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Friday 9/16/16

### Reminders:

- Midterm next Friday (no calculators) → Everything Ch 12, 13, 14.1
- Webpage Updates:
  - ↳ Piazza (link on course webpage)
  - ↳ Course notes will be posted
  - ↳ Link to sage (opensource mathematica)

### Last Time:

- Mathematical writing
- Homework problem session

### TODAY:

- Partial derivatives
- Contour plots/ level sets
- Sage (if time)

Partial Derivatives → If  $f = f(x, y, z)$   
"f is a function of 3 variables"

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \left. \frac{f(x + \Delta x, y, z) - f(x, y, z)}{\Delta x} \right\} \text{partial derivative of } f \text{ with respect to } x$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \left. \frac{f(x, y + \Delta y, z) - f(x, y, z)}{\Delta x} \right\} "y"$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = \lim_{\Delta z \rightarrow 0} \left. \frac{f(x, y, z + \Delta z) - f(x, y, z)}{\Delta x} \right\} "z"$$

What this does:

$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$  = "take a derivative with respect to x and treat all other variables as constants"

Similarly w/  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$  and  $\frac{\partial}{\partial z}$

Examples:

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [x^2 + y] = 2x + 0$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [xy] = x$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [e^y] = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial z} [xy] = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [xy] = y$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial s} [s^2 e^{st} + f(s)]$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial s} [s^2 e^{st}] + \frac{\partial}{\partial s} [f(s)]$$

$$= 2se^{st} + s^2 e^{st} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} [st] + f'(s)$$

$$= (2s + s^2 t) e^{st} + f'(s)$$

### Notations for partial derivatives

If  $f = f(x, y, z)$ , then

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y, z) = f_x = f'_x(x, y, z)$$

### We can iterate partial derivatives:

Examples:

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} [x^2 y + y] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [x^2 y + y] \right] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [x^2 + 1] = 2x$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y \partial x} [x^2 y + y] = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [x^2 y + y] \right] = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [2xy + 0] = 2x$$

### REMARK

It is not a coincidence that

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$$
 in this example. This will be true for differentiable functions.

- Warning! → Differentiable does not mean that the partial derivatives exist.
- Differentiable means that one can find a linear approximation.
- ↪ He will explain this later...

### CONTOUR PLOTS/LEVEL SETS

Defn → let  $f(x, y, z)$  be a fn. A level set or contour of  $f(x, y, z)$  is a set of the form

$$\{(x, y, z) : f(x, y, z) = c\}$$

for some constant  $c$ .

Remarks:

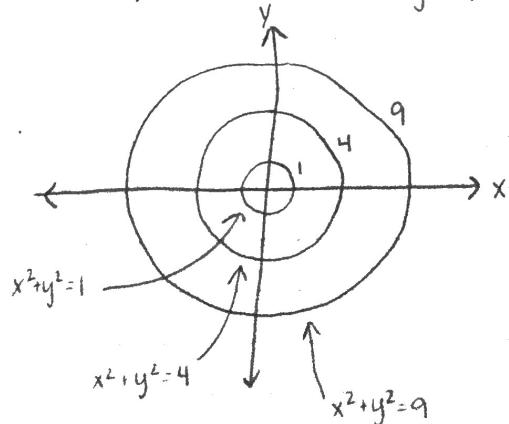
- One can make a similar 2D defn
- A level set is just a set of pts where the fn stays level

Example: Plot the level sets of

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$$

soln:  $\{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 = c\} = \text{(level set for value } c\text{)}$

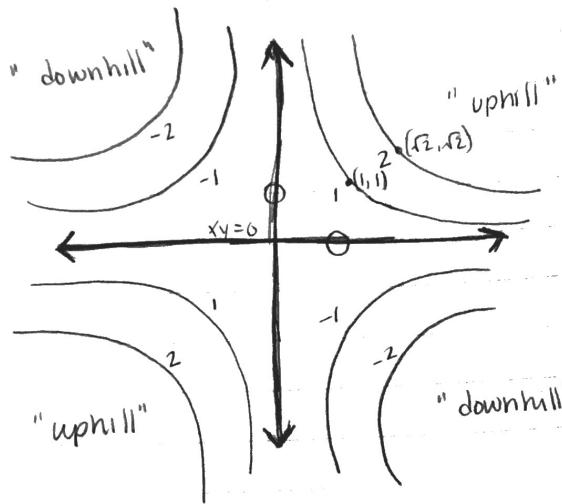
Contour plots are like topographical maps



Example: Plot the level sets of  
 $g(x,y) = xy$

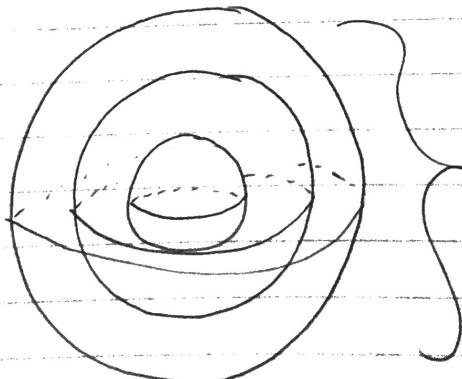
Soln:

look at  $xy = c$   
 $\Rightarrow y = c/x$  } graph these fns for varying  $c$



Example: what are the level sets of  $g(x,y,z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ ?

Soln: Concentric spheres



"3D contour plot"

(there are graphing programs to draw these)