

List of Courses

Analysis I

Differential Equations

Dynamics and Relativity

Groups

Numbers and Sets

Probability

Vector Calculus

Vectors and Matrices

Paper 1, Section I**3D Analysis I**

What does it mean to say that a sequence of real numbers (x_n) converges to x ? Suppose that (x_n) converges to x . Show that the sequence (y_n) given by

$$y_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

also converges to x .

Paper 1, Section I**4F Analysis I**

Let a_n be the number of pairs of integers $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ such that $x^2 + y^2 \leq n^2$. What is the radius of convergence of the series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$? [You may use the comparison test, provided you state it clearly.]

Paper 1, Section II**9E Analysis I**

State the Bolzano–Weierstrass theorem. Use it to show that a continuous function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ attains a global maximum; that is, there is a real number $c \in [a, b]$ such that $f(c) \geq f(x)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$.

A function f is said to attain a local maximum at $c \in \mathbb{R}$ if there is some $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $f(c) \geq f(x)$ whenever $|x - c| < \varepsilon$. Suppose that $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is twice differentiable, and that $f''(x) < 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Show that there is at most one $c \in \mathbb{R}$ at which f attains a local maximum.

If there is a constant $K < 0$ such that $f''(x) < K$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, show that f attains a global maximum. [*Hint: if $g'(x) < 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, then g is decreasing.*]

Must $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ attain a global maximum if we merely require $f''(x) < 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$? Justify your answer.

Paper 1, Section II**10E Analysis I**

Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. We say that $x \in \mathbb{R}$ is a real root of f if $f(x) = 0$. Show that if f is differentiable and has k distinct real roots, then f' has at least $k - 1$ real roots. [Rolle's theorem may be used, provided you state it clearly.]

Let $p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x^{d_i}$ be a polynomial in x , where all $a_i \neq 0$ and $d_{i+1} > d_i$. (In other words, the a_i are the nonzero coefficients of the polynomial, arranged in order of increasing power of x .) The *number of sign changes* in the coefficients of p is the number of i for which $a_i a_{i+1} < 0$. For example, the polynomial $x^5 - x^3 - x^2 + 1$ has 2 sign changes. Show by induction on n that the number of positive real roots of p is less than or equal to the number of sign changes in its coefficients.

Paper 1, Section II**11D Analysis I**

If (x_n) and (y_n) are sequences converging to x and y respectively, show that the sequence $(x_n + y_n)$ converges to $x + y$.

If $x_n \neq 0$ for all n and $x \neq 0$, show that the sequence $\left(\frac{1}{x_n}\right)$ converges to $\frac{1}{x}$.

(a) Find $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{n^2 + n} - n)$.

(b) Determine whether $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n}}$ converges.

Justify your answers.

Paper 1, Section II**12F Analysis I**

Let $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfy $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq |x - y|$ for all $x, y \in [0, 1]$.

Show that f is continuous and that for all $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a piecewise constant function g such that

$$\sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f(x) - g(x)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

For all integers $n \geq 1$, let $u_n = \int_0^1 f(t) \cos(nt) dt$. Show that the sequence (u_n) converges to 0.

Paper 2, Section I**1A Differential Equations**

- (a) Find the solution of the differential equation

$$y'' - y' - 6y = 0$$

that is bounded as $x \rightarrow \infty$ and satisfies $y = 1$ when $x = 0$.

- (b) Solve the difference equation

$$(y_{n+1} - 2y_n + y_{n-1}) - \frac{h}{2}(y_{n+1} - y_{n-1}) - 6h^2y_n = 0.$$

Show that if $0 < h \ll 1$, the solution that is bounded as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and satisfies $y_0 = 1$ is approximately $(1 - 2h)^n$.

- (c) By setting $x = nh$, explain the relation between parts (a) and (b).

Paper 2, Section I**2A Differential Equations**

- (a) For each non-negative integer n and positive constant λ , let

$$I_n(\lambda) = \int_0^\infty x^n e^{-\lambda x} dx.$$

By differentiating I_n with respect to λ , find its value in terms of n and λ .

- (b) By making the change of variables $x = u + v$, $y = u - v$, transform the differential equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = 1$$

into a differential equation for g , where $g(u, v) = f(x, y)$.

Paper 2, Section II**5A Differential Equations**

- (a) Find and sketch the solution of

$$y'' + y = \delta(x - \pi/2),$$

where δ is the Dirac delta function, subject to $y(0) = 1$ and $y'(0) = 0$.

