PARTIAL DERIVATIVES

We say that

$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(x_0,y_0)} f(x,y) = L.$$

• Continuity of a Function of Two Variables

A function f(x, y) is said to be *continuous* at the point (x_0, y_0) if

- 1. $\lim_{(x,y)\to(x_0,y_0)} f(x,y) \text{ exists};$
- 2. $f(x_0, y_0)$ is defined;
- 3. $\lim_{(x,y)\to(x_0,y_0)} f(x,y) = f(x_0, y_0)$

Example-1. Find the limit

$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(1,2)}\frac{5x^2y}{x^2+y^2}.$$

Solution. Observe that the point (1, 2) does not cause division by zero or other domain issues. So,

$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(1,2)}\frac{5x^2y}{x^2+y^2} = \frac{5(1)^2(2)}{(1)^2+(2)^2} = 2.$$

Example-2. Show that

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

is not continuous at the origin.

Solution. Let us apply different path approach. We check the limit along different paths $y = mx, x \neq 0$.

$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(0,0)} f(x,y) = \lim_{(x,mx)\to(0,0)} \frac{2x(mx)}{x^2 + (mx)^2} = \frac{2m}{1 + m^2}.$$

This limit changes with m. Therefore $\lim_{(x,y)\to(0,0)} f(x,y)$ does not exist. Hence the function f(x,y) is not continuous at the origin.

Exercise-1. Find the limits:

(a)
$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(0,1)} \frac{x-xy+3}{x^2y-y^3+5xy}$$
; Ans: -3

(b)
$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(0,0)} \frac{x^2-xy}{\sqrt{x}-\sqrt{y}}$$
; Ans: 0

(c)
$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(\pi/2,0)} \frac{\cos y+1}{y-\sin x}$$
; Ans: -2

(d)
$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(0,0)} \frac{e^y \sin x}{x}$$
; Ans: 1

(e)
$$\lim_{(x,y)\to(0,0)} \frac{x^4-y^4}{x^2+y^2}$$
; Ans: 0

Exercise-2. By considering different paths of approach, show that the function in below examples have no limit as $(x, y) \rightarrow (0,0)$.

(a)
$$f(x,y) = \frac{xy}{|xy|}$$
; Ans: Different limits along $y = mx$

(b)
$$g(x,y) = \frac{x-y}{x+y}$$
; Ans: Different limits along $y = mx$

(c)
$$f(x,y) = \frac{x^4 - y^2}{x^4 + y^2}$$
; Ans: Different limits along $y = mx^2$

(d)
$$h(x,y) = \frac{2xy}{3x^2+y^2}$$
; Ans: Different limits along $y = mx$

Exercise-3. Check whether the following functions are continuous or not at (0,0).

(a)
$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin(x^2 + y^2)}{x^2 + y^2}; & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 1; & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \end{cases}$$
 Ans: continuous
(b) $f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}; & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0; & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \end{cases}$; Ans: Not continuous

(b)
$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}; & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0; & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \end{cases}$$
; Ans: Not continuous

(c)
$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2x^2y}{x^3+y^3}, & if(x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0, & if(x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$
; Ans: Not continuous

Partial Derivative

When the function involves two or more independent variables, like u = f(x, y) or u = f(x, y, z), then the derivative of u with respect to any one of the independent variables, treating all other variables as constant is referred as partial derivative of u with respect to that variable.

Mathematical Form

The partial derivative of u = f(x, y) w. r. t. x at a point (x_0, y_0) is denoted by $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0)$ or $f_x(x_0, y_0)$ or $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0)$ or $u_x(x_0, y_0)$ and is defined as

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h, y_0) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}$$

provided the limit exists

The partial derivative of u = f(x, y) w. r. t. y at a point (x_0, y_0) is denoted by

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) \text{ or } f_y(x_0, y_0) \text{ or } \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) \text{ or } u_y(x_0, y_0) \text{ and is defined as}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x_0, y_0 + h) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}$$

provided the limit exists.

• Higher order Partial Derivatives

For a function f(x,y) the partial derivatives $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ are themselves are functions of x and y, so we can take partial derivatives of them as

$$f_{xx} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \qquad f_{xy} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$$
$$f_{yy} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \qquad f_{yx} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$$

Higher order partial derivatives (e.g. f_{xxy}) can also be calculated. Using the subscript notation, the order of differentiation is from left to right.

Example-1. Let $f(x, y) = 3x^2 + e^{-xy^2}$. Find f_x, f_y .

Solution. $f_x(x,y) = 6x - y^2 e^{-xy^2}$ and $f_y(x,y) = -2xy e^{-xy^2}$.

Example-2. Let $f(x, y) = y\cos(xy)$. Find f_x, f_y .

Solution. $f_x(x,y) = -y^2 \sin(xy)$ and $f_y(x,y) = \cos(xy) - xy\sin(xy)$.

Example-3. Let $f(x, y) = x^2 - 4xy^3$. Find $f_{xx}, f_{xy}, f_{yx}, f_{yy}$.

Solution.

$$f_x(x,y) = 2x - 4y^3 \qquad f_y(x,y) = -12xy^2$$

$$f_{xx}(x,y) = 2 \qquad f_{xy}(x,y) = f_{yx}(x,y) = -12y^2 \qquad f_{yy}(x,y) = -24xy.$$

Example-4. If $z = x + y^x$, prove that $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x}$

Solution. Here

$$z = x + y^x$$

Differentiating z partially w.r.t. x, we get

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 1 + y^x \log y.$$

Differentiating z partially w.r.t. y, we get

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = xy^{x-1}.$$

Differentiating $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ partially w. r. t. x, we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} = y^{x-1} \cdot 1 + xy^{x-1} \log y = y^{x-1} (1 + x \log y) \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Differentiating $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ partially w. r. t. y, we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial v \partial x} = y^x \cdot \frac{1}{v} + \log y \cdot xy^{x-1} = y^{x-1} (1 + x \log y) \dots \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

By (1) and (2),

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x}.$$

Example-5. If $u = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{x + y}$, then prove that $\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2 = 4\left(1 - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)$.

