Exam 1: Multivariable Calculus

Math 212 Fall 2014                      Friday October 3
Prof. Ron Buckmire                        11:45am-12:40pm

Name:

Directions:

Read all problems first before answering any of them. This test consists of three (3) problems (and a BONUS problem) on six (6) pages.

The topic of the problem is in bold, the number of points each problem is worth is in italics and the kind of skills required to solve each problem are in ALL CAPS.

This is a 55-minute, open notes, open book, test. No calculators or electronic devices may be used.

You must show all relevant work to support your answers. Use complete English sentences as much as possible and CLEARLY indicate your final answers to be graded from your “scratch work.”

Questions Policy: FEEL FREE TO ASK CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS AT ANY TIME!

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1. (30 points.) ANALYTIC, COMPUTATIONAL, VISUAL. Equation of Planes, Vector Operations.

1(a) (15 points.) Find the general equation of the plane $P$ in $\mathbb{R}^3$ that contains all three points $A(1, 0, 0)$, $B(1, 2, -2)$, and $C(0, -3, 4)$. ALSO EXPLAIN IN WORDS YOUR TECHNIQUE FOR DETERMINING THE EQUATION OF THE PLANE $P$.

1(b) (15 points.) What is the minimum distance between the plane $P$ found in part 1(a) and the plane $Q$ given by the equation $x + y + z = 0$? ALSO EXPLAIN IN WORDS YOUR TECHNIQUE FOR DETERMINING THE MINIMUM DISTANCE BETWEEN PLANES $P$ AND $Q$. 
2. (30 points.) VERBAL, ANALYTIC, COMPUTATIONAL. Gradient, Directional Derivative, Tangent Planes Consider the following information about a mystery function $M(x, y, z)$:

(1) $M(x, y, z)$ increases most rapidly in the direction $\hat{v} = \frac{1}{7}(3\hat{i}+6\hat{j}+2\hat{k})$ at the point $P(-4, 2, 4)$. 

(2) At the point $P(-4, 2, 4)$ the maximum rate of change of $M(x, y, z)$ is exactly 5.

For each of the following questions, try to do the requested calculation or explain what missing information is necessary in order to do the calculation and how you would do the requested calculation if you had that information.

2(a) (10 points.) What is $M_{\vec{v}}(-4, 2, 4)$, the rate of change of $M(x, y, z)$ at the point $P(-4, 2, 4)$ in the direction $\vec{v} = 4\hat{i} - 3\hat{k}$?

2(b) (10 points.) In what direction $\vec{u}$ does the mystery function $M(x, y, z)$ change the least in magnitude at the point $(-4, 2, 4)$, i.e. in what direction parallel to $\vec{u}$ is $M_{\vec{u}}(-4, 2, 4)$ exactly zero? IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE SUCH DIRECTION, EXPLAIN WHY AND STATE HOW MANY DIRECTIONS $M_{\vec{u}}(-4, 2, 4) = 0$.

2(c) (10 points.) What is the general equation of the tangent plane to the mystery function $M(x, y, z)$ at the point $P(-4, 2, 4)$?
3. **(40 points.)** ANALYTIC, VISUAL, VERBAL. **Partial Derivatives, Multivariable Functions, Cross-sections, Level Sets.** Consider the following figure which depicts the contour diagram of an unknown function \( f(x, y) \). **NOTE:** \( f(x, y) = 0 \) when \( y = x \).

![Contour Diagram](image)

3(a) **(10 points.)** What are the signs of \( f_x(4, 6) \) and \( f_y(4, 6) \)? EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER.

3(b) **(10 points.)** Indicate on the figure above a location \((a, b)\) in the \(xy\)-plane where \( f_x(a, b) \) and \( f_y(a, b) \) will both be greater than they are at \((4, 6)\). Give the approximate coordinates of this point (if it exists). EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER.
3(c) (20 points.) Again consider the contour diagram of the unknown function \( f(x, y) \) given on the previous page.

In the space below give an accurate sketch of the graphs of the cross-sections of the unknown function \( f(x, y) \). Sketch the cross-section of \( f(x, y) \) when \( x = 4 \) from \( 0 \leq y \leq 7 \). Then on a different set of labeled axes, give the cross-section \( f(x, y) \) when \( y = 6 \) from \( 0 \leq x \leq 7 \).

In the rest of the space, give written explanations for important features of your graphs (i.e. any changes in sign, slope or concavity, location of any zeroes, maximum and minimum values).
BONUS QUESTION. Limits, Continuity. (10 points.)

Consider $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ where

$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 
\frac{x^2 y^2}{x^2 + y^2}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\
A, & (x, y) = (0, 0)
\end{cases}$$

If it is possible, choose a value for the unknown constant $A$ which will make the function $g(x, y)$ continuous for every $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER THOROUGHLY AND SHOW ALL YOUR WORK, EXTRA CREDIT POINTS ARE HARD TO EARN!