## [mex156] Spherical pendulum: Routhian and reduction to quadrature

A particle of mass m in a uniform gravitational field g is constrained to move on the surface of a sphere of radius  $\ell$ .

(a) Find the Lagrangian  $L(\theta, \phi, \dot{\theta}, \dot{\phi})$ , where the range of the polar angle is  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$  and the range of the azimuthal angle is  $0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi$ .

(b) Derive the two Lagrange equations.

(c) Identify and determine the conserved quantity  $\beta_{\phi}$  associated with the cyclic coordinate  $\phi$ .

(d) Construct the Routhian in the form  $R(\theta, \dot{\theta}, \beta_{\phi}) = T(\theta, \dot{\theta}, \beta_{\phi}) - V(\theta)$  and derive the Lagrange equation for the remaining dynamical variable  $\theta$  from it.

(e) Use conservation of energy,  $E = T(\theta, \dot{\theta}, \beta_{\phi}) + V(\theta) = \text{const}$ , to reduce the analytic solution of the spherical to quadrature following the steps in [mln4]. This includes a prescription of how to calculate the cyclic variable  $\phi(t)$  from the integral that implicitly yields  $\theta(t)$ .

## Solution: