# Midterm Exam HSE 207: Engineering Mechanics

By Seungchul Lee

# **Problem 1**

I mentioned many times in class that a circular motion is more beautiful than a linear translation motion. Of course, I exaggerated it in order to emphasize the importance of a circular motion. You are asked to list several reasons with supporting examples.

## Problem 2

Indicate (or draw) in a uniform circular motion with the center O

- 1) The angular velocity vector and
- 2) The acceleration vector of A

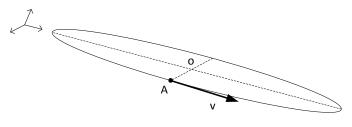


Figure 1

## **Problem 3**

Design a mechanical system that can produce sine wave.

#### Problem 4

Figure 2 shows the robot arm in our lab

(Watch the video clip: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzICLMCFM2M">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzICLMCFM2M</a>)

- 1) Describe all the mechanical structures that you can find in the robot arm
- 2) Explain why the end-effector of the arm is always kept parallel to the ground



Figure 2

We learned that kinematics of an engine (cylinder and piston) is based on the slider-crank mechanism which enables us to transfer a circular motion to a linear translation motion or vice versa. However, I demonstrated in class that transferring a linear motion to a circular motion is not mechanically easy and smooth. Explain how car engines overcome this problem.



Figure 3

# Problem 6

When the velocity vector of point C is shown as  $v_c$  at an instant of having the following configuration in the slider-crank mechanism, draw the velocity vector of point B and indicate its magnitude.

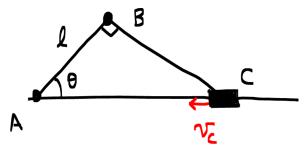


Figure 4

# **Problem 7**

Suppose a grenade of mass m moves along the following projectile with gravity downwards. When it reached at top, it exploded into two pieces with the same mass (m/2). If one of m/2 drops vertically, draw the trajectory of the other m/2. Furthermore, explain why.

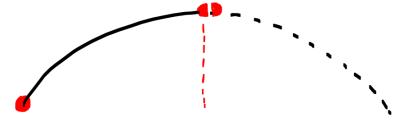


Figure 5

Two expressions below for the Newton's second Law are mathematically the same. However, they represent very different perspectives of looking at motions and kinetics of mass m in physics. Explain those differences.

1) 
$$F = ma$$

$$2) F - ma = 0$$

## **Problem 9**

A body of mass m is suspended from a spring with spring constant k in configuration (i) and the spring is stretched 0.1 m. If two identical bodies of mass m are suspended from a spring with the same spring constant k in configuration (ii), how much will the spring stretch? Explain your answer.

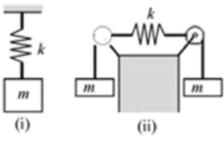


Figure 6

## **Problem 10**

What is the weight of a satellite which is continuously rotating around the Earth' orbit.

## **Problem 11**

I demonstrated what the acceleration looks like during a free fall using the IoT device in class. Draw or sketch acceleration changes over time in Figure 7 when the IoT device is thrown up with an initial velocity of  $v_0$  at time  $t_0$  in downward gravity field.

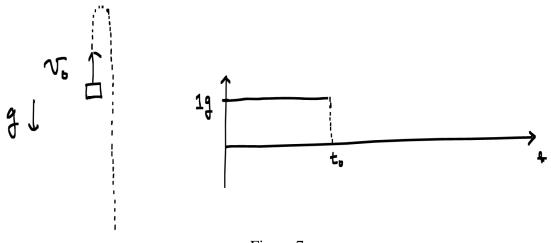


Figure 7

- 1) Find an acceleration a with the inertia reference frame using FBD
- 2) Find an acceleration a with the non-inertia reference frame (attached to mass  $m_2$ ) using FBD
- 3) Find the weights of mass  $m_1$  and mass  $m_2$  while they are moving.

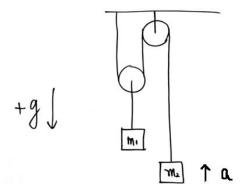
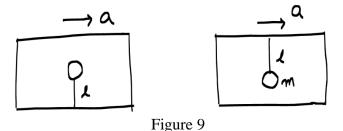


Figure 8

## Problem 13

When both cars accelerate with acceleration a,

1) Describe and sketch what will happen to a balloon and a ball with your explanation (why)



(The following three sub-problems are related only to the ball inside a car)

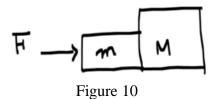
- 2) Draw a free body diagram of a ball and apply the Newton's second law in the inertia reference frame
- 3) Draw a free body diagram of a ball and apply the Newton's second law in the non-inertia reference frame (attached to a car)
- 4) Find the weight of a ball whose mass is m while it is moving

## **Problem 14**

We want to find acceleration a with different definitions of system

- 1) System: mass m and mass M
- 2) System: mass m+M

Draw FBDs to compute acceleration a in both systems



An object sits on a frictionless (between mass M and m) incline plane. Furthermore, mass M sits on a frictionless floor as well. Assume that all objects are initially at rest.

- 1) Find the relative acceleration of mass m to mass M and the acceleration of mass M with a free-body diagram.
- 2) Find the normal forces  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  while they are moving.

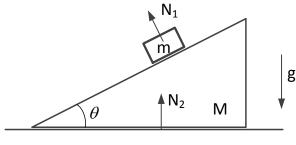


Figure 11

#### **Problem 16**

The two blocks shown in Figure 12 start from rest. The horizontal plane and the pulley are frictionless, and the pulley is assumed to be of negligible mass. Draw a free-body diagram and acceleration direction (kinematics) to apply the Newton's  $2^{nd}$  Law.

- 1) Determine the acceleration of each block.
- 2) Determine the tension.
- 3) Explain why the tension in a string is identical.
- 4) Draw a free-body diagram and acceleration direction (kinematics) with the non-inertial reference frame attached to  $m_1$ . (But, you do not need to compute. Just draw FBD)

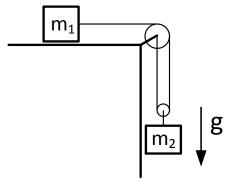


Figure 12

The ball D has a mass of m. If a force is applied horizontally to the ring at A, determine the dimension d so that the force in cable AC is zero.

- 1) Draw free body diagram (FBD)
- 2) Write down equilibrium equations
- 3) Determine the dimension d so that the force in cable AC is zero

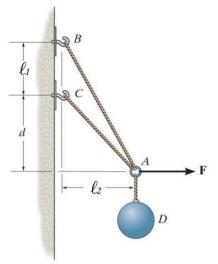


Figure 13

## **Problem 18**

I showed the pictures shown in Figure 14 in class to explain big data and effectiveness of big data visualization.

- 1) Describe what kind of data is visualized.
- 2) Data is displayed on the map. Which city is it?
- 3) What kind of information can you extract from this data visualization?
- 4) What kind of policies can a city council make based on this data visualization if possible?

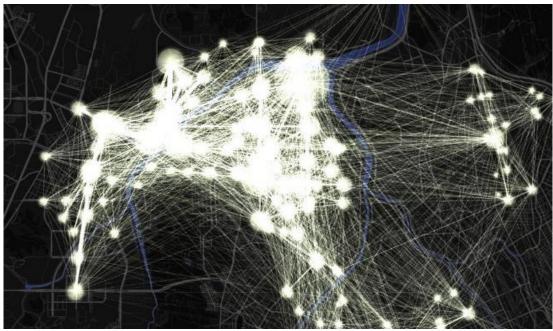


Figure 14