



SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Spring Semester  
2010–2011

Mathematics (Computational and Numerical  
Methods)

2 hours

Answer **four** questions. You are advised **not** to answer more than four questions: if you do, only your best four will be counted.

- 1 (i) Let  $f(x) = x^2 - a$ . Show that the Newton-Raphson method for finding the root of  $f(x)$  leads to the recurrence equation

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left( x_n + \frac{a}{x_n} \right).$$

(4 marks)

- (ii) Using the Newton-Raphson formula, find the root of the function  $f(x) = 0.5 + \sin(x) - \sin(2x)$ , starting from  $x_0 = -\pi/2$ , with a precision of 3 decimal places.

Hint:  $\sin(-x) = -\sin(x)$ ,  $\cos(-x) = \cos(x)$ . (7 marks)

- (iii) Use the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel iterative methods to compute two successive approximations to the solution of the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 9x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 1 \\ 2x_1 + 10x_2 + 3x_3 &= 3 \\ 3x_1 + 4x_2 + 11x_3 &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

starting with the initial guess  $x_0 = [0, 0, 0]^T$ . Give your answer correct to four decimal places. (12 marks)

Do you expect convergence when the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel iterative methods are applied to the above system? Explain! (2 marks)

- 2** (i) Use Gaussian elimination, with partial pivoting, to solve the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 8x_2 + 2x_3 &= -7 \\ 3x_1 + 5x_2 + 2x_3 &= 8 \\ 6x_1 + 2x_2 + 8x_3 &= 26 \end{aligned}$$

*(10 marks)*

- (ii) Factorise the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & -4 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

into the product  $A = LU$  where  $L$  is a lower triangular matrix with unit diagonal elements and  $U$  is an upper triangular matrix. Hence using this factorisation, solve for  $\mathbf{x}$

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

where  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, x_3]^T$  and  $\mathbf{b} = [14, 34, 6]^T$ . *(15 marks)*

- 3** (i) It is suspected that the data

|   |      |      |      |      |      |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| x | -1   | 0    | 1    | 2    | 3    |
| y | 0.52 | 1.03 | 2.03 | 4.01 | 7.92 |

can be represented by  $y = ae^{bx}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants. By employing a suitable transformation and then using the least square linear fit, find the least square values of  $a$  and  $b$  correct to two decimal places. *(15 marks)*

- (ii) The value of  $\pi$  can be found using the integral

$$\pi = 4 \int_0^1 \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$$

Obtain the value of  $\pi$  up to four decimal places using Simpson's rule with a step size of 0.1. *(10 marks)*

- 4** (i) Find all the eigenvalues and associated eigenvectors for the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 6 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

*(12 marks)*

- (ii) Use the Lagrange's interpolating formula to find the interpolating polynomial  $P_3$  through the points (0,3), (1,2), (2,7), (4,59), and then find the approximate value of  $P_3(3.1)$  giving your answer correct to three decimal places. *(13 marks)*

- 5 (i) Using a graphical approach, maximise the function

$$f(x_1, x_2) = 5x_1 + 6x_2$$

subject to the conditions

$$x_1 + x_2 \leq 10$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \geq 3$$

$$5x_1 + 4x_2 \leq 35$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, \quad x_2 \geq 0$$

Calculate the equation of the iso-profit line and draw it on the graph.

*(13 marks)*

- (ii) A company manufactures two products (A and B) and the profit per unit sold is £3 and £5 respectively. Each product has to be assembled on a particular machine, each unit of product A taking 12 minutes of assembly time and each unit of product B requiring 25 minutes of assembly time. The company estimates that the machine used for assembly has an effective working week of only 30 hours (due to maintenance/breakdown). Technological constraints mean that for every five units of product A produced at least two units of product B must be produced. The aim of the company is to have maximum profit. Formulate the problem as a linear programming programme and solve the problem graphically. Calculate the equation of the iso-profit line and draw it on the graph. *(12 marks)*

**End of Question Paper**