

Name: _____ Student ID: _____ Major: _____

Question 1 (ca. 9 marks)

Consider the function f defined by

$$f(x, y) = \frac{x^3 + y^3}{xy} = \frac{x^2}{y} + \frac{y^2}{x} \quad \text{for } x > 0, y > 0.$$

- a) Which obvious symmetry property does f have? What can you conclude from this about the contours of f ?
- b) Determine the limits

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y), \quad \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} f(x, y), \quad \lim_{|(x,y)| \rightarrow \infty} f(x, y)$$

(including the possibility $+\infty$), or show that the limit does not exist.

- c) Show that there is no point (x, y) in the domain of f for which $\nabla f(x, y) = 0$. What does this imply for the contours of f ?
- d) Make an accurate figure of the 2-contour of f (unit length at least 5 cm!). The drawing should indicate the intersection point(s) with the line $y = x$, points with horizontal or vertical tangents, and the shape of the curve near $(0, 0)$.
Hints: $\sqrt[3]{2} \approx 1.26$, $\sqrt[3]{4} \approx 1.59$, and for determining the shape near $(0, 0)$ it is advisable to use polar coordinates.
- e) The function f is homogeneous of degree 1. What can you conclude from this about the remaining contours of f ?

Question 2 (ca. 6 marks)

Consider the (differentiable) map $G: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by

$$G(x, y) = (2x - x^2 + y^2, 2y - 2xy).$$

- a) For $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ compute the Jacobi matrix $\mathbf{J}_G(x, y)$.
- b) In which points $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ is G conformal?
- c) Determine the fixed points of G , i.e., the solutions of $G(x, y) = (x, y)$.
- d) Determine the images under G of the three lines with equations $x = -1$, $x = 0$, $x = 1$.
- e) Draw a figure containing the three curves determined in d) and the image of the unit circle under G . Indicate the angles of intersection between intersecting curves.

Question 3 (ca. 6 marks)

Consider the space curve C parametrized by

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = (6t, 3t^2, t^3), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- a) Which symmetry property does C have?
- b) Suppose we walked from the origin along the curve in the positive ($t > 0$) direction exactly 20 units. At which point \mathbf{p} are we now?
- c) Find a parametrization of the osculating circle of C in the point \mathbf{p} determined in b).

Solutions

- 1 a) Since $f(x, y) = f(y, x)$, the function f is invariant under a reflection at the line $y = x$ (and G_f is symmetric with respect to the plane spanned by this line and the z -axis).

\implies The contours of f are symmetric with respect to the line $y = x$. 1

- b) On the line $y = x$ we have $f(x, x) = 2x \rightarrow 0$ for $x \rightarrow 0$. On the curve $y = x^2$ we have $f(x, x^2) = 1 + x^3 \rightarrow 1$ for $x \rightarrow 0$. Hence $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y)$ doesn't exist. 1

For $(x, y) \rightarrow (1, 0)$ we have $x^3 + y^3 \rightarrow 1$, $xy \rightarrow +0$, and hence $f(x, y) \rightarrow \frac{1}{+0} = +\infty$.

Thus $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} f(x, y) = +\infty$. 1

Since

$$f(x, y) > \frac{x^2}{y} \geq x \quad \text{if } x \geq y$$

and, similarly, $f(x, y) > y$ for $x \leq y$, the values of f outside any square $(0, R] \times (0, R]$, $R > 0$, are $> R$. Hence $\delta = R$ can serve as a response to $R > 0$ in a proof of $\lim_{|(x,y)| \rightarrow \infty} f(x, y) = +\infty$. Thus $\lim_{|(x,y)| \rightarrow \infty} f(x, y) = +\infty$. 1

- c) $\nabla f(x, y) = \left(\frac{2x}{y} - \frac{y^2}{x^2}, \frac{2y}{x} - \frac{x^2}{y^2} \right) = (0, 0) \iff 2x^3 = y^3 \wedge 2y^3 = x^3$. Both equations imply $4x^3 = 2y^3 = x^3$ and hence $x = 0$. But in the domain of f we have $x > 0$ and hence there is no solution.

