



Entrance Examination : Ph.D Mathematics, 2012

Hall Ticket Number

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Time : 2 hours

Max. Marks. 100

Part A : 25 marks

Part B : 50 marks

**Instructions**

1. calculators are not allowed.
2. Part A carries 25 marks. Each correct answer carries **1 mark** and each wrong answer carries **-0.33 mark**. If you want to change any answer, cross out the old one and circle the new one. Over written answers will be ignored.
3. Part B carries 50 marks. Instructions for answering Part B are given at the beginning of Part B.
4. Do not detach any pages from this answer book.
5.  $\mathbb{R}$  always denotes the set of real numbers,  $\mathbb{Z}$  the set of integers,  $\mathbb{N}$  the set of natural numbers and  $\mathbb{Q}$  the set of rational numbers.

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## Part-A

Answer Part A by circling the correct answer. Each correct answer carries 1 mark and each wrong answer carries  $-0.33$  mark.

- Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two  $n \times n$  matrices such that  $A \neq B$ ,  $A^3 = B^3$  and  $A^2B = B^2A$ . Then the value of  $\det(A^2 + B^2)$  is  
 (a) 0.                      (b) 1.                      (c) 2.                      (d)  $3/2$ .
- The least upper bound of the set  $\left\{ \frac{(n+1)^2}{2^n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$  is  
 (a)  $7/4$ .                      (b) 2.                      (c)  $9/4$ .                      (d)  $5/2$ .
- The radius of convergence of the power series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-\sqrt{n}} x^n$  is  
 (a) 1.                      (b)  $1/2$ .                      (c) 2.                      (d)  $\infty$ .
- The limit of  $(1+x)^{\cot x}$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$   
 (a) exists and its value is 0.                      (b) exists and its value is 1.  
 (c) exists and its value is  $\exp(1)$                       (d) does not exist.
- Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $f(f(x)) = -x$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  
 (a)  $f$  is an injective map.                      (b)  $f$  is strictly increasing.  
 (c)  $f$  is strictly decreasing.                      (d)  $f$  is continuous.
- The function  $f$  defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  by  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 4x & \text{if } x \leq 0, \\ ax^2 + bx + c & \text{if } 0 < x < 1, \\ 3 - 2x & \text{if } x \geq 1. \end{cases}$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$  if  
 (a)  $a = b = -3$  and  $c = 0$ .                      (b)  $a = -3$ ,  $b = 4$  and  $c = 0$ .  
 (c)  $a = 4$ ,  $b = -3$  and  $c = 0$ .                      (d)  $a = b = 4$  and  $c = 0$ .
- The sequence  $(a_n)$  of reals, where  $0 < a_n < 1$  and  $a_n(1 - a_{n+1}) > 1/4$  for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , converges to  
 (a) 0.                      (b)  $1/2$ .                      (c) 1.                      (d) 2.

8. The series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n}{3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdots (2n+1)}$  converges to
- (a)  $1/4$ .                      (b)  $1/2$ .                      (c)  $3/4$ .                      (d)  $1$ .
9. In which one of these topologies on the real line is it true that the closure of the set  $\mathbb{Q}$  of rationals is a countable set properly containing  $\mathbb{Q}$
- (a) usual topology generated by  $\{(a, b) : a < b \text{ in } \mathbb{R}\}$ .
- (b) lower limit topology generated by  $\{[a, b) : a < b \text{ in } \mathbb{R}\}$ .
- (c) Discrete topology = Power set of  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- (d) Point mass topology =  $\{A \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid \sqrt{2} \notin A \text{ or } A \text{ is } \mathbb{R}\}$ .
10. If  $X$  is a compact metric space, which ones of these follow necessarily?
- (a)  $X$  is connected.
- (b)  $X$  has a countable base for its topology.
- (c)  $X$  is uncountable.
- (d)  $X$  is not discrete.
11. Among the four subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  given below, only one is connected. Which one is it?
- (a)  $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \text{both } x \text{ and } y \text{ are rational}\}$ .
- (b)  $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \text{either } x \text{ or } y \text{ are rational}\}$ .
- (c)  $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x \text{ is rational and } y \text{ is not}\}$ .
- (d)  $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \text{neither } x \text{ nor } y \text{ is rational}\}$ .
12. Which of these four statements is true?
- (a) open interval  $(-1, 1)$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are homeomorphic.
- (b)  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Q}^c$  are homeomorphic.
- (c)  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  are homeomorphic.
- (d)  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$  are homeomorphic.

