

**General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Supplementary (AS) and Advanced Level**  
former Oxford and Cambridge modular syllabus

**MEI STRUCTURED MATHEMATICS**  
Mechanics 6

**5512**

Thursday            **7 JUNE 2001**            Afternoon            1 hour 20 minutes

Additional materials:  
Answer paper  
Graph paper  
Students' Handbook

**TIME**    1 hour 20 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer paper/ answer booklet.

Answer any **three** questions.

Write your answers on the separate answer paper provided.

If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The approximate allocation of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

You are advised that an answer may receive no marks unless sufficient detail of the working is shown on the answer paper to indicate that a correct method is being used.

Take  $g = 9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$  unless otherwise instructed.

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**This question paper consists of 5 printed pages and 3 blank pages.**



## Option 1: Rotation of a rigid body

1

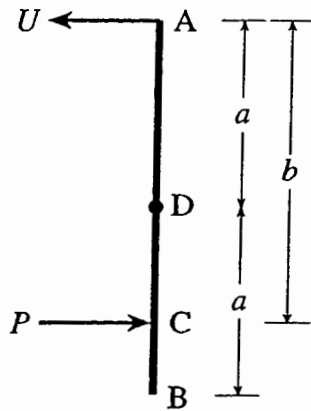


Fig. 1

Fig. 1 shows a simple model for the design of a cricket bat. A uniform rod  $AB$  of mass  $M$  and length  $2a$  can rotate freely in a vertical plane about a fixed horizontal axis through the end  $A$ . The rod is hanging vertically at rest when it is acted on by a horizontal impulse  $P$  at the point  $C$  where  $AC = b$ . The impulsive reaction at  $A$  is denoted by  $U$  and the initial angular speed of the rod is  $\omega$ .

- (i) Write down two impulse equations for the initial motion of the rod. Hence show that  $U = 0$  when  $b = \frac{4}{3}a$ . (The position of  $C$  for which  $U = 0$  is known as the *centre of percussion*.) [7]

In a particular case, a batsman requires the centre of percussion to be  $\frac{7}{5}a$  below the point  $A$ . To achieve this, a particle of mass  $m$  is added at the end  $B$ .

- (ii) Find  $m$  in terms of  $M$ . [6]

When the rod is hanging vertically with this particle added, a horizontal impulse  $R$  acts at the centre  $D$  of the rod.

- (iii) Find the impulsive reaction at  $A$  in terms of  $R$ .

With the same impulse  $R$  acting at  $D$ , show that a second particle of arbitrary mass can be added to the rod without changing the impulsive reaction at  $A$ . Find the positions at which this second particle may be attached. [7]

## Option 2: Vectors

2

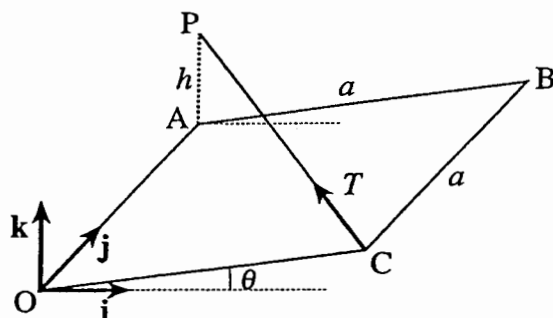


Fig. 2

A heavy concrete slab being slowly lowered into a horizontal position is shown in Fig. 2. The slab is modelled as a uniform square lamina of side  $a$  and mass  $m$ . A rope  $CP$ , attached to the slab, can only be pulled from  $P$  and the slab rotates about the horizontal line  $OA$ .  $P$  is at a height  $h$  vertically above  $A$  and the diagram shows the slab being held at an angle  $\theta$  to the horizontal. Unit vectors  $\mathbf{i}$ ,  $\mathbf{j}$  and  $\mathbf{k}$  are chosen with  $\mathbf{i}$  and  $\mathbf{j}$  horizontal, with  $\mathbf{j}$  along  $OA$ , and  $\mathbf{k}$  vertically upwards.

