

ME 104 Spring Semester 2024: Midterm Exam 1 (6 March 2024)

Choosing cylindrical coordinates in an inertial frame of reference, we may write the position vector \mathbf{r} of a particle A of mass m as

$$\mathbf{r} = \chi(A, t) = R\mathbf{e}_R + z\mathbf{k},$$

where

$$\mathbf{e}_R = \cos \theta \mathbf{i} + \sin \theta \mathbf{j}, \quad \mathbf{e}_\theta = -\sin \theta \mathbf{i} + \cos \theta \mathbf{j}.$$

Suppose that A moves along a path \mathcal{C} whose curvature κ is everywhere positive. Let s be the arclength of \mathcal{C} . The unit tangent vector \mathbf{e}_t and the principal unit normal vector \mathbf{e}_n are defined by

$$\mathbf{e}_t = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{ds}, \quad \mathbf{e}_n = \frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{d\mathbf{e}_t}{ds},$$

and the unit binormal vector is

$$\mathbf{e}_b = \mathbf{e}_t \times \mathbf{e}_n.$$

Problem 1 (15 points)

(a) Calculate the time derivatives $\dot{\mathbf{e}}_R$ and $\dot{\mathbf{e}}_\theta$ and obtain the expression for the velocity vector of A in the cylindrical coordinate system.

(b) Hence, deduce that the acceleration of A is given by

$$\mathbf{a} = (\ddot{R} - R\dot{\theta}^2)\mathbf{e}_R + (R\ddot{\theta} + 2\dot{R}\dot{\theta})\mathbf{e}_\theta + \ddot{z}\mathbf{k}.$$

(c) Also, show that the acceleration of A is expressed on the Frenet-Serret basis by

$$\mathbf{a} = \ddot{s}\mathbf{e}_t + \kappa\dot{s}^2\mathbf{e}_n.$$

(d) Deduce that

$$\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{a} = \kappa\dot{s}^3\mathbf{e}_b.$$

Problem 2 (35 points)

Consider a rigid tube ML that is attached to rigid horizontal bars KL and NM which are driven about the vertical z -axis by a motor at K (see Fig. 1). Suppose that a slider of mass m kg is connected to the tube at L by a linear massless spring of stiffness k N/m. The uncompressed length of the spring is

$$l_0 = h + \delta \text{ m.}$$

Neglect friction.

(a) Suppose that for $t \leq 0$ the slider is in equilibrium at $z = 0$ and $\theta = 0$. Draw the free-body diagram of the equilibrated slider and calculate the static compression δ .

(b) For $t \geq 0$, let θ be prescribed in radians for some interval of time by

$$\theta = 2t^2.$$

Write the expressions for the velocity and acceleration vectors of the slider in cylindrical coordinates.

(c) For a general position \mathbf{r} of the slider at $t \geq 0$, when the length of the spring is

$$l(t) = z + h,$$

determine the force exerted on the slider by the spring.

(d) Draw the free-body diagram of the slider in motion. Label the forces in vector form.

(e) Apply Euler's first law as a vector equation.

(f) Solve for the radial and transverse components of force as functions of time.

(g) Show that the $z(t)$ satisfies the differential equation for simple harmonic motions.

(h) If $\dot{z}(0) = c > 0$ m/s, calculate the unit tangent vector \mathbf{e}_t at time $t = 0$.

(i) Evaluate \ddot{z} at time $t = 0$.

(j) Calculate the curvature and the unit binormal vector \mathbf{e}_b at time $t = 0$.

(k) Find the principal unit normal vector \mathbf{e}_n at time $t = 0$.

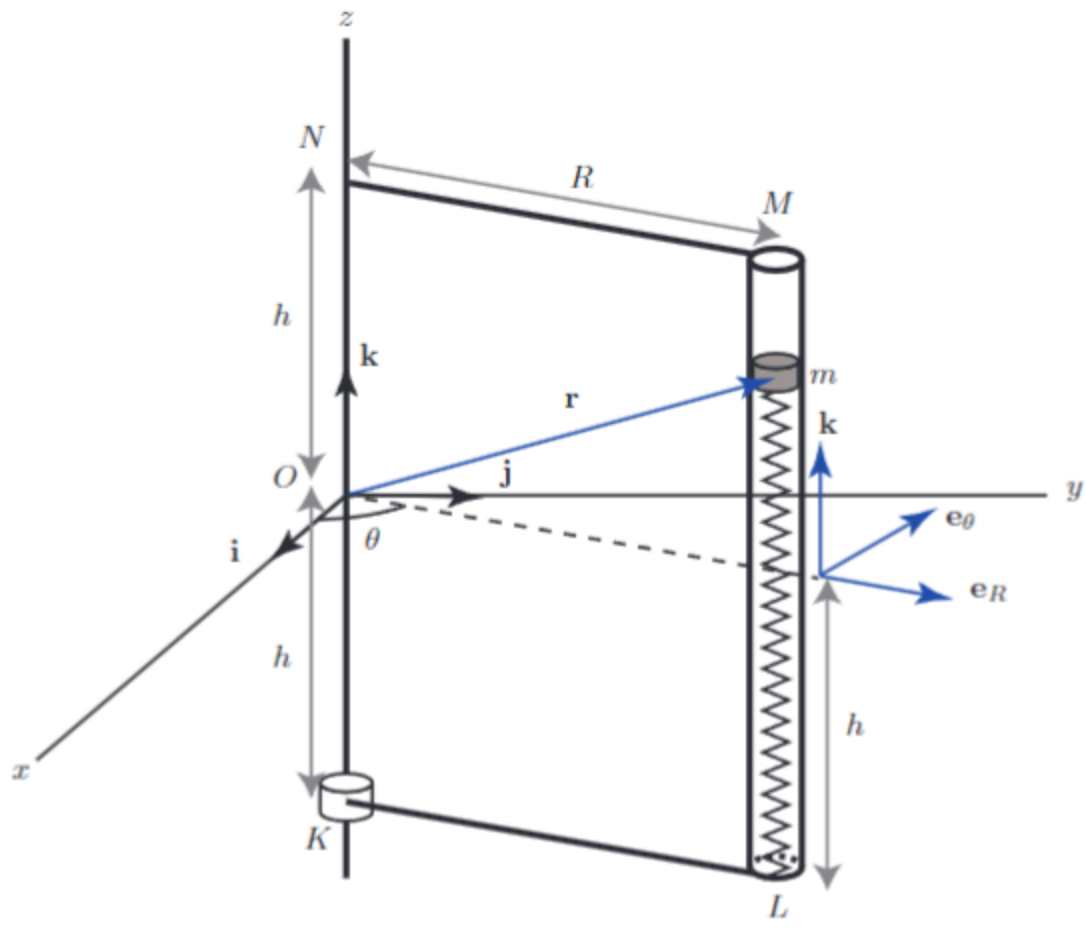


Fig. 1