

To all 323 students:

The following are two old midterm exams (titled “Sample 1” & “Sample 3”) that were given for Math 323 Exam 1. Please ignore the following problems from these exams:

-First Test “Sample 1”: #3, #6, #8

-Second Test “Sample 3”: #4, #5, #6(c), #7(a), #8(a)

The problems above involve topics which will not be covered on your test.

## Math 323 Midterm Examination 1, Sample 1

**Problem 1.** The line  $L$  is given by the equation  $(x, y, z) = (2+t, 1-t, 3t)$ , and the plane  $X$  is given by the equation  $2x+3y+z = 11$ . Find the following:

- a) the point at which  $L$  intersects  $X$ .
- b) the equation of the plane that contains  $L$  and is perpendicular to  $X$ .

**Problem 2.** Find all points on the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2t, t^2, t^3 \rangle$ , where the tangent line is parallel to the plane

$$-6x + 3y + 2z = 15.$$

**Problem 3.** Find the curvature at the point  $(0, 0, 1)$  of the curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2, e^t \rangle .$$

**Problem 4.** Find all moments  $t$ , when the acceleration vector is perpendicular to the velocity vector for

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t^2, \ln t, 2t + 1 \rangle$$

**Problem 5.** a) Draw the parametric curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle \cos t, \sin t, t \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 4\pi$$

b) Find its length.

**Problem 6.** Find the unit normal vector and the unit binormal vector at the point  $(1, \frac{2}{3}, 3)$  for the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle t^2, \frac{2}{3}t^3, t + 2 \rangle$ .

**Problem 7.** Find the equations of the parallel planes that contain the skew lines  $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{CD}$ , where

$$A = (1, 0, 2), B = (2, 3, -1), C = (2, 4, 0), D = (3, 4, 1)$$

**Problem 8.** Find the normal and the tangential components of the acceleration for the curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t + 1, t^2 - 1, t^3 \rangle$$

at the point  $(3, 3, 8)$ .

**Math 323 Midterm Examination 1, Sample 3**

**Problem 1.** Find the equation of the plane containing the points  $A = (1, 2, 3)$ ,  $B = (2, 0, 1)$ , and  $C = (3, 2, 1)$ .

**Problem 2.** a) Find the center and the radius of the sphere

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 4x + 6z = 4$$

b) Draw this sphere in the coordinates.

**Problem 3.** For the vectors  $\vec{u} = \langle 2, 1, 4 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle 3, 0, 1 \rangle$  find

a)  $\text{comp}_{\vec{u}}\vec{v}$

b)  $\text{proj}_{\vec{u}}\vec{v}$

**Problem 4.** Find the distance between the  $x$ -axis and the tangent line to the curve  $(x, y, z) = (2t - 1, t^2 + 1, t^3)$  at the point  $(1, 2, 1)$

**Problem 5.** Find all points on the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2t^2, t^3 + 3t, t^2 + 1 \rangle$  where the curvature is zero.

**Problem 6.** a) Set up the integral for the length of the curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2, t^3 \rangle$$

between the point  $(1, 1, 1)$  and the point  $(-1, 1, -1)$ .

b) Find the unit tangent vector at the point  $(-1, 1, -1)$ .

c) Find the normal and tangential components of the acceleration at the point  $(-1, 1, -1)$ .



**Problem 7.** a) Reparametrize the curve

$$(x, y, z) = (\sin t, \cos t, \tan t), \quad 0 \leq t < \frac{\pi}{3}$$

using the new variable  $u = \tan t$ . Simplify your answer.

b) For the new parametrization, find the acceleration at the point  $(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, 1)$ .

**Problem 8.** a) Find the distance between the point  $P = (1, 2, 3)$  and the plane  $x + y - 2z = 8$ .

b) Find the parametric **and** the symmetric equations of the perpendicular from  $P$  to that plane.

c) Find the coordinates of the point at which the perpendicular intersects the plane.

