



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya.

Tel: +254 (0)799529958, +254 (0)799529959, +254 (0)712524293

Website: www.must.ac.ke Email: info@must.ac.ke

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2019/2020

THIRD YEAR, SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE AND
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

SMA 3355 FLUID MECHANICS I

DATE: JANUARY 2021

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question **one** and any other **two** questions.

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) State any two characteristics of a fluid (2 marks)
- b) Distinguish between ideal and real fluids (2 marks)
- c) Briefly describe the effects of temperature and pressure on fluid viscosity (4 marks)
- d) Examine whether the velocity components $u = -4ax(x^2 - 3y^2)$ and $v = 4ay(3x^2 - y^2)$ represent a physically possible two-dimensional flow (5 marks)
- e) State the Eulerian description of fluid motion and hence show that for a three dimensional fluid flow, the acceleration component $a_x = u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$ (6 marks)
- f) Identify each of the terms of the equation $\frac{\partial \vec{q}}{\partial t} + \vec{q} \cdot \nabla \vec{q} = \frac{-\nabla P}{\rho} + \frac{\mu}{\rho} \nabla^2 \vec{q}$ (4 marks)
- g) Verify whether the function $\phi = A \cos x$ is a valid potential function (5 marks)
- h) State the Newton's law of viscosity (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Distinguish between each of the following pairs
 - i. Newtonian and non-Newtonian fluids (2 marks)
 - ii. Compressible and incompressible flows (2 marks)
 - iii. Steady and unsteady flows (2 marks)

- b) Determine whether the flow with velocity field $\vec{q} = cyz\hat{i} + cxz\hat{j} + cxy\hat{k}$, where c is constant, is rotational or irrotational (5 marks)
- c) The velocity of a two dimensional unsteady incompressible flow is $\vec{q} = (3 + 2xy + 4t^2)\hat{i} + (xy^2 + 3t)\hat{j}$. Compute the acceleration at point (1,2) after 2 seconds. (9 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) The velocity components in a two-dimensional fluid flow are given by $u = 2xy$; $v = a^2 + x^2 - y^2$. Derive the expression for the stream function (7 marks)
- b) In a two dimensional incompressible flow, the fluid velocity components are given by $u = x - 4y$; $v = -y - 4x$.
- Show that velocity potential exists (3 marks)
 - Determine the expression for the velocity potential (5 marks)
 - Determine also the expression for the stream function (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Distinguish between Lagrangian and Eulerian methods of describing motion of fluid particles (4 marks)
- b) Distinguish between Newtonian and plastic fluids, giving examples in each case (4 marks)
- c) Verify whether the function $\phi = A(x^2 - y^2)$ is a valid potential function (5 marks)
- d) In a three-dimensional incompressible flow, the velocity components in y and z directions are $v = ax^3 - by^2 + cz^2$, $w = bx^3 - cy^2 + az^2x$. Determine the missing component of velocity distribution such that continuity equation is satisfied (7 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) The potential for flow around a cylinder of radius R is given by $\phi = ux \left(1 + \frac{R^2}{x^2 + y^2} \right)$ where x and y are the Cartesian coordinates with the origin at the middle. Derive an expression for the stream function ψ (7 marks)
- b) Given a two dimensional velocity field $u = \frac{-y}{r^2}$ and $v = \frac{x}{r^2}$
- Show that the fluid flow satisfies the mass conservation (4 marks)
 - Show that the velocity field can be described by a velocity potential (4 marks)
 - Identify this velocity potential (5 marks)