

※ 考生請注意：本試題不可使用計算機。請於答案卷(卡)作答，於本試題紙上作答者，不予計分。

1: Let \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} be two non-zero $d \times d$ matrices (with d being a positive integer) that satisfy $(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B})^\dagger + \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{0}$.

- (1) Prove that if \mathbf{B} is unitary and if \mathbf{A} is real, then \mathbf{A} is antisymmetric. (5%)
- (2) *Without* assuming that \mathbf{B} is unitary, prove that if both \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are real and if d is an odd number, then \mathbf{A} must be singular. (13%)

2: Let $\vec{n} = (n_x, n_y, n_z) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ and $\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + n_z & n_x - in_y \\ n_x + in_y & 1 - n_z \end{pmatrix}$. Compute the determinant $|\mathbf{C}|$ and the trace of \mathbf{C} and use them to show that \mathbf{C} has *only* non-negative eigenvalues if and only if $|\vec{n}|^2 \leq 1$. (11%)

3: For the scalar function $\phi(x, y, z) = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)e^{-(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}$,

- (1) rewrite it in the spherical polar coordinates and compute its gradient; (10%)
- (2) determine the coordinates at which the gradient vanishes; (6%)
- (3) determine the directional derivative along $\hat{n} = \frac{3}{5}\hat{e}_x + \frac{4}{5}\hat{e}_y$ at the Cartesian coordinates of $x = x_0, y = 0, z = 0$ ($x_0 > 0$) where \hat{e}_x, \hat{e}_y are unit vectors pointing along, respectively, the x -axis and the y -axis. (9%)

4. In solving the Laplace equation in plane polar coordinates using the method of separation of variables, one arrives at the linear, ordinary differential equation (ODE) of $R(r)$: $r^2 \frac{d^2 R}{dr^2} + r \frac{dR}{dr} - n^2 R = 0$ with n being a positive integer.

- (1) Solve the ODE and find its *most* general solution $R(r)$ (without imposing any boundary conditions). (7%)
- (2) How does the requirement of $R(r)$ remains finite (i.e., $|R(r)| < \infty$) when (i) $r \rightarrow 0$ (ii) $r \rightarrow \infty$ *each* affect the solution $R(r)$ allowed? (2%)
- (3) Find a particular solution $R(r)$ satisfying the boundary conditions that $R(1) = 0$ and $R(e) = 1$. (6%)

5: For the family of functions $f_n(x) = x^n$ parametrized by a non-negative integer $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$,

- (1) determine a general expression for the Laplace transform of $f_n(x)$ by first evaluating explicitly the case of $n = 0, 1$, and 2 [specify also the value s_0 such that the Laplace transform $F_n(s) = \mathcal{L}[x^n]$ is well-defined for all $s > s_0$ and all integer $n \geq 0$]. (11%)
- (2) determine the Fourier transform for $f_0(x)$; does the Fourier transform of $f_n(x)$ exist for $n \geq 1$? (5%)

6. The Legendre polynomial reads as $P_\ell(x) = \frac{1}{2^\ell \ell!} v(x)$ where $v(x) = \frac{d^\ell}{dx^\ell} [(x^2 - 1)^\ell]$

- (1) Show that $v(x)$ and (hence) $P_\ell(x)$ are both solutions to $(1 - x^2) \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{dy}{dx} + \ell(\ell + 1)y = 0$. (8%)
- (2) Show that $P_\ell(x)$ satisfies the orthogonality relation $\int_{-1}^1 P_k(x) P_\ell(x) dx = 0$ for all $k \neq \ell$. (7%)