

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE  
MATHEMATICS SOCIETY

PAST YEAR PAPER SOLUTIONS  
with credits to Teo Wei Hao

**MA1104 Multivariable Calculus**  
AY 2006/2007 Sem 1

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**Question 1**

(i) To get a unit vector perpendicular to both  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ , we use

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}|} &= \frac{\langle (1)(-7) - (5)(4), (4)(3) - (-7)(-2), (-2)(5) - (3)(1) \rangle}{|\langle (1)(-7) - (5)(4), (4)(3) - (-7)(-2), (-2)(5) - (3)(1) \rangle|} \\ &= \frac{\langle -27, -2, -13 \rangle}{\sqrt{27^2 + 2^2 + 13^2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{902}} \langle -27, -2, -13 \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

(ii) Volume of the parallelepiped is

$$\begin{aligned}|\mathbf{w} \cdot (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v})| &= |\langle 1, 6, 2 \rangle \cdot \langle 27, 2, 13 \rangle| \\ &= |27 + 12 + 26| = 65.\end{aligned}$$

**Question 2**

(i) We have velocity of  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  to be

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r}'(t) &= \left\langle \frac{d}{dt}(5t), \frac{d}{dt}(12 \sin t), \frac{d}{dt}(12 \cos t) \right\rangle \\ &= \langle 5, 12 \cos t, -12 \sin t \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

(ii) We have speed of  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  to be

$$\begin{aligned}|\mathbf{r}'(t)| &= \sqrt{5^2 + (12 \cos t)^2 + (-12 \sin t)^2} \\ &= 13.\end{aligned}$$

(iii) Let the length in question be  $L$ . Since  $\mathbf{r}(2\pi) = (10\pi, 0, 12)$  and  $\mathbf{r}(3\pi) = (15\pi, 0, -12)$ , we have,

$$\begin{aligned}L &= \int_{2\pi}^{3\pi} |\mathbf{r}'(t)| \, dt \\ &= [13t]_{2\pi}^{3\pi} \\ &= 13\pi.\end{aligned}$$

(iv) Since  $|\mathbf{r}'(t)| = 13$  and  $|\mathbf{s}'(t)| = 1$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $\mathbf{s}(t) = \frac{1}{13}\mathbf{r}(t) = \frac{1}{13}\langle 5t, 12 \sin t, 12 \cos t \rangle$

### Question 3

(i) For  $f(x, y)$  to be well-defined,  $x^4 + 3y^8 \neq 0$ . Since  $x^4 \geq 0$  and  $y^8 \geq 0$ , with equality only when  $x = 0$  and  $y = 0$  respectively, the above only give us  $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$ . Thus the domain of  $f(x, y)$  is  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$ .

(ii) The limit does not exist.

Assume on the contrary that the limit does exist. Then we must have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, 0) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 0 \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

However at the same time, we also have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y) &= \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} f(y^2, y) \\ &= \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{(y^2)^2 y^4}{(y^2)^4 + 3y^8} \\ &= \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{4} \\ &= \frac{1}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction, and thus the limit does not exist.

### Question 4

(i) Let  $f(x, y, z) = x^2z - xy^2 + yz^2 + 2$ . Thus we have  $f_x(x, y, z) = 2xz - y^2$ ,  $f_y(x, y, z) = -2xy + z^2$ ,  $f_z(x, y, z) = x^2 + 2yz$ . Therefore the tangent plane of  $f(x, y, z) = 0$  at  $(0, -2, 1)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} f_x(0, -2, 1)(x - 0) + f_y(0, -2, 1)(y - (-2)) + f_z(0, -2, 1)(z - 1) &= 0 \\ (-4)(x) + (1)(y + 2) + (-4)(z - 1) &= 0 \\ -4x + y - 4z + 6 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Since  $(0, -2, 1)$  lies on the line, and  $\nabla f(0, -2, 1) = \langle -4, 1, -4 \rangle$  is parallel to the line, for equation of the line, we have

$$\mathbf{r}(x, y, z) = \langle 0, -2, 1 \rangle + \lambda \langle -4, 1, -4 \rangle$$

and thus

$$\begin{cases} x = -4\lambda \\ y = -2 + \lambda \\ z = 1 - 4\lambda. \end{cases}$$

By eliminating  $\lambda$ , we get the symmetric equation of the line to be  $\frac{-x}{4} = y + 2 = \frac{1 - z}{4}$ .

