

# Calculus and Probability Theory

## Assignment 4

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March 3, 2017

**After completing these exercises successfully you should be confident with the following topics:**

- Analyse and sketch real functions
- Apply differentiation rules to determine higher-order partial derivatives
- Find primitives of well-known functions
- Compute definite integrals when the primitive function is known
- compute improper integrals

1. **(20 points)** Investigate the function  $f(x) = \frac{x}{\ln(x)}$  as follows. (Do not start with drawing a graph by means of a device or some web resource. Of course you may check your result when you're done.)

- (a) Determine the domain of the function  $f$ .

**Solutions:**

In this case, we just have to look out for the values for  $x$  when the denominator could become 0 or undefined. First of all,  $\ln(0)$  is undefined. Second,  $\ln(1) = 0$ . Note for myself:  $\ln(1) = 0$  answers the question, what is the value for  $x$  so  $e^x = 1$ ?. Therefore:

$$D(f) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 < x < 1 \wedge x > 1\}$$

- (b) What are the roots of  $f$ ?

**Solutions:**

To determine the roots of  $f$ , we just have to determine the  $x$  value when the whole quotient equals 0. As we take the denominator as the first step, then we plug in  $x = 0$  and get  $\ln(0) = 1$  and in the

numerator 0. Therefore  $\frac{0}{\ln(0)} = \frac{0}{1} = 0$ .

The roots of f:  $x_1 = 0$

The y-intercept would therefore also be 0.

- (c) Determine the limits at 1 and  $\infty$ . (Hint: there are 3 cases, use L'Hopital!)

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{x}{\ln(x)} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} x \\ &= -\infty\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{x}{\ln(x)} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} x \\ &= \infty\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{\ln(x)} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \\ &= \infty\end{aligned}$$

- (d) Find  $f'$  and  $f''$ .

**Solutions:**

Use Quotient rule.

$$\begin{aligned}f(x)' &= \frac{1 \cdot \ln(x) - x \cdot \frac{1}{x}}{\ln^2(x)} \\ &= \frac{\ln(x) - 1}{\ln^2(x)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x)'' &= \frac{\frac{1}{x} \ln^2(x) - ((\ln(x) - 1) \frac{2 \ln(x)}{x})}{\ln^4(x)} \\
&= \frac{\frac{\ln^2(x) - ((\ln(x) - 1) 2 \ln(x))}{x}}{\ln^4(x)} \\
&= \frac{\frac{\ln(x) - (2 \ln(x) - 2)}{x}}{\ln^3(x)} \\
&= \frac{\frac{-\ln(x) + 2}{x}}{\ln^3(x)} \\
&= \frac{2 - \ln(x)}{x \ln^3(x)}
\end{aligned}$$

- (e) Find the zeros of  $f'$  and  $f''$ .

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}
f'(x) &= \frac{\ln(x) - 1}{\ln^2(x)} \text{ so } x = e \text{ is the only zero of } f'(x). \\
f''(x) &= \frac{2 - \ln(x)}{x \ln^3(x)} \text{ so } x = e^2 \text{ is the only zero of } f''(x).
\end{aligned}$$

- (f) What are the critical points (determine their  $x$  and  $y$  coordinates)?

**Solutions:**

A critical point of a function  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , is a point  $a \in D$  such that  $f'(a) = 0$ . The value  $f(a)$  is called a critical value of  $f$ .

We just found the  $x$ -coordinates of the critical point. We have  $f(e) = \frac{e}{\ln(e)} = \frac{e}{1} = e$ . So we get the point  $(e, e)$ .

- (g) Find the local minimums and maximums.

**Solutions:**

We have  $f''(e) = \frac{2 - \ln(e)}{e \ln^3(e)} = \frac{2 - 1}{e \cdot 1} = \frac{1}{e} > 0$ , so it is a minimum. This is the only critical point, so there are no local maxima and only one minimum.

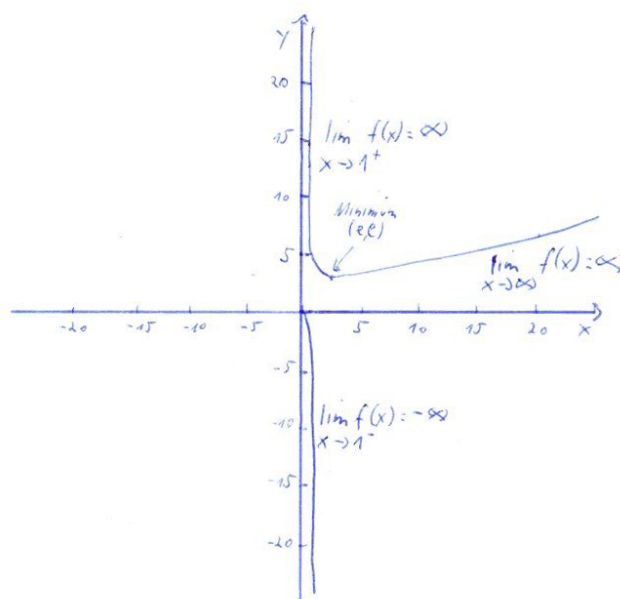
- (h) Which parts of the function are convex and concave? Does function  $f$  have points of inflection? (Hint: Use the sign of the second derivative for answering both questions.)

