



**EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA**  
**THIRD EXAMINATION IN SCIENCE - 2005/2006**  
**SECOND SEMESTER (March/April, 2008)**  
**MT 307 - CLASSICAL MECHANICS III**  
**(PROPER AND REPEAT)**

Time: Three hours

Answer all Questions

- Q1. (a) Two frame of references  $S$  and  $S'$  have a common origin  $O$  and  $S'$  rotates with angular velocity  $\underline{\omega}$  with respect to  $S$ . At a time  $t$ , a particle  $P$  has position vector  $\underline{r}$  with respect to  $O$ . With the usual notation, prove that

$$\frac{d^2 \underline{r}}{dt^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \underline{r}}{\partial t^2} + 2\underline{\omega} \wedge \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial t} + \frac{d\underline{\omega}}{dt} \wedge \underline{r} + \underline{\omega} \wedge (\underline{\omega} \wedge \underline{r}).$$

You may use the following vector identity:

$$\frac{d(\ )}{dt} = \frac{\partial(\ )}{\partial t} + \underline{\omega} \wedge (\ ).$$

[30 marks]

- (b) A particle is released from rest at a height  $h$  near the earth's surface and at a latitude  $\lambda$  through a resisting medium with resistance  $-k \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial t}$ , where  $\frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial t}$  is the velocity of the particle relative to a frame of reference fixed on the earth's surface. Show that the deviation of the particle towards the East at time  $t$  is given by

$$\frac{2\omega g t (1 + e^{-kt})}{k^2} \cos \lambda - \frac{4\omega g (1 - e^{-kt})}{k^3} \cos \lambda.$$

[70 marks]

Q2. (a) Define the following terms:

- (i) Linear momentum;
- (ii) Angular momentum.

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(b) With the usual notations, obtain the following relations for a system of particles.

(i)  $\underline{H} = \underline{r}_G \wedge M\underline{V}_G + \underline{H}_G;$

(ii)  $T = T_G + \frac{1}{2}MV_G^2,$

where  $G$  indicates the centre of mass of the system.

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(c) A uniform circular disc of radius  $R$  and mass  $M$  is rigidly mounted on one end of a thin light shaft  $CD$  of length  $L$ . The shaft is normal to the disc at its centre  $C$ . The disc rolls on a rough horizontal plane,  $D$  being fixed to the plane by a smooth universal joint. If the centre of the disc rotates with constant angular velocity  $\Omega$  about the vertical through  $D$  with constant angular velocity  $\omega$  about the shaft, find the kinetic energy and the angular momentum of the disc about  $D$ .

[45 m

Q3. (a) With the usual notation, derive the Euler's dynamical equations of motion for a rigid body having a fixed point.

[35 m

(b) Using part (a), show that the kinetic energy and angular momentum of a rigid body in torque-free motion are constants.

[25 m

(c) A uniform rectangular plate of mass  $m$  with the length and breadth  $2a$  and  $2b$ , respectively, spins with constant angular velocity  $\omega$  about a diagonal. Find the couple which must act on the plate in order to maintain this motion.

[40 m

Q4. Consider the motion of a thin circular disc of centre  $O$ , radius  $r$  and mass  $m$  which rolls on a horizontal plane. Let  $P$  be the point of contact of the disc with the plane which is supposed to be rough in order to prevent slipping. Let  $OQ$  be the vertical and  $\theta$  be the inclination of the plane of the disc with the vertical, and let the angle between a fixed horizontal direction and the tangent to the disc at  $P$  be denoted by  $\psi$ . If  $\underline{i}, \underline{j}$  and  $\underline{k}$  are an orthogonal triad of unit vectors directed along  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  axes, respectively, such that  $\underline{k}$  is perpendicular to the disc at its centre  $O$  and  $\underline{i}$  is along  $OP$ ,

(a) obtain the general expressions for the components of reaction on the disc at the point  $P$  of contact. [40 marks]

(b) in case of the disc rolling steadily along a circular path, with usual notation, show that the motion satisfies the differential equation

$$I_{xx} \sin \theta \cos \theta \frac{d^2 \psi}{dt^2} - (I_{zz} + mr^2) \omega_z \cos \theta \frac{d\psi}{dt} - mgr \sin \theta = 0.$$

[60 marks]

Q5. (a) With the usual notations, derive the Lagrange's equations

$$\Delta \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) = \sum_i I_i \frac{\partial r_i}{\partial q_j}$$

for the impulsive motion. [40 marks]

(b) Two rods  $AB$  and  $BC$ , each of length  $a$  and mass  $m$ , are frictionlessly joined at  $B$  and lie on a frictionless table. Initially the two rods are collinear. An impulse  $\underline{P}$  is applied at point  $A$  in a direction perpendicular to the line  $ABC$ . Show that the magnitudes of the velocities of the centres of mass of rods  $BC$  and  $AB$ , respectively, immediately after the impulse is applied are given by  $\frac{P}{4m}$  and  $\frac{5P}{4m}$ . [60 marks]

Q6. (a) If  $f$  and  $g$  are two functions of the dynamical variables  $\vec{q}, \vec{p}$  and time  $t$ , define the Poisson bracket  $(f, g)$  for  $f$  and  $g$ . If  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are generalized coordinates and  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are the corresponding generalized momenta, find the Poisson bracket  $(X, Y)$  when  $X = q_1^2 + q_2^2$  and  $Y = 2p_1 + p_2$ . [25 marks]

(b) For any function  $g(q, p, t)$ , show that

$$\frac{dg}{dt} = (g, H) + \frac{\partial g}{\partial t}$$

and hence, if  $f$  and  $g$  are not explicit functions of time, show that

$$(f, (g, H)) + (g, (H, f)) + (H, (f, g)) = 0,$$

where  $H$  is the Hamiltonian. [45 marks]

(c) Using the result obtained in (b) and the the equation of motion in Poisson bracket, show that, if  $f$  and  $g$  are constants through out the motion,  $(f, g)$  is also constant through out the motion. [30 marks]