Solution. Here,

$$u = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{x + y}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{(x + y)2x - (x^2 + y^2)1}{(x + y)^2} = \frac{x^2 + 2xy - y^2}{(x + y)^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{(x + y)2y - (x^2 + y^2)1}{(x + y)^2} = \frac{y^2 + 2xy - x^2}{(x + y)^2}$$

Now,

$$LHS = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{x^2 + 2xy - y^2}{(x+y)^2} - \frac{y^2 + 2xy - x^2}{(x+y)^2}\right)^2$$
$$= \left(\frac{2(x^2 - y^2)}{(x+y)^2}\right)^2 = 4\left(\frac{x-y}{x+y}\right)^2$$

RHS. =
$$4\left(1 - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right) = 4\left(1 - \frac{x^2 + 2xy - y^2}{(x+y)^2} - \frac{y^2 + 2xy - x^2}{(x+y)^2}\right)$$

= $4\left(\frac{(x+y)^2 - x^2 - 2xy + y^2 - y^2 - 2xy - x^2}{(x+y)^2}\right) = 4\left(\frac{x-y}{x+y}\right)^2$

Thus

$$LHS = RHS$$

Example-6. If $u = \log(x^3 + y^3 - x^2y - xy^2)$, prove that

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{4}{(x+y)^2}.$$

Solution. Here

$$u = \log(x^{3} + y^{3} - x^{2}y - xy^{2})$$

$$= \log(x^{3} - x^{2}y + y^{3} - xy^{2})$$

$$= \log[x^{2}(x - y) - y^{2}(x - y)]$$

$$= \log[(x - y)(x^{2} - y^{2})]$$

$$= \log[(x + y)(x - y)^{2}]$$

$$= \log(x + y) + 2\log(x - y).$$

Differentiating u w. r. t. x partially,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{x+y} + \frac{2}{x-y}.$$

Differentiating $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ w. r. t. x partially,

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = -\frac{1}{(x+y)^2} - \frac{2}{(x-y)^2} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Differentiating u w. r. t. y partially,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{x+y} - \frac{2}{x-y}.$$

Differentiating $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$ w. r. t. y partially,

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial v^2} = -\frac{1}{(x+v)^2} - \frac{2}{(x-v)^2} \dots \dots (2)$$

Differentiating $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$ w. r. t. x partially,

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = -\frac{1}{(x+y)^2} + \frac{2}{(x-y)^2} \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

By (1), (2) and (3),

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{4}{(x+y)^2}.$$

Example-7. If $x = r\cos\theta$, $y = r\sin\theta$, show that $\left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial y}\right)^2 = 1$.

Solution. Here

$$x = r\cos\theta, y = r\sin\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = r^2$$
....(1)

Differentiating (1) w.r.t. x partially

$$2x = 2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{x}{r}$$

Differentiating (1) w.r.t. y partially

$$2y = 2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = \frac{y}{r}$$

Hence

$$\left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial y}\right)^2 = \frac{x^2}{r^2} + \frac{y^2}{r^2} = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{r^2} = \frac{r^2}{r^2} = 1.$$

Exercise-1. Find all the first and second order partial derivatives of the following functions. Hence, verify Mixed Derivative Theorem (Clairaut's Theorem).

$$(a) f(x,y) = \ln(2x + 3y)$$

(b)
$$f(x, y) = xy + \frac{e^y}{y^2 + 1}$$

(c)
$$f(x,y) = tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right)$$

(d)
$$g(x,y) = x^2y + \cos y + y \sin x$$

Exercise-2. Evaluate the following partial derivatives.

(a)
$$z = \sqrt{x^2 + 4y^2}$$
; Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ (1,2) and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ (1,2); Ans: $\frac{1}{\sqrt{17}}$, $\frac{8}{\sqrt{17}}$

(b)
$$w = x^2 y \cos z$$
; Find $\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}$, $\frac{\partial w}{\partial y}$, $\frac{\partial w}{\partial z} at$ (2, 1, 0)

Exercise-3. Find the indicated higher order partial derivatives.

(a)
$$f(x,t) = x^2 e^{-ct}$$
; f_{ttt} , f_{txx}

(b)
$$f(x, y, z) = \cos(4x + 3y + 2z)$$
; f_{xyz} , f_{yzz}

(c)
$$f(x, y, z) = 1 - 2xy^2z + x^2yz + 3z$$
; f_{yxyz}

Exercise-4. Use the limit definition of partial derivative to compute the partial derivatives of the functions at the specified points.

(a)
$$f(x,y) = 1 - x + y - 3x^2y$$
, $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ at $(1,2)$; Ans: $-13, -2$

(b)
$$w(x, y, z) = x^2yz^2$$
, $\frac{\partial w}{\partial z}$ at (1,2,3); Ans: 12

Exercise-5. Show that each of the following functions satisfies a Laplace equation.

(a)
$$u = ln\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

(b)
$$u = e^{-2y} cos 2x$$

(c)
$$u = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-1/2}$$

(d)
$$u = e^{-x} cos y - e^{-y} cos x$$

Exercise-6. If resistors R_1 , R_2 and R_3 ohms are connected in parallel to make an R-ohm resistors, the value of R can be found from the equation $\frac{1}{R} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$. Find the value of $\frac{\partial R}{\partial R_2}$ when $R_1 = 30$, $R_2 = 45$, and $R_3 = 90$ ohms. ; Book[1], Ans: $\frac{\partial R}{\partial R_2} = \frac{1}{9}$

Exercise-7. Find partial derivatives with constrained variables:

(a) If
$$x = r\cos\theta$$
, $y = r\sin\theta$, prove that $(i)\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial r}$, $r\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta}$; $(ii)\frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial y^2} = 0$; $(iii)\frac{\partial^2 r}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 r}{\partial y^2} = \frac{1}{r}\left[\left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial y}\right)^2\right]$

(b) If
$$w = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$
 and $z = x^2 + y^2$, find (i) $\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y}\right)_z$ (ii) $\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y}\right)_x$ (iii) $\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y}\right)_y$;

Ans: (i) 0, (ii)
$$1 + 2z$$
, (iii) $1 + 2z$

(c) If
$$x^2 = au + bv$$
, $y^2 = au + bv$, prove that $\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_y \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial u}\right)_v = \frac{1}{2} = \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\right)_x \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial v}\right)_u$

• Chain Rule

 \triangleright Let z = f(u), where u is again a function of two variables x and y, i.e., u = u(x, y). Then

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \qquad \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

Let z = f(x, y), where x and y are again functions of t, i.e., x = x(t), y = y(t). Then

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\frac{dy}{dt}$$

Here $\frac{dz}{dt}$ is called the *total derivative* of z.

Let = f(x, y), where x and y are again functions of two variables s and t, i.e., x = x(s, t), y = y(s, t). Then

$$x = x(s,t), y = y(s,t)$$
. Then
$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \qquad \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

Example-1. For $z = xe^{xy}$, $x = t^2$, $y = t^{-1}$, compute $\frac{dz}{dt}$.

