

## Problem Set No. 7

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**Problem 1. Pendulum mounted on elastic support.** A collar of mass  $m$  slides without friction on a horizontal rigid rod and is restrained by a pair of identical springs with spring constant  $k$ . A pendulum consisting of a uniform rigid bar of length  $L$  and mass  $M$  is suspended from the collar by a frictionless pivot

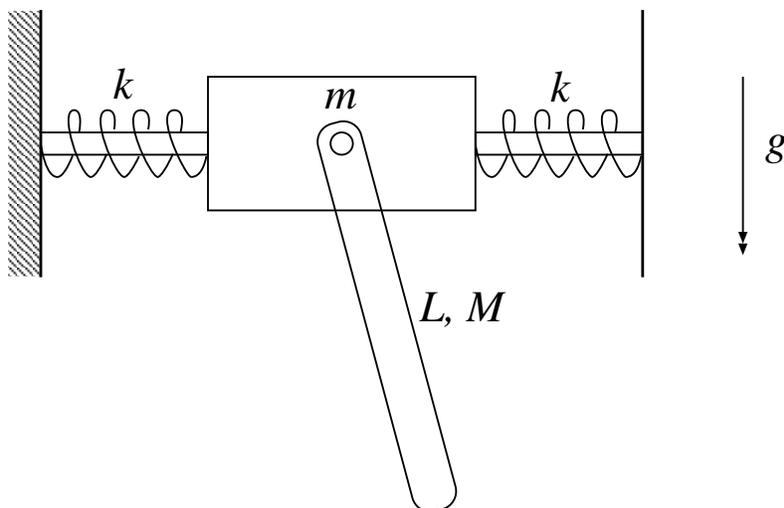


Figure 1: Pendulum supported on spring-restrained mount.

- Select a complete and independent set of generalized coordinates for this system.
- Derive differential equations of motion for these coordinates.

**Problem 2. Stabilization of rocker.** A rocker is machined into the shape shown from a rectangular block of metal of size  $2R \times 3R \times h$ , where  $h$  is the uniform height normal to the sketch. The uniform density of the material is  $\rho$ , mass per unit volume.

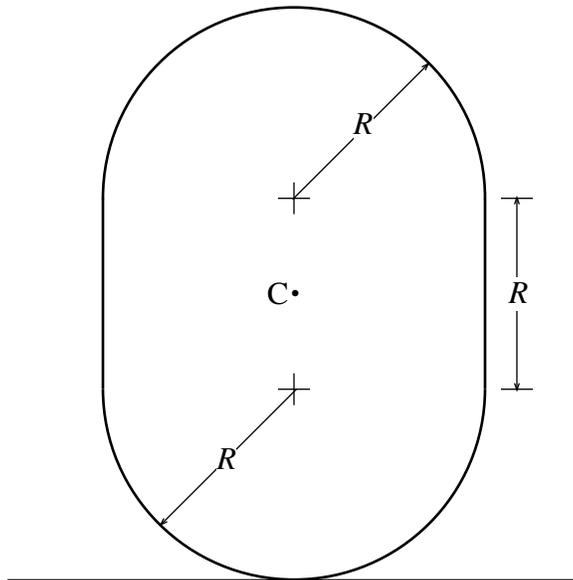
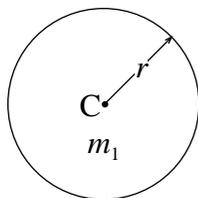
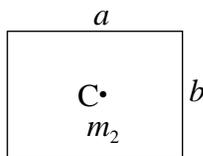


Figure 2: Dimensions of rocker.

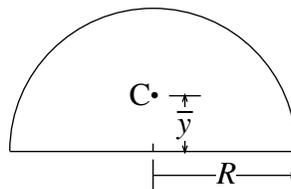
- (a) Express the mass  $M$  and the centroidal moment of inertia  $I_C$  of the rocker in terms of the parameters  $\rho$ ,  $R$ , and  $h$ . Some helpful information is summarized in Fig.3. In (i) the centroidal moment of inertia of a uniform disk or cylinder is  $I_C = \frac{1}{2}m_1r^2$ . In (ii) the centroidal moment of inertia of a uniform rectangular plate is  $I_C = \frac{1}{12}m_2(a^2 + b^2)$ . In (iii) the centroid of a semi-circle is located a distance  $\bar{y} = \frac{4}{3\pi}R$  above the base.



(i)



(ii)



(iii)

Figure 3: Useful facts about circular and rectangular shapes.

- (b) If the rocker is constrained to roll without slipping on the floor, the upright position shown in Fig.2 is an equilibrium position. Is this a stable equilibrium?

