



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014 ACADEMIC YEAR

2nd YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS, BA

COURSE CODE/TITLE: SMA 202 EXAMINATION- LINEAR ALGEBRA I

END OF SEMESTER: I

DURATION: 3 HOURS

DAY/TIME: THURSDAY: 8.00 - 11.00AM DATE: 4/12/2013 (S3)

Instructions: Answer question ONE in Section A and any other TWO questions in Section B.

Section A

QUESTION ONE – (40 MARKS)

- a. Define a low reduced echelon matrix (5 marks)

b. Reduce
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 to row reduced echelon form (5 marks)

- c. Determine the solution of the homogenous system $a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0$
 $a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0$ expressing your answer in determinant form (7 marks)

- d. A system of linear equations may have a unique solution, many solutions or no solution. Explain how you would know whether a particular system has any of the above solutions (4 marks)

- e. Explain how you would use the cramer's rule to determine the solution to a system of equations in n variables (6 marks)

- f. Determine the distance between the planes $x + 2y - 2z = 3$ and $2x + 4y - 4z = 7$ (4 marks)
- g. Determine whether the given vectors in \mathfrak{R}^4 are linearly dependent or not
 $(1, 3, -1, 4), (3, 8, -5, 7), (2, 9, 4, 23)$ (4 marks)
- h. Define a vector space and state two examples of vector spaces (5 marks)

Section B

QUESTION TWO – (15 MARKS)

- a. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 & 6 \\ 3 & -6 & 1 \\ -2 & 5 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$. Use the method of the adjoint to find the inverse of A. hence

$$\begin{aligned} 2x - 4y + 6z &= 20 \\ \text{solve the system } 3x - 6y + z &= 22 \\ -2x + 5y - 2z &= -18 \end{aligned} \quad (7 \text{ marks})$$

- b. Let vectors $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m \in \mathfrak{R}^n$ and W be the set of all linear combinations of $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m \in \mathfrak{R}^n$. Prove that W is a subspace of \mathfrak{R}^n (3 marks)
- c. Define a basis of a finite subspace of a vector space V. Determine whether or not $\{(1,1), (2,1)\}$ is a basis of \mathfrak{R}^2 (5 marks)

QUESTION THREE – (15 MARKS)

- a. Show that the lines $r = (3, 5, 7) + m(1, 2, 1)$ and $s = (1, 2, 3) + n(2, 3, 5)$ do not meet. (5 marks)
- b. Write the polynomial $v = t^2 + 4t - 3$ as a linear combination of the polynomials $e_1 = t^2 - 2t + 5, e_2 = 2t^2 - 3t$ and $e_3 = t + 3$ (6 marks)
- c. Find the line of intersection of the planes $3x + 2y - 4z - 6 = 0$ and $x - 3y - 2z - 4 = 0$ (4 marks)

QUESTION FOUR – (15 MARKS)

- a. Show that for any two matrices A and B, $(A - B)(A + B) = A^2 - B^2$ if and only if A and B commute. (5 marks)
- b. Let $x = x_1i + x_2j + x_3k, y = y_1i + y_2j + y_3k$ and $z = z_1i + z_2j + z_3k$ be vectors. Show that
- $$x \cdot (y \times z) = \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ z_1 & z_2 & z_3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (5 \text{ marks})$$
- c. Determine the equation of the plane through the points $A(1,1,1), B(2,0,2)$ and $C(-1,1,2)$ (5 marks)