

Multiple Choice Questions

1. If $\mathbf{a} = \langle 3, -2, 1 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{b} = \langle 1, 0, 2 \rangle$ then $2\mathbf{a} + 3\mathbf{b} =$
 - A. $\langle 4, -2, 3 \rangle$
 - B. $\langle -4, 2, -3 \rangle$
 - C. $\langle 9, -4, 8 \rangle$
 - D. $\langle -9, 4, -8 \rangle$
 - E. $\langle 11, -6, 7 \rangle$

2. What is the distance of the point $(4, 3, 2)$ from the yz plane?
 - A. 3
 - B. 2
 - C. 4
 - D. 5
 - E. $\sqrt{29}$

3. Find the area of the triangle with vertices $Q(1, 0, 2)$, $R(2, 1, 3)$, $S(0, 1, 3)$.
 - A. $\sqrt{2}$
 - B. 1
 - C. $2\sqrt{2}$
 - D. $2\sqrt{5}$
 - E. $\sqrt{5}$

4. Find the equation of a plane perpendicular to the vector $\mathbf{n} = \langle 1, -1, 3 \rangle$ and passing through the point $(1, 2, 3)$.
- A. $x + 2y + 3z = 14$
 - B. $x - y + 3z = 9$
 - C. $x - y + 3z = 8$**
 - D. $x - y + 3 = -9$
 - E. $-x + y + 3z = -8$
5. Which of the following best describes the graph of the equation $z = \left(\frac{x}{4}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{y}{4}\right)^2$?
- A. Ellipse
 - B. Elliptic cylinder
 - C. Parabolic cylinder
 - D. Elliptic paraboloid
 - E. Hyperbolic paraboloid**
6. The function $\mathbf{r}(t) = 3 \cos(t)\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3 \sin(t)\mathbf{k}$ traces out:
- A. A circle of radius 3 and center $(0, 1, 0)$ in the plane $y = 1$**
 - B. A circle of radius 3 and center $(0, 1, 0)$ in the plane $x + y = 8$
 - C. A circle of radius 3 and center $(1, 0, 0)$ in the plane $x = 1$
 - D. A circle of radius 2 and center $(0, 1, 0)$ in the plane $x = 1$
 - E. A circle of radius 2 and center $(0, 1, 0)$ in the plane $y = 1$

7. Find the scalar and vector projections of $\mathbf{b} = \langle 4, 6 \rangle$ onto $\mathbf{a} = \langle -5, 12 \rangle$
- A. **Scalar projection 4, vector projection $\langle -\frac{20}{13}, \frac{48}{13} \rangle$**
 - B. Scalar projection -4 , vector projection $\langle \frac{20}{13}, -\frac{48}{13} \rangle$
 - C. Scalar projection $\sqrt{52}$, vector projection $\langle -\frac{5\sqrt{52}}{13}, \frac{12\sqrt{52}}{13} \rangle$
 - D. Scalar projection $-\sqrt{52}$, vector projection $\langle \frac{5\sqrt{52}}{13}, -\frac{12\sqrt{52}}{13} \rangle$
 - E. Scalar projection 52, vector projection $\langle 260, 624 \rangle$
8. Which of the following best describes the graph of the equation $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 1$?
- A. A sphere of radius 1
 - B. An elliptic cylinder
 - C. A hyperboloid of one sheet with the x axis as an axis of symmetry
 - D. A hyperboloid of one sheet with the y axis as axis of symmetry
 - E. **A hyperboloid of one sheet with the z axis as axis of symmetry**
9. Consider the planes given by the equations

$$\begin{aligned}x + 2y - z &= 2 \\2x - 2y + z &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Which one of the following statements is correct?

- A. These planes are parallel
 - B. These planes are skew
 - C. **These planes intersect one another and the vector $\mathbf{v} = \langle 0, 3, 6 \rangle$ points along the line of intersection**
 - D. These planes intersect one another and the vector $\mathbf{v} = \langle 1, 2, -1 \rangle$ points along the line of intersection
 - E. These planes intersect one another and the vector $\mathbf{v} = \langle 2, -2, 1 \rangle$ points along the line of intersection
10. Which of the following is *not* a well-defined operation on vectors?
- A. $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})$
 - B. **$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})$**
 - C. $\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c})$
 - D. $(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d})$
 - E. $(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{c}$

Free Response Questions

11. (10 points) Use vectors to decide whether the triangle with vertices $P(1, -3, -2)$, $Q(2, 0, -4)$, and $(6, -2, -5)$ is right-angled.

