

Exam Questions – Chapter 11 Variable Acceleration

Q1.

A particle P moves on the positive x -axis. The velocity of P at time t seconds is $(2t^2 - 9t + 4) \text{ m s}^{-1}$. When $t = 0$, P is 15 m from the origin O .

Find

- (a) the values of t when P is instantaneously at rest, (3)
- (b) the acceleration of P when $t = 5$ (3)
- (c) the total distance travelled by P in the interval $0 \leq t \leq 5$ (5)

(Total for question = 11 marks)

Q2.

A particle moves along the x -axis. At time $t = 0$ the particle passes through the origin with speed 8 m s^{-1} in the positive x -direction. The acceleration of the particle at time t seconds, $t \geq 0$, is $(4t^3 - 12t) \text{ m s}^{-2}$ in the positive x -direction.

Find

- (a) the velocity of the particle at time t seconds, (3)
- (b) the displacement of the particle from the origin at time t seconds, (2)
- (c) the values of t at which the particle is instantaneously at rest. (3)

(Total 8 marks)

Q3.

A particle P moves on the x -axis. At time t seconds the velocity of P is $v \text{ m s}^{-1}$ in the direction of x increasing, where v is given by

$$v = \begin{cases} 8t - \frac{3}{2}t^2, & 0 \leq t \leq 4, \\ 16 - 2t, & t > 4. \end{cases}$$

When $t = 0$, P is at the origin O .

Find

- (a) the greatest speed of P in the interval $0 \leq t \leq 4$, (4)
- (b) the distance of P from O when $t = 4$, (3)
- (c) the time at which P is instantaneously at rest for $t > 4$, (1)
- (d) the total distance travelled by P in the first 10 s of its motion. (8)

(Total 16 marks)

Q4.

A particle, P , moves along a straight line such that at time t seconds, $t \geq 0$, the velocity of P , $v \text{ m s}^{-1}$, is modelled as

$$v = 12 + 4t - t^2$$

Find

- (a) the magnitude of the acceleration of P when P is at instantaneous rest, (5)
- (b) the distance travelled by P in the interval $0 \leq t \leq 3$ (3)

(Total for question = 8 marks)

Q5.

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 $v \text{ m s}^{-1}$ 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)

Q6.

Unless otherwise indicated, wherever a numerical value of g is required, take $g = 9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ and give your answer to either 2 significant figures or 3 significant figures.

A particle, P , moves along the x -axis. At time t seconds, $t \geq 0$, the displacement,

x metres, of P from the origin O , is given by $x = \frac{1}{2}t^2(t^2 - 2t + 1)$

(a) Find the times when P is instantaneously at rest.

(5)

(b) Find the total distance travelled by P in the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 2$

(3)

(c) Show that P will never move along the negative x -axis.

(2)

(Total for question = 10 marks)