Solution:** We first calculate the velocity of the cylinder on impact. Using  $v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2a(x_f - x_i)$  for the  $y$ -component of the velocity calculated above:

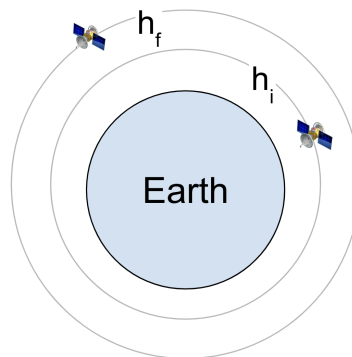
$$v_{yf}^2 = (-5.72 \text{ m/s})^2 - 2 \times 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 \times (-8.00 \text{ m}) \Rightarrow v_{yf} = -13.77 \text{ m/s}$$

we can then calculate the time it takes for the impact:

$$v_f = v_i + at \Rightarrow -13.8 \text{ m/s} = -5.72 \text{ m/s} - 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 \times t \Rightarrow t = 0.821 \text{ s}$$

Therefore the distance is  $v_x \times t = 8.13 \text{ m}$

3. A satellite of mass  $m = 800$  kg is orbiting the earth at an altitude of  $h_i = 600$  km in a circular orbit. We want to move this satellite to a circular orbit at an altitude of  $h_f = 4300$  km. This is a two-stage process with a first burn to reach the transfer orbit and a second burn to reach the final orbit.



*Remember:*  $R_E = 6380$  km

- (a) (4 points) What is the total amount of energy injected to do this?

**Solution:** The total energy injection is the difference in energies between the two circular orbits:

$$E_1 = -\frac{GM_E m_s}{2(R_E + h_1)} \quad \text{and} \quad E_2 = -\frac{GM_E m_s}{2(R_E + h_2)}$$

with

$$\Delta E = E_2 - E_1 = -\frac{GM_E m_s}{2R_E} \left( \frac{R_E}{R_E + h_2} - \frac{R_E}{R_E + h_1} \right)$$

This simplifies further to:

$$\Delta E = -\frac{m_s g R_E}{2} \left( \frac{6380}{10680} - \frac{6380}{6980} \right) = 7.93 \times 10^9 \text{ J}$$

- (b) (3 points) This manoeuver would require two steps with an elliptical transfer orbit inbetween. What is the length of the semi-major axis of this transfer orbit expressed in kilometers?

**Solution:** Using  $2a = r_{\min} + r_{\max}$  we have:

$$2a = 6980 \text{ km} + 10680 \text{ km} \quad \Rightarrow \quad a = 8.83 \times 10^3 \text{ km}$$

- (c) (3 points) What is the orbital period of the satellite in the final position? Give your answer in minutes.

**Solution:** Using the formula:

$$T^2 = \left( \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} \right) a^3$$

we get

$$T = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi^2(R_E + h_2)^3}{GM_E}} = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{(R_E + h_2)^3}{gR_E^2}} = 1.0974 \times 10^4 \text{ s} = 183 \text{ min}$$

- (d) (2 points (bonus)) How long does the satellite stay on the transfer orbit before the second rocket burn? Give your answer in minutes.

**Solution:** Using the value of the semimajor axis calculated above, for the transfer orbit:

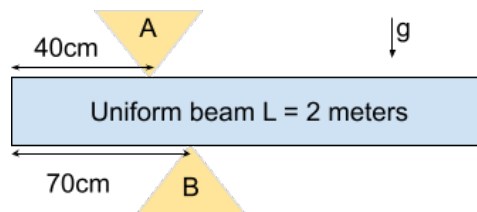
$$T^2 = \left( \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} \right) a^3 \Rightarrow T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{(R_E + h_2)^3}{gR_E^2}}$$

Plugging in  $a = 8.83 \times 10^3$  km we obtain:

$$T = 138 \text{ min}$$

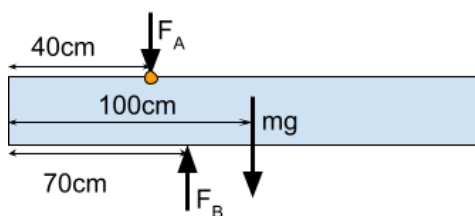
and as the satellite has to complete half the transfer orbit to get from perigee to apogee, the time required is 69 mins.

4. A *uniform* beam of mass  $m = 100$  kg and length  $L = 2.00$  m is being supported at two points  $x_A = 40.0$  cm and  $x_B = 70.0$  cm measured from one end of the beam.



- (a) (2 points) Draw a free-body diagram of the beam and indicate and label all the forces.

**Solution:** Note here that for further calculations we chose the reference point indicated in the image below.



- (b) (3 points) Calculate the forces  $F_A$ , and  $F_B$  that the supports **A** and **B** exert on the beam.

**Solution:** Calculating the torques around **A**, we get:

$$\sum \vec{\tau} = 0 = F_B \times 30.0 \text{ cm} - mg \times 60.0 \text{ cm}$$

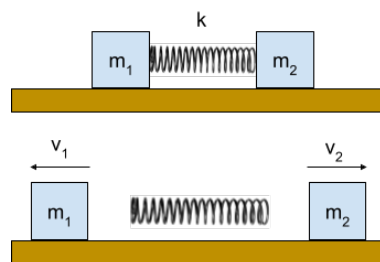
which gives us:

$$F_B = \frac{60.0}{30.0} \times mg = 1.96 \text{ kN}$$

and using the equation  $\Sigma \vec{F} = 0$ :

$$F_A + mg - F_B = 0 \Rightarrow F_A = 981 \text{ N}$$

5. Two objects of masses  $m_1 = 2.00$  kg and  $m_2 = 1.00$  kg are connected with a massless spring of  $k = 4000$  kg/s<sup>2</sup> and are resting on a *frictionless* surface. Initially, the spring is compressed by 10.0 cm and gets released.



- (a) (3 points) What is the total energy of the system before the spring is released?

**Solution:** The total energy of the system is just the compression energy in the spring:

$$E_i = U_{\text{spring}} = \frac{1}{2}kx^2 = 20.0 \text{ J}$$

- (b) (2 points) What is the total momentum of the system before and after the spring is released?

**Solution:** The momentum before and after is zero.

- (c) (5 points) What are the velocities of each block with respect to the table after the spring is released?

**Solution:** After the spring is released the energy of the spring will be given to the blocks as kinetic energy:

$$E_f = \frac{1}{2}m_1v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2v_2^2$$

we also have the momentum conservation:

$$m_1v_1 + m_2v_2 = 0$$

Which gives us  $v_2 = -v_1(m_1/m_2)$  When we plug this into the equation for energy:

$$E_f = \frac{1}{2}m_1v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2v_1^2(m_1/m_2)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_1m_2 + m_1^2}{m_2} v_1^2$$

Which gives us:  $v_1 = -2.58$  m/s and  $v_2 = 5.16$  m/s.



- (d) (2 points (bonus)) What is the velocity of the spring after the objects  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  have lost contact with the spring? *Hint: Consider the velocity of each end of the spring just before it loses contact with the objects.*

**Solution:** Just before the objects leave the spring, one end of the spring is travelling at  $v_1$  and the other end is traveling at  $v_2$  because it's expanding. This means the center point of the spring is moving at  $(v_1 + v_2)/2$ . Hence in this case it would be moving at  $v_{\text{spring}} = 1.29 \text{ m/s}$