

Math 114, Section 003 Fall 2011
Practice Exam 1 with Solutions

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1 Problems

Question 1: Let L be the line tangent to the curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t^2 + 3t + 2, e^t \cos t, \ln(t + 1) \rangle$$

at $t = 0$. Find the coordinates of the point of intersection of L and the plane $x + y + z = 8$.

- (A) $(2, 1, 0)$ (B) $(6, e^2 \cos 2, \ln(2))$ (C) $(2, 0, 1)$
(D) $(5, 2, 1)$ (E) $(8, 3, 2)$ (F) $(0, 4, 4)$

SOLUTION KEY: 2.1

SOLUTION: 3.1

Question 2: Which vector is perpendicular to the plane containing the three points $P(2, 1, 5)$, $Q(-1, 3, 4)$, and $R(3, 0, 6)$?

- (A) $2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$ (B) $\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ (C) $2\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - \hat{k}$
(D) $2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + \hat{k}$ (E) $\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$ (F) $2\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$

SOLUTION KEY: 2.2

SOLUTION: 3.2

Question 3: A force $\vec{F} = 2\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 3\hat{k}$ is applied to a spacecraft with velocity vector $\vec{v} = 3\hat{i} - \hat{j}$. If you express $\vec{F} = \vec{a} + \vec{b}$ as a sum of a vector \vec{a} parallel to \vec{v} and a vector \vec{b} orthogonal to \vec{v} , then \vec{b} is:

- (A) $3\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} - \hat{k}$ (B) $\frac{1}{2}\hat{i} + \frac{3}{2}\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}$ (C) $\frac{3}{2}\hat{i} - \frac{3}{2}\hat{j}$
(D) $8\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - \hat{k}$ (E) $12\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$ (F) $\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - \hat{k}$

SOLUTION KEY: 2.3

SOLUTION: 3.3

Question 4: Which of the following points lies on the same plane with $(1, 2, 0)$, $(2, 2, 1)$, $(0, 1, 1)$?

- (A) $(1, 1, 1)$ (B) $(4, -1, 1)$ (C) $(4, 1, 1)$
(D) $(1, 1, -1)$ (E) $(2, -1, 3)$ (F) $(2, 1, 3)$

SOLUTION KEY: 2.4

SOLUTION: 3.4

Question 5: The curvature of the curve

$$\vec{r}(t) = 2t\hat{i} + t^2\hat{j} - \frac{1}{3}\hat{k}$$

at the point $t = 0$ is

- (A) 0 (B) 2 (C) $-\frac{1}{4}$
(D) $\frac{1}{2}$ (E) -1 (F) none of the above

SOLUTION KEY: 2.5

SOLUTION: 3.5

Question 6: Which of the following surfaces intersect the plane $x = 2$ at a parabola?

- (A) $-\frac{z^2}{2} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4}$ (B) $\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} - 1$ (C) $\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4}$
(D) $\frac{z}{2} = \frac{x^2}{9} - \frac{y^2}{4}$ (E) $\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} + 1$ (F) $-\frac{z^2}{25} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4}$

SOLUTION KEY: 2.6

SOLUTION: 3.6

Question 7: The set of points P such that $\overrightarrow{QP} \cdot \vec{B} = 2$ is

- (A) a line through Q parallel to \vec{B}
- (B) a plane through Q parallel to \vec{B}
- (C) a plane through Q perpendicular to \vec{B}
- (D) a line parallel to \vec{B} but not passing through Q
- (E) a plane perpendicular to \vec{B} but not passing through Q
- (F) a line through Q and perpendicular to \vec{B}

SOLUTION KEY: 2.7

SOLUTION: 3.7

Question 8: The trout in a pond is harvested at a constant rate of H trout per day. It is known that the growth of the trout population is governed by the logistic equation with harvesting:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 12P - P^2 - H.$$

- (a) For what harvesting rates will this growth model have two equilibrium populations? Will these equilibria be stable or unstable?
- (b) Determine the special value of H for which the population growth has a single equilibrium. What will happen if we start harvesting at a rate higher than this special value?

SOLUTION KEY: 2.8

SOLUTION: 3.8

Question 9: True or false. Explain your reasoning.

- (a) The line $\vec{r}(t) = (1 + 2t)\hat{i} + (1 + 3t)\hat{j} + (1 + 4t)\hat{k}$ is perpendicular to the plane $2x + 3y - 4z = 9$.
- (b) The equation $x^2 = z^2$ in three dimensions, describes an ellipsoid.
- (c) $|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = 0$ implies that either $\vec{a} = 0$ or $\vec{b} = 0$.

SOLUTION KEY: 2.9

SOLUTION: 3.9

Question 10: A bug is crawling along a helix and his position at time t is given by $\vec{r}(t) = \langle \sin(2t), \cos(2t), t \rangle$. Which of the following statements are true and which are false? Explain and justify your reasoning.

