

## Some Additional Information in Using WebAssign for MA 265 (updated Fall 2011)

1. All the questions which require numerical answers allow 100 chances. For multiple choice questions, they allow 2, 3, or more chances, depending on the number of choices given. For true/false questions, of course only one chance is allowed.
2. There are several ways WebAssign can ask you to enter the entries of a matrix. One is that entry boxes (arranged in an array fashion) are already provided. In this case, you can simply enter the numbers into the entries.

But sometimes, the dimensions of the matrix provided are not quite correct and hence need to be changed. When this happens,

- (a) you can change (increase or decrease) the dimensions by clicking the arrows provided to the right and bottom of the array of entry boxes.
  - (b) in case you do not want to do (a) but the actual dimensions of the matrix provided in the screen (e.g.  $3 \times 3$ ) is *bigger than* the answer (e.g.  $2 \times 3$ ), then DO NOT enter numbers in the fictitious entries.
3. The second way you will be asked to enter a matrix is by actually typing in all the numbers by hand. In this case, the format is the following. To enter an  $m \times n$  matrix, use:

$$[[\text{row-1}], [\text{row-2}], \dots, [\text{row-m}]]$$

where **row-i** is the i-th row of the matrix, listed as a comma-separated list. For example, to enter the  $2 \times 3$  matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

then type: `[[1,2,3], [4,5,6]]`

4. When typing functions such as sin, cos and so forth, use *small letters only*. Or you can also use the math palette provided. In addition, small and capital letter variables  $\Pi$  (**Pi**),  $\pi$  (**pi**),  $\Phi$  (**Phi**),  $\phi$  (**phi**),  $\Theta$  (**Theta**),  $\theta$  (**theta**), etc are *different*.
5. The space of *row vectors* is denoted by  $R_n$ ; the space of *column vectors* is denoted by  $R^n$ .
6. As a rule of thumb, when entering your answers **ALWAYS USE EXACT EXPRESSIONS (NO APPROXIMATIONS FROM CALCULATORS) UNLESS TOLD OTHERWISE BY THE QUESTIONS**. They all can be entered by typing in your answers or utilizing the math palette. If approximations need to be used or are asked, then enter at least 4 decimal places or 4 significant numbers.
7. When entering answers involving complex numbers such as  $3 + 8i$ , enter **3+8\*i**. (WebAssign is moving toward accepting simply **3+8i** but the upgrade is not yet complete.)