



**TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA**  
**Faculty of Engineering &  
Technology**

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING & CIVIL ENGINEERING

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL  
ENGINEERING  
[Institutional Based Programmes]**

**ECE 2416: THEORY OF STRUCTURES VI**

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION**

**SERIES: APRIL 2013**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

**Instructions to Candidates:**

You should have the following for this examination

- *Answer Booklet*
- *Scientific Calculator (Non Programmable)*

This paper consists of **FIVE** questions. Answer question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions

Maximum marks for each part of a question are as shown

This paper consists of **THREE** printed pages

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**Question One (Compulsory)**

- a) Figure 1 below is a two storey frame structure supported by columns rigidly fixed at its ends. The first floor weighs 5.0KN and the upper floor slab weighs 7KN with stiffness of  $4.0 \times 10^6\text{N/m}$  and  $8.0 \times 10^6\text{N/m}$  respectively. Determine the natural frequencies and modes of vibration for the given structure.

$$K_2 = 8.0 \times 10^6 \text{ N/m}$$

- b) Outline **THREE** assumptions made when analyzing shear buildings. (27 marks)  
(3 marks)

### Question Two

- a) Figure 2 shows a platform supported by columns. The column end A is pinned while E and G are rigidly fixed. Calculate the column deformations hence sketch the shear force diagram. **(17 marks)**

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- b) Using a well sketched diagrams, briefly explain the following terms as used in:
- (i) Degree of freedom (3 ½ marks)
  - (ii) Logarithmic decrement (1 ½ marks)

### Question Three

Figure 3 shows a platform of 4000kg mass supported by four columns rigidly connected to the platform as well as the foundation.

It has been found that, a static force of 2kN applied horizontally to the platform produces a displacement of 2mm. If the estimated damping ratio of the structure is 4%, determine:

- (i) The undamped and damped natural frequencies. (3 ½ marks)
- (ii) Absolute and critical damping values (3 marks)
- (iii) Logarithmic decrement (1 ½ marks)
- (iv) Number of cycles and the time required for the amplitude of motion to be reduced from the initial value of 2mm to 0.2mm (5 ½ marks)

- (v) Peak displacement for the first five cycles of vibration if the frame is displaced horizontally by 20mm and suddenly released. **(6 ½ marks)**

Figure 3

#### Question Four

The platform on figure 4 weighs 6000N supporting a machine weighing 4000N is supported by 3m columns rigidly fixed at the ends.

The following two cases were observed

Case 1: If the Machine is switched off:

- (i) Find the undamped and damped natural frequencies. **(3 ½ marks)**  
(ii) Find the peak displacement of the first five cycles of vibration if the frame is displaced horizontally and then released. **(5 ½ marks)**

Case 2: If the Machine is switched on

In this case it exerts a periodic force of 8.5KN at a frequency of 1.75 hertz.

- (i) Find the steady state amplitude of the system  
[Hint:  $F_t = F_o \sin \Omega t$  ] **(7 marks)**  
(ii) Find the deflection (dynamic) at resonance. **(4 marks)**  
 $EI = 4.5 \times 10^6 \text{N/m}$

#### Question Five

- a) With the aid of well defined sketches, explain the effects of earthquake motion on structures and in relation to this clearly describe the parameters in the equation for dynamic equilibrium. **(8 ½ marks)**
- b) Explain clearly (using sketches) the natural period of building subjected to earthquake motion and explain the following terminologies associated with it.
- (i) Building flexibility
  - (ii) Rigid buildings
  - (iii) Semi-rigid buildings
  - (iv) Flexible buildings** **(8 ½ marks)**
- c) Using clear sketches, briefly explain **THREE** classifications of dynamic loads. **(3 marks)**