

Q1 45 Last Initial C  
Q2 20 Section A05  
(A01 Andy Port, A02 Jacob Porter, A03 Josh Clement, A04 Brandon Barrette)  
Q3 35  
 $\Sigma$  100 FULL Name Captain Conundrum

## MIDTERM EXAMINATION I

**21D §A01-04, 9:00-9:50 am**

**Wednesday May 11, 2009**

**Declaration of honesty:** I, the undersigned, do hereby swear to uphold the very highest standards of academic honesty, including, but not limited to, submitting work that is original, my own and unaided by notes, peeking at the person next to me whose answer is probably wrong anyway, books, calculators, mobile phones, immobile phones, twitters, blackberries, blueberries, boysenberries, raspberries, artificial intelligence or any other electronic device.

Signature CC Date 5/11/9

**Question 1 45 points [This is a multipart question – read carefully!]**

(i) Write an explicit formula for the vector field  $\vec{F}(x, y)$  in the  $(x, y)$ -plane whose magnitude at the point  $P$  equals its distance from the origin  $O$ , whose direction is always perpendicular to the vector  $\vec{OP}$  and whose cross product with the unit vector  $\mathbf{k}$  along the  $z$ -axis points away from the origin. (ii) Sketch the vector field  $\vec{F}$  in the  $(x, y)$ -plane. (iii) Determine whether  $\vec{F}$  is conservative. (iv) Calculate the divergence of  $\vec{F}$ . (v) What is the flux of the field  $\vec{F}$  around any closed path in the  $(x, y)$ -plane? Explain! [If and only if you cannot do part (i) pretend  $\vec{F} = x\mathbf{i} - \frac{1}{2}y^2\mathbf{j}$  to get partial credit for (ii-v)]

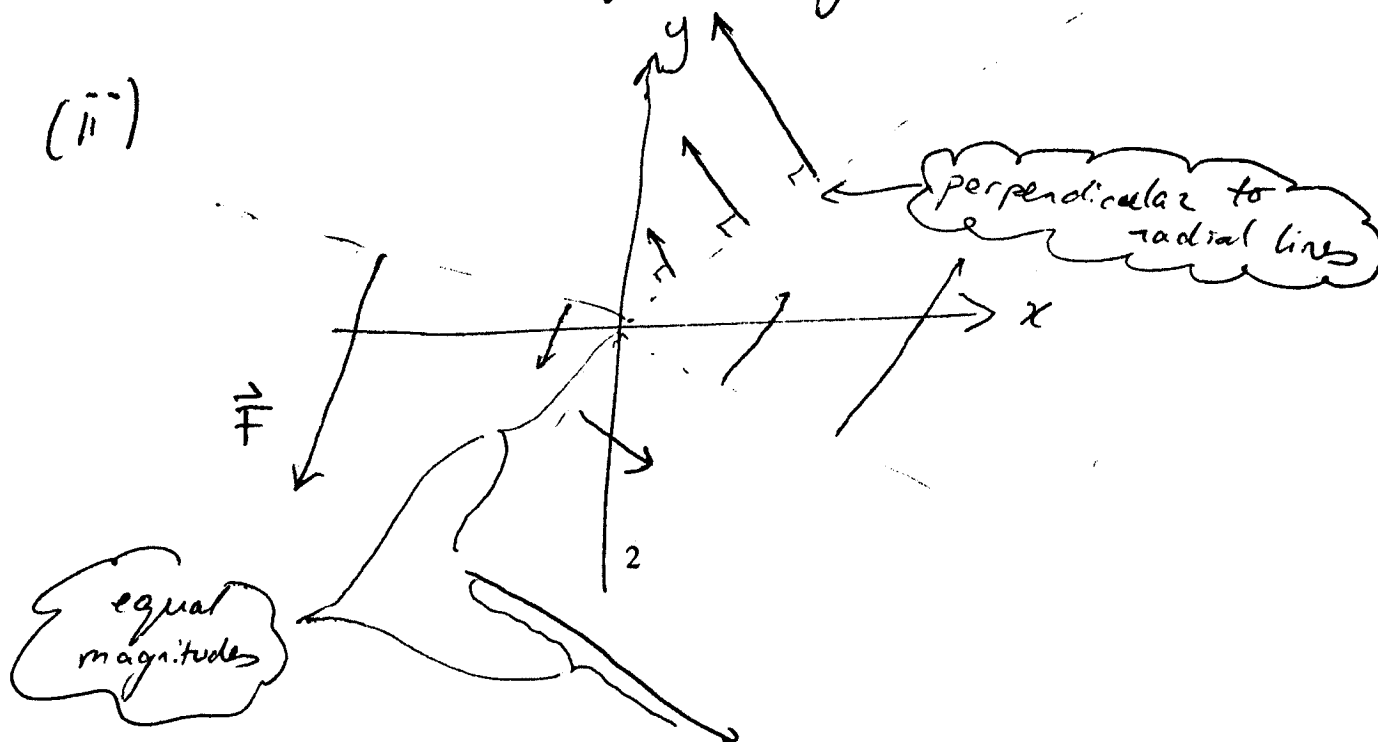
(i) Let  $P = (x, y)$  then  $|\vec{OP}| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$