- (b) A bowl of soup, which Sam has just warmed up, cools down at a rate equal to the product of a constant k and the difference between its temperature $T(t)$ and the temperature T_0 of its surroundings. Initially the soup is at temperature $T(0) = \alpha T_0$, where $\alpha > 2$.
- (i) Write down and solve the differential equation satisfied by $T(t)$.
 - (ii) At time t_1 , when the temperature reaches half of its initial value, Sam quickly adds some hot water to the soup, so the temperature increases instantaneously by β , where $\beta > \alpha T_0/2$. Find t_1 and $T(t)$ for $t > t_1$.
 - (iii) Sketch $T(t)$ for $t > 0$.
 - (iv) Sam wants the soup to be at temperature αT_0 at time t_2 , where $t_2 > t_1$. What value of β should Sam choose to achieve this? Give your answer in terms of α , k , t_2 and T_0 .

Paper 2, Section II**6A Differential Equations**

(a) The function $y(x)$ satisfies

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0.$$

- (i) Define the *Wronskian* $W(x)$ of two linearly independent solutions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$. Derive a linear first-order differential equation satisfied by $W(x)$.
- (ii) Suppose that $y_1(x)$ is known. Use the Wronskian to write down a first-order differential equation for $y_2(x)$. Hence express $y_2(x)$ in terms of $y_1(x)$ and $W(x)$.

(b) Verify that $y_1(x) = \cos(x^\gamma)$ is a solution of

$$ax^\alpha y'' + bx^{\alpha-1}y' + y = 0,$$

where a , b , α and γ are constants, provided that these constants satisfy certain conditions which you should determine.

Use the method that you described in part (a) to find a solution which is linearly independent of $y_1(x)$.

Paper 2, Section II
7A Differential Equations

The function $y(x)$ satisfies

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0.$$

What does it mean to say that the point $x = 0$ is (i) an *ordinary point* and (ii) a *regular singular point* of this differential equation? Explain what is meant by the *indicial equation* at a regular singular point. What can be said about the nature of the solutions in the neighbourhood of a regular singular point in the different cases that arise according to the values of the roots of the indicial equation?

State the nature of the point $x = 0$ of the equation

$$xy'' + (x - m + 1)y' - (m - 1)y = 0. \quad (*)$$

Set $y(x) = x^\sigma \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$, where $a_0 \neq 0$, and find the roots of the indicial equation.

(a) Show that one solution of $(*)$ with $m \neq 0, -1, -2, \dots$ is

$$y(x) = x^m \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{(m+n)(m+n-1)\cdots(m+1)} \right),$$

and find a linearly independent solution in the case when m is not an integer.

(b) If m is a positive integer, show that $(*)$ has a polynomial solution.

(c) What is the form of the general solution of $(*)$ in the case $m = 0$? [You do not need to find the general solution explicitly.]

Paper 2, Section II**8A Differential Equations**

- (a) By considering eigenvectors, find the general solution of the equations

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= 2x + 5y, \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= -x - 2y,\end{aligned}\tag{†}$$

and show that it can be written in the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 5 \cos t \\ -2 \cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} 5 \sin t \\ \cos t - 2 \sin t \end{pmatrix},$$

where α and β are constants.

- (b) For any square matrix M , $\exp(M)$ is defined by

$$\exp(M) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{M^n}{n!}.$$

Show that if M has constant elements, the vector equation $\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = M\mathbf{x}$ has a solution $\mathbf{x} = \exp(Mt)\mathbf{x}_0$, where \mathbf{x}_0 is a constant vector. Hence solve (†) and show that your solution is consistent with the result of part (a).

Paper 4, Section I**3B Dynamics and Relativity**

With the help of definitions or equations of your choice, determine the dimensions, in terms of mass (M), length (L), time (T) and charge (Q), of the following quantities:

- (i) force;
- (ii) moment of a force (*i.e.* torque);
- (iii) energy;
- (iv) Newton's gravitational constant G ;
- (v) electric field \mathbf{E} ;
- (vi) magnetic field \mathbf{B} ;
- (vii) the vacuum permittivity ϵ_0 .

Paper 4, Section I**4B Dynamics and Relativity**

The radial equation of motion of a particle moving under the influence of a central force is

$$\ddot{r} - \frac{h^2}{r^3} = -kr^n,$$

where h is the angular momentum per unit mass of the particle, n is a constant, and k is a positive constant.

