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CIRCULAR MOTION

Q.1 What is the tangential velocity of a point on the equator of Mercury which has a rotation period of 59 days and an equatorial radius of 2500 km?

Q. 2 The Earth rotates once in about 24 h. Calculate its rotation frequency and its angular frequency.

Q. 3 (a) What is the centripetal acceleration of a 40 kg child sitting 2m from the centre of a roundabout which turns once in 5.0 s?

(b) What is the resultant horizontal force acting on the child?

(c) What is the origin of this force?

....

....

Q. 4 A boy stands at the equator of the Earth having a radius of 6.4×10^6 m. Find its

(a) Angular velocity

(b) Linear velocity

Q. 5 The spindle motor of CD rotates it at 33.3 revolutions / minute.

(a) What is the angular velocity of the record in rad s^{-1}?

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(b) What is the speed of a point on CD at a distance of 3.0 cm from its centre?

Q. 6 A pulley wheel rotates at 300 rev min^{-1}. Calculate

(a) its angular velocity in rad s^{-1},

(b) the linear speed of a point on the rim if the pulley has a radius of 150 mm,

(c) the time for one revolution.

Q.7 A car moves round a circular track of radius 1.0 km at a constant speed of 129 kmh^{-1}. Calculate its angular velocity in rad s^{-1}.

Q.8 A child is sitting on a fairground ride, as shown in fig. 8. The ride turns through one complete revolution every four seconds. If the combined mass of the child and the seat is 40 kg, and the radius of the circular path is 6.0 m, calculate the tension, *T*, in the support.

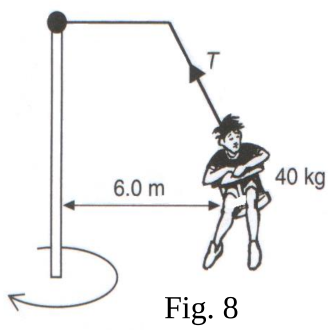

Fig. 8

Q. 9 An object of mass 4.0 kg is whirled round in a vertical circle of radius 2.0 m with a speed of 5.0 m s^{-1}. Calculate the maximum and minimum tension in the string connecting the object to the centre of the circle. Assume acceleration due to gravity g = 10 ms^{-2}.

Q. 10 An aircraft is banking as it turns, as shown in fig 10. What is the radius of curvature of the turn if the aircraft's velocity is 200 ms^{-1} and it is banked at 35°?

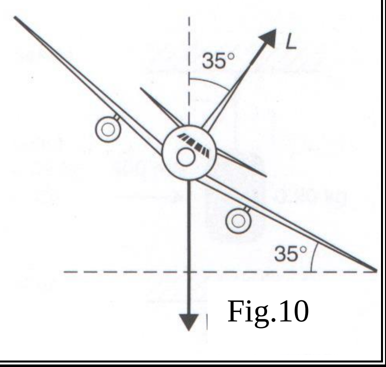

Fig.10

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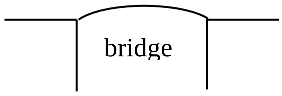
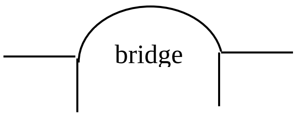
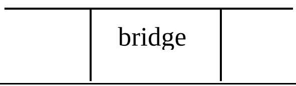
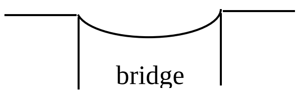
Q. 11 A pilot flies an aeroplane at a constant angular velocity ω in a circle in a vertical plane. The radius of the circle is r.
What is the difference in the forces experienced by the pilot at the bottom and at the top of the circular loop?

Q.12 A car of mass m moves with the same speed v over each of the 4 bridges shown in the table. Write down the force equation of the car at each bridge if the normal reaction is R.
In which of the bridges is the force which the car exerts on the bridge the smallest?

S.#	**Bridge**	**Equation**
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
Lesser force bridge =		

Q. 13 In a fairground ride called a 'rotor', a person of mass 60 kg stands against a wall, as shown in fig 13.1, and the wall is rotated. When it is spinning at a suitable speed the floor is dropped so that the person is left 'struck to the wall'.

