

- (a) Determine Lagrange's equations of motion.
 (b) What are the generalized momenta associated with any cyclic coordinates?
 (c) Determine Hamilton's equations of motion.
- 7-28. A particle of mass m is attracted to a force center with the force of magnitude k/r^2 . Use plane polar coordinates and find Hamilton's equations of motion.
- 7-29. Consider the pendulum described in Problem 7-15. The pendulum's point of support rises vertically with constant acceleration a .
 (a) Use the Lagrangian method to find the equations of motion.
 (b) Determine the Hamiltonian and Hamilton's equations of motion.
 (c) What is the period of small oscillations?
- 7-30. Consider any two continuous functions of the generalized coordinates and momenta $g(q_k, p_k)$ and $h(q_k, p_k)$. The **Poisson brackets** are defined by

$$[g, h] \equiv \sum_k \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial q_k} \frac{\partial h}{\partial p_k} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial p_k} \frac{\partial h}{\partial q_k} \right)$$

Verify the following properties of the Poisson brackets:

- (a) $\frac{dg}{dt} = [g, H] + \frac{\partial g}{\partial t}$ (b) $\dot{q}_j = [q_j, H]$, $\dot{p}_j = [p_j, H]$
 (c) $[p_i, p_j] = 0$, $[q_i, q_j] = 0$ (d) $[q_i, p_j] = \delta_{ij}$

where H is the Hamiltonian. If the Poisson bracket of two quantities vanishes, the quantities are said to *commute*. If the Poisson bracket of two quantities equals unity, the quantities are said to be *canonically conjugate*. (e) Show that any quantity that does not depend explicitly on the time and that commutes with the Hamiltonian is a constant of the motion of the system. Poisson-bracket formalism is of considerable importance in quantum mechanics.

- 7-31. A spherical pendulum consists of a bob of mass m attached to a weightless, extensionless rod of length l . The end of the rod opposite the bob pivots freely (in all directions) about some fixed point. Set up the Hamiltonian function in spherical coordinates. (If $p_\phi = 0$, the result is the same as that for the plane pendulum.) Combine the term that depends on p_ϕ with the ordinary potential energy term to define as *effective potential* $V(\theta, p_\phi)$. Sketch V as a function of θ for several values of p_ϕ , including $p_\phi = 0$. Discuss the features of the motion, pointing out the differences between $p_\phi = 0$ and $p_\phi \neq 0$. Discuss the limiting case of the conical pendulum ($\theta = \text{constant}$) with reference to the V - θ diagram.
- 7-32. A particle moves in a spherically symmetric force field with potential energy given by $U(r) = -k/r$. Calculate the Hamiltonian function in spherical coordinates, and obtain the canonical equations of motion. Sketch the path that a representative point for the system would follow on a surface of constant energy, and obtain it by showing that the