

**Math 3592H Honors Math I**  
**Midterm exam 1, Thursday October 6, 2016**

**Instructions:**

50 minutes, closed book and notes, no electronic devices.  
There are four problems, worth a total of 100 points.

1. (48 points total; 8 points each part)  
For these vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,

$$\bar{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \bar{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \bar{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

compute the following via dot and cross products. Your answers are allowed to contain unevaluated inverse trigonometric functions.

- (i) The length of  $\bar{u}$ .

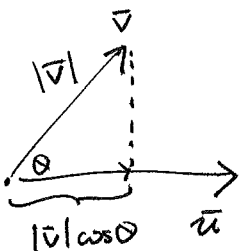
$$|\bar{u}| = \sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 0^2} = \sqrt{5}$$

- (ii) The angle between  $\bar{u}, \bar{v}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{u} \cdot \bar{v} &= |\bar{u}| |\bar{v}| \cos \theta \\ \theta &= \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\bar{u} \cdot \bar{v}}{|\bar{u}| |\bar{v}|} \right) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{1 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 2}{\sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 0^2} \sqrt{0^2 + 1^2 + 2^2}} \right) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{2}{\sqrt{5} \sqrt{5}} \right) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{2}{5} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- (iii) The length of the projection of  $\bar{v}$  orthogonally (perpendicularly) onto the line spanned by  $\bar{u}$ .

$$|\bar{v}| \cos \theta = \frac{\bar{u} \cdot \bar{v}}{|\bar{u}|} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}$$



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(iv) The area of the parallelogram in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  spanned by  $\bar{u}$  and  $\bar{v}$ , that is, having vertices  $\{\bar{0}, \bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{u} + \bar{v}\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{area} = |\bar{u} \times \bar{v}| &= \left| \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \left| \begin{bmatrix} +\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ +\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \right| = \left| \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right| \\ &= \sqrt{4^2 + (-2)^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{21} \end{aligned}$$

(v) Some vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  orthogonal (perpendicular) to both  $\bar{u}$  and  $\bar{v}$ .

$$\bar{u} \times \bar{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(vi) The volume of the parallelepiped (slanted box) in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  spanned by  $\bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w}$ , that is, having vertices  $\{\bar{0}, \bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w}, \bar{u} + \bar{v}, \bar{u} + \bar{w}, \bar{v} + \bar{w}, \bar{u} + \bar{v} + \bar{w}\}$ .

$$\text{volume} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \bar{w} & \bar{u} & \bar{v} \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \bar{w} \cdot (\bar{u} \times \bar{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 9$$

2. (21 points total; 7 points each part)

Assuming that  $f(x) = \sin(x)$  is continuous, and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 1$ , compute with proof and/or explanations the values of the following limits

of functions  $g: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as  $\bar{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$  approaches  $\bar{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(i)

$$\lim_{\bar{x} \rightarrow \bar{0}} 3x^2 + 5y + z = 3 \cdot 0^2 + 5 \cdot 0 + 0 = 0$$

polynomial functions are  
continuous on all of  $\mathbb{R}^3$   
(Cor 1.5.30)

(ii)

$$\lim_{\bar{x} \rightarrow \bar{0}} \sin(3x^2 + 5y + z) = \sin\left(\lim_{\bar{x} \rightarrow \bar{0}} 3x^2 + 5y + z\right) = \sin(0) = 0$$

$f(x) = \sin(x)$   
was assumed continuous  
on all of  $\mathbb{R}$

by (i)

(iii)

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{\bar{x} \rightarrow \bar{0}} \frac{\sin(3x^2 + 5y + z)}{3x^2 + 5y + z} \\ &= \lim_{\bar{x} \rightarrow \bar{0}} \frac{\sin(h(\bar{x}))}{h(\bar{x})} \quad \text{where } \lim_{\bar{x} \rightarrow \bar{0}} h(\bar{x}) = 0 \text{ by (i)} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(h)}{h} = 1$$

limit of  
a composite  
function is  
the composition of the limits  
(Thm 1.5.24)

by assumption

3. (15 points total) Consider the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(i) (5 points) Compute  $A^2$  and  $A^3$ .

$$A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & a^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^3 = A^2 \cdot A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & a^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(ii) (10 points) Compute  $e^A = I + A + \frac{A^2}{2!} + \frac{A^3}{3!} + \dots$

Since  $A^3 = 0$ ,  $A^4 = A^5 = \dots = 0$ ,

and hence  $e^A = I + A + \frac{A^2}{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \frac{a^2}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & \frac{a^2}{2} + b \\ 0 & 1 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

4. (16 points total; 8 points each part) Prove or disprove:

(a) An arbitrary union of (possibly infinitely many) closed sets is closed.

No, e.g.  $[0, 1) \subset \mathbb{R}$  is not closed since it has 1 as a limit point,

$$\text{but } [0, 1) = \bigcup_{x \in [0, 1)} \{x\}$$

↑ every singleton set is closed in  $\mathbb{R}$

(b) If  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = L$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , and  $a_k \leq M$  for all  $k$ , then  $L \leq M$ .

Yes, and one can prove this by contradiction.

Assume  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = L$  and  $a_k \leq M \forall k$ , but  $L > M$ .

Then picking any  $\epsilon$  with  $0 < \epsilon < L - M$ , such as  $\epsilon = \frac{L - M}{2}$ ,

there exists some  $K$  for which  $k > K$  implies  $|a_k - L| < \epsilon$

$$\Rightarrow a_k > L - \epsilon$$

since  $\epsilon < L - M$   $\nearrow$   $> L - (L - M)$   
 $> M$   
 Contradiction.