

Functions of several variables

Ex. 1) Find the Domain and Range of the function $f(x, y) = \sqrt{4 - x^2 - y^2}$

Solution: For Domain,

F is defined for,

$$4 - x^2 - y^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 \leq 4$$

$$\therefore \text{Domain} = \{(x, y): x^2 + y^2 \leq 4\}$$

Which indicates a circle whose centre is at (0,0) and radius is 2.

Again, for all the points on the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 4$, $f(x, y) = 0$ and the maximum value at the centre

$\sqrt{4} = 2$. Therefore, for every value of the domain the functional value will stay within $[0, 2]$.

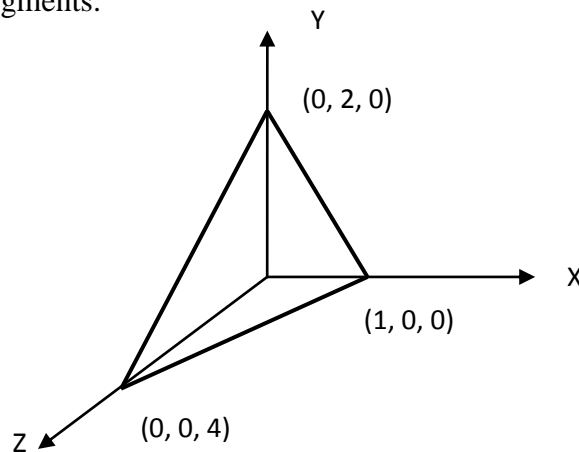
$$\therefore \text{Range} = [0, 2]$$

Ex. 2) Sketch the graph of the function $f(x, y) = 4 - 4x - 2y$.

Solution: Let, $z = 4 - 4x - 2y \Rightarrow 4x + 2y + z = 4$

This is an equation of a plane, which coincides the axes at $x = 1$, $y = 2$ and $z = 4$.

A triangular portion of the plane can be sketched by plotting the intersections with the co-ordinate axes and joining them with the line segments.



Ex. 3) Sketch the graph of the function $f(x, y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$.

Solution: Let, $z = 4 - x^2 - y^2$

This is an equation of a paraboloid, which coincides the axes at $x = 2$, $y = 2$ and $z = 4$.

Limit and Continuity:

Ex. 4) If $f(x, y) = \frac{x + y - 1}{x + y + 2}$, then show that, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} f(x, y) = \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, y)$

Solution:

$$\text{L. H. S: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} f(x, y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \frac{x + y - 1}{x + y + 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x + 1 - 1}{x + 1 + 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{x + 3} = \frac{0}{0 + 3} = 0$$

$$\text{R. H. S: } \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, y) = \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x + y - 1}{x + y + 2} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \frac{0 + y - 1}{0 + y + 2} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \frac{y - 1}{y + 2} = \frac{1 - 1}{1 + 2} = 0$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} f(x, y) = \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, y) \quad (\text{showed})$$

Ex. 5) Discuss the iterated limits of the following functions at the point (0, 0).

$$(i) f(x, y) = \frac{x^3 + y^3}{x^3 - y^3} \qquad (ii) f(x, y) = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{(x + y)^2 + 2x^2y^2}$$

Solution: (i) Given, $f(x, y) = \frac{x^3 + y^3}{x^3 - y^3}$

Now,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} f(x, y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3 + y^3}{x^3 - y^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3}{x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 1 = 1$$

And,

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, y) = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3 + y^3}{x^3 - y^3} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{y^3}{-y^3} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} -1 = -1$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} f(x, y) \neq \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, y)$$

Therefore, iterated limits of the function does not exist at the point (0,0).

Ex. 6) Prove that, the iterated limits of the function $f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2}$ at the point (0, 0) exists

but simultaneous limit does not exist.

Solution:

(i) Given, $f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2}$

Now,

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

And,

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

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} f(x, y) = \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, y)$$

Therefore, iterated limits of the function does not exist at the point (0,0).

Now, the simultaneous limit of the function along $y = mx$ at (0,0)

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y) = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x \cdot mx}{x^2 + m^2 x^2} = \frac{m}{1 + m^2}; \text{ it will have different values for different values of } m.$$

Therefore, simultaneous limit of the function does not exist at the point (0,0).