Problem Set 1

Due: Beginning of class, Wednesday Jan. 30 (20 points)

1. This problem deals with aspects of vector analysis. Three vectors are specified as follows: $\vec{A} = 2\hat{i} + 5\hat{j}, \vec{B} = \hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}, \text{ and } \vec{C} = C_x\hat{i} + C_y\hat{j}.$

(a - 1pt) Given that the vectors \vec{A} and \vec{C} are orthogonal and that \vec{C} is a unit vector, calculate values for C_x and C_y .

(b - 1pt) Without resort to calculation provide an example of a unit vector that is automatically orthogonal to both \vec{A} and \vec{C} .

- (c 1pt) Calculate the scalar product of \vec{A} and \vec{B} .
- (d 1pt) Calculate the cross product of \vec{A} and \vec{B} .
- (e 1pt) Calculate angle θ between \vec{A} and \vec{B} .
- **2.** Scalar function h is given like so:

$$h(x,y) = 10(2xy - 3x^2 - 4y^2 - 18x + 28y + 12),$$

- (a 2pt) Calculate the gradient of h
- (b 2pt) Calculate the Laplacian of h
- **3.** Vector function \vec{F} is given like so:

$$\vec{F}(x,y) = \left(\frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}(x^2 + y^2)^k\right)\hat{i} - \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}(x^2 + y^2)^k\right)\hat{j},$$

(a - 2pt) Calculate divergence of \vec{F}

(b - 2pt) Calculate curl of \vec{F} (Note: think before calculating, you may want to simplify first.)

(c - 2pt) Decide if \vec{F} has a potential, i.e. if there exists a function U such that $\vec{F} = \nabla U$.

- 4. This problem deals with the use of complex numbers and the Euler formula
- (a 1pt) Calculate the magnitude and phase of the complex number z = 9 12i.
- (b 1pt) Show that the magnitude of a complex number in the form

$$z = \frac{a+ib}{a-ib}$$

is always equal to one for for real a and b. We shall encounter such form for the reflection coefficient in the total internal reflection...

(c - 1pt) By expressing the complex function $Ae^{-i\omega t}$ (ω is real) in terms of its real and imaginary parts, with $A = A_r + iA_i$ complex, show that the magnitude of the complex function is given by |A|. (d - 2pts) Using complex notation, prove that $\sin(3\theta) = [3\cos^2(\theta)\sin(\theta) - \sin^3(\theta)]$, (Hint: You will want to make use of this: $e^{3i\theta} = (e^{i\theta})^3$).