

1. Consider the function

$$f(x, y) = \frac{xy(x^2 + y^4)}{x^2 + y^2}, \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}.$$

[2] (a) Show that  $f$  is continuous at  $(0, 0)$  and find the limit

$$f(0, 0) := \lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)} f(x, y).$$

[2] (b) Compute the  $x$ -partial derivative at  $(0, 0)$  by using the definition

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0, 0) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h}.$$

[2] (c) Compute  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y)$  by using chain rule and prove that it is continuous at  $(0, 0)$ .

(a) Check behavior as  $(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)$   
in polar coordinates

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x = r \cos(\theta) \\ y = r \sin(\theta) \end{array} \right\} f(x, y) = \frac{r^2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) (r^2 \cos^2(\theta) + r^4 \sin^4(\theta))}{r^2 (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)}$$

The limit corresponds  
to  $r \rightarrow 0$

$$= r^2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) [\cos^2(\theta) + r^2 \sin^4(\theta)]$$

$f(x, y) \rightarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow 0$ . (because  $\cos(\theta), \sin(\theta)$  are bounded)

Let  $f(0, 0) := \lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)} f(x, y) = 0$ . Then,  $f(x, y) = \frac{xy(x^2 + y^4)}{x^2 + y^2}$

is defined everywhere on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

$$(b) \begin{aligned} f(h, 0) &= 0 \\ f(0, 0) &= 0 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0, 0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h} = 0.$$

$$(c) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{y(3x^2 + y^4)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} - \frac{2x^2 y(x^2 + y^4)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} = \frac{y[(x^2 + y^2)(3x^2 + y^4) - 2x^2(x^2 + y^4)]}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$$

$$= \frac{y[x^4 + 3x^2 y^2 - x^2 y^4 + y^6]}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$$

Consider again the limit  $(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)$  in polar coordinates.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{r \sin(\theta) [r^4 \cos^4(\theta) + 3r^4 \cos^2(\theta) \sin^2(\theta) - r^6 \cos^2(\theta) \sin^4(\theta) + r^6 \sin^6(\theta)]}{r^4 (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)^2}$$

$$= r \sin(\theta) [\cos^4(\theta) + 3 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta - r^2 \cos^2 \theta \sin^4(\theta) + r^2 \sin^6(\theta)]$$

$$\text{As } r \rightarrow 0, \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \rightarrow 0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0, 0)$$

Therefore,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  is continuous at  $(0, 0)$ .

2. Consider the function

$$f(x, y) = x^4 - 2x^2 + y^2 + 3,$$

in the disk  $D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$ .

[2] (a) Find critical points by using the first derivative test.

[2] (b) Identify local minima and maxima in  $D$  by using the second derivative test.

[2] (c) Find the global minimum and global maximum in  $D$ .

(a)  $f$  is differentiable everywhere (as a polynomial)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 4x^3 - 4x = 0$$

$$x(x^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = +2y = 0$$

Critical points are:  $(0, 0)$ ;  $(1, 0)$ ;  $(-1, 0)$

All three points belong to the unit closed disk  $D$ .

$$(b) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 12x^2 - 4$$

$$(0, 0): f_{ff} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} - \text{saddle point}$$

local minimum

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 2$$

$$(\pm 1, 0): f_{ff} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} -$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = 0$$

(c)  $f(\pm 1, 0) = 2$   
 $f(0, 0) = 3$

On the boundary of  $D$ :  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$

$f = x^4 - 2x^2 + (1 - x^2) + 3 = x^4 - 3x^2 + 4 \equiv g(x)$

Check critical point of  $g(x)$  for  $x \in [-1, 1]$ :

$g'(x) = 4x^3 - 6x = 0 \quad 2x(2x^2 - 3) = 0$

$x = 0$  or  $x = \pm \sqrt{3/2}$  (these points do not belong the boundary of  $D$ )

