



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
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FACULTY OF SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

2021_1 EXAMINATIONS

COURSE CODE: PHY312

COURSE TITLE: MATHEMATICAL METHODS FOR PHYSICS II

CREDIT UNIT: 3

TIME ALLOWED: (2½ HRS)

INSTRUCTION: *Answer question 1 and any other four questions*

QUESTION 1

A (i). Show that the set of values 1, Cos x, Cos2x are orthogonal at the interval $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$. (State any necessary assumption you have used). [7marks]

B. Define the following

i. Complete solution of a PDE [1mark]

ii. Particular solution of a PDE [1mark]

iii. General solution of a PDE [1mark]

C.(i) While solving a partial differential equation using a variable separable method, what general assumption is made regarding the function which depend on two variables (example $u(x,t)$)? [1marks]

(ii). Find the Laplace transform of $F(t) = e^{at}$. Where $t \geq 0$ and “a” is a constant. [5marks]

D. If $u = x + y + z$; $v = x^3 + y^3 + z^3$ and $w = xyz$; find

$$J = \frac{\partial(u,v,w)}{\partial(x,y,z)} \quad [6marks]$$

QUESTION 2

A(i). Verify $u(x,t) = e^{-kt} \sin x$ satisfies the heat equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{k} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \quad [5marks]$$

(ii). When can we say a function is periodic? [3marks]

B. Solve the differential equation $x^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u$ using the method of separation of variables. (Assuming that, $u(0, y) = e^{\frac{y}{2}}$) [4marks]

QUESTION 3

A. Solve the equation $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 12x^2(t+1)$ given that at $x=0$, $u = \cos 2t$ and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \sin t$ [7marks]

B. Obtain PDE from $w = f(\sin x + \cos y)$ [5marks]

QUESTION 4

A(i). Show that the velocity $u = \frac{ay}{x^2+y^2}$; $v = \frac{ax}{x^2+y^2}$; $w = 0$ associated with the fluid motion is the flow of an incompressible fluid. [7marks]

(ii). State the property of the Kronecker delta function (δ_{mn}) [2marks]

B. Given that $\Phi(r, \theta) = -E_0 r \cos \theta [1 + \frac{a^3}{r^3}]$, where Φ is electrostatic potential that satisfied the Laplace equation $\nabla^2 \Phi = 0$. Write the associated electric field components for E_r , E_θ and E_ϕ [3marks]

QUESTION 5

A. Solve the equation using Laplace transform $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$; where $u(0, t) = u(3, t) = 0$, $u(x, 0) = 10 \sin 2\pi x - 6 \sin 4\pi x$. [7marks]

B. What is the Laplace transform of $f(t) = t^2 \cos at$ [5marks]

QUESTION 6

A. Find the period of $\tan x$ [6marks]

B. Given the function $\phi = x^2 + yz$ at the point $(1, 2, -1)$, find its rate of change with distance in the direction $\vec{a} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$. [6marks]