

Test: Wednesday 10 October.

5 questions taken from sections 1-7 of the problem sheet.

## Continuity

A function  $f(x, y)$  is continuous at  $(x_0, y_0)$  if

$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} f(x, y)$$

exists, and

$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} f(x, y) = f(x_0, y_0)$$

Example Consider

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 3xy & (x, y) \neq (1, 2) \\ 0 & (x, y) = (1, 2) \end{cases}$$

At the point  $(1, 2)$

$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} f(x, y) =$$

$$= \lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (1, 2)} 3xy = 6$$

But

$$f(1, 2) = 0.$$

Hence  $f(x, y)$  is not continuous at  $(1, 2)$ .

Example

Consider

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$$

Choose some constant  $m$ .

Suppose  $x \rightarrow 0$ , Then  $y = mx \rightarrow 0$ .

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

$$\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow 0 \\ y = mx \rightarrow 0}} f(x,y) =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 - m^2 x^2}{x^2 + m^2 x^2}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - m^2}{1 + m^2}$$

$$= \frac{1 - m^2}{1 + m^2}$$

This blue answer depends on  $m$ . Thus  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y)$  does not exist, it follows that  $f(x,y)$  is not continuous at  $(0,0)$ .

Defn If a function  $f(x, y)$  has continuous partial derivatives

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  at each point in

a region  $S$ , then  $f$  is said

to be continuously differentiable

in the region.

Proposition If  $f$  is continuously differentiable in a region then

$f$  is continuous in the region,

and  $f$  is differentiable in the region.

Example Consider

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} & (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0 & (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

Show that

$f_x(0,0)$  exists, and that

$f_y(0,0)$  exists, but that

$f(x,y)$  is not continuous at  $(0,0)$ .

Sol<sup>n</sup>  $f_x(0,0)$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h,0) - f(0,0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{h^2} = 0$$

$f_y(0,0)$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0,h) - f(0,0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{h^2} = 0.$$

Consider  $y = mx$ ,  $m$  constant.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow 0 \\ y = mx \rightarrow 0}} \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{mx^2}{x^2(1+m^2)} \\ &= \frac{m}{1+m^2}. \end{aligned}$$

This depends on  $m$ .

Hence  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y)$  does not

exist,

Hence  $f(x,y)$  is not continuous  
at  $(0,0)$ .

# Partial Derivatives of Composite Functions (Chain Rule)

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$$u = F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

where

$$x_1 = g_1(\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_p)$$

$$x_2 = g_2(\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_p)$$

$\vdots$

$$x_n = g_n(\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_p)$$

then

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau_i} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial \tau_i} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial \tau_i} + \dots + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_n} \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial \tau_i}$$

Proof is easy and boring.

Example Consider

$$u = x^2 e^{yx}$$

where

$$x = t \cos(t)$$

$$y = t \sin(t).$$

Find

$$\frac{du}{dt} \text{ at } t = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

Soln

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$= (2x e^{yx} + x^2 y e^{yx}) (\cos(t) - t \sin(t))$$

$$+ (x^2 y e^{yx}) (\sin(t) + t \cos(t))$$

Evaluate at  $t = \frac{\pi}{2}$

etc.