



WESLEY COLLEGE

By daring & by doing

YEAR 12 MATHEMATICS SPECIALIST  
SEMESTER ONE 2017  
QUESTIONS OF REVIEW 3:  
Vectors in 3 dimensions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Time: 40 minutes

Mark

/30

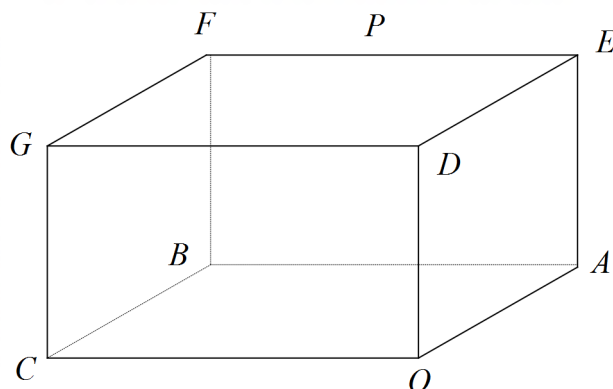
Calculator allowed.

1. [6 marks – 1, 1, 2 and 2]

The right rectangular prism shown has vertices  
 $O(0,0,0)$   $A(3,0,0)$   $C(0,4,0)$   $D(0,0,2)$   
, , and  
.

Use appropriate vector methods to represent:

- the position of point  $G$
- the position of point  $P$ , the mid-point of  $EF$
- an equation for the line through points  $C$  and  $P$
- the angle the line  $CP$  makes with the base  $OABC$



2. [5 marks – 2 and 3]

Use  $OA \otimes OB$  and the vectors  $OA = 3i - 4j + k$  and  $OB = 5i + 4j - 2k$  to calculate

a) the area of  $\triangle OAB$

b)  $\angle AOB$

3. [8 marks – 1, 3, 2, 1 and 1]

a) Express the vector equation  $\left| \vec{r} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1.5 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \frac{9}{2}$  in Cartesian form

b) Calculate the point(s) of intersection of  $\vec{r} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ -4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\left| \vec{r} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1.5 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \frac{9}{2}$

- c) Describe, by a suitable vector or algebraic equation, the locus of points that are equidistant from the points of intersection found in (b)

d) Show that  $\vec{r} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ -4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is a part of a diameter of  $\left| \vec{r} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1.5 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \frac{9}{2}$

- e) Calculate the distance between any pair of parallel planes tangential to opposite sides of

$$\left| \vec{r} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1.5 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \frac{9}{2}$$

4. [7 marks – 2, 2 and 3]

The vector  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is perpendicular to the plane  $\Gamma_1$ , which is itself parallel to both  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

a) Use scalar (dot) product calculations to set up equations sufficient to evaluate  $a$  and  $b$

b) Use a vector (cross) product calculation to set up an equation to evaluate  $a$  and  $b$

c) Solve for  $a$  and  $b$  and hence develop a Cartesian equation for  $\Gamma_1$ , which passes through  $(1, 2, 3)$

5. [4 marks]

The position vectors of three non-collinear points  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ , with respect to an origin  $O$ , are  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  respectively.

$O$  does not lie in the plane  $ABC$ .

The point  $Q$  with position vector  $\mathbf{q} = \alpha\mathbf{a} + \beta\mathbf{b} + \gamma\mathbf{c}$  does lie in the plane  $ABC$ .

Show that  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 1$

## Formulae:

### Vectors

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Magnitude:  $|(a_1, a_2, a_3)| = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2}$

Dot product:  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \cos \theta = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3$

Triangle inequality:  $|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}| \leq |\mathbf{a}| + |\mathbf{b}|$

Vector equation of a line in space: one point and the slope:  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{a} + \lambda \mathbf{b}$   
 two points A and B:  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{a} + \lambda(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a})$

Cartesian equations of a line in space:  $\frac{x - a_1}{b_1} = \frac{y - a_2}{b_2} = \frac{z - a_3}{b_3}$

Parametric form of vector equation of a line in space:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a_1 + \lambda b_1, \dots (1) \\ y &= a_2 + \lambda b_2, \dots (2) \\ z &= a_3 + \lambda b_3, \dots (3) \end{aligned}$$

Vector equation of a plane in space:  $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{n} = c$  or  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{a} + \lambda \mathbf{b} + \mu \mathbf{c}$

Cartesian equation of a plane:  $ax + by + cz = d$

Vector cross product  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2 \\ a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3 \\ a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $|a \times b| = |a||b| \sin \theta$

The sphere defined by  $|r - a| = k$  has a centre with position vector  $a$  and radius  $k$