

PSG COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE
(AUTONOMOUS)
MSc DEGREE EXAMINATION MAY 2025
(Second Semester)

Branch- **PHYSICS**
CLASSICAL MECHANICS

Time: Three Hours

Maximum: 75 Marks

SECTION-A (10 Marks)

Answer **ALL** questions

ALL questions carry **EQUAL** marks (10 × 1 = 10)

| Module No. | Question No. | Question | K Level | CO |
|------------|--------------|---|---------|-----|
| 1 | 1 | If the generalised co-ordinate is an angle, then the dimension of the corresponding generalised force is a) momentum b) energy c) force d) torque | K1 | CO1 |
| | 2 | For a conservative system the potential energy does not depend upon a) Force b) generalised coordinate c) generalised velocity d) b and c | K2 | |
| 2 | 3 | The Hamiltonian is defined as a) $\sum_k p_k q_k' + L$ b) $\sum_k p_k q_k' - L$ c) $\sum_k p_k' q_k' + L$ d) $\sum_k p_k' q_k' - L$ | K1 | CO2 |
| | 4 | Hamilton's equations are a) $q' = -\partial H / \partial p$, $p' = \partial H / \partial q$ b) $q' = \partial H / \partial p$, $p' = -\partial H / \partial q$ c) $q = -\partial H / \partial p'$, $p' = -\partial H / \partial q$ d) $q' = \partial H / \partial p$, $p = -\partial H / \partial q'$ | K2 | |
| 3 | 5 | The conservation of the angular momentum is the central force-field motion leads us to is a) Kepler's 1st law b) Kepler's 2nd law c) Kepler's 3rd law d) None of these | K1 | CO3 |
| | 6 | The value of eccentricity for an elliptic orbit is a) $\epsilon > 1$ b) $\epsilon = 1$ c) $\epsilon = 0$ d) $0 < \epsilon < 1$ | K2 | |
| 4 | 7 | If a rigid body is rotating with an angular velocity ω about an instantaneous axis through a fixed point in the body, the angular momentum vector J about the same point a) will be always in the direction of ω b) may have different directions to that of ω c) will be always perpendicular to ω d) None of the above | K1 | CO4 |
| | 8 | A heavy symmetrical top is rotating under the action of a gravitational angular momentum along the figure axis a) The torque is perpendicular to J_3 b) The angular momentum J_3 will change in magnitude c) The angular momentum J_3 will remains constant in magnitude as well as in direction d) None of the above | K2 | |
| 5 | 9 | Hamilton's canonical equations in terms of Poisson bracket are: a) $q_k/dt = [q_k, H]$, $d p_k/dt = [p_k, H]$ b) $q_k/dt = [p_k, H]$, $d p_k/dt = [q_k, H]$ c) $q_k/dt = [H, q_k]$, $d p_k/dt = [H, p_k]$ d) $q_k/dt = [H, p_k]$, $d p_k/dt = [H, q_k]$ | K1 | CO5 |
| | 10 | The Hamiltonian is given by $H = (x^2 + 2ypq + z^2)/2$; the value of dq/dt is a) $xp/2$ b) $xp + yq$ c) $-(xp + yq)$ d) $yq + zq$ | K2 | |

Cont...

SECTION - B (35 Marks)

Answer ALL questions

ALL questions carry EQUAL Marks

(5 × 7 = 35)

| Module No. | Question No. | Question | K Level | CO |
|------------|--------------|--|---------|-----|
| 1 | 11.a. | Explain principle of virtual work and derive D'Alembert's principle. | K5 | CO5 |
| | | (OR) | | |
| | 11.b. | Determine the equation of compound pendulum by Lagrangian method. | | |
| 2 | 12.a. | Deduce Hamilton's principle. | K3 | CO2 |
| | | (OR) | | |
| | 12.b. | Use variational principle to deduce Lagrangian equation for non conservative system. | | |
| 3 | 13.a. | Analyze equation of motion under central force and first integral. | K4 | CO2 |
| | | (OR) | | |
| | 13.b. | State and prove virial theorem. | | |
| 4 | 14.a. | Prove the rotation of earth by Foucault's pendulum. | K3 | CO3 |
| | | (OR) | | |
| | 14.b. | Discuss about generalized coordinates for rigid body motion. | | |
| 5 | 15.a. | Determine Hamilton's equation of motion from variational principle. | K5 | CO5 |
| | | (OR) | | |
| | 15.b. | Derive Hamilton Jacobi equations for Hamilton's principle. | | |

SECTION -C (30 Marks)

Answer ANY THREE questions

ALL questions carry EQUAL Marks

(3 × 10 = 30)

| Module No. | Question No. | Question | K Level | CO |
|------------|--------------|--|---------|-----|
| 1 | 16 | Obtain Lagrange's equation from D'Alembert's principle. | K5 | CO1 |
| 2 | 17 | How Hamilton principle is used to determine i) Particle moving on the surface of earth ii) isotropic oscillators | K5 | CO2 |
| 3 | 18 | Evaluate the problem of scattering of a particle in a central force field. | K4 | CO3 |
| 4 | 19 | What is fast top? Discuss about it. | K4 | CO4 |
| 5 | 20 | Explain principle of least action. | K5 | CO5 |

Z-Z-Z

END