PHYS1121 Physics 1a UNSW Test 1 2008 With answers

Question 1 (marks)

You are cycling, on a long straight path, at a constant speed of 6.0 m.s⁻¹. Another cyclist passes you, travelling on the same path in the same direction as you, at a constant speed of $v_b = 9.0$ m.s⁻¹. At the instant when she passes you, you realise that she is a friend of yours and you accelerate to catch up to her. You accelerate, starting from t = 0, the time when she passes you, with constant acceleration a = 1.5 m.s⁻².

a)

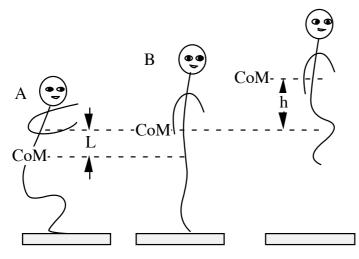
- i) On a displacement-time graph, sketch your position, $x_a(t)$, and the position of your friend, $x_b(t)$ as functions of time, for time t < 0 (i.e. while she is still behind you). Label these sections of the graphs x_a and x_b .
- ii) Also sketch displacement-time graphs for you your friend for time t > 0 (i.e. while she is still behind you). Label these sections of the graphs x_a and x_b .
- iii) Showing your working, derive both algebraic expressions and quantitative values for the time and distance it takes you to catch up with your friend.
- b) In part a, you accelerated with constant acceleration and overtook her. In this part, you accelerate with forwards acceleration $a = 1.5 \text{ m.s}^{-2}$ for a time T_1 , then decelerate with forwards acceleration $a = -1.5 \text{ m.s}^{-2}$ for a time T_b . You judge T_1 and T_2 so that when you stop decelerating, you are travelling alongside her at the same speed.

Draw a second displacement-time graph to show this situation. Clearly mark x_a , x_b and the time intervals T_1 and T_2 .

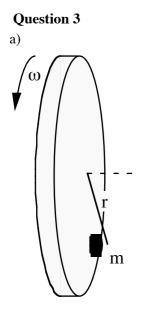
Question 2 (marks)

i) Write Newton's second law in a form that applies to a finite object that is not necessarily rigid, but that has constant mass. If you statement is an equation, state *carefully* the meaning of each term. (For example, do not let the marker wonder "what force?" or "what acceleration?".)

The sketches show successive states of a man jumping vertically in the air. He begins (sketch A) from a stationary position with his legs bent. He then straightens his legs and ankles rapidly: sketch B shows the moment at which his feet leave the ground. The lines marked "CoM" show the height of his centre of mass. Between the first two sketches, his centre of mass rises a distance L. Sketch C shows him at the point where his centre of mass has its maximum height, which is a vertical distance h above its height at the point of take-off. You may neglect air resistance.



- ii) Showing your working, and stating any assumptions you make, determine the speed of the man's centre of mass at the moment (B) when his feet leave the ground.
- iii) Assume that the vertical acceleration a_{cm} of his centre of mass is constant between A and B. Derive an expression for a_{cm}.
- iv) Using your answer to part (i), and thinking carefully, derive an expression for the vertical force \underline{N} exerted by the ground on his feet during the phase A to B.
- v) If the man's mass is 70 kg, if L is 0.4 m h is 0.6 m, what is the downwards force (assumed constant) exerted by his feet during the phase A to B? State any physical law or principle you use in obtaining your answer.



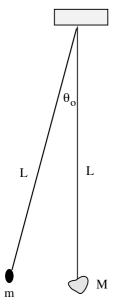
A small, flat magnet, of mass m, is positioned at a distance r from the centre of a steel disc that rotates with angular velocity ω about a horizontal axis, as shown. The magnitude of magnetic force between the magnet and the disc is F_m and it is in the normal direction only. The coefficients of static and kinetic friction between the disc and the magnet are respectively μ_s and μ_k respectively, and $\mu_s > \mu_k$. The magnet does not slide when the disc is stationary.

What is the maximum value of ω at which the magnet will not slide on the disk?

(Hint: at which point is it most likely to begin to slide?)

b) With respect to a very large separation, the potential energy of a pair of masses M and m separated by r is U = - GMm/r. The magnitude of the gravitational force between them is IFI = GMm/r², where G is the universal constant of gravitation. Determine the total mechanical energy E of a small satellite (mass m) in a circular orbit of radius r around a planet of mass M in terms of G, M, m and r. (Hint: what is the centripetal force?)

Question 4



Two light, inextensible strings, each of length L are hung from the same fixed point, as shown. On one, a lump of plasticine (a soft material) of mass M is attached. Initially, it hangs vertically. On the other string, a ball of mass m is attached. Initially, it is stationary, but displaced so that its string makes and angle θ_0 with the vertical, as shown. The dimensions of the ball and plasticene are much smaller than L.

The ball is then released. When its string is vertical, it strikes the plasticine and the two remain stuck together.

Showing all working and stating any assumptions you make, derive an expression for the speed of the combined object (M+m), immediately after the collision.

Question 5

Two cylindrical jars each have radius r. The thickness of the walls is negligible compared with r. When empty, the mass of each jar is m and their radius of gyration k = r (to an approximation sufficient for this problem). One jar is full of water with mass M. The other is full of honey with mass M. They are both placed, stationary, on an inclined plane making an angle θ with the horizontal. Their orientation on the plane allows them to roll to the bottom along the shortest path on the plane. Friction between jars and plane is always sufficient to ensure rolling.

- i) The viscosity of the water is sufficiently low that the water does not rotate. Determine the speed of the jar of water after it has rolled a distance s down the plane.
- ii) The viscosity of the honey is sufficiently high that the honey rotates as a solid object, at the same rate as the jar. Determine the speed of the jar of honey after it has rolled a distance s down the plane.

The moment of inertia of a hoop is mr². That of a disc is $\frac{1}{2}$ mr², where terms have their usual meaning. Hint: what is the relative velocity at the point of contact during rolling?