

HW 07

§15.6: 8, 22, 49

15.6:8: Find  $\nabla f$ , eval  $\nabla f(x_0, y_0)$ , find  $(D_{\vec{u}} f)(x_0, y_0)$ .

$$f(x, y) = y^2/x$$

$$(x_0, y_0) = (1, 2)$$

$$\vec{u} = \frac{1}{3} (2\vec{i} + \sqrt{5}\vec{j})$$

soln

$$\nabla f = (-y^2/x^2, 2y/x)$$

$$\nabla f(1, 2) = (-4, 4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (D_{\vec{u}} f)(1, 2) &= \nabla f(1, 2) \cdot \vec{u} \\ &= (-4\vec{i} + 4\vec{j}) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{3} (2\vec{i} + \sqrt{5}\vec{j}) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (-8 + 4\sqrt{5}). \end{aligned}$$

15.6:22: Find the maximal rate of change of  $f(p, q) = qe^{-p} + pe^{-q}$  at the point  $(0, 0)$  & the direction in which it occurs.

soln: the max rate of change at  $(x_0, y_0)$  is always  $|\nabla f(x_0, y_0)|$  and the direction it occurs is always  $\nabla f(x_0, y_0) / |\nabla f(x_0, y_0)|$ .

$$\nabla f = (-q e^{-p} + e^{-q}, e^{-p} - p e^{-q}),$$

$$\nabla f(0,0) = (1,1) \Rightarrow (\text{max Rate of Change}) = \sqrt{2}$$

$$(\text{Direction of Max Rate}) = \frac{(1,1)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

15.6249: Prove that the plane tangent to the ellipsoid  $x^2/a^2 + y^2/b^2 + z^2/c^2 = 1$  at the point  $(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  can be written as

$$\frac{x_0}{a^2} x + \frac{y_0}{b^2} y + \frac{z_0}{c^2} z = 1.$$

proof: This is a special case of a tangent plane to a level surface  $g(x,y,z) = C$ . The formula for these is

$$\nabla g(x_0, y_0, z_0) \cdot (x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0) = 0.$$

Here  $g(x,y,z) = \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2}$ .

$$\Rightarrow \nabla g = \frac{2x}{a^2} i + \frac{2y}{b^2} j + \frac{2z}{c^2} k$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla g(x_0, y_0, z_0) \cdot (x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0)$$

$$= \left( \frac{2x_0}{a^2}, \frac{2y_0}{b^2}, \frac{2z_0}{c^2} \right) \cdot (x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0)$$

$$= \frac{2x_0}{a^2} (x - x_0) + \frac{2y_0}{b^2} (y - y_0) + \frac{2z_0}{c^2} (z - z_0)$$

$$= 2 \left( \frac{x_0}{a^2} x + \frac{y_0}{b^2} y + \frac{z_0}{c^2} z - \left( \frac{x_0^2}{a^2} + \frac{y_0^2}{b^2} + \frac{z_0^2}{c^2} \right) \right)$$

$$= 2 \left( \frac{x_0}{a^2} x + \frac{y_0}{b^2} y + \frac{z_0}{c^2} z - 1 \right).$$

↑ Use the fact that  $(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  is on the ellipsoid.

$$\Rightarrow 2 \left( \frac{x_0}{a^2} x + \frac{y_0}{b^2} y + \frac{z_0}{c^2} z - 1 \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x_0}{a^2} x + \frac{y_0}{b^2} y + \frac{z_0}{c^2} z - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{x_0}{a^2} x + \frac{y_0}{b^2} y + \frac{z_0}{c^2} z = 1}$$