

Math 2110Q Worksheet 9 - Solutions
October 10, 2016

1. Given $f = f(x, y, z)$ with parameterizations $x(t) = 1 - t$, $y(t) = 2t + 5$ and $z(t) = t^2$, find $f'(t = 2)$ if $\partial f/\partial x = 1$, $\partial f/\partial y = -1$ and $\partial f/\partial z = 2$ for $t = 2$. (3 pts).

Solution: The Chain Rule tells us that

$$f'(t) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} x'(t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} y'(t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} z'(t).$$

The values of the partial derivatives at $t = 2$ are given, so just plug them in and calculate the remaining derivatives from the given formulas for $x(t)$, $y(t)$ and $z(t)$:

$$f'(2) = x'(2) - y'(2) + 2z'(2) = -1 - 2 + 2(4) = 5.$$

2. Find the directional derivative of $f(x, y) = \ln(1 + 2x^2 + 3y^2)$ in the direction of $\langle -2, 2 \rangle$ at the point $(1, 1)$. Also, calculate the maximum rate of change for f at this point (4 pts).

Solution: We require the normalized direction vector;

$$\hat{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \langle -2, 2 \rangle.$$

We need also $\nabla f(1, 1)$:

$$\nabla f(1, 1) = \frac{1}{1 + 2x^2 + 3y^2} \langle 4x, 6y \rangle |_{(x,y)=(1,1)} = \left\langle \frac{2}{3}, 1 \right\rangle.$$

The directional derivative is now the dot-product of ∇f and \hat{u} , which is $1/(3\sqrt{2})$. Finally, the maximum rate of change is

$$|\nabla f(1, 1)| = \sqrt{4/9 + 1} = \frac{\sqrt{13}}{3}.$$

3. Find the equation of the tangent plane at $(x, y, z) = (2, -1, 1)$ on the surface $xy + xz + y \sin(2\pi z) = 0$. (3 pts).

Solution: Define $F(x, y, z) = xy + xz + y \sin(2\pi z)$. Then calculate

$$\nabla F = \langle y + z, x + \sin(2\pi z), x + 2\pi y \cos(2\pi z) \rangle.$$

You must insert the given values $(x, y, z) = (2, -1, 1)$, yielding

$$\nabla F = \langle 0, 2, 2 - 2\pi \rangle.$$

Now apply the formula for the tangent plane using the given point:

$$\nabla F \cdot \langle x - 2, y - (-1), z - 1 \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow 2(y + 1) + (2 - 2\pi)(z - 1) = 0.$$