

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS

SMA1204: ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

MARCH 2025 EXAMINATION:

Time : 3 hours

Candidates should attempt **ALL** questions from Section A [40 marks] and **ANY THREE** Questions in Section B [60 marks].

**SECTION A: Answer ALL questions in this section [40]**

**A1.** Use separation of variables to solve the following:

(a)

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\cos 2x}{1 + 4 \sin x \cos x}.$$

[5]

(b)  $(1 + y^2)dx = (1 + e^x)dy.$

[5]

**A2.** Given the differential equation

$$(1 + x^2)\frac{dy}{dx} + 4xy = \frac{4x}{(1 + x^2)^3}.$$

(a) Show that the differential equation is not exact.

[3]

(b) Obtain the integrating factor  $\mu(x) = e^{\int p(x)dx}$  where  $p(x) = \frac{4x}{1+x^2}.$

[4]

(c) Hence, solve the differential equation.

[8]

**A3.** Solve the homogeneous differential equation  $y^{viii} + 8y^{iv} + 16y = 0$ . [6]

**A4.** (a) Show that the solution  $\eta(x, y) = c$  of an exact differential equation

$$P(x, y)dx + Q(x, y)dy = 0$$

is such that  $\eta_x = P(x, y)$  and  $\eta_y = Q(x, y)$ . [4]

(b) Given the differential equation

$$e^{(\ln x^2 + \sin t)} \cos t dt + 2xe^{\sin t} dx = 2t dt,$$

find  $\eta(x, t)$  such that  $d\eta(x, t) = P(x, t)dx + Q(x, t)dt$ . [5]

**SECTION B: Answer ANY THREE questions in this section [60]**

**B5.** (a) Given a general second-order non-homogeneous differential equation with variable coefficients  $a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = f(x)$ . Outline the steps that you would take to solve this equation by variation of parameters. [7]

(b) Hence solve the second order differential equation  $-y'' = \sec t$ . [7]

(c) Use the Method of Undetermined coefficients to solve the differential equation  $y^{iv} + y''' = 1 - x^2e^{-x}$ . [6]

**B6.** (a) Determine the critical points of the system

$$x' = 10x - 5xy,$$

$$y' = 3y + xy - 3y^2.$$

[5]

(b) Find the Jacobian of the system and evaluate it at each of the critical points. Hence determine the stability of the critical points. [5]

(c) Solve the differential equation  $\sqrt{(1-x^2)} dy = \sqrt{\sin^{-1}(x)} dx$ . [10]

- B7.** (a) A water tank has vertical sides and a horizontal rectangular base. The area of the base is  $2 \text{ m}^2$ . At time  $t = 0$ , the tank is empty and water begins to flow into the tank at a rate of  $1 \text{ m}^3$  per hour. At the same time water begins to flow out from the base at a rate of  $0.2\sqrt{h} \text{ m}^3$  per hour, where  $h$  is the depth of water in the tank at time  $t$  hours.

Form a differential equation satisfied by  $h$  and  $t$  and show that the time  $T$  hours taken for the depth of water to reach  $4\text{m}$  is given by

$$T = \int_0^4 \frac{10}{5 - \sqrt{h}} dh.$$

[10]

- (b) Use the substitution  $v = x - y$  to solve  $\cos^{-1}(y') = x - y$ . [5]  
 (c) Solve the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{d\theta} = \sin 2\theta \sqrt{1 + 2 \cos^2 \theta}.$$

[5]

- B8.** (a) Show that  $xy' + y = 2$  is exact and solve it. [6]  
 (b) Solve the same differential equation  $xy' + y = 2$  by using an integrating factor. [6]  
 (c) Use separation of variables to solve

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\sin y}{1 + \cos 2x}.$$

[8]

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**