

Midterm Exam No. 01 (Fall 2021)

PHYS 500A: MATHEMATICAL METHODS

Department of Physics, Southern Illinois University–Carbondale

Date: 2021 Sep 24

1. (20 points.) Using the property of Kronecker δ -function and Levi-Civita symbol evaluate the following using index notation,

$$\varepsilon_{ijk}\varepsilon_{lmn}\delta_{il}\delta_{jm}\delta_{kn}. \quad (1)$$

2. (20 points.) Evaluate the left hand side of the equation

$$\nabla(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p})^2 = a \mathbf{p} + b \mathbf{r}, \quad (2)$$

where \mathbf{p} is a constant vector. Thus, find a and b .

3. (20 points.) Given

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{k}}, \quad (3a)$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \cos \theta \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{j}} - \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{k}}, \quad (3b)$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = -\sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{j}}, \quad (3c)$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\rho}} = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{j}}, \quad (3d)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{k}}. \quad (3e)$$

and the relation

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = a \hat{\boldsymbol{\rho}} + b \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + c \hat{\mathbf{z}}. \quad (4)$$

Find the components a , b , and c , such that the above equation is an identity.

4. (20 points.) Evaluate

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^{23}. \quad (5)$$

Mark the resulting number on the complex plane.

5. (20 points.) Find x and y in the relation

$$\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right). \quad (6)$$