



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

FACULTY OF SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
2021_2 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) 20 particles moving freely in a plane **(2 marks)**
 - (ii) 15 particles moving freely in space . **(2 marks)**

(b) A system of particles consists of a 3-gram mass located at (1, 2, -1), a 5-gram mass at (0,1,3) and 2-gram mass at (1, -1, 1). Find the center of mass. **(6 marks)**

(c) A uniform beam is 10m long and has a mass 10kg and masses of 6kg and 8 kg are suspended from its ends; at what point must the beam be supported so that it may rest horizontally? **(8marks)**

(d) A quadrilateral ABCD has masses 2,3, 5 and 7 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 1,2,3 respectively have position vectors
$$r_1 = (t^2 + 4)i - t^2j + tk,$$
$$r_2 = -2ti + 3t^2j - 2tk,$$
$$r_3 = -t^2i - t^2j + 2tk,$$
where t is time.
Find (a) the velocity of the center of mass at time $t = 0$ **(6 marks)**
(b) the acceleration at $t=1$. **(6 marks)**
3. A particle of mass 12 units moves along a space curve whose position vector is given as a function of time t by $r = (t^4 - 3t)i + 6t^3j + t^3k$
At time $t = 1$, find the (a) momentum **(6 marks)**
(b) force field. **(6 marks)**

4. A particle of mass 3 moves in a force field depending on time t given by $F = 9t^2i - 3tj + 6tk$. Assuming that at $t = 0$ the particle is located at $r_0 = -i - j + 2k$ and has velocity $v_0 = 3i + j - k$,
 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 $V = \frac{\alpha}{3}x^3 - \frac{\beta}{2}x^2$, where α and β 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 $I = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \left[2 \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right)^2 - 2y^2 + 4ty \right] dt$, $y(0) = 0$ and $y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$ **(8 marks)**