

Question

A particle moves under the action of the force $f(r)\mathbf{r}$. Prove that the angular momentum of the particle is constant.

Answer

$$\mathbf{N} = f(r)\mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F} = f(r)\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{r} = 0$$

as $\mathbf{N} = \dot{\mathbf{L}}$ then $\mathbf{N} = 0 \Rightarrow \dot{\mathbf{L}} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{L} = \text{constant}$.

i.e. angular momentum is constant.