



SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Spring Semester
2018-2019

Mechanics and Fluids

2 hours

Attempt all four questions. The allocation of marks is shown in brackets.

- 1 (i) Calculate $\nabla\phi$ and $\nabla^2\phi$ for the case

$$\phi = (y + 3z) f(x), \quad (1)$$

where $f(x)$ is an arbitrary function of x .

Hence find the general solution for ϕ of the form given in (1) that satisfies the Laplace equation, $\nabla^2\phi = 0$.

(8 marks)

- (ii) Consider $\mathbf{u} = 2y\mathbf{i} + 3e^{3x}\mathbf{j}$. Calculate $\nabla \times \mathbf{u}$, $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u}$, $\nabla(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u})$ and verify that the following identity holds:

$$\mathbf{u} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2} \nabla(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}) - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u}. \quad (2)$$

(8 marks)

- (iii) Using suffix notation and the property

$$\epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{klm} = \delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl},$$

show that the identity (2) in part (ii) holds for any \mathbf{u} .

(9 marks)

- 2** (i) A tennis racket has density per unit length $\sigma(x) = (2 - e^x)$ kg/m over its length from $x = 0$ to $x = 0.5$ m. Find the total mass of the racket M , and the position of its centre of mass \bar{x} .

(11 marks)

- (ii) Earth's solid mantle has spherical radius r that extends over $3L \leq r \leq 6L$, and has density

$$\rho(r) = \left(8 - \frac{2}{3L} r\right) \rho_0,$$

where L is a constant length scale and ρ_0 is a constant density scale. Show that the moment of inertia of the mantle about the z -axis can be expressed in spherical polar coordinates (SPs) as

$$I = \rho_0 \int \left(8r^2 - \frac{2}{3L} r^3\right) (1 - \cos^2 \theta) dV.$$

I takes the form $I = \alpha \rho_0 L^5$, where α is a numerical constant. Compute the integral to find the value of α to 2 significant figures.

Over a period of 1 week $\approx 6 \times 10^5$ s, it is observed that the rate of rotation about the z -axis increases by 2×10^{-12} rad/s. Calculate the torque T required to cause the change, assuming that T is constant over this period of time.

(14 marks)

- 3** (i) A particle subject to a force

$$\mathbf{F} = x^2 y \mathbf{i} + 4 y \mathbf{j},$$

travels along a path consisting of two straight lines, first from $A = (0, 1)$ to $C = (3, 1)$, then from C to $B = (3, 2)$. Calculate W_1 , the work done by the force on the particle along this path ACB .

State Stokes' Theorem. Calculate the surface integral of the theorem for the triangular surface enclosed by the path $ACBA$, where BA follows the line $y = 1 + x/3$.

Use the result to find W_2 , the work done by the force along the direct straight line from A to B .

(14 marks)

- (ii) Consider the force

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r}(1 - \cos \theta) \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{\ln r}{r} \sin \theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}.$$

in cylindrical polar coordinates (CPs). Calculate the work done by the force on a particle travelling along the semi-circular path in the plane $z = 0$, $y \geq 0$ from $(x, y) = (2, 0)$ to $(-2, 0)$ by calculating the line integral.

Calculate a potential for the force and verify that it gives a result consistent with the work done along the semi-circular path.

(11 marks)

- 4 A sphere of radius a , centred on the origin, is fixed within an incompressible flow. Given the velocity potential in spherical polar coordinates (SPs),

$$V = U \left(r + \frac{a^3}{2r^2} \right) \cos \theta,$$

find the velocity field $\mathbf{u} = \nabla V$.

Explain why the flow must be irrotational, and explain why the potential satisfies $\nabla^2 V = 0$.

Verify that the appropriate boundary conditions are satisfied at $r = a$, and that the velocity far from the sphere is $U\mathbf{k}$.

(12 marks)

Use Bernoulli's integral to find an expression for the pressure p in terms of r , θ , a , ρ , U and p_0 , where $p \rightarrow p_0$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$.

Explain why F_3 , the z -component of the force exerted by the fluid on the sphere, is

$$- \int_S p \cos \theta \, dS,$$

where S is the surface of the sphere. [You do not have to compute the integral.]

(11 marks)

When the integral is evaluated it is found that $F_3 = 0$. Comment briefly on this result.

(2 marks)

[*For interest only:* In Question 2(ii) on Earth's mantle, $L = 1000$ km and $\rho_0 = 1000$ kg/m³. Angular momentum exchanges with the atmosphere and liquid iron outer core lead to changes in the length of day of the order of a few milliseconds, adding up to several seconds over a year.]

End of Question Paper

VECTOR CALCULUS IDENTITIES

$$\nabla(\phi + \psi) = \nabla\phi + \nabla\psi \quad (\text{E.1})$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{E.2})$$

$$\nabla \times (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} + \nabla \times \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{E.3})$$

$$\nabla(\phi\psi) = \phi\nabla\psi + \psi\nabla\phi \quad (\text{E.4})$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\phi\mathbf{v}) = \phi\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)\phi \quad (\text{E.5})$$

$$\nabla \times (\phi\mathbf{v}) = \phi\nabla \times \mathbf{v} + \nabla\phi \times \mathbf{v} \quad (\text{E.6})$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{v} \quad (\text{E.7})$$

$$\nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{v}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \quad (\text{E.8})$$

$$\nabla(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{u} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{v}) \quad (\text{E.9})$$

- (E.1)-(E.3) express the linearity property of the vector operators.
- (E.4)-(E.7) follow immediately using subscript notation and the product rule. You should know or be able to derive them quickly, e.g.

$$\nabla \cdot (\phi\mathbf{v}) = \partial_i(\phi v_i) = \phi \partial_i v_i + v_i \partial_i \phi = \phi \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)\phi.$$

- (E.8)-(E.9) you should be able to derive, given the identity

$$\epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{klm} = \delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}.$$

**OPERATORS IN CYLINDRICAL POLARS (CPs)
AND SPHERICAL POLARS (SPs)**

1. CPs (Cylindrical Polars) (r, θ, z) $h_1 = 1, h_2 = r, h_3 = 1$

$$\nabla V = \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad (\text{CP.1})$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}(rF_1) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial z} \quad (\text{CP.2})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \left[\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial z} \right] \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \left[\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial r} \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \left[\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}(rF_2) - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \theta} \right] \hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad (\text{CP.3})$$

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} \quad (\text{CP.4})$$

2. SPs (Spherical Polars) (r, θ, ϕ) $h_1 = 1, h_2 = r, h_3 = r \sin \theta$

$$\nabla V = \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \quad (\text{SP.1})$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \{(\sin \theta) F_3\} - \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \left[\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \{ (r \sin \theta) F_3 \} \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \\ + \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r F_2) - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \theta} \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{SP.3})$$

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} \quad (\text{SP.4})$$