

**MATH 219: MULTIVARIABLE CALCULUS (SECTION 4)**  
**SPRING 2024**

Midterm Exam #1 (Total Points: 100)

Name: Solutions

(1) (a) (15 pts) Let  $L$  be the line in 3-space that's parametrized by  $\vec{x}(t) = (-7t - 2, -3 - t, 5t)$ . Find an equation of the plane that contains  $L$  and the point  $(1, 1, 5)$ .

(b) (5 pts) What is a parametrization of this plane?

(1a) Need a pt on the plane & 2 vectors  $\perp$  to the plane.

Take pt to be  $(1, 1, 5)$ .

We can find a normal vector by taking 2 vectors on the plane & computing their cross product.

2 pts on line  $L$ :

•  $t=0 \Rightarrow (-2, -3, 0) \leftarrow P_0$

•  $t=1 \Rightarrow (-9, -4, 5) \leftarrow P_1$

2 vectors on plane:

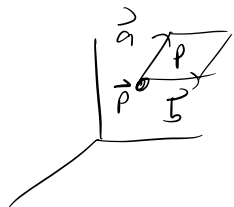
•  $\vec{P}_0 - (1, 1, 5) = (-3, -4, -5)$

•  $\vec{P}_1 - (1, 1, 5) = (-10, -5, 0)$

$$(-3, -4, -5) \times (-10, -5, 0) = (-25, 50, -25)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Equation of plane: } -25(x-1) + 50(y-1) - 25(z-5) = 0.$$

(1b)



Plane  $P$  has parametrization:

$$\vec{x}(s, t) = \vec{p} + s\vec{a} + t\vec{b}.$$

$\Rightarrow$  Our plane can be parametrized by:

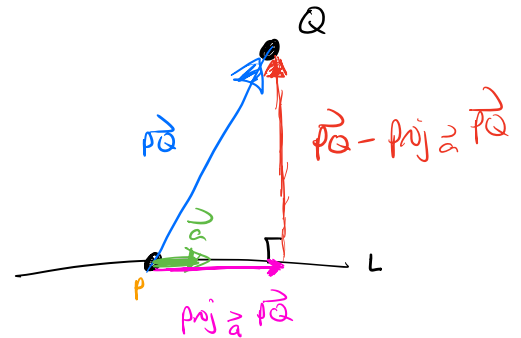
$$\vec{x}(s, t) = (1, 1, 5) + s(-3, -4, -5) + t(-10, -5, 0)$$

- (2) (15 pts) Let  $L$  be the line in 3-space that's parametrized by  $\vec{x}(t) = (2t - 5, 3 - t, 4)$ . What is the distance between  $L$  and the point  $(1, -2, 3)$ ?

Call this pt  $Q$

Schematic picture:

$$\vec{x}(t) = \underbrace{(-5, 3, 4)}_{\text{pt } P} + t \underbrace{(2, -1, 0)}_{\substack{\text{the direction} \\ \text{vector for} \\ \text{line } L \\ (\text{call it } \vec{a})}}$$



The distance we're looking for is  $\| \vec{PQ} - \text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{PQ} \|$ .

$$\vec{PQ} = (1, -2, 3) - (-5, 3, 4) = (6, -5, -1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{PQ} &= \left( \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{PQ}}{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}} \right) \vec{a} \\ &= \left( \frac{17}{5} \right) (2, -1, 0) = \left( \frac{34}{5}, -\frac{17}{5}, 0 \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \| \vec{PQ} - \text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{PQ} \| = \left\| \left( -\frac{4}{5}, \frac{8}{5}, -1 \right) \right\|$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{16}{25} + \frac{64}{25} + \frac{25}{25}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{105}{25}}$$

(3) In this problem,  $\vec{a} = \overrightarrow{(1, 2, 3)}$ ,  $\vec{b} = \overrightarrow{(-1, 1, 2)}$ , and  $\vec{c} = \overrightarrow{(2, 1, 4)}$ .

(a) (5 pts) Compute the area of the parallelogram whose edge vectors are  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

(b) (5 pts) Find the volume of the parallelepiped whose edge vectors are  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ , and  $\vec{c}$ .

(c) (5 pts) Does the ordering:

- 1.  $\vec{a}$
- 2.  $\vec{b}$
- 3.  $\vec{c}$

satisfy the right-hand rule? Why or why not?