- (a) The unit normal vector always points toward the z -axis.
- (b) The bug travels upward at a constant rate, i.e. the unit tangent vector has a constant z -component at any moment of time.
- (c) The unit binormal vector always points straight up or straight down.

SOLUTION KEY: 2.10

SOLUTION: 3.10

2 Solution key

(1) (D)

(2) (E)

(3) (B)

(4) (F)

(5) (D)

(6) (D)

(7) (E)

(8) (a) $H < 36$, one unstable and one stable equilibrium; (b) to have one equilibrium we must harvest at a rate $H = 36$. If $H > 36$, then the trout population will go extinct.

(9) (a), (b), and (c) are false

(10) (a) is true, (b) is true, and (c) is false.

3 Solutions

Solution of problem 1.1: The point P on the curve corresponding to the value of the parameter $t = 0$ has position vector $\vec{r}(0) = \langle 2, 1, 0 \rangle$. In other words P has coordinates $P(2, 1, 0)$. The tangent vector to the curve at P is the vector

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}(0) &= \left(\frac{d}{dt} \langle t^2 + 3t + 2, e^t \cos t, \ln(t + 1) \rangle \right)_{|t=0} \\ &= \left(\left\langle 2t + 3, e^t \cos t - e^t \sin t, \frac{1}{t + 1} \right\rangle \right)_{|t=0} \\ &= \langle 3, 1, 1 \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

The tangent line L at $t = 0$ is the line passing through P and having the tangent vector $d\vec{r}/dt(0)$ as a direction vector. Thus L is given by the parametric equations

$$\begin{aligned}x &= 2 + 3s, \\ y &= 1 + s, \\ z &= s.\end{aligned}$$

To intersect the line L with the plane $x + y + z = 8$ we substitute the parametric expressions for x , y , and z in the equation of the plane and solve for s . We get $(2 + 3s) + (1 + s) + s = 8$, i.e. $s = 1$. Thus the point of intersection is the point on the line which corresponds to the value of the parameter $s = 1$, i.e. the point $(5, 2, 1)$. The correct answer is (D).

Solution of problem 1.2: A vector is perpendicular to a plane if and only if it is parallel to a normal vector for the plane.

To find a vector \vec{n} which is normal to the plane containing $P(2, 1, 5)$, $Q(-1, 3, 4)$, and $R(3, 0, 6)$ we need to find two non-parallel vectors in the plane and compute their cross products. The vectors

$$\vec{PQ} = \langle -1 - 2, 3 - 1, 4 - 5 \rangle = \langle -3, 2, -1 \rangle$$

$$\vec{PR} = \langle 3 - 2, 0 - 1, 6 - 5 \rangle = \langle 1, -1, 1 \rangle$$

are not parallel and belong to the plane, so we have

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{n} &= \overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ -3 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (2-1)\hat{i} + (3-1)\hat{j} + (3-2)\hat{k} \\ &= \boxed{\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}}\end{aligned}$$

The correct answer is (E).

Solution of problem 1.3: If $\vec{F} = \vec{a} + \vec{b}$ with $\vec{a} \parallel \vec{v}$ and $\vec{b} \perp \vec{v}$, then \vec{a} is the orthogonal projection of \vec{F} onto \vec{v} . From the formula for an orthogonal projection we compute

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{a} &= \text{proj}_{\vec{v}} \vec{F} \\ &= \frac{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|} \vec{v} \\ &= \frac{\langle 2, 1, -3 \rangle \cdot \langle 3, -1, 0 \rangle}{3^2 + (-1)^2} \langle 3, -1, 0 \rangle \\ &= \frac{5}{10} \langle 3, -1, 0 \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 0 \right\rangle.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{b} &= \vec{F} - \vec{a} \\ &= \langle 2, 1, -3 \rangle - \left\langle \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 0 \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, -3 \right\rangle.\end{aligned}$$

The correct answer is (B). □

Solution of problem 1.4: If we label the points on the plane as $P_0 = (1, 2, 0)$, $Q_0 = (2, 2, 1)$, and $R_0 = (0, 1, 1)$, then we can easily write two vectors parallel to the plane, e.g.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{u} &= \overrightarrow{P_0Q_0} = (2-1)\hat{i} + (2-2)\hat{j} + (1-0)\hat{k} = \hat{i} + \hat{k} \\ \vec{v} &= \overrightarrow{P_0R_0} = (0-1)\hat{i} + (1-2)\hat{j} + (1-0)\hat{k} = -\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}.\end{aligned}$$

The normal vector to the plane is given by the cross-product $\vec{n} = \vec{u} \times \vec{v}$. We compute

$$\vec{n} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} - \hat{k}.$$

Thus a point $P = (x, y, z)$ on the plane must satisfy the equation $\vec{n} \cdot \overrightarrow{P_0P} = 0$, which is

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

or simply

$$x - 2y - z = -3.$$

Substituting the various choices in this equation we see that the only solution is the point $(2, 1, 3)$ corresponding to answer (F).

