Physics I

Pendulum

Period of a simple pendulum $T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}$

Period of a physical pendulum: $T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{I}{mg\ell}}$

Where *I* is the moment of inertia with respect to the point of rotation and ℓ is the distance from the point of rotation to the center of mass.

The moment of inertia of a disk about its center: $I = \frac{1}{2}MR^2$

Moment of inertia of a rod rotated about one end: $I = \frac{ML^2}{3}$]

Moment of a hoop about its center: $I = MR^2$

Parallel Axes theorem: $I = I_{CM} + M\ell^2$

Problem 1.- A pendulum string has a total length $L_1 = 1.2$ m, but there is a nail which restricts the swing on the right side to only $L_2 = 0.3$ m. Calculate the period of small oscillations.



Problem 2.- Find the period of oscillation of a meter stick rotated about one end. Approximate it as if it were a thin rod.



Problem 3.- Calculate the period of small oscillations of a physical pendulum made of a hoop of radius 0.1m and mass *M* connected to a rod of negligible mass and length 0.2m. [Moment of inertia of a hoop about its center = MR^2]

Problem 4.- If we build a pendulum and we count 20 complete oscillations in 53 seconds, what is the length of the pendulum?

Problem 4a.- A pendulum and a chronometer are used to measure the height of a building as shown in the figure. If the period is 6.95s, how tall is the building?





Problem 5.- Consider a pendulum made of two identical disks of radius R = 6m that are welded together at their edges. Calculate the period for small oscillations about a center of rotation close to the edge opposite the welding as shown in the figure.



Problem 6.- A pendulum is made with one solid disk that rotates about a hole located very close to its edge.

Find the period of small oscillations if the radius of the disk is 0.35m



Problem 7.- If you wanted to use a 1m-pendulum to measure the gravitational acceleration with 4 significant figures, with what kind of precision would you need to measure the period?

Suggestion: calculate the difference in period for $g = 9.801 \text{ m/s}^2$ and $g = 9.800 \text{ m/s}^2$

Problem 8.- A pendulum clock was designed to have a period of 1.50 seconds, but due to low quality of its manufacturing its length stretches 0.012 meters beyond the designed value. How long is the actual period?

Problem 9.- How long must a simple pendulum be if it is to make one complete vibration (one cycle) in 4.0 s?

Problem 10.- True (T) or false (F) about the simple pendulum with a small angle of amplitude:

- () The period depends on the mass of the bob
- () If you double the length of the pendulum, the period doubles.
- () If you double the angle of amplitude, the period stays almost the same.

Problem 11.- A wrecking ball is hanging from a 16m long steel cable and almost touching a wall to be demolished. It is pulled a short distance from the vertical line and let go from rest. Calculate the time it will take to reach the wall.



Problem 12.- A hoop of radius R = 0.3m is hanging from a nail. You give the hoop a nudge and it starts oscillating like a pendulum. Calculate the period.



Problem 13.- A pendulum oscillates back and forth around the vertical direction. Its motion starts at the lowest point, and it moves initially to the right. The angle has direction +k when it is to the right of the vertical line and -k when it is on the left.

You are given three graphs that describe the motion of the bob: angle, angular velocity and angular acceleration vs. time.



a) Determine the maximum angular displacement with respect to the vertical and the time it takes to get back to this point.

b) What is the average angular velocity and acceleration between 0.25s and 0.5s?

c) Between 0 and 0.5s there are two instants when the angle is 0.1 radians +z, but in one case the angular velocity points to +z and in the other to -z. Why is it that the angular velocity does not have the same direction as the angle?

d) Knowing that the length of the string is L = 0.25m. Find the maximum tangential acceleration and the maximum radial acceleration.

