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EXAMS OFFICE  
USE ONLY

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**UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG**

Course or topic No(s)

APPM 2007A/APPM2020A

Course or topic name(s)  
Paper Number & title

METHODS A: APPLIED ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL  
AND DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS

Examination/Test to be  
held during month(s) of  
(delete as applicable)

JUNE 2022 EXAMINATION

Year of Study  
(Art & Science leave blank)

SECOND

Degrees/Diplomas for which  
This course is prescribed  
(BSc (Eng) should indicate which branch)

BSc

Faculty/ies presenting  
Candidates

SCIENCE

Internal examiners(s)  
And telephone extension  
number(s)

DR I.S. OYELAKIN      X76107

External examiner(s)

DR. SICELO GOQO

Special materials required  
(graph/music/drawing paper)  
maps, diagrams, tables  
computer cards, etc.

NONE

Time allowance

**Course No.(s)**

APPM2007A/  
APPM2020A

**Hours**

2 hrs

Instructions to candidates  
(Examiners may wish to use this  
space to indicate, *inter alia*  
the contribution made by this  
examination or test towards the  
year mark if appropriate)

ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS  
ONLY NON-PROGRAMMABLE SCIENTIFIC  
CALCULATORS ARE PERMITTED  
NO CELLPHONES ALLOWED  
Total Marks Available= 57  
100% = 50 marks

**APPM2007/APPM2020A: Methods A - Applied ordinary differential and difference equations****June Examination — 2022****Lecturer: Dr Ibukun Oyelakin****Total Marks: 57****Time: 2 hours**

- Answer all questions and show all workings.
- In all the questions below, the prime ' stands for differentiation with respect to  $x$  and overdot  $\dot{x}$  stands for differentiation with respect to  $t$ .
- This exam has 4 questions, for a total of 57 marks but 50 marks is full marks.

**QUESTION ONE [10 MARKS]**

- (a) Consider the linear inhomogeneous first order ordinary differential equation

$$y' + a(x)y = b(x). \quad (\dagger)$$

Show that if  $A$  is an arbitrary constant, then

$$y = e^{-\int a(x)dx} \left( \int b(x)e^{\int a(x)dx} dx + A \right)$$

is the solution to the ordinary differential equation given in  $(\dagger)$ .

**[3 Marks]**

- (b) Hence or otherwise, find the general solution to the first order linear inhomogeneous ordinary differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - 2y = e^{\lambda x} \quad (\bullet)$$

where  $\lambda$  is a constant, such that  $\lambda \neq 2$ .

**[3 Marks]**

- (c) Solve equation  $(\bullet)$  with  $\lambda = 2$  and find the particular solution if  $y(1) = 2$ .

**[4 Marks]**

**QUESTION TWO [12 MARKS]**

- (a) Evaluate and simplify as much as possible, the integral [2 Marks]

$$\int \frac{x+1}{x^2-6x+8} dx$$

- (b) Find the differential equation  $y'' = f(x, y, y')$  whose general solution is [2 Marks]

$$y = C_1 e^x + C_2 e^{-x} + x.$$

- (c) Consider the first order ordinary differential equation

$$\frac{2x^2 + 3y^2 - 20}{xy} dy = -dx.$$

- (i) Find an appropriate integrating factor to make the differential equation exact. [3 Marks]  
 (ii) Show that the equation together with its integrating factor is exact. [2 Marks]  
 (iii) Find the solution to the exact ordinary differential equation obtained in (ii). [3 Marks]

**QUESTION THREE [15 MARKS]**

- (a) Given the second order Euler or Cauchy differential equation as

$$x^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + ax \frac{dy}{dx} + by = 0,$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants.

- (i) Use the substitution  $y = x^r$  to show that the auxiliary equation associated with the Euler or Cauchy equation is [2 Marks]

$$r^2 + (a-1)r + b = 0.$$

- (ii) If the Euler or Cauchy equation have real and equal roots  $r_1 = r_2 = r$ , find the values of  $a$  and  $b$  with respect to  $r$ . [2 Marks]

- (iii) Given that one of the solutions to the Euler or Cauchy equation is  $y_1 = x^r$ , use reduction of order and the values of  $a$  and  $b$  in question (ii) to find a second solution  $y_2$ . [8 Marks]

- (b) Hence or otherwise, find the general solution to the Euler or Cauchy equation [3 Marks]

$$4x^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 8x \frac{dy}{dx} + y = 0.$$

**QUESTION FOUR [20 MARKS]**

- (a) Find the general solution to the non-homogeneous second order difference equation

$$y_{k+2} + 2y_{k+1} + y_k = 2(3^k)$$

**[4 Marks]**

- (b) Find the exponential matrix  $e^{At}$  if

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

**[6 Marks]**

- (c) Consider the first order system of ordinary differential equation

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= 2x_1 + 3x_2 & x_1(0) &= 2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= 2x_1 + x_2 & x_2(0) &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

- (i) Write the system in vector-matrix form and its corresponding initial values in vector form.

**[3 Marks]**

- (ii) Find a general solution to the system.

**[7 Marks]**