Solution of problem 1.5: The curvature of $\vec{r}(t)$ is given by

$$\kappa(t) = \frac{\left| \frac{d\vec{T}}{dt} \right|}{|\vec{r}'|},$$

where \vec{T} is the unit tangent vector. We compute

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \langle 2, 2t, 0 \rangle,$$

and so $|\vec{r}'| = \sqrt{4 + 4t^2}$. In particular we have

$$\vec{T} = \left\langle 2(4 + 4t^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, 2t(4 + 4t^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, 0 \right\rangle.$$

Substituting in the formula for the curvature we get

$$\begin{aligned}\kappa(t) &= \frac{\left| \frac{d\vec{T}}{dt} \right|}{|\vec{r}'|} \\ &= \frac{\left| \frac{d}{dt} \left\langle 2(4+4t^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, 2t(4+4t^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, 0 \right\rangle \right|}{(4+4t^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\ &= \frac{\left| \left\langle -8t(4+4t^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}}, 2(4+4t^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 8t^2(4+4t^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}}, 0 \right\rangle \right|}{(4+4t^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}\end{aligned}$$

Evaluating at $t = 0$ we get

$$\kappa(0) = \frac{|\langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle|}{2} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

The correct answer is (D). □

Solution of problem 1.6: The curve of intersection of each surface with the plane $x = 2$ will be given by the equation in the variables y and z that is obtained from the equation of the surface after the substitution $x = 2$.

Substituting $x = 2$ in the equation of each surface we get the following equations in y and z :

(A) Setting $x = 2$ in $-\frac{z^2}{2} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4}$ gives

$$-\frac{z^2}{2} = \frac{4}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4}$$

or equivalently

$$\frac{y^2}{4} + \frac{z^2}{2} = -\frac{4}{9}.$$

This equation has no solution so it describes the empty set. In other words the surface (A) and the plane $x = 2$ do not intersect.

(B) Setting $x = 2$ in $\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} - 1$ gives

$$\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{4}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} - 1$$

or equivalently

$$\frac{y^2}{4} - \frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{5}{9}$$

which is a scaling of a standard equation of a hyperbola.

(C) Setting $x = 2$ in $\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4}$ gives

$$\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{4}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4}$$

or

$$\frac{y^2}{4} - \frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{4}{9}$$

which is again a scaling of a standard equation of a hyperbola.

(D) Setting $x = 2$ in $\frac{z}{2} = \frac{x^2}{9} - \frac{y^2}{4}$ gives

$$\frac{z}{2} = \frac{4}{9} - \frac{y^2}{4}$$

or

$$z = \frac{8}{9} - \frac{y^2}{2}$$

which is the equation of a parabola.

(E) Setting $x = 2$ in $\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} + 1$ gives

$$\frac{z^2}{4} = \frac{4}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} + 1$$

or

$$\frac{z^2}{4} - \frac{y^2}{4} = \frac{13}{9}$$

which is again a scaling of a standard equation of a hyperbola.

The correct answer is (D). □

Solution of problem 1.7: Given a point Q and a vector \vec{B} the vector equation

$$\overrightarrow{QP} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

is the standard equation of the plane α that passes through Q and is perpendicular to \vec{B} . The equation $\overrightarrow{QP} \cdot \vec{B} = 2$ will describe a plane β which is parallel to α and thus perpendicular to \vec{B} . Since the right hand side in this equation is $2 \neq 0$ we conclude that β does not pass through Q .

More explicitly, if $Q = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$ is a fixed point and $\vec{B} = a\hat{x} + b\hat{y} + c\hat{z}$ is a given vector, then a point $P = (x, y, z)$ satisfies the vector equation $\overrightarrow{QP} \cdot \vec{B} = 2$ if and only if the variables x , y and z satisfy the equation

$$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 2.$$

Since the coefficients of x , y and z in this equation are a , b and c , this is an equation of a plane with normal vector equal to \vec{B} . Moreover, since the right hand side of the equation is not zero, the point Q can not lie on this plane. Therefore the correct choice is (E).

Solution of problem 1.8: (a) The equilibria for this model are solutions of the quadratic equation $12P - P^2 - H = 0$ or equivalently $P^2 - 12P + H = 0$. The discriminant of this equation is

$$(-12)^2 - 4H = 144 - 4H = 4(36 - H).$$

Therefore the quadratic equation will have two solutions only when $H < 36$.

