

Please record your name in your answer sheet. Return the answer sheet only.

15 minutes.

Consider a two body problem with a central force. The relative coordinate  $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2$  is governed by the Lagrangian

$$L = \frac{1}{2}\mu|\dot{\vec{r}}|^2 - U(|\vec{r}|)$$

This Lagrangian has a conserved energy  $E$  and a conserved angular momentum vector  $\vec{L}$ . The latter means that the motion is confined in a plane. By taking the  $z$  axis to be parallel to  $\vec{L}$ , and taking the cylindrical coordinate system  $(r, \theta, z)$ , we can take the  $xy$  plane as the plane in which the motion occurs. Thus,

$$L = \frac{1}{2}\mu(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\theta}^2) - U(r)$$

We assume  $l = |\vec{L}|$  is positive (i.e., not zero).

- (a) Utilizing the conserved quantity  $l$ , the energy  $E$  can be expressed as  $E =$  the radial kinetic energy (the one that depends on  $\dot{r}$ )  $+ U_{eff}(r)$ . Find  $U_{eff}(r)$ .
- (b) Make a sketch of  $U_{eff}(r)$  for  $U(r) = -k/r$  ( $k > 0$ ). Your sketch should show the correct signs and the correct limiting values of  $U_{eff}$  as  $r \rightarrow 0^+$  and  $+\infty$ .  
**Important:** In your sketch, indicate the value of  $r$  corresponding to a circular motion.
- (c) Do the same for  $U(r) = kr$  ( $k > 0$ ).