

① You are walking on the graph of  $f(x,y) = y \cos \pi x - x \cos \pi y + 10$  starting at the point  $(2,1,13)$ . Which direction should you walk to maintain a constant elevation?

Solution The directional derivative gives the rate of change (slope) in the direction of a unit vector. so we need to find a unit vector  $v = (x,y)$  such that

$$\underbrace{\nabla f(2,1)}_{\text{Directional Derivative}} \cdot v = 0.$$

$$\text{Since } \nabla f = (-\pi y \sin \pi x - \cos \pi y, \cos \pi x + \pi x \sin \pi y)$$

$$\nabla f(1,2) = (1,1)$$

so we get  $x+y = \nabla f(2,1) \cdot (x,y) = 0$ . Since  $v$  is a unit vector, we also know  $x^2 + y^2 = \|v\|^2 = 1$ . By substitution

$$2x^2 = x^2 + (-x)^2 = 1$$

$$\text{So } x = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \text{ and } y = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}.$$

so we can walk in any of the four directions determined by

$$v = \left( \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)$$

② (a) Show that  $f(x,t) = \sin(x-ct)$  satisfies the one-dimensional wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}.$$

(b) Let  $w = f(x,y)$  be a function of two variables and let  $x = u+v, y = u-v$ . Show that

$$\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial u \partial v} = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2}.$$

Proof of (a) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \sin(x-ct) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \cos(x-ct) \\ &= -\sin(x-ct) \\ &= -\frac{c^2}{c^2} \sin(x-ct) \\ &= -\frac{c}{c^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \cos(x-ct) \\ &= \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \sin(x-ct) \\ &= \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Let  $w = f(x,y)$  be a function of two variables and let  $x = u+v, y = u-v$ . Show that

$$\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial u \partial v} = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2}.$$

Proof of (b)

For any function  $g(x,y)$ , if we make the change of variable  $x = u+v, y = u-v$ , then the chain rule gives

$$(1) \quad \frac{\partial g}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{\partial g}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}$$

Now with  $w = f(x, y)$  we have

$$\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial u \partial v} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial v} \right)$$

$$\stackrel{(1)}{=} \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right) \quad \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \text{ are functions of } x \text{ and } y \right)$$

$$\stackrel{(2)}{=} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y \partial x} - \left( \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Clairaut's}}{=} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \quad \text{equal by Clairaut}$$



③ a) Does there exist a  $C^2$  function  $f(x, y)$  such that:

$$f_x = 2x - 5y \quad \text{and} \quad f_y = 4x + y ?$$

b) Does there exist a  $C^2$  function  $g(x, y)$  such that:

$$g_x = 5x - 2y \quad \text{and} \quad g_y = -2x ?$$

Solution a) There is no such function. Suppose  $f(x, y)$  was  $C^2$  and satisfies

$$f_x = 2x - 5y \quad \text{and} \quad f_y = 4x + y. \quad \text{By Clairaut's Thm, } f_{xy} = f_{yx}.$$

$$\text{But } f_{xy} = -5 \quad \text{and} \quad f_{yx} = 4 \quad \text{and even a fool knows } -5 \neq 4.$$

□

(b) Note that  $g_{xy} = -2 = g_{yx}$ , so Clairaut's theorem tells us nothing. In this case, we can use integration to find  $g$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{To find } g: \quad g(x, y) &= \int g_x \, dx \\ &= \int (5x - 2y) \, dx \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{5}{2}x^2 - 2xy + h(y)}_{\text{(h(y) is any function of y)}} \end{aligned}$$

To find  $h(y)$ : compute  $g_y$  from  $g(x, y) = \frac{5}{2}x^2 - 2xy + h(y)$ .

$$\Rightarrow g_y = -2x + h'(y)$$

We also know  $g_y = -2x$  so  $-2x = -2x + h'(y)$ . So  $h'(y) = 0$

$$\text{so } h(y) = \int h'(y) \, dy = \int 0 \, dy = 0. \quad \text{So } g(x, y) = \frac{5}{2}x^2 - 2xy.$$

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Second-Order Taylor Formula: Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $C^3$  function. Then

$$f(x_0+h) = f(x_0) + \sum_{i=1}^n h_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n h_i h_j \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(x_0) + R_2(x_0, h)$$

where  $\frac{R_2(x_0, h)}{\|h\|^2} \rightarrow 0$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$ .

④ Compute the second order Taylor approximation to  $f(x, y) = e^{(x-1)^2} \cos y$  at  $(1, 0)$ .

Solution If  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the Taylor polynomial centered at  $(x_0, y_0)$

$$T(h_1, h_2) = f(x_0, y_0) + \sum_{i=1}^2 h_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_0, y_0) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^2 h_i h_j \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(x_0, y_0)$$

(set  $x_1 = x$ ,  $x_2 = y$ )

$$= f(x_0, y_0) + h_1 f_x(x_0, y_0) + h_2 f_y(x_0, y_0) + \frac{1}{2} (h_1^2 f_{xx} + h_1 h_2 f_{xy} + h_2 h_1 f_{yx} + h_2^2 f_{yy})$$

So we compute all partial derivatives at  $(1, 0)$

$$f(x, y) = e^{(x-1)^2} \cos y$$

$$f(1, 0) = 1$$

$$f_x = (2x-2)e^{(x-1)^2} \cos y \xrightarrow{\text{at } (1,0)} 0$$

$$f_y = -e^{(x-1)^2} \sin y \rightarrow 0$$

$$f_{xx} = 2(x-1)e^{(x-1)^2} \cos y + 2e^{(x-1)^2} \cos y \rightarrow 2$$

$$f_{xy} = -(2x-2)e^{(x-1)^2} \sin y \rightarrow 0$$

$$f_{yx} = \dots \rightarrow 0$$

$$f_{yy} = -e^{(x-1)^2} \cos y \rightarrow -1$$

So the Taylor polynomial of degree 2 at  $(1, 0)$

$$T(x, y) = 1 + x^2 - \frac{1}{2} y^2$$

