
University of Swaziland



Final Examination – November 2019

MSc in Mathematics

Title of Paper : Asymptotic Analysis

Course Number : MAT605

Time Allowed : Three (3) hours

Instructions:

1. This paper consists of 2 sections.
2. Answer ALL questions in Section A.
3. Answer ANY 3 (out of 5) questions in Section B.
4. Show all your working.
5. Begin each question on a new page.

THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR.

Section A
Answer ALL Questions in this section

A.1 a. Consider the quadratic equation

$$x^2 + 3\varepsilon x - 4 = 0,$$

Find a 3-term perturbation solution of the form

$$x(\varepsilon) = x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \varepsilon^2 x_2 + \dots,$$

valid when $\varepsilon \ll 1$.

[15 marks]

b. Consider the initial value problem

$$\dot{y} + y = \varepsilon e^{-t}, \quad y(0) = 1.$$

i. Find the *exact* solution of the problem.

[5 marks]

ii. By letting

$$y(t; \varepsilon) = y_0(t) + \varepsilon y_1(t) + \varepsilon^2 y_2(t) + \dots, \quad \varepsilon \ll 1,$$

and substituting into the problem, obtain an expression for y_0 , y_1 and y_n , $n \geq 2$.

[10 marks]

c. Obtain a 2-term asymptotic approximation of the integral

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda t} t \sin \sqrt{t} dt$$

valid for large values of λ .

[10 marks]

Section B

Answer ANY 3 Questions in this section

B.2 a. Consider the transcendental equation

$$x^2 + \varepsilon x = \cos \varepsilon x, \quad \varepsilon \ll 1.$$

Find a 3-term perturbation solution of the form

$$x(\varepsilon) = x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \varepsilon^2 x_2 + \dots \quad [10 \text{ marks}]$$

b. Consider the nonlinear BVP

$$\ddot{y} - 2\dot{y} - \varepsilon y^2 = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad \dot{y}(0) = 2.$$

Find a 2-term perturbation solution of the form

$$y(t; \varepsilon) = y_0(t) + \varepsilon y_1(t) + \varepsilon^2 y_2(t) + \dots, \quad \varepsilon \ll 1,$$

for the BVP.

[10 marks]

B.3 Consider the quadratic equation

$$\varepsilon x^2 - 2x + 4 = 0.$$

Find a 3-term perturbation solution of the form

$$x(\varepsilon) = x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \varepsilon^2 x_2 + \dots,$$

valid when $\varepsilon \ll 1$.

[20 marks]

B.4 Consider the BVP

$$\varepsilon y'' + 2y' + y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) = 1,$$

where the parameter $\varepsilon \ll 1$. By assuming that a *boundary layer* exists at the $x = 0$ end, find

a. the leading order term of the *outer solution* [4 marks]

b. the *distinguished limit* and hence the rescaled inner variable [6 marks]

c. the leading order term of the *inner solution* [7 marks]

d. the leading order term of the *composite solution* [3 marks]

B.5 a. Prove that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi}. \quad [7 \text{ marks}]$$

b. Hence, prove that

$$\int_a^b f(t)e^{\lambda\varphi(t)} dt \sim \left(\frac{2\pi}{-\lambda\varphi''(c)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} f(c)e^{\lambda\varphi(c)} \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty,$$

where c is a point in the interval $[a, b]$ where the value of φ is maximum. [13 marks]

B.6 a. Find a 2-term asymptotic approximation of the integral

$$\int_{\lambda}^{\infty} \exp(-t^2) dt$$

valid as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

[10 marks]

b. Derive *Sterling's Formula*

$$\Gamma(n+1) \sim \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e} \right)^n \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad [10 \text{ marks}]$$

END OF EXAMINATION
