

Math 241, Exam 1, Spring, 2025, Solutions.

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 return your exam in the next class.) **Fold your exam in half** before you turn it in.

The exam is worth 50 points. Each problem is worth 10 points. **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 equation for the plane through the points $P_1 = (2, 1, 1)$, $P_2 = (1, 2, 2)$, and $P_3 = (-1, 3, 2)$. Check your answer. Make sure it is correct.**

The vector $\overrightarrow{P_1P_2} \times \overrightarrow{P_1P_3}$ is perpendicular to the plane. We compute

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{P_1P_2} \times \overrightarrow{P_1P_3} &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \vec{i} - \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \vec{j} + \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \vec{k} \\ &= (1 - 2)\vec{i} - (-1 + 3)\vec{j} + (-2 + 3)\vec{k} \\ &= -\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}\end{aligned}$$

The plane through $(2, 1, 1)$ perpendicular to $-\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}$ is

$$-(x - 2) - 2(y - 1) + (z - 1) = 0.$$

$$\boxed{-x - 2y + z = -3}$$

Check. The point $(2, 1, 1)$ is on our proposed answer because

$$-2 - 2(1) + 1 = -3. \checkmark$$

The point $(1, 2, 2)$ is on our proposed answer because

$$-1 - 2(2) + 2 = -3. \checkmark$$

The point $(-1, 3, 2)$ is on our proposed answer because

$$-(-1) - 2(3) + 2 = -3. \checkmark$$

- (2) Express $\vec{v} = 3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 7\vec{k}$ as the sum of a vector parallel to $\vec{b} = 3\vec{i} - 6\vec{j} + 9\vec{k}$ and a vector perpendicular to \vec{b} . Check your answer. Make sure it is correct.

We compute

$$\begin{aligned}\text{proj}_{\vec{b}} \vec{v} &= \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{b}}{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}} \vec{b} = \frac{9+12+63}{9+36+81} \vec{b} \\ &= \frac{84}{126} \vec{b} = \frac{7(12)}{7(18)} \vec{b} = \frac{2}{3} \vec{b} \\ &= 2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} + 6\vec{k}.\end{aligned}$$

We also compute $\vec{v} - \text{proj}_{\vec{b}} \vec{v} = 3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 7\vec{k} - (2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} + 6\vec{k}) = \vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}$.

We conclude that

the vector \vec{v} is equal to $2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} + 6\vec{k}$ plus $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}$, with $2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} + 6\vec{k}$ parallel to \vec{b} and $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}$ perpendicular to \vec{b} .

Check. We see that

- $2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} + 6\vec{k}$ plus $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}$ equals $3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 7\vec{k} = \vec{v}$, ✓
- $2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} + 6\vec{k}$ is a multiple of $3\vec{i} - 6\vec{j} + 9\vec{k} = \vec{b}$, ✓ and
- $(\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}) \cdot (3\vec{i} - 6\vec{j} + 9\vec{k}) = 3 - 12 + 9 = 0$. ✓

- (3) Name, describe, and graph the set of all points in three-space which satisfy $z = y^2$. Is this object a finite set of points, or a curve, or a surface, or a solid?

The graph is a surface. It is called a parabolic cylinder. Draw the parabola $z = y^2$ in the yz -plane, then draw the same picture for each plane parallel to the yz -plane. There is a picture on the last page.

- (4) Find the center and radius of the sphere

$$2x^2 + 2y^2 + 2z^2 - 4x + 8y - 8z = 32.$$

The given equation has the same solution set as

$$2(x^2 - 2x + \boxed{1}) + 2(y^2 + 4y + \boxed{4}) + 2(z^2 - 4z + \boxed{4}) = 32 + 2\boxed{1} + 2\boxed{4} + 2\boxed{4}$$

$$2(x - 1)^2 + 2(y + 2)^2 + 2(z - 2)^2 = 50$$

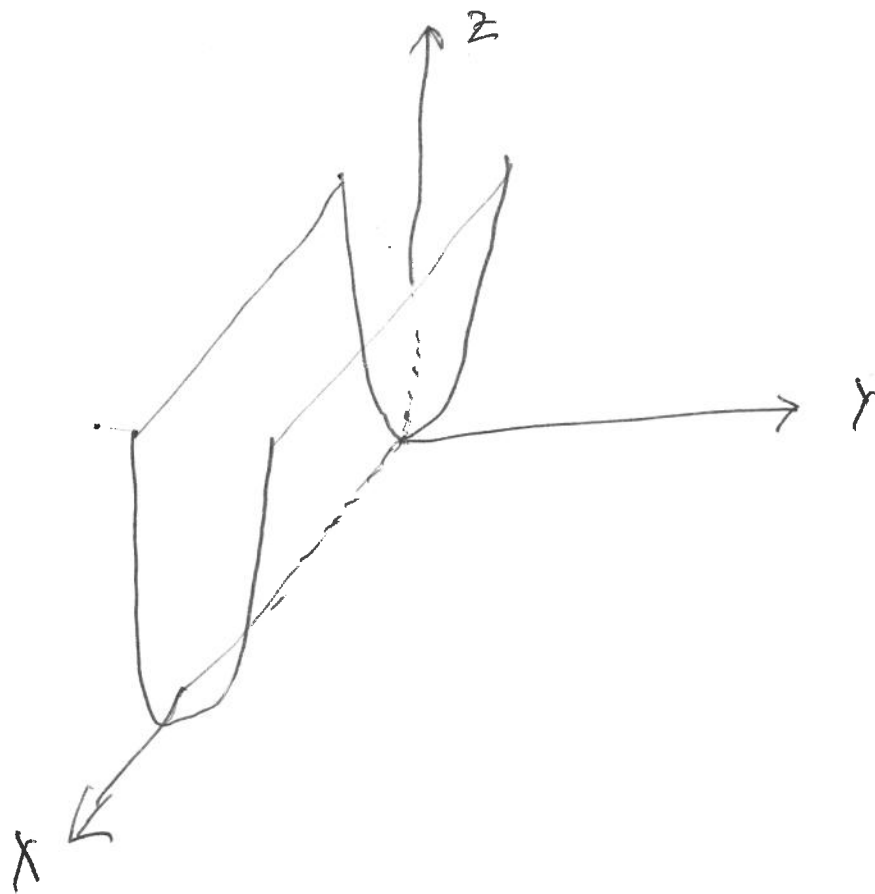
$$(x - 1)^2 + (y + 2)^2 + (z - 2)^2 = 25$$

The sphere has center $(1, -2, 2)$ and radius 5.

- (5) Give the equation, or equations, for the cylinder of radius 1 which has the y -axis in its center.

The set of all points in 3-space which satisfy $x^2 + z^2 = 1$ form the cylinder of radius 1 with the y -axis in its center.

Picture for Problem 3



The set of points in 3-space which satisfy $z = y^2$ forms a parabolic cylinder.