
UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

MAIN EXAMINATION, 2015/2016

BASS II, BED II, BENG II, BSC II

Title of Paper : DYNAMICS I

Course Number : 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 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, B2 – B6) on a new page and clearly indicate the question number at the top of the page.
6. You can answer questions in any order.
7. A formula sheet is provided on the last page.

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) Let $\mathbf{a} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \hat{\mathbf{j}}$, $\mathbf{b} = 2\hat{\mathbf{i}} - 3\hat{\mathbf{j}} + \hat{\mathbf{k}}$, and $\mathbf{c} = 4\hat{\mathbf{j}} - 3\hat{\mathbf{k}}$. Find

i. $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$,

ii. $\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}$,

iii. a unit vector in the direction of \mathbf{b} ,

iv. the volume of the parallelepiped with sides \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} , and \mathbf{c} .

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

(c) Let

$$\mathbf{r} = 3\cos 2t\hat{\mathbf{i}} + 3\sin 2t\hat{\mathbf{j}} + (8t - 4)\hat{\mathbf{k}}$$

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.

(d) 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

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

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

QUESTION B2 [20 Marks]

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

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

Find

- (a) $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\theta}$,
- (b) the position vector \mathbf{r} in terms of $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\theta}$,
- (c) $\dot{\hat{\rho}}$ and $\dot{\hat{\theta}}$, the time derivatives of $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\theta}$,
- (d) the velocity \mathbf{v} in terms of $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\theta}$,
- (e) the acceleration \mathbf{a} in terms of $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\theta}$.

QUESTION B3 [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

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

- (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

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

- ii. Find an expression for $v(t)$.
 - iii. Find the time T to reach maximum height.

QUESTION B4 [20 Marks]

- (a) Let $\phi(x, y, z) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$. Show that $\text{grad } \phi$ is the unit vector in the direction of $\mathbf{r} = x \hat{\mathbf{i}} + y \hat{\mathbf{j}} + z \hat{\mathbf{k}}$.
- (b) Let $\phi : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ have continuous second order partial derivatives. Prove that $\text{curl}(\text{grad } \phi) = \mathbf{0}$.
- (c) Let $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = 2xy \hat{\mathbf{i}} + (x^2 + 2yz) \hat{\mathbf{j}} + (y^2 + 1) \hat{\mathbf{k}}$.
- Verify that $\text{curl } \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$.
 - Find $\phi : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\mathbf{F} = \text{grad } \phi$.

QUESTION B5 [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.
- (b) A projectile is fired with an initial speed of 200 m/s and an angle of elevation 60° . Assuming $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$, find
- the velocity vector of the projectile at any time t ,
 - the position vector of the projectile at any time t ,
 - the range of the projectile,
 - The maximum height reached.

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.
- (b) Show that movement under a central force occurs in a plane which is perpendicular to the angular momentum \mathbf{L} .
- (c) 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 $\sqrt{2gh}$.