Solution. Using chain rule, we have

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\frac{dy}{dt} = (e^{xy} + xye^{xy})(2t) + x^2e^{xy}(-t^{-2}).$$

Putting the values of x and y in terms of t, we get

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = (2t + t^2)e^t.$$

Example-2. Let $z = e^{x^2 y}$, where $x(u, v) = \sqrt{uv}$ and $y(u, v) = \frac{1}{v}$. Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial u}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial v}$

Solution. Using chain rule.

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} = \left(2xye^{x^2y}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{v}}{2\sqrt{u}}\right) + \left(x^2e^{x^2y}\right)(0)$$
$$= 2\sqrt{uv} \cdot \frac{1}{v}e^{uv \cdot \frac{1}{v}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{v}}{2\sqrt{u}} + uv \cdot e^{uv \cdot \frac{1}{v}}(0) = e^u.$$

Also,

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} = \left(2xye^{x^2y}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{u}}{2\sqrt{v}}\right) + \left(x^2e^{x^2y}\right) \left(-\frac{1}{v^2}\right)$$
$$= 2\sqrt{uv} \cdot \frac{1}{v} e^{uv \cdot \frac{1}{v}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{u}}{2\sqrt{v}} + uv \cdot e^{uv \cdot \frac{1}{v}} \left(-\frac{1}{v^2}\right) = \frac{u}{v} e^u - \frac{u}{v} e^u = 0.$$

Example-3. If u is a function of x and y and x and y are functions of r and θ given by $x = e^r \cos \theta$, $y = e^r \sin \theta$, then show that

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2 = e^{-2r} \left[\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}\right)^2 \right]$$

Solution. Here u = f(x,y), $x = e^r \cos \theta$, $y = e^r \sin \theta$.

Now

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\frac{\partial x}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\frac{\partial y}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}e^r\cos\theta + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}e^r\sin\theta = x\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}.....(1)$$

Also

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} (-e^r \sin \theta) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} e^r \cos \theta = -y \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + x \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

By equations (1) and (2), we get

$$\begin{split} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}\right)^2 &= x^2 \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 + 2xy \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + y^2 \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2 + y^2 \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 - 2xy \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + x^2 \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2 \\ &= (x^2 + y^2) \left[\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2 \right] = e^{2r} \left[\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2 \right]. \end{split}$$

Thus

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2 = e^{-2r} \left[\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}\right)^2 \right].$$

Example-4. If $u = f\left(\frac{x}{y}, \frac{y}{z}, \frac{z}{x}\right)$, prove that $x\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + z\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0$.

Solution. Let $=\frac{x}{y}$, $s=\frac{y}{z}$, $t=\frac{z}{x}$. Then u=f(r,s,t). Using chain rule,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \frac{\partial s}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \left(\frac{1}{y}\right) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} (0) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \left(-\frac{z}{x^2}\right) = \frac{1}{y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - -\frac{z}{x^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \frac{\partial s}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \left(-\frac{x}{y^2}\right) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \left(\frac{1}{z}\right) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} (0) = -\frac{x}{y^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{z} \frac{\partial u}{\partial s}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \frac{\partial s}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} (0) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \left(-\frac{y}{z^2}\right) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = -\frac{y}{z^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + \frac{1}{x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$

Now.

$$x\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + z\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = \frac{x}{y}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - \frac{z}{x}\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \frac{x}{y}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{y}{z}\frac{\partial u}{\partial s} - \frac{y}{z}\frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + \frac{z}{x}\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0.$$

Exercise-1. Evaluate $\frac{dw}{dt}$ at the given value of t by using chain Rule.

(a)
$$w = x^2 + y^2, x = cost, y = sint, t = \pi;$$
 Ans: 0

(b)
$$w = z - \sin xy$$
, $x = t$, $y = \ln t$, $z = e^{t-1}$, $t = 1$ Ans: 0

(c)
$$w = \ln(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)$$
, $x = cost$, $y = sint$, $z = 4\sqrt{t}$, $t = 3$ Ans: $= \frac{16}{49}$

Exercise-2. Find $\frac{\partial w}{\partial u}$ and $\frac{\partial w}{\partial v}$ if

(a)
$$w = xy + yz + zx$$
, $x = u + v$, $y = u - v$, $z = uv$; at $(u,v) = (1/2, 1)$; Ans: $\frac{\partial w}{\partial u} = 3$, $\frac{\partial w}{\partial v} = -\frac{3}{2}$.

(b)
$$w = \ln(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)$$
, $x = ue^v sinv$, $y = ue^v cosv$, $z = ue^v$, at $(u, v) = (-2, 0)$; Ans: $\frac{\partial w}{\partial u} = -1$, $\frac{\partial w}{\partial v} = 2$.

(c)
$$w = e^{xyz}$$
, $x = 3u + v$, $y = 3u - v$, $z = u^2v$; Ans: $\frac{\partial w}{\partial u} = e^{xyz}(3yz + 3xz + 2xyuv)$, $\frac{\partial w}{\partial v} = e^{xyz}(yz - xz + xyu^2)$,

Exercise-3. Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial u}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial v}$ if

(a)
$$z = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$$
, $x = u\cos v$, $y = u\sin v$, $(u, v) = (1.3, \pi/6)$; Ans: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial u} = 0$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial v} = -1$.

(b)
$$z = e^{x^2 y}$$
, $x = \sqrt{uv}$, $y = \frac{1}{v}$; Ans: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial u} = e^u$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial v} = 0$

Exercise-4. If $z = \sin^{-1}(x - y)$, x = 3t, $y = 4t^3$, show that $\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{1 - t^2}}$.

Exercise-5. If u = u(y - z, z - x, x - y), prove that $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0$.

Exercise-6. If $u = u\left(\frac{y-x}{xy}, \frac{z-x}{xz}\right)$, show that $x^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + z^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0$.

Exercise-7. If $f = x \sin y + e^x \cos y$, $x = t^2 + 1$, $y = t^2$, then find the value of $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}$ at t=0; Ans:0

Exercise-8. Find $\frac{dz}{dt}$ if

(a)
$$z = u^2 + v^2$$
 and $u = at^2$, $v = 2at$; Ans: $4a^2t(t^2 + 2)$.