- (i) Find the vector  $\vec{CP}$  and find the length  $L$  of  $CP$ . Given that the tension in the rope is  $T$ , write down the vector representing the force in the rope. [6]
- (ii) Show that the moment of this force about the point  $O$  is equal to

$$\frac{T(-a^2 \sin \theta \mathbf{i} - ah \cos \theta \mathbf{j} + a^2 \cos \theta \mathbf{k})}{\sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ah \sin \theta}} \quad [7]$$

- (iii) Find the moment of the tension about the axis  $OA$ . Hence find an expression for  $T$  when the slab is at an acute angle  $\theta$  to the horizontal and deduce that  $T$  is greatest when the slab is horizontal. [7]

Option 3: Stability and oscillations

- 3 A smooth circular hoop of radius  $a$  is fixed in a vertical plane. A small ring of mass  $m$  is threaded on the hoop and is joined to the highest point of the hoop by a light elastic spring of natural length  $d$  and stiffness  $k$ , where  $ka^2 - mga > 0$ . At time  $t$ , the angle between the spring and the downward vertical is  $\theta$  where  $-\frac{1}{2}\pi < \theta < \frac{1}{2}\pi$ .

- (i) Show that the potential energy  $V$ , relative to the highest point of the hoop, can be written in the form

$$V = 2(ka^2 - mga)\cos^2\theta - 2kad\cos\theta + \frac{1}{2}kd^2. \quad [5]$$

- (ii) Given that  $d < 2\left(a - \frac{mg}{k}\right)$ , show that there are three positions of equilibrium. [5]

Discuss the stability of each position. [4]

- (iii) In the case when  $d > 2\left(a - \frac{mg}{k}\right)$ , show that there is just one equilibrium position and that this position is stable. [2]

- (iv) Discuss briefly the case when  $d = 2\left(a - \frac{mg}{k}\right)$ . [4]

*Option 4: Variable mass*

4 At time  $t$ , a rocket moving in free space has total mass  $m$  and speed  $v$ . Fuel is burnt at a constant mass rate  $k$  and is ejected with speed  $c$  relative to the rocket. The initial total mass of the rocket is  $M$ , of which a mass  $\alpha M$  is fuel. At time  $t = 0$  the rocket is at rest.

(i) Find an expression for  $m$  in terms of  $M$ ,  $k$  and  $t$ . Find also the time for which the fuel burns. [3]

(ii) Show that the equation of motion for the rocket can be written  $m \frac{dv}{dt} = kc$ . [3]

(iii) By solving the equation in part (ii), show that

$$v = c \ln \left( \frac{M}{m} \right).$$

Hence find the final speed,  $V$ , of the rocket. [6]

In an early test flight of the rocket, a fault in the control system meant that the first 25% of the total mass of fuel was ejected at speed  $\frac{1}{2}c$  relative to the rocket although the fuel was burnt at the correct rate. The remainder of the fuel was burnt at the correct rate and ejected at speed  $c$  relative to the rocket.

(iv) Show that the final speed,  $W$ , that was achieved in that case is given by

$$W = \frac{1}{2}c \ln \left( \frac{1 - \frac{1}{4}\alpha}{(1 - \alpha)^2} \right). \quad [8]$$

# Mark Scheme

June 2001

5512 MEI Mechanics 6

Question 1

<p>(i) <math>P - U = Ma\omega</math>  <math>Pb = \frac{4}{3}Ma^2\omega</math>  <math>U = 0</math> when <math>b = \frac{4a}{3}</math></p>	<p>M1A1                      M1A1, B1(m of i)                      M1A1 [7]</p>
<p>(ii) <math>P = Ma\omega + 2ma\omega</math>  <math>P\left(\frac{7a}{5}\right) = \left(\frac{4}{3}Ma^2 + 4ma^2\right)\omega</math>  <math>\frac{7a}{5} = \frac{\frac{4}{3}Ma^2 + 4ma^2}{Ma + 2ma}</math>  <math>7M + 14m = \frac{20}{3}M + 20m</math>  <math>m = M/18</math></p>	<p>M1 either equation                      A1(1 eqn), B1(m of i)                      M1A1                      A1 [6]</p>
<p>(iii) <math>R - U = Ma\omega + 2ma\omega = 20ma\omega</math>  <math>Ra = \left(\frac{4}{3}Ma^2 + 4ma^2\right)\omega = 28ma^2\omega</math>  <math>\frac{R - U}{R} = \frac{5}{7} \Rightarrow U = \frac{2R}{7}</math>                      Add mass <math>\lambda</math> at distance <math>x</math> from A  <math>\frac{5}{7a} = \frac{20ma\omega + \lambda x\omega}{28ma^2\omega + \lambda x^2\omega} \Rightarrow 5\lambda x^2 = 7\lambda xa</math>                      Hence <math>x = 0</math> or <math>7a/5</math> with <math>\lambda</math> arbitrary.</p>	<p>M1, either equation                      M1A1                      M1                      M1                      B1,B1 [7]</p>

