

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	v
CONTENTS	ix
SYNOPTIC TABLES OF THE PROBLEMS	1
CHAPTER 1. THE LAGRANGIAN FORMULATION	9
Summary	9
1.1. Generalized coordinates	9
1.2. Lagrange's equations	10
1.3. Generalized forces	12
1.4. Lagrange multipliers	13
Problem statements	14
1.1. The wheel jack	14
1.2. The sling	15
1.3. Rope slipping on a table	16
1.4. Reaction force for a bead on a hoop	16
1.5. Huygens pendulum	17
1.6. Cylinder rolling on a moving tray	18
1.7. Motion of a badly balanced cylinder	18
1.8. Free axle on a inclined plane	19
1.9. The turn indicator	21
1.10. An experiment to measure the rotational velocity of the Earth	22
1.11. Generalized inertial forces	23

Problem solutions	14
1.1. The wheel jack	24
1.2. The sling	26
1.3. Rope slipping on a table	27
1.4. Reaction force for a bead on a hoop	28
1.5. Huygens pendulum	31
1.6. Cylinder rolling on a moving tray	33
1.7. Motion of a badly balanced cylinder	35
1.8. Free axle on a inclined plane	39
1.9. The turn indicator	43
1.10. An experiment to measure the rotational velocity of the Earth	46
1.11. Generalized inertial forces	48
 CHAPTER 2. LAGRANGIAN SYSTEMS	 51
Summary	51
2.1. Generalized potential	51
2.2. Lagrangian system	52
2.3. Constants of the motion	53
2.4. Two-body system with central force	55
2.5. Small oscillations	56
 Problem statements	 14
2.1. Disc on a movable inclined plane	57
2.2. Painlevé's integral	58
2.3. Application of Noether's theorem	58
2.4. Foucault's pendulum	59
2.5. Three-particle system	61
2.6. Vibration of a linear triatomic molecule: the "soft" mode	63
2.7. Elastic transversal waves in a solid (F waves)	64
2.8. Lagrangian in a rotating frame	65
2.9. Particle drift in a constant electromagnetic field	66

2.10. The Penning trap	67
2.11. Equinox precession	68
2.12. Flexion vibration of a blade	71
2.13. Solitary waves	73
2.14. Vibrational modes of an atomic	75
Problem solutions	76
2.1. Disc on a movable inclined plane	76
2.2. Painlevé's integral	77
2.3. Application of Noether's theorem	78
2.4. Foucault's pendulum	79
2.5. Three-particle system	82
2.6. Vibration of a linear triatomic molecule: the "soft" mode	86
2.7. Elastic transversal waves in a solid (F waves)	88
2.8. Lagrangian in a rotating frame	89
2.9. Particle drift in a constant electromagnetic field	91
2.10. The Penning trap	94
2.11. Equinox precession	97
2.12. Flexion vibration of a blade	102
2.13. Solitary waves	105
2.14. Vibrational modes of an atomic	107
CHAPTER 3. HAMILTON'S PRINCIPLE	111
Summary	111
3.1. Statement of the principle	111
3.2. Action functional	112
3.3. Action and field theory	112
3.4. Some well known actions	113
3.5. The calculus of variations	114
Problem statements	14
3.1. The Lorentz force	116

3.2. Relativistic particle in a central force field	117
3.3. Principle of least action?	118
3.4. Minimum or maximum action?	119
3.5. Is there only one solution which makes the action stationary?	120
3.6. The principle of Maupertuis	121
3.7. Fermat's principle	122
3.8. The skier strategy	122
3.9. Free motion on an ellipsoid	123
3.10. Minimum area for a fixed volume	124
3.11. The form of soap films	125
3.12. Laplace's law for surface tension	127
3.13. Chain of pendulums	128
3.14. Wave equation for a flexible blade	128
3.15. Precession of Mercury's orbit	128
Problem solutions	131
3.1. The Lorentz force	131
3.2. Relativistic particle in a central force field	132
3.3. Principle of least action?	135
3.4. Minimum or maximum action?	137
3.5. Is there only one solution which makes the action stationary?	138
3.6. The principle of Maupertuis	141
3.7. Fermat's principle	144
3.8. The skier strategy	146
3.9. Free motion on an ellipsoid	150
3.10. Minimum area for a fixed volume	152
3.11. The form of soap films	154
3.12. Laplace's law for surface tension	158
3.13. Chain of pendulums	160

