

[Home](#) > Three masses 10 kg, 20 kg and 15 kg are attached at a point at radii of 20 cm.....

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Question:

Three masses 10 kg, 20 kg and 15 kg are attached at a point at radii of 20 cm, 25 cm and 15 cm respectively. If the angle between successive masses is 60° and 90° .

Determine analytically the balancing mass to be attached at radius of 30 cm.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Given : } m_1 &= 10 \text{ kg ; } m_2 = 20 \text{ kg ; } m_3 = 15 \text{ kg ; } \\ r_1 &= 0.2 \text{ m ; } r_2 = 0.25 \text{ m ; } r_3 = 0.15 \text{ m ; } r = 0.30 \text{ m} \\ \theta_1 &= 0^\circ ; \theta_2 = 60^\circ ; \theta_3 = 150^\circ\end{aligned}$$

Let m = Balancing mass, and

θ = The angle which the balancing mass makes

Since the magnitude of centrifugal forces are proportional to the product of each mass and its radius,

therefore

$$m_1 \cdot r_1 = 10 \times 0.2 = 2 \text{ kg-m}$$

$$m_2 \cdot r_2 = 20 \times 0.25 = 5 \text{ kg-m}$$

$$m_3 \cdot r_3 = 15 \times 0.15 = 2.25 \text{ kg-m}$$

Resolving $m_1 \cdot r_1$, $m_2 \cdot r_2$, $m_3 \cdot r_3$ and $m \cdot r$ horizontally,

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma H &= m_1 \cdot r_1 \cos \theta_1 + m_2 \cdot r_2 \cos \theta_2 + m_3 \cdot r_3 \cos \theta_3 \\ &= 2 \cos 0^\circ + 5 \cos 60^\circ + 2.25 \cos 150^\circ \\ &= \boxed{2.55 \text{ kg-m}}\end{aligned}$$

Now resolving vertically,

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma V &= m_1 \cdot r_1 \sin \theta_1 + m_2 \cdot r_2 \sin \theta_2 + m_3 \cdot r_3 \sin \theta_3 \\ &= 2 \sin 0^\circ + 5 \sin 60^\circ + 2.25 \sin 150^\circ \\ &= \boxed{5.455 \text{ kg-m}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \text{Resultant, } R = \sqrt{(\Sigma H)^2 + (\Sigma V)^2} = \boxed{6.02 \text{ kg-m}}$$

We know that

$$m \cdot r = R = 6.02$$

$$m = 6.02 / 0.30 = 20.067 \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{and } \tan \theta' = \Sigma V / \Sigma H = \boxed{\theta' = 64.94^\circ}$$