

# CONTENTS

Introduction xi

1	Functions and coordinate systems	17
	1.1 Survey of common functions of continuous variables	17
	1.2 Exploring coordinate systems and their utility	27
	A <sub>1</sub> End-of-chapter problems	34
2	Complex numbers and logarithms	37
	2.1 Complex numbers and the complex plane	37
	2.2 Special properties of logarithms	43
	A <sub>2</sub> Visualizing complex functions of complex variables	47
	B <sub>2</sub> Application of logarithms and the logarithmic scale	48
	C <sub>2</sub> Logarithms and Stirling's approximation	49
	D <sub>2</sub> Connecting complex numbers and logarithms	51
	E <sub>2</sub> End-of-chapter problems	52
3	Differentiation in one and many dimensions	55
	3.1 Differentiating functions of one variable	55
	3.2 Partial derivatives of functions of many variables	63
	3.3 Infinitesimal change and the total differential	66
	A <sub>3</sub> Euler's theorem for homogeneous functions	71
	B <sub>3</sub> Geometric interpretation of the total differential	72
	C <sub>3</sub> End-of-chapter problems	74
4	Scalars, vectors, and vector algebra	79
	4.1 Fundamental properties of scalars and vectors	79
	4.2 Multiplication of vectors	84
	A <sub>4</sub> Building orthogonal vectors using Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization	91
	B <sub>4</sub> End-of-chapter problems	93
5	Scalar and vector operators	97
	5.1 Scalar operators	97
	5.2 Vector operators and the gradient and divergence	101
	A <sub>5</sub> The force and the potential energy	109
	B <sub>5</sub> A survey of potential energy landscapes	110
	C <sub>5</sub> Explicit forms of vector operations	112
	D <sub>5</sub> Deriving explicit forms for vector operations	116
	E <sub>5</sub> End-of-chapter problems	125
6	Extremizing functions of many variables	129
	6.1 Extremizing functions of one and many variables	129
	6.2 The method of Lagrange undetermined multipliers	133
	A <sub>6</sub> Variational calculation of the energy of a one-electron atom	137
	B <sub>6</sub> Extremizing the multiplicity subject to constraints	139
	C <sub>6</sub> End-of-chapter problems	141

7	Integration in one and many dimensions	145
7.1	Integrating functions of one variable	145
7.2	Integrating functions of many variables	158
A <sub>7</sub>	An alternative to integration by parts for exponential integrals	165
B <sub>7</sub>	Evaluating the definite integral of a gaussian function	166
C <sub>7</sub>	An alternative to integration by parts for gaussian integrals	167
D <sub>7</sub>	Properties of delta functions	168
E <sub>7</sub>	End-of-chapter problems	171
8	Sequences, series, and expansions	177
8.1	Series, convergence, and limits	177
8.2	Power series	181
8.3	Expanding functions as Maclaurin and Taylor series	184
A <sub>8</sub>	Taylor series expansions of potential energy functions	191
B <sub>8</sub>	Useful approximations to functions based on power series	193
C <sub>8</sub>	Self-similarity and fractal structures	196
D <sub>8</sub>	End-of-chapter problems	199
9	Fundamentals of probability and statistics	207
9.1	Probability distributions of discrete variables	207
9.2	Probability distributions of continuous variables	216
9.3	Probability distributions in the physical sciences	226
A <sub>9</sub>	Connecting the gaussian and binomial probability distributions	232
B <sub>9</sub>	Uniform distributions of independent random variables	233
C <sub>9</sub>	Gaussian distributions of independent random variables	235
D <sub>9</sub>	Three definitions of Pythagorean means	236
E <sub>9</sub>	Propagation of error through total differentials and Taylor series	237
F <sub>9</sub>	End-of-chapter problems	240
10	Ordinary differential equations	245
10.1	First order ordinary differential equations	245
10.2	Applications of first order differential equations	250
A <sub>10</sub>	Functions derived from exact differentials and integrating factors	257
B <sub>10</sub>	End-of-chapter problems	259
11	More ordinary differential equations	263
11.1	Second order ordinary differential equations	263
11.2	Applications of second order differential equations	267
11.3	Power series solutions to differential equations	273
A <sub>11</sub>	Quantum theory of a particle in a box	279
B <sub>11</sub>	Classical theory of motion of a harmonic oscillator	281
C <sub>11</sub>	Classical theory of a damped harmonic oscillator	284
D <sub>11</sub>	Power series solutions to special equations in quantum theory	288
E <sub>11</sub>	End-of-chapter problems	297

12	Partial differential equations	303
	12.1 The classical heat equation	303
	12.2 The classical diffusion equation	307
	12.3 The classical wave equation	313
	A <sub>12</sub> Survey of partial differential equations in the physical sciences	320
	B <sub>12</sub> End-of-chapter problems	324
13	Fourier series, Fourier transforms, and harmonic analysis	329
	13.1 Fourier series	329
	13.2 Fourier transforms	350
	A <sub>13</sub> Orthogonal vectors and orthogonal functions	362
	B <sub>13</sub> Building orthogonal polynomials using Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization	369
	C <sub>13</sub> Deriving Fourier integral transforms from complex Fourier series	373
	D <sub>13</sub> End-of-chapter problems	375
14	Matrices and matrix algebra	383
	14.1 Vectors, matrices, and determinants	383
	14.2 Basic properties of matrix algebra	392
	14.3 Solving coupled linear equations using Cramer's rule	406
	A <sub>14</sub> Applications of determinants in Hückel theory	410
	B <sub>14</sub> Solving coupled linear equations using Gaussian elimination	411
	C <sub>14</sub> Finding the matrix inverse using Gauss-Jordan elimination	414
	D <sub>14</sub> End-of-chapter problems	417
15	Eigenvalues and eigenvectors	425
	15.1 Matrix eigenvalues and eigenvectors	425
	15.2 Matrix methods for coupled differential equations	432
	15.3 Scalar operators and eigenfunctions	443
	A <sub>15</sub> End-of-chapter problems	446
16	Geometric transforms and molecular symmetry	457
	16.1 Eigenvectors, geometric transforms, and symmetry	457
	16.2 Matrix transformations and molecular symmetry	464
	16.3 Point groups and the symmetry decision tree	471
	A <sub>16</sub> End-of-chapter problems	480
	Supplements	487
	S <sub>1</sub> Notes on notation	487
	S <sub>2</sub> Formulas from geometry	489
	S <sub>3</sub> Formulas from trigonometry	491
	S <sub>4</sub> Table of power series	493
	S <sub>5</sub> Table of definite integrals	494
	S <sub>6</sub> Table of indefinite integrals	495
	S <sub>7</sub> Error function table	502
	S <sub>8</sub> Complementary error function table	503
	S <sub>9</sub> Table of Fourier transform pairs	504
	S <sub>10</sub> Answers to end-of-chapter problems	506
	Bibliography	531
	Index	533
	Colophon	537