

**RHODES UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS (Pure & Applied)**  
**EXAMINATION : MAY 2010**  
**MATHEMATICS II**

Examiners : Dr C.C. Remsing  
Dr G. Lubczonok

AVAILABLE MARKS : 110  
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) For *any* three points  $P, Q$  and  $R$ ,  $PR = PQ + QR$ .
- (b) The image of any line under a given collineation is a line.
- (c) Every isometry is a product of *three* reflections.
- (d) The product of *any* two rotations is a rotation.
- (e) The symmetry group of a square has *exactly* four elements.
- (f) A dilatation that is not a translation *must* have a fixed point.

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

## Question 2. [22 marks]

- (a) Define carefully the terms : *involutive transformation*, *halfturn*, *stretch reflection*, and *dilatation*.
- (b) Prove the following two statements :
- The product of two reflections in *intersecting* lines is a rotation.
  - An *odd isometry* has equations

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

where  $a^2 + b^2 = 1$ .

- (c) State clearly the CLASSIFICATION THEOREM FOR ISOMETRIES.

[4,8,8,2]

## Question 3. [32 marks]

PROVE or DISPROVE :

- (a)  $\sigma_A \sigma_B = \sigma_B \sigma_C$  if and only if  $B$  is the *midpoint* of  $A$  and  $C$ .
- (b) The set of all dilations forms a *group*.
- (c) For any  $r \neq 0$  (and some point  $C$ )

$$\delta_{B,r} \delta_{A,\frac{1}{r}} = \tau_{A,C}.$$

- (d) Reflections  $\sigma_A$  and  $\sigma_B$  *commute* if and only if  $A = B$ .

[8,8,8,8]

## Question 4. [16 marks]

Prove ONLY TWO of the following statements :

- If  $\alpha$  is an even isometry, then  $\alpha \rho_{C,r} \alpha^{-1} = \rho_{\alpha(C),r}$ .
- The square of a glide reflection is a translation.
- A finite symmetry group is *either* a cyclic group *or* a dihedral group.
- Any dilation is a dilatation *but* not every dilatation is a dilation.

[8,8]

## Question 5. [28 marks]

Consider the points

$$A = (-2, -1), \quad B = (0, 3), \quad C = (2, 1)$$

and the line  $\mathcal{L}$  with equation

$$2x - y + 3 = 0.$$

- (a) Write the equations for the following transformations :
  - i. the translation  $\tau_{A,B}^2$ ;
  - ii. the halfturn  $\sigma_B$ ;
  - iii. the rotation  $\rho_{C,r}$ ;
  - iv. the reflection  $\sigma_{\mathcal{L}}$ ;
  - v. the glide-reflection  $\sigma_{\mathcal{L}}\sigma_C$ ;
  - vi. the dilation  $\delta_{A,-3}$ .
- (b) Find the axis of the glide-reflection  $\gamma = \sigma_{\mathcal{L}}\sigma_C$ .
- (c) How many similarities are there sending the segment  $\overline{AB}$  onto the segment  $\overline{BC}$  ? Justify your claim.
- (d) Find the equations of the unique direct similarity (as in (c)) such that  $A \mapsto B$  and  $B \mapsto C$ .
- (e) Find *all* dilatations taking the circle with equation  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  to the circle with equation  $x^2 + (y - 2)^2 = 4$ .

[8,4,4,8,4]

END OF THE EXAMINATION PAPER