

TUTORIAL



1. Find the first order partial derivatives of the following functions at the point (x, y) from the first principles/definitions.

- (i) $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + x$
- (ii) $f(x, y) = \sin(2x + 3y)$

2. Show that the function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} (x + y) \sin \frac{1}{x+y} & ; x + y \neq 0 \\ 0 & ; x + y = 0 \end{cases}$$

is continuous at $(0, 0)$ but its partial derivatives f_x and f_y do not exist at $(0, 0)$.

3. Show that the function

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

is not continuous at $(0, 0)$ but its partial derivatives f_x and f_y exist at $(0, 0)$.

4. Show that the function

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

has partial derivatives $f_x(0, 0)$ and $f_y(0, 0)$, but the partial derivatives are not continuous at $(0, 0)$.

5. Let $f(x, y) = x^2 - xy + y^2 - y$. Find the direction \mathbf{u} and the value of $D_{\mathbf{u}}f(1, -1)$ for which
 - (i) $D_{\mathbf{u}}f(1, -1)$ is largest
 - (ii) $D_{\mathbf{u}}f(1, -1)$ is smallest
 - (iii) $D_{\mathbf{u}}f(1, -1) = 0$
 - (iv) $D_{\mathbf{u}}f(1, -1) = 4$
 - (v) $D_{\mathbf{u}}f(1, -1) = -3$

6. Is there a direction \mathbf{u} in which the rate of change of $f(x, y) = x^2 - 3xy + 4y^2$ at $P(1, 2)$ equals 14? Give reason for your answer.

7. The derivative of $f(x, y, z)$ at a point P is greatest in the direction of $\vec{v} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}$. In this direction the value of the derivative is $2\sqrt{3}$.
 - (i) What is ∇f at P ? Give reason for your answer.
 - (ii) What is the derivative of f at P in the direction of $\vec{i} + \vec{j}$?