



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

FACULTY OF SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

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

1. (a) Determine the number of degrees of freedom in each of the following cases:
 - (i) Seven particles moving freely in a plane **(2 marks)**
 - (ii) Ten particles moving freely in space. **(2 marks)**(b) A system of particles consists of a 3 gram mass located at (2, 0, -1), a 5 gram mass at (-5,1,3) and 2 gram mass at (3, -1, 1). Find the center of mass. **(6 marks)**
 - (c) A uniform beam is 72m long and has a mass 200kg and masses of 120kg and 160 kg are suspended from its ends; at what point must the beam be supported so that it may rest horizontally? **(8 marks)**
 - (d) A pentagon QRSXW has masses 7, 1, 5, 2 and 3 units located at its vertices Q(1,2,-1), R(3,-2,2), S(2,-2,3), X(1,-2,4) and W(4,1,3). Find the coordinates of the center of mass. **(4 marks)**
2. Three particles of masses 1,3,6 respectively have position vectors
$$r_1 = (2t + 2)i - 11t^2j + (t^3 + 6t - 10)k,$$
$$r_2 = -5ti + 3t^2j + k,$$
$$r_3 = \frac{1}{3}t^3i - tj + 2tk,$$
where t is time. Find
 - (a) The velocity of the center of mass at time $t = 1$ **(8 marks)**
 - (b) The acceleration at $t=1$. **(4 marks)**
3. A particle of mass 5 units moves along a space curve whose position vector is given as a function of time t by
$$r = (6t^3 - t + 2)i + (2t^2 - t)j + (3t^3)k$$
At time $t = 2$, find the
 - (a) momentum **(7 marks)**

(b) force field. **(5 marks)**

4. A particle of mass 2 moves in a force field depending on time t given by

$F = 42t^2i - 8tj + 4tk$. Assuming that at $t = 0$ the particle is located at

$r_0 = i - 2j + k$ and has velocity $v_0 = 2i + 3j - 4k$, find

(a) the velocity, **(6 marks)**

(b) the position at any time t . **(6 marks)**

5. A particle moves along the x axis in a force field having potential

$$V = \frac{\alpha}{3}x^3 - \frac{\beta}{3}x^2 + 2\gamma x + 10\delta,$$

where α, β, γ and δ are positive constants.

Determine the point(s) of equilibrium. **(12marks)**

6. (a) State without proof the Liouville's theorem. **(4marks)**

(b) Minimise the integral

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