

**INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE, Bangalore Centre**  
**Midsem**  
**September 12, 2025**

Course Name: Analysis of several variables

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1. Prove that  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$  is connected in the following suggested way. Suppose  $A, B \in GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ . First show that there are only a finitely many complex numbers such that  $\det(\lambda A + (1 - \lambda)B) = 0$ . Then using this information show that there exists a path  $\rho(t) = \lambda(t)A + (1 - \lambda(t))B \subseteq GL(n, \mathbb{C})$  such that  $\lambda(0) = 0$  and  $\lambda(1) = 1$ . [7]
2. Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  and let  $\|\cdot\| : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying all properties of being a norm except the triangle inequality. Then  $\|\cdot\|$  is a norm if and only if the unit ball  $\{v \in V : \|v\| \leq 1\}$  is convex. [5]
3. TRUE or FALSE with justification.
  - [1] Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|f(x)| \leq |x|^2$ . Then  $f$  is differentiable at the origin. [2]
  - [2] Let  $f$  be a bilinear function on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Then  $f$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . [3]
  - [3] Let  $A = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \text{either } x < 0 \text{ or } x \geq 0, y \neq 0\}$ . Let  $D_2 f \equiv 0$  on  $A$ . Then  $f$  is not necessarily independent of  $y$  on  $A$ . [3]
  - [4] Let the point  $r_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$  lie on the surface  $G(x, y, z) = 0$ . Assume that  $\nabla G(x_0, y_0, z_0) \neq 0$ . Suppose that the parametrized curve  $r(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$  is contained in the surface and that  $r(t_0) = r_0$ . Then the tangent line to the curve at  $r_0$  lies in the tangent plane to  $G = 0$  at  $r_0$ . [2]
  - [5] Let  $F(u)$  be any differentiable function of one variable. Define  $z(x, y) = F(x^2 + y^2)$ . Then the partial differential equation
$$y \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} - x \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0.$$
[2]
  - [6] The function  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$  has a maxima on the curve  $xy = 1$ . [3]
4. For nonzero real numbers  $a, b, c$ , define  $F : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $F(x, y) = (a/2)y^2 + by + cx$ . Then
  - [1] Is it true that there exist  $r_0$  and a  $C^1$  function  $f : (-r_0, r_0) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(0) = 0$  and  $F(x, f(x)) = 0$  for all  $x \in (-r_0, r_0)$ . [2]
  - [2] Use the quadratic formula to answer the same question as above, explicitly finding  $r_0$  and  $f$ . In particular, can you find the largest possible  $r_0$ . [6]