

# Partial Exam

Mathematical Methods of Bioengineering  
Ingeniería Biomédica

20 of March 2019

*The maximum time to make the exam is 2 hours. You are allowed to use a calculator and two sheets with annotations.*

## Problems

1. (**2 points**) Find the equation of a plane that contains the line  $l(t) = (-1, 1, 2) + t(3, 2, 4)$  and is perpendicular to the plane  $2x + y - 3z + 4 = 0$ .

*Note:* Two planes are perpendicular when their normal vector are.

2. The three-dimensional **heat equation** is the partial differential equation

$$k\left(\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2}\right) = \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}$$

- (a) (**1 point**) First we examine a simplified version of the heat equation. Consider a straight wire modelled by  $x$ . Then the temperature  $T(x, t)$  at time  $t$  and position  $x$  along the wire is modelled by the one-dimensional heat equation

$$k \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}$$

Show that the function  $T(x, t) = e^{-kt} \cos x$  satisfies this equation. What happens to the temperature of the wire after a long period of time?

- (b) (**1 point**) Now show that  $T(x, y, z, t) = e^{-kt}(\cos x + \cos y + \cos z)$  satisfies the three-dimensional heat equation.

3. A bioinvestigation laboratory works with cells whose shape are represented in the next figure.

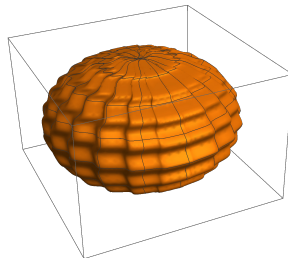


Figure 1: Cell.

While proceeding with the experiment, an unexpected incident disturbs the pressure in the essay area. The pressure at each point of the space is now given by the function

$$T(x, y, z) = xy + xz + yz$$

- (a) (**2 points**) Suppose you can model the surface of each of the cells with the following equation:

$$\mathbf{x}(s, t) \equiv \begin{cases} x(s, t) = 1.5 \sin s \sin t + 0.05 \cos 20t \\ y(s, t) = 1.5 \cos s \sin t + 0.05 \cos 20s, & t, s \in [-\pi, \pi] \\ z(s, t) = \cos t \end{cases}$$

Compute the variation of the pressure on the surface when  $s = \frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $t = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

- (b) (**1 point**) Suppose a microorganism is at the point  $(-1, 0, 0)$ . In which direction should the cell move in order to keep pressure constant? Explain your answer.

4. A laboratory is working in a **nanotechnology** experiment that is trying to model a new prototype of carbon nanotube as shown in figure 2. The surface in nanometers ( $nm$ ) is given by the equation

$$z = 2(x^2 + y^2)e^{-x^2 - y^2}$$

- (a) (**1 point**) Find the critical points of the nanotube.  
 (b) (**1 point**) Is the origin a minimum/maximum? Explain your answer.  
 (c) (**1 point**) Write the equation in cylindrical coordinates. Which variables appear on the equation? Does the equation represent the same figure when  $\theta = 0$  and  $\theta = \pi/2$ ?

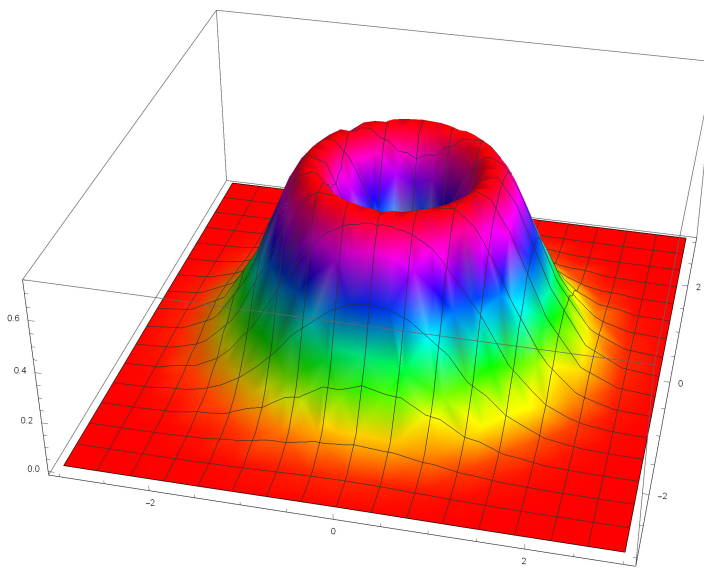


Figure 2: Representation of the prototype.