



University of Kelaniya - Sri Lanka
Center for Distance & Continuing Education
Bachelor of Science(General) External
First year second semester examination - 2023 (2025 March)
(New Syllabus)
Faculty of Science
Applied Mathematics
AMAT 17532 - Vector Methods in Geometry

No.of Questions: Five(05) No.of Pages: Three(03) Time: Two(2)hrs
Answer Four(04) Questions Only

1. (a) Consider the two lines $\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{a} + \lambda \mathbf{m}$ and $\mathbf{r}_2 = \mathbf{b} + \mu \mathbf{n}$ where $\mathbf{a} = 5\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{b} = -\mathbf{i} + 7\mathbf{j} + 8\mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{m} = -4\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{n} = 2\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j} - 7\mathbf{k}$.
- Show that the two lines intersect.
 - Find the position vector of the point P of their intersection.
 - If the position vector of a point Q is $3\mathbf{i} + 7\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$, show that PQ is perpendicular to AB where A and B are the points with the position vectors $\mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{b}$.
- (b) i. Find the vector equation of a line which passes through the point A , whose position vector is $2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} + 7\mathbf{k}$ and is parallel to the vector $-2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$.
- ii. What are the point coordinates where this line intersects the xy plane?
2. (a) i. Find an equation of the plane normal to the vector $2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j}$ that contains the line

$$l : 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k} + t(\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k})$$

where t is a parameter.

- Find the equation of the plane containing the same line l and the point with position vector $\mathbf{k}$.
 - Find the angle between these two planes.
- (b) Let $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$ be non-co-planar vectors.

- i. Write down the vector equation of the plane which contains the points $2\mathbf{a} + 2\mathbf{b}$, $3\mathbf{a} + 2\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}$, and $\mathbf{a} + 3\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}$. -----
- ii. Determine whether the point $-3\mathbf{a} + 2\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}$ is also on the plane.

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3. (a) Find equation of the line passing through the point $(5, 4, 3)$ and having direction ratios $-3, 4, 2$.
- (b) Find equation of the sphere whose center is at the point $(1, 2, -1)$ and whose radius is 3.
- (c) Consider the following two skew-lines

$$\frac{x+3}{-4} = \frac{y-6}{3} = \frac{z}{2}; \quad \frac{x+2}{-4} = \frac{y}{1} = \frac{z-7}{1}$$

- i. Write down the vector equations of above lines.
- ii. Find the length of the shortest distance between them.
4. (a) Find the unit tangent vector, the unit normal vector, and the unit binormal vector of the circle of radius a in the xy -plane, parameterized as

$$\mathbf{r}(\theta) = (a \cos(\theta), a \sin(\theta), 0)$$

at $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

- (b) State Frenet-Serret formulas.
- (c) Show that the curvature κ and torsion τ for a curve $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}(t)$ can be written in the form

$$\kappa = \frac{\|\dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \ddot{\mathbf{r}}\|}{\|\dot{\mathbf{r}}\|^3}$$

and

$$\tau = \frac{[\dot{\mathbf{r}} \quad \ddot{\mathbf{r}} \quad \dddot{\mathbf{r}}]}{\|\dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \ddot{\mathbf{r}}\|^2}$$

- (d) i. Find the curvature and the torsion of the twisted cubic $\mathbf{r} = \left(2t, t^2, \frac{t^3}{3}\right)$ at $t = 1$.
- ii. Derive the equation of the osculating plane.
5. (a) Find the equation of the tangent plane to $z = 3x^2 - xy$ at the point $(1, 2, 1)$.
- (b) The coordinates (u, v, w) , are related to Cartesian coordinates (x, y, z) by the following equations.

$$x = 2u + 3v - w$$

$$y = v - 5w$$

$$z = u + 4w$$

- i. Obtain the scale factors h_u, h_v , and h_w .
- ii. Find the unit vectors $\mathbf{e}_u, \mathbf{e}_v$, and $\mathbf{e}_w$.
- iii. Show that the coordinate system (u, v, w) is orthogonal.

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(c) Let $\mathbf{F}(u, v, w)$ and $\mathbf{G}(u, v, w)$ be

$$\mathbf{F}(u, v, w) = u \sin v \, \mathbf{e}_u + u \cos v \, \mathbf{e}_v + u \cos w \, \mathbf{e}_w$$

$$\mathbf{G}(u, v, w) = v \, \mathbf{e}_u + u \, \mathbf{e}_v + w \, \mathbf{e}_w.$$

Find,

- i. $\nabla \times \mathbf{F}$
- ii. $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{G}$

— End of Examination —

