

**MAE105**  
**First Midterm Exam**

(open book; closed notes; no computers, no calculators, no cell phones)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: 3:50 to 4:50pm

Date: April 17, 2008

**Problem 1:**

Consider the following diffusion PDE:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0, \quad t > 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi, \quad (1)$$

with the following boundary conditions:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0. \quad (2)$$

- (a) (0.5 Point) Based on the method of "separation of variables", set  $u(x, t) = \phi(x)G(t)$ , differentiate as necessary, and substitute into the PDE (1).
- (b) (0.5 Point) Collect terms such that a function of only  $x$  is set equal to a function of only  $t$ , and use this fact to find two ODE's, one for  $\phi(x)$ , and the other for  $G(t)$ , in such a way that the solution for  $\phi(x)$  would be periodic.
- (c) (0.5 Point) Write down the general solution of the ODE for  $\phi(x)$ . Is your solution periodic?
- (d) (0.5 Point) Write down the general solution of the ODE for  $G(t)$ . Does your solution decay exponentially in time?
- (e) (1 Point) Use the boundary conditions (2) to obtain the values of  $\phi'(x)$  at  $x=0$  and  $\phi(x)$  at  $x=\pi$ .
- (f) (2 Points) Use the values of  $\phi'(x)$  at  $x=0$  and  $\phi(x)$  at  $x=\pi$  to find the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenfunctions of this problem. Show by direct calculation that the eigenfunctions are in fact orthogonal. Is zero an eigenvalue in the present case?
- (g) (2 Points) Consider the following initial condition:

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) = 13 \cos\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + 5 \cos\left(\frac{3x}{2}\right), \quad 0 < x < \pi. \quad (3)$$

- (h) (1 Point) Based on the above results, write down the series solution (with explicit coefficients) of the initial-boundary-value problem defined by expressions (1), (2), and (3), *i.e.*, write down the series solution for  $u(x, t)$ .

**Problem 2:**

Consider the following differential equation:

$$\frac{d^2u}{dx^2} - x^2 = 0, \quad 0 < x < 2, \quad (4)$$

with the following boundary conditions:

$$u(0) = 1, \quad u(2) = 4. \quad (5)$$

- (a) (1 Point) Integrate the equation twice to obtain an explicit expression for  $u(x)$  which must include two integration constants.
- (b) (1 Point) Use the boundary conditions to find the constants of integration and write down explicitly the final solution.

Now consider the following first-order DE:

$$\frac{du}{dx} - x \cos x = 0, \quad 0 < x, \quad u(0) = 5. \quad (6)$$

- (c) (2 Points) Integrate the equation to obtain an explicit expression for  $u(x)$  which must include one integration constant; use integration by parts.
- (d) (1 Point) Use the initial condition to find the constant of integration and write down explicitly the final solution.

**Make sure to write your name at the top of each page.**

**Good luck!**