2.003/1.053 Dynamics and Controls I Spring 2007

Exam 1

March 21st, 2007

You are allowed one double-sided sheet of notes. There are three questions and each is worth 10 points. You have 80 minutes to complete *all* questions.

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1 Conical pendulum

A ball of mass m is attached to the end of a chord of length L in a gravitational field g. The chord is tied at the top to a pivot point. The ball is given a velocity v_0 such that it describes a circular trajectory in the horizontal plane.

Derive a formula for the angle θ which the chord makes with the vertical.

Neglect air resistance and the size of the ball, and assume the chord remains taut at all times.



2 Rod pendulum with moving pivot

The slender rod of mass m and length l is released from rest in the vertical position, connected at point A to a small, massless roller resting on the incline.

Determine the initial linear downslope acceleration of point A the moment after release.



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3 Rolling wheel

A wheel of diameter R, consisting of a thin uniform rim of mass M and six thin uniform spokes mass m, is released from rest of the top of a hill of height h.

What is the angular velocity of the wheel when it reaches the bottom, assuming that it rolls without slipping?



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