General Mathematics and CPS II

Exercise 11

March 19, 2014

1. Newton's second law of mechanics for a particle of mass m situated at position x(t) moving with velocity v(t) and subject to a force F(x(t)) can be written

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d}t} = v ,$$
$$m \frac{\mathrm{d}v}{\mathrm{d}t} = F(x(t)) .$$

Use the chain rule of calculus to show that the particle satisfies the same equation with t replaced by the reversed time r = -t and v replaced by -v.

2. Show that in a time-discrete, reversible, system with a finite number of states any orbit must return to its initial state after a finite number of steps.