

PHAS1245: Mathematical Methods I - Problem Sheet 4

(Solutions to be handed in at the lecture on Tuesday 30th October 2007)

Staple your answer sheets together and put **your name** and your **tutor's name** on your script (or Dr. Konstantinidis, if you have no tutor in the P&A department).

1. Starting from

$$\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$$

[3]

show that

$$\sin x = \frac{2 \tan \frac{x}{2}}{1 + \tan^2 \frac{x}{2}} = \frac{2t}{1 + t^2} \quad (t = \tan \frac{x}{2}).$$

Hence show that

$$\int \frac{1}{\sin x} dx = \ln \left(\tan \frac{x}{2} \right).$$

[5]

2. Given that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\alpha x^2} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\alpha}},$$

[4]

show that

$$\int_0^{\infty} x^2 e^{-\alpha x^2} dx = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\alpha^3}}.$$

3. The distribution of the speed v of molecules, mass m , in a gas in thermal equilibrium at temperature T is given by

[4]

$$P(v)dv = A v^2 e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{mv^2}{kT}} dv$$

where k is the Boltzmann constant and A is a normalizing constant. Determine A such that $\int_0^{\infty} P(v)dv = 1$.

4. From the definitions of $\cosh z$ and $\sinh z$ show that

[2]

$$\cosh z + \sinh z = e^z \quad \cosh^2 z - \sinh^2 z = 1.$$

5. Evaluate

[5]

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 6x + 1}} dx$$

(hint: you will eventually need to use hyperbolic functions).