

This document has some practice questions to help you prepare for the midterm.

## 1 Derivatives

### 1.1 Differentiation

1. Use the limit definition to compute the derivative of  $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{2-x}$ .
2. Use the limit definition to compute the derivative of  $f(x) = \cos(3x)$ .  
Try to simplify your answer as much as possible, you may need this trigonometric identity  $\cos(a+b) = \cos(a)\cos(b) - \sin(a)\sin(b)$ .
3. Use the limit definition to compute the derivative of  $f(x) = \frac{a}{x}$ .
4. Which of the following functions is **not continuous**?  
a)  $x^2 - 2x + 1$ , b)  $\cos(x^2)$ , c)  $|x - 1|$

### 1.2 Total derivative

1. Compute the total derivative of the Beattie-Bridgeman equation of state for the pressure,

$$p(T, \nu) = \frac{RT}{\nu^2} \left( 1 - \frac{c}{\nu T^3} \right) (\nu + B) - \frac{A}{\nu^2}, \quad (1)$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are some functions of the molar volume  $\nu$ , here we will consider them as constants.

2. Derive the total derivative of a linear model of the form,

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i x_i, \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m]. \quad (2)$$

3. Derive the total derivative of a polynomial expansion of the form,

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i x^i \quad \text{where} \quad x^i \quad \text{is } x \text{ to the power of } i. \quad (3)$$

### 1.3 Partial derivatives

1. The virial expansion is a model of thermodynamic equations of state, and it is given by,

$$P(V_m, T) = \frac{R}{T} \left( 1 + \frac{B(T)}{V_m} + \frac{B(T)}{V_m^2} + \dots \right), \quad (4)$$

where  $V_m$  is the molar volume.

Compute the partial derivate of  $P(V_m, T)$  with respect to the molar volume.

2. Compute the partial derivative of  $f(x, y) = (2x + 6y)^4$  with respect to the variable  $y$

$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (2x + 6y)^4 \quad (5)$$

3. Compute the partial derivative of  $f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{e^{x_1}}{e^{x_1} + e^{x_2}}$  with respect to the variable  $x_1$

$$\frac{\partial f(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( \frac{e^{x_1}}{e^{x_1} + e^{x_2}} \right) \quad (6)$$

## 2 Linear Algebra

1. What is the result of  $\mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^\top$ , given

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (7)$$

Remember that  $\mathbf{v}^\top$  is a row vector, meaning the transpose of a column vector.

2. Compute the Manhattan distance of the vector

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

The Manhattan distance is defined as,  $d_M(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i |x_i|$ .

3. Given the following two matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ , where  $\mathbf{A}$  has 10 rows and 100 columns, and  $\mathbf{B}$  has 200 rows and 10 columns. Which of the following operations is doable,

a)  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}$ , b)  $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}$

For the selected option, what is the size of the output tensor.

4. What is  $B^\top$  ( $\top$ : transpose),

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 7 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

5. What is the output of  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^\top$ ?

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$