



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

(All rights reserved)

BSc/BA, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS: 2021/2022

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

MATH 123: VECTORS AND GEOMETRY (3 credits)

INSTRUCTION:

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

TIME ALLOWED:

TWO HOURS (2 hours)

Multiple-Choice: [30 Marks]

- Answer all questions (1 - 15) on page 1 of the answer booklet provided.
- For questions followed by four options lettered (a), (b), (c), (d), write **ONLY** the letter of the correct answer in the answer booklet.
- Each multiple-choice question is worth **2 marks**.
- You are allowed to use **pages 3 and above** in the answer booklet for your rough work .
- **Notation:** Vector **a** , denoted in boldface, is equivalent to the notations \underline{a} or \vec{a} .

1. Consider the triangle ABC . The points $D(d)$ and $E(e)$ are midpoints of the sides AC and AB respectively. The point $F(f)$ divides the line segment CB externally in the ratio $3 : 1$. Given that the position vectors of the points A , B and C are a , b and c respectively, which of the following is true?

(a) $e = \frac{2a+b}{2}$

(b) $d = \frac{a-c}{2}$

(c) $b = \frac{2f+c}{3}$

(d) $f = \frac{3b+c}{2}$

EXAMINERS: T. Katsekor, A. I. Mahu,

E. K. A. Schwinger, J. Boiquaye, G. A. Botchway, K. Dadedzi

Page 1 of 6

2. Compute the scalar product of the vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} given that $|\mathbf{a}| = 2$, $|\mathbf{b}| = 5$ and the angle between them is $\frac{\pi}{3}$.
- 5
 - 3.333
 - 8.660
 - $\frac{10\pi}{3}$
3. Let \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} be two orthonormal vectors. Which of the following equations is true?
- $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$
 - $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 1$
 - $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}|$
 - $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$
4. Find the magnitude of the centroid of the vectors $\mathbf{a} = 2\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}$, $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{c} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}$.
- 2
 - $\sqrt{6}$
 - $2\sqrt{3}$
 - 4
5. Given that
- $$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{b} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}.$$
- Find the coordinates of the point Q if $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \mathbf{a} + 3\mathbf{b}$ and the coordinates of the point P are $(1, 2, 3)$.
- $(8, 10, 1)$
 - $(6, 8, 1)$
 - $(6, 10, 2)$
 - $(8, 8, 2)$
6. Given that the points $A(-4, -6, 1)$, $B(-1, -3, 2)$ and $C(5, 3, 4)$ are collinear, find the ratio in which C divides \overrightarrow{AB} externally.
- 2 : 1

(b) $1 : 2$

(c) $1 : 1$

(d) $3 : 2$

7. Let $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$ be vectors and λ a scalar. Which of the following equations is not true?

(a) $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a}$

(b) $\lambda(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot (\lambda \mathbf{b})$

(c) $\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}$

(d) $\mathbf{a} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c}) = (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{c})$

EXAMINERS: T. Katsepor, A. L. Mahu,

Page 3 of 6

E. K. A. Schwinger, J. Boiquaye, G. A. Botchway, K. Dadedzi

Consider the line L that passes through the point with position vector $2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}$ and is parallel to the vector $5\mathbf{i} - 7\mathbf{j}$. Use this information to answer questions 8 and 9.

8. Find a vector equation of the line L .

(a) $\mathbf{r} = (2 - 5\lambda)\mathbf{i} + (-3 + 7\lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(b) $\mathbf{r} = (2 + 5\lambda)\mathbf{i} + (3 + 7\lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(c) $\mathbf{r} = (2 + 5\lambda)\mathbf{i} + (3 - 7\lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(d) $\mathbf{r} = (2 - 5\lambda)\mathbf{i} + (3 - 7\lambda)\mathbf{j}$

9. Compute the unique value of λ for which the point M with position vector $17\mathbf{i} - 18\mathbf{j}$ lies on the line L .

