



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Spring Semester 2016-2017

Mathematics (Computational Methods)

Two hours

*Attempt all FOUR questions*

Please leave this exam paper on your desk  
Do not remove it from the hall

Registration number from U-Card (9 digits)  
to be completed by student

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- 1 (i) Classify the following differential equations as either elliptic, parabolic or hyperbolic:

(a)  $6 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} - 4 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$  (1 mark)

(b)  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 4 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + 4 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 6$  (1 mark)

(c)  $3 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 3 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$  (1 mark)

- (ii) Use Taylor series expansions to derive the following approximations,

$$\left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)_{x=x_0} \approx \frac{y_1 - y_0}{h}, \quad \left( \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right)_{x=x_0} \approx \frac{y_1 - 2y_0 + y_{-1}}{h^2},$$

where  $y = y(x)$  is a continuous function and  $y_i = y(x_0 + ih)$ ,  $i = 0, \pm 1$ . In each case state the order of the error term. (6 marks)

- (iii) (a) Derive the standard five-point difference scheme for the differential equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -3(x^2 + y^2)$$

at node points  $(x_i, y_j) = (ih, jk)$  of a square grid with mesh-size  $h = k = 1/2$ . (4 marks)

- (b) Given the above differential equation is satisfied on the square  $-1 \leq x, y \leq 1$  together with the boundary conditions

$$u(x, y) = 0 \quad \text{on } x = -1 \text{ and } x = 1,$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u \quad \text{on } y = -1$$

and

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -u \quad \text{on } y = 1$$

derive the equations for the unknown nodal values. You should draw a diagram with the nodes clearly labelled and make full use of symmetry.

YOU ARE **NOT** REQUIRED TO SOLVE THESE EQUATIONS.

(12 marks)

2 (i) Let  $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_N = b$ , and let  $f(x_i) = f_i$  for function  $f$  which is continuous on  $[a, b]$ . Describe the properties of the cubic spline interpolant  $S$  to  $f$  at the points  $x_i, i = 0, 1, \dots, N$ . **(3 marks)**

(ii) Let the cubic interpolant have the form

$$s_i(x) = a_i(x - x_i)^3 + b_i(x - x_i)^2 + c_i(x - x_i) + d_i$$

defined on the interval  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ .

Using the substitution  $s''(x_i) = \sigma_i \quad (0 \leq i \leq n)$ , where  $'$  denotes differentiation with respect to  $x$ , show that

$$c_i = \frac{f_{i+1} - f_i}{h} - \frac{h\sigma_i}{2} - h^2 a_i,$$

where  $h = x_{i+1} - x_i$  and  $f_i$  is the value of the function at the  $i$ -th position. **(10 marks)**

(iii) Using the conditions derived in (ii), determine the natural cubic spline between the following data points

x	1	2	3	4
f(x)	1	1/2	1/3	1/4

**(8 marks)**

(iv) Use the cubic spline interpolant to estimate  $f(2.5)$  and  $f'(2.5)$ . **(4 marks)**

3 Using standard notation, the explicit Dynamical Programming formulation of the Cargo-Loading problem can be expressed as

$$F_j(y_j) = \max_{k_j=0, \dots, K_j} \{v_j k_j + F_{j+1}(y_j - w_j k_j)\},$$

where  $K_j \equiv \lfloor y_j/w_j \rfloor$ , that is,  $K_j$  is the integer part of  $y_j/w_j$ .

A ship can carry 4 units of weight. Three possible types of object may be transported, each having weight and value as shown in the table.

	Type $j$	Weight $w_j$	Value $v_j$
Stage 1	1	2	75
Stage 2	2	3	50
Stage 3	3	1	35

Use the Dynamical Programming algorithm to find the maximum possible value of the cargo and determine the optimal solution. **(25 marks)**

- 4 (i) Show analytically that the function

$$f(x, y) = 2(x + y)^2 + (x - y)^2 + 3x + 2y$$

has a minimum at the point  $(-7/16, -3/16)$ . **(6 marks)**

- (ii) Starting at the point  $(0, 0)$  perform one iteration of the steepest-descent algorithm to determine an approximation to the minimum point. Do your working to FOUR decimal places. **(12 marks)**

- (iii) Now calculate an approximation to the minimum of  $f(x, y)$  using one iteration of Newton's method starting from the point  $(0, 0)$ . **(7 marks)**

**End of Question Paper**

## Formulae Sheet

Notation:

$$U(x_i, t_j) \equiv U_{ij}$$

Forward difference formula for  $\partial U/\partial t$ :

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} \approx \frac{U_{i,j+1} - U_{ij}}{\Delta t}$$

Backward difference formula for  $\partial U/\partial t$ :

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} \approx \frac{U_{ij} - U_{i,j-1}}{\Delta t}$$

Central difference formula for  $\partial U/\partial x$ :

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \approx \frac{U_{i+1,j} - U_{i-1,j}}{2\Delta x}$$

Central difference formula for  $\partial^2 U/\partial x^2$ :

$$\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{U_{i+1,j} - 2U_{ij} + U_{i-1,j}}{\Delta x^2}$$