Since $\nabla f(x, y)$ is nonzero everywhere, all contours of f are smooth. 1

- d) Since $f(x, x) = 2x = 2 \iff x = 1$, the 2-contour intersects the line $y = x$ in $(1, 1)$.

The condition for a horizontal tangent in (x, y) is $f_x = 0 \wedge f_y \neq 0$, which reduces to $2x^3 = y^3$, i.e., $y = \sqrt[3]{2}x$. Inserting this in $f(x, y) = 2$ gives

$$\frac{3x^3}{\sqrt[3]{2}x^2} = 2 \implies x = \frac{2}{3}\sqrt[3]{2} \approx 0.84, \quad y = \frac{2}{3}\sqrt[3]{4} \approx 1.06$$

Then, by symmetry, there also is exactly one point on the 2-contour with a vertical tangent, viz. $(\frac{2}{3}\sqrt[3]{4}, \frac{2}{3}\sqrt[3]{2}) \approx (1.06, 0.84)$.

In polar coordinates the 2-contour is given by

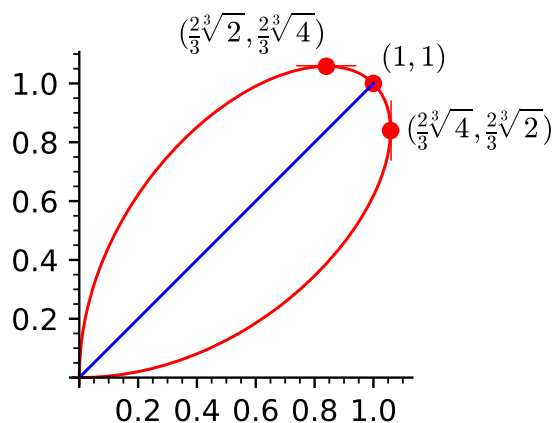
$$r^3 \cos^3 \phi + r^3 \sin^3 \phi = 2(r \cos \phi)(r \sin \phi) \iff r = r(\phi) = \frac{\sin(2\phi)}{\cos^3 \phi + \sin^3 \phi}.$$

Since $x > 0$ and $y > 0$, the angle ϕ is restricted to $(0, \pi/2)$. Since

$$\lim_{\phi \downarrow 0} \frac{\sin(2\phi)}{\cos^3 \phi + \sin^3 \phi} = \lim_{\phi \uparrow \pi/2} \frac{\sin(2\phi)}{\cos^3 \phi + \sin^3 \phi} = 0,$$

the 2-contour in the limit has both a horizontal tangent and a vertical tangent at $(0, 0)$. 1

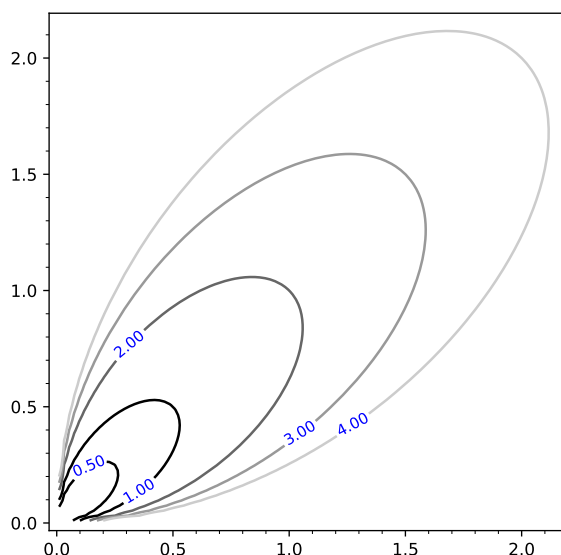
In particular $r(\phi)$ can be continuously extended to $[0, \pi/2]$ by setting $r(0) = r(\pi/2) = 0$.



2

- e) Since $f(kx, ky) = k f(x, y)$ for all (x, y) in the domain of f , the map $(x, y) \mapsto (kx, ky)$ maps the 1-contour to the k -contour (and the 2-contour to the $2k$ -contour). Hence all contours are similar (i.e., arise from the 2-contour by scaling it). +1

This is visible in the following contour plot of f , which is not required in the exam.



