

Question 1

Worked Solution

A particle is in equilibrium under forces $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ -7 \\ z \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ y \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix}$ (in newtons).

Part (i): Find x , y and z

Equilibrium: sum of forces = $\mathbf{0}$.

x -component: $x + 4 + 5 = 0 \implies x = -9$

y -component: $-7 + y + 4 = 0 \implies y = 3$

z -component: $z - 5 - 7 = 0 \implies z = 12$

$$x = -9, \quad y = 3, \quad z = 12$$

Part (ii): Calculate the magnitude of $\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\left| \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{5^2 + 4^2 + (-7)^2} = \sqrt{25 + 16 + 49} = \sqrt{90} \approx 9.49 \text{ N}$$

$$\text{Magnitude} = \sqrt{90} \approx 9.49 \text{ N}$$

Question 2

Worked Solution

$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}, \mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}.$$

Part (i): Resultant of \mathbf{F} and \mathbf{G} , and its magnitude

$$\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 - 6 \\ 1 + 2 \\ 2 + 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$$

$$\left| \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{4 + 9 + 36} = \sqrt{49} = 7 \text{ N}$$

$$\text{Resultant} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N, magnitude} = 7 \text{ N}$$

Part (ii): Find \mathbf{H} such that \mathbf{F} , $2\mathbf{G}$ and \mathbf{H} are in equilibrium

$$\mathbf{F} + 2\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$2\mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = -\mathbf{F} - 2\mathbf{G} = -\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 + 12 \\ -1 - 4 \\ -2 - 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ -5 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ -5 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$$

Question 3

Worked Solution

Three forces on a body of mass 4 kg: $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 14 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$ N, $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -9 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}$ N, \mathbf{F} N.

Resulting acceleration $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ m s⁻².

Part (i): Calculate \mathbf{F}

By Newton's second law: $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 14 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -9 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{F} = 4 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 8 \\ 16 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 - 2 \\ 8 - 5 \\ 16 - 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 3 \\ 14 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 3 \\ 14 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$$

Part (ii): Velocity and speed 3 seconds later

Initial velocity $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$ m s⁻¹, $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ m s⁻².

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} + 3 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 - 3 \\ 3 + 6 \\ 6 + 12 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 9 \\ 18 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$|\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{36 + 81 + 324} = \sqrt{441} = 21 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 9 \\ 18 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-1}, \text{ speed} = 21 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

Question 4

Worked Solution

$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}, \mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}, \mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}.$$

Part (i): \mathbf{F} and \mathbf{G} act in parallel lines — find y and z

\mathbf{F} and \mathbf{G} are parallel: $\mathbf{G} = k\mathbf{F}$ for some scalar k .

From x -components: $-6 = k(-2) \implies k = 3$.

$$y = 3 \times 3 = 9, \quad z = 3 \times (-4) = -12$$

$$y = 9, \quad z = -12$$

Part (ii): Acceleration of object of mass 5 kg under \mathbf{F} and \mathbf{H} only

$$\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 + 3 \\ 3 - 5 \\ -4 - 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{H}}{5} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 \\ -0.4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

$$|\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{0.04 + 0.16 + 1} = \sqrt{1.2} \approx 1.10 \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 \\ -0.4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-2}, \text{ magnitude } \approx 1.10 \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

Question 5

Worked Solution

Unit vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ (east), $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ (north), $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ (vertically up).

Alesha (mass 100 kg), sky-dive. Initial position $\begin{pmatrix} -75 \\ 90 \\ 750 \end{pmatrix}$ m, initial velocity $\begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix}$ m s⁻¹.

Forces: $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -980 \end{pmatrix}$ N (weight), $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 880 \end{pmatrix}$ N (air resistance), $\begin{pmatrix} 50 \\ -20 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ N (power unit).

Part (ii): Suggest how the forces arise

$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -980 \end{pmatrix}$ N: weight (gravity pulling downwards). $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 880 \end{pmatrix}$ N: air resistance opposing vertical descent (arms spread to slow fall). $\begin{pmatrix} 50 \\ -20 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ N: thrust from the power unit strapped to her back, providing horizontal acceleration.

Part (iii): Find acceleration and show magnitude is 1.14 m s⁻²

$$\text{Total force} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 + 0 + 50 \\ 0 + 0 - 20 \\ -980 + 880 + 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 50 \\ -20 \\ -100 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{1}{100} \begin{pmatrix} 50 \\ -20 \\ -100 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ -0.2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

$$|\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{0.25 + 0.04 + 1} = \sqrt{1.29} \approx 1.136 \approx 1.14 \text{ m s}^{-2} \checkmark$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ -0.2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-2}, |\mathbf{a}| \approx 1.14 \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

Part (iv): Velocity and position at time t; verify position at t = 30

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ -0.2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 + 0.5t \\ -0.2t \\ -10 - t \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -75 \\ 90 \\ 750 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} t + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ -0.2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} t^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -75 - 5t + 0.25t^2 \\ 90 - 0.1t^2 \\ 750 - 10t - 0.5t^2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m}$$

At $t = 30$:

$$x : -75 - 150 + 0.25(900) = -75 - 150 + 225 = 0 \checkmark$$

$$y : 90 - 0.1(900) = 90 - 90 = 0 \checkmark$$

$$z : 750 - 300 - 0.5(900) = 750 - 300 - 450 = 0 \checkmark$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 + 0.5t \\ -0.2t \\ -10 - t \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-1}, \quad \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -75 - 5t + 0.25t^2 \\ 90 - 0.1t^2 \\ 750 - 10t - 0.5t^2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m}$$

$$\text{At } t = 30: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ confirming she is at the origin. } \checkmark$$

Part (v): Why the model is unrealistic

At $t = 30$, the vertical component of velocity is $-10 - 30 = -40 \text{ m s}^{-1}$. This is far too fast for a safe landing (it corresponds to a speed of about 144 km/h), so the model is unrealistic.

Question 6

Worked Solution

Take $g = 10 \text{ m s}^{-2}$.

Unit vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ (east), $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ (north), $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ (up).

Forces: $\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$, $\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$, $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$.

Part (i): Which has greatest magnitude?

$$|\mathbf{p}| = \sqrt{1 + 1 + 25} = \sqrt{27} \approx 5.196 \text{ N}$$

$$|\mathbf{q}| = \sqrt{1 + 16 + 4} = \sqrt{21} \approx 4.583 \text{ N}$$

$$|\mathbf{r}| = \sqrt{4 + 25 + 0} = \sqrt{29} \approx 5.385 \text{ N}$$

\mathbf{r} has the greatest magnitude ($\sqrt{29} \approx 5.39 \text{ N}$).

Part (ii): Acceleration of particle of mass 0.4 kg under \mathbf{p} , \mathbf{q} , \mathbf{r} and weight

Weight (using $g = 10$): $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -0.4 \times 10 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$

Total force:

$$\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{r} + \text{weight} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 - 1 + 2 \\ -1 - 4 + 5 \\ 5 + 2 + 0 - 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \text{ N}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}}{0.4} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 7.5 \end{pmatrix} \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

Magnitude of acceleration = 7.5 m s^{-2} , directed **vertically upwards**.

End of Worked Solutions