

Follow these instructions carefully:

Work on the paper provided; do not use your own paper. *Work only on one problem on each sheet (you should not work on two different problems on the two sides of the same sheet).* On the top of each page, *print* your name (*encircle your last name*) and indicate the number of the problem you are working on by writing e.g. “*Problem #4*”. Always *encircle* your final answer. If there are several parts to a problem, always indicate the part that you are answering, e.g. by writing “*Answer to Part b*)” (the number of the problem should be on the top of the page). Do not use a *red* pen or a *red* pencil. Do not write in the corner covered up by the staple (top left corner on the front side, top right corner on the back side). Each problem is worth the *same* amount of credit. **Show all your work.**

1.a) Consider the formula

$$\bar{f}(x, h) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x-h)}{2h}$$

to approximate the derivative of a function f . Assume we are able to evaluate f with about 5 decimal precision. Assume, further, that $f'''(1) \approx 1$. What is the best value of h to approximate the derivative?

b) Given a certain function f , we are using the formula

$$\bar{f}(x, h) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x-h)}{2h}$$

to approximate its derivative. We have

$$\bar{f}(1, 0.1) = 5.135, 466, 136 \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{f}(1, 0.2) = 5.657, 177, 752$$

Using Richardson extrapolation, find a better approximation for $f'(1)$.

2.a) The equation $e^x - x^2 - 4 = 0$ has one solution; a good approximation to this solution is 2.16. Find a way to improve this approximation by fixed-point iteration.

b) State the usual sufficient condition for the fixed-point iteration to converge when solving the equation $x = f(x)$.

3. We want to evaluate

$$\int_0^1 e^{x^2} dx$$

using the composite trapezoidal rule with three decimal precision, i.e., with an error not exceeding $5 \cdot 10^{-4}$. What value of n should one use when dividing the interval $[0, 1]$ into n parts?

4.a) Let h and k be numbers, and let $f(x, y)$ be a function that is differentiable sufficiently many times (so all required derivatives exist, and the order of mixed derivatives is interchangeable). Evaluate

$$\left(h \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + k \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)^3 f.$$

In your answer, you may write $f_x, f_{xy}, f_{yy}, \dots$, for the various derivatives of f .

b) Let $f(x, y)$ be a function that is differentiable sufficiently many times. Evaluate

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + f \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)^2 f.$$

5. Consider the differential equation $y' = f(x, y)$ with initial condition $y(x_0) = y_0$. Show that, with $x_1 = x_0 + h$, the solution at x_1 can be obtained with an error $O(h^3)$ by the formula

$$y_1 = y_0 + \frac{h}{4} f(x_0, y_0) + \frac{3h}{4} f\left(x_0 + \frac{2h}{3}, y_0 + \frac{2h}{3} f(x_0, y_0)\right).$$

In other words, this formula describes a Runge-Kutta method of order 2.