

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS 2012/2013

B.Sc. / B.Ed. / B.A.S.S. II

TITLE OF PAPER : DYNAMICS I

COURSE NUMBER : M255

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF  
SEVEN QUESTIONS.  
2. ANSWER ANY FIVE QUESTIONS

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS : NONE

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

QUESTION 1

- (a) Find unit vectors tangent and normal to the curve  $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + 4}$  at the point  $(-2, 2)$ . [5]

- (b) Determine whether the lines

$$L_1 : \quad x = 3 + 2t, \quad y = 2 + t, \quad z = t; \quad -\infty < t < \infty$$

and

$$L_2 : \quad x = 1, \quad y = s, \quad z = -2 + s; \quad -\infty < s < \infty$$

intersect, and if they do, find their point(s) of intersection. [4]

- (c) Compute the acute angle between the lines  $3x - 4y + 7 = 0$  and  $x + y + 1 = 0$ . [4]

- (d) A girl is pulling a sled horizontally in a straight line over a distance of  $100 \text{ m}$  by exerting a force of  $50 \text{ N}$ . The rope she is pulling on is at an angle of  $45^\circ$  above the horizontal. How much work has she done? [4]

- (e) Evaluate the limit  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1} \left( \frac{1}{t} \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \frac{\ln t}{t^2 - 1} \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \frac{t - 1}{t^2 - 1} \hat{\mathbf{k}} \right)$ . [3]

## QUESTION 2

- (a) Let  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  be vectors in space. Prove the *Pythagorean Principle*,

$$|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}|^2 = |\mathbf{u}|^2 + |\mathbf{v}|^2 \iff \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0.$$

[5]

- (b) Find the equation of the plane passing through the point  $(0, 0, 2)$  and perpendicular to the vector  $\hat{\mathbf{i}}$ . [5]

- (c) Find the angle between the planes  $3x + 4y = 0$  and  $2x + y - 2z = 5$ . [4]

- (d) Given the points  $P(2, 1, -1)$ ,  $Q(3, 0, 2)$ ,  $R(4, -2, 1)$ , and  $S(5, -3, 0)$ , find the volume of the parallelepiped having adjacent sides  $PQ$ ,  $PR$ , and  $PS$ . [3]

- (e) Given that  $\mathbf{r}'(t) = [te^{-t^2}, -e^{-t}, 1]$  and  $\mathbf{r}(0) = [\frac{1}{2}, -1, 1]$ , find  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  at any time  $t$ . [3]

QUESTION 3

- (a) the velocity vector  $\mathbf{v}$  [1]
- (b) the acceleration vector  $\mathbf{a}$  [1]
- (c) the speed [2]
- (d) the unit tangent vector  $\hat{\mathbf{T}}$  [2]
- (e) the curvature [5]
- (f) the unit normal vector  $\hat{\mathbf{N}}$  [2]
- (g) the unit binormal vector  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}$  [3]
- (h) the tangential component of acceleration [2]
- (i) the normal component of acceleration [2]

#### QUESTION 4

- (a) A car with initial speed  $u$  accelerates uniformly over a distance of  $2s$  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  $t_2$ . Prove that

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

[4]

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

- (i) Show that  $H$ , the maximum height reached, is given by

$$H = \frac{1}{2k} \ln \left( \frac{g + kV^2}{g} \right),$$

and that the time  $T$  taken to reach this height is

$$T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{gk}} \tan^{-1} \left[ \left( \frac{k}{g} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} V \right].$$

[10]

- (ii) Show that the particle return to the point of projection with speed  $v^*$ , where

$$v^* = V \left( \frac{g}{g + kV^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

[6]

QUESTION 5

(a) From a point  $O$ , at height  $h$  above sea level, a particle is projected under gravity with a velocity of magnitude  $\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{gh}$ . Find the two possible angles of projection if the particle strikes the sea at horizontal distance  $3h$  from  $O$ . [10 marks]

(b) A particle is projected with velocity  $\mathbf{u}$  from a point  $O$  in a vertical plane through the line of greatest slope of a plane inclined at an angle  $-\beta$  to the horizontal. After time  $T$ , the particle strikes the inclined plane at the point  $P$ , at a distance  $R$  from  $O$ . If  $\mathbf{u}$  makes an angle  $\alpha$  with the horizontal, and if  $|\mathbf{u}| = u$ , show that:

(i)  $T = \frac{2u \sin(\alpha + \beta)}{g \cos \beta}$  and  $R = \frac{u^2[\sin(2\alpha + \beta) + \sin \beta]}{g \cos^2 \beta}$ ;

(ii) for constant  $u$  and  $\beta$ ,  $R$  is maximum when  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\beta}{2}$ . [8,2]

### QUESTION 6

(a) The position of a particle moving along the  $x$  axis is determined by the equation

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 4\frac{dx}{dt} + 8x = 20 \cos(2t).$$

If the particle starts from rest at  $x = 0$ , find

(i)  $x$  as a function of  $t$ ,

(ii) the amplitude, period, and frequency after a long time. [7,3]

(b) The weight on a vibrating spring undergoes forced vibrations according to the equation

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 4x = 8 \sin(\omega t),$$

where  $x$  is the displacement from the equilibrium position and  $\omega$  is a constant.

If  $x = 0$  and  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 0$  when  $t = 0$ , find:

(i)  $x$  as a function of  $t$ ,

(ii) the period of the external force for which resonance occurs. [8,2]

### QUESTION 7

A comet moves in a plane under the gravitational attraction of the sun, which is situated at the origin  $O$ . Given that the attractive force between the sun and the comet can be written as

$$f(r) = -\frac{GMm}{r^2};$$

(a) Derive the equations

$$(i) \quad \ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2 = -\frac{GM}{r^2}; \quad [6]$$

$$(ii) \quad r^2\dot{\theta} = h, \quad [4]$$

where  $r$  and  $\theta$  are plane polar coordinates,  $h$  is a constant,  $G$  is the gravitational constant,  $M$  is the mass of the sun, and  $m$  is the mass of the moon.

(b) Suppose that at the initial instant,  $\theta = 0$ , the comet is at distance  $d$  from the sun and is moving with speed  $v$  in a direction perpendicular to the radius vector from the sun. Show, by means of the substitution  $r = \frac{1}{u}$ , that the equation of the particle is

$$\frac{d^2u}{d\theta^2} + u = \frac{GM}{d^2v^2}.$$

[10]

END OF EXAMINATION