

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING**

**MAIN EXAMINATION 2007**

**TITLE OF PAPER : LINEAR ALGEBRA AND VECTOR  
CALCULUS**

**COURSE NUMBER : E372**

**TIME ALLOWED : THREE HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS : ANSWER ANY FOUR OUT OF FIVE  
QUESTIONS.  
EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.**

**MARKS FOR DIFFERENT SECTIONS ARE  
SHOWN IN THE RIGHT-HAND MARGIN.**

**THIS PAPER HAS SIX PAGES, INCLUDING THIS PAGE.**

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GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**E372 LINEAR ALGEBRA AND VECTOR CALCULUS**

**Question one**

- (a) (i) Given  $P(5, 330^\circ, -8)$  in cylindrical coordinate system, find its Cartesian and spherical coordinate. **(5 marks)**
- (ii) Given  $P(9, 120^\circ, 300^\circ)$  in spherical coordinate system, find its Cartesian and cylindrical coordinate. **(5 marks)**
- (b) Given the following scalar function  $f = x^4 - x^2 y^2 + 8 y^2 z^2$ ,
- (i) find the  $\vec{\nabla} f$  at the point  $P:(3, 1, 6)$ , **(3 marks)**
- (ii) find the directional derivative of  $f$  at  $P:(3, 1, 6)$  in the direction of  $\vec{a} = \vec{e}_x 4 + \vec{e}_y (-3) + \vec{e}_z (-5)$ . **(4 marks)**
- (c) Given any scalar field in Cartesian coordinate as  $f(x, y, z)$ , show that  $\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} f(x, y, z)) \equiv 0$ . **(3 marks)**
- (d) Given a vector field  $\vec{G} = [4xz, -20y^3, 2x^2]$ , show that it is a conservative vector field and then find its associated scalar potential. **(5 marks)**

**Question two**

(a) Given a vector field as  $\vec{G} = [x^2 + 3y^2, 6xy, 0]$ ,

find the value of the following line integral  $\int_C \vec{G} \cdot d\vec{r}$

(i) where  $C$  : straight line from point  $P_1:(0, 0)$  to  $P_2:(+6, +8)$   
on x-y plane, (8 marks)

(ii) where  $C$  : from point  $P_1:(0, 0)$  to  $P_2:(+6, +8)$  along a  
semicircular path with radius of 5 and centred at (3, 4)  
in counter clockwise sense, (10 marks)

(iii) find  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{G}$  then remark briefly about the results of (a)(i) and (a)(ii).

(2 marks)

(b) Given a surface region  $S : x^2 + y^2 + 4z^2 = 17$ , find the normal unit vector  $\vec{n}$   
on the given surface at the point (1, 0, 4). (5 marks)

Question three

(a) Given a vector field  $\vec{F} = [5r^2, r^2 \cos(\phi), -r^2 \sin(\theta)]$ , and a closed surface  $S$  of a spherical ball of radius 7 and centred at the origin,

(i) evaluate the value of the closed surface integral  $\oiint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{s}$  (7 marks)

(Hint:  $d\vec{s} = r^2 \sin(\theta) d\theta d\phi \xrightarrow{\text{on } S} 49 \sin(\theta) d\theta d\phi$ )

(ii) evaluate the value of the volume integral  $\iiint_V (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{F}) dV$  where  $V$  is the volume bounded by the given  $S$  and  $dV = r^2 \sin(\theta) dr d\theta d\phi$ .

Compare results in (a)(i) and (a)(ii) and remark briefly on the Divergence

Theorem.

(9 marks)

(b) Given a vector field  $\vec{G} = [8x^2, -5xy, 0]$  and a surface region  $S$  as

$S$ : the rectangular disk  $0 \leq x \leq 3$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq 5$  and  $z = 0$ , evaluate the closed

line integral  $\oint_C \vec{G} \cdot d\vec{l}$  where

$C$ : the line boundary of the given surface region  $S$  in counter clockwise sense.

(Hint: Can utilize the Stokes' Theorem, i.e.,  $\oint_C \vec{G} \cdot d\vec{l} = \iint_S (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{G}) \cdot d\vec{s}$ , to find

the answer.)

(9 marks)

**Question four**

- (a) Given a periodic function  $f(x)$  of period 30, and one period ranging from  $-15$  to  $15$  as

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x + 30 & \text{if } -15 \leq x \leq 0 \\ -4x + 30 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 5 \\ 3x - 5 & \text{if } 5 \leq x \leq 15 \end{cases}$$

- (i) find the Fourier series of  $f(x)$ , (8 marks)
- (ii) plot the first ten partial sums of the Fourier series in (i) (i.e., the first five partial sums of its cosine series plus the first five partial sums of its sine series) for  $x = -15$  to  $15$ . Also plot the given  $f(x)$  for  $x = -15$  to  $15$ . Show them in a single display. (5 marks)

- (b) Any non-periodical function  $f(x)$  ( $-\infty < x < \infty$ ) can be represented by a Fourier

integral  $f(x) = \int_0^{\infty} [A(\omega)\cos(\omega x) + B(\omega)\sin(\omega x)]d\omega$  where

$$A(\omega) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)\cos(\omega x)dx, \quad B(\omega) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)\sin(\omega x)dx.$$

- (i) Show that the following given integral on the left hand side represent the given function on the right hand side :

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\pi \omega}{2}\right) \cos(x\omega)}{1 - \omega^2} = \begin{cases} \frac{\pi}{2} \cos(x) & \text{if } |x| < \frac{\pi}{2} \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| > \frac{\pi}{2} \end{cases} \quad (9 \text{ marks})$$

- (ii) evaluate the values of the given integral in (b)(i) for  $x = -2.8$  and  $x = 0.5$ . (3 marks)

### Question five

The vibrations of a certain elastic string of length  $L = 6$  metres and fixed at both ends, i.e.,  $x = 0$  and  $x = 6$ , are governed by the following one-dimensional wave equation :

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial t^2} = 25 \frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial x^2}$$

(a) the general solution can be written as  $u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x,t)$  where

$$u_n(x,t) = \left( A_n \cos\left(\frac{5n\pi}{6}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{5n\pi}{6}t\right) \right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{6}x\right),$$

(i) by direct substitution, show that  $u_n(x,t)$  above satisfies the given wave equation, (5 marks)

(ii) show that at  $x = 0$  and  $x = 6$ ,  $u_n(x,t) = 0$ . (2 marks)

(b) if the string has zero initial speed, i.e.,  $\left. \frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} \right|_{t=0} = 0$ , deduce that  $B_n = 0$  for all the values of  $n$ , (3 marks)

(c) furthermore if the string has its initial position  $u(x,0)$  given as

$$u(x,0) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{2} & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 4 \\ -x + 6 & \text{if } 4 \leq x \leq 6 \end{cases}$$

(i) find the values of  $A_n$  for  $n = 1$  to  $10$ , (9 marks)

(ii) for  $t = 0$ ,  $t = 1$  and  $t = 2$ , plot  $\sum_{n=1}^{10} u_n(x,t)$  for  $x = 0$  to  $6$ .

Show them in a single display. (6 marks)