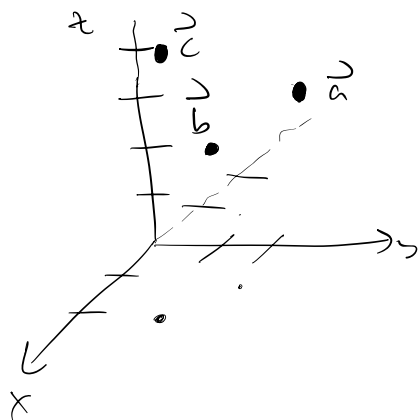
$$\textcircled{3a} \quad \text{Area} = \|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}\|$$

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \overrightarrow{(1, -5, 3)} \Rightarrow \|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}\| = \sqrt{35}.$$

$$\textcircled{3b} \quad \text{Volume} = |(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c}| =$$

$$= |\overrightarrow{(1, -5, 3)} \cdot \overrightarrow{(2, 1, 4)}| = \textcircled{9}.$$

$\textcircled{3c}$



Yes bc if you point  
your right fingers (minus thumb)  
in the direction of  $\vec{a}$  &  
curl your fingers towards  
 $\vec{b}$ , your thumb pts towards  $\vec{c}$ .

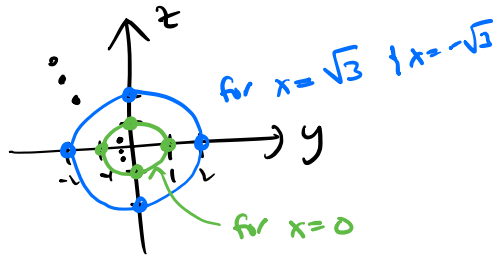
Another way to see this: Form the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{a} & \vec{b} & \vec{c} \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

It has positive determinant (it's 9), so  $\vec{a}$ , followed by  $\vec{b}$ , then  $\vec{c}$ , is in right-hand order.

(4) (a) (10 pts) Sketch a graph of the surface  $y^2 + z^2 - x^2 = 1$  using the level curves and contour curves approach. Label one of the level curves and one of the contour curves.

(b) (5 pts) Suppose we stretch this surface by a factor of 3 in the  $y$ -direction. We get a new surface; find an equation for this new surface.

(a) level curves:

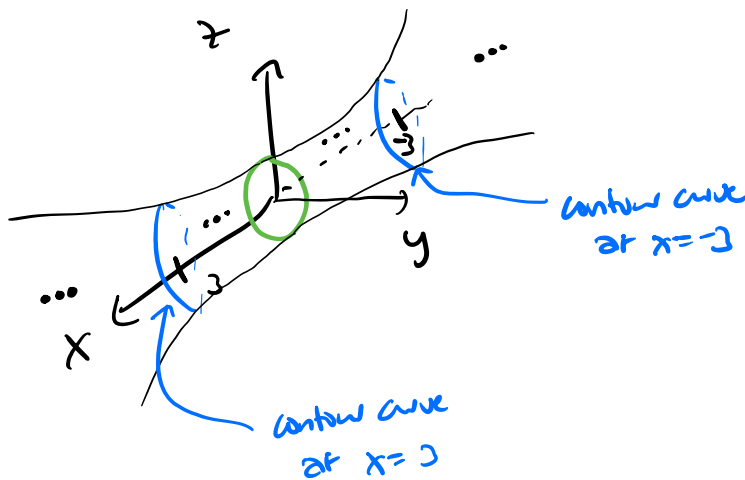


$$y^2 + z^2 - (\sqrt{3})^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y^2 + z^2 = 4$$

$$y^2 + z^2 - (-\sqrt{3})^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y^2 + z^2 = 4$$

$$y^2 + z^2 - (0)^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y^2 + z^2 = 1$$

graph:



(b)  $(\frac{1}{3}y)^2 + z^2 - x^2 = 1$  or  $\frac{y^2}{9} + z^2 - x^2 = 1$

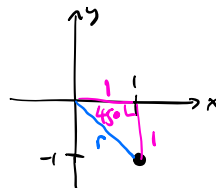
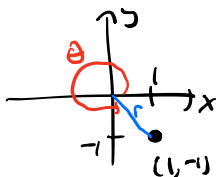
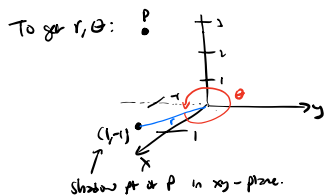
Note: We're using a coefficient of  $\frac{1}{3}$  instead of 3, b/c

then the pt  $(0, 3, 0)$  is on the graph &  $(0, \frac{1}{3}, 0)$  is what you get when you stretch the pt  $(0, 1, 0)$  out by a factor of 3.