(b)
$$z = x^2y + xy^2, x = 2 + t^4, y = 1 - t^3$$
; Ans: $4(2xy + y^2)t^3 - 3(x^2 + 2xy)t^2$

Exercise-9. If $u = f(x^2 + 2yz, y^2 + 2zx)$ then prove that

$$(y^2 - zx)\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + (x^2 - yz)\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + (z^2 - xy)\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0.$$

Homogeneous Function

A function f of two independent variables x and y is said to be *homogeneous* of degree n if for real number t we have

$$f(tx, ty) = t^n f(x, y)$$

• Euler's Theorem on Homogeneous Functions

If z is a smooth homogeneous function of x and y of degree n, then

$$x\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = nz$$

• Corollary-1

If z is a smooth homogeneous function of x and y of degree n, then

$$x^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} z}{\partial x^{2}} + 2xy \frac{\partial^{2} z}{\partial x \partial y} + y^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} z}{\partial y^{2}} = n(n-1)z$$

Corollary-2

If z is a homogeneous function of x and y of degree n and z = f(u), then

$$x\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = n\frac{f(u)}{f'(u)}$$

• Corollary-3

If z is a homogeneous function of x and y of degree n and z = f(u), then

$$x^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x^{2}} + 2xy \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial y^{2}} = g(u)[g'(u) - 1]$$

where
$$g(u) = n \frac{f(u)}{f'(u)}$$
.

Example-1. If $u(x,y) = \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{xy} + \frac{\log x - \log y}{x^2}$, then find the value of

(a)
$$x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$
 (b) $x^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2xy \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$.

Solution. Here

$$u(x,y) = \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{xy} + \frac{\log x - \log y}{x^2} = u(x,y) = \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{xy} + \frac{1}{x^2} \log\left(\frac{x}{y}\right).$$

Replacing x by tx and y by ty, we get

$$(tx, ty) = t^{-2} \left[\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{xy} + \frac{1}{x^2} \log \left(\frac{x}{y} \right) \right]$$

Thus u is a homogeneous function of degree -2 in x and y. Hence by Euler's theorem

$$x\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -2u$$

and

$$x^{2}\frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x^{2}} + 2xy\frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^{2}\frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial y^{2}} = (-2)(-2 - 1)u = 6u.$$

Example-2. If $u = tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x^2 + y^2}{x + y} \right)$, then prove that

$$x^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x^{2}} + 2xy \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial y^{2}} = -2\sin^{3} u \cos u.$$

Solution. Here

$$u = tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x^2 + y^2}{x + y} \right) \Rightarrow \tan u = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{x + y} = f(u) \text{ (say)}.$$

Replacing x by tx and y by ty, we can see that $f(u) = \tan u$ is a homogeneous function of degree 1 in x and y. Hence by Euler's theorem

$$x\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = n\frac{f(u)}{f'(u)} = g(u) = 1\frac{\tan u}{\sec^2 u} = \frac{1}{2}\sin 2u.$$

and

$$x^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x^{2}} + 2xy \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} u}{\partial y^{2}} = g(u)[g'(u) - 1]$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \sin 2u(\cos 2u - 1) = \sin u \cos u(-2\sin^{2} u) = -2\sin^{3} u \cos u.$$

Exercise-1. Check whether the following functions are homogeneous or not. If yes, find its degree 'n'.

(a)
$$f(x, y) = \frac{x^3 + y^3}{x + y}$$
,

(b)
$$f(x,y) = \frac{x^{1/4} + y^{1/4}}{x^{1/6} + y^{1/6}}$$

(c)
$$u(x,y) = log\left(\frac{x^7 + y^7}{x + y + z}\right)$$

(d)
$$u(x, y) = \csc^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y}}{x - y}\right)$$

(e)
$$u(x, y, z) = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-1/2}$$

Exercise-2. Verify Euler's theorem for the function $u = sin^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{y} \right) + tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right)$.

Exercise-3. Use Euler's theorem to solve the following problems:

1. If
$$u = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x^2 + y^2}{x + y}\right)$$
, show that $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = tanu$.

2. If
$$u = \log\left(\frac{x^4 + y^4}{x + y}\right)$$
, show that $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 3$.

3. If
$$u = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x^3 + y^3}{x - y}\right)$$
; show that (i) $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \sin 2u$

(ii)
$$x^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2xy \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 2sinucos3u.$$
;

4. If
$$v = \frac{x^3y}{x^3 + y^3}$$
, show that $x \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 3v$.

5. If
$$u = \sec^{-1}\left(\frac{x^3 - y^3}{x + y}\right)$$
, show that $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 2\cot u$.

6. If
$$u = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x^{1/4} + y^{1/4}}{x^{1/6} + y^{1/6}}\right)$$
, prove that

$$x^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2xy \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{1}{144} \tan u [\tan^2 u - 11],$$

7. If
$$u = \frac{y^3 - x^3}{y^2 + x^2}$$
 find the value of $x^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2xy \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$. Ans:0.

• Implicit Function

Theorem: Suppose that F(x, y) is differentiable and that the equation F(x, y) = 0 defines y as a differentiable function of x. Then at any point where $F_y \neq 0$, we have

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{F_x}{F_y}$$

Theorem: Suppose that F(x, y, z) is differentiable and that the equation F(x, y, z) = 0 defines z is a differentiable function of x and y. Then at any point where $F_z \neq 0$, we have

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z}, \qquad \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z}$$

Example-1. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ if $y^2 - x^2 - \sin xy = 0$.

Solution. Take $F(x, y) = y^2 - x^2 - \sin xy$

Here
$$F_x = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = -2x - y\cos xy$$

$$F_{y} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = 2y - x\cos xy$$

Therefore,
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{F_x}{F_y} = -\frac{-2x - y \cos xy}{2y - x \cos xy}$$
$$= \frac{2x + y \cos xy}{2y - x \cos xy}$$

Example-2. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ when $(\cos x)^y = (\sin y)^x$.

Solution. Here $(cosx)^y = (siny)^x$

Taking logarithm function on both sides, we get

$$ylog(cosx) = xlog(siny)$$

Let
$$F(x,y) = ylog(cosx) - xlog(siny)$$

$$F_x = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = y \frac{1}{\cos x} (-\sin x) - \log(\sin y)$$
$$= -y \tan x - \log(\sin y)$$

$$F_{y} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = \log(\cos x) - x \frac{1}{\sin y}(\cos y)$$
$$= \log(\cos x) - x \cot y$$

Therefore,
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{F_x}{F_y} = -\frac{-ytanx - \log(siny)}{\log(cosx) - xcoty}$$
$$= \frac{ytanx + \log(siny)}{\log(cosx) - xcoty}$$

Example-3. Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ if $xyz = \cos(x + y + z)$.

Solution. Take
$$F(x, y, z) = xyz - \cos(x + y + z)$$

Here
$$F_x = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = yz + \sin(x + y + z) \cdot 1$$

$$F_y = \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = xz + \sin(x + y + z) \cdot 1$$

$$F_z = \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} = xy + \sin(x + y + z) \cdot 1$$
Therefore,
$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z} = -\frac{yz + \sin(x + y + z)}{xy + \sin(x + y + z)}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z} = -\frac{xz + \sin(x + y + z)}{xy + \sin(x + y + z)}$$

Exercise-1. Find the value of $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at the given point.

