

MATH 32A Spring 2018, Midterm Exam 2 Practice Problems

1. Show that, for an arc-length parameterisation and some constant k ,

$$\frac{d\mathbf{B}}{ds} = k\mathbf{N}.$$

Recall $\mathbf{B}(s) = \mathbf{T}(s) \times \mathbf{N}(s)$, and/or try differentiating $\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{B}$.

2. Let $\kappa(t)$ be the curvature of a path $\mathbf{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$. Show that the scaled path $\mathbf{r}_1(t) = (\lambda x(t), \lambda y(t), \lambda z(t))$ has curvature $\kappa(t)/\lambda$. Use

$$\kappa(t) = \frac{\mathbf{r}'(t) \times \mathbf{r}''(t)}{\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\|^3}.$$

3. A particle follows the path $\mathbf{r}(t)$ for $0 \leq t \leq T$, starting from the origin, $\mathbf{r}(0) = \mathbf{0}$. The quantity

$$\bar{\mathbf{v}} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \mathbf{r}'(t) dt$$

is called the average velocity.

Suppose the $\bar{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{0}$. Where is the particle at time T ? Is the particles average speed $(\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T v dt)$ also equal to zero?

4. Find the path of an object starting at position $\mathbf{r}_0 = (0, 0)$ with initial velocity $\mathbf{v}_0 = (1, 3)$, with constant acceleration $\mathbf{a} = (-1, -1)$. Find the position of the object at time $t = 2$.

5. Decompose the acceleration $\mathbf{a}(t)$ at $t = 0$ into components parallel and perpendicular to $\mathbf{r}'(0)$ for an object following the path $\mathbf{r}(t) = (t, e^t, te^t)$. Hence find v' , v , and κ at $t = 0$.

6. Evaluate $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,2)} (x^2 + y)$.

7. Evaluate $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1/9, 2/9)} \frac{x}{y}$.

8. If $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,5)} f(x, y) = 3$ and $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,5)} g(x, y) = 7$, evaluate $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,5)} \frac{f(x, y)}{f(x, y) + g(x, y)}$.

9. Show that $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^3 + y^3}{xy^2}$ does not exist.

10. Evaluate $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^4 y + xy^4}{x^4 + 2x^2 y^2 + y^4}$ or show the limit doesn't exist.

11. Is the function $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} x^2 + y^2, & \text{if } x^2 + y^2 < 1, \\ 1, & \text{if } x^2 + y^2 \geq 1, \end{cases}$ continuous?

12. Calculate f_x , f_y , f_{xx} , f_{yy} and f_{xy} for $f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{y+1}$.

13. Calculate U_r and U_t for $U(r, t) = \frac{e^{-rt}}{r}$.

Answers: 3: $\mathbf{0}$, no, 4: $(0, 4)$, 5: $(0, 1, 2) = (1, 1, 1) + (-1, 0, 1)$, $v' = \sqrt{3}$, $v = \sqrt{3}$, $\kappa = \sqrt{2}/3$, 6: 3, 7: $1/2$, 8: $3/10$, 10: 0, 11: yes, 12: $f_x = y/(y+1)$, $f_y = x/(y+1)^2$, $f_{xx} = 0$, $f_{yy} = -2x/(y+1)^3$, $f_{xy} = 1/(y+1)^2$, 13: $U_r = -te^{-rt}/r - e^{-rt}/r^2$, $U_t = -e^{-rt}$,