

## 1 Review

- **Multivariable function** is defined as the map  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- The **domain** of a multivariable function is a subset  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  on which the function is defined. The **range** is the set  $\{f(\mathbf{x}) | \mathbf{x} \in D\}$ .
- The **graph** of a *two* variable function is the set  $\{(x, y, f(x, y)) | (x, y) \in D\}$  for the domain  $D$  of  $f$ .
- **Level curve** of a function  $f$  of two variables are the curves with satisfying  $f(x, y) = k$ .
- The **limit**  $L$  of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the value in which for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist  $\delta_\epsilon > 0$  such that  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\| < \delta_\epsilon \implies |f(\mathbf{x}) - L| < \epsilon$ . (in simple language, that is the value that  $f$  approach as  $(x, y)$  approach  $(a, b)$ ). Notationally,

$$\lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0} f(\mathbf{x}) = L.$$

- You are reminded limit is **NOT** direct function evaluation.
- Limit is **NOT** always exist.
- If the limit exist, then **MUST** be unique. So it cannot be *path dependent*.
- Evaluation can be done with *squeeze theorem* or *polar coordinates*.
- A multivariable function is **continuous** at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  if it satisfies  $\lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0} f(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}_0)$ .
- The **partial derivative** of  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  in the  $i$ -th coordinate at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  is defined by

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \right|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0} := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\mathbf{x}_0 + h\mathbf{e}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_0)}{h}.$$

Other notations:  $f_{x_i}$ . One can regard *unrelated variables* as constants in taking partial derivative. **Remark:** Partial derivative is **NOT** always commutative. They are commutative only if both  $f_{xy}$  and  $f_{yx}$  are continuous (Clairaut).

## 2 Problems

1. True or False

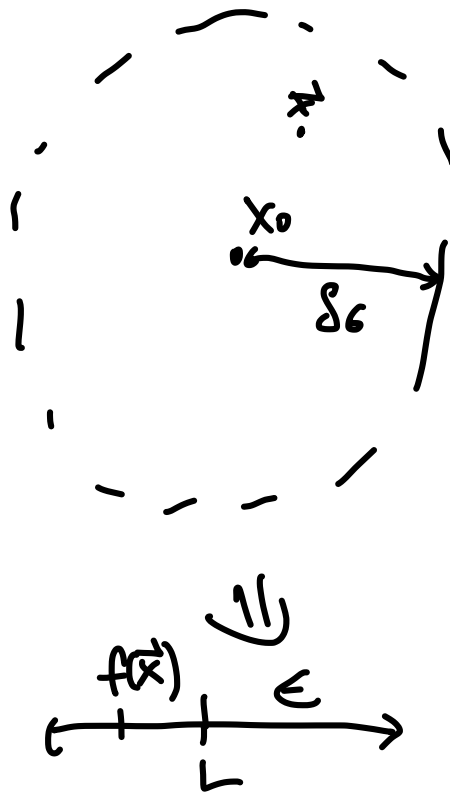
(a)  $f_{xy} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)$ .

false:  $\because f_{xy} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)$

Counter e.g.  $f(x, y) = \frac{xy(x^2 - y^2)}{x^2 + y^2}$ , when  $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$  they are continuous, when  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$  this is true.

For interest:

$$\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}_0} f(\vec{x}) = L \Leftrightarrow \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } \|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0\| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(\vec{x}) - L| < \epsilon$$



False:  $f_y = \lim_{y \rightarrow b} \frac{f(a,y) - f(a,b)}{y-b}$

(b)  $f_y(a,b) = \lim_{y \rightarrow b} \frac{f(a,y) - f(a,b)}{y-b}$ .

(c) There exists a function  $f$  with continuous second-order partial derivatives such that  $f_x(x,y) = x + y^2$  and  $f_y(x,y) = x - y^2$ .

False  $f = \frac{x^2}{2} + y^2x + C(y)$

(d) If  $f(x,y) \rightarrow L$  as  $(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)$  for every straight line, then  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x,y) = L$ .

False:

$f_y = 2xy + C'(y)$   
but no  $x$ .

2. Determine the set of points at which the function

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2y^3}{2x^2+y^2} & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 1 & \text{if } (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

is continuous.

3. Determine the  $x$ -partial derivative of the function

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2y^3}{2x^2+y^2} & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 1 & \text{if } (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

at  $(0,0)$ .

4. Draw the contour of  $f(x,y) = ye^x$  at several levels.

$$c). f_x = x + y^2$$

$$\int f_x dx = \frac{x^2}{2} + y^2 x + g(y)$$

→ [?]

Assumption:

$$f_y = 2xy + g'(y) = x - y^2$$

$$g'(y) = x - y^2 - 2xy$$

$g$  depends on  $x$ ,

contradiction to  
original assumption

$\Rightarrow$  False

d). FALSE  $\because$  we can always consider  
non-linear part.

Counter e.g.  $f(x,y) = \frac{y^2}{x}$

$\forall$  linear path,  $y = cx$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\lim_{\substack{y=cx \\ (x,y) \rightarrow 0}} \frac{y^2}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{c^2 x^2}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} c^2 x = 0$$

Consider the path  $y = \sqrt{x}$ ,

then  $\lim_{\substack{y=\sqrt{x} \\ (x,y) \rightarrow 0}} \frac{x}{x} = 1 \neq 0$

2. Determine the set of points at which the function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 y^3}{2x^2 + y^2} & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 1 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

is continuous.