(a)
$$xe^y + \sin xy + y - \log 2 = 0$$
, (0,log2), Ans: $-(2 + \ln 2)$.

(b)
$$y^3 + y^2 - 5y - x^2 + 4 = 0$$
, Ans: $\frac{-2x}{3y^2 + 2y - 5}$.

(c)
$$\sqrt{xy} = 1 + x^2 y$$
, Ans: $\frac{4(xy)^{3/2} - y}{x - 2x^2 \sqrt{xy}}$.

(d)
$$x^y = y^x$$
, Ans: $\frac{y(y-x\log y)}{x(x-y\log x)}$.

(e)
$$e^{xy} + ye^y = 1$$
, Ans: $\frac{ye^{xy}}{xe^{xy} + ye^y + y}$.

Exercise-2. Find the value of $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ at the given point.

(a)
$$\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} - 1 = 0$$
, (2, 3, 6), Ans: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -9$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -4$.

(b)
$$xe^y + ye^z + 2lnx - 2 - 3ln2 = 0$$
, (1, ln2, ln3), Ans: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{4}{3 \ln 2}$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{5}{3 \ln 2}$.

(c)
$$x^2 - 3yz^2 + xyz - 2 = 0$$
, Ans: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{2x + yz}{6yz - xy}$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{xz - 3z^2}{6yz - xy}$.
(d) $ye^x - 5sin3z = 3z$, Ans: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{ye^x}{15cos3z + 3}$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{e^x}{15cos3z + 3}$.

(d)
$$ye^x - 5sin3z = 3z$$
, Ans: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{ye^x}{15cos3z + 3}$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{e^x}{15cos3z + 3}$.

Jacobians

Definition: The Jacobian of the transformation x = g(u, v), y = h(u, v) is

$$J(u,v) = \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix}$$

Jacobian of the transformation x = f(u, v, w), y = g(u, v, w), z =Similarly, h(u, v, w) is

$$J(u, v, w) = \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial w} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial w} \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial w} \end{vmatrix}$$

• Properties of Jacobians:

1. If
$$J = \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)}$$
 and $J' = \frac{\partial(u,v)}{\partial(x,y)}$ then $JJ' = 1$.

2. If x, y are the function of r, s where r, s are function of u, v then $\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} = \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(r,s)} \times \frac{\partial(r,s)}{\partial(u,v)}.$

Example-1. Find the Jacobian for the transformation $x = rcos\theta$, $y = rsin\theta$.

Solution.
$$J = \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(r,\theta)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial \theta} \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{vmatrix} \cos\theta & -r\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & r\cos\theta \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= r(\cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta)$$
$$= r$$

Example-2. If $u = x + 3y^2 - z^3$, $v = 4x^2yz$, $w = 2z^2 - xy$, evaluate $\frac{\partial(u,v,w)}{\partial(x,y,z)}$ at (1, -1,0).

Solution.
$$\frac{\partial(u,v,w)}{\partial(x,y,z)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 6y & -3z^2 \\ 8xyz & 4x^2z & 4x^2y \\ -y & -x & 4z \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial(u,v,w)}{\partial(x,y,z)} \right|_{(1,-1,0)} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 4(-1+6) = 20$$

Example-3. If $u = x^2 - y^2$, v = 2xy and $x = r\cos\theta$, $y = r\sin\theta$ find $\frac{\partial (u,v)}{\partial (r,\theta)}$.

Solution. We have
$$\frac{\partial(u,v)}{\partial(r,\theta)} = \frac{\partial(u,v)}{\partial(x,y)} \times \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(r,\theta)}$$

Since
$$u = x^2 - y^2$$
, $v = 2xy$

$$\frac{\partial(u,v)}{\partial(x,y)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 2x & -2y \\ 2y & 2x \end{vmatrix} = 4(x^2 + y^2)$$

Also $x = rcos\theta$, $y = rsin\theta$,

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(r,\theta)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial \theta} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \cos\theta & -r\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & r\cos\theta \end{vmatrix}$$

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

$$= r$$
Hence $\frac{\partial(u,v)}{\partial(r,\theta)} = 4(x^2 + y^2) \cdot r$

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

$$= 4r^3$$

Exercise-1. If $x = r sin\theta cos\phi$, $y = r sin\theta sin\phi$, $z = r cos\theta$, find $\frac{\partial(x,y,z)}{\partial(r,\theta,\phi)}$. Ans: $r^2 sin\theta$.

Exercise-2. If x = u (1 - v), y = uv then evaluate $J = \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)}$ and $J' = \frac{\partial(u,v)}{\partial(x,y)}$ and hence verify that J' = 1, Ans: J = u, $J' = \frac{1}{u}$.

Exercise-3. If
$$u = xyz$$
, $v = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$, $w = x + y + z$, find $J = \frac{\partial(x,y,z)}{\partial(u,v,w)}$,

Ans:
$$[-2(x-y)(y-z)(z-x)]^{-1}$$
.

Exercise-4. If $x + y = 2e^{\theta} \cos \phi$, $x - y = 2i e^{\theta} \sin \phi$ then verify that JJ' = 1, where $J = \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(\theta,\phi)}$ and $J' = \frac{\partial(\theta,\phi)}{\partial(x,y)}$.

Exercise-5. If
$$u = \frac{(2x-y)}{2}$$
, $v = \frac{y}{2}$, $w = \frac{z}{3}$, find $J(u, v, w)$. Ans:6

Exercise-6. Solve the system u=3x+2y, v=x+4y, for x and y in terms of u and v. Then find the value of the Jacobian $\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)}$. Ans: $x=\frac{1}{5}(2u-v)$, $y=\frac{1}{10}(3v-u)$, $\frac{1}{10}$

Directional Derivative and Gradient

- Scalar point function. A function $\phi(x, y, z)$ is called a scalar point function if it associate a scalar at every point in space. The temperature distribution in a heated body, density of a body and potential due to gravity are the examples of scalar point function.
- **Vector Point function.** If a function F(x,y,z) defines a vector at every point of a region, then F(x,y,z) is called a vector point function. The velocity of a moving fluid, gravitational force are the example of vector point function.
- Vector Differential Operator Del. The vector differential operator del (or nabla) is denoted by ∇ . It is defined as

$$\nabla = \hat{\imath} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{\jmath} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}.$$

• Gradient. The gradient vector (gradient) of a scalar point function f(x, y, z) is denoted by $\nabla f(grad f)$ and it is defined by

$$grad f = \nabla f = \hat{\imath} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \hat{\jmath} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$$

The grad f is a vector normal to the surface f(x, y, z) = constant and it has a magnitude equal to the rate of change of f(x, y, z) along this normal.

