

Answer *FOUR* questions

1. (a) Consider two numbers  $a$  and  $b$  that are already in floating point representation (they are *machine numbers*) and consider the following two algorithms to calculate  $y$ :

i)  $y = a^2 - b^2$

ii)  $y = (a + b)(a - b)$

Determine with an error analysis which of the two algorithms is more stable. What ranges of values of  $a$  and  $b$  are likely to cause problems and to which algorithm?

[10 marks]

- (b) For a floating point system specified by  $(10, t, L, U)$  with  $t = 4$ ,  $L = -5$  and  $U = 5$ , what is the value of the *machine precision*? Using the same system, evaluate  $y$  for  $a = 37.6$  and  $b = 37.5$  using both algorithms in part (a). How does the normalised error  $\Delta y$  compare with the machine precision? Do your calculations confirm your results for part (a)?

[8 marks]

- (c) For a large value of  $x$  the values  $a = \cosh x$  and  $b = \sinh x$  are known. Two different algorithms can be used to calculate the value of  $e^{-x}$ :

i)  $e^{-x} = \cosh x - \sinh x = a - b$  or

ii)  $e^{-x} = \frac{1}{\cosh x + \sinh x} = \frac{1}{a + b}$ , since  $\cosh^2 x - \sinh^2 x = 1$

Knowing also that for large values of  $x$ ,  $\cosh x \approx \sinh x \approx e^x$ , so  $a$  and  $b$  are large and close in value, which of the two algorithms will give the most accurate results? Note that  $a$  and  $b$  are not necessarily machine numbers.

Hint: In the evaluation of the error corresponding to the denominator of ii) above, consider the approximation:  $|\varepsilon_1| = |\varepsilon_2| = |\varepsilon_3|$ .

Also, use the relation:  $\frac{1}{1+z} = 1 - z + z^2 - z^3 + \dots$

[7 marks]

2. (a) Use the bisection method to find a root of the function  $f(x) = x^2 - 5.25x + 5$ .  
Use the starting values  $x_1 = 1$  and  $x_2 = 1.8$  and complete the table calculating 4 iterations.

iteration	$x_1$	$x_2$	$c$	$f(x_1)$	$f(x_2)$	$f(c)$
1	1	1.8				
2						
3						
4						

*please reproduce this table in your answer book*

[8 marks]

- (b) Describe the fixed point iteration method to find a root of a function  $f(x)$ . Indicate what the condition for convergence is.

Use the fixed point iteration to find the root close to 1 of the function:  $f(x) = x^2 - 5.25x + 5$ .

Start with the choice:  $x_0 = 1$  and use at least 4 iterations.

[8 marks]

- (c) Use the Newton-Raphson method to find a root of the function:  $f(x) = x^2 - 5.25x + 5$ .

Use the following table in your answer.

iteration	$x_n$	$f(x)$	$f'(x)$	$\rightarrow x_{n+1}$
1	1			
2				
3				
4				

*please reproduce this table in your answer book*

[9 marks]

3. (a) Consider a set of data points  $(x_i, y_i)$  with  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Write down the expression for the least squares error functional and derive the expressions to determine a straight line that approximates the data point.

[8 marks]

- (b) Use Lagrange interpolation to find a second order polynomial to interpolate the data points:  $(-2, 9)$ ,  $(0, -5)$  and  $(2, -3)$ .

[8 marks]

- (c) Considering the 4 points:  $x_0$ ,  $x_1 = x_0 - h$ ,  $x_2 = x_0 - 2h$ , and  $x_3 = x_0 - 3h$  and the Taylor expansion of a function  $f(x)$  at  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$ , find a four-point backward difference expression to approximate the first derivative of  $f(x)$ . What is the order of approximation?