For  $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$   $g(x, y) = \frac{x^2 y^3}{2x^2 + y^2}$   $(x, y) \neq (0, 0) \Rightarrow$   
 $g(x, y)$   
defined everywhere

For  $g(x, y)$ , it must be continuous

$\therefore$  denominator  $\neq 0$ , both 分子 分母 皆为  
polynomial.

For  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ . Try evaluate limit from  $y=x$

$$\lim_{\substack{y=x \\ (x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)}} \frac{x^2 y^3}{2x^2 + y^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^5}{3x^2} = 0 \neq 1$$

not continuous at  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ .

Domain of continuity:  $\mathbb{R}^2 / \{0, 0\}$ .

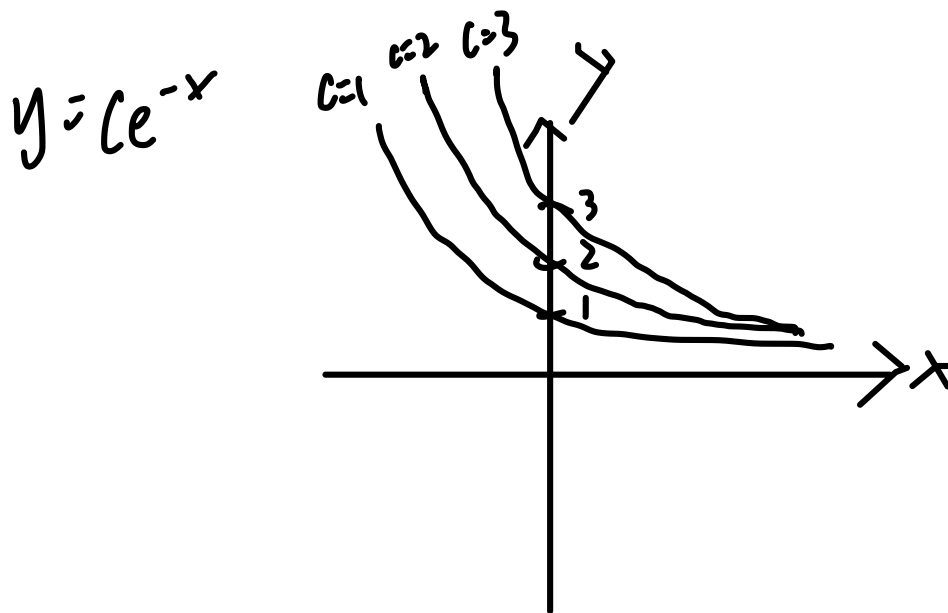
3. Determine the  $x$ -partial derivative of the function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 y^3}{2x^2 + y^2} & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 1 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

at  $(0, 0)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Big|_{(0,0)} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0 - 1}{h} \\ &= \text{not defined.} \end{aligned}$$

4. Draw the contour of  $f(x, y) = ye^x$  at several levels.



5. Evaluate  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2}$ .
6. Evaluate  $\lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (0,0,0)} \frac{xy+yz^2+xz^2}{x^2+y^2+z^4}$ .
7. Evaluate  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2|y|+y^2|x|}{x^2+|y|}$ .
8. Find the partial derivative with respect to one of the resistors in a 3-parallel resistor system.
9. The temperature at a location in the Northern Hemisphere  $T$  depends on the longitude  $x$ , latitude  $y$ , and time  $t$ , so we can write  $T = f(x, y, t)$  for a differentiable function  $f$ .  
Let's measure time in hours from the beginning of January.  
What are the physical meaning of the three partial derivatives?



5. Evaluate  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2}$ .

$$\lim_{(r,\theta) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{r \cos \theta \ r \sin \theta}{r^2 \cos^2 \theta + r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \quad \frac{r^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta}{r^2}$$

$$\lim_{(r,\theta) \rightarrow (0,0)} = \frac{r^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{r^2}$$

$$= \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\theta)$$

$$= 0$$

6. Evaluate  $\lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (0,0,0)} \frac{xy + yz^2 + xz^2}{x^2 + y^2 + z^4}$ .

Consider the  $z = y = x \rightarrow 1^{st}$

and  $z = y = -x \rightarrow 2^{nd}$

$$1^{st} \text{ path } f(x,y,z) = \frac{x^2 + x^2}{2x^2 + x^4} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$2^{nd} \text{ path } f(x,y,z) = \frac{-x^2}{2x^2 + x^4} = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{-x^2}{2x^2 + x^4}} \right\} \text{ do not exist}$$

7. Evaluate  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2|y| + y^2|x|}{x^2 + |y|}$ .

for  $(x,y)$  "close" to the origin,  $\Rightarrow |x|, |y| < 1$

$$\Rightarrow |x|, |y| < 1$$

$$0 \leq \frac{x^2|y| + y^2|x|}{x^2 + |y|} \leq \frac{x^2|y| + y^2|x|}{x^2 + y^2}$$

Proof:

$$\Rightarrow \frac{r^3 \cos^2 \theta |\sin \theta| + r^3 \sin^2 \theta |\cos \theta|}{r^2}$$

square  
thm.

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} : 0 \quad \text{if } r$$

Conclusion:  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2|y| + y^2|x|}{x^2 + |y|} = 0$

