

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

June 1999

TIME ALLOWED: Two Hours

LECTURERS: WG Gibson  
RB Howlett

*This Examination has 3 Printed Components.*

1. AN EXTENDED ANSWER QUESTION PAPER (THIS BOOKLET, GREEN 80/16):  
3 PAGES NUMBERED 1 TO 3; 7 QUESTIONS NUMBERED 1 TO 7.
2. A MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION PAPER (YELLOW 80/16A):  
3 PAGES NUMBERED 1 TO 3; 15 QUESTIONS NUMBERED 1 TO 15.
3. A MULTIPLE CHOICE ANSWER SHEET (WHITE 80/16B): 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 70% 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 30% 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) Let  $\mathbf{p} = \overrightarrow{OP}$  and  $\mathbf{q} = \overrightarrow{OQ}$  be the position vectors of the points  $P$  and  $Q$ . Show that the midpoint of the line  $PQ$  has position vector  $(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})/2$ .  
(ii) Use vector methods to prove that the figure formed by joining the midpoints of a plane quadrilateral is a parallelogram.
2. (i) Find the fifth roots of unity; that is, find all the solutions of the equation  $w^5 = 1$  where  $w$  is a complex number.  
(ii) Show that the equation  $(1 - z)^5 = z^5$  has solutions  $z = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}(1 \pm i \tan \frac{\pi}{5})$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}(1 \pm i \tan \frac{2\pi}{5})$ .
3. Given the planes:  
 $p_1 : 3x + 2y - z = 1,$   
 $p_2 : \mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}) = 3,$   
find  
(i) a vector  $\mathbf{v}_1$  perpendicular to  $p_1$ ;  
(ii) a vector  $\mathbf{v}_2$  perpendicular to  $p_2$ ;  
(iii) a point  $P$  lying on both  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ ;  
(iv) the equation of the line of intersection of  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ .
4. (i) What does it mean to say that a matrix  $B$  is a *reduced row-echelon* matrix?  
(ii) Using the fact (which you are not asked to prove) that any matrix can be transformed into a reduced row-echelon matrix by a sequence of elementary row operations, explain why for every  $r \times n$  matrix  $A$  there is an invertible  $r \times r$  matrix  $M$  such that  $MA$  is a reduced row-echelon matrix.  
(iii) Let  $A$  be an  $r \times n$  matrix,  $B$  an  $n \times p$  matrix, and  $C$  a  $p \times q$  matrix. Prove that  $(AB)C = A(BC)$ .

5. (i) Describe how a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  may be associated with a diagram, from which one may determine whether the permutation is even or odd. Use the permutation

$$\tau = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 5 & 1 & 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

to illustrate your answer.

- (ii) Using the elementary row operations method, compute the determinant of the following matrix  $A$ :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 3 & 3 & 6 & 5 \\ 4 & 4 & 11 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (iii) Suppose that  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  and  $D$  are  $n \times n$  matrices, all of which are invertible, and suppose that

$$B(C + AD) = B + C.$$

Find a formula that expresses  $A$  in terms of  $B$ ,  $C$  and  $D$ . (That is, make  $A$  the subject of the formula.)

6. (i) (a) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. What does it mean to say that a matrix  $B$  is an *inverse* of the matrix  $A$ ?

(b) Suppose that  $B$  and  $C$  are both inverses of the matrix  $A$ . Prove that  $B = C$ .

(ii) Let  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 6 & 4 \\ -2 & -5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(a) Calculate the inverse of  $M$ .

(b) Find a matrix  $X$  such that  $XM = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

7. Let  $A$  be a  $7 \times 7$  matrix whose entries are real numbers.

- (i) By considering the characteristic equation of  $A$ , show that  $A$  has at least one real eigenvalue.

(ii) Suppose that  $A$  satisfies the equation  $A^2 + A = cI$ , where  $I$  is the  $7 \times 7$  identity matrix, and  $c$  is some fixed real number. Show that every eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$  satisfies  $\lambda^2 + \lambda = c$ .

(iii) Prove that the number  $c$  in Part (ii) must satisfy  $c \geq -1/4$ .

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