Show that circular orbits with $r = a$ are possible for any positive value of a , and that they are stable to small perturbations that leave h unchanged if $n > -3$.

Paper 4, Section II
9B Dynamics and Relativity

- (a) A rocket, moving non-relativistically, has speed $v(t)$ and mass $m(t)$ at a time t after it was fired. It ejects mass with constant speed u relative to the rocket. Let the total momentum, at time t , of the system (rocket and ejected mass) in the direction of the motion of the rocket be $P(t)$. Explain carefully why $P(t)$ can be written in the form

$$P(t) = m(t)v(t) - \int_0^t (v(\tau) - u) \frac{dm(\tau)}{d\tau} d\tau. \quad (*)$$

If the rocket experiences no external force, show that

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} + u \frac{dm}{dt} = 0. \quad (\dagger)$$

Derive the expression corresponding to $(*)$ for the total kinetic energy of the system at time t . Show that kinetic energy is not necessarily conserved.

- (b) Explain carefully how $(*)$ should be modified for a rocket moving relativistically, given that there are no external forces. Deduce that

$$\frac{d(m\gamma v)}{dt} = \left(\frac{v - u}{1 - uv/c^2} \right) \frac{d(m\gamma)}{dt},$$

where $\gamma = (1 - v^2/c^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ and hence that

$$m\gamma^2 \frac{dv}{dt} + u \frac{dm}{dt} = 0. \quad (\ddagger)$$

- (c) Show that (\dagger) and (\ddagger) agree in the limit $c \rightarrow \infty$. Briefly explain the fact that kinetic energy is not conserved for the non-relativistic rocket, but relativistic energy is conserved for the relativistic rocket.

Paper 4, Section II
10B Dynamics and Relativity

A particle of unit mass moves with angular momentum h in an attractive central force field of magnitude $\frac{k}{r^2}$, where r is the distance from the particle to the centre and k is a constant. *You may assume* that the equation of its orbit can be written in plane polar coordinates in the form

$$r = \frac{\ell}{1 + e \cos \theta},$$

where $\ell = \frac{h^2}{k}$ and e is the eccentricity. Show that the energy of the particle is

$$\frac{h^2(e^2 - 1)}{2\ell^2}.$$

A comet moves in a parabolic orbit about the Sun. When it is at its perihelion, a distance d from the Sun, and moving with speed V , it receives an impulse which imparts an additional velocity of magnitude αV directly away from the Sun. Show that the eccentricity of its new orbit is $\sqrt{1 + 4\alpha^2}$, and sketch the two orbits on the same axes.

Paper 4, Section II
11B Dynamics and Relativity

- (a) Alice travels at constant speed v to Alpha Centauri, which is at distance d from Earth. She then turns around (taking very little time to do so), and returns at speed v . Bob stays at home. By how much has Bob aged during the journey? By how much has Alice aged? [No justification is required.]

Briefly explain what is meant by the *twin paradox* in this context. Why is it not a paradox?

- (b) Suppose instead that Alice's world line is given by

$$-c^2 t^2 + x^2 = c^2 t_0^2,$$

where t_0 is a positive constant. Bob stays at home, at $x = \alpha ct_0$, where $\alpha > 1$. Alice and Bob compare their ages on both occasions when they meet. By how much does Bob age? Show that Alice ages by $2t_0 \cosh^{-1} \alpha$.

Paper 4, Section II
12B Dynamics and Relativity

State what the vectors \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{r} , \mathbf{v} and $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ represent in the following equation:

$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{g} - 2\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{v} - \boldsymbol{\omega} \times (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}), \quad (*)$$

where \mathbf{g} is the acceleration due to gravity.

Assume that the radius of the Earth is 6×10^6 m, that $|\mathbf{g}| = 10 \text{ ms}^{-2}$, and that there are 9×10^4 seconds in a day. Use these data to determine roughly the order of magnitude of each term on the right hand side of (*) in the case of a particle dropped from a point at height 20 m above the surface of the Earth.

Taking again $|\mathbf{g}| = 10 \text{ ms}^{-2}$, find the time T of the particle's fall in the absence of rotation.