Example-1. Find the gradient of $f(x, y, z) = 2z^3 - 3(x^2 + y^2)z + tan^{-1}(xz)$ at the point (1,1,1).

Solution. Using definition of gradient

$$\nabla f = \hat{i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$$

$$= \left[-6xz + \frac{1}{1+x^2z^2} \cdot z \right] \hat{i} + \left[-6yz \right] \hat{j} + \left[6z^2 - 3(x^2 + y^2) + \frac{1}{1+x^2z^2} \right] \hat{k}$$

$$= > (\nabla f)_{(1,1,1)} = \frac{-11}{2} \hat{i} - 6\hat{j} + \frac{1}{2} \hat{k}$$

• **Direction Derivative.** The directional derivative of a function f(x,y,z) at a point P(x,y,z) in the direction of vector \bar{a} is given by

$$D_{\bar{a}}f = \left(\frac{df}{ds}\right)_{\bar{a}, P} = (\nabla f)_{P} \cdot \hat{a}$$

Remark.

- 1. The function f increases most rapidly in the direction of the gradient vector ∇f or in the direction of $\frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|}$ at point P. The derivative in this direction is magnitude of ∇f (i. e. $|\nabla f|$).
- 2. The function f decreases most rapidly in the direction of the gradient vector $-\nabla f$ or $-\frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|}$ at point P. The derivative in this direction is $-|\nabla f|$.

Example-1. Find the derivative of $f(x,y) = x^2 \sin 2y$ at the point $\left(1, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ in the direction of $\bar{v} = 3\hat{\imath} - 4\hat{\jmath}$.

Solution. The unit vector \hat{v} is obtained by dividing \bar{v} by its length

$$\hat{v} = \frac{\bar{v}}{|\bar{v}|} = \frac{3\hat{\imath} - 4\hat{\jmath}}{\sqrt{3^2 + (-4)^2}} = \frac{3\hat{\imath} - 4\hat{\jmath}}{5} = \frac{3}{5}\hat{\imath} - \frac{4}{5}\hat{\jmath}$$

The gradient of f at $\left(1, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ is

$$\nabla f = \hat{\imath} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \hat{\jmath} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$$

$$= \hat{\imath} (2x\sin 2y) + \hat{\jmath} (2x^2 \cos 2y)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla f)_{\left(1, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)} = 0\hat{\imath} + 2\hat{\jmath} = 2\hat{\jmath}$$

The derivative of f in the direction of the vector \bar{v} at the point P is given by

$$D_{\bar{v}}f = \left(\frac{df}{ds}\right)_{\bar{v}, P} = (\nabla f)_{P} \cdot \hat{v}$$
$$= (2\hat{j})\left(\frac{3}{5}\hat{i} - \frac{4}{5}\hat{j}\right)$$
$$= \frac{8}{5}$$

Example-2. Find the direction in which $f(x, y) = \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{2}$,

- (a) Increases most rapidly at the point (1,1)
- (b) Decreases most rapidly at the point (1,1).
- (c) What are rates of change in these direction?

Solution. The gradient of f(x,y) is

$$\nabla f = \hat{\imath} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \hat{\jmath} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$$
$$= \frac{2x}{2} \hat{\imath} + \frac{2y}{2} \hat{\jmath}$$
$$(\nabla f)_{(1, 1)} = \hat{\imath} + \hat{\jmath}$$

(a) The function f increases most rapidly in the direction of ∇f at (1,1).

$$u = \frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|} = \frac{\hat{\imath} + \hat{\jmath}}{\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2}} = \frac{\hat{\imath}}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\hat{\jmath}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

The rate of change in this direction is $|\nabla f|$

$$|\nabla f| = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

(b) The function f decreases most rapidly in the direction,

$$-u = -\frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|} = -\frac{\hat{\iota} + \hat{\jmath}}{\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2}} = -\frac{\hat{\iota}}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{\hat{\jmath}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

The rate of change in this direction is $-|\nabla f|$

$$-|\nabla f| = -\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = -\sqrt{2}$$

Example-3. The temperature at any point in space is given by T = xy + yz + zx. Determine the derivative of T in the direction of the vector $3\hat{\imath} - 4\hat{k}$ at the point (1, 1, 1).

Solution. Let $\bar{a} = 3\hat{i} - 4\hat{k}$. Then

$$\hat{a} = \frac{\bar{a}}{|\bar{a}|} = \frac{3\hat{t} - 4\hat{k}}{\sqrt{3^2 + (-4)^2}} = \frac{3\hat{t} - 4\hat{k}}{5}.$$
Also, $\nabla T = \hat{t} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + \hat{f} \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial T}{\partial z}$

$$= (y + z)\hat{i} + (x + z)\hat{j} + (x + y)\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla T)_{(1,1,1)} = 2\hat{\imath} + 2\hat{\jmath} + 2\hat{k}$$

The derivative of T in the direction of the vector \bar{a} at the point P is given by

$$\Rightarrow D_{\bar{a}}T = \frac{dT}{ds} = (\nabla T)_P \cdot \hat{a} = (2\hat{\imath} + 2\hat{\jmath} + 2\hat{k}) \cdot \left(\frac{3\hat{\imath} - 4\hat{k}}{5}\right) = -\frac{2}{5}.$$

Exercise-1. Find gradient of a function at the given point.

(a)
$$g(x,y) = \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{y^2}{2}$$
, $(\sqrt{2}, 1)$, Ans: $\sqrt{2} \hat{\imath} - \hat{\jmath}$.

(b)
$$f(x, y) = (x^2 + xy)^3$$
, $(-1, -1)$, Ans: -36 \hat{i} -12 \hat{j} .

(c)
$$\varphi(x, y, z) = \ln(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)$$
, Ans: $\frac{2(x\hat{x} + y\hat{y} + z\hat{k})}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$

(d)
$$f(x, y, z) = e^{x+y} \cos z + (y+1) \sin^{-1} x$$
, $(0, 0, \pi/6)$, Ans: $\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}+2}{2}\right) \hat{\imath} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \hat{\jmath} - \frac{1}{2} \hat{k}$.

(e)
$$\varphi(x, y, z) = 3x^2y - y^3z^2$$
, $(1, -2, -1)$, Ans: $-12\hat{\imath} - 9\hat{\jmath} + 16\hat{k}$.

Exercise-2. Find the derivative of the function at P_0 in the direction of given vector.

(a)
$$f(x,y) = x^2 \sin 2y$$
, $P_0(1,\pi/2)$, $\bar{A} = 3\hat{\imath} - 4\hat{\jmath}$, Ans: 8/5.

