



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE OF MASTERS OF
SCIENCE IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS

SMA 5135: FLUID MECHANICS IV

DATE: APRIL 2023

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Distinguish between the following
- i. Longitudinal and transverse waves (2marks)
 - ii. Subcritical and supercritical fluid flows (2marks)
- b) Define each of the following as use in flued mechanics
- i. Open channel flow (1mark)
 - ii. Thermal boundary layer (2marks)
- c) Given the significance of the prandh numbers used in fluid mechanics (3marks)
- d) A geometrically similar model of an air ship was tested in deep water. The length of the model was 10m and a pressure drop of 250KNm^{-2} is experienced. Find the corresponding pressure drop in the full scale prototype of length 360m given that water is 50 times more viscous and 800 times denser than air (6marks)
- e) Water runs on semicircular channel of radius 1m on a slope of 1 in 100. Given that $n=0.012$, calculate the uniform flow rate occurring at a depth of 75cm (7marks)
- f) Show that the equation of potential in the theory of sound is given by $\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} = C^2 \nabla^2 \phi$ (7marks)



QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

- a) State any two modes of heat transfer (2marks)
- b) A trapezoidal open channel with uniform flow has a normal depth of 4m. the channel base width is 6m, the side slopes are 1:2 the bed slope is 1 in 10,000m $n=0.0145$,
 $\rho=1000\text{kg/m}^3, \mu = 1.14 \times 10^{-3} \text{ pas}$
- c) Calculate
- The discharge (3marks)
 - The mean velocity (2marks)
 - The Reynolds number (3marks)
- d) Show that the pressure coefficient $c_p = \frac{P}{\rho u^2}$ is dimensionless (5marks)

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

- a) The velocity distribution in the laminar boundary layer of a flat plate is given by
$$\frac{u}{U} = 6 \frac{y}{\delta} - 2 \left(\frac{y}{\delta} \right)^2$$
. Calculate
- The shape factor (5marks)
 - The energy loss due to boundary layer at a particular section where the boundary layer thickness is 20mm and the free stream velocity is 10m/s (take $\rho=1200\text{kg/m}^3$) (6marks)
- b) Calculate the rate of flow through a rectangular channel of width 7m with a slope of 1 in 10,000 for a depth of flow of 1.2m where $n=0.015$ (4marks)

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

- a) State the three distinct regions in the turbulent boundary layer (3marks)
- b) Formulate the 2 dimensional prandt'l boundary layer equations for a steady incompressible flow over a flat plate placed along the x axis (12marks)

QUESTION FIVE (15 MARKS)

- a) Derive the differential term of one dimensional wave equation for a progressive wave along the x axis (6marks)

- b) Derive an equation for the velocity of a steady incompressible couette flow for two infinite parallel plates located at the planes $y = 0$ and $y = b$ (9marks)