Remarks:

$$\sum_1 = 8 + 1$$

- 2 a) Writing $G = (u, v)$, we have

$$\mathbf{J}_G(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} u_x & u_y \\ v_x & v_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - 2x & 2y \\ -2y & 2 - 2x \end{pmatrix}. \quad 1$$

- b) Using a), we have

$$\mathbf{J}_G(x, y)^\top \mathbf{J}_G(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} (2 - 2x)^2 + 4y^2 & 0 \\ 0 & (2 - 2x)^2 + 4y^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$\implies G$ is conformal in all points satisfying $(2 - 2x)^2 + 4y^2 \neq 0$, i.e., in all points of \mathbb{R}^2 except $(1, 0)$. 1

c) $G(x, y) = (x, y) \iff 2x - x^2 + y^2 = x \wedge 2y - 2xy = y \iff x - x^2 + y^2 = y(1 - 2x) = 0$
The solutions are $y = 0$, $x = 0, 1$; $x = \frac{1}{2}$ leads to $\frac{1}{4} + y^2 = 0$, which is not solvable.
 \implies The fixed points of G are $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 0)$. $\boxed{1}$

d) $x = -1$: Here $(u, v) = (-3 + y^2, 4y)$, which is the parabola $u = -3 + \frac{1}{16}v^2$. $\boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$

$x = 0$: Here $(u, v) = (y^2, 2y)$, which is the parabola $u = \frac{1}{4}v^2$. $\boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$

$x = 1$: Here $(u, v) = (1 + y^2, 0)$, which is the part of the u -axis to the left of $(1, 0)$. $\boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$

e) Since G is conformal, the image curve C of the unit circle touches the parabola $u = -3 + \frac{1}{16}v^2$ in $G(-1, 0) = (-3, 0)$ and is orthogonal to the parabola $u = \frac{1}{14}v^2$ in $G(0, \pm 1) = (1, \pm 2)$. In the fixed point $(1, 0)$, in which G is not conformal, the shape of C is not clear, but we can argue informally as follows: G “folds” the line $x = 1$ at $(1, 0)$ to obtain the half-line $L^+ = \{(u, 0); u \geq 1\}$. Since the two half circles of the unit circle meeting at $(1, 0)$ both touch the line $x = 1$, the image curve C must touch L^+ both from above and below. (Parametrizing C in polar coordinates also reveals this.) $\boxed{+\frac{1}{2}}$

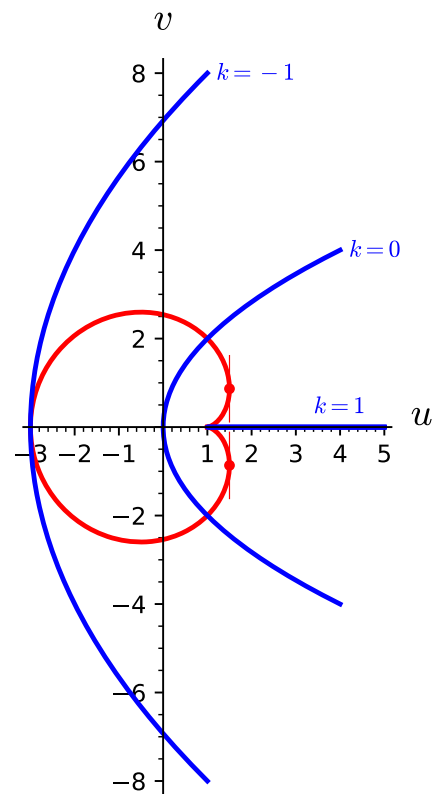
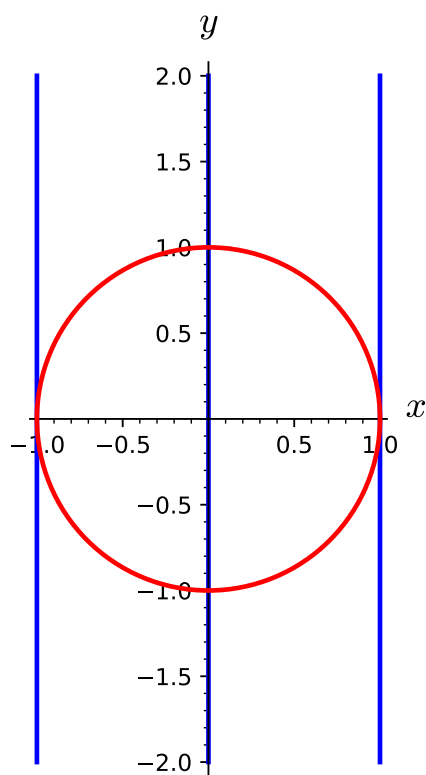
Since $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ is equivalent to $y = \pm\sqrt{1 - x^2}$, we have