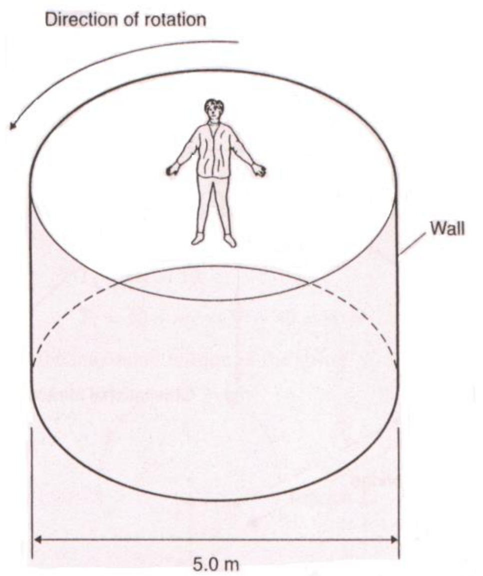


Fig. 13.1

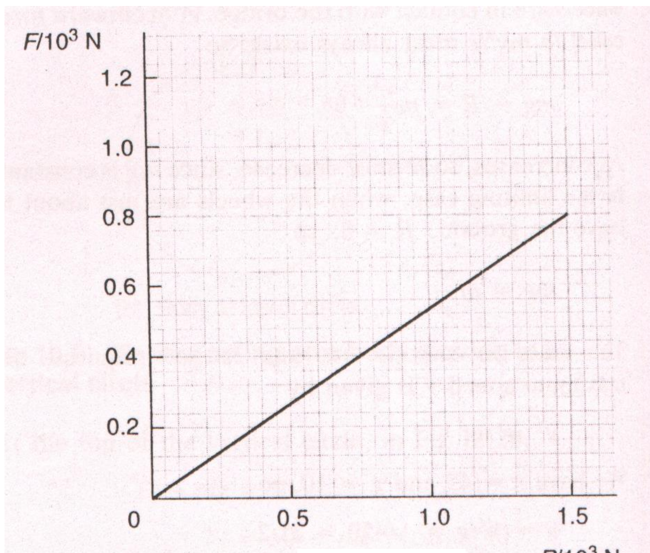


Fig. 13.2

Fig. 13.2 shows the variation in frictional force, F, with normal reaction, R, between the person and the wall.

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Determine;

(a) the normal reaction when the frictional force is equal to the weight of a person of mass 60 kg;

(b) the minimum angular speed, in rad s^{-1}, at which such a person must be rotated to remain in position when the floor is dropped.

Q. 14 In a ride at an entertainment park, two people, each of mass 80 kg, sit in cages which travel at constant speed in a vertical circle of radius 8.0 m as shown in fig 14. Each revolution takes 4.2s.

(a) When a cage is at the top of the circle (position **A**) the person in it is upside down. For the person in cage **A** calculate the magnitudes of

(i) the angular velocity

(ii) the linear velocity

(iii) the centripetal acceleration

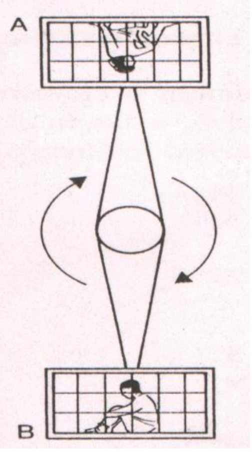

Fig. 14

(b) **(i)** Draw a vector diagram to show the directions of the following forces acting on the person in cage **A** in fig 14

1. the weight *W* of the person,
2. the force *F* exerted by the cage on the person.

(ii) Draw the corresponding diagram for the person at the bottom of the circle (position **B**).

(iii) What must be the value of the resultant of these two forces at both **A** and **B**?

(iv) Explain why the person remains on the floor of the cage at the top of the circle.

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(v) State the position of the cage at which the force it exerts on the person has its maximum value. Calculate the magnitude of this force

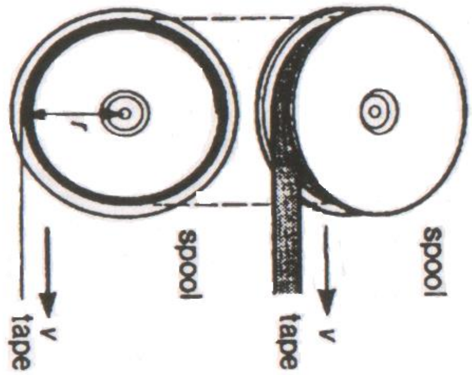
1. A body moving in a circular path of radius ***r*** has tangential acceleration $\boldsymbol{a_t}$ and centripetal acceleration $\boldsymbol{a_c}$. If the body is moving at constant speed ***v***, what are the magnitudes of $\boldsymbol{a_t}$ and $\boldsymbol{a_c}$?

