



SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

MATH 121A: DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS

FINAL EXAMINATION
JANUARY SEMESTER, 2012

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- I. Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions*
- II. Points will be awarded for clear and concise working, and slovenly done work will be penalized*
- III. Symbols have their usual meaning.*
- IV. Other than question 1, all other questions carry equal points*
- V. Mobile phones are not allowed in the examination hall, and cannot therefore be used as calculators.*
- VI. The maximum possible points that can be earned in this paper is 60.*

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY – 24 MARKS)

- I. State the domain of the following function

$$f(x) = \frac{x^3 + 2x^2 - 1}{3 - 5x} \qquad \mathbf{1mk}$$

- II. Where is the following function discontinuous?

$$\text{a. } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x^2} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases} \qquad \mathbf{1mk}$$

- III. Use the laws of limits to find:

$$\text{a. } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{t^2 + 9} - 3}{t^2} \qquad \mathbf{3mks}$$

$$\text{b. } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{2x^2 + 1}}{3x - 5} \qquad \mathbf{3mks}$$

IV. Use the first principle formula to evaluate $f'(x)$ given:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 15 \quad \text{3mks}$$

V. Use logarithmic differentiation to find y' given :

$$y = x^2 \sin x \quad \text{3mks}$$

VI. Use implicit differentiation to find y' given:

$$x^2 = \frac{x-y}{x+y} \quad \text{3mks}$$

VII. The area A of a circle is related to its diameter by the equation:

$$A = \frac{\pi}{4}D^2$$

Determine the rate of change of area with respect to the diameter when the diameter is 10m. 3mks

VIII. Find the equation of the tangent to the curve $x^2 - xy + y^2 = 7$ at $(-1, 2)$ 4mks

QUESTION TWO (18 MARKS)

I. Differentiate:

$$r = \frac{(\theta-1)(\theta^2 + \theta + 1)}{\theta^3} \quad \text{3mks}$$

II. Use the laws of limits to find:

a. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^3 - 1}{x^2 - 1}$ 3mks

b. $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(4+h)^2 - 16}{h}$ 3mks

III. Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ given that $z = \frac{2x-y}{x+y}$ 6mks

- IV. One of the quantities of interest in thermodynamics is compressibility which is given by $\beta = -\frac{1}{V} \frac{dV}{dP}$ where V is volume and P is pressure. The volume V(in cubic metres) of a sample of air at $25^\circ C$ was found to be related to the pressure p (in kilopascals) by the equation $V = \frac{5.3}{P}$. Find compressibility when $P = 50 kPa$. **3mks**

QUESTION THREE (18 MARKS)

- I. Use implicit differentiation to find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ given:
- a. $x^2 y^2 + x \sin y = 4$ **3mks**
- b. $x^3 + x^2 y + 4y^2 = 6$ **3mks**
- II. Use logarithmic differentiation to find y' given:
- $$y = \frac{1}{x e^x \sin x}$$
- 4mks**
- III. The position of a particle is given by the equation:
- $$s = f(t) = 4t^3 - 9t^2 + 6t + 2$$
- where t measured in seconds and s in meters.
- Find:
- i. The velocity and the acceleration after t seconds? **5mks**
- ii. The velocity and the acceleration after 2seconds? **2mks**
- iii. When is the particle at rest? **1mk**

QUESTION FOUR (18 MARKS)

- I. Use chain rule to differentiate the following function:
- $$y = \left(\frac{\sqrt{x}}{1+x} \right)^2$$
- 3mks**
- II. The displacement of two particles on a co-ordinate line is given by
- $$s_1 = 3t^3 - 12t^2 + 18t + 5 \text{ and } s_2 = -t^3 + 9t^2 - 12t.$$
- At what time do the two particles have the same velocity? **3mks**
- III. Use the first principle formula to evaluate $f'(x)$ given:
- $$f(x) = \cos x$$
- 3mks**

IV. The parametric equations of a curve are $x = \cos 2\theta$ and $y = 1 - \sin \theta$. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$. **3mks**

V. If $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 2x(y + z)$ is an implicit function, find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$. **6mks**

QUESTION FIVE (18 MARKS)

I. Use quotient rule and any other relevant rule to find y' given:

a. $y = \frac{(x+2)(x^3-6)}{x^3-5}$ at $x = -2$. **4mks**

b. $y = \frac{x \sin x}{1 + \cos x}$ at $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$ **5mks**

II. Consider the curve:

$$y = \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^2}{2} - 2x + 5$$

- a. Find the stationary points. **3mks**
- b. Test their nature. **3mks**
- c. Sketch the curve. **3mks**