



Reg. No. :

Name :

**II Semester B.Sc. Degree (CBCSS – OBE – Regular/Supplementary/
Improvement) Examination, April 2023
(2019 Admission Onwards)
CORE COURSE IN PHYSICS**

2B02PHY : Mathematical Physics and Error Analysis

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 40

PART – A

Short answer questions. Answer **all** questions. **Each** question carries **1** mark.

1. Define the curl of a vector function.
2. Express del operator in Cartesian coordinate system.
3. Give an expression for infinitesimal volume in spherical polar coordinates.
4. What is the geometrical meaning of a first-order ordinary differential equation ?
5. What do you mean by directional field ?
6. What do you mean by the standard deviation of a set of measurements ?

(6×1=6)

PART – B

Short Essay Questions. Answer **any 6** questions. **Each** question carries **2** marks.

7. Explain divergence – less field.
8. Compute $(\hat{r} \cdot \nabla) \hat{r}$ where \hat{r} is the unit displacement vector.
9. Express the Laplacian operator in a spherical polar coordinate system and cylindrical coordinate system.

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10. Explain the fundamental theorem for gradients.
11. Explain population dynamics using a logistic equation.
12. Find a general solution of $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2y - 4x$.
13. Solve $\frac{dy}{dx} + 36y = 0$.
14. Discuss the uncertainty rules in sum and difference operations.

(6×2=12)

PART – C

Answer **any 4** questions. **Each** question carries **3** marks.

15. Show that $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = 0$ and $\nabla \times (\nabla \phi) = 0$.
16. Find divergence and curl of the function $\mathbf{A} = x^2\hat{i} + y^2\hat{j} + z^2\hat{k}$ and $\mathbf{B} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$ are both irrotational.
17. Obtain the expression for an infinitesimal volume element in spherical co-ordinates and cylindrical coordinates.
18. Solve the initial value problem and sketch the curve $4y'' + 25y = 0$
 $y(0) = 3.0, y'(0) = -2.5, \cos(2.5x), \sin(2.5x)$.

19. The curve $y(x)$ of an inextensible flexible cable hanging between two fixed points is obtained by solving $y'' = k(1 + 2y')$ where k depends on weight. Find and graph $y(x)$ assuming $k \ll 1$ and the fixed points are $(-1, 0)$ and $(1, 0)$ in a vertical XY plane.

20. A student measures the length of the simple pendulum five times in cm 57.3, 61.1, 73.2, 83.7 and 95.0. Calculate the mean length and its standard deviation.

(4×3=12)