

RHODES UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS (Pure & Applied)  
EXAMINATION : NOVEMBER 2007  
MATHEMATICS II/APPLIED MATHEMATICS II  
PAPER 3

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AVAILABLE MARKS : 105  
FULL MARKS : 100  
DURATION : 2 HOURS

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M2.1 - TRANSFORMATION GEOMETRY

NB : All questions may be attempted. All steps must be clearly motivated.  
Marks will not be awarded if this is not done.

Question 1. [12 marks]

TRUE or FALSE ?

- (a) Any translation is a product of two rotations.
- (b) The set of all halfturns forms a group.
- (c) A nonidentity isometry that fixes a point is a rotation.
- (d) The symmetry group of an isosceles triangle that is not equilateral has three elements .
- (e) A dilation is a product of two strains.
- (f) An equiaffine transformation is either an isometry or a shear.

[2,2,2,2,2,2]

## Question 2. [20 marks]

- (a) Define the terms : *odd isometry*, *dilation*, *shear*, and *affine transformation*.
- (b) Give general equations for each transformation as in (a).
- (c) Prove **ONLY ONE** of the following statements :
- Any dilation is a similarity, but not every similarity is a dilation.
  - Any shear is an equiaffine transformation.
- (d) Define the term *glide reflection* and then prove that the square of a glide reflection is a translation.

[4,4,6,6]

## Question 3. [32 marks]

PROVE or DISPROVE :

- (a) The set of *all* rotations forms a *group*.
- (b) Reflections  $\sigma_{\mathcal{A}}$  and  $\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}$  commute if and only if  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B}$ .
- (c) For any *similarity*  $\alpha$ , the *conjugate* of the translation  $\tau_{P,Q}$  by  $\alpha$  is the translation  $\tau_{P',Q'}$ , where  $P' = \alpha(P)$  and  $Q' = \alpha(Q)$ .
- (d) An equiaffine similarity is an isometry.

[8,8,8,8]

## Question 4. [16 marks]

Prove ONLY TWO of the following statements :

- An even isometry has equations

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= ax - by + h \\y' &= bx + ay + k\end{aligned}$$

with  $a^2 + b^2 = 1$  and, conversely, such equations are those of an even isometry.

- A finite symmetry group is either a cyclic group or a dihedral group.
- A dilatation is a translation or a dilation.
- The affine transformation

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= ax + by + h \\y' &= cx + dy + k\end{aligned}$$

(with  $ad - bc \neq 0$ ) is a similarity (of ratio  $r$ ) if and only if

$$a^2 + c^2 = b^2 + d^2 = r^2 \quad \text{and} \quad ab + cd = 0.$$

[8,8]

**Question 5. [25 marks]**

Consider the points

$$O = (0, 0), \quad A = (1, 0), \quad B = (2, 2) \quad \text{and} \quad C = (-1, 6)$$

and the transformations  $\rho$  with equations

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(x - 2y) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\y' &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(2x + y) + \frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2\sqrt{5}}\end{aligned}$$

and  $\delta$  with equations

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= \sqrt{5}x \\y' &= \sqrt{5}y + \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

- Show that  $\rho$  is a rotation. Find its centre  $C$  and its angle  $r$ .
- Show that  $\delta$  is a stretch about some point  $P$ . Find the coordinates of  $P$  and the ratio  $s$ .
- Write the transformations  $\delta$  and  $\rho$  in matrix form. Hence compute the product  $\rho\delta$ .
- Let  $\alpha$  denote the similarity such that

$$\alpha(O) = A, \quad \alpha(A) = B \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha(B) = C.$$

- Find its ratio  $t$ .
  - Determine the equations for  $\alpha$ . (HINT : Use the general equations for a similarity.)
- Compare the transformations  $\rho\delta$  and  $\alpha$  as in (c) and (d), respectively. Hence identify the transformation  $\alpha$ .

[8,4,4,7,2]

END OF THE EXAMINATION PAPER