Use a suitable approximation scheme to show that

$$\mathbf{R} \approx \mathbf{R}_0 - \frac{1}{3}\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{g} T^3 - \frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\omega} \times (\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{R}_0) T^2,$$

where \mathbf{R} is the position vector of the point at which the particle lands, and \mathbf{R}_0 is the position vector of the point at which the particle would have landed in the absence of rotation.

The particle is dropped at latitude 45° . Find expressions for the approximate northerly and easterly displacements of \mathbf{R} from \mathbf{R}_0 in terms of ω , g , R_0 (the magnitudes of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$, \mathbf{g} and \mathbf{R}_0 , respectively), and T . You should ignore the curvature of the Earth's surface.

Paper 3, Section I**1D Groups**

Let G be a group, and let H be a subgroup of G . Show that the following are equivalent.

- (i) $a^{-1}b^{-1}ab \in H$ for all $a, b \in G$.
- (ii) H is a normal subgroup of G and G/H is abelian.

Hence find all abelian quotient groups of the dihedral group D_{10} of order 10.

Paper 3, Section I**2D Groups**

State and prove Lagrange's theorem.

Let p be an odd prime number, and let G be a finite group of order $2p$ which has a normal subgroup of order 2. Show that G is a cyclic group.

Paper 3, Section II**5D Groups**

For each of the following, either give an example or show that none exists.

- (i) A non-abelian group in which every non-trivial element has order 2.
- (ii) A non-abelian group in which every non-trivial element has order 3.
- (iii) An element of S_9 of order 18.
- (iv) An element of S_9 of order 20.
- (v) A finite group which is not isomorphic to a subgroup of an alternating group.

Paper 3, Section II**6D Groups**

Define the *sign*, $\text{sgn}(\sigma)$, of a permutation $\sigma \in S_n$ and prove that it is well defined. Show that the function $\text{sgn} : S_n \rightarrow \{1, -1\}$ is a homomorphism.

Show that there is an injective homomorphism $\psi : GL_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow S_4$ such that $\text{sgn} \circ \psi$ is non-trivial.

Show that there is an injective homomorphism $\phi : S_n \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\det(\phi(\sigma)) = \text{sgn}(\sigma)$.

Paper 3, Section II**7D Groups**

State and prove the orbit-stabiliser theorem.

Let p be a prime number, and G be a finite group of order p^n with $n \geq 1$. If N is a non-trivial normal subgroup of G , show that $N \cap Z(G)$ contains a non-trivial element.

If H is a proper subgroup of G , show that there is a $g \in G \setminus H$ such that $g^{-1}Hg = H$.

[You may use Lagrange's theorem, provided you state it clearly.]

Paper 3, Section II**8D Groups**

Define the *Möbius group* \mathcal{M} and its action on the Riemann sphere \mathbb{C}_∞ . [You are not required to verify the group axioms.] Show that there is a surjective group homomorphism $\phi : SL_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$, and find the kernel of ϕ .

Show that if a non-trivial element of \mathcal{M} has finite order, then it fixes precisely two points in \mathbb{C}_∞ . Hence show that any finite abelian subgroup of \mathcal{M} is either cyclic or isomorphic to $C_2 \times C_2$.

[You may use standard properties of the Möbius group, provided that you state them clearly.]

Paper 4, Section I**1E Numbers and Sets**

Find a pair of integers x and y satisfying $17x + 29y = 1$. What is the smallest positive integer congruent to 17^{138} modulo 29?

Paper 4, Section I**2E Numbers and Sets**

Explain the meaning of the phrase *least upper bound*; state the least upper bound property of the real numbers. Use the least upper bound property to show that a bounded, increasing sequence of real numbers converges.

Suppose that $a_n, b_n \in \mathbb{R}$ and that $a_n \geq b_n > 0$ for all n . If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, show that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ converges.

Paper 4, Section II**5E Numbers and Sets**

- (a) Let S be a set. Show that there is no bijective map from S to the power set of S . Let $\mathcal{T} = \{(x_n) \mid x_i \in \{0, 1\} \text{ for all } i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ be the set of sequences with entries in $\{0, 1\}$. Show that \mathcal{T} is uncountable.
- (b) Let A be a finite set with more than one element, and let B be a countably infinite set. Determine whether each of the following sets is countable. Justify your answers.
- (i) $S_1 = \{f : A \rightarrow B \mid f \text{ is injective}\}.$
 - (ii) $S_2 = \{g : B \rightarrow A \mid g \text{ is surjective}\}.$
 - (iii) $S_3 = \{h : B \rightarrow B \mid h \text{ is bijective}\}.$

