

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY  
FACULTIES OF ARTS, ECONOMICS, EDUCATION,  
ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE  
**MATH1902**  
LINEAR ALGEBRA (ADVANCED)

June/July 2002

TIME ALLOWED: One and a half hours

LECTURERS: TM Gagen, DJ Ivers

*This Examination has 3 Printed Components.*

- (1) AN EXTENDED ANSWER QUESTION PAPER (THIS BOOKLET, GREEN 80/16A):  
3 PAGES NUMBERED 1 TO 3; 5 QUESTIONS NUMBERED 1 TO 5.
- (2) A MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION PAPER (YELLOW 80/16B):  
4 PAGES NUMBERED 1 TO 4; 15 QUESTIONS NUMBERED 1 TO 15.
- (3) A MULTIPLE CHOICE ANSWER SHEET (WHITE 80/16C): 1 PAGE.

**Components 2 and 3 MUST NOT be removed from the examination room.**

*This Examination has 2 Sections: **Extended Answer** and **Multiple Choice**.*

*The **Extended Answer Section** is worth 75% of the total marks for the paper:  
all questions may be attempted; questions are of equal value;  
working must be shown.*

*The **Multiple Choice Section** is worth 25% of the total marks for the paper:  
all questions may be attempted; questions are of equal value;  
answers must be coded onto the **Multiple Choice Answer Sheet**.*

*Calculators will be supplied; no other electronic calculators are permitted.*

1.
  - (i) Find the parametric vector equation of the line  $\ell$  through the points  $P(2, 3, -1)$  and  $Q(3, 2, -3)$ .
  - (ii) Write down the vector equation of the line in (i) in cartesian form.
  - (iii) Consider the three points  $A(1, 2, 1)$ ,  $B(4, 3, 2)$  and  $C(3, -2, 4)$ . Find the vectors  $\overrightarrow{AB}$  and  $\overrightarrow{AC}$ , and hence find  $\mathbf{u} = \overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC}$ .
  - (iv) Using the results of the previous part or otherwise find the equation of the plane through the points  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ .
  - (v) Show that the line in part (i) is perpendicular to the plane in part (iv).
  
2.
  - (i) Suppose that  $\mathbf{p} = \overrightarrow{OP} = 2\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}$  and that  $Q = (5, 1)$  are points in the plane. Find the vector equation of the tangent at the point  $Q$  to the circle with centre  $P$  and radius 5.
  - (ii) A tetrahedron has four vertices  $O$ ,  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  and four triangular faces. Let  $K, L, M, N$  respectively divide the sides  $OA, OB, CB$  and  $CA$  in the ratio  $\alpha : \beta$ . Let  $\mathbf{a} = \overrightarrow{OA}$ , etc.
    - (a) Express  $\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{l}, \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}$  in terms of  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$ .
    - (b) Show that  $KM$  and  $LN$  intersect at their midpoints.
  
3.
  - (i) Give an example of a system of 3 linear equations in 2 unknowns,  $x$  and  $y$ , which is:
    - (a) consistent with a unique solution;
    - (b) consistent with infinitely many solutions.
  - (ii) Determine a row-echelon form for the augmented matrix of the system of equations
$$\begin{array}{rrcr} x & + & 2y & + & a^2z & = & 2 \\ x & + & 3y & + & 4z & = & 1 \\ 2x & + & ay & + & 8z & = & 6 \end{array}$$
for the values of  $a$  for which there is a unique solution. (Do not find the unique solution.)
  - (iii) Show that the equations are inconsistent if  $a = -2$ . Is this the only value of  $a$  for which the equations are inconsistent?

4. (i) Find infinitely many matrices

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

such that  $A^2 = I$ .

- (ii) Use elementary row operations to show that

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a+b & a & a & a \\ a & a+b & a & a \\ a & a & a+b & a \\ a & a & a & a+b \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} 4a+b & 4a+b & 4a+b & 4a+b \\ a & a+b & a & a \\ a & a & a+b & a \\ a & a & a & a+b \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (iii) Hence use elementary row operations to evaluate

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a+b & a & a & a \\ a & a+b & a & a \\ a & a & a+b & a \\ a & a & a & a+b \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (iv) Hence find the eigenvalues and eigenspaces of the matrix

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

5. (i) If  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of the matrix  $A$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , show that  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of  $A + aI$  for any scalar  $a$  and find the eigenvalue.
- (ii) If  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of the matrix  $A$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , show that  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of  $bA$  for any scalar  $b$  and find the eigenvalue.
- (iii) Let  $A$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  be the  $n \times n$  and  $n \times 1$  matrices

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \theta \\ \sin 2\theta \\ \sin 3\theta \\ \vdots \\ \sin n\theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Given that  $\sin(j-1)\theta + \sin(j+1)\theta = 2 \cos \theta \sin j\theta$ , show that  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  if  $\theta = k\pi/(n+1)$ , where  $k$  is an integer,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , and find the corresponding eigenvalue.

- (iv) Find all the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix

$$M = bA + aI = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ b & a & b & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & a & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & b & a \end{pmatrix}.$$