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**MA110 - Engineering Mathematics-1**  
**Problem Sheet - 3**

**Partial Derivatives**

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1. Verify the mixed derivative theorem for the following functions at the given point.

(a)  $f(x, y) = \sin xy$  at  $(0, 0)$ .

(b)  $f(x, y) = \frac{x+y}{x^2+y^2}$  at  $(1, 1)$ .

2. For the function  $f$  defined by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} xy^{\frac{x^2-y^2}{x^2+y^2}}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0), \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases} .$$

Verify whether  $f_{xy}(0, 0) = f_{yx}(0, 0)$ .

3. Show that  $f(x, y)$  is continuous and differentiable by definition.

(a)  $f(x, y) = xy$

(b)  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^3$

4. Show that

$$f(x, y) = |x|$$

is not differentiable at  $(0, 0)$ .

5. Show that

$$f(x, y) = |x|(1 + y)$$

is not differentiable at  $(0, 0)$ .

6. Show that

$$f(x, y) = \sqrt{|xy|}$$

is not differentiable at  $(0, 0)$ .

7. Use the limit definition to find

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(1, 2)$$

of  $f(x, y) = 1 - x + y - 3x^2y$ .

8. Find  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}(1, 1)$ , if  $xy + z^3x - 2yz = 0$ .

9. Find the second-order partial derivatives for each of the functions defined below:

- (a)  $f(x, y) = \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{y}$   
 (b)  $f(x, y) = e^x(x \cos y - y \sin x)$   
 (c)  $f(x, y) = \log(x^3 + y^3 xy)^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 (d)  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 y^2}{x^2 + y^2}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0), \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$   
 (e)  $f(x, y) = \log \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2}$ .

10. Verify whether  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x}$  for the following functions:

- |                                 |                                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (a) $f(x, y) = (x + y) \tan xy$ | (d) $f(x, y) = \sqrt{xy}$           |
| (b) $f(x, y) = \log xy$         | (e) $f(x, y) = \frac{x+y}{x^2+y^2}$ |
| (c) $f(x, y) = (x + y) \log xy$ | (f) $f(x, y) = x^2 \sin(x^2 + y^2)$ |

11. For the function  $f$  defined by  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} xy \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0), \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$

Verify whether  $f_{xy}(0, 0) = f_{yx}(0, 0)$ .

12. If  $f(x, y) = x^3 y^2 + y \sin x$ , where  $x = \sin 2t$  and  $y = \log t$ , find  $\frac{df}{dt}$ .

13. If  $z = x \log(xy) + y^3$ , where  $y = \sin(x^2 + 1)$ , find  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ .

14. If  $z = f(u, v)$ , where  $u = e^x \cos y$  and  $v = e^x \sin y$ , then show that  $\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\right)^2 = (u^2 + v^2) \left(\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial u}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial v}\right)^2\right)$ .

15. Compute  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$  for  $f(x, y)$ , where  $x = r \cos \theta$  and  $y = r \sin \theta$ .

16. If  $y = f(x + ct) + g(x - ct)$ , then show that  
 $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$ .

17. If  $u = xf(x + y) + yg(x + y)$ , then show that  
 $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$ .

18. If  $u = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{x^2 + y^2}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \right)$ , then show that  
 $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{3}{4} \sin 2u$ .

19. If  $u = \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{x^{\frac{1}{3}} + y^{\frac{1}{3}}}{x^{\frac{1}{2}} + y^{\frac{1}{2}}}}$ , then show that  
 $x^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2xy \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\tan u}{12} \left( \frac{13}{12} + \frac{\tan^2 u}{12} \right)$ .

20. If  $f(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}}$ , show that  
 $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = 0$ .

21. If  $u = x\phi(\frac{y}{x}) + \psi(\frac{y}{x})$ , then show that

$$(a) x\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = x\phi(\frac{y}{x}).$$

$$(b) x^2u_{xx} + 2xyu_{xy} + y^2u_{yy} = 0.$$

22. If  $f(x, y) = x^3y + e^{xy^2}$ , find  $f_x$  and  $f_y$ .

23. If  $f(x, y) = xy\frac{x^2-y^2}{x^2+y^2}$ , when  $x^2 + y^2 \neq 0$ , and  $f(0, 0) = 0$ , show that

$$f_x(x, 0) = 0 = f_y(0, y)$$

$$f_x(0, y) = -y, f_y(x, 0) = x$$

24. If  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2-yx}{x+y}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0), \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$ , find  $f_x(0, 0)$  and  $f_y(0, 0)$ .

25. If  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^3+y^3}{x-y}, & x \neq y, \\ 0, & x = y \end{cases}$ , show that the function is discontinuous at the origin but possesses partial derivatives  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  at every point, including the origin.

26. If  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} xy \tan \frac{x}{y}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0), \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$ , show that  
 $xf_x + yf_y = 2f$ .

27. Calculate  $f_x, f_y, f_x(0, 0), f_y(0, 0)$  for the following:

$$(a) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^3-y^3}{x^2+y^2}, & x \neq 0, y \neq 0, \\ 0, & x = 0 = y. \end{cases}$$

$$(b) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}, & x^2 + y^2 \neq 0, \\ 0, & x^2 + y^2 = 0. \end{cases}$$

28. Show that the function

$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2y}{x^4+y^2}, & x^2 + y^2 \neq 0, \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$ , possesses first partial derivatives everywhere, including the origin, but the function is discontinuous at the origin.

29. If  $f(x, y) = \sqrt{|xy|}$ , find  $f_x(0, 0)$  and  $f_y(0, 0)$ .

30. Verify that  $f_{xy} = f_{yx}$  for the following functions:

$$(a) \frac{2x-y}{x+y},$$

$$(b) x \tan xy,$$

$$(c) \cosh(y + \cos x),$$

$$(d) x^y.$$

indicating possible exceptional points and investigate these points.

31. Show that  $z = \log\{(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2\}$ , satisfies  $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = 0$ , except at  $(a, b)$ .
32. Show that  $z = x \cos \frac{y}{x} + \tan \frac{y}{x}$ , satisfies  $x^2 z_{xx} + 2xyz_{xy} + y^2 z_{yy} = 0$ , except at points for which  $x = 0$ .
33. Prove that  $f_{xy} \neq f_{yx}$  at the origin for the function:  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} x^2 \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x} - y^2 \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{y}, & x \neq 0, y \neq 0, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$
34. If  $f(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x^2+y^2+z^2)}}$ , show that  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = 0$
35. Examine for the change in the order of derivation at the origin for the functions:
- $f(x, y) = e^x (\cos y + x \sin y)$ .
  - $f(x, y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \sin 2\phi$ , where  $f(0, 0) = 0$  and  $\phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$ .
  - $f(x, y) = |x^2 - y^2|$ .
36. Examine the equality of  $f_{xy}(0, 0)$  and  $f_{yx}(0, 0)$  for the function:  $f(x, y) = (x^2 + y^2) \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$ ,  $x \neq 0$ ,  $f(0, y) = \frac{\pi y^2}{2}$ .
37. Given  $u = e^x \cos y + e^y \sin z$ , find all first partial derivatives and verify that  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x}$ ;  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial z} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z \partial x}$ ;  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial z} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z \partial y}$ .

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