Math 323 Midterm Examination 1, Sample 1

**Problem 1.** The line  $L$  is given by the equation  $(x, y, z) = (2+t, 1-t, 3t)$ , and the plane  $X$  is given by the equation  $2x+3y+z = 11$ . Find the following:

- a) the point at which  $L$  intersects  $X$ .  
 b) the equation of the plane that contains  $L$  and is perpendicular to  $X$ .

$$2(2+t) + 3(1-t) + 3t = 11$$

$$4 + 2t + 3 - 3t + 3t = 11$$

$$t = 2$$

a)  $P = (4, -1, 6)$

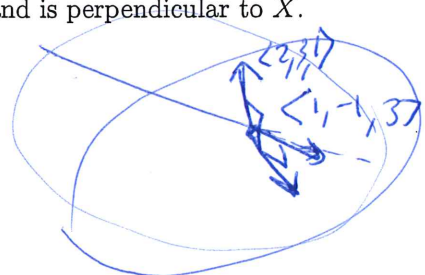
$$\times \begin{array}{r} \langle 1, -1, 3 \rangle \\ \langle 2, 3, 1 \rangle \\ \hline \langle -10, 5, 5 \rangle = 5 \cdot \langle -2, 1, 1 \rangle \end{array}$$

b) So equation is:

$$-2(x-4) + 1(y+1) + 1(z-6) = 0$$

$$\boxed{-2x + y + z = -3}$$

(Alternatively,  $(2, 1, 0)$  point can be used)



**Problem 2.** Find all points on the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2t, t^2, t^3 \rangle$ , where the tangent line is parallel to the plane

$$-6x + 3y + 2z = 15.$$

$$\vec{v}(t) = \langle 2, 2t, 3t^2 \rangle$$

$$\vec{v}(t) \perp \langle -6, 3, 2 \rangle$$

$$2 \cdot (-6) + 2t \cdot 3 + 3t^2 \cdot 2 = 0$$

$$-12 + 6t + 6t^2 = 0$$

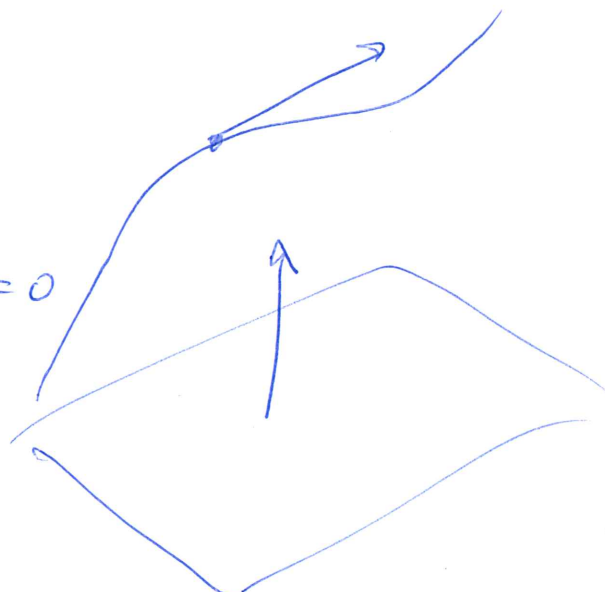
$$t^2 + t - 2 = 0$$

$$t = 1, -2$$

$$t = 1: \boxed{(2, 1, 1)}$$

$$t = -2: \boxed{(-4, 4, -8)}$$

Note: both points are not on the plane, so the tangent lines are parallel, not on the plane



Problem 3. Find the curvature at the point (0,0,1) of the curve

$$t=0$$

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2, e^t \rangle$$

$$r' = \langle 1, 2t, e^t \rangle \stackrel{t=0}{=} \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle$$

$$r'' = \langle 0, 2, e^t \rangle \stackrel{t=0}{=} \langle 0, 2, 1 \rangle$$

$$r' \times r'' = \langle -2, -1, 2 \rangle$$

$$\kappa = \frac{|r' \times r''|}{|r'|^3} \stackrel{t=0}{=} \frac{\sqrt{4+1+4}}{(\sqrt{2})^3} = \boxed{\frac{3}{2\sqrt{2}}}$$

Problem 4. Find all moments  $t$ , when the acceleration vector is perpendicular to the velocity vector for

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t^2, \ln t, 2t+1 \rangle$$

$$r' = \langle 2t, \frac{1}{t}, 2 \rangle$$

$$r'' = \langle 2, -\frac{1}{t^2}, 0 \rangle$$

$$0 = r' \cdot r'' = 4t - \frac{1}{t^3}$$

$$\text{So } 4t = \frac{1}{t^3}$$

$$t^4 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$t = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

