



SECOND SEMESTER M.TECH. (AEROSPACE ENGINEERING)

END SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS, APRIL - 2018

SUBJECT: SPACECRAFT ENGINEERING [ICE 5241]

Duration: 3 Hour

Max. Marks:50

Instructions to Candidates:

- ❖ Answer **ALL** the questions.
- ❖ Missing data may be suitably assumed.

- 1A** Explain the different phases in the life cycle of spacecraft project. List the various project objectives and requirements of a spacecraft mission. 5
- 1B** Write about the various environments (cause, effect and protection methods) experienced by the spacecraft during launch phase. 3
- 1C** Derive the Tsiolkovsky equation which describes the motion of vehicles that follow the basic principle of a rocketry. 2
- 2A** Consider a rocket engine in which the combustion chamber pressure and temperature are 30 atm and 3756 K, respectively. The area of the rocket nozzle exit is 15m^2 and is designed so that the exit pressure exactly equals ambient pressure at a standard altitude of 25km. For the gas mixture, assume $\gamma = 1.18$ and the molecular weight is 20. At a standard altitude of 25km, calculate (a) specific impulse, (b) exit velocity, (c) mass flow, (d) thrust, and (e) throat area. 5
- 2B** Explain the operation of a pressure-fed liquid propellant rocket engine. For which type of applications these engines are used. 3
- 2C** A rocket using hydrogen – oxygen as fuel – oxidizer combination. Calculate the ratio of propellant mass to initial mass required to achieve a burnout velocity equal to escape velocity from the earth. 2
- 3A** Explain any four torquers that can be used in attitude control of spacecraft. 4
- 3B** What are the suitable stabilization technique(s) that can be used for following mission requirements (consider each mission requirement as different cases): 3
- (i) Nadir Pointing (ii) Geosynchronous application (iii) Pointing accuracy of 0.1°
- 3C** Write about the importance of impact protection in spacecraft and briefly explain how this is incorporated in spacecraft structures. 3

- 4A** With diagram, explain the working of a radio isotope generator (RTG). What are the advantages and disadvantages of using RTG in spacecraft as a power source? 4
- 4B** What solar-array area is required to provide 1500 W, for the following conditions: $P_o = 276$ mW/cell at 115°C ; packing factor = 732 cells/m²; utilization factor = 0.97; assembly factor = 0.96; diode loss = 3%. Assume all other factors are unity. 3
- 4C** Briefly explain any two passive techniques for thermal control of spacecraft. 3
- 5A** Explain the operation of Marmon clampband and tape spring joint. What is the drawback of connecting booms using tape spring joint and how to overcome the same? 4
- 5B** Write about antenna radiation pattern and antenna gain. 3
- 5C** What are the various housekeeping data that are transferred in telemetry? 3
