



**RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**  
**FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

B.Sc. (General) Degree in Applied Sciences  
Third Year - Semester II Examination – July 2020

**PHY 3302 – MATHEMATICAL METHODS FOR PHYSICISTS**

**Time: Three (03) hours**

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**Answer Any 5 Questions.**

Unless otherwise specified, symbols have their usual meaning.  
A non-programmable calculator is permitted.

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1. a) Find the magnitude and unit vector of the following vectors.

- i.  $A = 3i + 4j$
- ii.  $B = 4i - 5j + 6k$
- iii.  $C = ki - kj$

(03 Marks)

b) Find the angle between the vectors  $A = 3i + 6j + 9k$  and  $B = -2i + 3j + k$

(03 Marks)

c) Find the cross product of the vectors  $A = 2i + j - k$  and  $B = i + 3j - 2k$

(04 Marks)

d) Using the vector triple cross product  $\{A \times (B \times C) = (A \cdot C)B - (A \cdot B)C\}$ , find the value of Jacobi's identity for vector products  $A \times (B \times C) + B \times (C \times A) + C \times (A \times B)$

(04 Marks)

e) Find the volume of the parallelogram (A,B,C) where  $A=(5,-1,1)$ ,  $B=(-2,3,4)$ ,  $C=(3,4,5)$

(06 Marks)

2. a) Draw three diagrams to illustrate the difference between point P in Cartesian  $P(x, y, z)$ , Cylindrical  $P(\rho, \theta, z)$  and Spherical  $P(r, \theta, \phi)$  coordinates.

(02 Marks)

**Contd.**

b) Write down the relation between Cartesian / cylindrical coordinates, Cartesian/ spherical coordinates and calculate

- $(3, \pi/3, -4)$  from cylindrical to Cartesian
- $(-2, 2, 3)$  from Cartesian to cylindrical
- $(8, \pi/4, \pi/6)$  from spherical to Cartesian
- $(2\sqrt{3}, 6, -4)$  from Cartesian to spherical

(08 Marks)

c) Convert vectors

- $x^2 + y^2 = 25$  from Cartesian to cylindrical coordinates
- $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 1$  from Cartesian to spherical coordinates
- $r = 2\cos\theta$  from spherical to cylindrical coordinates
- $\rho = 2\sin\theta$  from cylindrical to Cartesian coordinates
- $r\sin\theta = 1$  from spherical to Cartesian coordinates

(10 Marks)

3. a) Show that

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix} = -\det \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ g & h & i \\ d & e & f \end{bmatrix}$$

(02 Marks)

b) Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 7 \\ -1 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

(04 Marks)

c) Let the matrix **A** and **B** are

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } B = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the matrix multiplications of **AB** and **BA**

(04 Marks)

d) Find the values of  $x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$  using the knowledge of inverse matrix which satisfies the equations

$$\begin{aligned} -x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 &= 7 \\ 3x_1 + 3x_3 &= -3 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

(10 Marks)

4. a) Write down two different formats representing complex value **Z** using polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  and Euler's formula.

(02 Marks)

b) Make the denominator a real number

$$\frac{2 + 5i}{1 - 3i}$$

(02 Marks)

Contd.

c) Solve  $\sqrt[3]{27}$  (cubic root of 27) using De Moivre's theorem of roots of a complex number and write down values for  $k = 1, 2$  and 3.

(06 Marks)

d) i. Find  $(1 + i)^8$

ii. Show that  $\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{1-\sqrt{3}i}\right)^{10} = -\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

(04 Marks)

e) Verify that the following complex number is holomorphic using the Cauchy – Riemann relationship

$$z^2 = (x^2 - y^2) - 2xyi$$

(06 Marks)

5. a) Show that  $y(x) = x^{-2/3}$  is a solution for

$$4x^2y'' + 12xy' + 3y = 0 \text{ for } x > 0$$

(02 Marks)

b) Solve the following equation

$$y' = \frac{3x^2 + 4x - 4}{2y - 4} \text{ where } y(1) = 3$$

(02 Marks)

c) Show that  $(4x - 3y)dx + (-3x + 5)dy = 0$  is an exact differential equation and solve the equation.

(04 Marks)

d) A copper ball with temperature  $100^\circ\text{C}$  is dropped into a large water tank with temperature  $30^\circ\text{C}$ . After 3 minutes the temperature of the ball has decreases to  $70^\circ\text{C}$ . The Newton's law of cooling is stated below, where  $T$  is the temperature of the ball,  $t$  is the time expends,  $K$  is an arbitrary constant and  $T_w$  is the temperature of water. (Assume that temperature of the water will not increase)

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = K(T - T_w)$$

- i. Obtain an expression for the temperature of the ball ( $T$ ) after  $t$  time.
- ii. Calculate the value of constant  $K$ .
- iii. How long will it take for the ball to reach the temperature of  $31^\circ\text{C}$ ?

(12 Marks)

Contd.

6. a) The Fourier series of a periodic function  $f(x)$  of period  $T$  is

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2\pi nx}{T} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{2\pi nx}{T}$$

Where the coefficients are given by,

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(x) \cos \frac{2\pi nx}{T} dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(x) \sin \frac{2\pi nx}{T} dx$$

Calculate the Fourier series for the following periodic signal

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} A, & 0 < x \leq \pi \\ -A, & \pi < x \leq 2\pi \end{cases}$$

(10 Marks)

- b) Suppose that  $f(x)$  has a power series expansion at  $x = a$  with radius of convergence  $R > 0$ . Then the Taylor series expansion of  $f(x)$  takes the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x - a)^n$$

- Calculate the Taylor series and Maclaurin series of the function  $f(x) = \cos(x)$
- Calculate the Taylor series and Maclaurin series of the function  $f(x) = \sin(x)$

(10 Marks)

End.