



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

MAS165

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Spring Semester 2013–2014

MAS165: Mathematics for Physicists

2 hours

You should attempt ALL questions of this exam.

Section A

A1 (i) Let $A = (1, -2, 0)$, $B = (3, 1, 4)$ and $C = (0, -1, 2)$. Find the equation of the plane passing through A , B and C . **(5 marks)**

(ii) Find the vector equation of the line through A and B . **(3 marks)**

(iii) Find the distance from the plane in part (i) to the point $D = (0, 0, 1)$. **(5 marks)**

A2 (i) Let $\mathbf{V}(t) = (t, t^2, t^3)$ and $\mathbf{W}(t) = (e^t, e^{2t}, e^{3t})$. Find

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{W}) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{W}).$$

(5 marks)

(ii) Let $|r(t)|$ be constant. Show that $r(t)$ and dr/dt are perpendicular. **(3 marks)**

A3 Gauss' divergence theorem may be written:

$$\iiint_R \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} \, dV = \iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dA$$

Indicate whether the following statements about Gauss' divergence theorem, as expressed here, are true or false.

- (i) The term $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}$ is the curl of the vector field \mathbf{F} .
- (ii) The volume R is bounded by the surface S .
- (iii) \mathbf{n} is a unit vector parallel to the surface S .
- (iv) $\iint_S dA$ is a surface integral, over the surface S .

(4 marks)

Section B

B1 (i) Let $\phi(x, y, z) = x^3 + 2xy^2z - y^3$. Calculate $\nabla\phi$ and $\nabla \times (\nabla\phi)$. (6 marks)

(ii) Let $\mathbf{F} = \nabla\phi$. Let C be the straight line path from $(0, 0, 0)$ to $(2, 4, 8)$. Calculate the line integral

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

(8 marks)

(iii) Let D be the path $\mathbf{r}(t) = (t, t^3, t^3)$, where $0 \leq t \leq 2$. Calculate the line integral

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

(8 marks)

(iv) Explain why the answers in (ii) and (iii) are equal. (3 marks)

B2 (i) Let

$$f(x, y) = e^{3(x+ct)} - (x - ct)^3.$$

where c is a constant.

Verify that f satisfies the wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$$

(5 marks)

(ii) Let $\phi(x, y, z) = x^3 - y^2z + 2yz^2 - z^3$. Find the directional derivative of ϕ at $(1, 0, 1)$ in the direction of the vector $(3, 4, 0)$. (5 marks)

(iii) Sketch the circular section R where $x^2 + y^2 \leq a^2$ and $y \geq 0$. Evaluate the integrals

$$\int \int_R x^2 + y^2 \, dx \, dy \quad \int \int_R x^2 y \, dx \, dy$$

by transforming to plane polar coordinates.

(15 marks)

B3 (i) Let

$$V(r) = \frac{k}{|r|}$$

where k is constant

Using spherical polar coordinates or otherwise, find ∇V in the simplest possible terms, and show that $\nabla^2 V = 0$. (10 marks)

(ii) Find $\text{curl } \nabla V$, where V is as above. (3 marks)

(iii) Using Gauss' divergence theorem or otherwise, calculate

$$\int \int_S \mathbf{F} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} \, dA$$

where \mathbf{F} is the vector field $(x^4, x^2yz^2, \sin^4(xy))$ and S is the surface of the cuboid described by the inequalities $-1 \leq x \leq 1$, $-2 \leq y \leq 2$ and $-1 \leq z \leq 1$. (12 marks)

End of Question Paper

Mathematical Formulae:

Spherical Polar Coordinates:

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi, \quad y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi, \quad z = r \cos \theta,$$
$$dV = r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi \quad (\text{Element of volume})$$

In the following $\mathbf{F} = F_1 \hat{\mathbf{r}} + F_2 \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + F_3 \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$ (note that $\hat{\mathbf{r}}$, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$ and $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$ are unit vectors):

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 F_1) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta F_2) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial \phi}$$

and

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \begin{vmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{r}} & r \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} & r \sin \theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \\ F_1 & r F_2 & r \sin \theta F_3 \end{vmatrix}.$$

Let f be a scalar function, then the gradient is given by

$$\text{grad } f = \nabla f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi} \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}.$$

Plane Polar Coordinates:

$$x = r \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta, \quad dA = dx dy = r dr d\theta$$

Vector Calculus:

$$\nabla\phi = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x}\mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y}\mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z}\mathbf{k}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) \mathbf{i} - \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} \right) \mathbf{j} + \left(\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right) \mathbf{k}$$

$$\nabla^2\phi = \nabla \cdot (\nabla\phi) = \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial z^2}$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla\phi) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = 0$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2\mathbf{A}$$

Vectors:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} &= A_1B_1 + A_2B_2 + A_3B_3 \\ \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} &= (A_2B_3 - A_3B_2)\mathbf{i} - (A_1B_3 - A_3B_1)\mathbf{j} + (A_1B_2 - A_2B_1)\mathbf{k} \\ \mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) &= (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C})\mathbf{B} - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B})\mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) &= \mathbf{B} \cdot (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{C} \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})\end{aligned}$$

Trigonometry:

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(\phi \pm \theta) &= \sin \phi \cos \theta \pm \cos \phi \sin \theta \\ \cos(\phi \pm \theta) &= \cos \phi \cos \theta \mp \sin \phi \sin \theta \\ \tan(\theta \pm \phi) &= \frac{\tan \phi \pm \tan \theta}{1 \mp \tan \phi \tan \theta} \\ \sin(2\phi) &= 2 \sin \phi \cos \phi \\ \cos(2\phi) &= 2 \cos^2 \phi - 1 = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \phi \\ \sin \phi + \sin \theta &= 2 \sin \left(\frac{\phi + \theta}{2} \right) \cos \left(\frac{\phi - \theta}{2} \right) \\ \sin \phi - \sin \theta &= 2 \cos \left(\frac{\phi + \theta}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{\phi - \theta}{2} \right) \\ \cos \phi + \cos \theta &= 2 \cos \left(\frac{\phi + \theta}{2} \right) \cos \left(\frac{\phi - \theta}{2} \right) \\ \cos \phi - \cos \theta &= 2 \sin \left(\frac{\phi + \theta}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{\phi - \theta}{2} \right)\end{aligned}$$