

REPORT ON EXAMINATIONS

M Sc in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing 2011/12

Part I

A. Statistics

(1) Numbers and percentages in each class/category

Class	Number				%			
	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10	2008/9	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10	2008/9
Distinction	10	6	9	5	43.5	40	42.9	27.8
Pass	12	9	12	13	52.2	60	57.1	72.2
Fail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incomplete	1	0	0	0	4.3	0	0	0

(2) Vivas

All candidates were examined viva voce. Their performances ranged from good to excellent, and this performance was a credit to the year.

(3) Marking of scripts

Examinations were given in Weeks 0 of Hilary and Trinity Terms 2012, single-marked by assessors followed by a script check carried out by the Course Organiser. Finalisation of marks by the Examiners took place during an examiners meeting. Special Topics and Practicals were single-marked by Assessors, and then check marked by the examiners, with again finalisation of marks. All dissertations were read and marked by at least two examiners.

B. New examining methods and procedures

Script check was carried out by the Course Organiser. This year we also used supervisor logs, provided by the thesis supervisors to provide a log of their meetings/interaction with the student.

C. Changes in examining methods etc which the examiners would wish the faculty/department and the divisional board to consider

We have been asked to double blind mark special topics by the Proctors. We will also be sending out a notice to setters/markers so that they are completely aware of the setting and marking procedures at the beginning of MT and HT. We will also be sending a notice to candidates before their first examinations so they are aware of what to expect during and after the examinations.

D. How are candidates made aware of conventions?

The conventions are posted on the course web site and are included in the course handbook. The Course Director discusses these with the candidates and the candidates are reminded of this by email on several occasions during the year.

Part II

A. General comments on the examination

None.

B. Equal opportunities issues and gender breakdown

There were 18 male and 5 female candidates; 8 males and 4 females passed; 9 males and 1 female were awarded distinctions.

C. Candidates' performance in each part of the examination

This course administers examinations internally in January and April, with each student sitting between 2 and 4 papers depending on their particular circumstances. Both sets of examinations are split into Paper A (mathematical modelling) and Paper B (numerical analysis). Both examinations went smoothly this year with a good distribution of marks between high failure and distinction ranges. Performance on the practical classes and Special Topics ranged from good to excellent. The dissertations and vivas also ranged from good to excellent in standard.

D. Names of members of the board of examiners

Dr Andreas Muench (Chair)

Prof. Helen Byrne

Prof. E. Suli

Dr Ian Sobey

Prof. D Silvester (External)