

# Contents

*Preface* xi

## *Chapter 1 Introduction 1*

- 1.1 Space and Time 1
- 1.2 Newton's Laws 4
- 1.3 The Concepts of Mass and Force 8
- 1.4 External Forces 11
- 1.5 Summary 11
- Problems 12

## *Chapter 2 Linear Motion 13*

- 2.1 Conservative Forces 13
- 2.2 Motion Near Equilibrium; the Harmonic Oscillator 16
- 2.3 Complex Representation 18
- 2.4 The Law of Conservation of Energy 19
- 2.5 The Damped Oscillator 20
- 2.6 Oscillator under Periodic Force 23
- 2.7 Impulsive Forces; the Green's Function Method 29
- 2.8 Collision Problems 31
- 2.9 Summary 33
- Problems 34

## *Chapter 3 Energy and Angular Momentum 37*

- 3.1 Energy; Conservative Forces 37
- 3.2 Moments; Angular Momentum 39
- 3.3 Central Forces; Conservation of Angular Momentum 40
- 3.4 Polar Co-ordinates 41
- 3.5 The Calculus of Variations 43
- 3.6 Hamilton's Principle; Lagrange's Equations 46
- 3.7 Summary 49
- Problems 49

## *Chapter 4 Central Conservative Forces 51*

- 4.1 The Isotropic Harmonic Oscillator 51
- 4.2 The Conservation Laws 53
- 4.3 The Inverse Square Law 55
- 4.4 Orbits 60
- 4.5 Scattering Cross-Sections 64
- 4.6 Mean Free Path 67
- 4.7 Rutherford Scattering 68
- 4.8 Summary 70
- Problems 70

## vi *Contents*

### *Chapter 5 Rotating Frames 73*

- 5.1 Angular Velocity; Rate of Change of a Vector 73
- 5.2 Particle in a Uniform Magnetic Field 75
- 5.3 Acceleration; Apparent Gravity 76
- 5.4 Coriolis Force 79
- 5.5 Larmor Effect 83
- 5.6 Angular Momentum and the Larmor Effect 85
- 5.7 Summary 87
- Problems 88

### *Chapter 6 Potential Theory 90*

- 6.1 Gravitational and Electrostatic Potentials 90\*
- 6.2 The Dipole and Quadrupole 91
- 6.3 Spherical Charge Distributions 94
- 6.4 Expansion of Potential at Large Distances 96
- 6.5 The Shape of the Earth 98
- 6.6 The Tides 102
- 6.7 The Field Equations 105
- 6.8 Summary 107
- Problems 108

### *Chapter 7 The Two-Body Problem 110*

- 7.1 Centre-of-Mass and Relative Co-ordinates 110
- 7.2 The Centre-of-Mass Frame 112
- 7.3 Elastic Collisions 115
- 7.4 CM and Lab Cross-Sections 118
- 7.5 Summary 122
- Problems 122

### *Chapter 8 Many-Body Systems 124*

- 8.1 Momentum; Centre-of-Mass Motion 124
- 8.2 Rockets 125
- 8.3 Angular Momentum; Central Internal Forces 127
- 8.4 The Earth-Moon System 129
- 8.5 Energy; Conservative Forces 132
- 8.6 Lagrange's Equations 134
- 8.7 Summary 136
- Problems 136

### *Chapter 9 Rigid Bodies; Rotation about an Axis 138*

- 9.1 Basic Principles 138
- 9.2 Rotation about a Fixed Axis 139
- 9.3 Perpendicular Components of Angular Momentum 141
- 9.4 Principal Axes of Inertia 142
- 9.5 Shift of Origin 144
- 9.6 Symmetric Bodies 145

- 9.7 Calculation of Moments of Inertia 146
- 9.8 Summary 148
- Problems 149

*Chapter 10 Dynamics of a Rigid Body 150*

- 10.1 Effect of a Small Force on the Axis 150
- 10.2 Instantaneous Angular Velocity 153
- 10.3 Stability of Rotation about a Principal Axis 155
- 10.4 Euler's Angles 157
- 10.5 Free Motion of a Symmetric Body 159
- 10.6 Summary 161
- Problems 161

*Chapter 11 Lagrangian Mechanics 164*

- 11.1 Generalized Co-ordinates; Holonomic Systems 164
- 11.2 Lagrange's Equations 166
- 11.3 Precession of a Symmetric Top 168
- 11.4 Pendulum Constrained to Rotate about an Axis 170
- 11.5 Charged Particle in an Electromagnetic Field 172
- 11.6 The Stretched String 175
- 11.7 Summary 178
- Problems 178

*Chapter 12 Small Oscillations and Normal Modes 180*

- 12.1 Orthogonal Co-ordinates 180
- 12.2 Equations of Motion for Small Oscillations 182
- 12.3 Normal Modes 183
- 12.4 Coupled Oscillators 185
- 12.5 Oscillations of Particles on a String 189
- 12.6 Normal Modes of a Stretched String 191
- 12.7 Summary 193
- Problems 193

*Chapter 13 Hamiltonian Mechanics 195*

- 13.1 Hamilton's Equations 195
- 13.2 Conservation of Energy 197
- 13.3 Ignorable Co-ordinates 199
- 13.4 The Symmetric Top 200
- 13.5 Stability of a Vertical Top 202
- 13.6 Symmetries and Conservation Laws 203
- 13.7 Galilean Transformations 206
- 13.8 Summary 211
- Problems 212

## viii *Contents*

### *Appendix A Vectors 215*

- A.1 Definitions and Elementary Properties 215
- A.2 The Vector Product 217
- A.3 Differentiation and Integration of Vectors 219
- A.4 Gradient, Divergence and Curl 220
- A.5 Integral Theorems 223
- A.6 Curvilinear Co-ordinates 225
- Problems 228

### *Appendix B The Electromagnetic Field 229*

- Problem 232

### *Appendix C Tensors 233*

- C.1 Elementary Properties; the Dot Product 233
- C.2 Sums and Products; The Tensor Product 235
- C.3 Eigenvalues; Diagonalization of a Symmetric Tensor 237
- Problems 239

### *Appendix D Units and Constants 240*

### *Bibliography 242*

### *Answers to Problems 243*

### *Index 249*