

## Math 127 – Spr 2002 – Quiz 1 ANSWERS – Warren D. Smith

- In the below group of questions (up to and including #8), let  $\vec{a} = (4, 4, 2)$  and  $\vec{b} = (2, -1, 7)$ . Compute:  $|\vec{a}|$ . ANS  $\sqrt{4^2 + 4^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{36} = 6$
- $|\vec{b}|$ , ANS  $\sqrt{2^2 + 1^2 + 7^2} = \sqrt{54} = 3\sqrt{6}$
- The unit-length version  $\hat{a}$  of  $\vec{a}$ , ANS  $\hat{a} = \frac{(4,4,2)}{6} = \frac{(2,2,1)}{3}$
- $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$ , ANS  $18 = 4 \cdot 2 - 4 + 2 \cdot 7$
- the distance between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ . ANS  $|\vec{a} - \vec{b}| = |(2, 5, -5)| = \sqrt{2^2 + 5^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{54} = 3\sqrt{6}$ .
- $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ , ANS  $(30, -24, -12)$ . That in slow-mo:  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = (a_2b_3 - a_3b_2, a_3b_1 - a_1b_3, a_1b_2 - a_2b_1) = (4 \cdot 7 + 2 \cdot 1, 2 \cdot 2 - 4 \cdot 7, -4 \cdot 1 - 4 \cdot 2)$ . *Don't* screw up the signs. Recommended sanity checks: the dot products with  $\vec{a}$  & with  $\vec{b}$  are 0. The best way to remember how to do dot products (and  $3 \times 3$  determinants) seems to be  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$  and then the determinant is the sum of 6 terms, each term being a product of 3 entries in the matrix lying on either a \ generalized diagonal (these 3 terms each get a - sign) or a / generalized diagonal (these 3 terms each get a + sign).
- the angle between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  (can write as simplified exact formula involving arccos or arcsin, but not necessary to compute a numerical approximation to that arccos or arcsin),  
ANS  $\arccos\left(\frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}|}\right) = \arccos\left(\frac{18}{6\sqrt{54}}\right) = \arccos\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\right)$
- the angle between the plane  $\vec{a} \cdot (x, y, z) = 1$  and the other plane  $\vec{b} \cdot (x, y, z) = 1$  (can write as simplified exact formula involving arccos or arcsin, but not necessary to compute a numerical approximation to that arccos or arcsin),  
ANS also  $\arccos\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\right)$ , since  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are normal to their planes and the angle between planes is same as angle between their normal vectors. Note: some people prefer to use  $90^\circ - \theta$  instead of  $\theta$ , which I must agree is equally legitimate. However in problem 7, really the  $\theta$  formula given arguably is right and  $90^\circ - \theta$  is *not* because vectors are *oriented* quantities (have arrows – as opposed to undirected lines). If one were speaking of angles between *oriented* planes (each plane having a red side and a blue side) one could similarly disambiguate angle for planes.
- Simplify:  
 $(2\vec{q} + \vec{p}) \cdot (\vec{p} \times \vec{q} + \vec{q} \times \vec{r} + \vec{p} \times \vec{r})$ .  
ANS First we distribute out and eliminate clearly-zero terms (dot prods of perpendicular vectors) to get

$$2\vec{q} \cdot (\vec{p} \times \vec{r}) + \vec{p} \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{r})$$

but then we may go further by realizing these are both “vector triple products” as the book calls them,

i.e.  $3 \times 3$  determinants,  $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = \vec{b} \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) = \vec{c} \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$  and so they are really both the

*same* determinant (up to a factor of  $-2$ : remember a cyclic shift of the 3 letters leaves the vector triple product unchanged, but a swap of 2 letters changes its sign since  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = -\vec{b} \times \vec{a}$ ). So FINAL ANSWER: this is

$$\vec{r} \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{p})$$

10. Some subset of the following 8 formula-fragments involving 3-dimensional vectors, are clearly insane. Circle the insane ones and give some indication of what is crazy about them:

$$(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}, \quad \cos(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})\vec{c}, \quad \cos(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}, \quad \cos(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) * \vec{c}, \quad \vec{a} \times \vec{b} + * \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}, \quad \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + * \vec{c}, \quad \vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{c}, \quad (\vec{i} + \vec{j}) * (\vec{i} + \vec{k}).$$

ANS: I have starred the insane ones at roughly the places where they are insane due to use of a vector where a scalar is required, or vice versa. E.g.  $\cos$  requires a *scalar* argument, can't take cross product of scalar with vector, can't add scalar to vector, etc. The last one tries to "multiply" two vectors using a non-dot, non-cross (presumably scalar) multiply; that's insane [although I admit  $(i + j)(i + k)$  would have a legitimate meaning if  $i, j, k$  were regarded as *quaternions* rather than vectors. I put  $\vec{i}$  arrows so you can't weasel out of it that way.]

11. In this and the next group of questions (up to and including #13), let

$$F(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{(x - y)^2 + 1} - (x + y + z)^2 + 2 \sin z.$$

What is its gradient  $\vec{\nabla} F(x, y, z)$ ? (Hints. (a) Answer may be neatly written as 2 times a vector-valued-formula not involving any factors of 2. (b) the  $t$ -derivative of  $\frac{1}{t^2+1}$  is  $\frac{-2t}{(t^2+1)^2}$ .) ANS:

$$2 \left( -\frac{x - y}{((x - y)^2 + 1)^2} - x - y - z, \frac{x - y}{((x - y)^2 + 1)^2} - x - y - z, -x - y - z + \cos(z) \right)$$

That in slow-mo:  $\vec{\nabla} F(x, y, z) = (\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z})$  by definition. Now, when we take those partial derivatives, we use  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[(x + y + z)^2] = 2(x + y + z)(1 + 0 + 0) = 2(x + y + z) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}[(x + y + z)^2] = \frac{\partial}{\partial z}[(x + y + z)^2]$  where note  $y$  and  $z$  are regarded as *constants* when taking the  $x$ -partial, etc. And we use  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}[\frac{1}{(x - y)^2 + 1}]$  is  $-\frac{-2(x - y)}{[(x - y)^2 + 1]^2}$  where note the  $-$  sign because we are taking the  $t$  derivative where  $t = x - y$  and then  $\frac{dt}{dy} = -1$ . Similarly  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}[\frac{1}{(x - y)^2 + 1}] = \frac{-2(x - y)}{[(x - y)^2 + 1]^2}$ , now note  $+$  sign.

12. What is the rate of increase of  $F(x, y, z)$  in the direction  $\hat{a}$  from question 3?

ANS:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{a} \cdot \vec{\nabla} F &= \frac{2}{3} \left( 2 \left[ \frac{y - x}{((x - y)^2 + 1)^2} - x - y - z \right] + 2 \left[ \frac{x - y}{((x - y)^2 + 1)^2} - x - y - z \right], + [-x - y - z + \cos(z)] \right) \\ &= \frac{-10}{3}(x + y + z) + \frac{2}{3} \cos(z). \end{aligned}$$

13. Find a local maximum of  $F(x, y, z)$  (give the values of  $x, y, z$  and of  $F$ )? [**Hint.** There will be 3 major "chunks" of the equations you get for  $x, y,$  and  $z$ ; what happens if you find  $x, y, z$  that cause each of these chunks to be zero?]

ANS. At the max (or at any flat spot)  $\vec{\nabla} F = \vec{0}$ . This is accomplished by  $x = y = -\pi/4$  and  $z = +\pi/2$ . That way  $x - y = 0$  and  $x + y + z = 0$  and  $\cos(z) = 0$  (these are the 3 major chunks I was hinting at) causing  $\vec{\nabla} F = \vec{0}$  to be satisfied in all 3 components, and  $\sin(z)$  is maximized. That makes it obvious this is a max since each term in the definition of  $F$  is maximized by itself. Here  $F = 1 - 0 + 2 = 3$ . (Another flat spot would have been  $x = y = +\pi/4$  and  $z = -\pi/2$ , but that would not have led to a max, since  $\sin(z)$  is *minimized* at  $z = -\pi/2$ .)

