

17. LECTURE 17

Objectives

- Review Partial Derivatives

For Lecture 17, the following exercises were done in class.

17.1. Partial Derivatives.

- (1) Find  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  for

$$f(x, y) = xy^2 - x^3y.$$

To find  $f_x$ , we treat  $x$  as a variable and  $y$  as a constant. Therefore,

$$f_x(x, y) = y^2 - 3x^2y$$

By the same logic,

$$f_y(x, y) = 2xy - x^3$$

- (2) Find  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  for

$$f(x, y) = \ln(x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}).$$

To find  $f_x$ , we treat  $x$  as a variable and  $y$  as a constant. Here, we will need to use the chain rule twice. The “outside” function is the natural log function. The middle function is  $x$  plus the square root function. Therefore,

$$f_x(x, y) = \frac{1}{x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot 2x\right) = \frac{1 + x(x^2 + y^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

The approach for  $f_y$  is the same, except  $x$  is treated as a constant.

$$f_y(x, y) = \frac{1}{x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \cdot \left(0 + \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot 2y\right) = \frac{y(x^2 + y^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

(3) Find  $f_x$ ,  $f_y$ , and  $f_z$  for

$$f(x, y, z) = xz - 5x^2y^3z^4.$$

$$f_x(x, y, z) = z - 10xy^3z^4$$

$$f_y(x, y, z) = 0 - 15x^2y^2z^4$$

$$f_z(x, y, z) = x - 20x^2y^3z^3$$

(4) Find  $f_{xxx}$  and  $f_{xyx}$  for

$$f(x, y) = x^4y^2 - x^3y.$$

$$f_x(x, y) = 4x^3y^2 - 3x^2y$$

$$f_{xx}(x, y) = 12x^2y^2 - 6xy$$

$$f_{xxx}(x, y) = 24xy^2 - 6y$$

$$f_{xyx}(x, y) = f_{xxy}(x, y) = 24x^2y - 6x$$

(5) Find  $z_{uvw}$  for

$$z = u\sqrt{v-w}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}z_u &= \sqrt{v-w} \\z_{uv} &= \frac{1}{2}(v-w)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot 1 \\z_{uvw} &= -\frac{1}{4}(v-w)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \cdot (-1) = \boxed{\frac{1}{4}(v-w)^{-\frac{3}{2}}}\end{aligned}$$

(6) Find  $w_{zyx}$  and  $w_{xxy}$  for

$$w = \frac{x}{y+2z}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}w_x &= \frac{1}{y+2z} \\w_{xy} &= (-1)(y+2z)^{-2} \cdot 1 \\w_{zyx} = w_{xyz} &= (-1)(-2)(y+2z)^{-3} \cdot 2 = \boxed{4(y+2z)^{-3}} \\w_{xxy} = w_{xyx} &= \boxed{0}\end{aligned}$$

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