13. Let  $G$  be a non abelian group. The order of  $G$  could be  
(a) 35. (b) 37. (c) 40. (d) 49.
14. The number of idempotent elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$   
(a) 2. (b) 4. (c) 6. (d) 8.
15. The set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x + 1| = |x| + 1\}$  is same as  
(a)  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \geq 0\}$ . (b)  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x > 0\}$   
(c) whole  $\mathbb{R}$ . (d) none of these.
16. The critical point  $(0, 0)$  of the system  $\frac{dx}{dt} = (y + 1)^2 - \cos(x)$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \sin(x + y)$  is  
(a) a saddle point. (b) an unstable node.  
(c) a stable spiral. (d) none of the above.
17. The number of Jordan canonical forms for  $6 \times 6$  matrix with minimal polynomial  $(x - 1)^2(x - 2)$  is  
(a) 1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (d) none of these.
18. The solution of the Laplace equation in spherical polar coordinates  $(r, \theta, \phi)$  is  
(a)  $\log(r)$ . (b)  $r$ . (c)  $1/r$ . (d)  $r$  and  $1/r$ .
19. The equation  $u_{xx} + x^2 u_{yy} = 0$  is  
(a) elliptic in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . (b) elliptic every where except on  $x = 0$  axis.  
(c) hyperbolic in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . (d) hyperbolic every where except on  $x = 0$  axis.
20. Let  $G$  be a group of order 10. Then  
(a)  $G$  is an abelian group. (b)  $G$  is a cyclic group.  
(c) there is a normal proper subgroup. (d) none of these.

21. The function  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0), \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0), \end{cases}$  is
- (a) continuous at  $(0, 0)$  but partial derivatives do not exist at  $(0, 0)$ .
  - (b) continuous at  $(0, 0)$  and partial derivatives exist at  $(0, 0)$ .
  - (c) discontinuous at  $(0, 0)$  but partial derivatives do not exist at  $(0, 0)$ .
  - (d) none of the above.
22. The number of zero-divisors in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$  is
- (a) 20.
  - (b) 15.
  - (c) 12.
  - (d) none of these.
23. The image of the unit circle under the map  $f(z) = 1 + z^2$  is
- (a) again the same unit circle.
  - (b) another circle with a different center but the same radius.
  - (c) not a circle.
  - (d) none of the above.
24. Let  $A \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $A \neq 2I$  and  $A$  satisfies the polynomial equation  $x^3 - 8 = 0$ . Then
- (a) minimal polynomial for  $A$  is  $x^2 + 2x + 4$ .
  - (b)  $A$  can be diagonalizable.
  - (c)  $A$  is **not** diagonalizable.
  - (d) none of these.
25. The ordinary differential equation  $x^2(1-x)^2y'' + xy' + (1-x)^2y = 0$  has
- (a) both  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$  as regular singular points.
  - (b) both  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$  as irregular singular points.
  - (c) both  $x = 0$  as an ordinary point and  $x = 1$  as irregular singular point.
  - (d) none of the above

## Part B

- Attempt any 10 questions.

1. Suppose  $a_n > 0$ ,  $S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges.

(a) Prove that  $\frac{a_{n+1}}{S_{n+1}} + \dots + \frac{a_{n+k}}{S_{n+k}} \geq 1 - \frac{S_n}{S_{n+k}}$  and deduce that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{S_n}$  diverges.

(b) Prove that  $\frac{a_n}{S_n^2} \leq \frac{1}{S_{n-1}} - \frac{1}{S_n}$  and deduce that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{S_n^2}$  converges.

2. Suppose  $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function and  $f(0) = 0$ . Let  $f$  be differentiable for  $x > 0$  and let  $f'$  be monotonically increasing. Define  $g : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as  $g(x) = \frac{f(x)}{x}$ . Show that  $g$  is monotonically increasing.

