

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

MAIN EXAMINATION 2005

TITLE OF THE PAPER: COMPUTATIONAL PHYSICS-II

COURSE NUMBER : P482

TIME ALLOWED : ***SECTION A: ONE HOUR.***
SECTION B: TWO HOURS.

INSTRUCTIONS:

THERE ARE TWO SECTIONS IN THIS PAPER:

SECTION A : THIS IS WRITTEN PART ON YOUR ANSWER BOOK.
CARRIES A TOTAL OF 30 MARKS.

SECTION B: THIS IS A PRACTICAL PART WHICH YOU WILL
WORK ON A PC AND SUBMIT THE PRINTED
OUTPUT.
CARRIES A TOTAL OF 20 MARKS.

ANSWER **ANY TWO** QUESTIONS FROM **SECTION A** AND
BOTH THE QUESTIONS FROM **SECTION B**.

MARKS FOR EACH QUESTION ARE SHOWN IN THE
RIGHT-HAND MARGIN.

**USE THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE ATTACHED
APPENDIX WHEN NECESSARY.**

THIS PAPER HAS FOUR PAGES, INCLUDING THIS PAGE.

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

SECTION A
(Written Section)

Q.1.

(a) Explain the term random numbers. Why are the random numbers generated on a computer are called as psuedo-random numbers? [5]

(b) What do you understand by random walk ? Give a couple of practical examples where it can be used. [5]

(c) Explain the Monte-Carlo method of integration. What are its advantages ? [5]

Q.2.

(a) Define autocorrelation and show that the autocorrelation of a signal S with noise n will be a signal on a constant background due to noise. [10]

(b) A unit step function is defined as

$$f(t) = -1 \quad t < 0$$

$$= +1 \quad t > 0$$

Show that $f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m+1)} \sin[(2m+1)t]$. [5]

where a_0 is a constant.

Note: You have to use Fourier's series expansion.

Q.3. A liquid of low viscosity, such as water, flows from an inverted conical tank with circular orifice at the rate

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -0.6\pi r^2 \sqrt{-2g} \frac{\sqrt{x}}{A(x)}$$

where r is the radius of the orifice, x is the height of the liquid level from the vertex of the cone, and $A(x)$ is the area of the cross section of the tank x units above the orifice. Initial water level of the tank is 2m .

Given: $r = 0.05$ m, $g = -9.8$ ms⁻² and $A(x) = 0.14 \pi x^2$.

Write a psuedo code to compute the water level after 10 minutes using RK-4th order method with $h=20$ s. [15]

SECTION B
(Practical Section)

Q.4. Consider a two dimensional lattice with 200 lattice points along the x-direction [35] and 200 lattice points along the y-direction forming a set of square lattices. The distance between lattice points is of unit length. The total number of lattice points is 200×200 . Assume that all the lattice points at $(x, y=20)$ and $(x, y=-20)$ for all x have reflecting property. That is if a walker reaches $y=20$ the next step is towards south or if the walker reaches $y=-20$, the next step is towards north. Here we have assumed y-direction to be north-south.

Write a program and execute it to find the displacement of a walker taking 200 steps at random starting from $(x=0, y=0)$.

Use the uniform random number generator available in Maple.

Q.5. The Duffing oscillator differential equation is given by

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + k \frac{dx}{dt} + x^3 = B \cos t \quad \text{where } B = \text{constant} = 5.$$

Assume initial conditions to be at $t=0$, $x(t=0)=0.5$ and $\left. \frac{dx}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = 0$.

(i) Write Maple commands to solve this equation numerically. [10]

(ii) Write an algorithm in pseudo code to find the solution $x(t)$ on the interval $0 \leq t \leq 25$ at 200 points with a precision of 0.01. You may use any one of the algorithms given in the Appendix. Convert your algorithm into a program and execute it. [20]

(iii) Plot the solutions of (i) and (ii) on the same graph. [5]

@@@END OF EXAMINATION@@@

Appendix:

1. Solution of First Order Differential Equation with initial Conditions:

The equation is of the form $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ with the given initial boundary condition $y(x_0) = \alpha$.

(i) Euler's Method:

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h f(x_i, y_i) \quad \text{where } h = x_{i+1} - x_i$$

(ii) Fourth Order RK-Method:

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + (k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)/6$$

where

$$k_1 = h f(x_i, y_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 k_2 &= h f(x_i + 0.5 h, y_i + 0.5 k_1) \\
 k_3 &= h f(x_i + 0.5 h, y_i + 0.5 k_2) \\
 k_4 &= h f(x_i + h, y_i + k_3) \quad \text{and} \quad h = x_{i+1} - x_i
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Useful Integrals in Fourier Series and Fourier Transforms:

(A) Any arbitrary function $f(t)$ can be expressed in terms of Fourier series

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(nt) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(nt)$$

where

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-x}^x f(t) \cos(nt) dt$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-x}^x f(t) \sin(nt) dt$$

For integer values of m and n ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{-x}^x \sin(mt) \sin(nt) dt &= \pi \delta_{mn} \quad m \neq 0 \\
 &= 0 \quad m = n = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{-x}^x \cos(mt) \cos(nt) dt &= \pi \delta_{mn} \quad m \neq 0 \\
 &= 2\pi \quad m = n = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_{-x}^x \sin(mt) \cos(nt) dt = \pi \delta_{mn} \quad \text{all } m \text{ and } n.$$

(B) For integer values of m , n , and N ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} \exp(i 2\pi mn / N) &= N \quad n = 0, \quad i = \sqrt{-1} \\
 &= 0 \quad n \neq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{m=0}^{N-1} \exp(i 2\pi mn / N) \exp(-i 2\pi mk / N) = N \delta_{kn}$$