	Tangential acceleration $\boldsymbol{a_t}$	Centripetal acceleration $\boldsymbol{a_c}$
A	$r\,v^2$	0
B	v^2 / r	0
C	0	$r\,v^2$
D	0	v^2 / r

2. An object travels at constant speed around a circle of radius 1.0 m in 1.0 s. What is the magnitude of its acceleration?

A zero **B** 1.0 m s^{-2} **C** 2π m s^{-2} **B** 4 π^2 m s^{-2}

3. In a tape cassette, the tape leaves one spool at a constant speed *v* and at a variable distance *r* from the Centre.



The angular velocity of the spool

A is proportional to $1/r^2$ **B** is proportional to $1/r$

C is proportional to *r* **D** does not depend on *r*

CIE PAST PAPER QUESTIONS

Q. 1. An aircraft flies with its wings tilted as shown in fig. 1.1 in order to fly in a horizontal circle of radius *r*. The aircraft has mass 4.00×10^4 kg and has a constant speed of 250 ms^{-1}.

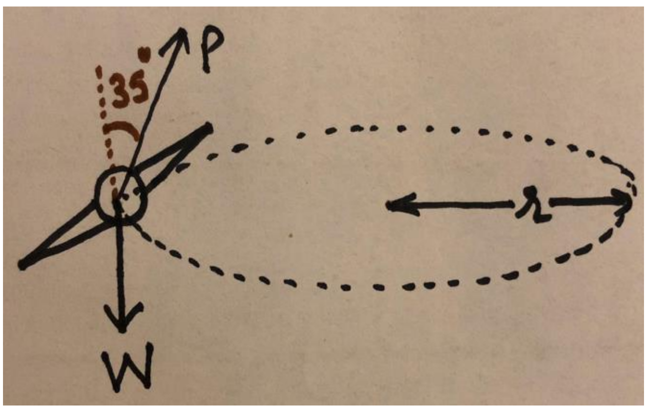


fig. 1.1

With the aircraft flying in this way, two forces acting on the aircraft in the vertical plane are the forces *P* acting at an angle of 35° to the vertical and the weight *W*.

(a) State the vertical component of *P* for the horizontal flight.

vertical component of *P* = ……………………………………………..[1]

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(b) Calculate *P*.

P = …………………………… N [2]

(c) Calculate the horizontal component of *P*.

horizontal component of *P* = …………………………….N [1]

(d) Use Newton's second law to determine the acceleration of the aircraft towards the centre of the circle.

acceleration = ……………………………. ms^{-2} [2]

(e) Calculate the radius *r* of the path of the aircraft's flight.

r = ……………………………. m [2]

{*Q.3/June 2000/9243-2*}

Q. 2. (a) An object traveling at a constant speed in a circular path is said to have a centripetal acceleration. Explain, using a diagram,

(i) why there is an acceleration even though the speed is constant,

(ii) the direction of the acceleration. [4]

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(b) A motorway designer plans to have motorists leaving one motorway and joining another by constructing a circular link road, as shown in fig. 2.1.

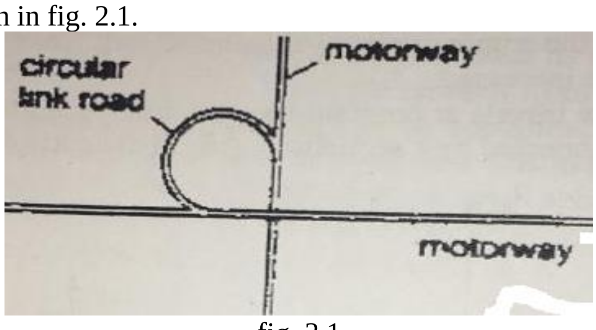

fig. 2.1

In order to use as small an area of land as possible, the designer proposes a speed limit of 25 ms^{-1} for cars on the circular link road.

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(i) Calculate the minimum radius for the circular link road, given that the maximum sideways force between a car and the road is 0.80I*W*, where *W* is the weight of a car.

radius = ……………………… m [3]

(ii) Suggest why lorries may have to go at a slower speed than the 25 m s^{-1} limit for cars.

………

....

....[2]

{*Q.3/June 2001/9243-2*}

Q.3. A particle is following a circular path and is observed to have an angular displacement of 10.3°.

(a) Express this angle in radians (rad). Show your working and give your answer to three significant figures.

angle = ...rad [2]

(b)(i) Determine tan10.3° to three significant figures.

tan10.3°= ....

