

## Exercise Set - V

1. Calculate all first order partial derivatives and the directional derivative  $f'(\underline{x}, \underline{u})$  for each of the real-valued functions defined on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  as follows:

a)  $f(\underline{x}) = \underline{a} \cdot \underline{x}$  where  $\underline{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is fixed,

b)  $f(\underline{x}) = \|\underline{x}\|^4,$

c)  $f(\underline{x}) = \underline{x} \cdot L(\underline{x})$  where  $L: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a linear transformation,

d)  $f(\underline{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_i x_j$  where  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}.$

2. Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real valued functions such that the directional derivatives  $f'(\underline{c}, \underline{u})$  and  $g'(\underline{c}, \underline{u})$  exist. Prove that the sum  $f+g$  and the product  $fg$  have directional derivatives given by

$$(f+g)'(\underline{c}, \underline{u}) = f'(\underline{c}, \underline{u}) + g'(\underline{c}, \underline{u})$$

$$(fg)'(\underline{c}, \underline{u}) = f(\underline{c})g'(\underline{c}, \underline{u}) + g(\underline{c})f'(\underline{c}, \underline{u}).$$

3. Given  $n$  real-valued functions  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  each differentiable on an open interval  $(a, b)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , define  $f$  on

$$S = \{ (x_1, \dots, x_n) : a < x_k < b, k=1, \dots, n \}$$

by  $f(\underline{x}) = f_1(x_1) + \dots + f_n(x_n)$ . Prove that  $f$  is differentiable on  $S$ . Find a formula for  $f'(\underline{x})(\underline{u})$  in terms of  $f'_1(x_1), \dots, f'_n(x_n)$  and  $u_1, \dots, u_n$ .

4. Let  $f$  be a real-valued function, differentiable at a point  $\underline{c}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and assume that  $\|\nabla f(\underline{c})\| \neq 0$ . Prove that there is a unique unit vector  $\underline{u}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $|f'(\underline{c}, \underline{u})| = \|\nabla f(\underline{c})\|$  and that this is the unit vector for which  $|f'(\underline{c}, \underline{u})|$  has its maximum value.

5. Compute the gradient vector  $\nabla f(x, y)$  at those points  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  where it exists:

$$a) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} x^2 y^2 \log(x^2 + y^2) & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$$

$$b) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} xy \sin \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$$

6. Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real-valued functions defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  with continuous second derivatives  $f''$  and  $g''$ . Define

$$\bar{f}(x, y) = f(x + g(y)), \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

Find formulas for all partials of  $F$  of first and second order in terms of the derivatives of  $f$  and  $g$ .

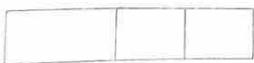
Verify that  $(D_1 F)(D_{1,2} F) = (D_2 F)(D_{1,1} F)$ .

7. If  $f$  and  $g$  have gradient vectors  $\nabla f(\underline{x})$  and  $\nabla g(\underline{x})$  at a point  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , show that the product function  $h$  defined by  $h(\underline{x}) = f(\underline{x})g(\underline{x})$  also has a gradient vector at  $\underline{x}$  and  $\nabla h(\underline{x}) = f(\underline{x})\nabla g(\underline{x}) + g(\underline{x})\nabla f(\underline{x})$ .

State and prove a similar result for  $f/g$ .

8. Let  $f$  be a differentiable function on  $\mathbb{R}$  and let  $g$  be defined on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by  $g(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ . If  $h$  denotes the composite function  $h = f \circ g$ , show that

$$\|\nabla h(x, y, z)\|^2 = 4g(x, y, z) \left( f'(g(x, y, z)) \right)^2.$$



9. A function  $f$  defined on an open set  $S$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called homogeneous of degree  $p$  over  $S$  if  $f(\lambda \underline{x}) = \lambda^p f(\underline{x})$  for every real  $\lambda$  and every  $\underline{x} \in S$  for which  $\lambda \underline{x} \in S$ . If such a function  $f$  is differentiable at  $\underline{x}$ , show that
- $$\underline{x} \cdot \nabla f(\underline{x}) = p f(\underline{x}).$$

Also, prove the converse, i.e., show that if  $\underline{x} \cdot \nabla f(\underline{x}) = p f(\underline{x})$  for all  $\underline{x}$  in an open set  $S$ , then  $f$  must be homogeneous of degree  $p$  over  $S$ .

10. If  $f(u, v, w)$  is differentiable and  $u = x - y$ ,  $v = y - z$  and  $w = z - x$ , show that

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = 0.$$

11. Let  $w = f(u, v)$  satisfy the Laplace equation  $f_{uu} + f_{vv} = 0$ . If  $u = \frac{x^2 - y^2}{2}$  and  $v = xy$ , show that  $w$  satisfies the Laplace equation  $w_{xx} + w_{yy} = 0$ .