**Question 2**

(i)  $\vec{CP} = \vec{CO} + \vec{OA} + \vec{AP}$  M1  
 $\vec{CP} = -a \cos \theta \mathbf{i} + a \mathbf{j} + (h - a \sin \theta) \mathbf{k}$  A1  
 $L = \sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ha \sin \theta}$  M1F1  
 $\mathbf{F} = \text{force} = \frac{T \vec{CP}}{L}$  M1F1 [6]

(ii)  $\vec{OC} = a \cos \theta \mathbf{i} + a \sin \theta \mathbf{k}$  B1  
 $\mathbf{M} = \text{mt about O} = \vec{OC} \times \mathbf{F}$  (or  $\vec{OP} \times \mathbf{F}$ ) M1F1  
 $\mathbf{M} = \frac{T}{\sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ha \sin \theta}} \begin{pmatrix} a \cos \theta \\ 0 \\ a \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} -a \cos \theta \\ a \\ h - a \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$  M1F1, (on OC and F), A1cao  
 $\mathbf{M} = \frac{T}{\sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ha \sin \theta}} \begin{pmatrix} -a^2 \sin \theta \\ -ha \cos \theta \\ a^2 \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$  A1, ag [7]

(iii) mt about OA =  $\mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{M}$  M1  
 $= \frac{-Tha \cos \theta}{\sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ha \sin \theta}}$  F1  
 mt of weight about OA =  $\frac{mga \cos \theta}{2}$  M1A1 (any sign)  
 $T = \frac{mg}{2h} \sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ha \sin \theta}$  M1A1  
 max when  $\theta = 0$  A1 [7]



**Question 3**

<p>(i) <math>V = \frac{1}{2}kx^2 - mg(d+x)\cos\theta</math>  <math>V = \frac{1}{2}k(2a\cos\theta - d)^2 - 2mga\cos^2\theta</math>  <math>V = 2(ka^2 - mga)\cos^2\theta - 2kad\cos\theta + \frac{1}{2}kd^2</math></p>	<p>M1A1A1  M1  A1ag [5]</p>
<p>(ii) <math>V'(\theta) = -4(ka^2 - mga)\sin\theta\cos\theta + 2kad\sin\theta</math>  <math>V'(\theta) = 0</math> gives <math>\sin\theta = 0, \cos\theta = \frac{kd}{2(ka - mg)}</math>  For 3 values <math>0, \pm\alpha, d &lt; 2\left(a - \frac{mg}{k}\right)</math>  <math>V''(0) &lt; 0, \therefore</math> unstable  <math>V''(\pm\alpha) &gt; 0, \therefore</math> stable</p>	<p>M1  M1A1A1  M1, clearly shown  M1A1, any method  M1A1, any method [9]</p>
<p>(iii) <math>d &gt; 2\left(a - \frac{mg}{k}\right) \Rightarrow \cos\theta &gt; 1, \therefore</math> only <math>\sin\theta = 0</math>  and hence <math>V''(0) &gt; 0</math> now</p>	<p>M1, A1 completion [2]</p>
<p>(iv) When <math>d = 2\left(a - \frac{mg}{k}\right), V'(\theta) = 0</math> gives <math>\theta = 0</math>.  But <math>V'(\theta) = -2(ka^2 - mga)\sin 2\theta + 2kad\sin\theta</math>  <math>\Rightarrow V'(\theta) = kad(2\sin\theta - \sin 2\theta)</math>  <math>\Rightarrow V'''(\theta) = kad(-2\cos\theta + 8\cos 2\theta)</math>  <math>\Rightarrow V'''(\theta) \approx kad(6 - 15\theta^2)</math>  <math>V \approx \frac{kad}{4}\theta^4, \text{ near } \theta = 0, \therefore</math> stable.</p>	<p>M1  M1 examining behaviour near <math>\theta = 0</math>  A1, any method  A1 for reasonable deduction not nec.  correct! [4]</p>
<p>(or from <math>V(\theta) = kad\cos^2\theta - 2kad\cos\theta + \frac{1}{2}kd^2</math>  <math>\Rightarrow V(\theta) = kad\left(\frac{1}{2}\cos 2\theta - 2\cos\theta\right) + \text{const}</math>)</p>	