[9 marks]

4. (a) Define the following terms: *vector norm*, *matrix norm*, and *condition number of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$* . For a system of equations  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{y}$ , show that if  $\delta\mathbf{x}$  and  $\delta\mathbf{y}$  are perturbations of the vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ , respectively, they are related by:

$$\frac{\|\delta\mathbf{x}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \leq \text{cond}(\mathbf{A}) \frac{\|\delta\mathbf{y}\|}{\|\mathbf{y}\|}$$

[6 marks]

- (b) Show that in the steepest descent method applied to the solution of the linear system of equations represented by  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{y}$ , with a symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , the value of  $\alpha$  that minimizes the error functional  $h^2$  along the line  $(\mathbf{x}_i + \alpha \mathbf{p}_i)$  is given by:

$$\alpha = \frac{\mathbf{p}_i^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{Ax}_i)}{\mathbf{p}_i^T \mathbf{Ap}_i}$$

where  $\mathbf{p}_i$  is the unit vector in the direction of  $-\nabla h^2$  evaluated at  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is the current point.

Hint: Remember that the error functional  $h^2$  is defined as  $h^2 = \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{r}$  where  $\mathbf{r}$  is the residual  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{Ax}$ , and that it can be simplified to:  $h^2 = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Ax} - 2\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}$ .

[7 marks]

- (c) Consider the system of equations  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{y}$  and its solution using the steepest descent method:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Use the expression for  $\alpha$  given in part (b) to find the iteration vector  $\mathbf{x}_1$  from the starting vector  $\mathbf{x}_0 = (1, 1, 1)^T$ . In doing so, show that  $h^2$  can be written as:

$$h^2(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 5x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + 2x_3^2 + 4x_1x_2 + 2x_1x_3 + 2x_2x_3 - 4x_1 + 4x_2 + 4x_3$$

[12 marks]

5. (a) Use Gauss quadrature with 4 points to calculate the integral:  $\int_{-1}^1 e^x \sin \pi x dx$

$n$	Nodes $x_i^n$	Weights $w_i^n$
1	0.0	2.0
2	$\pm \sqrt{3}/3 = \pm 0.577350269189$	1.0
3	0	$8/9 = 0.888888888889$
	$\pm \sqrt{15}/5 = \pm 0.774596669241$	$5/9 = 0.555555555556$
4	$\pm \sqrt{525 - 70\sqrt{30}}/35 = \pm 0.339981043585$	$(18 + \sqrt{30})/36 = 0.652145154863$
	$\pm \sqrt{525 + 70\sqrt{30}}/35 = \pm 0.861136311594$	$(18 - \sqrt{30})/36 = 0.347854845137$

[8 marks]

- (b) From the expression of the Simpson's quadrature (Simpson's rule) for one interval, derive the expression to calculate an integral using the Simpson quadrature with  $n$  subintervals. Use this method to calculate the following integral with 2 subintervals.

$$\int_{-1}^1 e^x \sin \pi x dx$$

[8 marks]

- (c) Consider the solution of the following differential equation using finite differences:

$$\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} + c \frac{df}{dx} + e f = g(x) \quad \text{for } a \leq x \leq b.$$

with  $f(a) = 0$  and  $\left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x=b} = 0$ .

Use the discretisation  $x_i = a + i\Delta x$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, N$  and  $(\Delta x = (b-a)/N)$ . Use central differences for both derivatives. Determine the form of the discretised equation for an internal point  $x_i$ , and for  $x_1$  and  $x_N$ . Show the form of the resultant matrix equation and the form of the corresponding matrix.

[9 marks]

6. (a) Describe the successive displacement or Gauss-Seidel method to solve a linear system of equations. Illustrate by calculating the first 4 iterations for the solution of the following system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Start the iterations with  $\mathbf{x}_0 = (1, 1, 1)^T$ .

[10 marks]

- (b) Describe in detail the power method to find the dominant eigenvector of a matrix and explain how it works. Use the power method with the following matrix:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Start the iterations with the vector  $\mathbf{x}_0 = (1, 1, 1)^T$ . Run at least 4 iterations and normalise the iteration vector using  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty$ .

Use the Rayleigh quotient to find the corresponding eigenvector.

[9 marks]

- (c) Describe the shifted inverse iteration method and explain in detail the steps necessary to find the eigenvalue of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  that is closest to 5.0. Knowing that the power method converges to the eigenvector corresponding to the largest eigenvalue of a matrix, show how the shifted iteration works.

[6 marks]