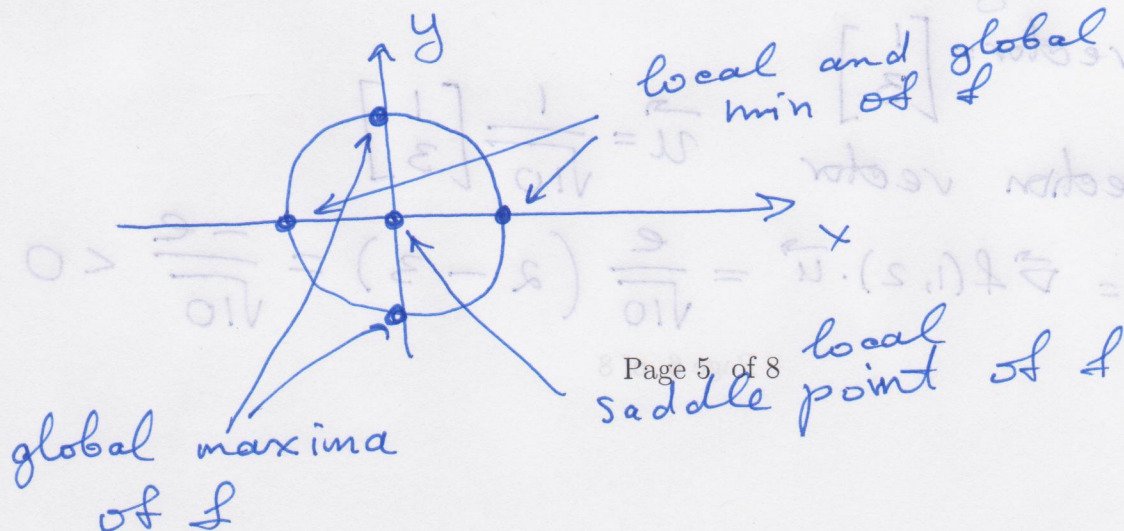
$g''(x) = 12x^2 - 6$

$g''(0) = -6$  - local maximum

$g''(\pm\sqrt{3/2}) = 12 \cdot \frac{3}{2} - 6 = 12$

Thus,  $(\pm 1, 0)$  are global minima of  $f$  (with  $f = 2$ )

$(0, \pm 1)$  are global maxima of  $f$  with  $f = 4$ .



3. Consider the function

$$f(x, y) = e^x \sin(2x - y), \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

- [2] (a) Find the gradient vector of  $f$  at any point  $(x, y)$ .  
 [2] (b) Find the directional derivative of  $f$  at the point  $(1, 2)$  in the direction of the line  $y = 3x - 1$ , for increasing values of  $x$ .  
 [2] (c) Find the unit direction vector  $\mathbf{u}$  at the point  $(1, 2)$ , along which the function has the maximal increase.

$$(a) \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = e^x \sin(2x - y) + 2e^x \cos(2x - y)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = -e^x \cos(2x - y)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} f(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} e^x [\sin(2x - y) + 2 \cos(2x - y)] \\ -e^x \cos(2x - y) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(b) \quad \text{point } (1, 2) \quad \vec{\nabla} f(1, 2) = \begin{bmatrix} 2e \\ -e \end{bmatrix}$$

direction along the line  $y = 3x - 1$

$$\text{Tangent vector} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Unit direction vector

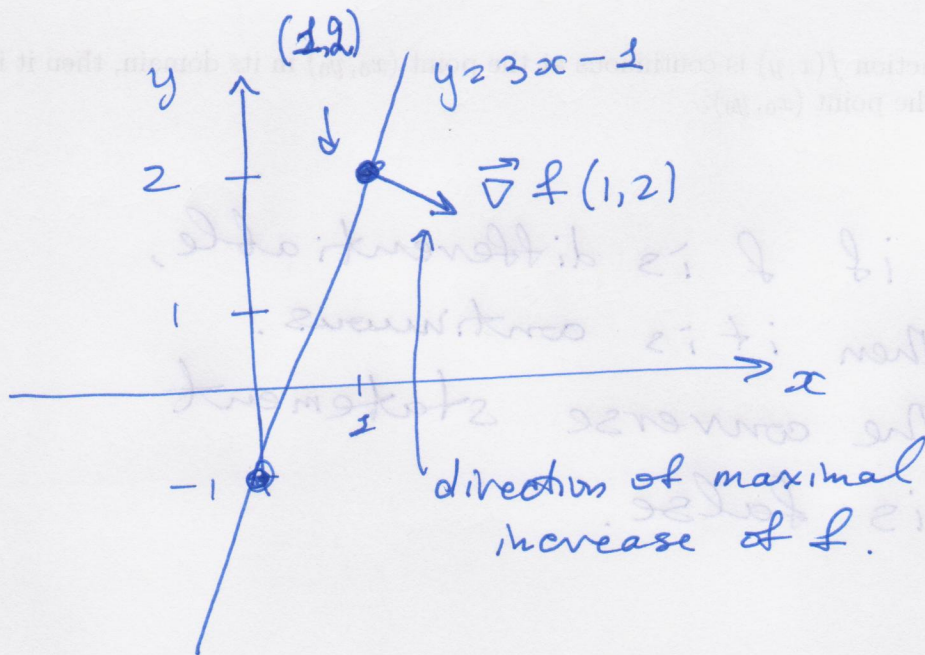
$$\vec{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(1, 2) = \vec{\nabla} f(1, 2) \cdot \vec{u} = \frac{e}{\sqrt{10}} (2 - 3) = \frac{-e}{\sqrt{10}} < 0$$

(c)  $\vec{\nabla} f(1,2)$  shows the direction of the maximal increase of  $f$ .

$$\|\vec{\nabla} f(1,2)\| = \sqrt{4e^2 + e^2} = \sqrt{5}e$$

$$\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{\nabla} f(1,2)}{\|\vec{\nabla} f(1,2)\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}e} \begin{bmatrix} 2e \\ -e \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



4. TRUE or FALSE:

[1] (a) The function  $Q(x, y) = 3xy + x$  is the quadratic approximation of the function  $f(x, y) = x(1 + y)^3$  at the point  $(0, 0)$ .

$$f(x, y) = x(1 + 3y + 3y^2 + y^3) = x + 3xy + 3xy^2 + xy^3$$

$$Q(x, y) = 3xy + x$$

TRUE:  $Q$  is a quadratic approximation of  $f$  at  $(0, 0)$

[1] (b) If a function  $f(x, y)$  is continuous at the point  $(x_0, y_0)$  in its domain, then it is differentiable at the point  $(x_0, y_0)$ .

FALSE: if  $f$  is differentiable,  
then it is continuous.  
The converse statement  
is false.