

# Homogeneous Functions and Euler's Theorem

## Homogeneous Functions

A function  $f(x, y)$  is homogeneous of degree  $n$  if it can be expressed as:

$$f(x, y) = x^n \phi\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

where  $\phi$  is another rational function.

For example, consider  $f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3$ . This can be written as  $x^3\left(1 + \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^3\right)$  and hence, it is a homogeneous function of degree 3.

## Euler's Theorem

If a function  $u(x, y)$  is homogeneous and  $n$  is the degree, then

$$x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = n \cdot u(x, y)$$