Suppose $H < 36$. From the quadratic formula we see that the equilibria are given by

$$P_1 = 6 - \sqrt{36 - H} \quad \text{and} \quad P_2 = 6 + \sqrt{36 - H}$$

and so

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = -(P - P_1)(P - P_2).$$

This implies that $dP/dt < 0$ for $P < P_1$ and $P > P_2$ and $dP/dt > 0$ for $P_1 < P < P_2$. In particular P is decreasing when $P < P_1$, P increases when $P_1 < P < P_2$, and P decreases again when $P > P_2$. This shows that both $P = P_1$ is an **unstable equilibrium** and $P = P_2$ is a **stable equilibrium**.

(b) In order to have a single equilibrium, we must choose H so that the quadratic equation $-P^2 + 12P - H = 0$ has a unique solution. This means that the discriminant of this equation ought to be equal to zero, i.e. we ought have $4(36 - H) = 0$. Thus the special value of H is $H = 36$. In this case, the differential equation becomes

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 12P - P^2 - 36 = -(P - 6)^2.$$

The unique equilibrium is at $P = 6$.

If $H > 36$ the equation has no equilibria, and moreover we have that

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 12P - P^2 - H = -(P - 6)^2 + (36 - H)$$

is always negative. This shows that if we harvest the trout at rate higher than the critical harvesting rate $H = 36$, then the population will steadily decrease and we will **eventually empty the pond completely**. In contrast, if we harvest at a rate smaller than the critical harvesting rate $H = 36$ and if we start with enough trout in the pond, then we will always have enough fish to harvest .

Solution of problem 1.9: (a) From the parametric equation $\vec{r}(t) = (1 + 2t)\hat{i} + (1 + 3t)\hat{j} + (1 + 4t)\hat{k}$ we can extract a direction vector for the line. It is the vector \vec{v} whose components are given by the coefficients of the parameter t in the parametric equation. Thus $\vec{v} = 2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$. Also, from the equation $2x + 3y - 4z = 9$ of the plane we can extract a normal vector \vec{n} to the plane. It is the vector whose components are the coefficients of the equation of the plane. Thus $\vec{n} = 2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - 4\hat{k}$.

The line and the plane will be perpendicular when \vec{v} is parallel to \vec{n} , that is when \vec{v} is proportional to \vec{n} . But if $\vec{v} = c \cdot \vec{n}$ for some constant c , then we will have $2 = 2c$, $3 = 3c$, and $4 = -4c$. From the first equation we get $c = 1$ but from the last equation we have $c = -1$. This is a contradiction. Therefore the line and the plane are not perpendicular, and so (a) is **False**.

(b) The equation $x^2 = z^2$ depends only on two variables so it describes a cylinder with a base in the xz -plane. Hence $x^2 = z^2$ can not be an ellipsoid and (b) is **False**.

(c) If the length of $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ is zero, then the vector $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ must be the zero vector. This can happen either when one of \vec{a} or \vec{b} is the zero vector, or when \vec{a} is parallel to \vec{b} . For instance if \vec{a} is any vector and $\vec{b} = \vec{a}$ we will have $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{a} \times \vec{a} = \vec{0}$. Hence (c) is **False**.

Solution of problem 1.10: (a) The unit normal vector is given by

$$\vec{N} = \frac{\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}}{\left| \frac{d\vec{T}}{dt} \right|}$$

where \vec{T} is the unit tangent vector. To compute \vec{T} we compute the velocity vector $d\vec{r}/dt = \langle 2 \cos(2t), -2 \sin(2t), 1 \rangle$ and normalize

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{T} &= \frac{1}{|d\vec{r}/dt|} d\vec{r}/dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4 \cos^2(2t) + 4 \sin^2(2t) + 1}} \langle 2 \cos(2t), -2 \sin(2t), 1 \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \frac{2}{3} \cos(2t), -\frac{2}{3} \sin(2t), \frac{1}{3} \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt} = \left\langle -\frac{4}{3} \sin(2t), -\frac{4}{3} \cos(2t), 0 \right\rangle,$$

and so

$$\vec{N} = \frac{\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}}{\left|\frac{d\vec{T}}{dt}\right|} = \frac{3}{4} \left\langle -\frac{4}{3} \sin(2t), -\frac{4}{3} \cos(2t), 0 \right\rangle = \langle -\sin(2t), -\cos(2t), 0 \rangle.$$

This is a horizontal vector pointing radially towards the z -axis. So (a) is **true**.

(b) From the formula for \vec{T} above we see that the z component of \vec{T} is constant and equal to $1/3$. So (b) is **true**.

(c) The unit binormal vector is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{B} &= \vec{T} \times \vec{N} \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ \frac{2}{3} \cos(2t) & -\frac{2}{3} \sin(2t) & \frac{1}{3} \\ -\sin(2t) & -\cos(2t) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \left\langle \frac{1}{3} \cos(2t), -\frac{1}{3} \sin(2t), -\frac{2}{3} \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

This vector has non-trivial x and y components so (c) is **false**.