14. **NOTE.** *Either* do this problem, or the previous problem, but not both, whichever you like better. Find a local minimum of  $G(x, y, z) = 5x^2 + 6xy + 3y^2 + x - 7y + z^2 + 2z + 3$  (Give the values of  $x, y, z$ . Not necessary to give value of  $G$ .)

ANS: The gradient of  $G$  is  $\vec{\nabla}G = (10x + 6y + 1, 6x + 6y - 7, 2z + 2)$ . That in slo-mo: By definition  $\vec{\nabla}G(x, y, z) = (\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial G}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial G}{\partial z})$ . The first coordinate of  $\vec{\nabla}G$  is the  $x$ -partial which is  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}[5x^2 + 6xy + 3y^2 + x - 7y + z^2 + 2z + 3] = 10x + 6y + 0 + 1 - 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 10x + 6y + 1$ . Now to find the min we set  $\vec{\nabla}G = \vec{0}$  meaning we have to solve 3 equations  $10x + 6y = -1$ ,  $6x + 6y = 7$ ,  $2z = -2$  for 3 unknowns  $x, y, z$ . Teh last eqn shows  $z = -1$ . Now helps to subtract 2nd eqn from 1st eqn, to solve for  $x$  easily; FINAL ANSWER is  $x = -2, y = 19/6, z = -1$ .

15. In this and the next group of questions (up to and including #16), let  $\vec{F}(t)$  denote the parameterized curve  $\vec{F}(t) = (3t + 2, 5 \ln(\sec(t)), 4t + 7)$ . If  $t$  means time, what is the velocity vector?

ANS:  $\vec{F}'(t) = (3, 5 \tan(t), 4)$ . Note  $\frac{d}{dt} \ln \sec(t) = \frac{\sec'(t)}{\sec(t)}$  and  $\sec'(t) = \sec(t) \tan(t)$  so that  $\frac{d}{dt}[\ln \sec(t)] = \tan(t)$ .

16. What is the arc length from  $t = 0$  to  $t = \pi/4$  of this curve? [Hint. Here is a short table of (the less well known) trig integrals, one or more of which may be useful to you:

$$\int \sec(x) dx = \ln |\sec(x) + \tan(x)| + C; \int \csc(x) dx = \ln |\csc(x) + \cot(x)| + C;$$

$$\int \tan(x) dx = \ln |\sec(x)| + C; \int \cot(x) dx = \ln |\sin(x)| + C.]$$

ANS: Arclength =  $\int_{t=0}^{t=\pi/4} |\vec{F}'(t)| dt$  is the key formula, saying distance-traveled is |velocity| times time, where the integral adds up all the little chunks of time  $dt$ . So Arclength =  $\int_{t=0}^{t=\pi/4} |3, 5 \tan(t), 4| dt = \int_{t=0}^{t=\pi/4} \sqrt{9 + 16 + 25 \tan^2(t)} dt = \int_{t=0}^{t=\pi/4} 5 \sqrt{1 + \tan^2(t)} dt = 5 \int_{t=0}^{t=\pi/4} \sqrt{\sec^2(t)} dt = 5 \int_{t=0}^{t=\pi/4} \sec(t) dt = 5 \ln |\sec(t) + \tan(t)|_{t=0}^{t=\pi/4} = 5 \ln |\sqrt{2} + 1| - 5 \ln |1| = 5 \ln(\sqrt{2} + 1) \approx 4.4069$ . Notes: The identity  $\tan^2(t) + 1 = \sec^2(t)$  is just Pythagoras's  $\sin^2(t) + \cos^2(t) = 1$ , divided by  $\cos^2(t)$ .  $\tan(\pi/4) = 1$  since 45-45-90 triangle with legs 1 and 1, hypotenuse  $\sqrt{2}$ ; for same reason  $\sec(\pi/4) = \sqrt{2}$ . And  $\ln(1) = 0$  because  $\ln(xy) = \ln(x) + \ln(y)$  forces this if consider  $x = 1$ .