

**BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION**

**ENGINEERING AND PHYSICS DEPARTMENT**

**PH101: MECHANICS AND OSCILLATIONS**

**AUG 2024**

**DURATION: THREE HOURS**

Answer **ALL** parts of Section A and any **THREE** questions from Section B. Section

A carries 40 marks and Section B carries 60 marks.

**SECTION A**

- 1 (a) (i) Use dimensional analysis to show that the expression  $v = v_0 + at$  is dimensionally correct, where  $v$  and  $v_0$  represent velocities,  $a$  is acceleration, and  $t$  is a time interval. [3]
- (ii) Suppose we are told that the acceleration  $a$  of a particle moving with uniform speed  $v$  in a circle of radius  $r$  is proportional to some power of  $r$ , say  $r^n$ , and some power of  $v$ , say  $v^m$ . Determine the values of  $n$  and  $m$  and write the simplest form of an equation for the acceleration. [4]
- (b) A person walks 3 km due East and then 2 km due North. What is his displacement vector? [5]
- (c) Find the sum of the following two vectors: [4]
- $$\vec{A} = 8\vec{i} + 3\vec{j}$$
- $$\vec{B} = -5\vec{i} - 7\vec{j}$$
- (d) A block of mass  $m$  is pushed up a rough inclined plane of angle  $\theta$  by a constant force  $\vec{F}$  parallel to the incline, as shown in Fig. 1. The displacement of the block up the incline is  $\vec{d}$ . Calculate the work done for  $m = 2 \text{ kg}$ ,  $\mu_k = 0.5$ ,  $\theta = 30^\circ$ ,  $F = 20 \text{ N}$ , and  $d = 5 \text{ m}$ . [5]

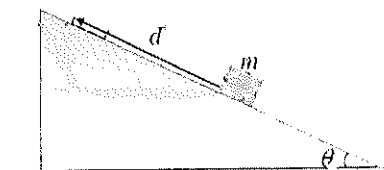


Figure 1.1

- e) A disk of mass  $M = 8 \text{ kg}$  and radius  $R = 0.5 \text{ m}$  accelerates about its massless axle from rest to an angular speed  $\omega = 8.5 \text{ rad/s}$  in a time  $\Delta t = 2 \text{ s}$ , see Figure 2.

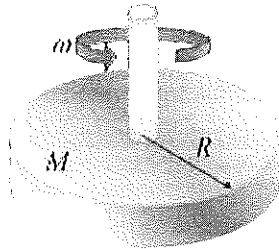


Figure 2

- Find:
- (i) the angular momentum of the disk [5]
  - (ii) the required constant torque used for this acceleration. [5]
- f) A car accelerates uniformly from rest to a speed of  $100 \text{ km/h}$  in  $18 \text{ s}$ .
- (i) Find the acceleration of the car. [3]
  - (ii) Find the distance that the car travels. [3]
  - (iii) If the car brakes to a full stop over a distance of  $100 \text{ m}$ , then find its uniform deceleration. [3]

## Section B

2

Figure 2.1 shows the following three vectors.

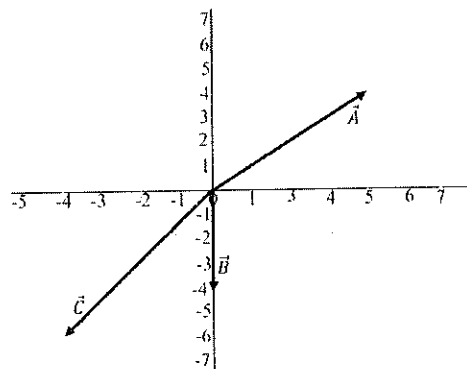


Figure 2.1

- (a) Find the vector sum  $\vec{R}$  of these three vectors? [10]

- (b) the magnitude of  $\vec{R}$ ? [5]  
 (c) the angle measured from the  $+x$  direction,  $(\theta)$ ? [5]

3 A ball thrown from the top of a building has an initial speed of  $20 \text{ m/s}$  at an angle of  $30^\circ$  above the horizontal. The building is  $40 \text{ m}$  high and the ball takes time  $\hat{t}$  before hitting the ground, see the Fig. 3.1. Take  $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$ .