Paper 4, Section II
6E Numbers and Sets

Suppose that $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and that $b = b_1 b_2$, where b_1 and b_2 are relatively prime and greater than 1. Show that there exist unique integers $a_1, a_2, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $0 \leq a_i < b_i$ and

$$\frac{a}{b} = \frac{a_1}{b_1} + \frac{a_2}{b_2} + n.$$

Now let $b = p_1^{n_1} \dots p_k^{n_k}$ be the prime factorization of b . Deduce that $\frac{a}{b}$ can be written uniquely in the form

$$\frac{a}{b} = \frac{q_1}{p_1^{n_1}} + \dots + \frac{q_k}{p_k^{n_k}} + n,$$

where $0 \leq q_i < p_i^{n_i}$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Express $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{1}{315}$ in this form.

Paper 4, Section II
7E Numbers and Sets

State the inclusion-exclusion principle.

Let $A = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ be a string of n digits, where $a_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$. We say that the string A has a run of length k if there is some $j \leq n - k + 1$ such that either $a_{j+i} \equiv a_j + i \pmod{10}$ for all $0 \leq i < k$ or $a_{j+i} \equiv a_j - i \pmod{10}$ for all $0 \leq i < k$. For example, the strings

$$(\underline{0}, \underline{1}, \underline{2}, 8, 4, 9), (3, \underline{9}, \underline{8}, 7, 4, 8) \text{ and } (3, \underline{1}, \underline{0}, \underline{9}, 4, 5)$$

all have runs of length 3 (underlined), but no run in $(3, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2)$ has length > 2 . How many strings of length 6 have a run of length ≥ 3 ?

Paper 4, Section II**8E Numbers and Sets**

Define the binomial coefficient $\binom{n}{m}$. Prove directly from your definition that

$$(1+z)^n = \sum_{m=0}^n \binom{n}{m} z^m$$

for any complex number z .

(a) Using this formula, or otherwise, show that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{3n} (-3)^k \binom{6n}{2k} = 2^{6n}.$$

(b) By differentiating, or otherwise, evaluate $\sum_{m=0}^n m \binom{n}{m}$.

Let $S_r(n) = \sum_{m=0}^n (-1)^m m^r \binom{n}{m}$, where r is a non-negative integer. Show that $S_r(n) = 0$ for $r < n$. Evaluate $S_n(n)$.

Paper 2, Section I**3F Probability**

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent random variables, all with uniform distribution on $[0, 1]$. What is the probability of the event $\{X_1 > X_2 > \dots > X_{n-1} > X_n\}$?

Paper 2, Section I**4F Probability**

Define the *moment-generating function* m_Z of a random variable Z . Let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent and identically distributed random variables with distribution $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, and let $Z = X_1^2 + \dots + X_n^2$. For $\theta < 1/2$, show that

$$m_Z(\theta) = (1 - 2\theta)^{-n/2}.$$

Paper 2, Section II**9F Probability**

For any positive integer n and positive real number θ , the Gamma distribution $\Gamma(n, \theta)$ has density f_Γ defined on $(0, \infty)$ by

$$f_\Gamma(x) = \frac{\theta^n}{(n-1)!} x^{n-1} e^{-\theta x}.$$

For any positive integers a and b , the Beta distribution $B(a, b)$ has density f_B defined on $(0, 1)$ by

$$f_B(x) = \frac{(a+b-1)!}{(a-1)!(b-1)!} x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1}.$$

Let X and Y be independent random variables with respective distributions $\Gamma(n, \theta)$ and $\Gamma(m, \theta)$. Show that the random variables $X/(X+Y)$ and $X+Y$ are independent and give their distributions.

Paper 2, Section II**10F Probability**

We randomly place n balls in m bins independently and uniformly. For each i with $1 \leq i \leq m$, let B_i be the number of balls in bin i .

- (a) What is the distribution of B_i ? For $i \neq j$, are B_i and B_j independent?
- (b) Let E be the number of empty bins, C the number of bins with two or more balls, and S the number of bins with exactly one ball. What are the expectations of E , C and S ?
- (c) Let $m = an$, for an integer $a \geq 2$. What is $\mathbb{P}(E = 0)$? What is the limit of $\mathbb{E}[E]/m$ when $n \rightarrow \infty$?
- (d) Instead, let $n = dm$, for an integer $d \geq 2$. What is $\mathbb{P}(C = 0)$? What is the limit of $\mathbb{E}[C]/m$ when $n \rightarrow \infty$?

