

Name:

Total Marks:

# A level Applied Mathematics Paper 3B Mechanics



Practice Paper M17

Time: 2 hours

## Information for Candidates

- This practice paper is an adapted legacy old paper for the Edexcel GCE A Level Specifications
- There are 10 questions in this question paper
- The total mark for this paper is 102.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets.
- Full marks may be obtained for answers to ALL questions

## Advice to candidates:

- You must ensure that your answers to parts of questions are clearly labelled.
- You must show sufficient working to make your methods clear to the Examiner
- Answers without working may not gain full credit

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**Question 1**

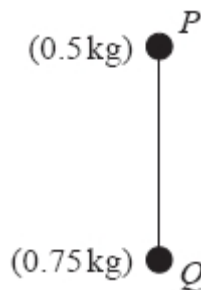
A cyclist is moving along a straight horizontal road and passes a point  $A$ . Five seconds later, at the instant when she is moving with speed  $10 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ , she passes the point  $B$ . She moves with constant acceleration from  $A$  to  $B$ .

Given that  $AB = 40\text{m}$ , find

- (a) the acceleration of the cyclist as she moves from  $A$  to  $B$ , (4)
- (b) the time it takes her to travel from  $A$  to the midpoint of  $AB$ . (5)

**(Total for question = 9 marks)**

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**Question 2**

**Figure 2**

A vertical light rod  $PQ$  has a particle of mass  $0.5\text{kg}$  attached to it at  $P$  and a particle of mass  $0.75\text{kg}$  attached to it at  $Q$ , to form a system, as shown in Figure 2. The system is accelerated vertically upwards by a vertical force of magnitude  $15\text{N}$  applied to the particle at  $Q$ . Find the thrust in the rod. (6)

**(Total for question = 6 marks)**

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**Question 3**

A plank  $AB$  has length  $6\text{m}$  and mass  $30\text{kg}$ . The point  $C$  is on the plank with  $CB = 2\text{m}$ . The plank rests in equilibrium in a horizontal position on supports at  $A$  and  $C$ . Two people, each of mass  $75\text{kg}$ , stand on the plank. One person stands at the point  $P$  of the plank, where  $AP = x$  metres, and the other person stands at the point  $Q$  of the plank, where  $AQ = 2x$  metres. The plank remains horizontal and in equilibrium with the magnitude of the reaction at  $C$  five times the magnitude of the reaction at  $A$ . The plank is modelled as a uniform rod and each person is modelled as a particle.

- (a) Find the value of  $x$ . (7)
- (b) State two ways in which you have used the assumptions made in modelling the plank as a uniform rod. (2)

**(Total for question = 9 marks)**

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**Question 4**

Three forces,  $(15\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j})$  N,  $(5q\mathbf{i} - p\mathbf{j})$  N and  $(-3p\mathbf{i} - q\mathbf{j})$  N, where  $p$  and  $q$  are constants, act on a particle.

Given that the particle is in equilibrium, find the value of  $p$  and the value of  $q$ . (6)

(Total for question = 6 marks)

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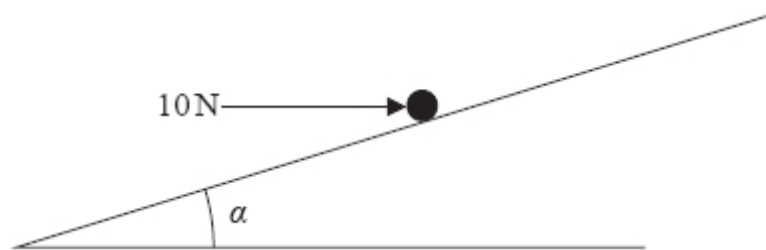
**Question 5**

Figure 1

A particle  $P$  of mass 5kg is held at rest in equilibrium on a rough inclined plane by a horizontal force of

magnitude 10N. The plane is inclined to the horizontal at an angle  $\alpha$  where  $\tan\alpha = \frac{3}{4}$ , as shown in Figure 1. The line of action of the force lies in the vertical plane containing  $P$  and a line of greatest slope of the plane. The coefficient of friction between  $P$  and the plane is  $\mu$ . Given that  $P$  is on the point of sliding down the plane, find the value of  $\mu$ . (9)

(Total for question = 9 marks)