3.14. Wave equation for a flexible blade	161
3.15. Precession of Mercury's orbit	162
CHAPTER 4. HAMILTONIAN FORMALISM	165
Summary	165
4.1. Generalized momentum	165
4.2. Hamilton's function	166
4.3. Hamilton's equations	167
4.4. Liouville's theorem	167
4.5. Autonomous one-dimensional systems	168
4.6. Periodic one-dimensional Hamiltonian systems	169
Problem statements	171
4.1. Electric charges trapped in conductors	171
4.2. Symmetry of the trajectory	171
4.3. Hamiltonian in a rotating frame	172
4.4. Identical Hamiltonian flows	173
4.5. The Runge-Lenz vector	173
4.6. Quicker and more ecologic than a plane	174
4.7. Hamiltonian of a charged particle	176
4.8. The first integral invariant	177
4.9. What about non-autonomous systems?	178
4.10. The reverse pendulum	178
4.11. The Paul trap	180
4.12. Optical Hamilton's equations	181
4.13. Application to billiard balls	183
4.14. Parabolic double well	184
4.15. Stability of circular trajectories in a central potential	185
4.16. The bead on the hoop	186
4.17. Trajectories in a central force field	188

Problem solutions	188
4.1. Electric charges trapped in conductors	188
4.2. Symmetry of the trajectory	190
4.3. Hamiltonian in a rotating frame	192
4.4. Identical Hamiltonian flows	194
4.5. The Runge-Lenz vector	195
4.6. Quicker and more ecologic than a plane	198
4.7. Hamiltonian of a charged particle	200
4.8. The first integral invariant	204
4.9. What about non-autonomous systems?	206
4.10. The reverse pendulum	207
4.11. The Paul trap	211
4.12. Optical Hamilton's equations	214
4.13. Application to billiard balls	216
4.14. Parabolic double well	219
4.15. Stability of circular trajectories in a central potential	222
4.16. The bead on the hoop	224
4.17. Trajectories in a central force field	228
 CHAPTER 5. HAMILTON-JACOBI FORMALISM	 233
Summary	233
5.1. The action function	233
5.2. Reduced action	234
5.3. Maupertuis' principle	235
5.4. Jacobi's theorem	236
5.5. Separation of variables	236
5.6. Huygens' construction	238
Problem statements	239
5.1. How to manipulate the action and the reduced action	239
5.2. Action for a one-dimensional harmonic oscillator	241

5.3. Motion on a surface and geodesic	241
5.4. Wave surface for free fall	242
5.5. Peculiar wave fronts	243
5.6. Electrostatic lens	243
5.7. Maupertuis' principle with an electromagnetic field	245
5.8. Separable Hamiltonian, separable action	246
5.9. Stark effect	247
5.10. Orbits of Earth's satellites	248
5.11. Phase and group velocities	251
Problem solutions	252
5.1. How to manipulate the action and the reduced action	252
5.2. Action for a one-dimensional harmonic oscillator	258
5.3. Motion on a surface and geodesic	260
5.4. Wave surface for free fall	261
5.5. Peculiar wave fronts	264
5.6. Electrostatic lens	265
5.7. Maupertuis' principle with an electromagnetic field	268
5.8. Separable Hamiltonian, separable action	270
5.9. Stark effect	271
5.10. Orbits of Earth's satellites	275
5.11. Phase and group velocities	279
CHAPTER 6. INTEGRABLE SYSTEMS	281
Summary	281
6.1. Basic notions	281
6.1.1. Some definitions	281
6.1.2. Good coordinates: The angle-action variables	283
6.2. Complements	286
6.2.1. Building the angle variables	286

6.2.2. Flow/Poisson bracket/Involution	287
6.2.3. Criterion to obtain a canonical transformation	288
Problem statements	289
6.1. Expression of the period for a one-dimensional motion	289
6.2. One-dimensional particle in a box	290
6.3. Ball bouncing on the ground	290
6.4. Particle in a constant magnetic field	291
6.5. Actions for the Kepler problem	292
6.6. The Sommerfeld atom	293
6.7. Energy as a function of actions	294
6.8. Invariance of the circulation under a continuous deformation	296
6.9. Ball bouncing on a moving tray	297
6.10. Harmonic oscillator with a variable frequency	298
6.11. Choice of the momentum	298
6.12. Invariance of the Poisson bracket under a canonical transformation	299
6.13. Canonicity for a contact transformation	299
6.14. One-dimensional free fall	300
6.15. One-dimensional free fall again	301
6.16. Scale dilation as a function of time	301
6.17. From the harmonic oscillator to Coulomb's problem	302
6.18. Generators for fundamental transformations	303
Problem solutions	305
6.1. Expression of the period for a one-dimensional motion	305
6.2. One-dimensional particle in a box	306
6.3. Ball bouncing on the ground	308
6.4. Particle in a constant magnetic field	310
6.5. Actions for the Kepler problem	314
6.6. The Sommerfeld atom	316
6.7. Energy as a function of actions	318