but:  $t > 0$

So  $t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$   
The point is

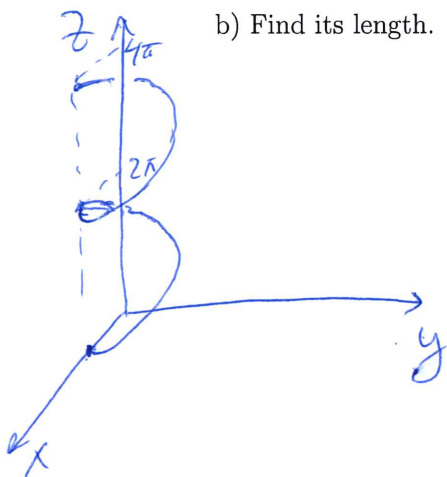
$$\boxed{\left\langle \frac{1}{2}, \ln\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right), \sqrt{2}+1 \right\rangle}$$

||  
 $\left(-\frac{1}{2}\ln 2\right)$

This simplification is optional

Problem 5. a) Draw the parametric curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle \cos t, \sin t, t \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 4\pi \quad \vec{v}(t) = \langle -\sin t, \cos t, 1 \rangle$$



b) Find its length.

$$L = \int_0^{4\pi} \sqrt{\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t + 1} dt =$$

$$= \int_0^{4\pi} \sqrt{2} dt = \boxed{4\sqrt{2}\pi}$$

Problem 6. Find the unit normal vector and the unit binormal vector at the point  $(1, \frac{2}{3}, 3)$  for the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle t^2, \frac{2}{3}t^3, t+2 \rangle$ .

$$\begin{cases} t^2 = 1 \\ \frac{2}{3}t^3 = \frac{2}{3} \\ t+2 = 3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow t=1$$

$$r' = \langle 2t, 2t^2, 1 \rangle \stackrel{t=1}{=} \langle 2, 2, 1 \rangle$$

$$r'' = \langle 2, 4t, 0 \rangle \stackrel{t=1}{=} \langle 2, 4, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{B} \text{ is normalized } r' \times r'' = \langle -4, 2, 4 \rangle$$

$$\text{So } \vec{B} = \frac{\langle -4, 2, 4 \rangle}{\sqrt{16+4+16}} = \langle -\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3} \rangle$$

$$\vec{N} \text{ is normalized } \vec{B} \times \vec{r}'$$

$$3\vec{B} \times \vec{r}' = \langle -2, 1, 2 \rangle \times \langle 2, 2, 1 \rangle = \langle -3, 6, -6 \rangle$$

$$\text{So } \vec{N} = \langle -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, -\frac{2}{3} \rangle$$

$$\begin{matrix} \langle -2, 2 \rangle \\ \times \langle 2, 2, 1 \rangle \\ \hline \langle -3, 6, -6 \rangle \end{matrix}$$

3 (By the way,  $\vec{T} = \langle \frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \rangle$ )

**Problem 7.** Find the equations of the parallel planes that contain the skew lines  $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{CD}$ , where

$$A = (1, 0, 2), B = (2, 3, -1), C = (2, 4, 0), D = (3, 4, 1)$$

$\overline{AB} = \langle 1, 3, -3 \rangle$   
 $\overline{CD} = \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle$   
 $\overline{AB} \times \overline{CD} = \langle 3, -4, -3 \rangle$   
 Plane through A:  $3(x-1) - 4y - 3(z-2) = 0$   
 $3x - 4y - 3z = -3$   
 Plane through B:  $3x - 4y - 3z = -10$

**Problem 8.** Find the normal and the tangential components of the acceleration for the curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t+1, t^2-1, t^3 \rangle$$

at the point  $(3, 3, 8)$ .

$$t = 2$$

$$\vec{r}' = \langle 1, 2t, 3t^2 \rangle, \quad \vec{r}'' = \langle 0, 2, 6t \rangle$$

$$\text{At } t=2: \quad \vec{r}' = \langle 1, 4, 12 \rangle, \quad \vec{r}'' = \langle 0, 2, 12 \rangle$$

Tangential component:  $\frac{\vec{r}' \cdot \vec{r}''}{|\vec{r}'|} = \frac{0+8+144}{\sqrt{1+16+144}} = \frac{152}{\sqrt{161}}$

Normal component:  $\frac{|\vec{r}' \times \vec{r}''|}{|\vec{r}'|} = \frac{2 \cdot \sqrt{12^2 + 36 + 1}}{\sqrt{1+16+144}} = \frac{2 \cdot \sqrt{181}}{\sqrt{161}}$

$$\vec{r}' \times \vec{r}'' = \langle 24, -12, 2 \rangle = 2 \langle 12, -6, 1 \rangle$$

