Trajectories of the Plate-Ball Problem

Vladimir Pulov

Department of Physics, Technical University of Varna, Bulgaria vpulov@hotmail.com

ABSTRACT

The plate-ball problem concerns the shortest trajectories traced by a rolling sphere on a horizontal plane between the prescribed initial and final states meaning the positions and orientations of the sphere. Here we present an explicit parametrical representation of these trajectories in terms of the Jacobian elliptic functions.