

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh  
National University of Ireland, Galway  
Christmas Examinations, 2003/2004

GX 2142

Exam Code(s) 2IT1  
Exam(s) SECOND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
Module Code(s) MP209  
Module(s) **Methods of Mathematical Physics I**

Paper No.  
Repeat Paper  
Special Paper

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Internal Examiner(s) Dr. M.S. Ó Confhaola;  
Dr. B. Gleeson.

**Instructions:** No more than *THREE* questions to be attempted.  
Duration *TWO* hours  
No. of Answer books \_\_\_\_\_

**Requirements:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Handout \_\_\_\_\_  
MCQ \_\_\_\_\_  
Statistical Tables **YES, LOG TABLES**  
Graph Paper \_\_\_\_\_  
Log Graph Paper \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Material \_\_\_\_\_  
No. of Pages **2 PAGES (Excluding Front Page)**  
Department(s) **MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS**

1. (a) Show that the following pair of functions

$$u(x, y) = y^2 - x^2 \quad \text{AND} \quad v(x, y) = -2xy$$

satisfy the pair of partial differential equations

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \quad \text{AND} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}.$$

Hence or otherwise, show that these functions also satisfy

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0 \quad \text{AND} \quad \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} = 0.$$

- (b) If the cartesian coordinates  $x$  and  $y$  are related to the plane polar coordinates  $r$  and  $\theta$  by  $x = r \cos(\theta)$  and  $y = r \sin(\theta)$ , prove that

$$\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial r}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{r^2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta}\right)^2.$$

2. (a) Find all of the stationary points of the function

$$f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 + 3x^2 + 6y^2 - 9x + 9y + 1,$$

and investigate the nature of each of these points.

- (b) Use the method of Lagrange Multipliers to find the points on the curve, described by

$$x^2 + 8xy + 7y^2 = 180$$

which are closest to, and/or farthest from the origin  $(0, 0)$ .

3. The periodic function  $f(x)$  is defined, on the interval  $-\pi \leq x < \pi$ , by

$$f(x) = x,$$

and elsewhere by  $f(x + 2\pi) = f(x)$ .

- (a) Find the Fourier series of  $f(x)$ .  
(b) Sketch the function  $f(x)$  on the interval  $-3\pi \leq x < 3\pi$ .  
(c) State the value to which the series converges at  $x = \pi/2$ . Hence prove that:

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots$$

4. (a) Find the area of the region (denoted by  $R$ ) bounded by the parabolas  $y = x^2 - 32$  and  $y = 18 - x^2$  by evaluating the area integral:

$$A = \iint_R dydx.$$

- (b) Consider the integral

$$\int_0^2 \int_{x^2}^4 (x^2 + 2y) dydx.$$

Sketch the region of integration. Change the order of integration of this integral, and hence evaluate the integral.

- (c) Use plane polar coordinates to evaluate the integral

$$\iint_R 16xy(x^2 + y^2) dx dy$$

where  $R$  is the disc described by  $x^2 + y^2 \leq 4$ .

5. Green's theorem (in the plane) states that

$$\iint_R \left[ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right] dA = \oint_C [f(x, y) dx + g(x, y) dy].$$

Verify Green's theorem for  $f(x, y) = x + y$ ,  $g(x, y) = y$  when  $R$  is the region enclosed by the curves  $y = 1$ ,  $y = x^2 - x - 5$ , and  $C$  is its perimeter.