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Worksheet 09/06 - MAC 2313, F'18

1. Sketch the solid enclosed between  $4x^2 + 4y^2 + z^2 = 5$  and  $z = x^2 + y^2$  and describe their curve of intersection.

2. An airplane flies the route Miami-New Orleans. Your task is to approximate the **shortest** travel distance (which determines the necessary fuel, etc.). Use that the radius of Earth is  $R = 6370$  km (and assume that the plane flies close to the surface of the Earth).

(a) First solve the problem assuming that Miami and New Orleans have the same latitude; so assume the geographical coordinates of the two cities are Miami ( $30^\circ$  N,  $80^\circ$  W) and New Orleans ( $30^\circ$  N,  $90^\circ$  W).

(b) Now solve the problem using the more precise geographical coordinates Miami ( $25.74^\circ$  N,  $80.19^\circ$  W) and New Orleans ( $29.95^\circ$  N,  $90.07^\circ$  W).

(c) More generally, if  $P_1, P_2$  are two points on the same sphere of radius  $R$  and the spherical coordinates of the two points are  $P_1(R, \theta_1, \phi_1), P_2(R, \theta_2, \phi_2)$  describe a way to find the shortest distance on the sphere between  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ .

**Hint 1:** On a sphere, the geodesics (paths of shortest distance) are arcs on great circles, that is circles obtained from the intersection of the sphere with planes through the center of the sphere.

**Hint 2:** Suppose the sphere has center at the origin  $O$  and two points  $P_1, P_2$  are given on the sphere. The geodesic between  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  is the (smaller) arc obtained from cutting the sphere with the plane through  $O, P_1, P_2$ .

**Hint 3:** The angle  $\angle(P_1OP_2)$  is important. Use the vectors  $\mathbf{OP}_1$  and  $\mathbf{OP}_2$  to find it.