

MA 2733

Examination 3 – November 19, 2014

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5 T/F, several long answer. 50 points.

**General Instructions:** Please answer the following, without use of calculators.

You may refer to a 3x5 card, but no other notes. Correct answers without correct supporting work may not receive full credit (excluding the True/False section).

You may use the back of each page for additional answer space (please clearly indicate if you have done so), or scratch work.

**Mississippi State University Honor Code:** “As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

Signature 

1. True/False. Enter T or F in each blank. A correct answer is worth 2 points, a blank space is worth 0 points, and a wrong answer is worth -2 points. (Your total on this problem will be rounded up to zero if necessary.)

(a) F If  $\vec{u}$  is a vector, then  $\frac{\vec{u}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}}$  is a unit vector.

(b) F If  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are vectors, then  $\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| = \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|$ .

(c) F If  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$ , and  $\vec{w}$  are vectors, and  $\vec{w}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{v} \times \vec{u}$ , then either  $\vec{w} = \vec{v} \times \vec{u}$  or else  $\vec{w} = \vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ .

(d) T If  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{u}$  are orthogonal vectors, then  $\|\vec{v} \times \vec{u}\| = \|\vec{v}\| \cdot \|\vec{u}\|$ .

(e) F If  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$ , and  $\vec{w}$  are vectors, then  $(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) \times \vec{w}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{w}$ .

2. Lines and planes

- (a) (4 points) Find a vector orthogonal to the plane  $2x + 3y - 2z = 4$ , and a point that lies on the plane.

$$\vec{n} = \langle 2, 3, -2 \rangle \quad (\text{coefficients})$$

To find a point, set  $x=y=0$ ,  
 so equation becomes  $-2z=4$   
 $\Rightarrow (0, 0, -2)$  is on the plane.

- (b) (4 points) Find 2 unit vectors that are parallel to the vector  $\langle 3, -1, 4 \rangle$ .

$$\frac{\langle 3, -1, 4 \rangle}{\sqrt{26}} \quad \text{and} \quad -\frac{\langle 3, -1, 4 \rangle}{\sqrt{26}}$$

- (c) (5 points) Do the points  $(1, 2, 3)$ ,  $(3, 1, 3)$ ,  $(3, 2, 2)$ , and  $(5, 1, 2)$  lie on a common plane? If so, find the plane! If not, explain why not.

We find the plane containing the first 3 points

$$2 \text{ vectors parallel are } \langle 2, -1, 0 \rangle = \langle 3, 1, 3 \rangle - \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$$

$$\text{and } \langle 2, 0, -1 \rangle = \langle 3, 2, 2 \rangle - \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$$

$$\text{Cross product gives } \vec{n} = \langle 1, 2, 2 \rangle$$

$$\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) \text{ gives } \boxed{x + 2y + 2z = 11.}$$

Since  $(5, 1, 2)$  satisfies  $5 + 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 = 11$ ,  
 all lie on this plane

- (d) (4 points) Give the vector equation of a line that passes through the point  $(0, 1, 1)$  and that is parallel to the line given by the symmetric equations

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

Vector direction of the given line (from class)

$$\vec{d} = \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$$

Desired line is

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle 0, 1, 1 \rangle + t \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$$

3. Vector functions and curves.

- (a) (5 points) Find the unit tangent vector  $\vec{T}(t)$  for the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle t, \frac{t^2}{2}, \frac{t^3}{3} \rangle$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}'(t) &= \langle 1, t, t^2 \rangle \\ \vec{T}(t) &= \frac{\vec{r}'(t)}{\|\vec{r}'(t)\|} = \frac{\langle 1, t, t^2 \rangle}{\sqrt{1+t^2+t^4}}\end{aligned}$$

- (b) (4 points) For the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2 \sin t, \cos t, -2t \rangle$ , find  $\vec{r}'(t)$  and  $\vec{r}''(t)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}'(t) &= \langle 2 \cos t, -\sin t, -2 \rangle \\ \vec{r}''(t) &= \langle -2 \sin t, -\cos t, 0 \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

- (c) (4 points) For the curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2 \sin t, \cos t, -2t \rangle$  from part (b), find the plane which contains the point  $\vec{r}(\pi)$  and is parallel to the vectors  $\vec{r}'(\pi)$  and  $\vec{r}''(\pi)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}(\pi) &= \langle 0, -1, -2\pi \rangle \\ \vec{r}'(\pi) &= \langle -2, 0, -2 \rangle \\ \vec{r}''(\pi) &= \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\vec{n} = \vec{r}' \times \vec{r}'' = \langle 2, 0, -2 \rangle$$

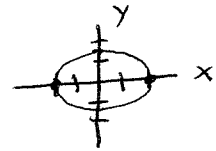
so plane is

$$\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0$$

ie  $2x - 2z = 4\pi$

- (d) (4 points) Give a vector function representation for the curve given by the trace in the  $xy$ -plane of the curve  $x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2 = 4$ .

The  $xy$ -plane has equation  $z=0$ ,  
 so trace is  $x^2 + 2y^2 = 4$   
 which we recognize as equation  
 of an ellipse. (pictured)



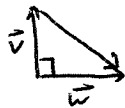
The vector equation of this ellipse we know  
 from Chapter 10 to be  
 $\langle 2\cos t, \sqrt{2}\sin t \rangle$ .

4. (6 points) The "explain" problem.

Using only the definition of dot product and elementary geometry, show that if the angle between 3-dimensional vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is  $\pi/2$ , then  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ .

Note: the definition of the dot product is the formula you usually use to compute it, and in particular does not involve any trig functions.

We make a triangle w/  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$ :



where the hypotenuse is  $\vec{w} - \vec{v}$   
 (since  $\vec{v} + \underbrace{(\vec{w} - \vec{v})}_{\text{hyp}} - \vec{w} = 0$ ).

By Pythagorean Theorem,

$$\|\vec{w} - \vec{v}\|^2 = \|\vec{v}\|^2 + \|\vec{w}\|^2.$$

We calculate also w/ dot product:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{w} - \vec{v}\|^2 &= (\vec{w} - \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{w} - \vec{v}) \\ &= \vec{w} \cdot \vec{w} - 2\vec{w} \cdot \vec{v} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} \\ &= \|\vec{w}\|^2 - 2\vec{w} \cdot \vec{v} + \|\vec{v}\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

But

~~the~~ the 2 expressions are equal to one another!

$$\text{So } \|\vec{v}\|^2 + \|\vec{w}\|^2 = \|\vec{w}\|^2 - 2\vec{w} \cdot \vec{v} + \|\vec{v}\|^2.$$

Canceling and solving for  $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{v}$ ,

$$\text{we see } \vec{w} \cdot \vec{v} = 0.$$

