



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
University Village, Plot 91, Cadastral Zone, Nnamdi Azikwe Express Way, Jabi-Abuja

FACULTY OF SCIENCES
2021_1 Examinations

Course Code: MTH315
Course Title: Analytical Dynamics
Credit Unit: 3
Time Allowed: 3 Hours
Total: 70 Marks
Instruction: Answer Question One (1) and Any Other 4 Questions

1. (a) Determine the number of degrees of freedom in each of the following cases:
(i) 12 particles moving freely in a plane (ii) 23 particles moving freely in space. (4 marks)
(b) A system of particles consists of a 2-gram mass located at (1, 0, -3), a 7-gram mass at (-1, 1, 3) and 2-gram mass at (1, -1, 1). Find the center of mass. (6 marks)
(c) A uniform beam is 100m long and has a mass 100kg and masses of 60kg and 80 kg are suspended from its ends; at what point must the beam be supported so that it may rest horizontally? (8 marks)
(d) A quadrilateral ABCD has masses 1, 5, 2 and 3 units located at its vertices, A(3, -2, 2), B(2, -2, 3), C(1, -2, 4) and D(4, 1, 3). Find the coordinates of the center of mass (4 marks)
2. Three particles of masses 3, 2, 4 respectively have position vectors
 $r_1 = (t + 2)i - 2t^2j + k,$
 $r_2 = -2ti + 3t^2j + k,$
 $r_3 = \frac{1}{2}t^2i - tj + 2tk,$ where t is time.
Find (a) the velocity of the center of mass at time $t = 0$ (b) the acceleration at $t=1$. (12 marks)
3. A particle of mass 10 units moves along a space curve whose position vector is given as a function of time t by
$$r = (2t^3 - 3t + 2)i + (6t^2 - t)j + t^3k$$
At time $t = 1$, find the (a) momentum (b) force field. (12 marks)
4. A particle of mass 2 moves in a force field depending on time t given by
 $F = 6t^2i - 2tj + 4tk.$ Assuming that at $t = 0$ the particle is located at
 $r_0 = 2i - 3j + k$ and has velocity $v_0 = i + 3j - k$, find (a) the velocity (b) the position at any time t . (12 marks)
5. A particle moves along the x axis in a force field having potential

$$V = ax^2 - bx^3 + \frac{2}{3},$$

where a and b are positive constants. Determine the point(s) of equilibrium.

(12 marks)

6. (a) State without proof the Liouville's theorem in Hamiltonian theory.

(4 marks)

(b) Minimise the integral

$$I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \left[3 \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right)^2 - 3y^2 + 6ty \right] dt, \quad y(0) = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ and } y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$$

(8 marks)