

Example

- (a) Find all the critical points of $f(x, y) = 12xy 2x^3 3y^2$.
- (b) For each critical point of *f*, determine whether *f* has a local maximum, local minimum, or saddle point at that point.

Solution:

(a) $\nabla f(x, y) = \langle 12y - 6x^2, 12x - 6y \rangle = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$, then,

$$x^2 = 2y, \quad y = 2x, \quad \Rightarrow \quad x(x-4) = 0.$$

There are two solutions, $x = 0 \Rightarrow y = 0$, and $x = 4 \Rightarrow y = 8$. That is, there are two critical points, (0,0) and (4,8).

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Solution:

(b) Recalling $\nabla f(x,y) = \langle 12y - 6x^2, 12x - 6y \rangle$, we compute

$$f_{xx} = -12x, \quad f_{yy} = -6, \quad f_{xy} = 12.$$

$$D(x, y) = f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2 = 144\left(\frac{x}{2} - 1\right),$$

Since D(0,0) = -144 < 0, the point (0,0) is a saddle point of f. Since D(4,8) = 144(2-1) > 0, and $f_{xx}(4,8) = (-12)4 < 0$, the point (4,8) is a local maximum of f.

Section 14.6

Example

- (a) Find the linear approximation L(x, y) of the function $f(x, y) = \sin(2x + 3y) + 1$ at the point (-3, 2).
- (b) Use the approximation above to estimate the value of f(-2.9, 2.1).

Solution:

(a) $L(x, y) = f_x(-3, 2) (x + 3) + f_y(-3, 2) (y - 2) + f(-3, 2).$ Since $f_x(x, y) = 2\cos(2x + 3y)$ and $f_y(x, y) = 3\cos(2x + 3y),$ $f_x(-3, 2) = 2\cos(-6 + 6) = 2, \quad f_y(-3, 2) = 3\cos(-6 + 6) = 3,$ $f(-3, 2) = \sin(-6 + 6) + 1 = 1.$

the linear approximation is L(x, y) = 2(x+3) + 3(y-2) + 1.

Example

- (a) Find the linear approximation L(x, y) of the function $f(x, y) = \sin(2x + 3y) + 1$ at the point (-3, 2).
- (b) Use the approximation above to estimate the value of f(-2.9, 2.1).

Solution: Recall: L(x, y) = 2(x + 3) + 3(y - 2) + 1.

(b) We use L to find the a linear approximation to f(-2.9, 2.1).

We need to compute L(-2.9, 2.1).

$$L(-2.9, 2.1) = 2(-2.9 + 3) + 3(2.1 - 2) + 2$$

 $L(-2.9, 2.1) = 2(0.1) + 3(0.1) + 1 \implies L(-2.9, 2.1) = 1.5.$

Exact value is close to 1.479.

Section 14.5

Example

- (a) Find the gradient of $f(x, y, z) = \sqrt{x + 2yz}$.
- (b) Find the directional derivative of f at (0, 2, 1) in the direction given by (0, 3, 4).
- (c) Find the maximum rate of change of f at the point (0, 2, 1).

Solution:

(a)
$$\nabla f(x,y,z) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+2yz}} \langle 1,2z,2y \rangle.$$

(b) We evaluate the gradient above at (0, 2, 1),

$$abla f(0,2,1)=rac{1}{2\sqrt{0+4}}\langle 1,2,4
angle=rac{1}{4}\langle 1,2,4
angle.$$

Example

- (a) Find the gradient of $f(x, y, z) = \sqrt{x + 2yz}$.
- (b) Find the directional derivative of f at (0, 2, 1) in the direction given by ⟨0, 3, 4⟩.
- (c) Find the maximum rate of change of f at the point (0, 2, 1).

Solution: (b) Recall: $\nabla f(0,2,1) = \frac{1}{4} \langle 1,2,4 \rangle$. We now need a unit vector parallel to $\langle 0,3,4 \rangle$,

$$\mathbf{u}=rac{1}{\sqrt{9+16}}\langle 0,3,4
angle=rac{1}{5}\langle 0,3,4
angle.$$

Then, $(D_u f)(0, 2, 1) = \frac{1}{4} \langle 1, 2, 4 \rangle \cdot \frac{1}{5} \langle 0, 3, 4 \rangle = \frac{1}{20} (6 + 16) = \frac{11}{10}.$ We obtain, $(D_u f)(0, 2, 1) = \frac{11}{10}.$

Section 14.5

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- (a) Find the gradient of $f(x, y, z) = \sqrt{x + 2yz}$.
- (b) Find the directional derivative of f at (0,2,1) in the direction given by ⟨0,3,4⟩.
- (c) Find the maximum rate of change of f at the point (0, 2, 1).

