# First Midterm Solutions

# Spring 2014

## Math 126C

1 (8 points) Let  $\mathbf{r}(t) = t^2 \mathbf{i} + t\sqrt{t-1}\mathbf{j} + t\sin\pi t \mathbf{k}$ . Calculate the integral  $\int_1^2 \mathbf{r}(t) dt$ . Give your answer in exact form.

$$\int_{1}^{2} t^{2} dt = \frac{7}{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{1}^{2} t\sqrt{t-1} &= \int_{0}^{1} (u+1)\sqrt{u} \, du \quad (let \ u = t-1 \ and \ du = dt) \\ &= \left. \frac{2}{5} u^{5/2} + \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} \right|_{0}^{1} \\ &= \left. \frac{16}{15} \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_{1}^{2} t \sin \pi t \, dt = -\frac{1}{\pi} t \cos \pi t + \frac{1}{\pi^{2}} \sin \pi t \Big|_{1}^{2} \quad (integration-by-parts)$$
$$= -\frac{3}{\pi}$$

$$\int_{1}^{2} \mathbf{r}(t) \, dt = \left\langle \frac{7}{3}, \frac{16}{15}, -\frac{3}{\pi} \right\rangle$$

2 (8 points) Consider the curve in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with parametric equations  $x = 1 + t^2$ ,  $y = 3t - t^3$ . For which values of t is the curve concave upward?

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= 2t \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 3 - 3t^2 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t} - t\right) \\ \frac{d}{dt} \frac{dy}{dx} &= -\frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{1}{t^2} + 1\right) \\ \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} &= -\frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{1}{t^3} + \frac{1}{t}\right) = -\frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{1 + t^2}{t^3}\right) \\ \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} &> 0 \text{ when } t < 0. \end{aligned}$$

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3 (9 points) Compute the distance from the point (2, 4, 3) to the line of intersection of the two planes x + y = 2 and y + z = 3.

The direction vector of the line of intersection is  $\mathbf{v} = \langle 1, 1, 0 \rangle \times \langle 0, 1, 1 \rangle = \langle 1, -1, 1 \rangle$ Let P be (2, 4, 3) and note that Q(0, 2, 1) is on the intersection of the planes. Let  $\mathbf{u}$  be the vector from Q to P. Then  $\mathbf{u} = \langle 2, 2, 2 \rangle$ The distance is the magnitude of  $\mathbf{u} - \operatorname{proj}_{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{u}$ .

$$proj_{\mathbf{v}}\mathbf{u} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|^2}\right) \mathbf{v}$$
$$= \frac{2}{3} \langle 1, -1, 1 \rangle$$
$$\mathbf{u} - proj_{\mathbf{v}}\mathbf{u} = \frac{4}{3} \langle 1, 2, 1 \rangle$$

The distance is  $\left|\frac{4}{3}\langle 1,2,1\rangle\right| = \frac{4}{3}\sqrt{6} \approx 3.266.$ 

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4 (8 points) Find an equation of the plane that passes through the origin and contains the line with symmetric equations  $x - 1 = 2 - y = \frac{z + 1}{4}$ .

In parametric form, the line is x = t + 1 y = -t + 2 z = 4t - 1so it has direction vector  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$  and passes through the point P(1, 2, -1). Let  $\mathbf{v}$  be the vector from the origin to P. Then  $\mathbf{v}$  lies in the plane. Thus  $\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v} = -7\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$  is normal to the plane. The equation of the plane is -7x + 5y + 3z = 0.

5 (8 points) Calculate the length of the curve

$$x = \cos^3 t, \ y = \sin^3 t$$

where  $0 \le t \le 2\pi$ .

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -3\cos^2 t \sin t$$
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 3\sin^2 t \cos t$$
$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} = |3\cos t \sin t|$$



To avoid hassles with the absolute value, integrate from 0 to  $\pi/2$  and multiply by 4.

$$4\int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt = 4\int_0^{\pi/2} 3\cos t \sin t \, dt$$
$$= 6\sin^2 t \Big|_0^{\pi/2}$$
$$= 6$$

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6 (9 points)

At what point do the curves in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  intersect?

$$\mathbf{r}_{1}(t) = \left\langle t - 1, 3t, t^{2} \right\rangle \text{ and }$$
  
$$\mathbf{r}_{2}(t) = \left\langle t + 2, 1 - t, t^{3} + 9 \right\rangle$$

Find their angle of intersection, correct to the nearest degree.

We must solve the equation  $\mathbf{r}_1(t) = \mathbf{r}_2(s)$  for s and t. This is equivalent to the system of equations

t-1	=	s+2
3t	=	1-s
$t^2$	=	$s^{3} + 9$

The first pair of equations

$$\begin{array}{rcl}t-1&=&s+2\\3t&=&1-s\end{array}$$

has solution t = 1 and s = -2. The point of intersection is given by  $\mathbf{r}_1(1) = \mathbf{r}_2(-2) = \langle 0, 3, 1 \rangle$ .

Now compute the tangent vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  at this point.  $\mathbf{r}'_1(t) = \langle 1, 3, 2t \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{r}'_1(1) = \langle 1, 3, 2 \rangle$  $\mathbf{r}'_2(s) = \langle 1, -1, 3s^2 \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{r}'_2(-2) = \langle 1, -1, 12 \rangle$ 

The cosine of the angle between  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  is  $\frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{u}||\mathbf{v}|} = \frac{22}{\sqrt{14}\sqrt{146}}$ 

The angle is about  $61^{\circ}$ .