

1. Solve the following differential equation

$$(x+1)^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - 3(x+1) \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0 \quad (20)$$

with boundary conditions $y(0) = 0$ and $\frac{dy(1)}{dx} = 3$

2. Use Laplace transform to solve the deflection $u(x)$ of a fixed-end beam of length l subjected to a concentrated loading P as shown in the following differential equation

$$EI \frac{d^4 u}{dx^4} = P \delta(x - \frac{l}{3}), \quad 0 \leq x \leq l,$$

with the boundary conditions $u(0) = u(l) = 0$ and $\frac{du(0)}{dx} = \frac{du(l)}{dx} = 0$,

where $\delta(\cdot)$ is the Dirac delta function and the rigidity EI and loading P are constant. (20)

3. Prove that

(a) The eigenvalues of a Hermitian matrix are always real. (10)

(b) The eigenvalues of similar matrices are the same. (10)

4. Calculate the following surface integral

$$I_S = \int_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} dS,$$

where the vector field $\vec{F} = 2z\vec{i} + (x - y - z)\vec{k}$,

\vec{n} denotes the unit outer normal vector of the surface $S: z = x^2 + y^2; x^2 + y^2 \leq 6$, (15)

5. For a wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2}, \quad 0 \leq t, \quad 0 \leq x$$

(a) Show the D'Alembert's solution of the above equation (10)

(b) Solve $\phi(x, t)$ if $\phi(x, 0) = \frac{d\phi(x, 0)}{dt} = 0$ and $\phi(0, t) = [u(t) - u(t-2)](-t^2 + 2t)$

where $u(\cdot)$ denotes the unit step function. (15)