

Here are some sample questions from old tests. Some topics that we covered are not represented by these questions, but are still fair game.

1. Your friend has a data set represented by vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  and is considering using a polynomial interpolation, a spline interpolation, or a least squares approximation.
  - (a) For polynomial interpolation, explain to them:
    - what it is,
    - how you get it in MATLAB, and
    - in what situations it is better than the other methods.
  - (b) Do the same for spline interpolation.
  - (c) Do the same for least squares approximation.
2. Estimate the integral  $\int_{-1}^3 x^2 dx$  using  $L_4$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $T_4$  and  $S_4$ . Calculate the exact value and the errors of each of the approximations.
3. Approximate the integral  $\int_0^\pi \sin x dx$  using  $M_4$  and  $S_4$ . Which do you expect to be more accurate?
4. Write a MATLAB **function** program to do the Trapezoid Rule for integration of a function given by data. Let the inputs be vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ , representing a list of points  $(x_i, y_i) = (x_i, f(x_i))$ . Assume  $x_i < x_{i+1}$  but do not assume the  $x$  values are evenly spaced. Include many comments.
5. Write a MATLAB **function** program to do the midpoint method for integration. Let the inputs be the function  $f$ , the endpoints  $a$ ,  $b$  and the number of subintervals  $n$ .
6. Write a MATLAB **function** program to do the trapezoid method for integration. Let the inputs be the function  $f$ , the endpoints  $a$ ,  $b$  and the number of subintervals  $n$ .
7. Write a MATLAB **function** program to do the four-corners method for integration of a function  $f(x, y)$  on a rectangle  $a \leq x \leq b$ ,  $c \leq y \leq d$  using  $m$  subintervals in  $x$  and  $n$  subintervals in  $y$ . Let the inputs be  $(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})$ . Include many comments.
8. Describe and give formulas for 2 methods to approximate double integrals based on triangles.
9. For the function  $f(x) = x^2$  you need to find  $f'(5)$ , but you can't remember whether  $f'(x) = 2x$  or  $f'(x) = x^3/3$ . You remember that

$$f'(5) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(5+h) - f(5)}{h},$$

so you try:

```
> h=10^(-50)
> ((5+h)^2-5^2)/h
```

which gives the result: `ans = 0`. Is this the correct answer? Explain what happened and why.

10. Write a MATLAB **function** program to do the center-point method for integration of a function  $f(x, y)$  on a rectangle  $a \leq x \leq b$ ,  $c \leq y \leq d$  using  $m$  subintervals in  $x$  and  $n$  subintervals in  $y$ . Let the inputs be  $(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})$ . Include comments.
11. Explain what would happen if you ran the following MATLAB commands:
 

```
> format long
> for i=1:30
>     x=10^i*pi
>     mypi=x-10^i
>     error=(pi-mypi)/pi
> end
```