

**EXERCISES [MAI 3.15]**  
**VECTORS AND KINEMATICS**  
**SOLUTIONS**  
**Compiled by: Christos Nikolaidis**

**A. Paper 1 questions (SHORT)**

1. (a) (3,5) and (11,11)  
 (b) velocity  $v = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , speed  $|v| = 5$   
 (c)  $11\sqrt{2}$   
 (d) 10

2.

Cases	Vector $\mathbf{AB}$	Velocity vector	Equation of motion
at point B(8,6) after 1 sec	$\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$
at point B(8,6) after 3 sec	$\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

3. (a)  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  speeds:  $|\mathbf{v}_1| = \sqrt{9} = 3$ ,  $|\mathbf{v}_2| = \sqrt{9} = 3$   
 (b) (5,6,7) satisfies  $\mathbf{r}_1$  for  $t = 2$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2$  for  $t = 1$   
 (c) They do not collide since at the point of intersection  $t_1 \neq t_2$ .  
 4. (a) (4,9,7)  
 (b)  $t_1 = 2$  while  $t_2 = 1$   
 (c)  $|v_1| = \sqrt{21}$ ,  $|v_2| = \sqrt{13}$   
 (d)  $d = \sqrt{21}$ .  
 5. (a)  $\sqrt{16+9} = \sqrt{25} = 5$   
 (b)  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  (not unique)  
 (b)  $\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$  (so B is (6, 7))

6. (a) (i)  $\vec{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$  (ii) speed =  $\sqrt{3^2 + 4^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{50} (=5\sqrt{2})$

(b)  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -2 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

7. (a)  $p = 2 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$

(b) (i) equating components

$$0 + 5p = 14 + q,$$

$$12 - 3p = 0 + 3q$$

$$\Rightarrow p = 3, q = 1$$

(ii) The coordinates of P are (15, 3)

(c) No, they do not start at the same time since  $p \neq q$ . Car 1 starts two seconds earlier.

8.

Equation of motion	Velocity $\vec{v}$ (in terms of $t$ )	Acceleration $\vec{a}$ (in terms of $t$ )
$\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3t+2 \\ 5t+1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
$\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3+t \\ 2-t \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
$\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3t+7 \\ 2t^2-t+1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4t-1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
$\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} t^2+1 \\ t^3+1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 2t \\ 3t^2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6t \end{pmatrix}$
$\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 5t^2 \\ 2\sin t \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 10t \\ 2\cos t \end{pmatrix}$	$\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -2\sin t \end{pmatrix}$

9. (a)  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -5\pi \sin \frac{\pi}{2}t \\ 5\pi \cos \frac{\pi}{2}t \end{pmatrix}, \vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5\pi^2}{2} \cos \frac{\pi}{2}t \\ -\frac{5\pi^2}{2} \sin \frac{\pi}{2}t \end{pmatrix}$

For  $t = 0, \vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 5\pi \end{pmatrix}, \vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5\pi^2}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

(b) speed =  $|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{\left(-5\pi \sin \frac{\pi}{2}t\right)^2 + \left(5\pi \cos \frac{\pi}{2}t\right)^2} = \sqrt{25\pi^2 \left(\sin^2 \frac{\pi}{2}t + \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{2}t\right)} = 5\pi$

(c)  $x^2 + y^2 = 100$

**B. Paper 2 questions (LONG)**

10. (a) (i)  $r_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$   $t = 0 \Rightarrow r_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}$   $|r_1| = \sqrt{(16^2 + 12^2)} = 20$
- (ii) Velocity vector =  $\begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{speed} = \sqrt{(12^2 + (-5)^2)} = 13$
- (b)  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \frac{x-16}{12} = \frac{y-12}{-5} \Rightarrow 5x - 80 = 144 - 12y \Rightarrow 5x + 12y = 224$
- (c)  $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$   $v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2.5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $v_1 \cdot v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2.5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = 30 - 30 \Rightarrow v_1 \cdot v_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \theta = 90^\circ$
- (d) (i)  $\frac{x-23}{2.5} = \frac{y+5}{6} \Rightarrow 6x - 138 = 2.5y + 12.5 \Rightarrow 12x - 276 = 5y + 25 \Rightarrow 12x - 5y = 301$
- (ii)  $\left. \begin{array}{l} 5x + 12y = 224 \\ 12x - 5y = 301 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} 25x + 60y = 1120 \\ 144x - 60y = 3612 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow (x,y) = (28, 7)$
- (e)  $16 + 12t = 23 + 2.5t \Rightarrow 9.5t = 7$   
 $12 - 5t = -5 + 6t \Rightarrow 17 = 11t$   
 $\frac{7}{9.5} \neq \frac{17}{11} \Rightarrow \text{planes cannot be at the same place at the same time}$

