

This last exercise sheet does NOT count for the Testat (for UZH students), but it covers topics which potentially can appear in the exam.

Exercise 1. *Hamilton-Jacobi equation*

A particle of charge q is constrained to move in a plane under the influence of a central force potential (non-electromagnetic) $V = \frac{1}{2}kr^2$ and a constant magnetic field \mathbf{B} perpendicular to the plane, so that the vector potential can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{r}. \quad (1)$$

- (a) Set up the Hamilton-Jacobi equation for Hamilton's characteristic function in polar coordinates (r, θ) .

Hint. Start with the Lagrangian in cartesian coordinates and change to polar after incorporating the magnetic term. Introduce canonical momenta as usual to obtain the Hamiltonian.

- (b) Separate the equation and reduce it to quadratures. Discuss the motion if the canonical momentum p_θ is zero at $t = 0$.

Exercise 2. *Poisson brackets in the Kepler problem*

Show that the components of the Laplace-Runge-Lenz vector

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{\mu}\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{L} - \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \quad (2)$$

satisfy the following relations

$$\{A_i, A_j\} = -\frac{2E}{\mu^2}\varepsilon_{ijk}L_k \quad (3)$$

where E is the energy of the orbit and μ the reduced mass.

Hint. Make use of the identity $\{f, gh\} = g\{f, h\} + \{f, g\}h$ and exploit the Poisson brackets calculated in the lecture.