

# QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

September 16, 2013

**You must explain your answers for full credit. Show all work. Write your identifying number on each page you turn in.**

**Calculators are permitted.**

1. For the iterated integral  $\int_0^3 \int_0^{2y} f(x, y) \, dx dy$ 
  - (a) Describe the region indicated by the limits of integration using inequalities for  $x$  and  $y$ . **Sketch** and **label clearly** the region over which the integration is being performed.
  - (b) Rewrite the integral with the order of integration reversed.
  - (c) Describe the region indicated by the limits of integration using inequalities for the polar coordinate variables  $r$  and  $\theta$ . Rewrite the integral in polar coordinates.
2. A geometry-loving mole has dug a circular tunnel whose central radius is 3 feet centered around a point  $P$  in your front yard. The soil displaced above ground is a symmetric ring (like a jello mold or an angelfood cake) whose cross-section directly east of  $P$  is the part of the graph of  $y = \frac{1}{2} - 8(x - 3)^2$  that is above the  $x$ -axis. Write and evaluate an integral for the volume of the displaced soil.
3. Consider the recursively defined sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  where  $x_n = \frac{1}{2}x_{n-1}^2 + \frac{1}{2}$  and  $x_0 = 0$ .
  - (a) Compute  $x_1, x_2$ , and  $x_3$ .
  - (b) Show that the sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is monotonic (either increasing or decreasing) and bounded.
  - (c) Does  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converge, and if so to what? Justify your answer.
4. Let  $\mathbb{M}$  be the subspace of the vector space  $\mathbb{P}_2$  of polynomials of degree at most 2 consisting of all polynomials  $p$  such that  $p'(0) + p'(3) = 0$ . Find a basis for  $\mathbb{M}$ . Explain carefully how you know that your set of polynomials is a basis.

5. Determine the point or points on the parabola  $y = cx^2$  closest to  $(0, 1)$  as a function of  $c$  for  $c > 0$ . Justify your answer.
6. Let  $f(x) = 10xe^{-2x}$  for  $x \geq 0$ .  
Determine exactly the greatest number  $a$  such that  $f$  is invertible on  $0 \leq x \leq a$ . Sketch the graph of  $f$  on this interval, and on the same axes, the graph of its inverse function  $g$ . It will be helpful if the graphs are reasonably accurate, so **don't be too hasty**.
- (a) State the domain and range of the inverse function.
- (b) Determine  $g(1)$  correct to at least **five** decimal places. Explain briefly what you have done.
- (c) Determine  $g'(1)$  correct to at least **five** decimal places. Explain what you have done and illustrate with a diagram.
7. Suppose that  $A$  is a  $4 \times 5$  matrix with 4 pivots (that is, rank 4). For each part circle the correct alternative and **explain briefly**.
- (a) Does the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  have a unique solution?
- Yes                      No                      Could be Either
- (b) Is the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  consistent for all  $\mathbf{b}$ ?
- Yes                      No                      Could be Either
- (c) When the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is consistent, does it always have a unique solution?
- Yes                      No                      Could be Either
- (d) State the correct dimensions: the null space of  $A$  is a \_\_\_\_ dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . The column space of  $A$  is a \_\_\_\_ dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
8. The ellipsoid  $S$  defined by  $\frac{x^2}{4} + y^2 + \frac{z^2}{9} = 3$  passes through the point  $(-2, 1, -3)$ .
- (a) Find a vector normal to  $S$  at  $(-2, 1, -3)$ .
- (b) Find the equation of the plane tangent to  $S$  at  $(-2, 1, -3)$ .
- (c) Find the  $x$ -slope and  $y$ -slope of the plane in (b).
- (d) In what direction from  $(-2, 1, -3)$  should you go in order to reach the surface  $\frac{x^2}{4} + y^2 + \frac{z^2}{9} = 4$  in the shortest distance? Estimate this distance. Explain your answer briefly, using a diagram.

9. The population  $p(t)$  of field mice in the woods behind my house satisfies the logistic equation  $\frac{dp}{dt} = p \left( 1 - \frac{p}{20} \right)$ . (The units are hundreds of mice.)
- (a) Sketch a slope field for the equation. Label any equilibrium solutions and classify them (stable, unstable..). Draw a representative sample of possible solution curves and describe in words all the possible behaviors of solutions as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .
  - (b) Now suppose some feral cats are hunting the mice and catching them at a constant rate, so that the mouse equation is now  $\frac{dp}{dt} = p \left( 1 - \frac{p}{20} \right) - a$ . There is a critical value  $a_0$  of  $a$  so that if  $a > a_0$ , the cats will eradicate the mice, but if  $a < a_0$  the mouse population will stabilize at some positive value  $p_0$ . Find  $a_0$  and **explain how you know its value**. (No credit for the number  $a_0$  alone, even if correct.)
10. Let  $f(x, y) = 2x^2 + x + y^2 - 2$ .
- (a) Find the maximum and minimum values of  $f$  on the region  $x^2 + y^2 \leq 4$ . Explain your choices with a diagram.
  - (b) Is either the maximum or minimum (or both) from (a) a global maximum or minimum over the entire plane? Explain briefly.