Paper 2, Section II**11F Probability**

Let X be a non-negative random variable such that $\mathbb{E}[X^2] > 0$ is finite, and let $\theta \in [0, 1]$.

- (a) Show that

$$\mathbb{E}[X \mathbb{I}[\{X > \theta \mathbb{E}[X]\}]] \geq (1 - \theta) \mathbb{E}[X].$$

- (b) Let Y_1 and Y_2 be random variables such that $\mathbb{E}[Y_1^2]$ and $\mathbb{E}[Y_2^2]$ are finite. State and prove the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality for these two variables.
- (c) Show that

$$\mathbb{P}(X > \theta \mathbb{E}[X]) \geq (1 - \theta)^2 \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]^2}{\mathbb{E}[X^2]}.$$

Paper 2, Section II**12F Probability**

A random graph with n nodes v_1, \dots, v_n is drawn by placing an edge with probability p between v_i and v_j for all distinct i and j , independently. A triangle is a set of three distinct nodes v_i, v_j, v_k that are all connected: there are edges between v_i and v_j , between v_j and v_k and between v_i and v_k .

- (a) Let T be the number of triangles in this random graph. Compute the maximum value and the expectation of T .
- (b) State the Markov inequality. Show that if $p = 1/n^\alpha$, for some $\alpha > 1$, then $\mathbb{P}(T = 0) \rightarrow 1$ when $n \rightarrow \infty$.
- (c) State the Chebyshev inequality. Show that if p is such that $\text{Var}[T]/\mathbb{E}[T]^2 \rightarrow 0$ when $n \rightarrow \infty$, then $\mathbb{P}(T = 0) \rightarrow 0$ when $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Paper 3, Section I**3C Vector Calculus**

State the chain rule for the derivative of a composition $t \mapsto f(\mathbf{X}(t))$, where $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbf{X} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ are smooth.

Consider parametrized curves given by

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = (x(t), y(t)) = (a \cos t, a \sin t).$$

Calculate the tangent vector $\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt}$ in terms of $x(t)$ and $y(t)$. Given that $u(x, y)$ is a smooth function in the upper half-plane $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid y > 0\}$ satisfying

$$x \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = u,$$

deduce that

$$\frac{d}{dt} u(x(t), y(t)) = u(x(t), y(t)).$$

If $u(1, 1) = 10$, find $u(-1, 1)$.

Paper 3, Section I**4C Vector Calculus**

If $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$ and $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, w_3)$ are vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 , show that $T_{ij} = v_i w_j$ defines a rank 2 tensor. For which choices of the vectors \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} is T_{ij} isotropic?

Write down the most general isotropic tensor of rank 2.

Prove that ϵ_{ijk} defines an isotropic rank 3 tensor.

Paper 3, Section II
9C Vector Calculus

What is a *conservative* vector field on \mathbb{R}^n ?

State Green's theorem in the plane \mathbb{R}^2 .

- (a) Consider a smooth vector field $\mathbf{V} = (P(x, y), Q(x, y))$ defined on all of \mathbb{R}^2 which satisfies

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = 0.$$

By considering

$$F(x, y) = \int_0^x P(x', 0) dx' + \int_0^y Q(x, y') dy'$$

or otherwise, show that \mathbf{V} is conservative.

- (b) Now let $\mathbf{V} = (1 + \cos(2\pi x + 2\pi y), 2 + \cos(2\pi x + 2\pi y))$. Show that there exists a smooth function $F(x, y)$ such that $\mathbf{V} = \nabla F$.

Calculate $\int_C \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{x}$, where C is a smooth curve running from $(0, 0)$ to $(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$. Deduce that there does *not* exist a smooth function $F(x, y)$ which satisfies $\mathbf{V} = \nabla F$ and which is, in addition, periodic with period 1 in each coordinate direction, *i.e.* $F(x, y) = F(x + 1, y) = F(x, y + 1)$.

