MA 302: Practice Exam 1

This practice exam is much longer than the actual exam.

- (1) Let $F(x,y) = (x^2y, y^2x, 3x 2yx)$. Find the derivative of F.
- (2) Let F(x,y) = (x y, x + y) and let $G(x,y) = (x \cos y, x \sin y)$. Find the derivative of $F \circ G$ using the chain rule.
- (3) Suppose that a rotating circle of radius 1 is travelling through the plane, so that at time t seconds the center of the circle is at the point (t, sin t). Let P be the point on the circle which is at (0, 1) at time t = 0. If the circle makes 3 revolutions per second, what is the path x(t) taken by the point P?
- (4) A rotating circle of radius 1 follows a helical path in \mathbb{R}^3 so that at time t the center of the circle is at $(\sin t, \cos t, t)$. At each time t, the circle lies in the osculating plane. (That is, the circle lies in the plane spanned by the unit tangent and the unit normal vectors.) Let P be the point on the circle which is at (1,0) at time t = 0. The circle completes one rotation every 2π seconds. Find a formula $\mathbf{x}(t)$ for the path taken by the point P.
- (5) Explain what it means for curvature to be an intrinsic quantity.
- (6) Prove that the curvature at any point of a circle of radius r is 1/r.
- (7) Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$ for $1 \le t \le 2$. Find \mathbf{T} , \mathbf{N} , and \mathbf{B} (that is, the moving frame) for \mathbf{x} as well as κ and τ (curvature and torsion).
- (8) Suppose that $\mathbf{x} : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is a C¹ path such that for all t, $||\mathbf{x}(t)|| = 5$. Prove that at each t, $\mathbf{x}(t)$ and $\mathbf{x}'(t)$ are perpendicular.
- (9) A particle is following the path $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t, t^2, t^3)$ for $1 \le t \le 5$. Find an integral representing the distance travelled by the particle after t seconds.
- (10) Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t^2, 3t^2)$ for $t \ge 1$. Reparameterize \mathbf{x} by arc length.
- (11) Suppose that $\mathbf{x}(t)$ is a path in \mathbb{R}^n such that $\mathbf{x}(0) = \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{x}(1) = \mathbf{b}$ (that is, \mathbf{x} is a path joining \mathbf{a} to \mathbf{b} .) Find a path which has the same image as \mathbf{x} but which joins \mathbf{b} to \mathbf{a} .

- (12) Let x: [a, b] → ℝⁿ be a path with x'(t) ≠ 0 for all t. Let y = x ∘ φ be an orientation reversing reparameterization of x. Suppose that f: ℝ² → ℝ is integrable. Prove that ∫_y f ds = ∫_x f ds.
- (13) Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t \cos t, t \sin t)$ for $0 \le t \le 2\pi$. Let $f(x, y) = y \cos x$. Find a one-variable integral representing $\int_{\mathbf{x}} f \, ds$.
- (14) Let F(x, y) = (ax+by, cx+dy) be a transformation of space, where a, b, c, d are constants such that $ad bc \neq 0$. Suppose that an object is moving in a circle $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$. Let $\mathbf{y}(t) = F(\mathbf{x}(t))$. If all forces stop acting on an object following the path \mathbf{y} at time $t = \pi$, where will the object be 3 seconds later?
- (15) Let $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (x, -2y)$.
 - (a) Sketch a portion of the vector field F.
 - (b) Sketch a flow line for the vector field starting at (1, 1).
 - (c) Find a parameterization for the flow line starting at (1, 1).
 - (d) The vector field F is a gradient field. Find the potential function.
- (16) Let $F(x, y) = (2xy, x^2 + 1)$. Find a potential function for F.
- (17) Explain why flow lines for an everywhere non-zero gradient field never close up. Use this to prove that $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (-y, x)$ is not a gradient field.
- (18) Suppose that F: ℝ² → ℝ² is a gradient field with potential function f: ℝ² → ℝ. Let φ be a flow line for F and let L be an equipotential line (i.e. contour line) for f. Prove that if φ and L intersect, they do so at right angles. (That is, they are perpendicular.)
- (19) Let $f(x, y) = ye^x$. Find the gradient of f.
- (20) Let $F(x, y, 0) = (ye^x, xe^{y^2}, 0)$. Find the divergence of F.
- (21) Let $F(x, y, z) = (xyz, xe^{y} \ln(z), x^{2} + y^{2} + z^{2})$. Find the curl of F.
- (22) Find the curl of your answer to problem 16.
- (23) Find the divergence of your answer to problem 18.