6.8. Invariance of the circulation under a continuous deformation	322
6.9. Ball bouncing on a moving tray	324
6.10. Harmonic oscillator with a variable frequency	324
6.11. Choice of the momentum	325
6.12. Invariance of the Poisson bracket under a canonical transformation	326
6.13. Canonicity for a contact transformation	327
6.14. One-dimensional free fall	329
6.15. One-dimensional free fall again	330
6.16. Scale dilation as a function of time	332
6.17. From the harmonic oscillator to Coulomb's problem	333
6.18. Generators for fundamental transformations	336
CHAPTER 7. QUASI-INTEGRABLE SYSTEMS	341
Summary	341
7.1. Introduction	341
7.2. Perturbation theory	342
7.3. Canonical perturbation theory	342
7.4. Adiabatic invariants	345
Problem statements	347
7.1. Limits of the perturbative expansion	347
7.2. Non-canonical versus canonical perturbative expansion	347
7.3. First canonical correction for the pendulum	348
7.4. Beyond the first order correction	349
7.5. Adiabatic invariant in an elevator	350
7.6. Adiabatic invariant and adiabatic relaxation	351
7.7. Charge in a slowly varying magnetic field	352
7.8. Illuminations concerning the aurora borealis	354
7.9. Bead on a rigid stem: Hannay's phase	356

Problem solutions	358
7.1. Limits of the perturbative expansion	358
7.2. Non-canonical versus canonical perturbative expansion	361
7.3. First canonical correction for the pendulum	363
7.4. Beyond the first order correction	367
7.5. Adiabatic invariant in an elevator	370
7.6. Adiabatic invariant and adiabatic relaxation	372
7.7. Charge in a slowly varying magnetic field	375
7.8. Illuminations concerning the aurora borealis	379
7.9. Bead on a rigid stem: Hannay's phase	382
CHAPTER 8. FROM ORDER TO CHAOS FORMULATION	385
Summary	385
8.1. Introduction	385
8.2. The model of the kicked rotor	386
8.3. Poincaré's sections	388
8.4. The rotor for a null perturbation	388
8.5. Poincaré's sections for the kicked rotor	390
8.6. How to recognize fixed points	393
8.7. Separatrices/Homocline points/chaos	394
8.8. Complements	395
Problem statements	396
8.1. Disappearance of resonant tori	396
8.2. Continuous fractions or how to play with irrational numbers	396
8.3. Properties of the phase space of the standard mapping	398
8.4. Bifurcation of the periodic trajectory 1:1 for the standard mapping	398
8.5. Chaos–ergodicity : a slight difference	399
8.6. Acceleration modes: a curiosity of the standard mapping	401
8.7. Demonstration of a kicked rotor?	401
8.8. Anosov's mapping (or Arnold's cat)	403

8.9. Fermi's accelerator	405
8.10. Damped pendulum and standard mapping	407
8.11. Stability of periodic orbits on a billiard table	409
8.12. Lagrangian points: Jupiter's Greeks and Trojans	412
Problem solutions	415
8.1. Disappearance of resonant tori	415
8.2. Continuous fractions or how to play with irrational numbers	417
8.3. Properties of the phase space of the standard mapping	418
8.4. Bifurcation of the periodic trajectory 1:1 for the standard mapping	419
8.5. Chaos-ergodicity : a slight difference	423
8.6. Acceleration modes: a curiosity of the standard mapping ...	425
8.7. Demonstration of a kicked rotor?	427
8.8. Anosov's mapping (or Arnold's cat)	432
8.9. Fermi's accelerator	438
8.10. Damped pendulum and standard mapping	443
8.11. Stability of periodic orbits on a billiard table	447
8.12. Lagrangian points: Jupiter's Greeks and Trojans	450
BIBLIOGRAPHY	457
INDEX	461