- (a) Find the time  $t_1$  for the ball to reach its highest point. [3]  
 (b) How high will it rise? [3]  
 (c) How long will it take to return to the level of the thrower? [3]  
 (d) Find the time of flight  $\hat{t}$ . [4]  
 (e) What is the horizontal distance covered by the ball during this time? [3]  
 (f) What is the velocity of the ball before striking the ground? [7]

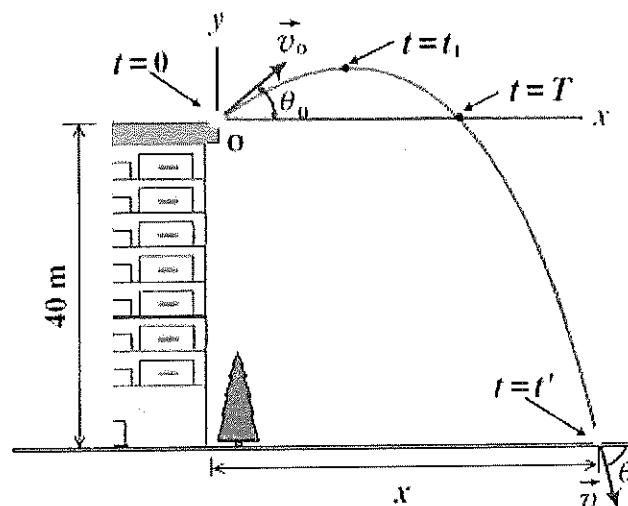


Figure 3.1

- 4 a) A block of mass  $m = 21 \text{ kg}$  hangs from three cords as shown in part (a) of Figure. 4.1. Taking  $\sin \theta = 4/5$ ,  $\cos \theta = 3/5$ ,  $\sin \phi = 5/13$ , and  $\cos \phi = 12/13$ , find the tensions in the three cords. [15]

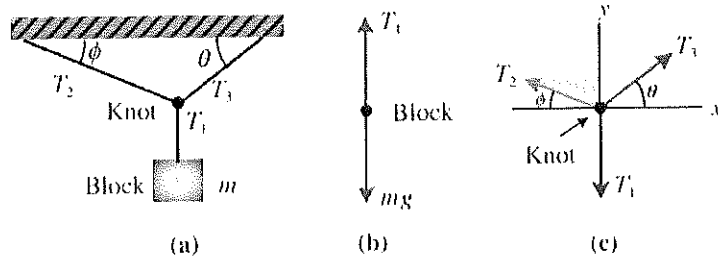


Figure 4.1

b) Discuss frictional force.

[5]

5 A particle oscillates with a simple harmonic motion along the x axis. Its displacement

from the origin varies with time according to the equation:

$$x = (2m) \cos(0.5\pi t + \pi/3)$$

where t is in seconds and the argument of the cosine is in radians.

Find:

a) the amplitude, frequency, and period of the motion.

[4]

b) the velocity and acceleration of the particle at any time.

[6]

c) both the maximum speed and acceleration of the particle.

[4]

d) the displacement of the particle between  $t = 0$  and  $t = 2s$ .

[6]

6 A block of mass  $m = 400 \text{ g}$  is attached to a light spring of force constant  $k_H = 10 \text{ Nm}^{-1}$ , see Figure 6.1 (a). The block is pushed against the spring from  $x = 0$  to  $x_i = -10 \text{ cm}$ , see Figure 6.1 (b), and then released to oscillate on a horizontal frictionless surface.

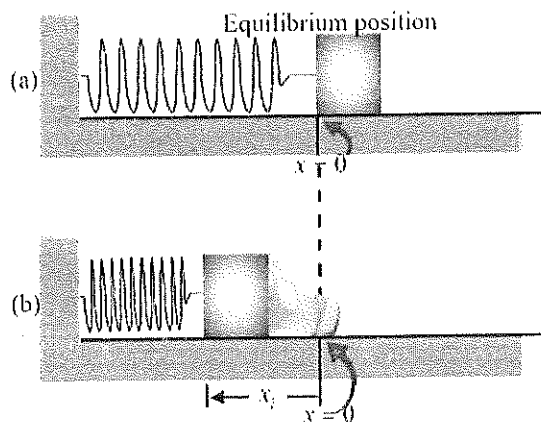


Figure 6.1

- a) Find: [6]  
 b) the angular frequency and the period of the block-spring system. [6]  
 c) the maximum speed and maximum acceleration of the block. [8]  
 the position, speed, and acceleration of the block at any time.