**OR**

$$r_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 28 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 28 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow t = 1$$

$$r_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 28 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 28 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 23 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 2.5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow t = 2$$

11. (a) At  $t = 2$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 0.7 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3.4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$
- Distance from  $(0, 0) = \sqrt{3.4^2 + 2^2} = 3.94 \text{ m}$
- (b)  $\left| \begin{pmatrix} 0.7 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{0.7^2 + 1^2} = 1.22 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
- (c)  $x = 2 + 0.7t$  and  $y = t$   
 $x - 0.7y = 2$
- (d)  $y = 0.6x + 2$  and  $x - 0.7y = 2$   
 $x = 5.86$  and  $y = 5.52$  (or  $x = \frac{170}{29}$  and  $y = \frac{160}{29}$ )
- (e) The time of the collision may be found by solving
- $$\begin{pmatrix} 5.86 \\ 5.52 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0.7 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} t \Rightarrow t = 5.52 \text{ s}$$

[ie collision occurred 5.52 seconds after the vehicles set out].

Distance  $d$  travelled by the motorcycle is given by

$$d = \left| \begin{pmatrix} 5.86 \\ 5.52 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{(5.86)^2 + (3.52)^2} = \sqrt{46.73} = 6.84 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{Speed of the motorcycle} = \frac{d}{t} = \frac{6.84}{5.52} = 1.24 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

12. (a) speed =  $\sqrt{3^2 + 4^2 + 10^2} = \sqrt{125} = 5\sqrt{5}$ , 11.2, (metres per minute)

(b) Velocity vector:  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 16 \\ 39 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 10 \\ 23 \end{pmatrix}$  Dividing by 2 to give  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 10 \\ 23 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

(c) (i) At Q,  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 10 \\ 23 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow 3 + 3t = -5 + 4t \Rightarrow t = 8$

after 8 minutes, 13:08

(ii) Substituting for  $t$ :  $x = 27, y = 34, z = 87$  i.e. (27, 34, 87)

(d) direction vectors  $d_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $d_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$   $d_1 \cdot d_2 = 104$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{104}{\sqrt{125} \sqrt{89}} = 0.98601 \dots \theta = 0.167 \text{ (radians) (accept } \theta = 9.59^\circ \text{)}$$

13. (a) (i)  $\vec{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 200 \\ 400 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -600 \\ -200 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 800 \\ 600 \end{pmatrix}$

(ii)  $|\vec{AB}| = \sqrt{800^2 + 600^2} = 1000$  unit vector =  $\frac{1}{1000} \begin{pmatrix} 800 \\ 600 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.8 \\ 0.6 \end{pmatrix}$

(b) (i)  $v = 250 \begin{pmatrix} 0.8 \\ 0.6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 200 \\ 150 \end{pmatrix}$

(ii) at 13:00,  $t = 1$ :  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -600 \\ -200 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \begin{pmatrix} 200 \\ 150 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -400 \\ -50 \end{pmatrix}$

(iii)  $|\vec{AB}| = 1000$

$$\text{Time} = \frac{1000}{250} = 4 \text{ (hours)}$$

over town B at 16:00 (4 pm, 4:00 pm)

(c) **Note:** There are a variety of approaches. The table shows some of them

Time for A to B to C = 9 hours	Distance from A to B to C = 2250 km	Fuel used from A to B = $1800 \times 4 = 7200$ litres
Light goes on after 16000 litres	Light goes on after 16000 litres	Fuel remaining = 9800 litres
Time for 16 000 litres $= \frac{16000}{1800}$ (= 8.889) Time remaining is $= \frac{1}{9}$ (= 0.111) hour	Distance on 16000 litres $= \frac{16000}{1800} \times 250$ (= 2222.22) km	Hours before light $\frac{8800}{1800}$ (= 4.889) Time remaining is $= \frac{1}{9}$ (= 0.111) hour
Distance = $\frac{1}{9} \times 250$ = 27.8 km	Distance to C = $2250 - 2222.22$ = 27.8 km	Distance = $\frac{1}{9} \times 250$ = 27.8 km

14. (a) At 13:00,  $t = 1 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 28 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \times \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}$
- (b) (i) Velocity vector:  $\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$  (km h<sup>-1</sup>) (ii) Speed =  $\sqrt{6^2 + (-8)^2}$ ; = 10; 10 km h<sup>-1</sup>
- (c)  $\left. \begin{array}{l} x = 6t \\ y = 28 - 8t \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{x}{6} = \frac{y - 28}{-8} \Rightarrow 4x + 3y = 84$
- (d) They collide if  $\begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$  lies on path;  
**EITHER** (18, 4) lies on  $4x + 3y = 84$   
 $\Leftrightarrow 4 \times 18 + 3 \times 4 = 84 \Leftrightarrow 72 + 12 = 84$ ; OK;  
 $x = 18 \Rightarrow 18 = 6t \Rightarrow t = 3$ , collide at 15:00  
**OR**  $\begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 28 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$  for some  $t$ ,  $\Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 18 = 6t \\ \text{and } 4 = 28 - 8t \end{array} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} t = 3 \\ \text{and } t = 3 \end{array} \right\}$   
They collide at 15:00
- (e)  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + (t - 1) \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 18 + 5t - 5 \\ 4 + 12t - 12 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 13 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}$
- (f) At  $t = 3$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 13 + 3 \times 5 \\ -8 + 3 \times 12 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 28 \\ 28 \end{pmatrix}$   
distance =  $\sqrt{10^2 + 24^2} = \sqrt{676} = 26$  km apart