Paper 3, Section II
10C Vector Calculus

Define the *Jacobian* $J[\mathbf{u}]$ of a smooth mapping $\mathbf{u} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$. Show that if \mathbf{V} is the vector field with components

$$V_i = \frac{1}{3!} \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{abc} \frac{\partial u_a}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u_b}{\partial x_k} u_c,$$

then $J[\mathbf{u}] = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}$. If \mathbf{v} is another such mapping, state the chain rule formula for the derivative of the composition $\mathbf{w}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}))$, and hence give $J[\mathbf{w}]$ in terms of $J[\mathbf{u}]$ and $J[\mathbf{v}]$.

Let $\mathbf{F} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a smooth vector field. Let there be given, for each $t \in \mathbb{R}$, a smooth mapping $\mathbf{u}_t : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $\mathbf{u}_t(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) + o(t)$ as $t \rightarrow 0$. Show that

$$J[\mathbf{u}_t] = 1 + tQ(x) + o(t)$$

for some $Q(x)$, and express Q in terms of \mathbf{F} . Assuming now that $\mathbf{u}_{t+s}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{u}_t(\mathbf{u}_s(\mathbf{x}))$, deduce that if $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = 0$ then $J[\mathbf{u}_t] = 1$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. What geometric property of the mapping $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{u}_t(\mathbf{x})$ does this correspond to?

Paper 3, Section II
11C Vector Calculus

- (a) For smooth scalar fields u and v , derive the identity

$$\nabla \cdot (u \nabla v - v \nabla u) = u \nabla^2 v - v \nabla^2 u$$

and deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\rho \leq |\mathbf{x}| \leq r} (v \nabla^2 u - u \nabla^2 v) dV &= \int_{|\mathbf{x}|=r} \left(v \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} - u \frac{\partial v}{\partial n} \right) dS \\ &\quad - \int_{|\mathbf{x}|=\rho} \left(v \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} - u \frac{\partial v}{\partial n} \right) dS. \end{aligned}$$

Here ∇^2 is the Laplacian, $\frac{\partial}{\partial n} = \mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla$ where \mathbf{n} is the unit outward normal, and dS is the scalar area element.

- (b) Give the expression for $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V})_i$ in terms of ϵ_{ijk} . Hence show that

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{V}) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{V}.$$

- (c) Assume that if $\nabla^2 \varphi = -\rho$, where $\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = O(|\mathbf{x}|^{-1})$ and $\nabla \varphi(\mathbf{x}) = O(|\mathbf{x}|^{-2})$ as $|\mathbf{x}| \rightarrow \infty$, then

$$\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\rho(\mathbf{y})}{4\pi|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|} dV.$$

The vector fields \mathbf{B} and \mathbf{J} satisfy

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{J}.$$

Show that $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0$. In the case that $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$, with $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$, show that

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{y})}{4\pi|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|} dV, \quad (*)$$

and hence that

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{y}) \times (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})}{4\pi|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^3} dV.$$

Verify that \mathbf{A} given by $(*)$ does indeed satisfy $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$. [It may be useful to make a change of variables in the right hand side of $(*)$.]

Paper 3, Section II
12C Vector Calculus

(a) Let

$$\mathbf{F} = (z, x, y)$$

and let C be a circle of radius R lying in a plane with unit normal vector (a, b, c) . Calculate $\nabla \times \mathbf{F}$ and use this to compute $\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{x}$. Explain any orientation conventions which you use.

(b) Let $\mathbf{F} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a smooth vector field such that the matrix with entries $\frac{\partial F_j}{\partial x_i}$ is symmetric. Prove that $\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{x} = 0$ for every circle $C \subset \mathbb{R}^3$.

(c) Let $\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r}(x, y, z)$, where $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$ and let C be the circle which is the intersection of the sphere $(x-5)^2 + (y-3)^2 + (z-2)^2 = 1$ with the plane $3x - 5y - z = 2$. Calculate $\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{x}$.

(d) Let \mathbf{F} be the vector field defined, for $x^2 + y^2 > 0$, by

$$\mathbf{F} = \left(\frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2}, z \right).$$

Show that $\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$. Let C be the curve which is the intersection of the cylinder $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ with the plane $z = x + 200$. Calculate $\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{x}$.

Paper 1, Section I**1A Vectors and Matrices**

Let $z \in \mathbb{C}$ be a solution of

$$z^2 + bz + 1 = 0,$$

where $b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $|b| \leq 2$. For which values of b do the following hold?

- (i) $|e^z| < 1$.
- (ii) $|e^{iz}| = 1$.
- (iii) $\operatorname{Im}(\cosh z) = 0$.

