

**Physics I**  
**ISI B.Math**  
**Backpaper Exam : December 28, 2011**

Total Marks: 100  
Answer all questions

1. A particle of mass  $m$  and charge  $e$  moves in a uniform magnetic field  $\mathbf{B} = B_0 \mathbf{k}$ . It is acted upon by a force  $\mathbf{F} = e(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$ . If the particle is projected from the origin with a velocity  $\mathbf{v}_0$  at  $t = 0$ , find its trajectory. (20)
2. Consider a block of mass  $m$  sliding on a smooth wedge of mass  $M$  and an angle  $\alpha$  which itself slides on a smooth horizontal floor as shown in Fig 2.
  - (i) Write down the Lagrangian for this system in terms of the coordinates  $x$ ,  $y$  and their time derivatives and from it find the Euler-Lagrange equations for the wedge-mass system (5)
  - (ii) Find the acceleration of the wedge (5)
  - (iii) Find the acceleration of the block relative to the wedge. (5)
  - (iv) Identify the cyclic coordinate and find the corresponding conserved momentum. (5)
3. (a) A billiard ball with speed  $v$  approaches an identical stationary one. The balls bounce off elastically, in such a way that the incoming one gets deflected by an angle  $\theta$  and the stationary one gets deflected by an angle  $\phi$ . Show that  $\phi + \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$  (5)  
(b) In an elastic collision between an electron with kinetic energy  $E$  and an electron at rest, the incoming electron is observed to be deflected through an angle of  $30^\circ$ . What are the energies of the two electrons after the collision? (5)  
(c) A mass  $M$ , initially moving at speed  $V$ , collides and sticks to a mass  $m$ , initially at rest. Assume  $M \gg m$ , and work in this approximation. What are the final energies of the two masses and how much energy is lost to heat, in (i) the lab frame (ii) the frame in which  $M$  is initially at rest? (10)
4. (a) A cylinder of mass  $m$ , radius  $r$  and moment of inertia  $I = \frac{1}{2}mr^2$  rolls without slipping down a plane inclined at an angle  $\theta$ . What is the acceleration of the centre of the cylinder? [Hint: use conservation of energy] (10)  
(b) A stick of length  $l$  slides perpendicular to itself (without rotating) across a frictionless horizontal table and collides elastically at one of its ends with a stationary ball. Both stick and ball have mass  $m$ . The mass of the stick is distributed in such a way that the moment of inertia around the  $CM$ , (which is at the centre of the stick) is  $I = Aml^2$ , where  $A$  is some number. What should  $A$  be such that the ball moves at the same speed as the centre of the stick after the collision? (10)
5. (a) Given a collection of particles with positions  $\mathbf{r}_i$ , let the force on the  $i$ th particle due to all the others be  $\mathbf{F}_i^{int}$ . Assuming that the force between any two particles is directed along the line joining them, use Newton's third law to show that  $\sum_i \mathbf{r}_i \times \mathbf{F}_i^{int} = 0$  (10)  
(b) A particle sliding along a radial groove along a rotating turntable has polar coordinates at time  $t$  given by  $r = ct$ ,  $\theta = \Omega t$ , where  $c$  and  $\Omega$  are positive constants. Find the velocity and acceleration vectors at time  $t$  and hence deduce that the angle between the velocity and acceleration vectors is always acute for  $t > 0$ . (10)

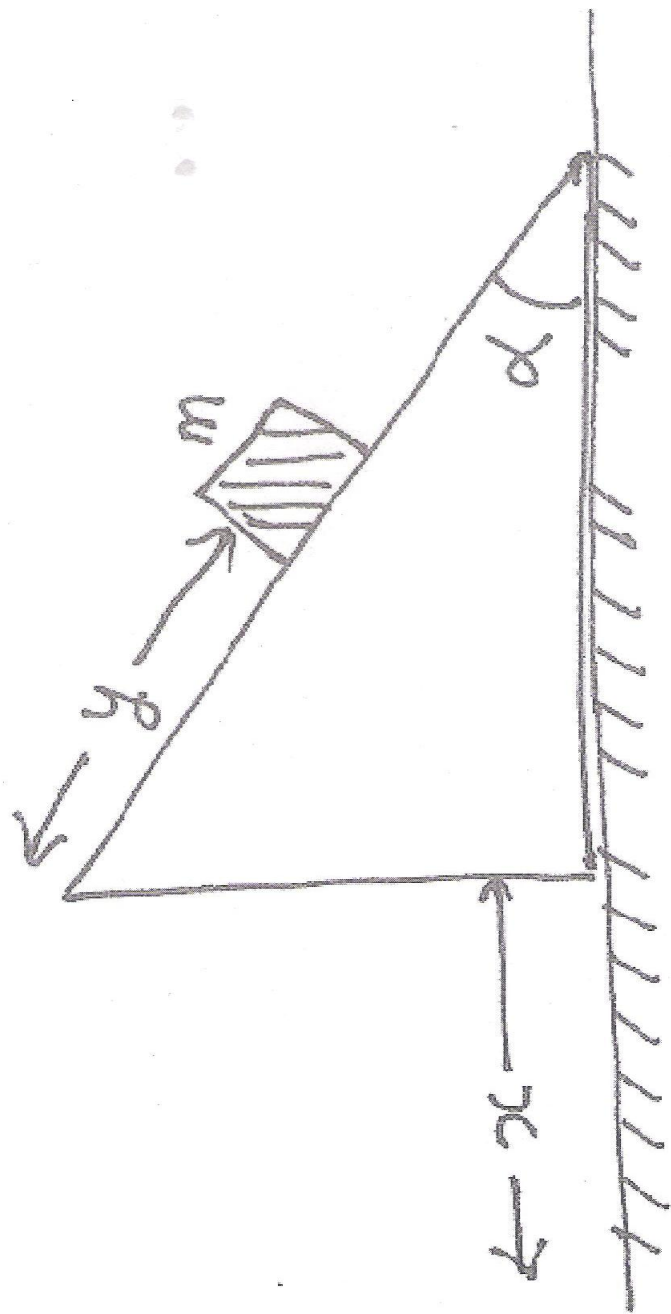


Fig. 2