

# Fall 2021 MATH241 Discussion

This document can be found on [my website](#), named as “Discussion notes”. If needed, I will update further information in the same document.

## Time & location

- Section BDH: TR 3-4pm, 441 Altgeld.
- Section BDI: TR 4-5pm, 441 Altgeld.

## Contact

- Email: [xinran4@illinois.edu](mailto:xinran4@illinois.edu). Please included MATH241 and your section number in your email subject. If you don't get a reply in two days, feel free to send me a reminder.
- **Any math question should be post on [Campuswire](#)** because it can be answered much quicker than email and we TAs can type math symbols on Campuswire.
- Office hour: Wed 4-6pm on Zoom.<sup>1</sup>

## Covid related

- **Face mask is required** all the time during discussion.
- Face shield is in general not acceptable unless one holds a [DRES accommodation letter](#).<sup>2</sup>
- **According to university policy, student who does not wear a proper face covering will be asked to put on one or to leave the class room.**
- **If the student refuse to leave, I'll have to dismiss the class and report this to the undergraduate office.**
- In the case one tested positive, status can be checked by your instructor. I'll have to verify it before giving any excuse of being absent due to covid.<sup>3</sup>

## Worksheet

- I will print copies and bring it to the classroom.
- You'll find group number written at the up right corner.
- If you prefer to work on a electronic version, you can find the worksheets on [Moodle](#) under "Worksheets" folder.
- The worksheets are long and you might not be able to finish them in calss, so you don't have to write down every single step.
- **Solutions will be avaiable on Moodle at 5pm** after discussion sections are done.
- Ask for hints when you get stuck on a problem.

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<sup>1</sup>Office hour is run for all students in MATH241, regardless of section.

<sup>2</sup>See accommodation below for more information.

<sup>3</sup>Also see the grading section below.

## Grading

- **Attendance is required** in order to get full grade for discussion.
- You shouldn't come to the class if you are sick.
- **The lowest 4 scores will be dropped** in order to remediate unforeseen illness, change of location or any possible reason for missing a class.
- If you were ill for more than 4 classes and want to see if you could be excused from that, you'll need to provide documents such as DRES letter to your instructor.
- Worksheets will be graded in a scale of 0-5. They are **not** graded for correctness.
- Most likely you'll get a full mark. In case you are interested, here is a sample grading scale:

- 5 Most likely you'll get a full mark
- 4 Being late or leave early for 15 min
- 3 Being late or leave early for 25 min
- 2 Being late or leave early for 35 min
- 1 Not doing anything at all during the class
- 0 Not showing up for any reason.

## Accommodation

- Please contact the Disability Resources & Educational Services ([DRES](#)), if you need any sort of accommodation.
- You'll need to email **both your instructor and me** once you get the accommodation letter.

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## Worksheet 1

### Chain rule

If  $h(x) = g \circ f(x)$ , then

$$h'(x) = g'(f(x)) \cdot f'(x).$$

### Arc length of parameterized curve

Given a parameterized curve  $(x(t), y(t))$ , then the arc length between  $(x(a), y(a))$  and  $(x(b), y(b))$  is

$$s = \int_a^b \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt.$$

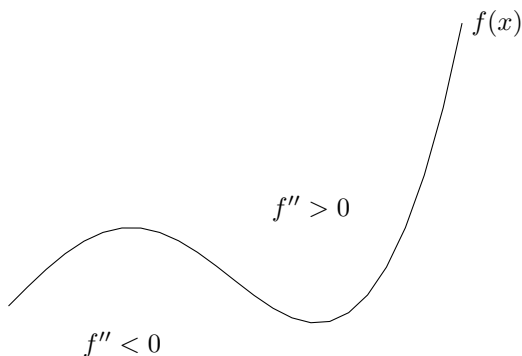
### First and second derivative tests

We use the first and second derivative tests to determine local minimum and maximum.

*First derivative tests.* Compute  $f'(x) = 0$  to find critical points.

*Second derivative tests.*

- If  $f''(x) > 0$  for all  $x$  in the interval, then  $f$  is concave upward  $\implies$  local minimum.
- If  $f''(x) < 0$  for all  $x$  in the interval, then  $f$  is concave downward  $\implies$  local maximum.



### Taylor series

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n \\ &= f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!} (x-a)^2 + \frac{f'''(a)}{3!} (x-a)^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

### Substitution rule/Change of variable

Let  $u = g(x)$ , then

$$\int f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) dx = \int f(u) du.$$

## Open discussion: Sep 2nd

1. Find the angle between the planes  $2x + y + 2z = 3$  and  $4y + 3z = 1$ .

Hint: Use normal vectors.

2. Determine if the following vectors lie in the same plane or not:

$$\mathbf{a} = \langle 1, 4, -7 \rangle, \mathbf{b} = \langle 2, -1, 4 \rangle \text{ and } \mathbf{c} = \langle 0, 9, -18 \rangle.$$

Hint: Consider  $\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})$ , draw a picture represent  $\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}$ .

3. Find a counter example for the following:

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c} \implies \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}.$$

Hint: Consider a triangle  $ABC$ . Let  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \mathbf{a}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{CA} = \mathbf{b}$  and  $\overrightarrow{CB} = \mathbf{c}$ . What is  $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c})$ ?

4. Derive the following formula:

- Area of a parallelogram determined by the vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ :

$$\text{Area} = |\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|.$$

Hint: Notes that  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}| \cdot |\mathbf{b}| \sin \theta$ .

- Volume of a parallelepiped determined by the vectors  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ :

$$\text{Volume} = |\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})|.$$

Hint: Try to find the height of this parallelepiped.

