

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING**

**MAIN EXAMINATION                      2007/2008**

**TITLE OF PAPER    :        LINEAR ALGEBRA AND VECTOR  
CALCULUS**

**COURSE NUMBER    :        E372**

**TIME ALLOWED     :        THREE HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS     :        ANSWER ANY FOUR OUT OF FIVE  
QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION  
CARRIES 25 MARKS.**

**MARKS FOR DIFFERENT SECTIONS  
ARE SHOWN IN THE RIGHT-HAND  
MARGIN.**

**STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED TO USE  
MAPLE TO ANSWER THE  
QUESTIONS.**

**THIS PAPER HAS SIX PAGES, INCLUDING THIS PAGE.**

**DO NOT OPEN THE PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN  
GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**E372 Linear Algebra and Vector Calculus**

**Question one**

Given the following matrix equation  $A X = b$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 2 & -5 \\ -3 & 6 & 2 \\ 4 & -5 & -7 \end{pmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -35 \\ 23 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) use the “linsolve” command to find the solution of  $X$ , **( 3 marks )**
- (b) use the Gauss elimination method to find the solution of  $X$ , **( 6 marks )**
- (c) use the Cramer’s rule to find the solution of  $X$ , **( 6 marks )**
- (d) (i) use Gauss-Jordan elimination method to find  $A^{-1}$ , **( 8 marks )**  
(ii) use  $A^{-1}$  obtained in (d) (i) to find the solution of  $X$ . **( 2 marks )**

### Question two

Given the following differential equations for a coupled oscillator system as

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d^2 x_1(t)}{dt^2} = -5 x_1(t) + 12 x_2(t) \\ \frac{d^2 x_2(t)}{dt^2} = 4 x_1(t) - 18 x_2(t) \end{cases}$$

(a) set  $x_1(t) = X_1 e^{i\omega t}$  and  $x_2(t) = X_2 e^{i\omega t}$ , deduce the following matrix

equation  $A X = -\omega^2 X$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -5 & 12 \\ 4 & -18 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } X = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4 \text{ marks})$$

(b) (i) find the eigen frequencies of  $\omega$ , (4 marks)

(ii) find the eigen vectors of  $X$ , (4 marks)

(c) (i) write down the general solutions of  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$  in terms of the eigen frequencies and eigen vectors obtained in (b), (4 marks)

(ii) if initial conditions are given as

$$x_1(0) = 3, \quad x_2(0) = -2, \quad \left. \frac{dx_1(t)}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \left. \frac{dx_2(t)}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = 0,$$

find the specific solutions of  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$ . Plot both

$x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$  for  $t = 0$  to  $5$  and show them in a single

display. (9 marks)

### Question three

- (a) Given a scalar function  $f = 3x^2y - 7yz^2 + xyz$ ,
- find the value of  $\vec{\nabla} f$  at the point  $P : (1, 2, 3)$ , (3 marks)
  - find the directional derivative of  $f$  at the point  $P : (1, 2, 3)$  along the direction of  $[-2, 4, 5]$ . (4 marks)
- (b) Given a vector field  $F = [15x^2y + 4x^3, 5x^3, -12z^3]$ , find the value of the line integral of  $F$  from the point  $P_1 : (1, 10, 0)$  to the point  $P_2 : (2, 5, 0)$  along a line path of  $L$ , i.e.,  $\int_{P_1, L}^{P_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}$ ,
- if  $L : z = 0$  and  $y = -5x + 15$ , (7 marks)
  - if  $L : z = 0$  and  $y = \frac{10}{x}$ , (7 marks)
  - is the given  $F$  a conservative vector field? If so, then find its associated scalar potential. (4 marks)

#### Question four

- (a) Given a vector field  $F = [7xy, -3z^2, 2xz]$ , find the value of the surface integral of  $F$ , i.e.,  $\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{s}$ , if  $S : x^2 + y^2 = 25$ ,  $x > 0$ ,  $y > 0$  and  $-1 \leq z \leq +4$ . (10 marks)
- (b) Given a vector field  $G = [5x^3y, 6yz^3, -3\sinh(3z)]$ , utilize the divergence theorem to find the closed surface integral of  $G$ , i.e.,  $\oiint_S \vec{G} \cdot d\vec{s}$  if  $S$  is the closed surface enclosing the following volume  $V : 1 \leq x \leq 5$ ,  $2 \leq y \leq 8$  and  $-1 \leq z \leq 6$ . (10 marks)
- (c) For any vector field  $F = [F_x(x,y,z), F_y(x,y,z), F_z(x,y,z)]$ , show that  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}) \equiv 0$ . (5 marks)

### Question five

Given the following one-dimensional wave equation for an elastic string of length  $L$  as

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial x^2}$$

- (a) set  $u(x,t) = F(x)G(t)$  and utilize the separation of variable scheme to break the above partial differential equation into two ordinary differential equation,

**( 6 marks )**

- (b) The general solution of the given partial differential equation can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} u(x,t) &= \sum_{\forall k} u_k(x,t) \\ &= \sum_{\forall k} (A_k \cos(kx) + B_k \sin(kx))(C_k \cos(ckt) + D_k \sin(ckt)) \end{aligned}$$

where  $A_k, B_k, C_k$  &  $D_k$  are arbitrary constants

- (i) applying two fixed end conditions (i.e.,  $u_k(0,t) = 0 = u_k(L,t)$ ) and zero

initial speed condition (i.e.,  $\left. \frac{\partial u_k(x,t)}{\partial t} \right|_{t=0} = 0$ ), deduce from the above

general solution that  $u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{cn\pi t}{L}\right)$

where  $E_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ) are arbitrary constants. **( 8 marks )**

- (ii) if  $c = 5$ ,  $L = 9$  and the initial position of the string is given as

$$u(x,0) = \begin{cases} 2x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 3 \\ -x + 9 & \text{if } 3 \leq x \leq 9 \end{cases}$$

find the values of  $E_1, E_2, E_3, \dots, E_{10}$ . Write down the specific

solution of  $u(x,t)$  in its series expression up to  $E_{10}$  term.

**( 11 marks )**