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### Question 6

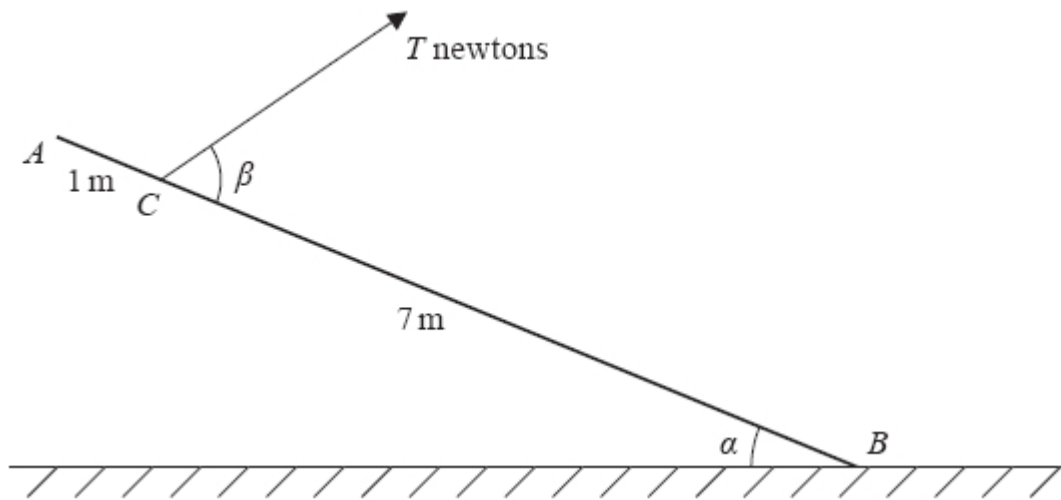


Figure 3

A uniform rod  $AB$ , of mass 5 kg and length 8 m, has its end  $B$  resting on rough horizontal ground. The rod is held in limiting equilibrium at an angle  $\alpha$  to the horizontal, where  $\tan \alpha = \frac{3}{4}$ , by a rope attached to the rod at  $C$ . The distance  $AC = 1$  m. The rope is in the same vertical plane as the rod. The angle between the rope and the rod is  $\beta$  and the tension in the rope is  $T$  newtons, as shown in Figure 3. The coefficient of friction between the rod and the ground is  $\frac{2}{3}$ . The vertical component of the force exerted on the rod at  $B$  by the ground is  $R$  newtons.

(a) Find the value of  $R$ . (6)

(b) Find the size of angle  $\beta$ . (5)

(Total for question = 11 marks)

### Question 7

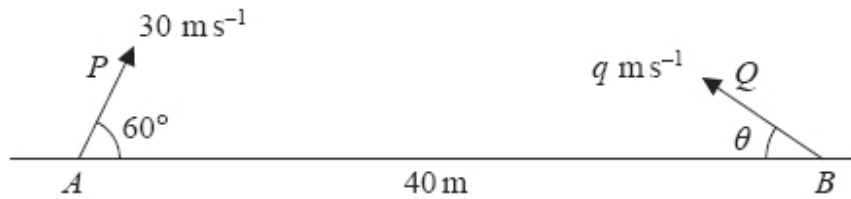


Figure 4

The points  $A$  and  $B$  lie 40 m apart on horizontal ground. At time  $t = 0$  the particles  $P$  and  $Q$  are projected in the vertical plane containing  $AB$  and move freely under gravity. Particle  $P$  is projected from  $A$  with speed  $30 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  at  $60^\circ$  to  $AB$  and particle  $Q$  is projected from  $B$  with speed  $q \text{ m s}^{-1}$  at angle  $\theta$  to  $BA$ , as shown in Figure 4.

At  $t = 2$  seconds,  $P$  and  $Q$  collide.

(a) Find

(i) the size of angle  $\theta$ ,

(ii) the value of  $q$ .

(6)

(b) Find the speed of  $P$  at the instant before it collides with  $Q$ .

(5)

(Total for question = 11 marks)

### Question 8

[In this question  $\mathbf{i}$  and  $\mathbf{j}$  are horizontal unit vectors due east and due north respectively and position vectors are given relative to a fixed origin  $O$ .]

Two ships,  $P$  and  $Q$ , are moving with constant velocities.

The velocity of  $P$  is  $(9\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j}) \text{ km h}^{-1}$  and the velocity of  $Q$  is  $(4\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{j}) \text{ km h}^{-1}$

(a) Find the direction of motion of  $P$ , giving your answer as a bearing to the nearest degree.

(3)

When  $t = 0$ , the position vector of  $P$  is  $(9\mathbf{i} + 10\mathbf{j}) \text{ km}$  and the position vector of  $Q$  is  $(\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}) \text{ km}$ . At time  $t$  hours, the position vectors of  $P$  and  $Q$  are  $\mathbf{p}$  km and  $\mathbf{q}$  km respectively.

