



KIBABII UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST SEMESTER
MAIN EXAMINATIONS

FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICS

COURSE CODE: SPH 813

COURSE TITLE: ELECTRODYNAMICS

DURATION: 3 HOURS

DATE: 14/12/2022

TIME: 2:00-4:00PM

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Answer ANY THREE QUESTIONS.
- Each question carries 20 MARKS.

• $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T.m/A}$, $\mu_0 = \frac{4\pi}{c}$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} \equiv \left(\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial \varphi} - \frac{\partial B_\varphi}{\partial z} \right) \hat{r} + \left(\frac{\partial B_r}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial r} \right) \hat{\varphi} + \frac{1}{r} \left(\frac{\partial(rB_\varphi)}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial B_r}{\partial \varphi} \right) \hat{z}.$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \circ \vec{A} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (rA_r) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial A_\varphi}{\partial \varphi} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$$

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

- a) Use Maxwell's equations to express the electric field \mathbf{B} in terms of the general wave equation. (5marks)
- b) Show that the electric field of an electrically neutral system is given by $\mathbf{E} = \frac{3r(r \cdot \mathbf{D}) - r^2 \mathbf{D}}{r^5}$

Where symbols have their usual meaning. (6marks)

- a) Use Biot-Savart law to show that the divergence of all magnetic fields is zero. (5marks)
- c) The expression for the magnetic field of a circular parallel plate capacitor is $\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 \Delta r}{2\pi R} e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} \left(\frac{r}{r_0^2}\right) \hat{\phi}$. Use this result to find the displacement current density between the plates. (4marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Derive the components of the electric field for a moving charged particle in matter in both fixed and moving reference frames. (5marks)
- b) Show that the varying electric field is rotational whereas the electrostatic field is irrotational. (5marks)
- c) A uniform electric field \mathbf{E} is at right angles to the magnetic field. Suppose that \mathbf{B} points to x-direction and \mathbf{E} z-direction. Determine the path taken by a positive charge released from the origin given
- $$\mathbf{y}(t) = C_1 \cos \omega t + C_2 \sin \omega t + \left(\frac{E}{B}\right) t + C_3$$
- $$\mathbf{z}(t) = C_2 \cos \omega t - C_1 \sin \omega t + C_4$$
- (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Show that the electric field can be expressed in terms of time varying vector \mathbf{A} and a gradient scalar potential ϕ i.e. $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\phi - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t}$. (5marks)
- b) A vector field is given by the expression $\vec{A}(x, y) = a \cos(bx) \hat{i} + aby \sin(bx) \hat{j}$. Show that the field is magnetic. (3marks)
- c) Electric charge is uniformly distributed with a linear density λ along a semicircle of radius r . Determine the Coulomb force on a point charge Q placed at the center of curvature of the semicircle. (4marks)
- d) Show that for stationary as well as non-stationary fields, the divergence of the electric field $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 4\pi\rho$ but $\nabla \times \mathbf{E}$ has different values. (6marks)
- e) A current \mathbf{I} is uniformly distributed over a wire of a circular cross section with radius a . Find the volume current density \mathbf{J} . (2marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Use the energy conservation law of electromagnetic fields to show that the flow of energy through a closed surface S surrounding a volume V has an energy flux characterized by a vector $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \frac{c}{4\pi} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H})$. (7marks)

- b) Show that the magnitude of torque on an electric dipole placed in an electric field is given by $p\vec{E} \sin \theta$ where the symbols have their usual meaning. (4marks)
- c) Determine the meridional component of an electric field for a dipole hence evaluate the field on a broadside-on-position. (5marks)
- d) Electric charge is uniformly distributed with a linear density λ on an infinitely long line parallel to the y-axis. Determine the electric field strength at a point P a distance b from the center of the segment to the direction of the x-axis. (4marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Use the Poynting theorem to show that the field energy flux flowing through 1cm^2 in the direction perpendicular to the field vectors \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{H} is given by $\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H})$ (10marks)
- b) Find the charge density at $x = 2\text{m}$ and $x = 5\text{m}$ if the electric field in the region is given by $\vec{E} = \begin{cases} ax^2 i \frac{V}{M}, & 0 \leq x \leq 3\text{m} \\ bi \frac{V}{M}, & x > 3\text{m} \end{cases}$ (6marks)
- c) Electric charge is uniformly distributed with a density ρ inside a sphere of radius r . Determine the electric potential outside the sphere. (4marks)