

**ANALYSIS OF SEVERAL VARIABLES MIDTERM  
EXAMINATION**

Total marks: 50

Attempt all questions. If you are using a theorem done in class in your answer, please quote it in full.

Time: 3 hours

- (1) Give an example of a function all of whose directional derivatives at a point exist and are zero, but the function is not continuous at that point. (8 marks)
- (2) Suppose a hillside is given by  $z = f(x, y) = \frac{40}{4+x^2+3y^2}$ , where  $(x, y) \in U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  ( $z = f(x, y)$  is the height at the point  $(x, y)$ ). Find a vector tangent to the curve of steepest ascent on the hill at the point  $(1, 1, 5)$ . (10 marks)
- (3) Consider the function  $f(x, y) = 2x^4 - 3x^2y + y^2$ . Show that the origin is a critical point of  $f$  and that, restricting  $f$  to any line through the origin, the origin is a local minimum point. Is the origin a local minimum point of  $f$ ? (5+5=10 marks)
- (4) What is the smallest number  $A$  such that **any** two squares  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  of total area 1 (unit) can be put disjointly into a rectangle of area  $A$  (units)? The two squares can be put disjointly means their interiors do not intersect. (10 marks)
- (5) Let  $O(n)$  be the subset  $\{A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid A^T A = I_n\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{n^2}$ . Show that  $O(n)$  is a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^{n^2}$ . Prove that  $O(n)$  is a smooth manifold and find the dimension of  $O(n)$ . (2+10 =12 marks)