## MECHANICS FORMULA SHEET

### 0.1: Physical Constants

Speed of light	$c$	$3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$
Planck constant	$h$	$6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$
	$hc$	$1242 \text{ eV nm}$
Gravitation constant	$G$	$6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$
Boltzmann constant	$k$	$1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$
Molar gas constant	$R$	$8.314 \text{ J/(mol K)}$
Avogadro's number	$N_A$	$6.023 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Charge of electron	$e$	$1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Permeability of vacuum	$\mu_0$	$4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N/A}^2$
Permittivity of vacuum	$\epsilon_0$	$8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$
Coulomb constant	$\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$	$9 \times 10^9 \text{ N m}^2/\text{C}^2$
Faraday constant	$F$	$96485 \text{ C/mol}$
Mass of electron	$m_e$	$9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
Mass of proton	$m_p$	$1.6726 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Mass of neutron	$m_n$	$1.6749 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Atomic mass unit	$u$	$1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Atomic mass unit	$u$	$931.49 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
Stefan-Boltzmann constant	$\sigma$	$5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W/(m}^2 \text{ K}^4)$
Rydberg constant	$R_\infty$	$1.097 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^{-1}$
Bohr magneton	$\mu_B$	$9.27 \times 10^{-24} \text{ J/T}$
Bohr radius	$a_0$	$0.529 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$
Standard atmosphere	atm	$1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$
Wien displacement constant	$b$	$2.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m K}$

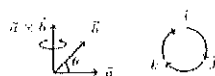
### 1.1: Vectors

Notation:  $\vec{a} = a_x \hat{i} + a_y \hat{j} + a_z \hat{k}$

Magnitude:  $a = |\vec{a}| = \sqrt{a_x^2 + a_y^2 + a_z^2}$

Dot product:  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = a_x b_x + a_y b_y + a_z b_z = ab \cos \theta$

Cross product:



$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = (a_y b_z - a_z b_y) \hat{i} + (a_z b_x - a_x b_z) \hat{j} + (a_x b_y - a_y b_x) \hat{k}$$

$$|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = ab \sin \theta$$

### 1.2: Kinematics

Average and Instantaneous Vel. and Accel.:

$$\vec{v}_{av} = \Delta \vec{r} / \Delta t, \quad \vec{v}_{inst} = d\vec{r}/dt$$

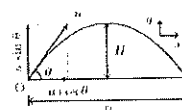
$$\vec{a}_{av} = \Delta \vec{v} / \Delta t, \quad \vec{a}_{inst} = d\vec{v}/dt$$

Motion in a straight line with constant  $a$ :

$$v = u + at, \quad s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2, \quad v^2 = u^2 + 2as$$

Relative Velocity:  $\vec{v}_{A/B} = \vec{v}_A - \vec{v}_B$

Projectile Motion:



$$x = ut \cos \theta, \quad y = ut \sin \theta - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

$$y = x \tan \theta - \frac{g}{2u^2 \cos^2 \theta} x^2$$

$$T = \frac{2u \sin \theta}{g}, \quad R = \frac{u^2 \sin 2\theta}{g}, \quad H = \frac{u^2 \sin^2 \theta}{2g}$$

### 1.3: Newton's Laws and Friction

Linear momentum:  $\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$

Newton's first law: inertial frame.

Newton's second law:  $\vec{F} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}, \quad \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$

Newton's third law:  $\vec{F}_{AB} = -\vec{F}_{BA}$

Frictional force:  $f_{static, max} = \mu_s N, \quad f_{kinetic} = \mu_k N$

Banking angle:  $\frac{v^2}{rg} = \tan \theta, \quad \frac{v^2}{rg} = \frac{\mu + \tan \theta}{1 - \mu \tan \theta}$

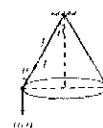
Centripetal force:  $F_c = \frac{mv^2}{r}, \quad a_c = \frac{v^2}{r}$

Pseudo force:  $\vec{F}_{pseudo} = -m\vec{a}_{ref}, \quad \vec{F}_{centrifugal} = -\frac{mv^2}{r}$