**Solutions:**

The function is concave  $\iff f''(x) < 0 \iff \frac{2 - \ln(x)}{x \ln^3(x)} < 0 \iff x < e^2$ .  
The function is convex  $\iff f''(x) > 0 \iff \frac{2 - \ln(x)}{x \ln^3(x)} > 0 \iff x > e^2$ .  
It has a point of inflection at  $x = e^2$

- (i) Draw the graph of function  $f$ . (If you collect all intervals and special points in a table, it helps a lot in drawing the graph. Moreover, you get some extra points!)

**Solutions:**



2. (6 points) Show that the derivative of an odd function is even and that the derivative of an even function is odd.

**Solutions:**

- A function  $f : (-a, a) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is even if  $f(-x) = f(x)$ , for all  $x \in (-a, a)$  and odd if  $f(-x) = -f(x)$ , for all  $x \in (-a, a)$
- $f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$

If  $f$  is odd then

$$f'(-x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(-x+h) - f(-x)}{h} = - \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x-h) - f(x)}{h} = -f'(x)$$

3. (14 points) Optimization problem

- (a) Find the point on the parabola  $y^2 = 2x$  that is closest to  $A = (1, 4)$

**Solutions:**

$y^2 = 2x$  is a sideways parabola with the equation  $x = \frac{y^2}{2}$ .

The distance formula from unknown point  $(x, y)$  to known point  $A = (1, 4)$  is

$$d(x, y) = \sqrt{(x-1)^2 + (y-4)^2}$$

Substitute  $\frac{y^2}{2}$  for x:

$$\begin{aligned} d\left(\frac{y^2}{2}, y\right) &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{y^2}{2} - 1\right)^2 + (y-4)^2} \\ d(y) &= \sqrt{\frac{y^4}{4} - y^2 + 1 + 2 - 8y + 16} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{y^4}{4} - 8y + 17} \end{aligned}$$

Take the derivative of the distance with respect to y

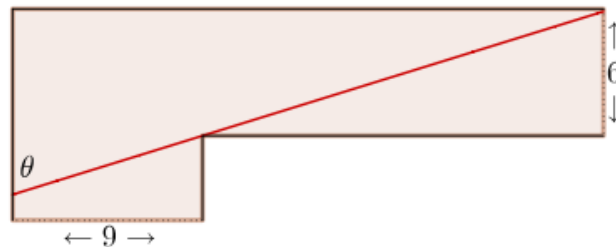
$$d'(y) = \frac{y^3 - 8}{\sqrt{y^4 - 32y + 68}}$$

The minimum will occur when the derivative is zero:

$$\begin{aligned} y^3 - 8 &= 0 \\ y^3 &= 8 \\ y &= 2 \\ x &= \frac{2^2}{2} \\ x &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

The point (2,2) is the closest point on the parabola to A = (1,4).

- (b) A steel rod is carried down a hallway of 9 meter wide. At the end there is a corner to the right into a narrower hallway of 6 meter wide. What is the maximum length of the steel rod that can be carried horizontally around the corner?



(Hint: What happens at  $\theta \rightarrow 0$  and  $\theta \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}\pi$ ? Show that the angle at which the minimum is obtained is at  $\theta = \arctan(\sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{2}}) \approx 0,853$ .)

**Solutions:**

4. (**20 points**) Given function  $f$ , find the partial derivatives. If it is necessary, simplify the result.

a.i  $f(x, y) = \cos(4y - xy)$ ;  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x, y) = ?$

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x, y) &= -\sin(4y - xy)(-y) \\ &= y \sin(4y - xy)\end{aligned}$$

a.ii  $f(x, y) = \cos(4y - xy)$ ;  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x, y) = ?$

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x, y) &= -\sin(4y - xy)(4 - x) \\ &= (x - 4)\sin(4y - xy)\end{aligned}$$

b Show that  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x, y)) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x, y))$

**Solutions:**

The **Theorem of Schwarz** says that it does not matter in which order you take two partial derivatives:

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

If we differentiate  $f$  first with respect to  $x$  and then with respect to  $y$  we get the derivative  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x})$  (if it exists). It is more usually denoted by  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$  or  $(f'_x)'_y$  or  $f''_{xy}$

Alternatively, if we differentiate first with respect to  $y$  and then  $x$  we get  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$  (if it exists). Or  $(f'_y)'_x$  or  $f''_{yx}$

Let's rewrite the left-hand side of the formula  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x, y)) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x, y))$  like this:

