



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2021/2022 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (SCIENCE)

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY)

SPH 200: MECHANICS II

DATE:

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS:

- The paper consists of **two** sections.
- Section **A** is **compulsory** (30 marks).
- Answer any **two** questions from section **B** (each 20 marks).

CONSTANTS

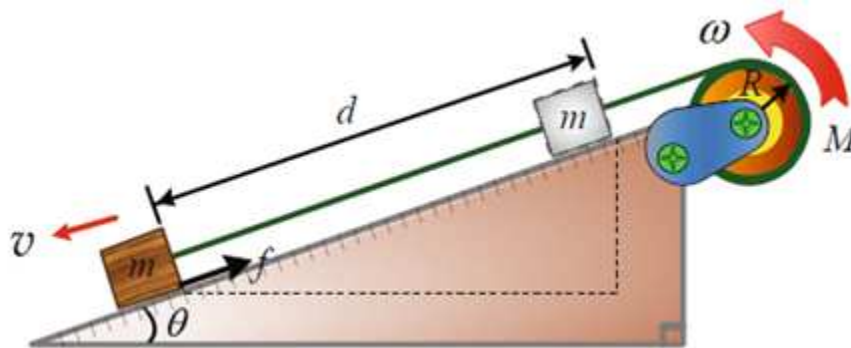
$$g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$$

SECTION A (COMPULSORY)

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Define the following terminologies
- (i) Torque (2 marks)
 - (ii) Rotational dynamics (2 marks)
 - (iii) Angular displacement (2 marks)
- b) Consider a particle with mass m moving vertically along the y -axis from point y_1 to point y_2 . Show that the gravitational potential energy associated with the particle-Earth system is given by $U = mgy$ (4 marks)
- c) State the principal of conservation of mechanical energy (2 marks)
- d) A block of initial speed v_0 slides across a floor. A kinetic frictional force of magnitude $f_k = 50\text{ N}$ does work on the block, stopping it over a displacement of magnitude $d = 2\text{ m}$. Find the dissipated mechanical energy. (3 marks)
- e) A block of mass $m = 3\text{ kg}$ rests on an inclined plane of angle $\theta = 30^\circ$ as shown below. The block is connected by a cord of negligible mass that is wrapped around a pulley of mass $M = 2.5\text{ kg}$ and radius $R = 0.6\text{ m}$. The block slides on the incline against a frictional force f of 0.5 N , and the pulley rotates without friction about its axis. How fast will the block be moving after sliding a distance $d = 1.5\text{ m}$ along the incline? (4 marks)

Fig. 1



- f) Given that the displacement of a block-spring system exhibiting Simple Harmonic Motion (SHM) is given by $x(t) = A\cos(\omega t + \varphi)$. Show that the velocity of the block at any arbitrary position x is given by $v = \pm \sqrt{\frac{k_H}{m}(A^2 - x^2)}$ (5 marks)

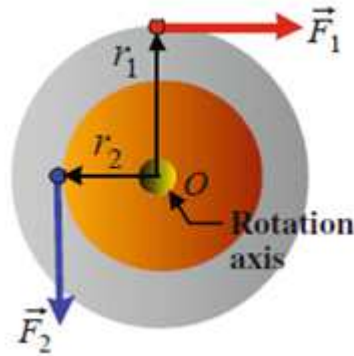
- g) A body of mass $m = 5 \text{ kg}$ is released from at a height of 2 m above the ground. Determine;
- The kinetic energy of the body just before hitting the ground (3 marks)
 - The speed at point (i) above (3 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Two wheels of radii $r_1 = 40 \text{ cm}$ and $r_2 = 30 \text{ cm}$ are fastened together such that they can rotate freely about an axle O perpendicular to the page. Two forces of magnitude $F_1 = 20 \text{ N}$ and $F_2 = 40 \text{ N}$ are applied as shown in the Fig.2.

Fig. 2



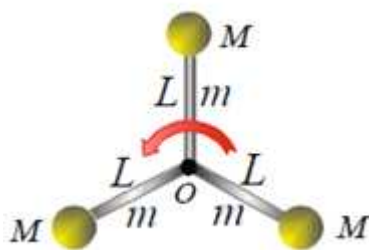
Determine the net torque on the wheel. (5 marks)