$\vec{OP} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j}$  so  $y\mathbf{i} - x\mathbf{j} \perp \vec{OP}$

but  $(y\mathbf{i} - x\mathbf{j}) \times \mathbf{k} = -y\mathbf{j} - x\mathbf{i} = -\vec{OP}$   
points out, but at least  $|y\mathbf{i} - x\mathbf{j}| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$

hence

$\vec{F} = -y\mathbf{i} + x\mathbf{j}$



Working for question 1

$$(iii) \quad \vec{F} = -y\vec{i} + x\vec{j} \quad \neq \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \vec{j}$$

$$\text{But } \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(-y) = -1 \neq \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x) = +1$$

$\vec{F}$  NOT conservative

$$(iv) \quad \text{div } \vec{F} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(-y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(x) = 0$$

(v) Use Green's Theorem

$$\text{FLUX} = \int_{C=\partial R} \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} ds = \int_R dA \text{ div } \vec{F}$$

$$= \int_R dA \cdot 0 = 0$$

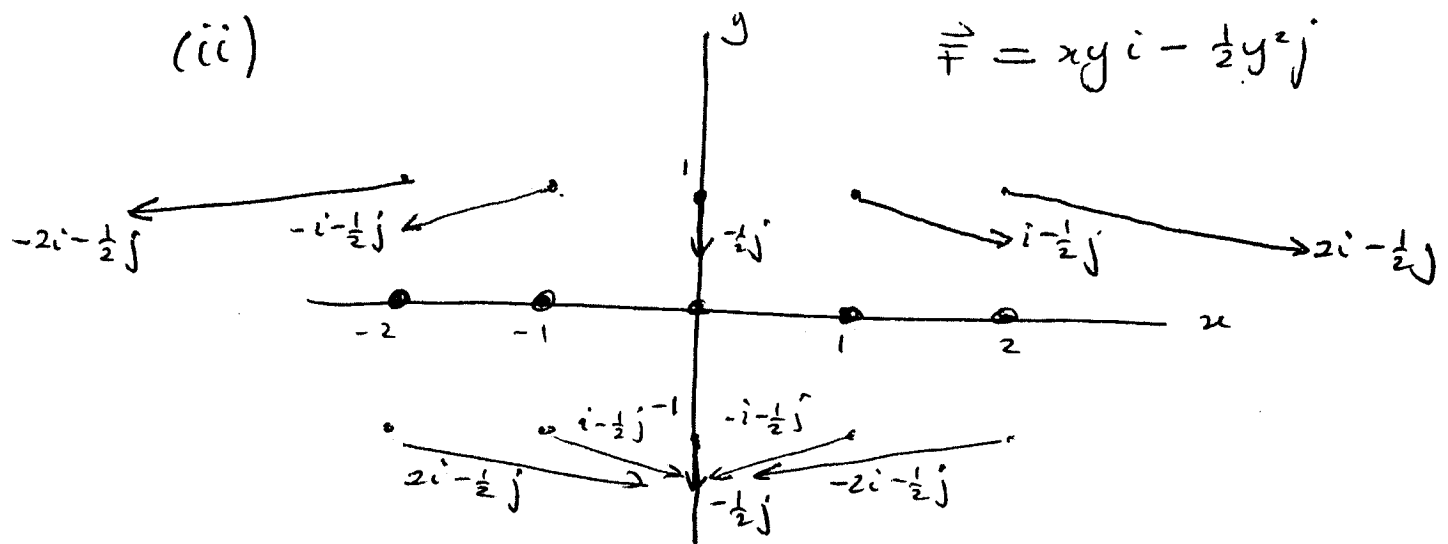
vanishes because the flux density  $\text{div } \vec{F}$  vanishes everywhere.