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

5. (**20 points**) Evaluate the following definite integrals. (Hint: use slide 38 of the lectures about derivatives, and slide 13 of the lectures about primitives)

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

(a)  $\int_{-1}^1 (x^3 + x - 1)dx$

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}\int (x^3 + x - 1)dx &= \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + C \\ \int_{-1}^1 (x^3 + x - 1)dx &= \left[ \frac{1}{4}1^4 + \frac{1}{2}1^2 - 1 \right] - \left[ \frac{1}{4}(-1)^4 + \frac{1}{2}(-1)^2 - (-1) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2} - 1 \\ &= -2\end{aligned}$$

(b)  $\int_1^2 (3\sqrt{x} + \frac{3}{x^2})dx$

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}\int (3\sqrt{x} + \frac{3}{x^2})dx &= 3 \left[ \frac{2x^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} - \frac{1}{x} \right] + C \\ \int_1^2 (3\sqrt{x} + \frac{3}{x^2})dx &= \left[ 3(\frac{2(2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} - \frac{1}{2}) \right] - \left[ 3(\frac{2(1)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} - 1) \right] \\ &= 4\sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{2} \\ &\approx 5.1569\end{aligned}$$

(c)  $\int_0^\pi (\sin(x) + \cos(x))dx$

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}\int (\sin(x) + \cos(x))dx &= -\cos(x) + \sin(x) + C \\ \int_0^\pi (\sin(x) + \cos(x))dx &= [-\cos(\pi) + \sin(\pi)] - [-\cos(0) + \sin(0)] \\ &= 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 \\ &= 2\end{aligned}$$

(d)  $\int_1^e (\frac{1-\ln x}{x^2})dx$

**Solutions:**

Integration by parts:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \left( \frac{1 - \ln x}{x^2} \right) dx &= \int \left( (1 - \ln x) \frac{1}{x^2} \right) dx = \int ((1 - \ln x) x^{-2}) dx \\
&= \left[ (1 - \ln x) \left( -\frac{1}{x} \right) \right] - \int -\frac{1}{x} \left( -\frac{1}{x} \right) \\
&= \left[ (1 - \ln x) \left( -\frac{1}{x} \right) \right] - \int \frac{1}{x^2} \\
&= \left[ (1 - \ln x) \left( -\frac{1}{x} \right) \right] + \frac{1}{x} \\
&= \frac{\ln x}{x} \\
\int_1^e \left( \frac{1 - \ln x}{x^2} \right) dx &= \frac{\ln(e)}{e} - \frac{\ln(1)}{1} \\
&= \frac{1}{e} - \frac{0}{1} \\
&= \frac{1}{e}
\end{aligned}$$

6. (20 points) Evaluate the following improper integrals.

- (a)  $\int_{-1}^1 \left( \frac{1}{x^n} \right) dx$ ,  $n$  an integer such that  $n \geq 2$ ; (Hint: distinguish two cases).

**Solutions:**

- (b)  $\int_{-\infty}^{-\pi/2} \frac{x \cos(x) - \sin(x)}{x^2} dx$ ; (Hint: use the quotient rule for derivation to find the primitive)

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \left( \frac{x \cos(x) - \sin(x)}{x^2} \right) dx &= \frac{\sin(x)}{x} + C \\
\int_{-\infty}^{-\pi/2} \left( \frac{x \cos(x) - \sin(x)}{x^2} \right) dx &= \frac{2}{\pi}
\end{aligned}$$

- (c)  $\int_2^\infty \frac{-1}{x \ln^2(x)} dx$ ; (Hint: use a fraction of well known functions to find the primitive)

**Solutions:**

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \left( \frac{-1}{x \ln^2(x)} \right) dx &= \frac{1}{\ln(x)} + C \\
\int_2^\infty \left( \frac{-1}{x \ln^2(x)} \right) dx &= \frac{1}{\ln(2)}
\end{aligned}$$

7. (bonus, +6 points) Find primitives of the following functions  $f$ . That is, find  $F$  such that  $F'(x) = f(x)$ .

- (a)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{x^2}$

**Solutions:**



$$\int (\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{x^2})dx = \sqrt{x} + \frac{1}{x} + C$$

(b)  $f(x) = 2 \sin(x) \cos(x)$

**Solutions:**

Integration by parts:

$$\int (2 \sin(x) \cos(x))dx = -\frac{1}{2} \cos(2x) + C$$

(c)  $f(x) = \frac{2}{1+4x^2}$

**Solutions:**

Integration by parts:

$$\int (\frac{2}{1+4x^2})dx = \arctan(2x) + C$$

8. **(bonus, 10 points)** If  $f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x+y}$ , show that

$$x^2 \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}f(x, y)) + 2xy \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\frac{\partial}{\partial y}f(x, y)) + y^2 \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(\frac{\partial}{\partial y}f(x, y)) = 0$$

(Hint: First compute all the second partial derivatives of  $f$ , then substitute the results in the expression on the left-hand side.)

**Solutions:**