

## FIFTH SEMESTER B. Sc. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2024

(Regular/Improvement/Supplementary)

## MATHEMATICS

## GMAT5B08T - THEORY OF EQUATIONS AND NUMBER THEORY

Time: 2 Hours

Maximum Marks: 60

SECTION A: Answer the following questions. Each carries 2 marks.

(Ceiling 20 Marks)

1. By synthetic division find the quotient and remainder in the division of  $-x^4 + 7x^3 - 4x^2$  by  $x - 3$ .
2. Write a biquadratic equation with roots  $i, -i, 1 + i, 1 - i$ .
3. Find upper and lower limits of the roots of the equation  $x^4 - 7x^3 + 10x^2 - 30 = 0$ .
4. State Rolle's Theorem about the roots of equations.
5. State Descartes's rule of signs.
6. Calculate  $(4144, 7696)$ .
7. Prove: If  $d \mid a$  and  $d \mid b$ , then  $d^2 \mid ab$
8. Find the prime-power decomposition of 999999999999.
9. Which of the following linear diophantine equations has no solutions.
  - (a)  $14x + 34y = 90$ .
  - (b)  $14x + 35y = 91$ .
  - (c)  $14x + 36y = 93$ .
10. Define linear diophantine equation.
11. Prove or disprove that if  $a^2 \equiv b^2 \pmod{m}$ , then  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  or  $a \equiv -b \pmod{m}$ .
12. Solve the linear congruence  $20x \equiv 984 \pmod{1984}$ .

(PTO)

**SECTION B: Answer the following questions. Each carries 5 marks.**  
**(Ceiling 30 Marks)**

13. Expand  $f(x) = 4x^5 - 6x^4 + 3x^3 + x^2 - x - 1$  in powers of  $x - 1$ .
14. If  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are two polynomials of degree  $\leq n$ , have equal values for more than  $n$  distinct values of  $x$ , prove that  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are identical.
15. Examine whether the equation  $x^4 + 8x^3 - 7x^2 - 49x + 56 = 0$  has integer roots.
16. Solve using Cardan's method:  $x^3 + 6x^2 - 36 = 0$ .
17. If  $x^2 + ax + b = 0$  ( where  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are integers,) has a rational root, show that it is in fact an integer.
18. Prove that if each exponent in the prime-power decomposition of  $n$  is even, then  $n$  is a square.
19. Find the smallest integer  $n, n > 2$ , such that  $2 \mid n, 3 \mid n + 1, 4 \mid n + 2, 5 \mid n + 3$ , and  $6 \mid n + 4$ .

**SECTION C: Answer any 1 question. Each carries 10 marks.**

20. Solve the biquadratic equation

$$x^4 + 3x^3 - 2x^2 - 10x - 12 = 0,$$

transforming the equation to the form

$$\left(x^2 + \frac{a}{2}x + \frac{y}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{a^2}{4} - b + y\right)x^2 + \left(-c + \frac{1}{2}ay\right)x + \left(-d + \frac{1}{4}y^2\right)$$

using the resolvent equation

$$y^3 - by^2 + (ac - 4d)y + 4bd - a^2d - c^2 = 0.$$

21. a) Prove that  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  if and only if there is an integer  $k$  such that  $a = b + km$ .  
b) If  $ac \equiv bc \pmod{m}$  and  $(c, m) = 1$ , prove that  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ .  
c) If  $ac \equiv bc \pmod{m}$  and  $(c, m) = d$ , prove that  $a \equiv b \pmod{m/d}$ .

**(1 x 10 = 10 Marks)**