15. (a) (i)  $\vec{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} 240 \\ 70 \end{pmatrix}$   $OA = \sqrt{240^2 + 70^2} = 250$   
unit vector =  $\frac{1}{250} \begin{pmatrix} 240 \\ 70 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.96 \\ 0.28 \end{pmatrix}$
- (ii)  $\vec{v} = 300 \begin{pmatrix} 0.96 \\ 0.28 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 288 \\ 84 \end{pmatrix}$
- (iii)  $t = \frac{240}{288} = \frac{5}{6}$  hr (= 50 min)
- (b)  $\vec{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 480 - 240 \\ 250 - 70 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 240 \\ 180 \end{pmatrix}$   $AB = \sqrt{240^2 + 180^2} = 300$   
 $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{OA} \cdot \vec{AB}}{OA \times AB} = \frac{(240)(240) + (70)(180)}{(250)(300)} = 0.936 \Rightarrow \theta = 20.6^\circ$
- (c) (i)  $\vec{AX} = \begin{pmatrix} 339 - 240 \\ 238 - 70 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 99 \\ 168 \end{pmatrix}$
- (ii)  $\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 240 \\ 180 \end{pmatrix} = -720 + 720 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{n} \perp \vec{AB}$
- (iii) Projection of  $\vec{AX}$  in the direction of  $\mathbf{n}$  is  
 $XY = \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 99 \\ 168 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{-297 + 672}{5} = 75$
- (d)  $AX = \sqrt{99^2 + 168^2} = 195$   
 $AY = \sqrt{195^2 - 75^2} = 180$  km

16. (a)  $\left| \begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 24 \end{pmatrix} \right| = 30 \text{ km h}^{-1}$      $\left| \begin{pmatrix} 36 \\ -16 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{36^2 + (-16)^2} = 39.4$
- (b) (i) After  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour, position vectors are  $\begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$
- (ii) At 6.30 am, vector joining their positions is  
 $\begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -9 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}$  (or  $\begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ -20 \end{pmatrix}$ )  
 $\left| \begin{pmatrix} -9 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{481} (= 21.9 \text{ km to 3 sf})$
- (c) The Toyundai must continue until its position vector is  $\begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ k \end{pmatrix}$
- Clearly  $k = 24$ , ie position vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 24 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- To reach this position, it must travel for 1 hour in total.  
Hence the crew starts work at 7.00 am
- (d) Southern (Chryssault) crew lays  $800 \times 5 = 4000 \text{ m}$   
Northern (Toyundai) crew lays  $800 \times 4.5 = 3600 \text{ m}$   
Total by 11.30 am = 7.6 km  
Their starting points were  $24 - (-8) = 32 \text{ km}$  apart  
Hence they are now  $32 - 7.6 = 24.4 \text{ km}$  apart
- (e) Position vector of Northern crew at 11.30 am is  $\begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 24 - 3.6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 20.4 \end{pmatrix}$
- Distance to base camp =  $\left| \begin{pmatrix} 18 \\ 20.4 \end{pmatrix} \right| = 27.2 \text{ km}$
- Time to cover this distance =  $\frac{27.2}{30} \times 60 = 54.4 \text{ min} = 54 \text{ minutes (to the nearest minute)}$
17. (a) unit vector ( $e_b$ ) =  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3^2 + 4^2 + 0^2}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.6 \\ 0.8 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , direction vector for  $b$ ,  $v_b = 18e_b = \begin{pmatrix} 10.8 \\ 14.4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
- $b = b_0 + tv_b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 10.8 \\ 14.4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
- (b) (i)  $t = 0 \Rightarrow (49, 32, 0)$   
(ii)  $v_h = \sqrt{(-48)^2 + (-24)^2 + 6^2} = 54(\text{km h}^{-1})$
- (c) (i) At R,  $\begin{pmatrix} 10.8t \\ 14.4t \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 49 - 48t \\ 32 - 24t \\ 6t \end{pmatrix}$
- $t = \frac{5}{6} (= 0.833) \text{ (hours)}$
- (ii) For  $t = \frac{5}{6}$  into expression for  $b$  or  $h$ ,  $(9, 12, 5)$