

1. If $f(x, y) = xy^2 + 4x^3y^5$, find f_x , f_{xy} and f_{xx} .

Solution: $f_x(x, y) = y^2 + 12x^2y^5$, $f_{xy}(x, y) = 2y + 60x^2y^4$ and $f_{xx}(x, y) = 24xy^5$.

2. Consider the triangle with vertices $P(1, 2, 3)$, $Q(2, -2, 3)$ and $R(0, 3, 1)$.

(a) Find the angle at vertex Q .

Solution: $\vec{QP} = \langle -1, 4, 0 \rangle$ and $\vec{QR} = \langle -2, 5, -2 \rangle$. The angle is $\arccos \frac{\vec{QP} \cdot \vec{QR}}{|\vec{QP}| |\vec{QR}|} = \arccos 22/\sqrt{17}\sqrt{33}$.

(b) Find an equation of the plane in which this triangle lies.

Solution: Using the normal vector $\vec{N} = \vec{QP} \times \vec{QR} = -8\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$ and the point P we get the equation $-8(x - 1) - 2(y - 2) + 3(z - 3) = 0$. There are many correct answers.

(c) Find the area of the triangle.

Solution: The area is $(1/2)|\vec{QP} \times \vec{QR}| = \sqrt{77}/2$.

3. A moving particle has position function $\mathbf{r}(t) = (t^3/3)\mathbf{i} + t^2\mathbf{j} + 2t\mathbf{k}$. Find

(a) the distance traveled between times $t = 1$ and $t = 3$

Solution: $\mathbf{r}'(t) = t^2\mathbf{i} + 2t\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ and $|\mathbf{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{t^4 + 4t^2 + 4} = \sqrt{(t^2 + 2)^2} = t^2 + 2$ so the distance is $\int_1^3 |\mathbf{r}'(t)| dt = \int_1^3 (t^2 + 2) dt = 38/3$.

(b) The normal component of acceleration at time $t = 1$

Solution: From (a), $v(t) = t^2 + 2$ so $v(1) = 3$. Then $a_{nor}(1) = \kappa(1)v(1)^2 = 9\kappa(1)$. Using (d) below, $a_{nor}(1) = 2$.

(c) the unit tangent vector at time $t = 1$

Solution: $\mathbf{T}(1) = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}'(1)|} \mathbf{r}'(1) = \frac{1}{3} \langle 1, 2, 2 \rangle$.

(d) the curvature of the path at time $t = 1$

Solution: $\mathbf{r}''(t) = \langle 2t, 2, 0 \rangle$, so $\mathbf{r}'(1) \times \mathbf{r}''(1) = \langle 1, 2, 2 \rangle \times \langle 2, 2, 0 \rangle = -4\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$ and $\kappa(1) = \frac{|\langle 1, 2, 2 \rangle \times \langle 2, 2, 0 \rangle|}{3^3} = \frac{6}{27} = \frac{2}{9}$.

4. Find an equation of the tangent plane to the surface $z = \frac{12x}{x^2 - y^2}$ at the point $(2, 1, 8)$.

Solution: $z_x = \frac{12(x^2 - y^2) - 2x(12x)}{(x^2 - y^2)^2} = \frac{-12(x^2 + y^2)}{(x^2 - y^2)^2}$ and $z_y = \frac{-(-2y)(12x)}{(x^2 - y^2)^2} = \frac{24xy}{(x^2 - y^2)^2}$. Then $z_x|_{(2,1,8)} = (-60/9)$ and $z_y|_{(2,1,8)} = (48/9)$. The tangent plane is

$$z - 8 = (-60/9)(x - 2) + (48/9)(y - 1).$$

5. If $z = f(x, y)$, $x = r^3s$ and $y = rs^3$, express $\frac{\partial z}{\partial r}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial s}$ in terms of $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$, r and s .

Solution: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} 3r^2s + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} s^3$ and

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} r^3 + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} 3rs^2.$$

6. If $x^2y^3z = xy^2z^3 + 6$, find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$. **Solution:** By implicit differentiation (with

respect to x , holding y fixed): $2xy^3z + x^2y^3 \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = y^2z^3 + xy^2 \cdot 3z^2 \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and so

$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{-2xy^3z + y^2z^3}{x^2y^3 - 3xy^2z^2}$. Alternatively, rewrite the equation as $F(x, y, z) = 0$ where $F(x, y, z) = x^2y^3z - xy^2z^3 - 6$, and use the formula

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{\partial F/\partial x}{\partial F/\partial z} = \frac{-2xy^3z + y^2z^3}{x^2y^3 - 3xy^2z^2}.$$

Similarly (by either method) $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{-3x^2y^2z + 2xyz^3}{x^2y^3 - 3xy^2z^2}$. The answers can be simplified.

7. (a) Find an equation of a plane which is parallel to both of the lines

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = 2 - t \\ y(t) = 3 + 2t \\ z(t) = 4 + t \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{cases} x(t) = 1 + t \\ y(t) = 2 - 5t \\ z(t) = 4 - 2t \end{cases}$$

Solution: For any such plane we can use the normal vector $\langle -1, 2, 1 \rangle \times \langle 1, -5, -2 \rangle = \langle 1, -1, 3 \rangle$. Using the point $(2, 3, 4)$ (from the first line) gives the plane $(x - 2) - (y - 3) + 3(z - 4) = 0$. (Any point could be used but this helps to answer (b).)

(b) Do these two lines intersect or not? Justify your answer.

Solution: Yes, they intersect. Substituting the $x(t)$, $y(t)$ and $z(t)$ for either line into the equation of the plane in (a) yields $0 = 0$, so both lines lie in this plane. As the two lines lie in a plane and are not parallel, they do intersect. (It is not enough just to say that they are not parallel; in three dimensions, two lines can be skew.) Alternate solution: the lines intersect if and only if the three equations $2 - t = 1 + t'$, $3 + 2t = 2 - 5t'$ and $4 + t = 4 - 2t'$ have a common solution t, t' . Solving this system of three equations yields the solution $t = 2, t' = -1$ (check it!) so the lines do intersect.

8. Sketch several (at least 3) level curves in the x, y -plane of the function $f(x, y) = 2x^2 + y$, and find an equation of the level curve passing through the point $(3, 2)$.

Solution:

The level curves are the parabolas $2x^2 + y = k$ for various constants k , such as $2x^2 + y = 0$, $2x^2 + y = 1$, $2x^2 + y = 2$, etc. The level curve passing through the point $(3, 2)$ has equation $2x^2 + y = 2 \cdot 3^2 + 2$, that is, $2x^2 + y = 20$.

