



**THE CO-OPERATIVE UNIVERSITY OF KENYA**  
**SPECIAL / SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION OCTOBER -2022**  
**EXAMINATION FOR BACHELORS OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE, INFORMATION**  
**TECHNOLOGY**  
**UNIT CODE: BCSC 2207**  
**UNIT TITLE: SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING**

**DATE: FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2022**

**TIME: 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer question **ONE (compulsory)** and any other **TWO** questions

**QUESTION ONE**

**a)** Distinguish between the following terms as used in Scientific Computing: **(4 Marks)**

i) Function and Script

ii) Vector and Scalar

**b)** A vector is defined by:  $\mathbf{v} = \text{linspace}(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{p})$ . State what element  $\mathbf{p}$  in the vector denote. **(2 Marks)**

**c)** Given that  $\gg \mathbf{A} = [1 \ 2; 3 \ 4]; \mathbf{B} = [5 \ 6; 7 \ 8]$ ; What would be the value of function  $\gg \text{twosum}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B})$ ? **(3 Marks)**

**d)** A MATLAB command extract is as shown below:

$\gg a=3;$

$\gg b=[1, 2, 3; 4, 5, 6];$

$\gg c = b / a$

Write the expected output of the script. **(3 Marks)**

**e)** You are creating a plot in matlab and after defining your matrix  $\gg B = [1:4; \text{linspace}(1,4,5)]$  the plot returns below error:

*??? Error using ==> vertcat*

*CAT arguments dimensions are not consistent.*

- i) State the problem that caused the error identified above. **(2 Marks)**
- ii) Suggest a solution for the problem stated in (i) above. **(2 Marks)**
- f) Write the anonymous function called fun for the following integral:  $\int(\square) = \frac{\square}{\square-1} - 1$  **(3 Marks)**
- g) i) Define the term System objects. **(1 Mark)**
- ii) Explain the general structure of a system object in Matlab language **(4 Marks)**
- h) Outline three properties of basic function m-files. **(6 Marks)**

## QUESTION TWO

- a) Differentiate between dynamic and static system modelling **(4 Marks)**
- b) Explain the general structure of a matlab function. **(4 Marks)**
- c) i) Write a Matlab function that takes six numbers and returns the maximum of the numbers. **(5 Marks)**
- ii) By using six random numbers, show how you would call the function in i) above. **(2 Marks)**
- d) A Matlab bar graph is represented by image below:

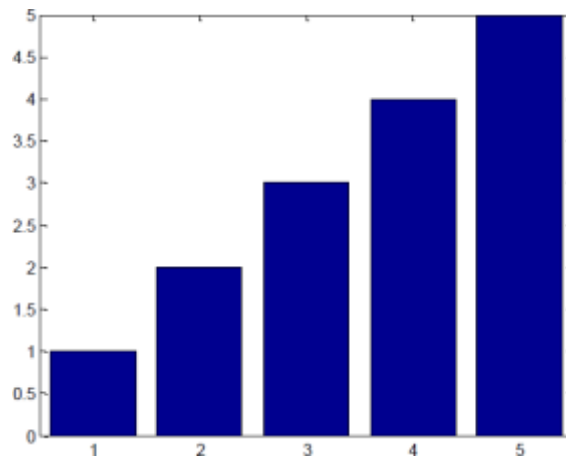


Figure 1: bar graph

- Write a Matlab expressions that would create the graph shown in figure 1 above. **(5 Marks)**

## QUESTION THREE

- a) An m-file can contain more than one function. Differentiate between the **main function**, a **local function** and an **anonymous function**. (6 Marks)
- b) (i) Write a user-defined MATLAB function that determines the area of a triangle when the lengths of the sides are given. For the function name and arguments use  $[Area] = \text{triangle}(a,b,c)$ . (4 Marks)
- (ii) Use the function you have written in (i) to determine the areas of triangles with the following sides:
- a.  $a = 3, b = 8, c = 10$ . (2 Marks)
- b.  $a = 7, b = 7, c = 5$ . (2 Marks)
- c) With the aid of diagrams, differentiate between Stem, Plot and Stairs functions. (6 Marks)

#### QUESTION FOUR

- a) Given that linear matrix M2 is:  $M2 = [1,2,3;4,5,6;7,8,9]$ , What would be the resultant vector **Vec** given by:  $\text{Vec} = M2(2:2, 1:3)$ ? (2 Marks)
- b) A system is made of linear equations:

$$2\alpha + 8\beta + \gamma + 3\delta = 100$$

$$\alpha + \beta + 9\gamma + 7\delta = 143$$

$$4\alpha + 9\beta + \gamma + 5\delta = 111$$

$$4\alpha + 8\beta + 8\gamma + 2\delta = 264$$

By use of linear decomposition, show that  $X = \text{Inv}(A) * B$  where  $X = \alpha; \beta; \gamma; \delta$  and A and B are matrices.

(5 Marks)

- c) Given the mathematical expression:  $f(x) = -0.2x^4 + x^{-0.5}x^3 + 7x^2$ , where the input to the function is  $x$  and the output is  $y$ ,
- i) Write a Matlab function such that  $x$  can be a vector (use element-by-element operations). (5 Marks)
- ii) Use the function to calculate  $y(-2.5)$ , and  $y(3)$ . (4 Marks)
- iii) Use the function to make a plot of the function  $y(x)$  for  $-3 \leq x \leq 4$ . (4 Marks)

#### QUESTION FIVE

- a) Given that function  $f(x) = x^3 - 1$ , where vector is  $[-4:2]$ .
- i) How would you plot this parabolic function using Matlab or Octave? Format the line to red color and dashed line style. (3 Marks)

- i Show how you would label the X and Y axis as "Horizontal axis" and "Vertical axis" respectively? **(2 Marks)**
- ii How you would plot a second function in same current graph without replacing the first graph? **(2 Marks)**

b) You have been asked to give 2D plots for these two equations in one graph using inbuilt 2D functions in Matlab:

$$y_1 = \cos(x)$$

$$y_2 = x^2 - 1$$

Considering  $x = -1:1.5$ , give a matlab function steps of how you would plot these. The  $y_1$  should be blue and  $y_2$  red in colour. **(5 Marks)**

c) Solve the following system of linear first-order differential equations using *dsolve*

- i  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 9x + 5y,$  **(4 Marks)**

- ii  $\frac{dy}{dt} = -7x + 2y$  **(4 Marks)**