**Question 5**

By substituting  $2z + y = 0$  into  $\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{4} + z^2 = 1$ , we get  $\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{4} + \left(\frac{-y}{2}\right)^2 = 1$ , i.e.  $x^2 + y^2 = 2$ . Thus the curve  $\mathbf{r}(t)$  can also be described as the intersection of  $2z + y = 0$  and  $x^2 + y^2 = 2$ . This implies that we can let  $x = \sqrt{2} \sin t$ , and get  $y = \sqrt{2} \cos t$  (from  $x^2 + y^2 = 2$ ),  $z = \frac{-\cos t}{\sqrt{2}}$  (from  $2z + y = 0$ ),  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  to trace out the intersection. Therefore  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \left\langle \sqrt{2} \sin t, \sqrt{2} \cos t, \frac{-\cos t}{\sqrt{2}} \right\rangle$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  is the curve we wanted.

**Question 6**

- (i) We have  $f_x(x, y) = 6x - 6y$  and  $f_y(x, y) = 2y - 6x$ .

When  $f_x(x, y) = 0$ , we get  $x = y$ .

When  $f_y(x, y) = 0$ , we get  $y = 3x$ .

Combining the above, we have  $\nabla f(x, y) = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$  only when  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ .

- (ii) We have  $f_{xx}(x, y) = 6$ ,  $f_{yy}(x, y) = 2$ ,  $f_{xy}(x, y) = -6$ , and so  $D = f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2 = -24$ . Thus  $D|_{(0,0)} < 0$ , i.e.  $(0, 0)$  is a saddle point.

**Question 7**

- (i) Yes.

Let  $f(x, y)$  be a function such that  $f_x(x, y) = 2xy + 2y^2$ ,  $f_y(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2$ .

By integrating  $f_x$  with respect to  $x$ , we get  $f(x, y) = x^2y + 2xy^2 + g(y)$  for some scalar function  $g(y)$ . Differentiating this result with respect to  $y$ , we get  $f_y(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + g'(y)$ , i.e.  $g'(y) = 3y^2$ . Now by integrating  $g'(y)$  with respect to  $y$ , we have  $g(y) = y^3 + c$  for some arbitrary value  $c$ . Therefore we can let  $c = 0$ , and establish that  $f(x, y) = x^2y + 2xy^2 + y^3$  is a function that satisfy the condition  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \nabla f(x, y)$ .

- (ii) We have  $\mathbf{r}(0) = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{r}(1/2) = \langle \sin(\pi/2), 8(1/2)^2 \rangle = \langle 1, 2 \rangle$ . Since  $\mathbf{F}$  is conservative, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C \mathbf{F}(x, y) \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= f(\mathbf{r}(1/2)) - f(\mathbf{r}(0)) \\ &= 18. \end{aligned}$$

**Question 8**

- (i) By substituting  $x = u - y$  into  $v = 2x - 3y$ , we get  $y = \frac{2u - v}{5}$ , and so  $x = \frac{3u + v}{5}$ .

- (ii) Let the image of  $R$  be  $S$ . By substituting the results of (8i.) into all the boundaries, we get  $S$  to be the region bounded by  $u = 0$ ,  $u = 2$ ,  $v = 2$ ,  $v = 5$ .

- (iii) We have  $\frac{\partial x}{\partial u} = \frac{3}{5}$ ,  $\frac{\partial x}{\partial v} = \frac{1}{5}$ ,  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial u} = \frac{2}{5}$ ,  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial v} = \frac{-1}{5}$ . Thus the Jacobian  $\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} = \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)\left(\frac{-1}{5}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = \frac{-1}{5}$ .