(b)
$$f(x,y) = tan^{-1}(y/x)$$
, $P_0(-2,2)$, $\bar{v} = -\hat{i} - \hat{j}$, Ans: $72/\sqrt{14}$.

(c)
$$g(x, y, z) = 3e^x \cos(yz)$$
, $P_0(0, 0, 0)$, $\bar{A} = 2\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$, Ans: 2.

(d)
$$h(x, y, z) = \cos(xy) + e^{yz} + \ln(zx)$$
, $P_0\left(1, 0, \frac{1}{2}\right)$, $\bar{A} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$, Ans: 2

(e)
$$f(x, y, z) = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}$$
, $P_0(1, 1, 2)$, $\bar{A} = 2\hat{j} - \hat{k}$, Ans: $9/2\sqrt{5}$.

(f)
$$f(x,y,z) = x^2y - yz^3 + z$$
, $P_0(1,-2,0)$, $\bar{v} = 2\hat{\imath} + \hat{\jmath} - 2\hat{k}$, Ans: - 3. **Exercise-3.** Find the direction in which the function increases and decreases most

Exercise-3. Find the direction in which the function increases and decreases most rapidly at P_0 . Then find derivative of the function in these directions.

(a)
$$f(x,y) = x^2 + xy + y^2$$
, $P_0(-1,1)$, Ans: $u = -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{j}{\sqrt{2}}$, $(D_u f)_{P_0} = \sqrt{2}$
 $-u = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{j}{\sqrt{2}}$, $(D_{-u} f)_{P_0} = -\sqrt{2}$.

(b)
$$f(x, y, z) = \left(\frac{x}{y}\right) - yz$$
, $P_0(4,1,1)$, Ans: $u = \frac{\hat{\iota}}{3\sqrt{3}} - \frac{5\hat{\jmath}}{3\sqrt{3}} - \frac{\hat{k}}{3\sqrt{3}}$, $(D_u f)_{P_0} = 3\sqrt{3}$, $-u = -\frac{\hat{\iota}}{3\sqrt{3}} + \frac{5\hat{\jmath}}{3\sqrt{3}} + \frac{\hat{k}}{3\sqrt{3}}$, $(D_{-u} f)_{P_0} = -3\sqrt{3}$.

Exercise-4. Suppose that the temperature at a point (x, y, z) in space is given by $T(x, y, z) = 80/(1 + x^2 + 2y^2 + 3z^2)$, where T is measured in degrees Celsius and x, y, z in meters. In which direction does the temperature increase fastest at the point (1,1,-2)? What is the maximum rate of increase? Ans: $(\nabla T)_{(1,1,-2)} = \frac{5}{8}(-\hat{\imath}-2\hat{\jmath}+6\hat{k})$, $|(\nabla T)_{(1,1,-2)}| = \frac{5\sqrt{41}}{8}$

• Tangent plane and Normal line

Let the equation of the surface be f(x, y, z) = 0. The equation of tangent plane at

 $P(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ to the surface is

$$(x - x_1) \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)_P + (y - y_1) \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)_P + (z - z_1) \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)_P = 0$$

The equations of normal line are

$$\frac{(x-x_1)}{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)_P} = \frac{(y-y_1)}{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)_P} = \frac{(z-z_1)}{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)_P}$$

Example-1. Find the equations of the tangent plane and normal line at the point (-2, 1, -3) to the ellipsoid $\frac{x^2}{4} + y^2 + \frac{z^2}{9} = 3$.

Solution. Let
$$f(x,y,z) = \frac{x^2}{4} + y^2 + \frac{z^2}{9} - 3$$

$$f_x(x,y,z) = \frac{x}{2} \qquad f_x(-2,1,-3) = -1$$

$$f_y(x,y,z) = 2y \qquad f_y(-2,1,-3) = 2$$

$$f_z(x,y,z) = \frac{2z}{9} \qquad f_z(-2,1,-3) = -\frac{2}{3}$$

Hence, the equation of the tangent plane at (-2, 1, -3) is

$$-1(x+2) + 2(y-1) - \frac{2}{3}(z+3) = 0$$
$$3x - 6y + 2z = -18$$

The equations of normal line are

$$\frac{x+2}{-1} = \frac{y-1}{2} = \frac{z+3}{-2/3}$$

Example-2. Find the plane tangent to the surface $z = 1 - \frac{1}{10}(x^2 + 4y^2)$, at $\left(1, 1, \frac{1}{2}\right)$.

Solution. Let
$$f(x, y, z) = z - 1 + \frac{1}{10}(x^2 + 4y^2)$$
,

$$f_x(x, y, z) = \frac{x}{5}$$
 $f_x(1, 1, \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{5}$

$$f_y(x,y,z) = \frac{4}{5}y$$
 $f_y(1,1,\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{4}{5}$

$$f_z(x,y,z) = 1$$
 $f_z(1,1, \frac{1}{2}) = 1$

Hence, the equation of the tangent plane at (1, 1, 1/2) is

$$\frac{1}{5}(x-1) + \frac{4}{5}(y-1) + 1\left(z - \frac{1}{2}\right) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{5}x + \frac{4}{5}y + z - \frac{3}{2} = 0$$

$$2x + 8y + 10z = 15$$

Exercise-1. Find equations for the (i) tangent plane and (ii) normal line at the point P_0 on the surface:

- (a) $\cos \pi x x^2 y + e^{xz} + yz = 4$, $P_0(0,1,2)$, Ans: 2x+2y+z-4=0, x=2t, y=1+2t, z=2+t.
- (b) $x^2 + y^2 2xy x + 3y z = -4$, $P_0(2, -3, 18)$, Ans: (i) 9x-7y z = 21, (ii) x = 2 + 9t, y = -3 7t, z = 18 t.
- (c) $z^2 = 4(1 + x^2 + y^2)$, $P_0(2,2,6)$, Ans: (i) 4x + 4y 3z = -2, (ii) x = 2 + 4t, y = 2 + 4t, z = 6 3t.
- (d) $z + 1 = xe^y \cos z$, P_0 (1,0,0), Ans: (i) x + y z = 1, (ii) x = 1 + t, y = t, z = -t.

Exercise-2. Find an equation for the plane that is tangent to the given surface at the given point.

(a)
$$z = \ln(x^2 + y^2)$$
, (1,0,0), Ans: $2x - z = 2$.

(b)
$$z = \sqrt{y - x}$$
, (1,2,1), Ans: $x - y + 2z = 1$.

(c)
$$z = e^{-(x^2+y^2)}$$
, (0,0,1), Ans: $z = 1$.

(d)
$$z = 4x^3y^2 + 2y$$
, (1, -2, 12), Ans: $48x - 14y - z = 64$.