(5) (a) (15 pts) Let  $P$  be the point in 3-space with rectangular coordinates  $(1, -1, \sqrt{6})$ . Write down cylindrical and spherical coordinates for  $P$ . You might find it helpful to recall that  $\frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{8}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ .

(b) (10 pts) Let  $f(x, y) = \frac{\cos(3x)}{e^{2y}}$  and  $a = (\frac{\pi}{3}, -1)$ . Find the gradient vector  $\nabla f(a)$ .

5a) cylindrical coordinates:  $(r, \theta, z)$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $\sqrt{6}$

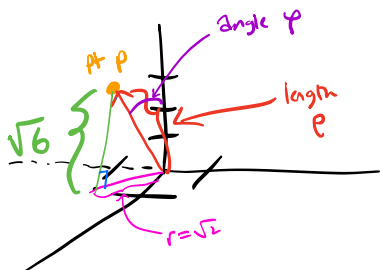


$$\Rightarrow r = \sqrt{2} \quad \& \quad \theta = 360^\circ - 45^\circ = 315^\circ$$

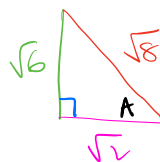
pt  $P$  in cylindrical coordinate is  $(\sqrt{2}, 315^\circ, \sqrt{6})$ .

5b) Spherical coordinates  $(\rho, \varphi, \theta)$ :  
 $\uparrow$   
 $315^\circ$

To get  $\rho$  &  $\varphi$ :



$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \rho^2 &= (\sqrt{2})^2 + (\sqrt{6})^2 \\ &= 8 \\ \Rightarrow \rho &= \sqrt{8} \end{aligned}$$



$$\sin A = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{8}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow A = 60^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi = 90^\circ - A = 30^\circ$$

pt  $P$  in spherical coordinates is  $(\sqrt{8}, 30^\circ, 315^\circ)$

$$5b) \nabla f = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \left( \frac{-3 \sin(3x)}{e^{2y}}, \omega(3x) \cdot (-2e^{-2y}) \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla f\left(\frac{\pi}{3}, -1\right) = \left( \frac{-3 \sin\left(3 \cdot \frac{\pi}{3}\right)}{e^{2(-1)}}, \omega\left(3 \cdot \frac{\pi}{3}\right) \cdot (-2e^{-2(-1)}) \right)$$

$$= (0, 2e^2)$$

(6) (10 pts) Below are some level curves for a function  $z = f(x, y)$ .

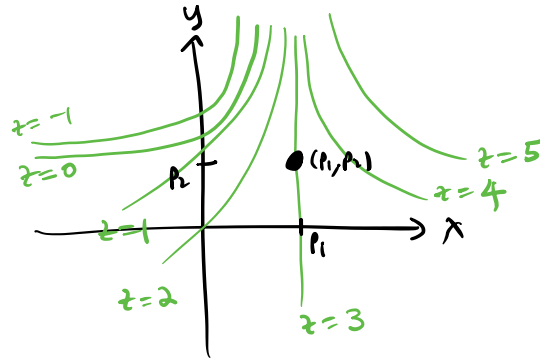


FIGURE 1.

Assume that the partial derivatives  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  exist. Also assume that the level curves not drawn occur at values of  $z$  that are strictly between those that are drawn and that segments that look vertical are actually vertical. Now consider the point  $(p_1, p_2)$  above.

- Is  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(p_1, p_2)$  positive, negative, or 0? Why?
- Is  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(p_1, p_2)$  positive, negative, or 0? Why?

Let  $a$  be a small  $\rightarrow > 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(p_1, p_2) \text{ is approximately } & \frac{f(p_1 + a, p_2) - f(p_1, p_2)}{(p_1 + a) - p_1} \\ & = \frac{f(p_1 + a, p_2) - f(p_1, p_2)}{a} > 0 \\ & > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(p_1, p_2) \text{ is approximately } & \frac{f(p_1, p_2 + a) - f(p_1, p_2)}{(p_2 + a) - p_2} \\ & = \frac{f(p_1, p_2 + a) - f(p_1, p_2)}{a} \\ & = \frac{0}{a} = 0. \end{aligned}$$