## Open discussion: Sep 16th & Exam 1 checklist

1. Find the following limit or explain why it does not exist.

- $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}$

- $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,1)} \frac{2x^2 - xy - y^2}{x^2 - y^2}$

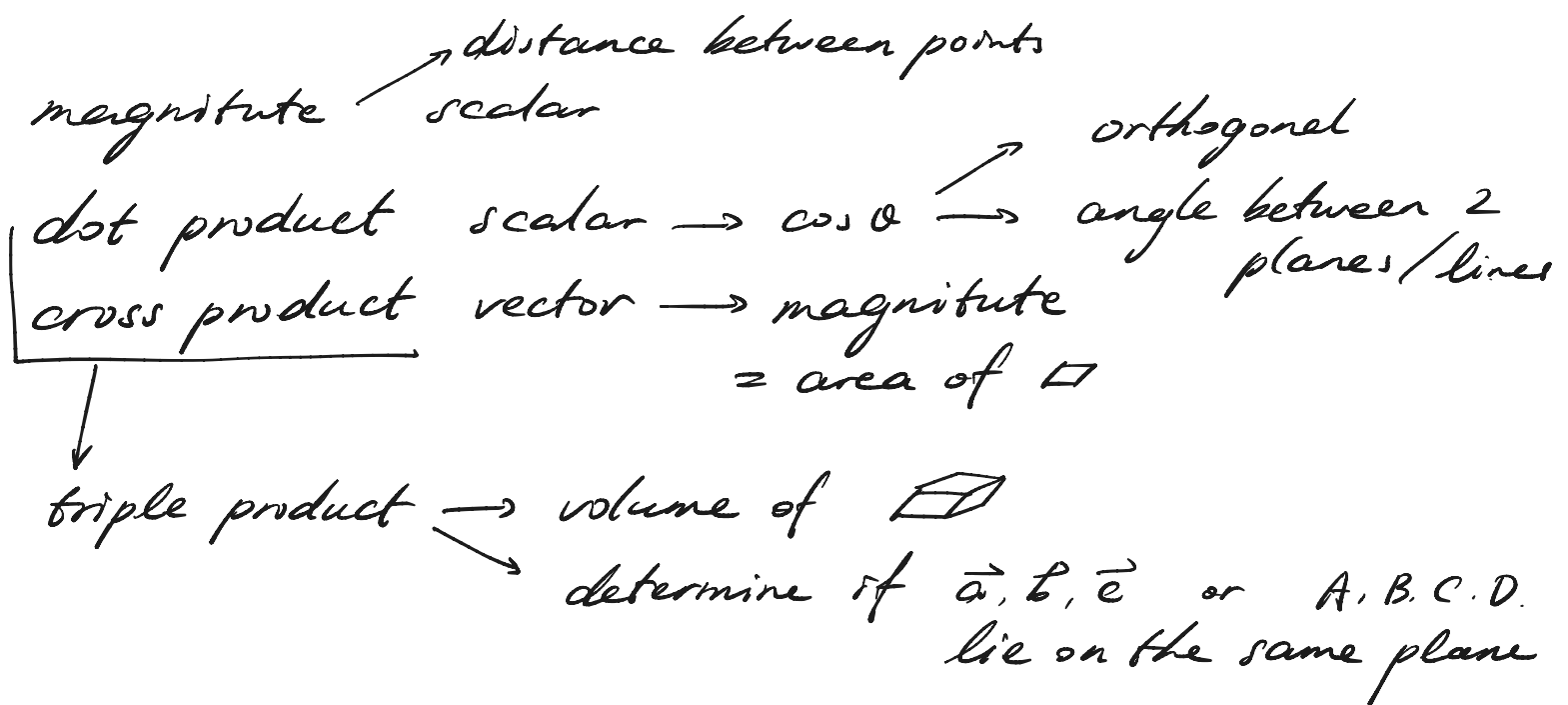
- $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2 + \sin y}{3x^2 + y}$

2. Determine whether the following functions are continuous at  $(0,0)$  or not.

- $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2} & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$

- $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} x \sin \frac{1}{y} + y \sin \frac{1}{x} & \text{if } xy \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } xy = 0 \end{cases}$

## Exam 1 Check list.



line  $\leftrightarrow$  directional vector  $\vec{v}$   
+  
a point on the line  $P$

plane  $\leftrightarrow$  normal vector  $\vec{n}$   
+  
a point on the plane  $P$

$\hookrightarrow$  e.g. given a line  $l$   
find the plane  $\parallel$  to  $l$  and contain a certain pt

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match level sets & figure

- check certain pts.
  - symmetry
  - for  $x, y \rightarrow \infty$  at some pt /  $x, y \rightarrow \infty$ .
- 

know the equations of quadric surfaces  
computing limits.

## Open discussion: Sep 21st

1. Let  $f(x, y) = e^{xy}$  and  $g(x, y) = f(\sin(x^2 + y), x^3 + 2y + 1)$ . Compute  $g_x$ .
2. Let  $f(x, y) = x^2y$ . Find the derivative of  $f$  in the direction of  $\mathbf{v} = \langle 3, 4 \rangle$  at the point  $P = (2, \frac{1}{4})$ .
3. Find the direction for which the directional derivative of  $f(x, y) = 3x^2 - 4xy + 2y^2$  at  $P = (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$ . What is the maximum value?
4. Open-ended question:
  - What is an intuitive explanation of the 1-dimensional chain rule?  
Could it be generalized to the chain rule in higher dimension?
  - What is a geometric intuition for directional derivatives? Say  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .