

Math 2130  
HW 4 Solutions

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①  $f(x,y) = 4x^2 - y^2 + 2y$

$$f_x(x,y) = 8x$$

$$f_y(x,y) = -2y + 2$$

(a) Note that

$$f(-1,2) = 4 \cdot (-1)^2 - (2)^2 + 2(2) = 4$$

So, indeed,  $P = (-1, 2, 4)$  does lie  
on the surface  $z = f(x,y)$ .

We have

$$f_x(-1,2) = 8(-1) = -8$$

$$f_y(-1,2) = -2(2) + 2 = -2$$

The tangent plane at  $P = (-1, 2, 4)$  is

$$z - 4 = f_x(-1,2)[x - (-1)] + f_y(-1,2)[y - 2]$$

$$z - 4 = -8(x - (-1)) - 2(y - 2)$$

$$z - 4 = -8(x+1) - 2(y-2)$$

$$8x + 2y + z = 0$$

(b) The tangent plane at  $Q = (a, b, c)$  is

$$z - f(a, b) = f_x(a, b)(x-a) + f_y(a, b)(y-b)$$

This is horizontal when  $f_x(a, b) = 0$  and  $f_y(a, b) = 0$ ,  
that is when the tangent plane equation is  $z = f(a, b)$ .

This is when

$$\begin{cases} 8a = 0 \\ -2b + 2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} f_x(a, b) = 0 \\ f_y(a, b) = 0 \end{cases}$$

This is when  $a=0$  and  $b=1$ .

When  $a=0, b=1$ , we have

$$c = 4a^2 - b^2 + 2b = 4 \cdot 0^2 - 1^2 + 2 \cdot 1 = 1$$

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

So,  $Q = (0, 1, 1)$  is the only point where the tangent plane is horizontal.

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②  $f(x,y) = y \ln(x)$

$$f_x = \frac{y}{x}$$

$$f_y = \ln(x)$$

(a) Note that

$$f(1,4) = 4 \cdot \ln(1) = 4(0) = 0$$

So, indeed,  $P = (1, 4, 0)$  does lie  
on the surface  $z = f(x, y)$ .

We have

$$f_x(1,4) = \frac{4}{1} = 4$$

$$f_y(1,4) = \ln(1) = 0$$

The tangent plane at  $P = (1, 4, 0)$  is

$$z - f(1,4) = f_x(1,4)[x-1] + f_y(1,4)[y-4]$$

$$z - 0 = 4(x-1) - 0(y-4)$$

$$-4x + z = -4$$

(b) The tangent plane at  
 $Q = (a, b, c)$  is

$$z - f(a, b) = f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b)$$

This is horizontal when  
 $f_x(a, b) = 0$  and  $f_y(a, b) = 0$ ,  
that is when the tangent  
plane equation is  $z = f(a, b)$ .

This is when

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} b/a = 0 \\ \ln(a) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \leftrightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} f_x(a, b) = 0 \\ f_y(a, b) = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

This is when  $a = 1$  and  $b = 0$

when  $a = 1, b = 0$ , we have

$$c = 0 \cdot \ln(1) = 0$$

$$f(x, y) = y \ln(x)$$

$S_0$ ,  $Q = (1, 0, 0)$  is the only point where the tangent plane is horizontal.

③

$$f(x,y) = 9 - 2x + 4y - x^2 - 4y^2$$

Step 1: Find the critical points.

$$f_x = -2 - 2x$$

$$f_y = 4 - 8y$$

$$\begin{cases} -2 - 2x = 0 \\ 4 - 8y = 0 \end{cases}$$



$$\begin{cases} x = -1 \\ y = \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

The only critical point is

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

Step 2: Use the 2nd derivative test.

$$f_{xx} = -2$$

$$f_{xy} = 0$$

$$f_{yy} = -8$$

$$D = f_{xx} f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2$$

$$= (-2)(-8) - 0^2 = 16 > 0$$

So at  $(-1, \frac{1}{2})$  we have  $D > 0$ .

And  $f_{xx}(-1, \frac{1}{2}) = -2 < 0$

Thus,  $(-1, \frac{1}{2})$  is a  
local maximum.

(4)

$$f(x,y) = x^3 - 3x + y^3 - 3y$$

Step 1: Find the critical points.

$$f_x = 3x^2 - 3$$

$$f_y = 3y^2 - 3$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 3x^2 - 3 = 0 \\ 3y^2 - 3 = 0 \end{array} \rightarrow \boxed{\begin{array}{l} x^2 - 1 = 0 \\ y^2 - 1 = 0 \end{array}} \quad \begin{array}{l} (1) \\ (2) \end{array}$$

(1) gives  $x = \pm 1$ .

(2) gives  $y = \pm 1$ .

We need (1) and (2) to be solved simultaneously, so the critical points are

$$(x, y) = (1, 1), (1, -1), (-1, 1), (-1, -1)$$

Step 2: Use the 2nd derivative test.

$$f_x = 3x^2 - 3 \quad f_{xx} = 6x \quad f_{xy} = 0$$

$$f_y = 3y^2 - 3 \quad f_{yy} = 6y$$

$$D = f_{xx} f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = 36xy$$

Let's check each critical point.

$$D(1,1) = 36(1)(1) = 36 > 0$$

$$f_{xx}(1,1) = 6(1) = 6 > 0$$

So,  $(1,1)$  is a local minimum.

$$D(-1,-1) = 36(-1)(-1) = 36 > 0$$

$$f_{xx}(-1,-1) = 6(-1) = -6 < 0$$

So,  $(-1,-1)$  is a local maximum

$$D(1, -1) = 36(1)(-1) = -36 < 0$$

$(1, -1)$  is a saddle point.

$$D(-1, 1) = 36(-1)(1) = -36 < 0$$

$(-1, 1)$  is a saddle point.

(5)

$$f(x,y) = x^4 + y^4 - 4xy + 2$$

Step 1: Find the critical points.

$$f_x = 4x^3 - 4y$$

$$f_y = 4y^3 - 4x$$

$$\begin{aligned} 4x^3 - 4y &= 0 \\ 4y^3 - 4x &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^3 - y &= 0 \\ y^3 - x &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

①

②

We want the  $(x,y)$  that solve both ① and ② at the same time.

① gives  $y = x^3$ .

Plug this into ② to get:

$$y^3 - x = 0$$

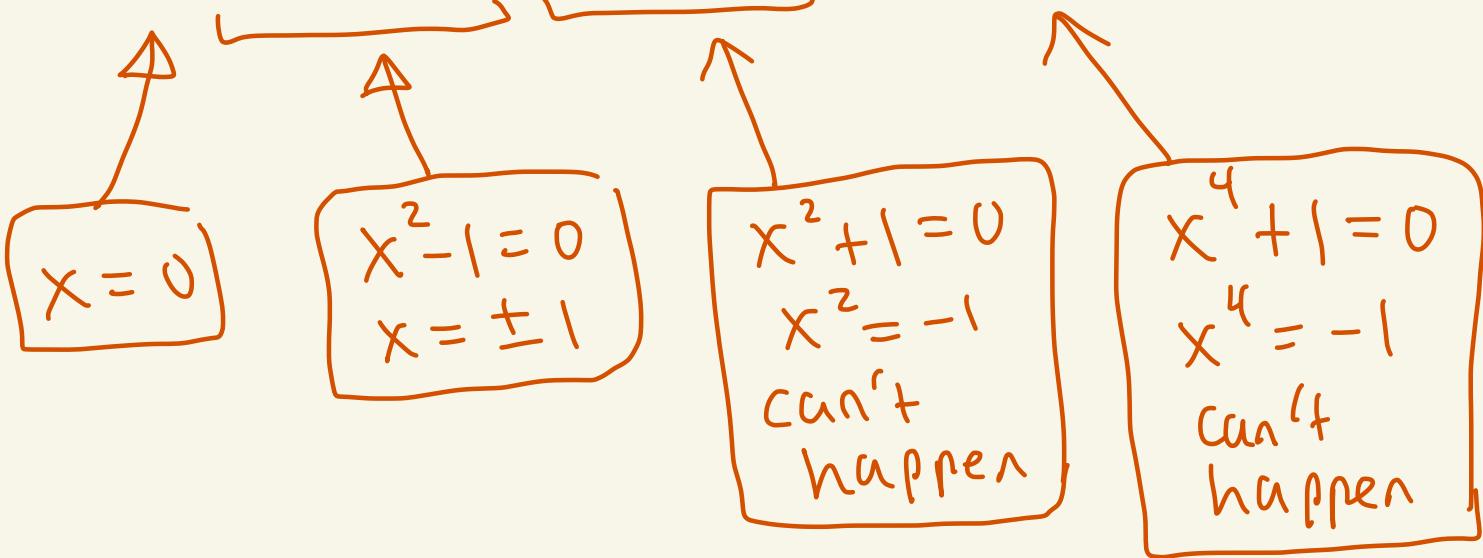
$$(x^3)^3 - x = 0$$

$$x^9 - x = 0$$

$$x(x^8 - 1) = 0$$

$$x(x^4 - 1)(x^4 + 1) = 0$$

$$x(x^2 - 1)(x^2 + 1)(x^4 + 1) = 0$$



So,  $x = 0, -1, 1$ .

Plug these back into  $y = x^3$   
from ① to get:

$$x = 0 \rightarrow y = 0^3 = 0$$

$$x = -1 \rightarrow y = (-1)^3 = -1$$

$$x = 1 \rightarrow y = 1^3 = 1$$

So, the critical points are:

$$(x, y) = (0, 0), (-1, 1), (1, 1).$$

Step 2: Use the 2nd derivative test.

$$f_x = 4x^3 - 4y \quad f_{xx} = 12x^2$$

$$f_y = 4y^3 - 4x \quad f_{yy} = 12y^2$$

$$f_{xy} = -4$$

$$D = f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = (12x^2)(12y^2) - (-4)^2$$

$$D = 144x^2y^2 - 16$$

$$D(0,0) = 144(0)^2(0)^2 - 16 < 0$$

So,  $(0,0)$  is a saddle point

$$D(1,1) = 144(1)^2(1)^2 - 16 = 128 > 0$$

$$f_{xx}(1,1) = 12(1)^2 = 12 > 0$$

So,  $(1,1)$  is a local minimum

$$D(-1,-1) = 144(-1)^2(-1)^2 - 16 = 128 > 0$$

$$f_{xx}(-1,-1) = 12(-1)^2 = 12 > 0$$

So,  $(-1,-1)$  is a local minimum

6

$$f(x,y) = e^{-(x^2+y^2)} = e^{-x^2-y^2}$$

Step 1: Find the critical points.

$$f_x = -2x e^{-x^2-y^2}$$

$$f_y = -2y e^{-x^2-y^2}$$

Need to solve

$$-2x e^{-x^2-y^2} = 0 \quad \text{①}$$

$$-2y e^{-x^2-y^2} = 0 \quad \text{②}$$

Consider ① :

$$\begin{aligned} -2x e^{-x^2-y^2} &= 0 \\ \{ -2x = 0 \} &\quad \{ e^{-x^2-y^2} = 0 \} \end{aligned}$$

This is a product equalling 0.

Thus, either

$$-2x = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad e^{-x^2-y^2} = 0$$

But  $e^{-x^2-y^2} > 0$  always.

So, we would need  $-2x = 0$   
That is,  $x = 0$ .

Similarly  $-2y e^{-x^2-y^2} = 0$

would imply  $-2y = 0$  or  $y = 0$ .

Thus,  $x = 0, y = 0$ .

So, there is one critical point at  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ .

Step 2: Use the 2nd derivative test.

$$f_x = -2x e^{-x^2-y^2}$$

$$f_y = -2y e^{-x^2-y^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{xx} &= -2 e^{-x^2-y^2} - 2x(-2x e^{-x^2-y^2}) \\ &= (-2+4x^2) e^{-x^2-y^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{yy} &= -2 e^{-x^2-y^2} - 2y(-2y e^{-x^2-y^2}) \\ &= (-2+4y^2) e^{-x^2-y^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$f_{xy} = -2x(-2y e^{-x^2-y^2})$$

$$= 4xy e^{-x^2-y^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D(0,0) &= f_{xx}(0,0) f_{yy}(0,0) - f_{xy}(0,0)^2 \\
 &= \left[ (-2 + 4 \cdot 0^2) e^{-0^2-0^2} \right] \left[ (-2 + 4 \cdot 0^2) e^{-0^2-0^2} \right] \\
 &\quad - \left[ 4 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 e^{-0^2-0^2} \right] \\
 &= [-2e^0] [-2e^0] - [0] \\
 &= 4 > 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{xx}(0,0) &= \left[ (-2 + 4 \cdot 0^2) e^{-0^2-0^2} \right] \\
 &= [-2e^0] = -2 < 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $(0,0)$  is a local maximum

7  $f(x,y) = \ln(1+x^2+y^2)$

Step 1: Find the critical points.

$$f_x = \frac{1}{1+x^2+y^2} \cdot (2x) = \frac{2x}{1+x^2+y^2}$$

$$f_y = \frac{1}{1+x^2+y^2} (2y) = \frac{2y}{1+x^2+y^2}$$

Need to solve

$$\frac{2x}{1+x^2+y^2} = 0$$

(1)

$$\frac{2y}{1+x^2+y^2} = 0$$

(2)

Recall that  $\frac{a}{b} = 0$  if  
and only if  $a=0$ .

Thus, ① and ② become

$$\begin{array}{|l|} \hline 2x=0 \\ 2y=0 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{matrix} \textcircled{1} \\ \textcircled{2} \end{matrix} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{|l|} \hline x=0 \\ y=0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

The only critical  
point is  $(x,y)=(0,0)$

Step 2: Use the 2nd  
derivative test.

$$f_x = \frac{zx}{1+x^2+y^2} \quad f_y = \frac{2y}{1+x^2+y^2}$$

Quotient rule

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)' = \frac{a'b - ab'}{b^2}$$

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

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

$$f_{yy} = \frac{2(1+x^2+y^2) - (2y)(2y)}{(1+x^2+y^2)^2}$$

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

$$f_{xy} = \frac{0(1+x^2+y^2) - 2x(2y)}{(1+x^2+y^2)^2} = \frac{-4xy}{(1+x^2+y^2)^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D(0,0) &= f_{xx}(0,0) f_{yy}(0,0) - f_{xy}(0,0)^2 \\
 &= \frac{2-2 \cdot 0^2+2 \cdot 0^2}{(1+0^2+0^2)^2} \cdot \frac{2+2 \cdot 0^2-2 \cdot 0^2}{(1+0^2+0^2)^2} \\
 &\quad - \frac{4 \cdot 0 \cdot 0}{(1+0^2+0^2)^2} \\
 &= \frac{2}{1} \cdot \frac{2}{1} - 0 = 4 > 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$f_{xx}(0,0) = \frac{2-2 \cdot 0^2+2 \cdot 0^2}{(1+0^2+0^2)^2} = 2 > 0$$

Thus,  $(0,0)$  is a local minimum.