Solution: Compute

$$\vec{PQ} = \langle 1, 3, -2 \rangle \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

$$\vec{PR} = \langle 5, 1, -3 \rangle \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

$$\vec{QR} = \langle 4, -2, -1 \rangle \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

Compute the dot products (2 points)

$$\vec{PQ} \cdot \vec{PR} = 5 + 3 + 6 \neq 0$$

$$\vec{PR} \cdot \vec{QR} = 20 - 2 + 3 \neq 0$$

$$\vec{PQ} \cdot \vec{QR} = 4 - 6 + 2 = 0$$

Hence \vec{PQ} and \vec{QR} are perpendicular, and the triangle is a right triangle. (2 points)

12. (10 points) Use the scalar triple product to determine whether the points $A(1, 3, 2)$, $B(3, -1, 6)$, $C(5, 2, 0)$, $D(3, 6, -4)$ lie in the same plane.

Solution: Compute the vectors

$$\vec{AB} = \langle 2, -4, 4 \rangle \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

$$\vec{AC} = \langle 4, -1, -2 \rangle \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

$$\vec{AD} = \langle 2, 3, -6 \rangle \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

The scalar triple product is

$$\vec{AB} \cdot (\vec{AC} \times \vec{AD}) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -4 & 4 \\ 4 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & 3 & -6 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

so the points are coplanar (2 points)

13. (15 points) (a) (7 points) Find a vector function $\mathbf{r}(t)$ that represents the intersection of the paraboloid $z = 4x^2 + y^2$ and the parabolic cylinder $y = x^2$.

Solution: There are several correct solutions—here is one.

Taking $x = t$ as the parameter, we use the equation of the parabolic cylinder to obtain

$$x = t, \quad y = t^2 \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

Next, we use the equation of the paraboloid to conclude that

$$z = 4t^2 + t^4 \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

Putting all the pieces together, we conclude that

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2, 4t^2 + t^4 \rangle. \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

Add 1 point because course coordinator can't add and originally made this a 6 point problem

- (b) (8 points) Two objects travel through space with trajectories given by the vector functions

$$\mathbf{r}_1(t) = \langle t^2, 7t - 12, t^2 \rangle, \quad \mathbf{r}_2(t) = \langle 4t - 3, t^2, 5t - 6 \rangle.$$

Determine whether these objects collide and, if so, find the coordinates of the collision point.

Solution: We seek a value of t which makes the x -, y - and z -components equal. Equating x components we get

$$t^2 - 4t + 3 = 0$$

so that $(t - 3)(t - 1) = 0$. (2 points)

To check for an intersection, we try each of the values $t = 1$ and $t = 3$:

t	$\mathbf{r}_1(t)$	$\mathbf{r}_2(t)$
1	$\langle 1, -5, 1 \rangle$	$\langle 1, 1, -1 \rangle$ (2 points)
3	$\langle 9, 9, 9 \rangle$	$\langle 9, 9, 9 \rangle$ (2 points)

We conclude that the two particles collide at $t = 3$ and coordinates $\langle 9, 9, 9 \rangle$.

14. (15 points) (a) (6 points) Find the traces of the curve $x^2 - y^2 + z^2 = 1$ in the xy , xz , and yz planes. In each case, identify the conic section.

Solution:

xy plane: $z = 0$ so $x^2 - y^2 = 1$, a hyperbola 1 (2 points)

xz plane: $y = 0$ so the trace is $x^2 + z^2 = 1$, a circle of radius 1 (2 points)

yz plane: $x = 0$ so the trace is $-y^2 + z^2 = 1$, a hyperbola (2 points)

- (b) (4 points) Find the center of the quadric surface

$$x^2 - 2x + 4y^2 - 8y + z^2 = 0$$

and identify the quadric surface.

Solution: We complete the square to find

$$(x - 1)^2 + 4(y - 1)^2 + z^2 = 4 \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

so the quadric surface is an ellipsoid with center at $(1, 1, 0)$ (2 points).

- (c) (5 points) Using the distance formula, find an equation for the set of all points equidistant from $P(-2, 0, 2)$ and $Q(1, 2, 3)$. Describe the set (e.g. as a line, plane, sphere, ellipsoid, etc.).

Solution: Suppose $R(x, y, z)$ is such a point, Then $|PR| = |QR|$ or, using the distance formula

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{(x+2)^2 + y^2 + (z-2)^2} &= \sqrt{(x+1)^2 + (y-2)^2 + (z-3)^2} \\ x^2 + 4x + 4 + y^2 + z^2 - 4z + 4 &= x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 - 4y + 4 + z^2 - 6z + 9 \\ 4x - 4z + 8 &= 2x - 4y - 6z + 14 \\ 6x + 4y + 2z &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

This is the equation of a plane perpendicular to the vector $\langle 6, 4, 2 \rangle$ It is also OK to use the vector $\langle 3, 2, 1 \rangle$ or another parallel vector here.

Note: This is to be expected since the vector \overrightarrow{PQ} is $\langle 3, 2, 1 \rangle$.

Scoring:

Use distance formula: 2 points

Reduce to linear equation: 1 points

Identify the set as a plane: 2 point