



MERU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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University Examinations 2012/2013

FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
APPLIED MATHEMATICS

SMA 3130: ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS I

DATE: DECEMBER 2012

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer questions *one* and any other *two* questions

QUESTION ONE - (30 MARKS)

- a) Using the method of undetermined coefficients find the general solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} + \frac{dy}{dx} = 2x^2 + 4 \sin x \quad (8 \text{ Marks})$$

- b) Solve the initial value problem

$$\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} - 2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 2x - 1$$

$$y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = -3, \quad y''(0) = 4$$

- c) Given the boundary value problem $x^2 y'' + 2xy' + \mu y = 0, y(1) = y(e) = 0$

i. Show that it is a Sturm – Liouville problem. (3 Marks)

ii. Find the eigen values and eigen functions. (7 Marks)

- d) Solve using variation of parameters method, the equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + y = \tan x \quad (5 \text{ Marks})$$

QUESTION TWO – (20 MARKS)

- a) Find non-trivial solutions of the Sturm-Liouville problem

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[x \frac{dy}{dx} \right] + \frac{\lambda}{x} y = 0$$

$$y'(0) = 0, \quad y'(e^{2\pi}) = 0, \quad \text{where the parameter } \lambda \text{ is non-negative.} \quad (10 \text{ Marks})$$

- b) Solve the Bessel differential equation $x^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + x \frac{dy}{dx} + (x^2 - p^2)y = 0$. Where p is a non-negative constant, about the point $x = 0$. (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE – (20 MARKS)

- a) Show that the function $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-2xt+t^2}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n(t) t^n$, where $p_n(x)$ is the Legendre polynomial of order n . (8 Marks)

- b) Using the Perturbation method, solve the non-linear differential equation.

$$\frac{df}{dt} + f = \epsilon f^2, \quad 0 < \epsilon \ll 1$$

$$\text{With the initial condition } f(0) = 1 \quad (12 \text{ Marks})$$

QUESTION FOUR – (20 MARKS)

- a) Solve the homogeneous linear system

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = 4x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = -4x_1 - 4x_2 - 2x_3 \quad (13 \text{ Marks})$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = 8x_1 + 12x_2 + 6x_3$$

- b) Solve the Cauchy – Euler equation

$$x^3 y'''(x) + x^2 y''(x) - 2x y'(x) + 2y = 0 \text{ for } x > 0 \quad (7 \text{ Marks})$$