

# Calculus MA1002-B Quiz 09

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**Problem 1.** (3pts) Use the chain rule of functions of several variables to compute  $\frac{dw}{dt}$ , where  $w = 2ye^x - \arcsin z$ ,  $x = \ln(t^2 + 1)$ ,  $y = \arctan t$ ,  $z = \sin t$ .

*Solution.* By the chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dw}{dt} &= \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \frac{dz}{dt} \\ &= 2ye^x \cdot \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1} + 2e^x \cdot \frac{1}{1 + t^2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - z^2}} \cdot \cos t \\ &= 2 \arctan t (t^2 + 1) \cdot \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1} + 2(t^2 + 1) \cdot \frac{1}{1 + t^2} - \frac{1}{\cos^2 t} \cos t \\ &= 4t \arctan t + 2 - \frac{\cos t}{|\cos t|}.\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2.** (4pts) Suppose that we substitute spherical coordinates  $x = \rho \cos \theta \sin \phi$ ,  $y = \rho \sin \theta \sin \phi$  and  $z = \rho \cos \phi$  in a differentiable function  $w = f(x, y, z)$ . Show that

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \theta} = -f_x \sin \theta \sin \phi + f_y \cos \theta \sin \phi \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \phi} = f_x \cos \theta \cos \phi + f_y \sin \theta \cos \phi - f_z \sin \phi.$$

*Proof.* By the chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial w}{\partial \theta} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial \theta} = f_x \cdot [\rho(-\sin \theta) \sin \phi] + f_y \rho \cos \theta \sin \phi + f_z \cdot 0 \\ &= \rho [-f_x \sin \theta \sin \phi + f_y \cos \theta \sin \phi], \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial \phi} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial \phi} = f_x (\rho \cos \theta \cos \phi) + f_y (\rho \sin \theta \cos \phi) + f_z [\rho(-\sin \phi)] \\ &= \rho [f_x \cos \theta \cos \phi + f_y \sin \theta \cos \phi - f_z \sin \phi].\end{aligned}$$

The desired results are obtained by dividing both sides through by  $\rho$ . □

**Problem 3.** (3pts) Let  $f(x, y) = \sqrt[3]{xy}$ . Show that  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  exist at the origin but that the directional derivatives at the origin in all other directions do not exist.

*Proof.* By the definition of partial derivatives,

$$\begin{aligned}f_x(0, 0) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0 - 0}{h} = 0, \\ f_y(0, 0) &= \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0, k) - f(0, 0)}{k} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{0 - 0}{k} = 0;\end{aligned}$$

thus  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  both exist at the origin. Let  $\mathbf{u} = \cos \theta \mathbf{i} + \sin \theta \mathbf{j}$  be a unit vector. Then

$$(D_{\mathbf{u}} f)(0, 0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t \cos \theta, t \sin \theta) - f(0, 0)}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{t^{\frac{2}{3}} \cos^{\frac{1}{3}} \theta \sin^{\frac{1}{3}} \theta}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t^{-\frac{1}{3}} \cos^{\frac{1}{3}} \theta \sin^{\frac{1}{3}} \theta$$

which does not exist unless  $\theta = n\pi$  or  $\theta = n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Therefore, the directional derivative at the origin does not exist in all other directions. □