

**DSC2606**

May/June 2013

**NONLINEAR MATHEMATICAL PROGRAMMING  
 DEPARTMENT OF DECISION SCIENCES**

Duration 2 Hours

80 Marks

 EXAMINERS  
 FIRST  
 SECOND

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Programmable pocket calculator is permissible

Closed book examination

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This paper consists of 4 pages

ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS

## Question 1

Compound interest arises in a transaction that extends over a period of time when interest due at the end of a payment period is not paid but is added to the principal. Thereafter the interest also earns interest, i.e. it is compounded.

The formula for compound interest is as follows

$$A = P(1 + r)^t \quad \text{and} \quad I = A - P$$

where  $A$  is the amount which accrues when an initial principal of  $P$  is invested at interest rate  $r$  per term for  $t$  terms, and where  $I$  is the compound interest.

- 1.1 For which value(s) of  $t$  is  $A$  a linear function of  $r$ ? (1)
- 1.2 For which value(s) of  $t$  is  $A$  a nonlinear function of  $r$ ? (1)
- 1.3 Determine  $dA/dr$  (1)
- 1.4 Derive an expression for  $t$  in terms of  $A$ ,  $P$  and  $r$  (3)
- 1.5 At what interest rate per annum must money be invested if the accrued principal must treble in ten years? (3)

**[9]**

[TURN OVER]

## Question 2

The total cost  $T(n)$  (in rand) of ordering, purchasing, and storing inventory for a year is given by the cost equation

$$T(n) = \frac{480\,000}{n} + 12n + 146\,400$$

where  $n$  is the order quantity per order

2.1 Prove that the function  $T(n)$  is convex over the interval  $(0, \infty)$  (4)

2.2 Determine the optimal order quantity (Which  $n$  minimises  $T(n)$ )? (2)  
[6]

## Question 3

Determine the optimal solution to the following nonlinear programming (NLP) problem

$$\text{Maximise } f(x) = 1 - e^{-x}$$

$$\text{subject to } 1 \leq x \leq 3$$

Show your reasoning (6)  
[6]

## Question 4

Consider the cubic function  $f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 + 15x + 74$

4.1 Determine the stationary points of the function  $f(x)$  and prove their nature (relative minimum or maximum) by applying the second derivative test (9)

4.2 Determine the inflection point(s) of the function  $f(x)$  (1)

4.3 Determine the interval(s) where the function  $f(x)$  is  
4.3.1 decreasing (3)  
4.3.2 convex (3)

4.4 Calculate  $f(-1)$  and  $f(-3)$ . From this, derive a meaningful starting interval for applying the bisection algorithm in determining a real root of the equation  $f(x) = 0$  (3)

4.5 Estimate an approximate integer value for a zero of  $f(x)$  (1)

4.6 Draw a graph of the function  $f(x)$ . Clearly indicate the relative extrema and the intercepts on both axes (4)  
[21]

## Question 5

Find the point on the parabola  $y = \frac{1}{2}x^2$  that is closest to the point  $(\frac{27}{2}, 1)$  on the Euclidean plane  $(x, y)$  (8)  
[8]

[TURN OVER]

## Question 6

The trapezoidal rule is given by

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{h}{2}[f(a) + f(b)] + h \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} f(x_i),$$

where the interval  $[a, b]$  is divided into  $n$  subintervals  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$  of width  $h = (b - a)/n$ , with  $x_0 = a$  and  $x_n = b$

Estimate the area under the curve

$$f(x) = \sqrt{3x + 1}$$

on the interval  $[1, 5]$  to three decimal places, by applying the trapezoidal rule with  $n = 2$  intervals

By how much does the estimate differ from the actual area? (8)

[8]

## Question 7

Consider the following nonlinear programming (NLP) problem

$$\text{Minimise } f(x, y) = \frac{50}{x} + \frac{20}{y} + xy$$

$$\text{subject to } x \geq 3, y \geq 2$$

7.1 Calculate the objective function value for the point  $(10, 10)$  (1)

7.2 Is the point  $(1, 1)$  a feasible solution to the NLP problem? Substantiate your answer (1)

7.3 The Kuhn-Tucker necessary conditions for this NLP problem are as follows

$$(1) \quad -50x^{-2} + y - \lambda_1 = 0$$

$$(2) \quad -20y^{-2} + x - \lambda_2 = 0$$

$$(3) \quad \lambda_1(-3 - x) = 0$$

$$(4) \quad \lambda_2(-2 - y) = 0$$

$$(5) \quad \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \geq 0$$

Verify whether the point  $(5, 2)$  satisfies

7.3.1 the Kuhn-Tucker necessary conditions

7.3.2 the Kuhn-Tucker sufficient conditions

What conclusion about optimality can you draw from this? (7)

[9]

[TURN OVER]

## Question 8

Use the method of Lagrange multipliers to solve the following nonlinear programming (NLP) problem

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Minimise } f(x, y) &= 2x^2 + 3y^2 + x - 9y + 16 \\ \text{subject to } x + y &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

(13)

**[13]****TOTAL: 80**