

Review Exam 1 Concepts:
Foundations of multivariable calculus: vectors, geometry in space, and basic derivatives. Understanding these helps you visualize and tackle more advanced problems later.

1. Vectors
Concept: Vectors represent quantities with both magnitude and direction. They are the building blocks of spatial reasoning in calculus.

- Magnitude: For $\mathbf{a} = \langle a_1, a_2, a_3 \rangle$, $\|\mathbf{a}\| = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2}$.
- Addition and scalar multiplication: If $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, then $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = \langle a_1 + b_1, a_2 + b_2, a_3 + b_3 \rangle$, $c\mathbf{a} = \langle ca_1, ca_2, ca_3 \rangle$.
- \overrightarrow{AB} : If $A = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$ and $B = (x_2, y_2, z_2)$, then $\overrightarrow{AB} = \langle x_2 - x_1, y_2 - y_1, z_2 - z_1 \rangle$.

2. Dot Product
Concept: The dot product measures how much two vectors "line up." It relates to projections and angles.

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \cos \theta.$$

Projection of \mathbf{a} onto \mathbf{b} :

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{b}}(\mathbf{a}) = \left(\frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{\|\mathbf{b}\|^2} \right) \mathbf{b}.$$

If two vectors are perpendicular, the dot product is zero.

3. Cross Product
Concept: The cross product gives a vector perpendicular to both inputs, representing the "area" spanned by two vectors and a direction given by the right-hand rule.

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}, \quad \|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}\| = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \sin \theta.$$

Also relates to volumes of parallelepipeds and indicates orientation in space.

4. Planes
Concept: A plane in 3D is defined by a point and a normal vector. The normal captures the plane's orientation.

$$ax + by + cz = d.$$

Normal vector $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ shows how the plane is "tilted."

After these basics, Exam 2 topics incorporate partial derivatives, optimizing functions in multiple variables, and evaluating integrals over paths and areas.

Review Exam 2 Topics:
Building on Exam 1, we now focus on how surfaces change in different directions, find maxima/minima in multiple dimensions, and handle integrals along curves.

1. Directional Derivatives
Concept: The directional derivative tells you how a function changes as you move in a given direction. It's like a "slope" in the direction of a chosen vector.

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}f(x_0, y_0) = \nabla f(x_0, y_0) \cdot \mathbf{u}.$$

2. Tangent Plane for $z = f(x, y)$
Concept: The tangent plane is a 2D approximation of a surface near a point. It's the "best linear fit" to a surface at that point.

$$z - z_0 = f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0).$$

3. Critical Points & 2nd-Derivative Test
Concept: Critical points are where a function's slope "flattens out." The 2nd-derivative test classifies these points as peaks, valleys, or saddle points.

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx}(x_0, y_0) & f_{xy}(x_0, y_0) \\ f_{yx}(x_0, y_0) & f_{yy}(x_0, y_0) \end{vmatrix} = f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2.$$

4. Lagrange Multipliers
Concept: A method to find maxima/minima of a function subject to a constraint. Geometrically, it aligns gradients so that at extrema, the surfaces "touch" but do not intersect.

$$\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g.$$

5. Double Integrals
Concept: Double integrals measure volumes under surfaces. Changing to polar coordinates makes circular or radial regions simpler.

$$\iint_R f(x, y) \, dA.$$

In polar: $x = r \cos \theta, y = r \sin \theta, dA = r \, dr \, d\theta$.

For the Final, we integrate everything: curl, divergence, and the theorems unify our understanding of vector fields and surfaces.

Review for the Final Exam:
We now employ curl, divergence, and parameterizations more fully. This big-picture view links line integrals, surface integrals, and volume integrals into powerful theorems.

1. Curl of a Vector Field
Concept: Curl measures the "rotation" of a vector field. A high curl means the field swirls around that point.

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \left(\frac{\partial R}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial Q}{\partial z} \right) \mathbf{i} + \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} \right) \mathbf{j} + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) \mathbf{k}.$$

5. Distances
Concept: Distance formulas measure how far apart objects are in space, crucial for geometry and optimization.

- Distance from point $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$ to plane $ax + by + cz = d$:

$$\text{distance} = \frac{|ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0 - d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}.$$

- Distance from point $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$ to line through $A = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$ with direction vector \mathbf{v} :

$$\text{distance} = \frac{\|\overrightarrow{P_0A} \times \mathbf{v}\|}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}.$$

6. Derivative of Vector Functions
Concept: A vector function changes with respect to a parameter (often time). Its derivative gives the instantaneous direction and rate of change.

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle x'(t), y'(t), z'(t) \rangle.$$

Think of it as velocity if $\mathbf{r}(t)$ is a position.

7. Tangent Line
Concept: The tangent line at a point on a curve shows the curve's immediate direction. It's a linear approximation at a specific point.

Tangent line: $\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{r}(t_0) + \mathbf{r}'(t_0)(t - t_0)$.

8. Integrals of Vector Functions
Concept: Integrals summarize accumulation over time or space. For vector functions, it represents accumulated displacement or "area under" a vector curve.

$$\int_a^b \mathbf{r}'(t) \, dt = \mathbf{r}(b) - \mathbf{r}(a).$$

9. Functions of Several Variables
Concept: Surfaces and contours come from functions of two or three variables. If $f(x, y, z)$ is a function of three variables, level surfaces $f(x, y, z) = c$ define 3D shapes.