(ii) Hence calculate the percentage error that is made when the angle 10.3°, as measured in radians, is assumed to be equal to tan10.3°.

percentage error = ...[3]

{*Q.1/Nov 2004/9702-4*}

Q. 4. The orbit of the Earth, mass 6.0×10^{24} kg, may be assumed to be a circle of radius1.5×10^{11}m with the Sun at its centre, as illustrated in Fig.4.1.

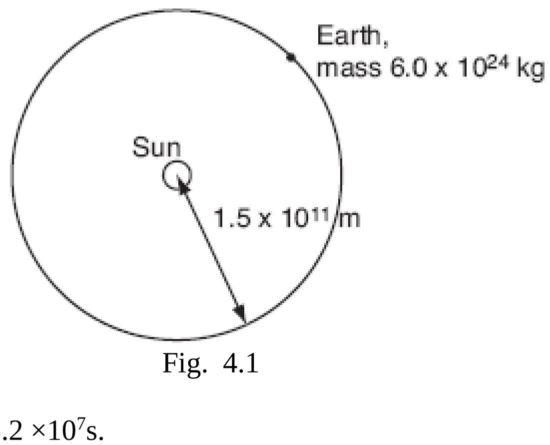

Fig. 4.1

The time taken for one orbit is 3.2×10^{7}s.

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(a) Calculate

(i) the magnitude of the angular velocity of the Earth about the Sun,

angular velocity = ...rads^{-1}[2]

(ii) the magnitude of the centripetal force acting on the Earth.

force = ...N [2]

(b)(i) State the origin of the centripetal force calculated in (a)(ii)

....

....[1]

(ii) Determine the mass of the Sun.

mass = ...kg [3]

{*Q.1/June 2005/9702-4*}

Q. 5. (a) Explain

(i) what is meant by a radian,

....

.... [2]

(ii) why one complete revolution is equivalent to an angular displacement of 2π rad.

....

....[1]

(b) An elastic cord has an unextended length of 13.0 cm. One end of the cord is attached to a fixed point C. A small mass of weight 5.0 N is hung from the free end of the cord. The cord extends to a length of 14.8 cm, as shown in Fig. 5.1.

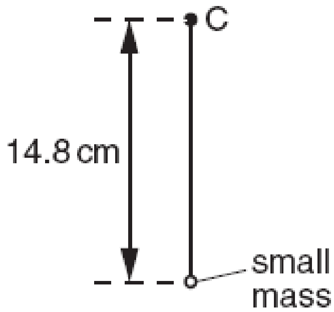

Fig. 5.1

The cord and mass are now made to rotate at constant angular speed ω in a vertical plane about point C. When the cord is vertical and above C, its length is the unextended length of 13.0 cm, as shown in Fig. 5.2.

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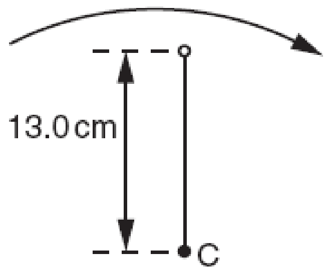

Fig. 5.2

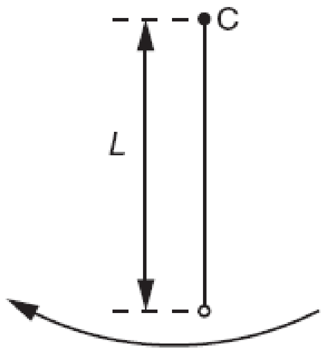

Fig. 5.3

(i) Show that the angular speed ω of the cord and mass is 8.7 rad s^{-1}.

[2]

(ii) The cord and mass rotate so that the cord is vertically below C, as shown in Fig. 5.3.
Calculate the length L of the cord, assuming it obeys Hooke's law.

L = ...cm [4]

{*Q.1/Nov.2007/9702-4*}

Q. 6.(a) (i) Define the radian.

....

....[2]

(ii) A small mass is attached to a string. The mass is rotating about a fixed point P at constant speed, as shown in Fig. 6.1.

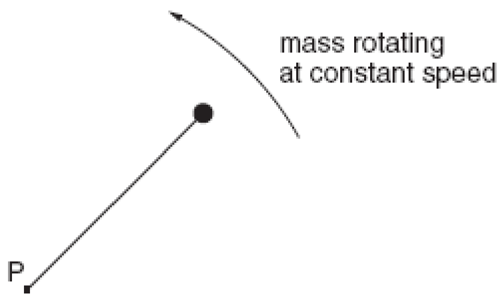

Fig. 6.1

Explain what is meant by the angular speed about point P of the mass.

....

....

