

# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

## EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

MODULE CODE : **MATH1401**

ASSESSMENT : **MATH1401B**  
PATTERN

MODULE NAME : **Mathematical Methods 1**

DATE : **11-May-11**

TIME : **14:30**

TIME ALLOWED : **2 Hours 0 Minutes**



All questions may be attempted but only marks obtained on the best **four** solutions will count.

The use of an electronic calculator is **not** permitted in this examination.

1. (a) The equation of a plane is  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b} + \mu\mathbf{c}$ . Show that this is equivalent to

$$(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{a}) \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$$

for some  $\mathbf{n}$  which you should determine.

- (b) Show that the minimum distance between the two lines  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{a}_1 + \lambda\mathbf{b}_1$  and  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{a}_2 + \mu\mathbf{b}_2$  is given by

$$\left| \frac{(\mathbf{a}_1 - \mathbf{a}_2) \cdot (\mathbf{b}_1 \wedge \mathbf{b}_2)}{|\mathbf{b}_1 \wedge \mathbf{b}_2|} \right|.$$

- (c) Show that the point  $(0, 0, 1)$  lies in both of the planes  $x + y + z = 1$  and  $x - y + 2z = 2$  and that the minimum distance between the  $x$ -axis and the line of intersection of these two planes is  $1/\sqrt{5}$ .
2. (a) Show that the function

$$y(x) = \frac{\exp(ax)}{1 + \exp(x)},$$

has a stationary point at

$$x = \ln\left(\frac{a}{1-a}\right), \quad y = a^a(1-a)^{1-a},$$

for  $0 < a < 1$ . Sketch the graph of the function for the three cases  $a = 1/2$ ,  $a = 1$ ,  $a = 2$  on a single set of axes.

- (b) Using De Moivre's theorem show that

$$\sin^5 \theta = \frac{1}{16} (\sin(5\theta) - 5 \sin(3\theta) + 10 \sin(\theta)).$$



3. Show that for  $\alpha \ll 1$

$$\int_0^\pi \cos(\alpha \sin x) dx = \pi \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha^2}{4} + \frac{\alpha^4}{64} + O(\alpha^5) \right).$$

4. (a) If  $I_n(x) = \int_0^x \frac{\sinh^{2n+1} t}{\cosh t} dt$ , show that

$$I_{n+1}(x) = \frac{\sinh^{2n+2} x}{2(n+1)} - I_n(x), \quad n \geq 0.$$

Hence, or otherwise, find  $I_3$ .

(b) Find

$$\int \frac{dx}{1 - \sin x}.$$

5. Solve the equations

(a)  $xy' - 2y = x^3 \ln x, \quad y(1) = -1,$

(b)  $x^2y' = xy + y^2, \quad y(1) = 1,$

(c)  $x^2y'' + xy' - 4y = \ln x, \quad x > 0, \quad y(1) = y'(1) = 1,$

where  $y' = dy/dx$  and  $y'' = d^2y/dx^2$ .

6. Determine the series solution for the following differential equation

$$(x^2 + 1) \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 4x \frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = 0$$

about the regular point  $x_0 = 0$ .