- b) A particle oscillates with a simple harmonic motion along the x -axis. Its displacement from the origin varies with time according to the equation $x = 2 \text{ m} \sin(0.5\pi t + \frac{\pi}{3})$ where t is in seconds and the argument of the cosine is in radians. Find ;
- The amplitude, frequency and period of the motion (3 marks)
 - The velocity and acceleration of the particle at any time (4 marks)
 - The maximum speed and acceleration of the particle (4 marks)
 - The displacement of the particle between $t = 0$ and $t = 2 \text{ s}$. (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) A block of mass m is pushed along a rough horizontal surface by a constant horizontal force F . The displacement of the block along the surface is d .
- Find the mathematical expression that represents the work done by; the force F , the kinetic friction f_k , the gravitational force mg , and the normal force N
(4 marks)
 - Calculate the work done when $m = 2 \text{ kg}$, $\mu_k = 0.5$, $F = 20 \text{ N}$ and $d = 5 \text{ m}$
(4 marks)
- b) Three tiny spheres, each of mass M are fastened by three identical rods each of mass m and length L . The system, shown below, is allowed to rotate with an angular speed ω about an axis that is perpendicular to the page and passes through O . Find;
- Moment of inertia
(3 marks)
 - The rotational kinetic energy about the axis given that $m = 0.5 \text{ kg}$, $M = 3 \text{ kg}$ and $\omega = 5 \text{ rad/s}$.
(3 marks)

Fig. 3



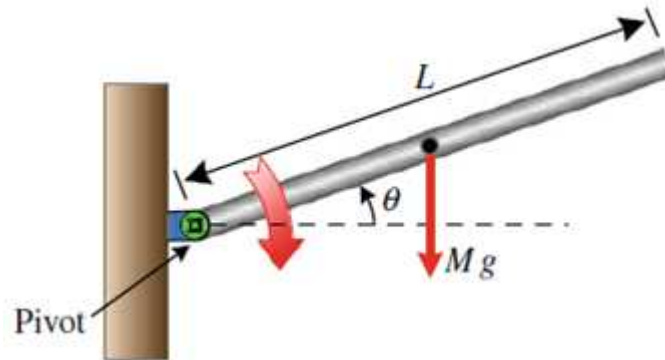
- c) A horizontal rod of uniform mass per unit length λ has a mass M and length L . Use the relation $I = \int r^2 dm$ to calculate the moment of inertia of the rod about;
- An axis passing through its center
(3 marks)
 - An axis passing through its end
(3 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) A wheel rotates with a constant angular acceleration of 3.5 rad/s^2 . If the angular speed of the wheel is 2.0 rad/s at $t = 0$
- Through what angle does the wheel rotate between $t = 0$ and $t = 2.0 \text{ s}$?
(Given your answer in radians)
(3 marks)
 - What is the angular speed of the wheel at $t = 2.0 \text{ s}$?
(3 marks)

- b) A uniform thin rod of mass $M = 2 \text{ kg}$ and length $L = 20 \text{ cm}$ is attached from one end to a frictionless pivot. The rod is free to rotate in a vertical. The rod is released in a vertical position as shown in Fig.4

Fig. 4

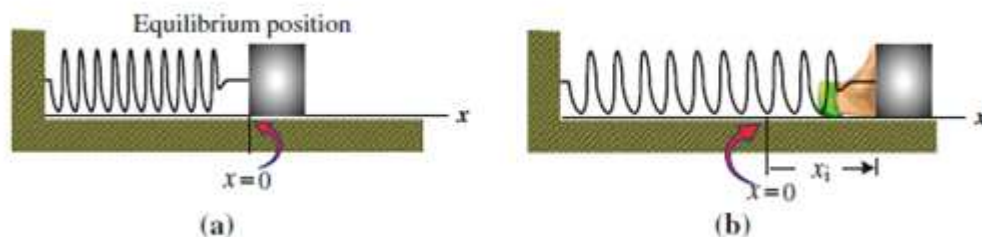


- i. Determine the angular acceleration of the rod as a function of θ for $-90^\circ \leq \theta \leq 90^\circ$ and find its maximum value (5 marks)
 - ii. Find the angle where the tangential acceleration of the free end of the rod equals g . (4 marks)
- c) A pulley of mass $M = 6 \text{ kg}$ and radius $R = 20 \text{ cm}$ is mounted on a frictionless axis. A massless cord is wrapped around the pulley while its other end supports a block of mass $m = 3 \text{ kg}$. Assuming that the cord does not slip, calculate the linear acceleration of the block, angular acceleration of the pulley and the tension in the cord. (5 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) A block of mass $m = 320 \text{ g}$ is fastened to a light spring whose force constant k_H is 72 N/m . The block is pulled a distance $x_i = 50 \text{ cm}$ from its equilibrium position at $x = 0$ on a horizontal frictionless surface and released at $t = 0$. Determine;

Fig. 5



- i. The mechanical energy of the oscillating block (3 marks)
- ii. The maximum speed of the oscillating block (3 marks)
- iii. The velocity, kinetic energy and potential energy of the block when its position is 30 cm . (6 marks)

- b) A harmonic wave traveling along a string in the direction of increasing x has the following form $y = 0.4 \cos(0.2x - 5t)$, where all numerical constants are in SI units. Determine;
- The amplitude, wave number, angular frequency and the speed of the wave. (3 marks)
 - Wavelength, period and the frequency of the wave (5 marks)