**Question 4**

<p>(i) <math>\frac{dm}{dt} = -k, \quad m = M - kt</math>            Burn out at <math>t = \frac{\alpha M}{k}</math></p>	<p>M1A1            B1 [3]</p>
<p>(ii) Using conservation of momentum:  <math>(m + \delta m)(v + \delta v) - \delta m(v - c) = mv</math>  <math>\Rightarrow m \frac{dv}{dt} = -c \frac{dm}{dt} = kc</math></p>	<p>M1M1            A1 [3]</p>
<p>(iii) <math>\int dv = kc \int \frac{dt}{M - kt}</math>  <math>v = A - c \ln(M - kt)</math>  <math>a = c \ln M, v = c \ln \left( \frac{M}{M - kt} \right) = c \ln \left( \frac{M}{m} \right)</math>            When fuel gone, <math>m = (1 - \alpha)M</math>  <math>\therefore \text{final } V = -c \ln(1 - \alpha)</math></p>	<p>M1A1            A1            A1, ag            M1            A1 [6]</p>
<p>(iv) end of phase 1: <math>V = \frac{-c}{2} \ln \left( \frac{M - \frac{\alpha M}{4}}{M} \right)</math>            in second phase, <math>v = V - c \ln \left( \frac{\text{mass at } t}{\text{initial mass}} \right)</math></p>	<p>M1A1A1            M1</p>
<p>Final <math>v = V - c \ln \left( \frac{M - \alpha M}{M - \frac{\alpha M}{4}} \right)</math></p>	<p>M1A1</p>
<p>Final <math>v = \frac{-c}{2} \ln \left( \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2}{1 - \frac{\alpha}{4}} \right) = \frac{c}{2} \ln \left( \frac{1 - \frac{\alpha}{4}}{(1 - \alpha)^2} \right)</math></p>	<p>M1A1, ag [8]</p>

# Examiner's Report

**General Comments**

The number of candidates for this paper was a disappointingly small 41, slightly higher than last year but still well down on previous years.

The candidates' response to the paper this year was also a little disappointing, with the mean mark marginally down. The candidates clearly understood the basic mechanics of the situations but often could not accurately complete the questions. Sometimes this was due to difficulty with the required algebraic manipulation (self-inflicted more often than not) and sometimes to the time spent sorting out their ideas. In the past the candidates were unable to do the last parts of the questions but this year this proved not to be the case

**Comments on Individual Questions****Question 1 (Rotation of a rigid body)**

The last time an impulse question was set, the candidates had some difficulty with the general principles. On this occasion that was not a problem. They understood what to do but sometimes got into difficulty when taking moments, particularly about the centre of the rod. Taking moments about a moving point requires great care and regrettably a few failed to get the correct expression in part (ii). Those who took moments about the fixed point fared much better. Apart from this difficulty, answers were quite good.

$$(i) P - U = Ma\omega, \quad Pb = \frac{4}{3} Ma^2\omega \quad (ii) m = \frac{1}{18} M \quad (iii) U = \frac{2}{7} R, \quad x = 0 \text{ or } 7a/5$$

**Question 2 (Vectors)**

For the candidates who were familiar with vectors this was reasonably well done. It was noticeable this year how few candidates confused vector and scalar notation. This was indeed welcome. Quite a few candidates completed the question on this occasion. The difficulty the majority had was in the algebraic manipulation, where little slips introduced a lot of complexity. The taking of moments about lines and points was not confused and, on the whole, this question was done well.

$$(i) \vec{CP} = -a \cos \theta \mathbf{i} + a \mathbf{j} + (h - a \sin \theta) \mathbf{k}, \quad L = \sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ha \sin \theta}$$

$$(iii) \text{moment of tension about OA} = \frac{-Tha \cos \theta}{\sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ha \sin \theta}}, \quad T = \frac{mg}{2h} \sqrt{2a^2 + h^2 - 2ha \sin \theta}$$

**Question 3 (Stability and oscillations)**

The question on stability and oscillations is always popular and this time was no exception. Candidates knew exactly what to do in the early parts of the question but, as before, their algebraic skills let them down somewhat. There was a regrettable tendency to anticipate the stability condition and adjust constants accordingly and arbitrarily. As a result of this some candidates, having found an error later in the question,