
UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

EXAMINATION, 2016/2017

BASS, B.Ed (Sec.), B.Sc.

Title of Paper : Dynamics I

Course Number : MAT256/M255

Time Allowed : Three (3) Hours

Instructions

1. This paper consists of SIX (6) questions in TWO sections.
2. Section A is **COMPULSORY** and is worth a total of 40%. Answer ALL questions in this section.
3. Section B consists of FIVE questions, each worth 20%. Answer ANY THREE (3) questions in this section.
4. Show all your working.
5. Start each new major question (A1, A2, B3 – B7) on a new page and clearly indicate the question number at the top of the page.
6. You can answer questions in any order.

Special Requirements: NONE

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A [40 Marks]: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS**QUESTION A1 [40 Marks]**

- (a) Find a unit vector in the direction of the vector $2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + \hat{k}$.
- (b) Find λ such that the vectors $\mathbf{a} = (2, -4, 5)$ and $\mathbf{b} = (3, \lambda, -2)$ are perpendicular.

- (c) Find the volume of the parallelepiped whose edges are the vectors

$$\mathbf{a} = 2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - \hat{k}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}, \quad \mathbf{c} = 3\hat{i} - \hat{j} - 2\hat{k}.$$

- (d) Let $\mathbf{u} = 3xyz^2\hat{i} + 2xy^3\hat{j} - x^2yz\hat{k}$. Find $\text{curl } \mathbf{u}$.

- (e) Let

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = 4\sin t\hat{i} + 4\cos t\hat{j} + 8\hat{k}$$

be the position vector of a particle at time t . Find

- i. the velocity of the particle,
 - ii. the speed of the particle,
 - iii. the acceleration of the particle,
 - iv. the unit tangent vector $\hat{\mathbf{T}}$,
 - v. the curvature κ and the radius of curvature R ,
 - vi. the unit principal normal $\hat{\mathbf{N}}$,
 - vii. the tangential component of acceleration,
 - viii. the normal component of acceleration.
- (f) A train takes time T to perform a journey from rest to rest. It travels for time $\frac{T}{n}$ with uniform acceleration, then for time $(n-1)\frac{T}{n}$ with uniform speed V , and finally for time $\frac{T}{n}$ with constant deceleration. Show that the train's average speed is

$$(n-1)\frac{V}{n}.$$

END OF SECTION A – TURN OVER

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY *THREE* QUESTIONS**QUESTION B2 [20 Marks]**

- (a) The acceleration of a particle is $\mathbf{a} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} + 2\hat{\mathbf{j}}$. Its initial velocity is $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ and its initial position is $\hat{\mathbf{i}}$.
- Find the velocity of the particle at any time t . (5)
 - Find the position of the particle at any time t . (5)
- (b) A body of mass m falls from rest from a height h above the ground. Show that it strikes the ground after a time $\sqrt{\frac{2h}{g}}$ with speed $\sqrt{2gh}$. (1)

QUESTION B3 [20 Marks]

- (a) Particle A , initially at rest, is projected from the origin with acceleration $\mathbf{a}_A = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\hat{\mathbf{i}} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\mathbf{j}}$. At the same instant, particle B at rest at the point $(\sqrt{3}, 0)$, is projected with acceleration $\mathbf{a}_B = \frac{1}{2}\hat{\mathbf{j}}$. Show that the particles collide and find the time of collision. (8)
- (b) A projectile is fired with an initial speed of 200 m/s and an angle of elevation 45° . Assuming $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$, find
- the velocity vector of the projectile at any time t , (3)
 - the position vector of the projectile at any time t , (3)
 - the range of the projectile, (3)
 - The maximum height reached. (3)

TURN OVER

QUESTION B4 [20 Marks]

- (a) A car with initial speed u accelerates uniformly over a distance $2s$ which it covers in time t_1 . It is then stopped by being retarded uniformly to rest over a distance s , which it covers in time t_2 . Show that

$$\frac{u}{2s} = \frac{2}{t_1} - \frac{1}{t_2}.$$

(10)

- (b) A particle of mass m is thrown vertically upwards with initial speed V . The air resistance at speed v is mkv^2 , where k is a constant.

- i. Show that the upward motion of the particle is given by the differential equation

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -kv^2 - g.$$

(2)

- ii. Find an expression for $v(t)$.

(6)

- iii. Find the time T to reach maximum height.

(2)

QUESTION B5 [20 Marks]

In cylindrical coordinates (ρ, θ, z) , the position vector of an arbitrary point (x, y, z) is given by

$$\mathbf{r} = \rho \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \rho \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{j}} + z \hat{\mathbf{k}}.$$

Find

- (a) $\hat{\rho}$, $\hat{\theta}$ and \hat{z} ,

(5)

- (b) the position vector \mathbf{r} in terms of $\hat{\rho}$, $\hat{\theta}$ and \hat{z} ,

(3)

- (c) $\dot{\hat{\rho}}$, $\dot{\hat{\theta}}$, and $\dot{\hat{z}}$, the time derivatives of $\hat{\rho}$, $\hat{\theta}$ and \hat{z} ,

(6)

- (d) the velocity \mathbf{v} in terms of $\hat{\rho}$, $\hat{\theta}$ and \hat{z} ,

(3)

- (e) the acceleration \mathbf{a} in terms of $\hat{\rho}$, $\hat{\theta}$ and \hat{z} .

(3)

 TURN OVER

QUESTION B6 [20 Marks]

- (a) Consider a particle with mass m , velocity vector \mathbf{v} and position vector \mathbf{r} . Show that if the particle is moving under a central force, its angular momentum is conserved. (5)
- (b) Show that movement under a central force occurs in a plane which is perpendicular to the angular momentum \mathbf{L} . (5)
- (c) A block of mass m is attached to a spring with spring constant k and is free to slide along a frictionless surface. At $t = 0$, the system is stretched at an amount $x_0 > 0$ from the equilibrium position and is released from rest. Find the period of oscillation of the block and find the speed of the block when it first returns to the equilibrium position. (10)

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER
