

1. A particle mass  $m$  is projected vertically upward in a constant gravitational field with an initial speed  $v_0$ . If there is a frictional force proportional to the square of the instantaneous speed,  $f = -\gamma v^2$ ,

- (a) Write down the equation of motion for this particle. (5%)
- (b) Find the terminal speed  $v_t$ . (7%)
- (c) Show that the speed of the particle when it returns to the initial position is  $v_0 v_t / \sqrt{v_0^2 + v_t^2}$ , where  $v_t$  is the terminal speed. (13%)

2. An electrical circuit consists of a resistor  $R$  and a capacitor  $C$  connected in series to a source of alternating emf,  $\varepsilon(t) = A \cos(\omega t)$ .

- (a) Write an equation for the instantaneous charge  $Q(t)$ . (6%)
- (b) Make a comparison with the driving damped oscillation. (6%)
- (c) Find the particular solution for the current as a function of time  $I(t)$ . (13%)

3. (a) Write down the expression of kinetic energy in spherical coordinator for a particle of mass  $m$  moving in a plane described by parameters  $(r, \theta)$ . (5%)

(b) Using the laws of energy conservation and angular momentum conservation, show that for a particle moving under a central potential  $U(r)$  the radial speed

equal to  $\frac{dr}{dt} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}(E - U) - \frac{L^2}{m^2 r^2}}$ , where the  $E$  is the total energy and  $L$  the angular momentum. (8%)

(c) Give  $U(r) = -k/r$ . At a specific time, the particle is found at a distance  $R$  from the center and moving with speed  $v_0$  along a direction that makes an angle  $30^\circ$  with the radial vector. Find the maximum and minimum radial distances for this motion. (12%)

4. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in one dimension under the influence of a time-

dependent force  $f(x, t) = \frac{k}{x^2} \exp(-\frac{t}{\tau})$ , where  $k$  and  $\tau$  are positive constants.

- (a) Find the Lagrangian function of this system. (8%)
- (b) Compute the Hamiltonian function of this system. (8%)
- (c) Discuss the conservation of energy for this system. (9%)