

Math 241, Exam 3, Spring, 2022

**You should KEEP this piece of paper.** Write everything on the **blank paper provided**. Return the problems **in order** (use as much paper as necessary), use **only one side** of each piece of paper. Number your pages and write your name on each page. Take a picture of your exam (for your records) just before you turn the exam in. I will e-mail your grade and my comments to you. I will keep your exam. **Fold your exam in half** before you turn it in.

The exam is worth 50 points: problems one to four are worth 8 points each; problems five and six are worth 9 points each.

**Make your work coherent, complete, and correct.** Please CIRCLE your answer. Please **CHECK** your answer whenever possible.

The solutions will be posted later today.

**No Calculators, Cell phones, computers, notes, etc.**

- (1) **Find the point on the plane  $x + 2y + 3z = 4$  which is closest to the point  $(1, 4, 6)$ .**

Let  $\ell$  be the line through  $(1, 4, 6)$  which is perpendicular to the plane  $x + 2y + 3z = 4$ . Thus,  $\ell$  is

$$\begin{cases} x = 1 + t \\ y = 4 + 2t \\ z = 6 + 3t \end{cases}$$

The line  $\ell$  intersects the plane  $x + 2y + 3z = 4$  when

$$(1 + t) + 2(4 + 2t) + 3(6 + 3t) = 4.$$

The line intersects the plane when  $t = -23/14$ . The point of intersection, which is  $\left(\frac{-9}{14}, \frac{10}{14}, \frac{15}{14}\right)$ , is the point on  $x + 2y + 3z = 4$  which is nearest to  $(1, 4, 6)$ .

- (2) **An object moves on the  $xy$ -plane. The position vector of the object at time  $t$  is  $\vec{r}(t) = t^2\vec{i} + t^3\vec{j}$ . How far does the object travel between  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$ ?**

The distance traveled is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 |\vec{r}'(t)| dt &= \int_0^1 |2t\vec{i} + 3t^2\vec{j}| dt = \int_0^1 \sqrt{4t^2 + 9t^4} dt = \int_0^1 t\sqrt{4 + 9t^2} dt \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \frac{(4 + 9t^2)^{3/2}}{18} \Big|_0^1 = \boxed{\frac{13\sqrt{13}}{27} - \frac{8}{27}}. \end{aligned}$$

- (3) Find the directional derivative of the function  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 3y^2$  in the direction of  $\vec{u} = 2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j}$  at the point  $P = (3, 4)$ .

We compute

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\vec{u}}f|_P &= (\vec{\nabla} f)|_P \cdot \frac{\vec{u}}{|\vec{u}|} = (2x\vec{i} + 6y\vec{j})|_{(3,4)} \cdot \frac{(2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j})}{\sqrt{13}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{13}}(6\vec{i} + 24\vec{j}) \cdot (2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j}) = \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{13}}(12 + 72)}. \end{aligned}$$

- (4) Find the equation of the plane tangent to  $z = 3x^2 + y^2$  at the point where  $x = 1$  and  $y = 2$ .

Gradients are perpendicular to level sets. We view  $z = 3x^2 + y^2$  as the level set  $g(x, y, z) = 0$ , where  $g(x, y, z) = 3x^2 + y^2 - z$ . The answer is the plane through  $(1, 2, 7)$  perpendicular to

$$\vec{\nabla} g|_{(1,2,7)} = (6x\vec{i} + 2y\vec{j} - \vec{k})|_{1,2,7} = 6\vec{i} + 4\vec{j} - \vec{k}.$$

The tangent plane is

$$\boxed{6(x - 1) + 4(y - 2) - (z - 7) = 0.}$$

- (5) Find all local maximum points, local minimum points, and saddle points of  $f(x, y) = 4 + x^3 + y^3 - 3xy$ .

We compute  $f_x = 3x^2 - 3y$  and  $f_y = 3y^2 - 3x$ . Both partial derivatives are zero when

$$3x^2 - 3y = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 3y^2 - 3x = 0.$$

Both partial derivatives are zero when

$$x^2 = y \quad \text{and} \quad 3(x^2)^2 - 3x = 0.$$

Both partial derivatives are zero when

$$x^2 = y \quad \text{and} \quad x(x^3 - 1) = 0.$$

Both partial derivatives are zero when  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$  or  $(x, y) = (1, 1)$ . We apply the second derivative test at each of these critical points.

We compute  $f_{xx} = 6x$ ,  $f_{xy} = -3$ , and  $f_{yy} = 6y$ . It follows that

$$H(x, y) = f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = 36xy - 9.$$

We see that  $H(0, 0) = -9 < 0$ . We conclude that

$$\boxed{(0, 0, 4) \text{ is a saddle point of } z = f(x, y).}$$

We see that  $H(1, 1) = 36 - 9 > 0$  and  $f_{xx}(1, 1) = 6 > 0$ . We conclude that

$$\boxed{(1, 1, 3) \text{ is a local minimum point of } z = f(x, y).}$$

- (6) Find the absolute maximum and minimum values of the function  $f(x, y) = -x^2 - y^2 + 2x + 2y + 1$  on the triangular region in the first quadrant bounded by the lines  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ , and  $y = 2 - x$ .

The vertices of the region, namely  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(0, 2)$ , and  $(2, 0)$ , all are points of interest.

We find all interior points where both partial derivatives vanish. We compute  $f_x = -2x + 2$  and  $f_y = -2y + 2$ . Thus  $f_x = 0$  and  $f_y = 0$  at  $(1, 1)$ , which is another point of interest.

The restriction of  $f$  to  $x = 0$  is  $f|_{x=0} = -y^2 + 2y + 1$ . We compute  $\frac{d}{dy}(f|_{x=0}) = -2y + 2$ . This derivative is zero at  $(x, y) = (0, 1)$ , which is a point of interest.

The restriction of  $f$  to  $y = 0$  is  $f|_{y=0} = -x^2 + 2x + 1$ . We compute  $\frac{d}{dx}(f|_{y=0}) = -2x + 2$ . This derivative is zero at  $(x, y) = (1, 0)$ , which is a point of interest.

The restriction of  $f$  to  $y = 2 - x$  is

$$f|_{y=2-x} = -x^2 - (2-x)^2 + 2x + 2(2-x) + 1 = -2x^2 + 4x + 1.$$

We compute  $\frac{d}{dx}(f|_{y=2-x}) = -4x + 4$ . This derivative is zero at  $(x, y) = (1, 1)$ , which is a point of interest. We compute

$$f(0, 0) = 1$$

$$f(0, 2) = 1$$

$$f(2, 0) = 1$$

$$f(1, 1) = 3$$

$$f(0, 1) = 2$$

$$f(1, 0) = 2$$

The maximum of  $f$  on the domain occurs at  $(1, 1, 3)$ .  
The minimum of  $f$  on the domain occurs at  $(0, 0, 1)$ ,  $(0, 2, 1)$ , and  $(2, 0, 1)$ .