....[2]

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(b) A horizontal flat plate is free to rotate about a vertical axis through its centre, as shown in Fig. 6.2.

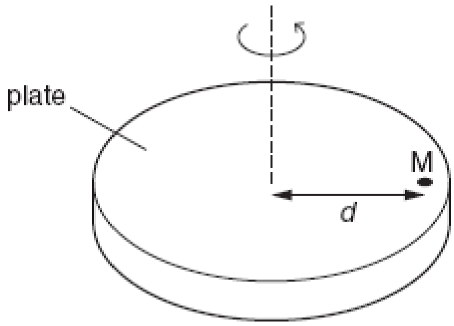

Fig.6.2

A small mass M is placed on the plate, a distance d from the axis of rotation. The speed of rotation of the plate is gradually increased from zero until the mass is seen to slide off the plate.
The maximum frictional force *F* between the plate and the mass is given by the expression

$$F = 0.72W,$$

where W is the weight of the mass M. The distance d is 35 cm.
Determine the maximum number of revolutions of the plate per minute for the mass *M* to remain on the plate. Explain your working.

number = ... [5]

(c) The plate in (b) is covered, when stationary, with mud. Suggest and explain whether mud near the edge of the plate or near the centre will first leave the plate as the angular speed of the plate is slowly increased.

....

....

....[2]

{*Q.1/June 2007/9702-4*}

Q. 7.

A large bowl is made from part of a hollow sphere.

A small spherical ball is placed inside the bowl and is given a horizontal speed. The ball follows a horizontal circular path of constant radius, as shown in Fig. 2.1.

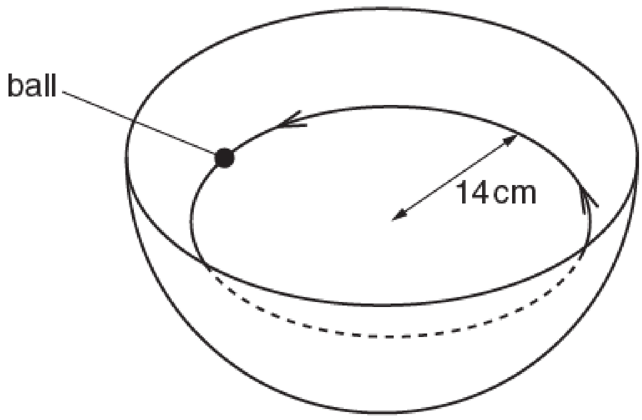

Fig. 2.1

The forces acting on the ball are its weight *W* and the normal reaction force *R* of the bowl on the ball, as shown in Fig. 2.2.

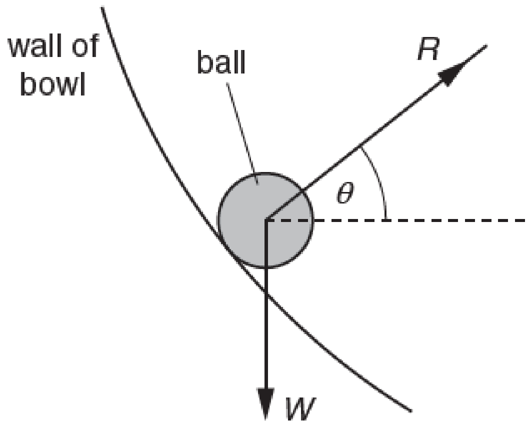

Fig. 2.2

The normal reaction force *R* is at an angle θ to the horizontal.

(a) **(i)** By resolving the reaction force *R* into two perpendicular components, show that the resultant force *F* acting on the ball is given by the expression

$$W = F \tan\theta.$$

[2]

(ii) State the significance of the force *F* for the motion of the ball in the bowl.

....

.... [1]

(b) The ball moves in a circular path of radius 14 cm. For this radius, the angle θ is 28°.

Calculate the speed of the ball.

speed = ... $m\,s^{-1}$ [3]

{Q. 2/June 2014/Variant 42}

Q. 8

A telescope gives a clear view of a distant object when the angular displacement between the edges of the object is at least 9.7×10^{-6} rad.

(i) The Moon is approximately 3.8×10^{5} km from Earth.
Estimate the minimum diameter of a circular crater on the Moon's surface that can be seen using the telescope.

diameter = ... km [2]

(ii) Suggest why craters of the same diameter as that calculated in **(i)** but on the surface of Mars are not visible using this telescope.

....

....

.... [2]

{Q. 7/ June 2014/ variant 42}

Note: Also attempt *Q. 1/June 2010/ 41 variant*