(iv) Using (8ii.), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \iint_R (x+y)(2x-3y) \, dx \, dy &= \iint_S (uv) \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| \, du \, dv \\
 &= \int_2^5 \int_0^2 \frac{1}{5} uv \, du \, dv \\
 &= \frac{1}{5} \int_2^5 v \, dv \int_0^2 u \, du \\
 &= \frac{1}{5} \left[ \frac{1}{2} v^2 \right]_2^5 \left[ \frac{1}{2} u^2 \right]_0^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{5} \left( \frac{21}{2} \right) (2) = \frac{21}{5}.
 \end{aligned}$$

### Question 9

(i) We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(xy^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(yz^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(x^2z) \\
 &= y^2 + z^2 + x^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Let  $E$  be the region bounded by  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . We see that  $E$  is given by  $\rho \in [0, 2]$ ,  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ ,  $\phi \in [0, \frac{\pi}{4}]$ . By the Divergence Theorem, we have,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \iint_S \mathbf{F}(x, y, z) \cdot d\mathbf{S} &= \iiint_E \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} \, dV \\
 &= \iiint_E x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \, dV \\
 &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \int_0^2 \rho^2 (\rho^2 \sin \phi) \, d\rho \, d\phi \, d\theta \\
 &= \int_0^{2\pi} 1 \, d\theta \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sin \phi \, d\phi \int_0^2 \rho^4 \, d\rho \\
 &= [\theta]_0^{2\pi} [-\cos \phi]_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \left[ \frac{1}{5} \rho^5 \right]_0^2 \\
 &= (2\pi) \left( 1 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right) \left( \frac{32}{5} \right) = \frac{32\pi}{5} (2 - \sqrt{2}).
 \end{aligned}$$

### Question 10

Let  $F(k) = \int_0^k e^{-s^2} \, ds$ , i.e.  $u(x, t) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} F\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}}\right)$ .

By Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, we have  $F'(k) = e^{-k^2}$ , and so  $F'\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}}\right) = e^{-(\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}})^2} = e^{\frac{-x^2}{t}}$ .

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} F' \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \right] \\
 &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{t}} \left( \frac{-x}{2t\sqrt{t}} \right) \\
 &= -\frac{x}{t\sqrt{t\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{t}}, \\
 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} F' \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \right] \\
 &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{t}} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \right) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{t\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{t}} \\
 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} &= \left( \frac{2}{\sqrt{t\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{t}} \right) \left( \frac{-2x}{t} \right) \\
 &= 4 \left( -\frac{x}{t\sqrt{t\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{t}} \right) \\
 &= 4 \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus we see that  $K = 1/4$ .

### Question 11

Let  $\mathbf{F} = f\nabla g - g\nabla f = \langle fg_x - gf_x, fg_y - gf_y, fg_z - gf_z \rangle$ . This give us

$$\begin{aligned}
 \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(fg_x - gf_x) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(fg_y - gf_y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(fg_z - gf_z) \\
 &= (f_x g_x + f g_{xx} - g_x f_x - g f_{xx}) + (f_y g_y + f g_{yy} - g_y f_y - g f_{yy}) + (f_z g_z + f g_{zz} - g_z f_z - g f_{zz}) \\
 &= (f g_{xx} - g f_{xx}) + (f g_{yy} - g f_{yy}) + (f g_{zz} - g f_{zz}) \\
 &= f(g_{xx} + g_{yy} + g_{zz}) - g(f_{xx} + f_{yy} + f_{zz}) \\
 &= f\nabla^2 g - g\nabla^2 f.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus by Divergence Theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \iiint_E \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} \, dV &= \iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} \\
 \iiint_E (f\nabla^2 g - g\nabla^2 f) \, dV &= \iint_S (f\nabla g - g\nabla f) \cdot d\mathbf{S}
 \end{aligned}$$