

**KENYA METHODIST UNIVERSITY**  
**END OF SECOND TRIMESTER 2006/2007 EXAMINATIONS**

**SCHOOL BASED**

**FACULTY** : **SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT** : **MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE**  
**COURSE CODE** : **MATH 220**  
**COURSE TITLE** : **ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS I**  
**TIME** : **2 HRS**

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**Instructions:**

- Answer question 1 (compulsory) and any other 2 questions.

**Question 1**

- a) Define the following terms:
- i) Ordinary differential equations.
  - ii) Partial differential equations
  - iii) Homogenous first order differential equations (3 mks)
- b) Show that the equation

$$(3xy^4 + x)dx + (6x^2y^3 - 2y^3 + 7)dy = 0 \text{ is exact. Hence find its solution. (6 mks)}$$

- c) Solve the Cauchy-Euler initial value problem:

$$x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 4x \frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = 0$$

(7 mks)

$$y(2) = 0, y'(2) = 4$$

- d) Find the general solution of the equation using the UC method

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2 \frac{dy}{dx} + y = xe^2 - e^x$$

(6 mks)

- e) It is known that a radioactive material decomposes at a rate proportional to the amount present. If after a period of 10 years a 2-gram piece of radium weighs 1.95 grams, how long will it take before the radium is half decayed? (8 mks)

**Question 2**

- a) Solve the following equations

i)  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} - 13y = 0$

ii)  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} - 30y = 0$  (8 mks)

- b) By first finding an integrating factor, solve the equation  
 $(5xy + 4y^2 + 1)dx + (x^2 + 2xy)dy = 0$  (8 mks)

- c) State the uniqueness and existence theorem. (4 mks)

**Question 3**

- a) Solve the Bernoulli equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - 2xy = 4xy^{1/2} \quad (6 \text{ mks})$$

- b) Find the orthogonal trajectories of the given family  $x^2 + 3y^2 = cy$  (6 mks)

- c) Solve the non homogeneous second order equation using variation of parameters method.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 4\frac{dy}{dx} + 4y = x^{-4}e^{2x} \quad (8 \text{ mks})$$

**Question 4**

- a) Solve the Cauchy-Euler equation

$$x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2x \frac{dy}{dx} - 6y = 10x^2 \quad (10 \text{ mks})$$

$$y(1) = 1, y'(1) = -6$$

- b) Solve the equation

$$\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} - 2\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0 \quad (5 \text{ mks})$$

- c) Solve the homogenous first order differential equation

$$xydx - (x^2 + y^2)dy = 0 \quad (5 \text{ mks})$$