Solution:

(c) The maximum rate of change of f at a point is the magnitude of its gradient at that point, that is,

$$|
abla f(0,2,1)| = rac{1}{4} |\langle 1,2,4
angle| = rac{1}{4} \sqrt{1+4+16} = rac{\sqrt{21}}{4}$$

The maximum rate of change of f at (0, 2, 1) is

$$|
abla f(0,2,1)| = \sqrt{21}/4.$$

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Example

Find $\partial_{xy}(e^{-xy}\sin(x+yz))$. (Do not simplify your answer.)

Solution: We first compute the x-derivative,

$$\partial_x (e^{-xy}\sin(x+yz)) = -ye^{-xy}\sin(x+yz) + e^{-xy}\cos(x+yz)$$

The second derivative is

$$\partial_{xy}(e^{-xy}\sin(x+yz)) = \partial_y(-ye^{-xy}\sin(x+yz)+e^{-xy}\cos(x+yz)),$$

$$= -e^{-xy}\sin(x+yz) + xye^{-xy}\sin(x+yz) - ye^{-xy}\cos(x+yz)z$$

$$-xe^{-xy}\cos(x+yz)-e^{-xy}\sin(x+yz)z. \qquad \lhd$$

Section 14.3

Example

Find any value of the constant *a* such that the function $f(x, y) = e^{-ax} \cos(y) - e^{-y} \cos(x)$ is solution of Laplace's equation $f_{xx} + f_{yy} = 0$. Solution: $f_x = -ae^{-ax} \cos(y) + e^{-y} \sin(x), f_{xx} = a^2 e^{-ax} \cos(y) + e^{-y} \cos(x)$.

$$f_y = -e^{-ax}\sin(y) + e^{-y}\cos(x), \ f_{yy} = -e^{-ax}\cos(y) - e^{-y}\cos(x).$$

$$f_{xx} + f_{yy} = \left[a^2 e^{-ax} \cos(y) + e^{-y} \cos(x)\right] \\ + \left[-e^{-ax} \cos(y) - e^{-y} \cos(x)\right], \\ f_{xx} + f_{yy} = (a^2 - 1)e^{-ax} \cos(y).$$

Function f is solution of $f_{xx} + f_{yy} = 0$ iff $a = \pm 1$.

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Example

Compute the limit
$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(0,0)} \frac{x^2 \sin^2(y)}{2x^2 + 3y^2}$$
.

Solution:

Since $x^2 \leq 2x^2 + 3y^2$, that is, $\frac{x^2}{2x^2 + 3y^2} \leq 1$, the non-negative function $f(x, y) = \frac{x^2 \sin^2(y)}{2x^2 + 3y^2}$ satisfies the bounds $0 \leq f(x, y) \leq \sin^2(y)$.

Since $\lim_{y\to 0} \sin^2(y) = 0$, the Sandwich Theorem implies that

$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(0,0)}\frac{x^2\sin^2(y)}{2x^2+3y^2}=0.$$

Section 13.3

Example

Reparametrize the curve $\mathbf{r}(t) = \left\langle \frac{3}{2}\sin(t^2), 2t^2, \frac{3}{2}\cos(t^2) \right\rangle$ with respect to its arc length measured from t = 1 in the direction of increasing t.

Solution:

We first compute the arc length function. We start with the derivative

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle 3t \cos(t^2), 4t, -3\sin(t^2) \rangle,$$

We now need its magnitude,

$$|\mathbf{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{9t^2\cos^2(t^2) + 16t^2 + 9\sin^2(t^2)},$$

$$|\mathbf{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{9t^2 + 16t^2} = (\sqrt{9 + 16}) t \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\mathbf{r}'(t)| = 5t$$

Example

Reparametrize the curve $\mathbf{r}(t) = \left\langle \frac{3}{2}\sin(t^2), 2t^2, \frac{3}{2}\cos(t^2) \right\rangle$ with respect to its arc length measured from t = 1 in the direction of increasing t.

Solution: Recall: $|\mathbf{r}'(t)| = 5t$. The arc length function is

$$s(t) = \int_{1}^{t} 5\tau \, d\tau = \frac{5}{2} \left(\tau^{2} \Big|_{1}^{t} \right) = \frac{5}{2} (t^{2} - 1).$$

Inverting this function for t^2 , we obtain $t^2 = \frac{2}{5}s + 1$. The reparametrization of $\mathbf{r}(t)$ is given by

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}}(s) = \left\langle \frac{3}{2} \sin\left(\frac{2}{5}s+1\right), 2\left(\frac{2}{5}s+1\right), \frac{3}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2}{5}s+1\right) \right\rangle. \quad \triangleleft$$