(a) $\lambda = 3$

(b) $\lambda = 4$

(c) $\lambda = -3$

(d) $\lambda = 5$

10. If $A(3, -5)$ and $B(-7, 1)$ are any two points on the $x - y$ plane, then the equation of the line in the plane that passes through these two points is

(a) $\mathbf{r} = (3 - 5\lambda)\mathbf{i} - (5 - 3\lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(b) $\mathbf{r} = (3 - 5\lambda)\mathbf{i} - (5 + 3\lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(c) $\mathbf{r} = (3 + 5\lambda)\mathbf{i} - (5 - 3\lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(d) $\mathbf{r} = (3 + 5\lambda)\mathbf{i} - (5 + 3\lambda)\mathbf{j}$

11. Find the vector equation of the line with gradient $-\frac{1}{3}$ that passes through the point $A(2, -3)$.

(a) $\mathbf{r} = (2 - 3\lambda)\mathbf{i} - (3 - \lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(b) $\mathbf{r} = (2 - 3\lambda)\mathbf{i} + (3 - \lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(c) $\mathbf{r} = (2 - 3\lambda)\mathbf{i} - (3 + \lambda)\mathbf{j}$

(d) $\mathbf{r} = (2 + 3\lambda)\mathbf{i} - (3 - \lambda)\mathbf{j}$

12. Find the acute angle θ between the straight lines defined by the equations

$$\mathbf{r} = (1 + 3t)\mathbf{i} + 2(1 + 2t)\mathbf{j},$$

$$\mathbf{r} = (1 + 2s)\mathbf{i} + (1 - s)\mathbf{j}.$$

(a) $\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{25} \right)$

- (b) $\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(-\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{5} \right)$
- (c) $\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{5} \right)$
- (d) $\theta = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{25} \right)$
13. Find, in normal form, the equation of the line that passes through the point $A(-8, 3)$ and is perpendicular to the vector $\mathbf{n} = 6\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j}$
- (a) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (6\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j}) + 63 = 0$
- (b) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (6\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j}) + 63 = 0$
- (c) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (6\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j}) + 63 = 0$
- (d) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (6\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j}) - 63 = 0$
14. If the lines $\mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}) = -3$, $\mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j}) = 7$ and $\mathbf{r} \cdot (2\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j}) = \lambda$ are concurrent, find the value of λ .
- (a) $\lambda = -\frac{1}{2}$
- (b) $\lambda = -1$
- (c) $\lambda = -2$
- (d) $\lambda = 2$
15. Find the equation of the line which has gradient $-\frac{2}{3}$ and passes through the point of intersection of the lines
- $$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j}) - 7 &= 0, \\ \mathbf{r} \cdot (2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}) - 1 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$
- (a) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (-8\mathbf{i} + 27\mathbf{j}) + 17 = 0$
- (b) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (-18\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}) + 17 = 0$
- (c) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (-18\mathbf{i} + 27\mathbf{j}) + 17 = 0$
- (d) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (-18\mathbf{i} + 27\mathbf{j}) - 17 = 0$

Short-Answer Questions: [20 Marks]

- Answer all questions (16 - 20) on page 2 of the answer booklet provided.
- For each short-answer question, write **ONLY** the correct answer in the answer booklet.
- Each short-answer question is worth **4 marks**.
- You are allowed to use **pages 3 and above** in the answer booklet for your rough work.

16. Let $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} + m\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{i} - \mathbf{k}$ be two vectors. Find the value of m if $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = -2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$.

17. Given the two vector combinations

$$\mathbf{a} + 4\mathbf{b} = 4\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 7\mathbf{k} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{a} - 2\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{j} - 5\mathbf{k}.$$

Find the magnitude of the vector \mathbf{b} .

18. Simplify the expression $(3\mathbf{a} + 4\mathbf{b}) \cdot (3\mathbf{a} - 2\mathbf{b})$ if \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are unit vectors, parallel to each other and moving in the same direction.

19. The position vectors of the points A and B relative to O are \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} respectively. P is the midpoint of OA and Q lies on OB with $OQ = \frac{1}{3}OB$. If QP meets BA at X , find the position vector of X . Let $\mathbf{a} = a_1\mathbf{i} + a_2\mathbf{j}$ and $\mathbf{b} = b_1\mathbf{i} + b_2\mathbf{j}$

20. Find the equations of the diagonals of the parallelogram whose sides have the equations;

$$L1 : 3x + y = 1, \quad L2 : 3y - 5x = 3, \quad L3 : 3x + y = 15 \quad \text{and} \quad L4 : 3y - 5x = -11.$$