



JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
(SCIENCE)
2ND YEAR 1ST SEMESTER 2013/2014 ACADEMIC YEAR
MAIN

COURSE CODE: SPH 203

COURSE TITLE: MATHEMATICAL METHODS FOR PHYSICS 1

EXAM VENUE: LAB 2/3

STREAM: (SBPS)

DATE: 24/04/14

EXAM SESSION: 2.00 – 4.00 PM

TIME: 2.00 HOURS

Instructions:

- 1. Answer Question 1(compulsory) and ANY other 2 questions**
- 2. Candidates are advised not to write on the question paper.**
- 3. Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination room.**

QUESTION ONE

- a. Using the differentiation from first principle, differentiate $f(x) = 4x^3 + 12x^2 - 4x + 1000$
(3 marks)
- b. Use the Leibnitz theorem to evaluate the fourth derivative of the function
 $f(x) = \sin x \cos x$
(3 marks)
- c. Evaluate $\int \sec x dx$
(4 marks)
- d. Show how the convergence of the series $\sum_{n=r}^{\infty} \frac{(n-r)!}{n!}$ depends on the value of r
(3 marks)
- e. Find the sum, S_N , of the first N terms of the series, $\sum \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)$ and hence determine whether the series is convergent, divergent or oscillatory.
(4 marks)
- f. Evaluate
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 + x^2 - 5x - 2}{2x^3 - 7x^2 + 4x + 4}$$

(3 marks)
- g. Given two vectors $\vec{A} = \vec{A}_x i + \vec{A}_y j + \vec{A}_z k$ and $\vec{B} = \vec{B}_x i + \vec{B}_y j + \vec{B}_z k$.
Show that the cross product of the two vectors is given by the determinant of a 3x3 matrix.
(4 marks)
- h. Prove Lagrange's identity;
 $(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d}) - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{d})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})$.
(4 marks)
- i. State any two axioms of a vector space
(2 marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a. Use the appropriate differentiation technique to find the first derivative of the following functions
- $f(x) = \frac{1 + \sin x}{\cos x}$
(3 marks)
- $f(x) = (5x^4 - 3x^{-2} + 6x + 11)^{10}$
(3 marks)
- $f(x) = \tan 4x e^{kx}$
(3 marks)
- b. The parametric equations for the motion of a charged particle released from rest in electric and magnetic fields at right angles to each other take the forms
 $x = a(1 - \sin \omega t)$, $y = a(1 - \cos \omega t)$.

Show that the tangent to the curve has slope $\cot\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)$. Use this result at a few calculated values of x and y to sketch the form of the particle's trajectory. (11 marks)

QUESTION THREE

a. Apply the appropriate technique to evaluate the following

i. $\int x\sqrt{3x+3}dx$ (4 marks)

ii. $\int x^3 e^x dx$ (4 marks)

iii. $\int \frac{(x^2-3)dx}{(x^2-1)(x-3)}$ (4 marks)

b. By integrating by parts twice, prove that I_n as defined in the first equality below for positive integers n has the value given in the second equality:

$$I = \int_0^{\frac{f}{2}} \sin n_n \cos_n d_n = \frac{n - \sin\left(\frac{nf}{2}\right)}{n^2 - 1}$$

(8 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

a. Prove that $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \ln\left[\frac{n^r + (-1)^n}{n^r}\right]$ is absolutely convergent for $r = 2$, but only conditionally convergent for $r = 1$. (6 marks)

b. Determine the range of values of x for which the following power series converges (6 marks)

c. A *Fabry-Pérot* interferometer consists of two parallel heavily silvered glass plates. Light enters normally to the plates, and undergoes repeated reflections between them, with a small transmitted fraction emerging at each reflection.

Find the intensity $|B|^2$ of the emerging wave, where $B = A(1-r) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r^n e^{inw}$

with r and w being real. (8 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a. i. Find the angle between the vectors $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{b} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$. (3 marks)
- i. Using the vector method, derive the law of cosines and law of sines (6 marks)
- b. In a crystal with a face-centred cubic structure, the basic cell can be taken as a cube of edge a with its centre at the origin of coordinates and its edges parallel to the Cartesian coordinate axes; atoms are sited at the eight corners and at the centre of each face. However, other basic cells are possible. One is the rhomboid which has the three vectors \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{c} and \mathbf{d} as edges.
- i. Show that the volume of the rhomboid is one-quarter that of the cube. (6 marks)
- ii. Show that the angles between pairs of edges of the rhomboid are 60° and that the corresponding angles between pairs of edges of the rhomboid defined by the reciprocal vectors to \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{c} , \mathbf{d} are each 109.5° . (5 marks)