10. Implicit Differentiation
Concept: When functions aren't given explicitly (like $y = f(x)$), we differentiate implicitly to find relationships between rates of change of variables.

For $F(x, y) = 0$:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{F_x}{F_y}.$$

For surfaces defined implicitly by $F(x, y, z) = 0$, partial derivatives follow similarly:

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z}, \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z}.$$

6. Line Integrals
Concept: Integrating along a path in space. Can represent work done by a force along a path or mass of a wire.

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) \, dt.$$

7. Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals
Concept: If a vector field is the gradient of some function, then the integral depends only on the endpoints—making calculations much simpler.

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = f(\text{end}) - f(\text{start}).$$

8. Vector Fields
Concept: Assigning a vector to every point in space describes flows, fields (like gravity or electricity), and directional tendencies.

If $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \langle P(x, y, z), Q(x, y, z), R(x, y, z) \rangle$, it is a vector field on \mathbb{R}^3 .

9. Green's Theorem
Concept: Converts a line integral around a closed curve into a double integral over the region inside. It relates circulation around a boundary to a "curl-like" measure inside the region.

$$\oint_C (P \, dx + Q \, dy) = \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dA.$$

10. Conservative Vector Fields
Concept: If a field is conservative, there's a potential function whose gradient gives the field. This means path independence and simpler integral evaluations.

If $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$, then \mathbf{F} is conservative.

great theorems linking line, surface, and volume integrals. These

2. Divergence of a Vector Field
Concept: Divergence measures how much a vector field "spreads out" from a point. Positive divergence means sources (outflow), negative means sinks (inflow).

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial z}.$$

3. Parametric Plane

Concept: We describe surfaces by parameters. A parametric plane can be given by:

r(u,v) = r_0 + u r_u + v r_v,

where r_u and r_v are direction vectors.

4. Parametric Surfaces

Concept: More general surfaces (like spheres or saddle shapes) can be described by two parameters (u,v):

r(u,v) = <x(u,v), y(u,v), z(u,v)>.

This approach makes complex integrals easier.

5. Tangent Planes to Surfaces

Concept: Similar to tangent lines but now for surfaces. If r(u,v) describes a surface, the tangent vectors are:

r_u = partial r / partial u, r_v = partial r / partial v.

A tangent plane is spanned by r_u and r_v at a point.

6. Surface Integral

Concept: Surface integrals extend the idea of double integrals to curved surfaces. For a scalar function f:

double integral over S of f(x,y,z) dS.

If S is given by r(u,v), then dS = ||r_u x r_v|| du dv.

7. Surface Orientation

Concept: Orientation (the direction of the normal vector) matters for flux. For r(u,v), the normal vector can be r_u x r_v or its negative.

8. Flux Integral

Concept: The flux integral measures how much of a vector field passes through a surface.

double integral over S of F . n dS.

If S is parameterized by r(u,v), then

double integral over S of F . (r_u x r_v) du dv.

9. Stokes' Theorem

Concept: Stokes' Theorem links a line integral around a boundary to a surface integral of the curl.

line integral over C of F . dr = double integral over S of (nabla x F) . n dS.

10. Triple Integrals

Concept: Triple integrals measure volume-based quantities inside 3D regions.

triple integral over W of f(x,y,z) dV.

Change of coordinates (cylindrical or spherical) often simplifies these integrals.

11. Cylindrical Coordinates

Concept: Cylindrical coordinates simplify integrals in problems with circular symmetry.

x = r cos theta, y = r sin theta, z = z, dV = r dr dtheta dz.

12. Spherical Coordinates

Concept: Spherical coordinates simplify integrals over spherical regions.

x = rho sin phi cos theta, y = rho sin phi sin theta, z = rho cos phi, dV = rho^2 sin phi d rho d phi d theta.

13. Divergence Theorem

Concept: Converts a flux integral over a closed surface into a volume integral of the divergence:

double integral over S of F . n dS = triple integral over V of (nabla . F) dV.

14. Remarks

Concept: Choosing the right theorem or coordinate system often simplifies the work. Think strategically!

By now, you’ve seen how all pieces connect: from simple vector operations to powerful theorems that turn complicated integrals into manageable ones.

Additional Strategies and Tips:

These strategies help you navigate complex problems and choose the best approach.

- 1. **Use FTLI:** If a line integral is over a gradient field, just find the potential function’s values at the endpoints.
- 2. **Convert to Double/Surface Integrals:** Green’s and Stokes’ turn line integrals into area/surface integrals when it’s simpler.
- 3. **Use Divergence Theorem:** If dealing with a closed surface, consider switching to a volume integral of divergence.
- 4. **Linear Approximations:** Tangent planes and vectors help approximate functions locally.
- 5. **Optimization Tools:** Lagrange multipliers and the 2nd-derivative test help find maxima and minima efficiently.

General Tips:

- **Visualize:** Drawing regions, surfaces, and vector fields aids understanding.
- **Normal Vectors:** Gradients give normals to surfaces defined implicitly.
- **Check Curl/Divergence:** If nabla x F = 0, consider potential functions. If nabla . F = 0, you might simplify flux integrals.
- **Coordinate Changes:** Cylindrical and spherical coordinates handle symmetrical regions more easily.