Math 2350 Applied Linear Algebra and Differential Equations

Syllabus – Fall 2025

Instructor

Prof. J. R. Chasnov

Rm. 3456; Phone 2358 7448; machas@ust.hk

Office hours: by appointment

Lectures

L1: Mon, 4:30pm-5:50pm, Fri 12:00noon-1:20pm

L2: Tues, Thurs, 9:00am-10:20am

Teaching Assistants and Tutorials

T1a: Mon 13:30-14:20 2406 (Cao, Junzhe/jcaobb)

T1b: Thur 9:30-10:20 4504 (Cao, Junzhe/jcaobb)

T1c: Wed 12:30-13:20 1527 (Guo, Wenzhi/wguoal)

T2a: Thur 18:00-18:50 1527 (Guo, Wenzhi/wguoal)

T2b: Mon 15:00-15:50 2504 (Xi, Xiaozhe/xxiab)

T2c: Wed 16:30-17:20 2503 (Xi, Xiaozhe/xxiab)

Course Description

Credits: 3 units; Topic: Linear algebra and differential equations

Exclusions: MATH 2111, MATH 2121, MATH 2131, MATH 2351, MATH 2352

Prerequisites: AL Pure Mathematics/AL Applied Mathematics; or MATH 1014; or MATH 1018; or MATH 1020; or MATH 1024

Student Learning Resources

Course Lecture Notes can be obtained as a pdf file:

https://www.math.hkust.edu.hk/~machas/applied-linear-algebra-and-differential-equations.pdf

Textbooks (for reference): Linear Algebra and its Applications by David Lay; Elementary Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems by Boyce & DiPrima.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should

1. Develop an understanding of the core ideas and concepts of linear algebra and ordinary differential equations;
2. Recognize the power of abstraction and generalization, carry out mathematical work with independent judgement;
3. Apply rigorous, analytical and numeric approach to analyze and solve problems using concepts of linear algebra and differential equations;
4. Demonstrate skills in reading, interpreting and communicating mathematical content which are integrated into other disciplines or appear in everyday life;
5. Develop the mathematical maturity to undertake higher level studies in mathematically related fields.

Assessment Scheme	Assessing Course ILOs
Worksheets: 10%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Midterm: 40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Final: 50%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Math 2350 – Fall 2025

Week 1:
0.14 Course introduction; complex numbers
Week 2:
1.1-1.8 Matrices, transposes, inverses, rotations, permutations
Week 3:
2.1-2.5 Gaussian elimination, reduced row echelon form, inverses, LU decomposition
Week 4:
3.1-3.4 Vector and inner-product spaces
Week 5:
3.5-3.7 Four fundamental vector spaces of a matrix, Gram-Schmidt
Week 6:
3.9-3.10, 4.1-4.4 Least squares, determinants, Cramer's rule
Week 7*:*
5.1-5.3 Eigenvalues and eigenvectors, diagonalization
Week 8
6.1, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 Introduction to odes, Euler method, separable equations, linear equations
Week 9 (Midterm)
7.4, 8.1- 8.3 Applications, Euler method 2D, superposition, Wronskian
Week 10
8.4-8.6 Homogeneous odes, difference equations, inhomogeneous odes
Week 11
8.8-8.9 Inhomogeneous odes, resonance, applications, damped resonance
Week 12
9, 10.1-10.4 Series solutions, systems of first-order linear odes
Week 13
10.5 Normal modes, Final exam review