



EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
FIRST EXAMINATION IN SCIENCE -2009/2010
FIRST SEMESTER (June/July, 2011)
MT 151 - MATHEMATICA
(REPEAT)

Answer all Questions

Time: Two hours

Attention: You are not allowed to access the facility of Mathematica **Help** option.

And you may use **Basic Input Palatte** for entering symbols only.

1. Use the Mathematica command(s) to solve the following problems.

(a) Find the integer closest to $\sqrt{159}$.

(b) Compute $1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{2}}}}$.

(c) Compute a numerical approximation of $\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}\right) \dots \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{10}\right)$.

(d) Determine whether the expression $1 + x \sin y + x^2 \cos y + x^5 e^y$ is a polynomial in x . Is it a polynomial in y ?

(e) Find the partial fraction expansion of $\frac{(x-1)^6}{(x^2+1)(x+1)^2(x-4)}$.

(f) Plot the graph of $y = \sin x$ from 0 to π .

(g) Sort the letters of the word "MISSISSIPPI" alphabetically.

(h) Construct a 5×5 matrix having the first five primes as diagonal entries and zeros elsewhere.

(i) Create a list contains all the subsets of $\{a, b, c, d, e\}$ which contain precisely three elements. How many are there?

- (j) The 20th prime is 71. Find all the numbers less than 71 which are not prime.
2. (a) The binomial coefficient $C(n, k) = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$ can be expressed as

$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \binom{n-2}{k-2} \cdots \binom{n-k+1}{1}$$

for more efficient computation. Use this representation to compute $C(10, 4)$.

- (b) The area enclosed by a triangle whose sides have length a , b and c is given by Heron's formula

$$K = \sqrt{s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)},$$

where $s = \frac{a+b+c}{2}$. Express the area of a triangle as a function of a , b and c and compute the area of the triangle whose sides are 3, 4 and 5.

- (c) If p dollars is invested for t years in a bank account paying an annual interest rate of r compounded n times per year, the amount of money after k periods is

$$p \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^k$$

dollars. If 1000 dollars is invested in an account paying interest rate 6% compounded quarterly, make a table with suitable headings showing how much money is accumulated during a three year period.

- (d) If x is an approximation to \sqrt{a} , then it can be shown that $\frac{1}{2} \left(x + \frac{a}{x}\right)$ is a better approximation. Use the command `NestList` to observe the first 10 approximations obtained in computing $\sqrt{3}$, starting with $x = 100$.
- (e) The logistic equation for population growth given by $\frac{dp}{dt} = ap - bp^2$, was discovered in the mid-nineteenth century by the biologist Pierre Verhulst. The constant b is generally small in comparison to a so that for small population size p the quadratic term in p will be negligible and the population will grow approximately exponentially. For large p , however, the quadratic term serves to slow down the rate of growth of the population. Solve the logistic equation and sketch the solution for $a = 2$, $b = 0.005$, and an initial population $p_0 = 1$ (thousand). Then determine the limiting value of the population as $t \rightarrow \infty$.