Math 323 Midterm Examination 1, Sample 3

Problem 1. Find the equation of the plane containing the points  $A = (1, 2, 3)$ ,  $B = (2, 0, 1)$ , and  $C = (3, 2, 1)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{AB} &= \langle 1, -2, -2 \rangle \\ \vec{AC} &= \langle 2, 0, -2 \rangle \\ \vec{AB} \times \vec{AC} &= \langle 4, -2, 4 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}4(x-1) - 2(y-2) + 4(z-3) &= 0 \\ 4x - 2y + 4z &= 12 \\ \text{Or } 2x - y + 2z &= 6\end{aligned}$$

Problem 2. a) Find the center and the radius of the sphere

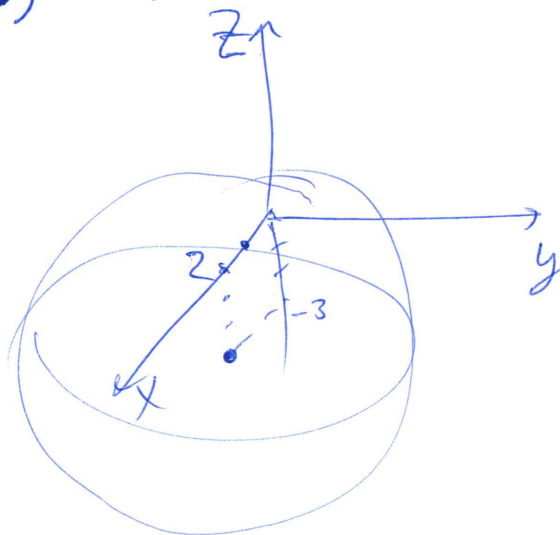
$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 4x + 6z = 4$$

b) Draw this sphere in the coordinates.

$$\begin{aligned}a) (x^2 - 4x) + y^2 + (z^2 + 6z) &= 4 \\ (x^2 - 4x + 4) + y^2 + (z^2 + 6z + 9) &= 4 + 4 + 9 \\ (x-2)^2 + y^2 + (z+3)^2 &= 17\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Center } (2, 0, -3)$$

$$\text{Radius } \sqrt{17}$$





**Problem 3.** For the vectors  $\vec{u} = \langle 2, 1, 4 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle 3, 0, 1 \rangle$  find

a)  $\text{comp}_{\vec{u}} \vec{v}$

b)  $\text{proj}_{\vec{u}} \vec{v}$

$$\text{a) } \text{comp}_{\vec{u}} \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}|} = \frac{10}{\sqrt{21}}$$

$$\text{b) } \text{proj}_{\vec{u}} \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}|^2} \cdot \vec{u} = \frac{10}{21} \langle 2, 1, 4 \rangle = \left\langle \frac{20}{21}, \frac{10}{21}, \frac{40}{21} \right\rangle$$

**Problem 4.** Find the distance between the  $x$ -axis and the tangent line to the curve  $(x, y, z) = (2t - 1, t^2 + 1, t^3)$  at the point  $(1, 2, 1)$

$$\vec{v} = \langle 2, 2t, 3t^2 \rangle \quad \langle 2, 2, 3 \rangle \quad t=1$$

at  $t=1$

$$\text{Line: } (x, y, z) = \langle 1 + 2\tau, 2 + 2\tau, 1 + 3\tau \rangle$$

$$\text{Square of the distance to } x\text{-axis: } (2 + 2\tau)^2 + (1 + 3\tau)^2 = d^2$$

$$d^2 = 13\tau^2 + 14\tau + 5$$

$$\text{Minimum at } \tau = -\frac{7}{13}$$

$$d^2 = 13 \cdot \left(-\frac{7}{13}\right)^2 + 14\left(-\frac{7}{13}\right) + 5 = -\frac{49}{13} + 5 = \frac{16}{13}$$

$$\boxed{d = \frac{4}{\sqrt{13}}}$$

\* See also Problem 3 on Sample 2.

**Problem 5.** Find all points on the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2t^2, t^3 + 3t, t^2 + 1 \rangle$  where the curvature is zero.

$$\vec{r}' = \langle 4t, 3t^2 + 3, 2t \rangle$$

$$\vec{r}'' = \langle 4, 6t, 2 \rangle$$

$$\vec{r}' \times \vec{r}'' = \langle 6 - 6t^2, 0, 12t^2 - 12 \rangle$$

This is  $\vec{0}$  if  $t = \pm 1$ .  $|\vec{r}' \times \vec{r}''| \neq 0$ .  
And this is when  $\kappa = \frac{|\vec{r}' \times \vec{r}''|}{|\vec{r}'|^3} \neq 0$ .

