Problem 1 (30 marks)

Point masses that have energy E are scattered by the force field associated with the potential energy $V(r) = B/r^2$ with B > 0. Find the differential scattering cross section.

Problem 2 (20 marks)

A point mass m is at distance r from the center of a planet. The planet has mass M and the shape of a ball of radius R. The ball has uniform mass density ρ_0 for R/2 < r < R, and the mass density is twice as big in the planet's inner core of radius R/2. What is the gravitational force that the planet exerts on the point mass?

Problem 3 (50 marks)

Two equal point masses m can move without friction in the horizontal x, y plane. A spring (natural length a, spring constant $k = m\omega_0^2$) connects the two masses. Another spring of the same kind connects one mass to point (x, y) = (-3a, 0), and yet another spring of that kind connects the other mass to point (x, y) = (3a, 0). Taking into account that the masses can move both in the x direction and in the y direction, find the characteristic frequencies of small-amplitude oscillations and describe the eigenmodes.