



**NTNU – Trondheim**  
Norwegian University of  
Science and Technology

Department of Mathematical Sciences

## Examination paper for **MA2501 Numerical Methods**

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**Examination date:** 02.06.2016

**Examination time (from–to):** 09:00-13:00

**Permitted examination support material:** Support material code C

- Approved basic calculator.
- The textbook: Cheney & Kincaid, Numerical Mathematics and Computing, 6th or 7th edition, including the list of errata.
- Rottmann, Mathematical formulae.
- Photo copies of chapter 1 and 4 of the textbook: An Introduction to Numerical Analysis, by Suli and Mayers

**Other information:**

All answers should be justified and include enough details to make it clear which methods and/or results have been used.

**Language:** English

**Number of pages:** 3

**Number of pages enclosed:** 0

**Checked by:**

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Date

Signature



**Problem 1**

- a) Use divided differences and Newton's interpolation formula to find the interpolating polynomial of lowest possible degree for the points in the table:

|     |      |      |     |     |
|-----|------|------|-----|-----|
| $x$ | $-1$ | $0$  | $1$ | $2$ |
| $y$ | $3$  | $-4$ | $5$ | $6$ |

(6 points)

- b) Establish the formula

$$f''(x) \approx \frac{2}{h^2} \left[ \frac{f(x_0)}{(1+\alpha)} - \frac{f(x_1)}{\alpha} + \frac{f(x_2)}{\alpha(1+\alpha)} \right]$$

using unevenly spaced points  $x_0 < x_1 < x_2$ , where  $x_1 - x_0 = h$  and  $x_2 - x_1 = \alpha h$ . Notice that this formula for  $\alpha = 1$  is reduced to the standard central-difference formula.

( **Hint:** Approximate  $f(x)$  by the Newton form of the interpolating polynomial of degree 2.)

(6 points)

**Problem 2** Use Gaussian elimination with scaled partial pivoting to solve the following linear system.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & -1 \\ 6 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 7 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(8 points)

**Problem 3** Check whether the following function is a natural cubic spline or not.

$$S(x) = \begin{cases} 1 + x - x^3, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 1 - 2(x-1) - 3(x-1)^2 + 4(x-1)^3, & 1 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 4(x-2) + 9(x-2)^2 - 3(x-2)^3, & 2 \leq x \leq 3 \end{cases}$$

Justify your answer.

(10 points)

**Problem 4** Find an approximation to the integral

$$\int_0^1 e^{-(10x)^2} dx$$

using Romberg integration. Find  $R(2, 2)$  up to three decimal places.

(10 points)

**Problem 5** Use the method of least squares to find the equation of a parabola of the form  $y = ax^2 + b$  that best represents the following data.

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} x & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline y & 3.1 & 0.9 & 2.9 \end{array}$$

(10 points)

**Problem 6** Suppose we have the following initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= f(t, x), \\ x(1) &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

with

$$f(t, x) = (tx)^3 - \left(\frac{x}{t}\right).$$

Approximate  $x(1.2)$  by taking step size  $h = 0.1$  with the following Runge-Kutta method

$$\begin{cases} K_1 = f(t, x), \\ K_2 = f(t + h, x + K_1), \end{cases}$$
$$x(t + h) = x(t) + \frac{h}{2} (K_1 + K_2).$$

(10 points)

**Problem 7** Given the initial value problem

$$\mathbf{y}' = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{y}(t_0) = \mathbf{y}_0,$$

where  $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ . The trapezoidal rule for solving this ODE is given by

$$\mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + \frac{h}{2} \left( \mathbf{f}(t_{n+1}, \mathbf{y}_{n+1}) + \mathbf{f}(t_n, \mathbf{y}_n) \right),$$

where  $h = t_{n+1} - t_n$ .

Suppose  $\mathbf{f}$  satisfies the  $L$  Lipschitz condition

$$\|\mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{y}) - \mathbf{f}(t, \tilde{\mathbf{y}})\| \leq L \|\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|, \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}, \mathbf{y}, \tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^m.$$

The local truncation error for the trapezoidal method

$$\mathbf{d}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}(t_{n+1}) - \mathbf{y}(t_n) - \frac{h}{2} (\mathbf{f}(t_{n+1}, \mathbf{y}(t_{n+1})) + \mathbf{f}(t_n, \mathbf{y}(t_n)))$$

satisfies

$$\|\mathbf{d}_{n+1}\| \leq \frac{1}{12} h^3 M, \quad M = \max_{\xi \in \mathbb{R}} \|\mathbf{y}'''(\xi)\|.$$

Use this to show that the global error  $\mathbf{e}_n = \mathbf{y}(t_n) - \mathbf{y}_n$  satisfies

$$\|\mathbf{e}_{n+1}\| \leq \frac{1 + \frac{1}{2}hL}{1 - \frac{1}{2}hL} \|\mathbf{e}_n\| + \frac{\frac{1}{12}Mh^3}{1 - \frac{1}{2}hL}, \quad \text{for } hL < 2.$$

(10 points)