Paper 1, Section I**2C Vectors and Matrices**

Write down the general form of a 2×2 rotation matrix. Let R be a real 2×2 matrix with positive determinant such that $|R\mathbf{x}| = |\mathbf{x}|$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$. Show that R is a rotation matrix.

Let

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Show that any real 2×2 matrix A which satisfies $AJ = JA$ can be written as $A = \lambda R$, where λ is a real number and R is a rotation matrix.

Paper 1, Section II**5A Vectors and Matrices**

- (a) Use suffix notation to prove that

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{c} \cdot (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}).$$

- (b) Show that the equation of the plane through three non-collinear points with position vectors \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{c} is

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}),$$

where \mathbf{r} is the position vector of a point in this plane.

Find a unit vector normal to the plane in the case $\mathbf{a} = (2, 0, 1)$, $\mathbf{b} = (0, 4, 0)$ and $\mathbf{c} = (1, -1, 2)$.

- (c) Let \mathbf{r} be the position vector of a point in a given plane. The plane is a distance d from the origin and has unit normal vector \mathbf{n} , where $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{r} \geq 0$. Write down the equation of this plane.

This plane intersects the sphere with centre at \mathbf{p} and radius q in a circle with centre at \mathbf{m} and radius ρ . Show that

$$\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{p} = \gamma \mathbf{n}.$$

Find γ in terms of q and ρ . Hence find ρ in terms of \mathbf{n} , d , \mathbf{p} and q .

Paper 1, Section II
6B Vectors and Matrices

The $n \times n$ real symmetric matrix M has eigenvectors of unit length $\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$, with corresponding eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$, where $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2 > \dots > \lambda_n$. Prove that the eigenvalues are real and that $\mathbf{e}_a \cdot \mathbf{e}_b = \delta_{ab}$.

Let \mathbf{x} be any (real) unit vector. Show that

$$\mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{x} \leq \lambda_1.$$

What can be said about \mathbf{x} if $\mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{x} = \lambda_1$?

Let S be the set of all (real) unit vectors of the form

$$\mathbf{x} = (0, x_2, \dots, x_n).$$

Show that $\alpha_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{e}_2 \in S$ for some $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R}$. Deduce that

$$\max_{\mathbf{x} \in S} \mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{x} \geq \lambda_2.$$

The $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrix A is obtained by removing the first row and the first column of M . Let μ be the greatest eigenvalue of A . Show that

$$\lambda_1 \geq \mu \geq \lambda_2.$$

Paper 1, Section II
7B Vectors and Matrices

What does it mean to say that a matrix can be diagonalised? Given that the $n \times n$ real matrix M has n eigenvectors satisfying $\mathbf{e}_a \cdot \mathbf{e}_b = \delta_{ab}$, explain how to obtain the diagonal form Λ of M . Prove that Λ is indeed diagonal. Obtain, with proof, an expression for the trace of M in terms of its eigenvalues.

The elements of M are given by

$$M_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } i = j, \\ 1 & \text{for } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

Determine the elements of M^2 and hence show that, if λ is an eigenvalue of M , then

$$\lambda^2 = (n-1) + (n-2)\lambda.$$

Assuming that M can be diagonalised, give its diagonal form.

Paper 1, Section II
8C Vectors and Matrices

(a) Show that the equations

$$1 + s + t = a$$

$$1 - s + t = b$$

$$1 - 2t = c$$

determine s and t uniquely if and only if $a + b + c = 3$.

Write the following system of equations

$$5x + 2y - z = 1 + s + t$$

$$2x + 5y - z = 1 - s + t$$

$$-x - y + 8z = 1 - 2t$$

in matrix form $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$. Use Gaussian elimination to solve the system for x, y , and z . State a relationship between the rank and the kernel of a matrix. What is the rank and what is the kernel of A ?

For which values of x, y , and z is it possible to solve the above system for s and t ?

- (b) Define a *unitary* $n \times n$ matrix. Let A be a real symmetric $n \times n$ matrix, and let I be the $n \times n$ identity matrix. Show that $|(A + iI)\mathbf{x}|^2 = |A\mathbf{x}|^2 + |\mathbf{x}|^2$ for arbitrary $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$, where $|\mathbf{x}|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|^2$. Find a similar expression for $|(A - iI)\mathbf{x}|^2$. Prove that $(A - iI)(A + iI)^{-1}$ is well-defined and is a unitary matrix.