

1. (20) Define the following:

a. $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,2)} f(x,y) = 3,$

Means that for any $\epsilon > 0$, there is a $\delta > 0$ such that if $0 < \|(x,y) - (1,2)\| < \delta$, then $|f(x,y) - 3| < \epsilon$

b. f is differentiable at the point $(1, 2)$,

Means there are numbers ϵ_1 and ϵ_2 such that

$$f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y) = f(x, y) + \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{(1,2)} \Delta x + \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{(1,2)} \Delta y + \epsilon_1 \Delta x + \epsilon_2 \Delta y,$$

where $\lim_{(\Delta x, \Delta y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \epsilon_i = 0$ for $i = 1$ and $i = 2$.

c. f is continuous at the point $(1, 2)$,

Means that $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,2)} f(x,y) = f(1,2)$.

d. The partial derivative of f with respect to x at the point $(1, 2)$.

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{(1,2)} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(1+h, 2) - f(1, 2)}{h}.$$

2. (20) Let $\vec{A} = (3, 2, -1)$, $\vec{B} = (5, 7, 2)$.

a. Find the angle between \vec{A} and \vec{B} .

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}}{\|\vec{A}\| \|\vec{B}\|} = \frac{15 + 14 - 2}{\sqrt{14} \sqrt{78}} = \frac{27}{\sqrt{14} \sqrt{78}}$$

Thus,

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{27}{\sqrt{14} \sqrt{78}} \right) \approx 0.61451$$

b. Find the vector projection of \vec{B} onto \vec{A} .

$$\text{Proj}_{\vec{A}} \vec{B} = \frac{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}}{\|\vec{A}\|^2} \vec{A} = \frac{27}{14} (3, 2, -1)$$

c. Find the area of the parallelogram determined by \vec{A} and \vec{B} .

The area equals the magnitude of the cross product of the two vectors,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \|\vec{A} \times \vec{B}\| = \|(11, -11, 11)\| \\ &= 11 \|(1, -1, 1)\| = 11\sqrt{3}. \end{aligned}$$

d. Find an equation for the straight line passing through the points $(3, 2, -1)$, and $(5, 7, 2)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(t) &= (3, 2, -1) + t[(5, 7, 2) - (3, 2, -1)] \\ &= (3, 2, -1) + t(2, 5, 3) \end{aligned}$$

3. (15) The polar coordinates r , and θ , are related to the Cartesian coordinates by the equations:

$$x = r \cos \theta$$

$$y = r \sin \theta .$$

- a. We saw in class that $\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \cos \theta$, $\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = \sin \theta$, and $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} = \frac{\cos \theta}{r}$. Find a formula for $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x}$ in terms of r and θ .

Differentiating $\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$ with respect to x , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} &= \frac{1}{1 + (y/x)^2} \left(\frac{-y}{x^2} \right) = \frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2} \\ &= \frac{-r \sin \theta}{r^2} = \frac{-\sin \theta}{r} . \end{aligned}$$

- b. Let $f(r, \theta) = r^2 + e^\theta$. Find a formula for $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ in terms of r and θ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} \\ &= 2r \sin \theta + e^\theta \frac{\cos \theta}{r} . \end{aligned}$$

4. (25) Let $f(x, y, z) = x^2 - 3y^2 + yz - 2z$.

a. Use the definition of partial derivative to compute $\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$ at the point $(-1, 2, 1)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right|_{(-1, 2, 1)} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(-1, 2, 1+h) - f(-1, 2, 1)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[1 - 12 + 2(1+h) - 2(1+h)] - (-11)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-11 - (-11)}{h} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

b. Find the directional derivative of f in the direction $(3, 5, \sqrt{2})$ at the point $(-1, 2, 1)$.

$$\begin{aligned} D_N(f) \Big|_{(-1, 2, 1)} &= \nabla f \Big|_{(-1, 2, 1)} \cdot \frac{(3, 5, \sqrt{2})}{6} \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right) \Big|_{(-1, 2, 1)} \cdot \frac{(3, 5, \sqrt{2})}{6} \\ &= (2x, -6y + z, y - 2) \Big|_{(-1, 2, 1)} \cdot \frac{(3, 5, \sqrt{2})}{6} \\ &= (-2, -11, 0) \cdot \frac{(3, 5, \sqrt{2})}{6} \\ &= \frac{-6 - 55}{6} = -\frac{61}{6}. \end{aligned}$$

c. At the point $(-1, 2, 1)$ in what direction will f have the greatest rate of change?

The greatest rate of change of f is in the direction of the gradient of f . Thus, at the point $(-1, 2, 1)$ the gradient is $(-2, -11, 0)$, and this is the direction of maximum rate of change of f .

d. Find an equation for the plane tangent to the surface $f = -11$ at the point $(-1, 2, 1)$.

Since the gradient is perpendicular to level surfaces we know that $(-2, -11, 0)$ is normal to this surface at the point $(-1, 2, 1)$. Hence an equation for the tangent plane to the surface at this point is

$$\begin{aligned} (x + 1, y - 2, z - 1) \cdot (-2, -11, 0) &= 0 \\ 2x + 11y &= 20. \end{aligned}$$

e. Let $\Gamma(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$ be a curve which passes through the point $(-1, 2, 1)$ when $t = 3/4$. Suppose $\Gamma'(3/4) = (3, 5, \sqrt{2})$. Set $g(t) = f(\Gamma(t))$. What must $g'(3/4)$ equal?

$$\begin{aligned} g'(t) &= \nabla f \Big|_{\Gamma(3/4)} \cdot \Gamma'(3/4) \\ &= \nabla f \Big|_{(-1, 2, 1)} \cdot (3, 5, \sqrt{2}) \\ &= (-2, -11, 0) \cdot (3, 5, \sqrt{2}) = -6 - 55 = -61 \end{aligned}$$

5. (10) Let $f(x,y) = \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$.

a. What is the domain of f ?

The domain of f is the set $\{(x,y) : x^2 + y^2 \neq 0\} = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}$.

b. Find $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (3,4)} f(x,y)$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (3,4)} f(x,y) = \frac{12}{\sqrt{9+16}} = \frac{12}{5}.$$

c. Find $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y)$

This is a bit harder as the limit point $(0,0)$ is not in the domain of the function, which means continuity is not applicable. However, if we switch to polar coordinates we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y) &= \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{(r \cos \theta)(r \sin \theta)}{r} \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} r \cos \theta \sin \theta = 0. \end{aligned}$$

6. (10) Let $f(x,y) = x^3 - 3xy + y^3$

a. Find all singular points. That is, find all possible locations of local extrema.

The gradient of f equals $\nabla f = (3x^2 - 3y, -3x + 3y^2)$. Setting both components equal to zero we have the following system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - y &= 0 \\ -x + y^2 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

This leads to the equation $-x + x^4$, which has the two real solutions $x = 0$ and $x = 1$. Since $y = x^2$ we have as our singular points

$$(0, 0) \text{ and } (1, 1).$$

b. At each of the points you found in part a. determine what sort of singular point it is.

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 6x, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 6y, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = -3.$$

Thus, the expression $D = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2 = 36xy - 9$. Evaluating D at the critical points we have

$D(0,0) = -9$ implies that the origin is a saddle point.

Since $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$ is positive at $(1, 1)$ and $D(1, 1) = 27$ we know that $(1, 1)$ is a local minimum.