Minimum speed to complete vertical circle:

$$v_{min, bottom} = \sqrt{gl}, \quad v_{min, top} = \sqrt{gl}$$

Conical pendulum:  $T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l \cos \theta}{g}}$



### 1.4: Work, Power and Energy

Work:  $W = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{S} = FS \cos \theta$ ,  $W = \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S}$

Kinetic energy:  $K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{p^2}{2m}$

Potential energy:  $F = -dU/dx$  for conservative forces.

$$U_{\text{gravitational}} = mgh, \quad U_{\text{spring}} = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

Work done by conservative forces is path independent and depends only on initial and final points:  
 $\int F_{\text{conservative}} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$ .

Work-energy theorem:  $W = \Delta K$

Mechanical energy:  $E = U + K$ . Conserved if forces are conservative in nature.

Power  $P_{\text{av}} = \frac{\Delta W}{\Delta t}$ ,  $P_{\text{inst}} = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}$

### 1.6: Rigid Body Dynamics

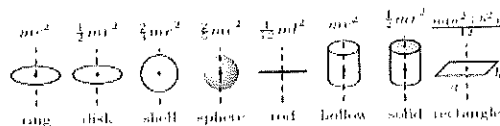
Angular velocity:  $\omega_{\text{ax}} = \frac{\Delta \theta}{\Delta t}$ ,  $\omega = \frac{d\theta}{dt}$ ,  $\vec{v} = \omega \times \vec{r}$

Angular Accel.:  $\alpha_{\text{av}} = \frac{\Delta \omega}{\Delta t}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{d\omega}{dt}$ ,  $\vec{a} = \alpha \times \vec{r}$

Rotation about an axis with constant  $\alpha$ :

$$\omega = \omega_0 + \alpha t, \quad \theta = \omega t + \frac{1}{2}\alpha t^2, \quad \omega^2 - \omega_0^2 = 2\alpha\theta$$

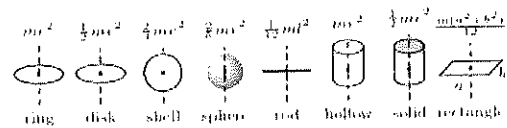
Moment of Inertia:  $I = \sum_i m_i r_i^2$ ,  $I = \int r^2 dm$



Rotation about an axis with constant  $\alpha$ :

$$\omega = \omega_0 + \alpha t, \quad \theta = \omega t + \frac{1}{2}\alpha t^2, \quad \omega^2 - \omega_0^2 = 2\alpha\theta$$

Moment of Inertia:  $I = \sum_i m_i r_i^2$ ,  $I = \int r^2 dm$



Theorem of Parallel Axes:  $I_{\parallel} = I_{\text{cm}} + md^2$



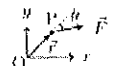
Theorem of Perp. Axes:  $I_z = I_x + I_y$



Radius of Gyration:  $k = \sqrt{I/m}$

Angular Momentum:  $\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$ ,  $\vec{L} = I\vec{\omega}$

Torque:  $\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$ ,  $\vec{\tau} = \frac{d\vec{L}}{dt}$ ,  $\tau = I\alpha$

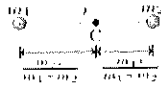


### 1.5: Centre of Mass and Collision

Centre of mass:  $x_{cm} = \frac{\sum x_i m_i}{\sum m_i}$ ,  $x'_{cm} = \frac{\int x dm}{\int dm}$

CM of few useful configurations:

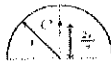
1.  $m_1, m_2$  separated by  $r$ :



2. Triangle (CM  $\equiv$  Centroid)  $y_c = \frac{h}{3}$



3. Semicircular ring:  $y_c = \frac{2r}{\pi}$



4. Semicircular disc:  $y_c = \frac{4r}{3\pi}$



5. Hemispherical shell:  $y_c = \frac{r}{2}$



6. Solid Hemisphere:  $y_c = \frac{3r}{8}$



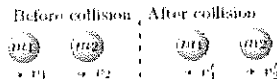
7. Cone: the height of CM from the base is  $h/4$  for the solid cone and  $h/3$  for the hollow cone.