3. Let  $f$  be an entire function and suppose that there exists constants  $M > 0$ ,  $R > 0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|f(z)| < M|z|^n$  for  $|z| > R$ . Show that  $f$  is a polynomial of degree less than or equal to  $n$ .

4. Show that an entire function has a pole at  $\infty$  of order  $m$  if and only if it is a polynomial of degree  $m$ .

5. Consider  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with maximum norm, i.e.,  $\|(x, y, z)\| = \max\{|x|, |y|, |z|\}$ . Define  $T : (\mathbb{R}^3, \|\cdot\|_\infty) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^3, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$  as  $T(x, y, z) = (-x + 2y - 3z, 4x - 5y + 6z, -7x + 8y - 9z)$ . Find the norm of the operator  $T$ .

6. Let  $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be a Hilbert space and  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $H$ . Let  $x \in H$  such that  $\langle x_n, y \rangle \rightarrow \langle x, y \rangle$  for all  $y \in H$  and  $\|x_n\| \rightarrow \|x\|$ . Show that  $x_n \rightarrow x$ .

7. Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}) \cap L^2(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$ . If  $f_n \xrightarrow{L^1(\mathbb{R})} f$  and  $f_n \xrightarrow{L^2(\mathbb{R})} g$  then show that  $f = g$  almost everywhere.

8. Define a sequence of functions as  $f_n(x) = \begin{cases} \exp\left(\frac{1}{n^2x^2-1}\right), & |x| < \frac{1}{n} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ . Show that  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on  $\mathbb{R} \setminus (-1/2, 1/2)$ , but  $f_n$  does not converge uniformly on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

9. Determine the Green's function for the boundary value problem  $xy'' + y' + f(x) = 0$ ,  $y(1) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} |y(x)| < \infty$ .

10. Determine the stability of the critical point  $(0, 0)$  for the system  $\frac{dx}{dt} = -y - x \sin^2 x$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = x - y \sin^2 x$ .

11. Let  $U$  be a vector space of polynomials of degree less than or equal to three with ordered bases  $\{1, x, x^2, x^3\}$  and let  $V$  be the vector subspace of the vector space of polynomials of degree less than or equal to 4 with ordered bases  $\{x, x^2 + 2x^3 - x^4, x^3 + x^4, 3x^2 + x^3 + 2x^4\}$ . Let  $T$  be a linear transformation from  $U$  to  $V$  defined as  $Tf = \int_0^x f(t)dt$ . Find the matrix of linear transformation  $T$ .
12. Let  $J$  be a functional of the form  $J[y] = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} g(x^2 + y^2) \sqrt{1 + (y')^2} dx$  where  $g$  is some function of  $x^2 + y^2$ . Use the polar coordinate transformation to find the general form of the extremals in terms of  $g$ ,  $r$  and  $\phi$ .

13. Solve  $\phi'' + \int_0^x \exp(2x - 2t)\phi'(t)dt = \exp(2x)$ ,  $\phi(0) = 0$  and  $\phi'(0) = 1$ .

14. Find the inverse Laplace transform of  $\frac{1}{s(s+1)}$  using complex inversion formula.

15. Let  $f : pq - z = 0$  and  $g : pq - xy = 0$ . Show that  $z = xy$  is a common solution. Are  $f$  and  $g$  compatible? Justify.

16. Solve  $u_{tt} = u_{xx} + 1$ ,  $0 < x < 1$ ,  $t > 0$  subject to

$$\begin{cases} u(x, 0) = 1, & 0 < x < 1, \\ u_t(x, 0) = 1, & 0 < x < 1, \\ u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, & t > 0. \end{cases}$$

17. Show that  $Q_1 = q_1$ ,  $Q_2 = p_2$ ,  $P_1 = p_1 - 2p_2$  and  $P_2 = -2q_1 - q_2$  is a canonical transformation.

18. In the real line with usual topology, consider  $A = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid \text{the integral part of } x \text{ is even}\}$ .  
Prove that  $A$  is neither compact nor connected.

19. Let  $x \in [0, 1]$ , define  $M_x = \{f \in C[0, 1] \text{ such that } f(x) = 0\}$ . Show that every maximal ideal of  $C[0, 1]$  is  $M_x$  for some  $x \in [0, 1]$ .