(b) Find an expression for

(i)  $\mathbf{p}$  in terms of  $t$ ,

(ii)  $\mathbf{q}$  in terms of  $t$ .

(3)

(c) Hence show that, at time  $t$  hours,

$$\overrightarrow{QP} = (8 + 5t)\mathbf{i} + (6 - 10t)\mathbf{j}$$

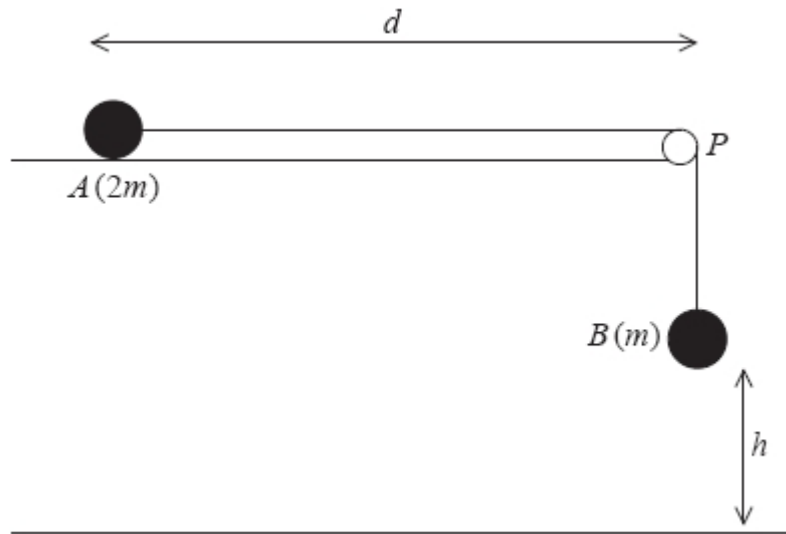
(2)

(d) Find the values of  $t$  when the ships are 10 km apart.

(6)

(Total for question = 14 marks)

**Question 9**



**Figure 3**

Two particles,  $A$  and  $B$ , have masses  $2m$  and  $m$  respectively. The particles are attached to the ends of a light inextensible string. Particle  $A$  is held at rest on a fixed rough horizontal table at a distance  $d$  from a small smooth light pulley which is fixed at the edge of the table at the point  $P$ . The coefficient of friction

between  $A$  and the table is  $\mu$ , where  $\mu < \frac{1}{2}$ .

The string is parallel to the table from  $A$  to  $P$  and passes over the pulley. Particle  $B$  hangs freely at rest vertically below  $P$  with the string taut and at a height  $h$ , ( $h < d$ ), above a horizontal floor, as shown in Figure 3. Particle  $A$  is released from rest with the string taut and slides along the table.

- (a) (i) Write down an equation of motion for  $A$ .  
(ii) Write down an equation of motion for  $B$ . (4)
- (b) Hence show that, until  $B$  hits the floor, the acceleration of  $A$  is  $\frac{g}{3}(1 - 2\mu)$ . (3)
- (c) Find, in terms of  $g$ ,  $h$  and  $\mu$ , the speed of  $A$  at the instant when  $B$  hits the floor. (2)

After  $B$  hits the floor,  $A$  continues to slide along the table. Given that  $\mu = \frac{1}{3}$  and that  $A$  comes to rest at  $P$ ,

(d) find  $d$  in terms of  $h$ . (5)

(e) Describe what would happen if  $\mu = \frac{1}{2}$  (1)

**(Total for question = 15 marks)**

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**Question 10**

At time  $t = 0$  a particle  $P$  leaves the origin  $O$  and moves along the  $x$ -axis. At time  $t$  seconds, the velocity of  $P$  is  $v$  m s<sup>-1</sup> in the positive  $x$  direction, where

$$v = 3t^2 - 16t + 21$$

The particle is instantaneously at rest when  $t = t_1$  and when  $t = t_2$  ( $t_1 < t_2$ ).

- (a) Find the value of  $t_1$  and the value of  $t_2$ . (2)
- (b) Find the magnitude of the acceleration of  $P$  at the instant when  $t = t_1$ . (3)
- (c) Find the distance travelled by  $P$  in the interval  $t_1 \leq t \leq t_2$ . (4)
- (d) Show that  $P$  does not return to  $O$ . (3)

(Total for question = 12 marks)

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**TOTAL FOR PAPER IS 102 MARKS**