

This question paper contains 6 printed pages.]

Your Roll No. ....

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**M. Tech/II Sem.**  
**NUCLEAR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**  
**Paper NST-608 : Mathematical & Numerical**  
**Methods in Nuclear Engineering**

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 70

*(Write your Roll No. on the top immediately  
on receipt of this question paper.)*

*Attempt all questions.*

1. Attempt any **two** of the following :
  - (a) Find the minimum number of iterations needed to calculate the root of a function in the interval  $[0, 1]$  to an accuracy of  $10^{-6}$  using the bisection method. 2.5
  - (b) Find the interval  $[a, b]$  which encloses a unique fixed point of the function  $g(x) = \sin x$ . 2.5
  - (c) Derive Newton-Raphson formula for approximating the root of a function  $f(x)$ . 2.5

[P.T.O.]

2. Attempt any *two* of the following. Any method of root finding can be used.

(a) Solve  $x = \cos x$  to an accuracy of  $10^{-5}$ . 5

- (b) The energy distribution of neutrons for a neutron source is given by 5

$$n(E) = \sqrt{E} \exp(-E/1.3).$$

Find the energy  $E$ , correct upto 3 places of decimal, where the flux  $n(E)$  is maximum.

- (c) The probability distribution function for a normal distribution is given by 5

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$$

Solve the equation

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{2} P'(0)$$

for  $x$  to an accuracy of  $10^{-5}$ . Interpret your answer.

3. Attempt any *two* of the following :

- (a) Write an algorithm to integrate a function tabulated at  $n$  points using Simpson's rule. 2.5

- (b) Derive two point Gauss quadrature formula. 2.5

- (c) Write an algorithm to find the volume of a unit sphere using Monte Carlo method. 2.5

4. Attempt any *two* of the following :

- (a) The radial neutron flux in a spherical reactor of radius R is given by 5

$$n(x) = A x \sin(\pi x)$$

Where  $x = r/R$ . Calculate the total flux in units of A by evaluating numerically the integral

$$N = \int_0^1 n(x) dx$$

using Simpson rule with 10 points.

- (b) Integrate  $f(x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x - 5$  from  $-2$  to  $4$  using two point Gauss quadrature formula. 5

- (c) Integrate the standard Gaussian function 5

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$$

from  $x = -1$  to  $1$  using the formula

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx = R_1 f(x_1) + R_2 f(x_2) + \dots + R_6 f(x_6)$$

Where  $R_1 = 0.17132$ ,  $R_2 = 0.36076$ ,  $R_3 = 0.46791$ ,  $R_4 = R_3$ ,  $R_5 = R_2$ ,  $R_6 = R_1$ ,  $x_1 = -0.93247$ ,  $x_2 = -0.66121$ ,  $x_3 = -0.23862$ ,  $x_4 = -x_3$ ,  $x_5 = -x_2$ ,  $x_6 = -x_1$ .

5. Attempt any *two* of the following :

- (a) Show that the Gauss-Seidel method gives a converging solution to the simultaneous equations. 2.5

(4)

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 = a_{13}$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 = a_{23}$$

if the following condition is satisfied :

$$\left| \frac{a_{12}a_{21}}{a_{11}a_{22}} \right| < 1.$$

- (b) Describe how to solve the initial value problem 2.5

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y); \quad y(x_0) = y_0$$

for  $y(x)$  on the interval  $a \leq x \leq b$  using Euler method.

- (c) Write an algorithm to solve a differential equation using Runge-Kutta method of order 4. 2.5

6. Attempt any *two* of the following :

- (a) Solve the modified radioactivity equation

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -\lambda N + \nu \tag{5}$$

using Euler method with a step size of 1 over the interval  $t = 0$  to  $t = 10$  for  $\lambda = 0.1$  and  $\nu = 10$ . The initial condition is  $N(0) = 1000$ . Compare your results with the analytical solution

$$N(t) = N(0)e^{-\lambda t} + \frac{\nu}{\lambda}(e^{-\lambda t} - 1)$$

- (b) Solve the initial value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -y(x)y'(0) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}; \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1 \tag{5}$$

Using Runge-Kutta method of order 4 with a step size of 0.25, compare your results with the analytical solution

$$y(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$$

- (c) Solve the following equations by Gauss-Seidel procedure to an accuracy of  $10^{-3}$ : 5

$$9x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 = 20$$

$$x_1 + 10x_2 + 4x_3 = 6$$

$$2x_1 - 4x_2 + 10x_3 = -15$$

7. Attempt any *two* of the following :

- (a) A radioactive sample has 'N' nuclei at time  $t=0$ . The probability of decay is 'P'. Write an algorithm which calculates the number of nuclei left in the sample as a function of time. 5
- (b) 'N' neutrons incident normally from a reactor onto a rectangular slab which is infinite in  $x$ -direction and of thickness ' $t$ ' along  $y$ -direction. The neutrons travel a distance of 1 unit and then are scattered repetitively in random directions. A neutron gets absorbed in the slab after suffering ' $m$ ' scatterings. Write an algorithm to calculate (i) how many neutrons re-enter into the reactor, (ii) how many neutrons get absorbed in the slab, and (iii) how many of them passes through the slab.
- (c) Explain how to solve the boundary value problem 5

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = r(x),$$

$$a \leq x \leq b, y(a) = \alpha, y(b) = \beta,$$

using the finite difference method.

8. Attempt any *two* of the following :

- (a) Write an algorithm to calculate the average distance ' $d$ ' travelled by a thermal neutron diffusing in a tank of heavy water by assuming that the neutron is performing a 3 dimensional random walk with a step size of ' $h$ ' of ' $N$ ' steps. 7.5

- (b) Explain how to solve the boundary value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = f(x, y) \quad 7.5$$

by finite difference method over the rectangular region

$$a \leq x \leq b, c \leq y \leq d$$

where, on the boundary of the region, we have

$$u(x, y) = g(x, y).$$

- (c) The following boundary value problem 7.5

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0,$$

$$0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1,$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, u(x, 1) = x,$$

$$u(0, y) = 0, u(1, y) = y.$$

is to be solved by finite difference method by dividing the  $x$  and  $y$  intervals into 5 equal parts. Find the linear simultaneous equations resulting from the finite difference method.