Working for question 1

Less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  total credit for the following:

Alternate answers

(ii)



(iii)  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(xy) = x \neq \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(-\frac{1}{2}y^2) = 0$

NOT CONSERVATIVE

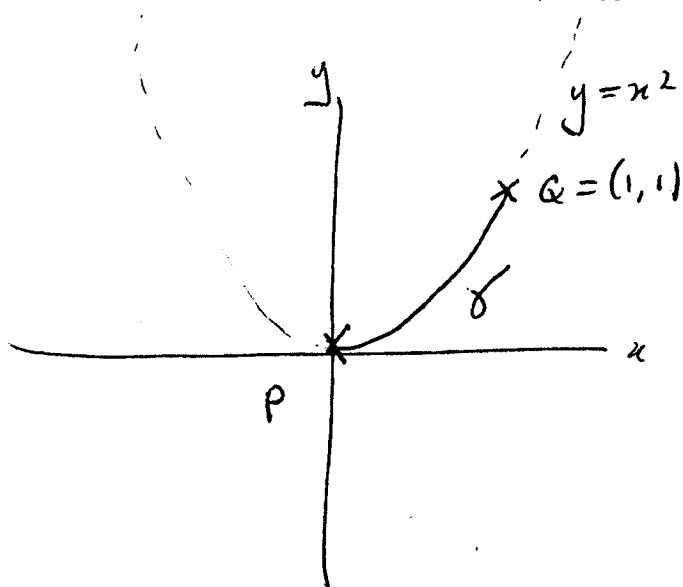
(iv)  $\text{div } \vec{F} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(xy) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} y^2 = y - y = 0$

(v) AS FOR (v) ABOVE!

**Question 2** 20 points

Write down two different parameterizations for the path along the parabola  $y = x^2$  in the  $(x, y)$ -plane beginning at  $P = (0, 0)$  and ending at  $Q = (1, 1)$ . Use one of your parameterizations to compute the work done moving a particle along this path through the force field

$$\vec{F} = (x - y)\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j}.$$



First parameterization

$$\vec{r} = t\mathbf{i} + t^2\mathbf{j} \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

Second parameterization

$$\vec{r} = t^2\mathbf{i} + t^4\mathbf{j} \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

something like

$$\vec{r} = (t-1)\mathbf{i} + (t-1)^2\mathbf{j} \quad 1 \leq t \leq 2$$

is also fine. There are infinitely  
many correct answers!

Working for question 2

$$\text{Work} = \int_{\gamma} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$= \int_{\gamma} [(x-y)dx + ydy]$$

$$= \int_0^1 \cancel{\text{d}t} [(t-t^2)d(t) + t^2d(t^2)]$$

$$= \int_0^1 [tdt - t^2dt + 2t^3dt]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{4} = \frac{2}{3}$$

**Question 3** 35 points

**Gravitational field**

- (i) Find a potential function for the gravitational field

$$\vec{F} = -GmM \frac{x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \quad (G, m, \text{ and } M \text{ are constants}).$$

- (ii) Let  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  be points at distance  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  from the origin. Show that the work done by the gravitational field in part (i) in moving a particle from  $P_1$  to  $P_2$  is

$$GmM \left( \frac{1}{s_2} - \frac{1}{s_1} \right).$$

(i) We did this in class so if you know already that  $\vec{F} = \nabla U$  with

$$U = \frac{GmM}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}$$

this is OK so long as you check that its correct by direct computation

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla U &= \mathbf{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{GmM}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} + \mathbf{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{GmM}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} + \mathbf{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{GmM}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \\ &= GmM \left\{ \frac{2ix \cdot (-\frac{1}{2})}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} + \mathbf{j}(x \leftrightarrow y) + \mathbf{k}(x \leftrightarrow z) \right\} \\ &= -\frac{GmM (xi + yj + zk)}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} = \vec{F} \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Working for question 3

Alternatively we need to solve

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = \frac{GmMx}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{3/2}} \Rightarrow U = \frac{-GmM}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{1/2}} + g(y, z)$$

$$\text{use } \int \frac{x dx}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d(x^2)}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{3/2}} = -2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{1/2}} + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = \frac{GmMy}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{3/2}} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = \frac{GmMy}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)} \Rightarrow g \text{ is } y \text{ independent}$$

similarly  $\frac{\partial U}{\partial z}$  says  $g$  is  $z$  independent so  $g$  is a constant.

NB Assign a small ( $\leq 5$ ) number of points to show  $\vec{F}$  is actually conservative (this was not asked for).

(iii) Since  $\vec{F}$  has a potential we can evaluate the work  $= \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$  by evaluating the potential at the endpoints

$$\text{work} = \frac{GmM}{s_2} - \frac{GmM}{s_1} \text{ using}$$

that  $\sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2}$  is the distance from the origin.