

**MMAT5520 Differential Equations & Linear Algebra**  
**Final Exam**  
**2 Dec 2014**  
**Time allowed: 120 mins**

Answer all questions.

1. (10 marks) Let  $L[y] = y'' - 2y' - 3y$ .

- (a) Find the general solution of the homogeneous equation  $L[y] = 0$
- (b) Use the method of variation of parameter to find a particular solution to the non-homogeneous equation  $L[y] = 4e^{3t}$ .

2. (10 marks) Let  $L[y] = y''' - 9y'$ .

- (a) Find a fundamental set of solutions to the homogeneous equation  $L[y] = 0$  and write down the Wronskian of the set of solutions.
- (b) Write down an appropriate form of a particular solution (do not solve the equation) to the equation

$$L[y] = 3t^2 - 2te^{-3t} + 5 \cos t$$

3. (10 marks) Find the general solution of the homogeneous system  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$  where

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

4. (15 marks) Let  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  be two  $n \times n$  matrices.

- (a) Suppose  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible. Prove that if  $\mathbf{A}$  is diagonalizable, then  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  is also diagonalizable.
- (b) Suppose  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible. Prove that  $\mathbf{AB}$  and  $\mathbf{BA}$  have the same minimal polynomial.
- (c) Find two  $2 \times 2$  matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  such that  $\mathbf{AB}$  and  $\mathbf{BA}$  have different minimal polynomials.

5. (15 marks) Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 0 & -3 \\ 6 & 2 & 3 \\ 6 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Diagonalize  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- (b) Find the minimal polynomial of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- (c) Express  $\mathbf{A}^4$  and  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  as a polynomial of  $\mathbf{A}$  of smallest degree.
- (d) Find  $\exp(\mathbf{A}t)$ .

6. (15 marks) Let  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{J}$  be the Jordan normal form of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

- (a) Find a generalized eigenvector of rank 3 of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- (b) Find the general solution of the system  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ .
- (c) Find  $\mathbf{J}$  and an invertible matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  such that  $\mathbf{Q}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{J}$ .

7. (15 marks) Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Find the Jordan norm form of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- (b) Find  $\exp(\mathbf{A}t)$ .
- (c) Find a fundamental matrix  $\Psi(t)$  for the homogeneous system  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$  with  $\Psi(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 1 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$
- (d) Find  $\mathbf{A}^{99}$ .

— End of Paper —