- (c) To stabilize the rocker, it is proposed to apply a horizontal force  $f(t)$  to the centroid of the rocker, as shown in Fig.4. Derive a differential equation which describes how the rocking angle  $\theta$  responds to the excitation  $f(t)$ .

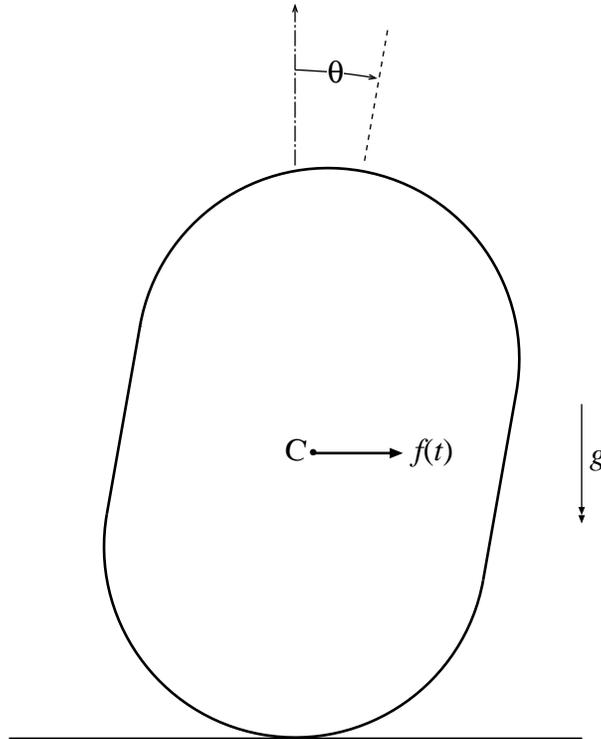


Figure 4: Force  $f(t)$  is applied to rocker.

- (d) Linearize the result of (c) by making the approximations  $\sin \theta \approx \theta$  and  $\cos \theta \approx 1.0$ . Transform the differential equation in the time domain into a transfer function from  $F(s)$  to  $\Theta(s)$  in the Laplace  $s$ -domain.
- (e) It is proposed to construct the force  $f(t)$  by observing the angle  $\theta$ , comparing it with a desired angle  $\theta_d$  and using the difference to generate (by means of a linkage driven by a motor) the force

$$f(t) = K(\theta_d - \theta)$$

where  $K$  is the effective gain, with the dimensions of force per radian. Transform this relation to the  $s$ -domain and couple it to the result of (d). Obtain the poles of the closed-loop transfer function from  $\Theta_d(s)$  to  $\Theta(s)$ . For what range of values of the gain  $K$  is the closed-loop system stable?

**Problem 3. Eigenvalue problem.** The two masses slide without friction on the horizontal rigid rod, and are held in place by two springs with spring constant  $k$ .

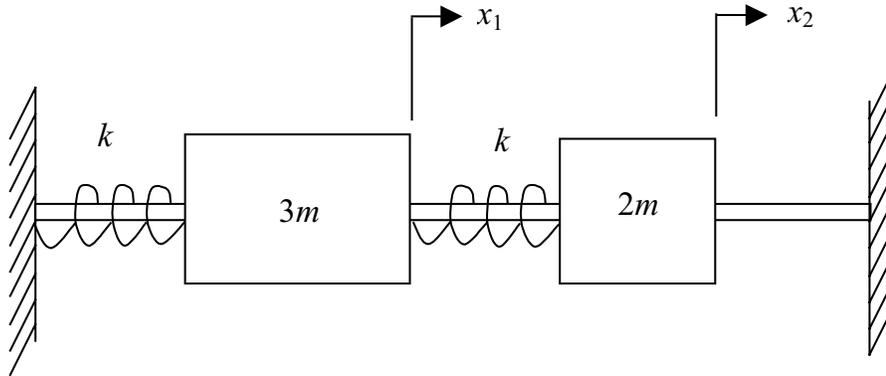


Figure 5: Mass-spring vibratory system

- Formulate equations of motion for  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$  in the form of a matrix differential equation.
- Derive an eigenvalue problem of the form

$$[K]\{a\} = \omega^2[M]\{a\}$$

for natural modes of the form

$$\begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} a_1 \sin(\omega t + \phi) \\ a_2 \sin(\omega t + \phi) \end{Bmatrix}$$

- Solve analytically for the mode shapes  $\{a_1 \ a_2\}^T$  and the eigenvalues  $\omega_1^2$  and  $\omega_2^2$ . Construct the *modal matrix*  $[\Phi]$  whose columns are the mode shape vectors.
- Open MATLAB and type the command: `help eig` to learn about MATLAB's eigenvalue capabilities. Apply the command `[V, D] = EIG (K, M)` and compare MATLAB's solution to your solution in (c) above.