Motion of the CM:  $M = \sum m_i$

$$v_{cm} = \frac{\sum m_i v_i}{M}, \quad p_{cm} = M v_{cm}, \quad a_{cm} = \frac{F_{ext}}{M}$$

Impulse:  $J = \int F dt = \Delta p$

Collision:



Momentum conservation:  $m_1 v_1 + m_2 v_2 = m_1 v_1' + m_2 v_2'$

Elastic Collision:  $\frac{1}{2} m_1 v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_1'^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_2'^2$

Coefficient of restitution:

$$e = \frac{-(v_1' - v_2')}{v_1 - v_2} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{completely elastic} \\ 0, & \text{completely in-elastic} \end{cases}$$

If  $v_2 = 0$  and  $m_1 \ll m_2$  then  $v_1' = -v_1$ .

If  $v_2 = 0$  and  $m_1 \gg m_2$  then  $v_2' = 2v_1$ .

Elastic collision with  $m_1 = m_2$ :  $v_1' = v_2$  and  $v_2' = v_1$ .

Conservation of  $L$ :  $r_{ext} = 0 \implies L = \text{const.}$

Equilibrium condition:  $\sum F = 0$ ,  $\sum \tau = 0$

Kinetic Energy:  $K_{rot} = \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$

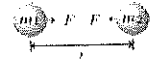
Dynamics:

$$L_{cm} = I_{cm} \omega, \quad F_{ext} = m a_{cm}, \quad p_{cm} = m v_{cm}$$

$$K = \frac{1}{2} m v_{cm}^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_{cm} \omega^2, \quad L = I_{cm} \omega + r_{cm} \times m v_{cm}$$

### 1.7: Gravitation

Gravitational force:  $F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$



Potential energy:  $U = -\frac{GMm}{r}$

Gravitational acceleration:  $g = \frac{GM}{R^2}$

Variation of  $g$  with depth:  $g_{inside} \approx g \left(1 - \frac{h}{R}\right)$

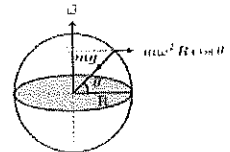
Variation of  $g$  with height:  $g_{outside} \approx g \left(1 - \frac{2h}{R}\right)$

Effect of non-spherical earth shape on  $g$ :

$g_{at \text{ pole}} > g_{at \text{ equator}}$  ( $\because R_w - R_p \approx 21 \text{ km}$ )

Effect of earth rotation on apparent weight:

$$mg_a = mg - m\omega^2 R \cos^2 \theta$$



Orbital velocity of satellite:  $v_o = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{R}}$

Escape velocity:  $v_e = \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{R}}$

Kepler's laws:



First: Elliptical orbit with sun at one of the focus.

Second: Areal velocity is constant. ( $\therefore dL/dt = 0$ ).

Third:  $T^2 \propto a^3$ . In circular orbit  $T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} a^3$ .

### 1.8: Simple Harmonic Motion

Hooke's law:  $F = -kx$  (for small elongation  $x$ )

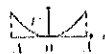
Acceleration:  $a = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\frac{k}{m}x = -\omega^2 x$

Time period:  $T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$

Displacement:  $x = A \sin(\omega t + \phi)$

Velocity:  $v = A\omega \cos(\omega t + \phi) = \pm \omega \sqrt{A^2 - x^2}$

Potential energy:  $U = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$



Kinetic energy:  $K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$



Total energy:  $E = U + K = \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 A^2$

Simple pendulum:  $T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$

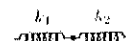


Physical Pendulum:  $T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{I}{mgh}}$



Torsional Pendulum:  $T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{I}{\kappa}}$

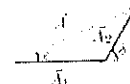
Springs in series:  $\frac{1}{k_{eq}} = \frac{1}{k_1} + \frac{1}{k_2}$



Springs in parallel:  $k_{eq} = k_1 + k_2$



Superposition of two SHM's:



$$x_1 = A_1 \sin \omega t, \quad x_2 = A_2 \sin(\omega t + \delta)$$

$$x = x_1 + x_2 = A \sin(\omega t + \epsilon)$$

$$A = \sqrt{A_1^2 + A_2^2 + 2A_1A_2 \cos \delta}$$

$$\tan \epsilon = \frac{A_2 \sin \delta}{A_1 + A_2 \cos \delta}$$

END OF EXAM