$$C = \left\{ \left(1 + 2x - 2x^2, \pm 2(1 - x)\sqrt{1 - x^2} \right); -1 \leq x \leq 1 \right\}.$$

From this it is immediate that C is symmetric with respect to the u -axis. $\boxed{+\frac{1}{2}}$

This is enough information for a sketch of C ; cf. the plot below.

Since the vertex of the parabola $y = 1 + 2x - 2x^2$ is at $x = 1/2$, we can also easily determine the remaining two points on C with a vertical tangent, viz. $(\frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3})$.



$1\frac{1}{2}$

Remarks:

$$\sum_2 = 6 + 1$$

3 a) $\mathbf{r}(t) = (x, y, z) \in C$ implies $\mathbf{r}(-t) = (-x, y, -z) \in C$. Hence C is symmetric with respect to the y -axis. $\boxed{1}$

b)

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = (6, 6t, 3t^2),$$

$$\mathbf{r}''(t) = (0, 6, 6t),$$

(for later use)

$$|\mathbf{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{36 + 36t^2 + 9t^4} = 3\sqrt{4 + 4t^2 + t^4} = 3(t^2 + 2),$$

$$s(t) = \int_0^t |\mathbf{r}'(\tau)| d\tau = \int_0^t 3\tau^2 + 6 d\tau = [\tau^3 + 6\tau]_0^t = t^3 + 6t = 20 \iff t = 2.$$

The point is thus $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{r}(2) = (12, 12, 8)$. $\boxed{2}$

c) Using a mix of row and column vector notation (to save space), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{T}(2) &= \frac{(6, 12, 12)}{|(6, 12, 12)|} = \frac{(1, 2, 2)}{|(1, 2, 2)|} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \mathbf{N}(2) &= \lambda \left(\mathbf{r}''(2) - \frac{\mathbf{r}''(2) \cdot (1, 2, 2)}{|(1, 2, 2)|^2} (1, 2, 2) \right) \quad (\lambda > 0) \\ &= \lambda \left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 6 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{36}{9} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right) = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad [1] \\ \kappa(2) &= \frac{|\mathbf{r}'(2) \times \mathbf{r}''(2)|}{|\mathbf{r}'(2)|^3} = \frac{|(6, 12, 12) \times (0, 6, 12)|}{|(6, 12, 12)|^3} = \frac{6^2 |(1, 2, 2) \times (0, 1, 2)|}{6^3 |(1, 2, 2)|^3} \\ &= \frac{|(2, -2, 1)|}{6 \cdot 27} = \frac{1}{54}. \quad [1]\end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow The center of the osculating circle is $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{p} + 54 \mathbf{N}(2) = (-24, -6, 44)$, and a parametrization of the osculating circle is

$$\begin{aligned}c(t) &= \mathbf{q} - 54 \cos t \mathbf{N}(2) + 54 \sin t \mathbf{T}(2) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -24 \\ -6 \\ 44 \end{pmatrix} - 18 \cos t \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + 18 \sin t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -24 + 36 \cos t + 18 \sin t \\ -6 + 18 \cos t + 36 \sin t \\ 44 - 36 \cos t + 36 \sin t \end{pmatrix}. \quad [1]\end{aligned}$$

Remarks:

$$\sum_3 = 6$$

General Remarks:

$$\sum_{\text{Midterm 2}} = 20 + 2$$
