

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualifications:–

*B.Sc. B.Sc.(Econ)M.Sci.*

**Mathematics M12B: Algebra 2**

**COURSE CODE : MATHM12B**

**UNIT VALUE : 0.50**

**DATE : 09-MAY-05**

**TIME : 14.30**

**TIME ALLOWED : 2 Hours**

All questions may be attempted but only marks obtained on the best four solutions will count.

The use of an electronic calculator is **not** permitted in this examination.

1. Let  $H$  be a subset of a group  $G$ . Give necessary and sufficient conditions for  $H$  to be a subgroup of  $G$ . In each of the following cases, determine if  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  or not, justifying your answer:
  - (i)  $G = \mathbb{R}$  (under addition),  $H = \{x \in G : x \geq 0\}$ ;
  - (ii)  $G = GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $H = \{A \in G : A^{-1} = A^T\}$ ;
  - (iii)  $G = S(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $H = \{f \in G : f(1) = 1\}$ ;
  - (iv)  $G$  is any abelian group,  $H = \{g \in G : g^2 = e\}$ ;
  - (v)  $G = S_7$ ,  $H = \{g \in G : g^2 = e\}$ .

$GL_2(\mathbb{R})$  denotes the group of real  $2 \times 2$  invertible matrices under matrix multiplication;  $S(\mathbb{R})$  is the group of bijections from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  under composition;  $S_7$  is the group of permutations of  $1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7$

2.
  - (a) State, without proof, Lagrange's Theorem. Prove that in a finite group  $G$  the order of any element divides the order of the group.
  - (b) Deduce that  $\bar{a}^{p-1} = \bar{1}$  in  $\mathbf{Z}_p^*$  for all  $\bar{a} \in \mathbf{Z}_p^*$  (where  $p$  is a prime and  $\mathbf{Z}_p^*$  denotes the group of non-zero integers mod  $p$  under multiplication).
  - (c) Find (i)  $\bar{2}^{1803}$ , (ii)  $\bar{2}^{358}$  in  $\mathbf{Z}_{19}^*$ .
  - (d) Show that every element in  $\mathbf{Z}_{19}^*$  has a 5th root.
3.
  - (a) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Give the definition of  $\det(A)$ . State, without proof, the effect on the determinant of each type of elementary row operation. Give a formula for the determinant of an upper triangular matrix and prove it.

(b) Evaluate  $\det \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(c) Find  $\det \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ b & c & d & a \\ c & d & a & b \\ d & a & b & c \end{pmatrix}$ , expressing your answer as a product of linear and/or quadratic factors.

4. (a) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Give the definition of:
- (i) an *eigenvalue*  $\lambda$  of  $A$ ;
  - (ii) an *eigenvector*  $\mathbf{v}$  of  $A$ ;
  - (iii) the *characteristic polynomial*  $c_A(t)$  of  $A$ ;
  - (iv)  $A$  is *diagonalizable* (over  $\mathbb{R}$ ).
- (b) Prove that if  $A$  has  $n$  distinct eigenvalues, then  $A$  is diagonalisable.
- (c) Let  $D$  be an  $n \times n$  diagonal matrix with distinct entries on the diagonal, and  $X$  an  $n \times n$  matrix such that  $XD = DX$ . Prove that  $X$  is diagonal.
- Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two  $n \times n$  matrices, each of which has  $n$  distinct eigenvalues and such that  $AB = BA$ . Prove that they are simultaneously diagonalisable, i.e. there exists an invertible  $P$  such that  $P^{-1}AP$  and  $P^{-1}BP$  are both diagonal.

5. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & -10 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (i) Find an invertible matrix  $P$  such that  $P^{-1}AP$  is diagonal.
- (ii) Find  $A^n$  (for positive integers  $n$ ).
- (iii) Solve the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx_1}{dt} &= 7x_1 - 10x_2 \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} &= 3x_1 - 4x_2 \end{aligned}$$

given that  $x_1(0) = 0$ ,  $x_2(0) = 1$ .

- (iv) Suppose a sequence of vectors  $\mathbf{v}_i$  is given by  $\mathbf{v}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_{n+1} = A^{-1}\mathbf{v}_n$ . Find the limit, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , of  $\mathbf{v}_n$ .

6. (a) Let  $A$  be a real symmetric matrix and let  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$  be eigenvectors associated to the (real) eigenvalues  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  respectively, where  $\lambda \neq \mu$ . Prove that  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are orthogonal vectors.
- (b) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find an orthogonal matrix  $P$  such that  $P^{-1}AP$  is diagonal.
- (c) Prove that if  $A$  is a real matrix which is orthogonally diagonalisable then  $A$  is symmetric.