

Exercise Session, April 4, 2016

1. Consider the surface Γ of the equation $z = f(x, y) = xy$.

- (a) At which point(s) of Γ the tangent plane is parallel to the plane

$$z = p(x, y) = -x/6 + y + 5/3$$

Give the equation of the tangent plane.

- (b) Determine the equation of tangent plane(s) of Γ that pass through the points $Q = (4, 2, 8)$ and $R = (6, 0, 2)$.

(Hint: we search for point(s) (x_0, y_0, z_0) on Γ with tangent plane passing through Q and R)

2. A company manufactures right circular cylindrical storage tanks that are 25 meters high with a radius of 5 meters. How sensitive are the tank's volumes to small variations in height and radius. (Hint: Linearize the equation for the volume of a cylinder at point $(h = 25, r = 5)$ using Taylor expansion of first order).
3. Consider the function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{3xy^2 - y^3}{x^2 + y^2} & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

- (a) Study the continuity of the function on \mathbb{R}^2 .
- (b) Calculate the partial derivatives: Can we say that the function is differentiable on $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$?
- (c) Compute the directional derivative of f at points $(x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$ and $(x_0, y_0) = (1, 1)$ along vector $v = (v_1, v_2)$, what can you say about differentiability of f at these points.
- (d) calculate the limit

$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} \frac{f(x, y) - f(x_0, y_0) - \nabla f(x_0, y_0) \cdot (x - x_0, y - y_0)}{\sqrt{(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2}}$$

for $(x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$ and $(x_0, y_0) = (1, 1)$. Why are the values different?

4. Let $f(x, y) = e^x \log(1 - y) + \sin(2xy)$ and $x_0 = (0, 0)$

- (a) Calculate the Taylor expansion of order 2 ($t_2(x, y)$) of f .
- (b) Consider $g(x) = f(x, 3x)$ and calculate its Taylor expansion of order 2 at $x = 0$ and compare the result with $t_2(x, 3x)$.

5. Study the nature of the stationary points of the functions

- (a) $f(x, y) = x^3 + 6xy^2 - 12x^2 - 18y^2 + 21x$
- (b) $f(x, y) = y^2 + y \cos(x) - \sin(x) - 2$

6. A T-shirt shop carries two competing shirts, one with Batman vs. Superman theme and the other with Captain America: Civil War theme. The owner can obtain both at a cost of 2 CHF per shirt and estimates that if Batman vs. Superman shirts are sold for x CHF apiece and Civil War for y CHF apiece, consumers will buy $40 - 50x + 40y$ of the first shirt and $20 + 60x - 70y$ of the second shirt each day.

- (a) Express as a function of x and y the revenue of selling Batman vs. Superman shirts, the revenue of selling Civil War shirts, the costs for shirts and the overall profit.
- (b) Find the critical point of the profit function.
- (c) How should the owner price the shirts in order to generate the largest possible profit?
- (d) Calculate the Hessian matrix for this problem and its determinant. Is the solution in (b) indeed an absolute maximum?

7. Consider the function

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^\alpha, \quad \alpha \geq 0$$

- (a) Determine the stationary points of the system.
- (b) Study the nature of the stationary points for $\alpha = 2$, $\alpha = 3$ and $\alpha = 4$.