So:

$$(2, 4, 2)$$

and

$$(2, -4, 2)$$

**Problem 6.** a) Set up the integral for the length of the curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2, t^3 \rangle$$

between the point  $(1, 1, 1)$  and the point  $(-1, 1, -1)$ .

$$L = \int_{-1}^1 \sqrt{1 + 4t^2 + 9t^4} dt$$

$$\vec{v} = \langle 1, 2t, 3t^2 \rangle$$

b) Find the unit tangent vector at the point  $(-1, 1, -1)$ .

$$\vec{T} = \frac{\vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|} = \frac{\langle 1, -2, 3 \rangle}{\sqrt{1+4+9}} = \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}}, -\frac{2}{\sqrt{14}}, \frac{3}{\sqrt{14}} \right\rangle$$

c) Find the normal and tangential components of the acceleration at the point  $(-1, 1, -1)$ .

$$\vec{a} = \langle 0, 2, 6t \rangle \Big|_{t=-1} = \langle 0, 2, -6 \rangle$$

Tangential:  $\frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{a}}{|\vec{v}|} = \frac{-22}{\sqrt{14}}$

Normal:  $\frac{|\vec{v} \times \vec{a}|}{|\vec{v}|} = \frac{2\sqrt{3^2+3^2+1^2}}{\sqrt{14}} = \frac{2\sqrt{19}}{\sqrt{14}}$

$$\begin{matrix} \times \\ 3 \end{matrix} \frac{\begin{matrix} \langle 1, -2, 3 \rangle \\ \langle 0, 2, -6 \rangle \end{matrix}}{\langle 6, 6, 2 \rangle}$$

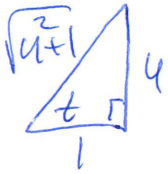
$$\frac{2\sqrt{19}}{\sqrt{14}}$$



Problem 7. a) Reparametrize the curve

$$(x, y, z) = (\sin t, \cos t, \tan t), \quad 0 \leq t < \frac{\pi}{3}$$

using the new variable  $u = \tan t$ . Simplify your answer.



$$\sin t = \frac{u}{\sqrt{u^2+1}}$$

$$\cos t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{u^2+1}}$$

$$\left( \frac{u}{\sqrt{u^2+1}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{u^2+1}}, u \right) \quad 0 \leq u < \sqrt{3}$$

b) For the new parametrization, find the acceleration at the point  $(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, 1)$ .  $\leftarrow u=1$

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \left\langle \frac{1 \cdot \sqrt{u^2+1} - \frac{u \cdot 2u}{2\sqrt{u^2+1}}}{u^2+1}, \frac{-1 \cdot 2u}{2\sqrt{u^2+1}}, 1 \right\rangle = \left\langle -\frac{u^2-1}{2(u^2+1)^{3/2}}, -\frac{u}{(u^2+1)^{3/2}}, 1 \right\rangle$$

$$\frac{d^2\vec{r}}{du^2} = \left\langle \frac{3}{2}(u^2+1)^{-5/2} \cdot 2u, -\frac{u^2+1}{2} \cdot \frac{-3}{2}(u^2+1)^{-5/2} + \frac{3}{2}u(u^2+1)^{-5/2} \cdot 2u, 0 \right\rangle \stackrel{u=1}{=} \left\langle \frac{3}{4\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}}, 0 \right\rangle$$

Problem 8. a) Find the distance between the point  $P = (1, 2, 3)$  and the plane  $x + y - 2z = 8$ .

$$d = \frac{|1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 2 - 2 \cdot 3 - 8|}{\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2 + (-2)^2}} = \frac{|-8|}{\sqrt{6}} = \frac{8}{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} + \frac{3}{4\sqrt{2}}$$

b) Find the parametric and the symmetric equations of the perpendicular from  $P$  to that plane.

Parametric:

$$(x, y, z) = (1+t, 2+t, 3-2t)$$

Symmetric:

$$x-1 = y-2 = \frac{z-3}{-2}$$

c) Find the coordinates of the point at which the perpendicular intersects the plane.

$$1(1+t) + 1(2+t) - 2(3-2t) = 8$$

$$6t = 11$$

$$t = \frac{11}{6}$$

Point:  $\left( \frac{17}{6}, \frac{23}{6}, -\frac{2}{3} \right)$