(e)
$$z = e^{3y} \sin 3x$$
, $(\pi/6, 0, 1)$, Ans: $3y - z = -1$.

• Maxima and Minima of Functions of Two Variables

- First Derivative Test for Local Extreme Values: If f(x, y) has a local maximum or minimum value at an interior point (a, b) of its domain and if the first order partial derivative exist then $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\Big|_{(a,b)} = 0$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\Big|_{(a,b)} = 0$.
- Critical point: An interior point of the domain of a function f(x,y) where both first order partial derivatives are zero or where one or both of the first order partial derivative do not exist is a critical point of f.
- Second Derivative Test for Local Extreme Values: Suppose that f(x,y) and its first and second derivatives are continuous throughout a disk centered at (a,b) and that $f_x(a,b) = f_y(a,b) = 0$.

At
$$(a, b)$$
 let $r = f_{xx}$, $s = f_{xy}$, $t = f_{yy}$

- i. f has a local maximum at (a, b) if $rt s^2 > 0$ and r < 0.
- ii. f has a local minimum at (a,b) if $rt s^2 > 0$ and r > 0.
- iii. f has a saddle point at (a,b) if $rt s^2 < 0$.
- iv. The test is inconclusive at (a, b) if $rt s^2 = 0$

Example 1. Find the extreme values of the function $f(x,y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3x - 12y + 20$

Solution : Here
$$f(x,y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3x - 12y + 20$$

For stationary values,

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\therefore 3x^2 - 3 = 0$$

$$x = \pm 1$$

And

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = 0$$

$$\therefore 3y^2 - 12 = 0$$

$$x = +2$$

Thus stationary points are (1,2),(1,-2),(-1,2),(-1,-2);

$$r = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 6x$$
, $s = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = 0$, $t = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 6y$

(x,y)	$rt - s^2$	r	Max/Min/Saddle Point
(1,2)	72 > 0 r > 0	6	local minimum
(1,-2)	-72 < 0	6	neither max nor min
(-1,2)	-72 < 0	-6	neither max nor min
(-1,-2)	72 > 0	-6	local maximum

Example 2: Find the maximum and minimum values of $2(x^2 - y^2) - x^4 + y^4$.

Solution: Let $f(x,y) = 2(x^2 - y^2) - x^4 + y^4$

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

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = -4y + 4y^3$$

$$r = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 4 - 12x^2$$

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

$$t = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = -4 + 12y^2$$

For maxima or minima,

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\therefore 4x - 4x^3 = 0$$

$$\therefore 4x (1-x^2) = 0$$

$$\therefore x = 0 \quad or \quad x = \pm 1$$

Also

$$-4y + 4y^3 = 0$$

$$-4y(1-y^2) = 0$$

$$\therefore y = 0 \quad or \quad y = \pm 1$$

The likely points where f(x,y) has maxima or minima are

$$(0,0),(0,\pm 1),(\pm 1,0)$$

The results for these points are in the following table:

Points	$rt-s^2$	r	Max/Min/Saddle Point
(0,0)	-16 < 0	0	Saddle Point
(0,1)	32 > 0	4 > 0	Minimum Value -1
(0,-1)	32 > 0	4 > 0	Minimum Value -1
(1,0)	32 > 0	-8 < 0	Maximum Value 1
(-1,0)	32 > 0	-8 < 0	Maximum Value 1

Example 3. (Solving a volume problem with a constraint) A delivery company accepts only rectangular boxes the sum of whose length and girth (perimeter of a cross-section) does not exceed 108 in. Find the dimensions of an acceptable box of largest volume.

Solution: Let x, y and z represent the length, width and height of the rectangular box, respectively. Then the girth is 2x + 2z. We want to maximize the volume V = xyz of the box satisfying x + 2y + 2z = 108 (the largest box accepted by the delivery company). Thus, we can write the volume of the box as a function of two variables.

$$V(y,z) = (108 - 2y - 2z)yz$$
$$V(y,z) = 108yz - 2y^2z - 2yz^2$$

Setting the first partial derivatives equal to zero,

$$V_y(y,z) = 108z - 4yz - 2z^2 = (108 - 4y - 2z)z = 0$$
$$V_z(y,z) = 108y - 2y^2 - 4yz = (108 - 2y - 4z)y = 0$$

The critical points are (0,0), (0,54), (54,0) and (18,18). The volume is zero at (0,0), (0,54), (54,0), which are not maximum values. At the point (18,18), we apply the second derivative test.

$$r=V_{yy}=-4z, \qquad t=V_{zz}=-4y, \qquad s=V_{yz}=108-4y-4z$$
 Then
$$rt-s^2=V_{yy}V_{zz}-V_{yz}^2=16yz-16(27-y-z)^2$$
 Thus
$$r=V_{yy}(18,18)=-4(18)<0$$

And at point (18, 18); $rt - s^2 = V_{yy}V_{zz} - V_{yz}^2 = 16(18)(18) - 16(-9)^2 > 0$

At point (18,18), the function has maximum volume. The dimensions of the package are

$$x = 108 - 2(18) - 2(18) = 36 in.$$

 $y = 18 in.$ and $z = 18 in.$

The maximum volume is $V = (36)(18)(18) = 11,664 \text{ in.}^3$

Exercise-3.

Find all the local maxima, local minima and saddle points (if exist) of the below functions.

- (a) $f(x,y) = x^2 + xy + y^2 + 3x 3y + 4$; Ans: local min at (-3,3). f(-3,3) = -5
- (b) $f(x,y) = 2xy x^2 2y^2 + 3x + 4$; Ans: local max at $\left(3, \frac{3}{2}\right)$. $f\left(3, \frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{17}{2}$
- (c) $f(x,y) = x^2 + xy + 3x + 2y + 5$; Ans: critical point (-2,1) is saddle point
- (d) $f(x,y) = x^3 2xy y^3 + 6$; Ans: critical points: (0,0), $\left(-\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right)$; saddle point is (0,0), local maximum is $f\left(-\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{170}{27}$
- (e) $f(x,y) = 6x^2 2x^3 + 3y^2 + 6xy$; Ans: critical points: (0,0), (1,-1); saddle point is (1,-1), local minimum is f(0,0) = 0
- (f) $f(x,y) = x^3 + y^3 + 3x^2 3y^2 8$; Ans: critical points (0,0), (0,2),(-2,0), (-2,2); saddle points are (0,0), (-2,2); local min is f(0,2) = -12, local max is f(-2,0) = -4
- (g) $f(x,y) = 4xy x^4 y^4$; Ans: critical points: (0,0), (1,1), (-1,-1); saddle point is (0,0); local min is f(0,2) = -12, local max is f(1,1) = f(-1,-1) = 2