

A puck of mass m is moving without friction on the $x - y$ plane and is attached to the origin ($x = y = 0$) with a spring of spring constant k and a “relaxed” length L .

1. Using polar coordinates r, ϕ , write down the Lagrangian for this situation
2. Write down the generalized momenta and determine which ones are conserved.
3. Write down the Euler-Lagrange equations for the coordinates.
4. Find the necessary condition for equilibrium motion at fixed distance r_0 around the center with constant angular velocity $\dot{\phi} = \omega$, i.e, express r_0 in terms of ω .
5. Parametrize small deviations from the equilibrium by introducing new coordinates δr and $\delta\phi$ with $r(t) = r_0 + \delta r(t)$ and $\phi(t) = \omega t + \delta\phi(t)$. In the following, assume that $\delta\phi(t=0) = \delta\dot{\phi}(t=0) = \delta\dot{r}(t=0) = 0$ while $\delta r(t=0)$ is not necessarily zero. Plug this ansatz into your Euler-Lagrange equations and evaluate by discarding all terms that contain more than one small factor (δr or $\delta\phi$ and their derivatives), as well as using the equilibrium condition to replace r_0 .
6. Show that the resulting equations have as their solutions small oscillations of δr around the equilibrium value and calculate the frequency of these oscillations in terms of ω and L . (Don't worry about the corresponding solution for $\delta\phi$.)