

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualifications:-

B.Sc. *M.Sci.*

Mathematics B3D: Pure Mathematics

COURSE CODE : MATHB03D

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 20-MAY-05

TIME : 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 2 Hours

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

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

1. Consider the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{aligned}w - x + y - z &= 2 \\w + x + y + 3z &= 4 \\w &+ y + z = 3 \\-w + x - y + z &= -2\end{aligned}$$

- (a) Write the system in the form of a matrix equation.
 - (b) Reduce the augmented matrix of this system to echelon form. What is the rank of the augmented matrix?
 - (c) Find the general solution of the system in the form $\underline{a} + s\underline{v}_1 + t\underline{v}_2$ where \underline{a} , \underline{v}_1 and \underline{v}_2 are vectors and s and t are scalars.
 - (d) Apply the Gram-Schmidt process to the pair of vectors \underline{v}_1 , \underline{v}_2 to give two new orthonormal vectors $\underline{\hat{g}}_1$ and $\underline{\hat{g}}_2$.
2. (a) Explain what is meant by eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a square matrix \underline{A} .
- (b) Find the eigenvalues of the following matrix:

$$\underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

and find an eigenvector corresponding to each eigenvalue.

- (c) Hence find a matrix \underline{V} for which $\underline{V}^{-1} = \underline{V}^T$ and $\underline{V}^T \underline{A} \underline{V}$ is diagonal. Write down the diagonal matrix that corresponds to your matrix \underline{V} .
- (d) Write down the general solution $(x(t), y(t), z(t))^T$ to the set of ordinary differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= 3x + y \\ \dot{y} &= x + 2y + z \\ \dot{z} &= y + 3z\end{aligned}$$

in which a dot indicates d/dt , i.e. $\dot{x} = dx/dt$ and so on.

3. (a) Find the general solution to the differential equation

$$(t + 2) \frac{df}{dt} + 2f = \cos t.$$

- (b) Find a particular solution to the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 4y = 4x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 2.$$

Hence write down the general solution to this equation.

- (c) A solution $y(x)$ to the equation in (b) above satisfies

$$y(0) = \frac{5}{4}; \quad y'(0) = -\frac{5}{4}.$$

Find the explicit form of $y(x)$, and calculate $y(1)$.

4. The Fourier series for a function $f(x)$ with period T is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{T}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{T}\right)$$

- (a) Write down formulae for the Fourier coefficients a_n and b_n .
(b) What can be said about the coefficients a_n and b_n if $f(x)$ is
(i) odd; (ii) even?

A function $f(x)$ with period $T = 4$ is defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 < x < 1 \\ 1 & 1 \leq x \leq 3 \\ 0 & 3 < x < 4 \end{cases}$$

- (c) Sketch the graph of the function for three periods.
(d) Calculate the Fourier coefficients. Write down the first four non-zero terms in the Fourier series.

5. Let $f(x, y)$ be a real valued function of two variables x and y .
- Explain what is meant by a critical point of the function $f(x, y)$.
 - Describe the possible types of *non-degenerate* critical point that can occur.
 - Give a condition in terms of second partial derivatives of f , under which the critical point is non-degenerate.

Consider the function

$$f(x, y) = 3x^2 + 6xy + y^3 - 9y.$$

- Find all of the first and second order partial derivatives of f .
 - Verify that $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = 36(y - 1)$.
 - Find and classify the two critical points of f .
6. Suppose you have a function $f(x, y)$ in which the variables x and y are themselves functions of s and t : i.e. $x = x(s, t)$ and $y = y(s, t)$, such that

$$F(s, t) = f(x(s, t), y(s, t)).$$

- State the extended chain rule, which expresses the partial derivatives $\frac{\partial F}{\partial s}$ and $\frac{\partial F}{\partial t}$ in terms of $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$.

Now suppose $x = s \cos t$ and $y = s \sin t$. Find expressions for:

- $\frac{\partial F}{\partial s}$ and $\frac{\partial F}{\partial t}$ in terms of $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$;
- $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ in terms of $\frac{\partial F}{\partial s}$ and $\frac{\partial F}{\partial t}$.
- If a function $f(x, y)$ satisfies the two equations

$$-y \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + x \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 0; \quad x \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x^2 + y^2,$$

write down two partial differential equations in s and t which are satisfied by the corresponding function F .

- Hence find the general form of $F(s, t)$ in this case.

7. (a) Explain what is meant by the *commutator* $[L_1, L_2]$ of two linear operators L_1 and L_2 .

Find expressions for

(b) $\left[\frac{d}{dx}, x \frac{d}{dx} \right]$.

(c) $\left[\frac{d}{dx}, \left[e^x, \frac{d}{dx} \right] \right]$.

Now consider the three linear operators (acting on a two-dimensional vector)

$$L_A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad L_B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad L_C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

These are the Pauli spin matrices from quantum mechanics.

- (d) Show that $[L_B, L_C] = 2iL_A$.
(e) Find an expression for $[L_A, L_C]$.