

**MA/PHY506 Fall 2018**  
**Problem Set 5**  
**DUE: Monday, 15 October 2018**

1. Find the most general solution to the nonhomogeneous ODE:

$$y'' + 2y' + y = 2x.$$

2. Apply the Gram-Schmidt method to the functions  $f_0(t) = 1, f_1(t) = t, f_2(t) = t^2$  on the interval  $[-1, 1]$  in order to obtain an orthonormal set of functions. The inner product is

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 f(t)g(t) dt.$$

Compare these with the first three Legendre polynomials in the text.

3. What is the dimension of the subspace of  $R^3$  spanned by the vectors:  $(2, 1, -1), (3, 2, 1), (1, 0, -3)$ ? What is a general condition so that  $n$ -vectors in  $R^n$  are linearly independent?
4. Let  $\{v_j \mid j = 1, \dots, K\}$  be a finite orthonormal set in an inner product space  $V$ . For any vector  $v \in V$ , show that

$$\sum_{j=1}^K |(v, v_j)|^2 \leq \|v\|^2.$$

This is called Bessel's inequality.

5. Let  $\phi_j$  be an orthonormal basis of the Hilbert space  $L^2([a, b])$ . For any  $f \in L^2([a, b])$ , the mean square (MS) error between  $f$  and the finite series approximation  $S_N(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N c_j \phi_j(x)$  is defined by

$$MS_N(f; \{c_j\}) \equiv \int_a^b |f(x) - S_N(x)|^2 dx.$$

Assume that  $f$ , the coefficients  $c_j$ , and the basis functions  $\phi_j$  are all real (for simplicity). Show that  $MS(f; \{c_j\})$  is minimized with the choice  $c_j = \int_a^b \phi_j(x)f(x) dx$ , the expansion coefficients of  $f$  relative to the orthonormal basis  $\phi_j$ .