

Ex.: Find the directional derivative $D_{\vec{u}}f(x,y)$ if

$f(x,y) = x^3 - 3xy + 4y^2$ and \vec{u} is the unit vector given by angle $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$. What is $D_{\vec{u}}f(1,2)$?

$$\nabla f = \langle 3x^2 - 3y, -3x + 8y \rangle$$

$$\nabla f|_{(1,2)} = \langle -3, 13 \rangle$$

$$\vec{u} = \cos \frac{\pi}{6} \vec{i} + \sin \frac{\pi}{6} \vec{j} = \left\langle \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle \rightarrow \text{unit}$$

$$D_{\vec{u}}f(1,2) = \nabla f|_{(1,2)} \cdot \vec{u} = \frac{-3\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{13}{2} = \frac{13 - 3\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Ex.: If $f(x,y,z) = x \sin(yz)$ find the directional derivative of f at $(1,3,0)$ in the direction of $\vec{v} = \vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - \vec{k}$.

$$\nabla f = \langle \sin(yz), xz \cos(yz), xy \cos(yz) \rangle$$

$$\nabla f|_{(1,3,0)} = \langle 0, 0, 3 \rangle$$

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + (-1)^2} = \sqrt{6}$$

$$\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|} = \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{6}} \right\rangle$$

$$D_{\vec{u}}f(1,3,0) = \langle 0, 0, 3 \rangle \cdot \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{6}} \right\rangle = \frac{-3}{\sqrt{6}} = \frac{-3\sqrt{6}}{6} = \frac{-1\sqrt{6}}{2}$$

Ex.: Find the directional derivative of $f(x,y) = \sqrt{xy}$ at $P(2,8)$ in the direction of $Q(5,4)$.

$$\vec{PQ} = \langle 3, -4 \rangle \quad \vec{u} = \left\langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{-4}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$\nabla f = \left\langle \frac{y}{2\sqrt{xy}}, \frac{x}{2\sqrt{xy}} \right\rangle \Rightarrow \nabla f|_{(2,8)} = \left\langle \frac{4}{4}, \frac{2}{2 \cdot 4} \right\rangle = \left\langle 1, \frac{1}{4} \right\rangle$$

$$D_u f(2,8) = \left\langle 1, \frac{1}{4} \right\rangle \cdot \left\langle \frac{3}{5}, -\frac{4}{5} \right\rangle = \frac{3}{5} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{2}{5}$$

Ex.: Find the max. rate of change of $f(x,y) = 4y\sqrt{x}$ at the point $(4,1)$.

$$D_u f = \nabla f \cdot u = |\nabla f| \cdot \underbrace{|u|}_{1} \cdot \cos\theta = |\nabla f| \cdot \cos\theta$$

$$\theta = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{u} = \frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|} \quad \nabla f = \left\langle \frac{2y}{\sqrt{x}}, 4\sqrt{x} \right\rangle \Rightarrow \langle 1, 8 \rangle$$

$$|\nabla f| = \sqrt{1+8^2} = \sqrt{65} \quad \vec{u} = \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{65}}, \frac{8}{\sqrt{65}} \right\rangle$$

max. rate of change: $|\nabla f| = \sqrt{65}$ (positive)

directional derivative

Ex.: If $f(x,y) = xe^y$, find the rate of change at the point $P(2,0)$ in the direction from P to $Q(\frac{1}{2}, 2)$. In what direction does f have the max. rate of change? What is this max. rate of change?

$$\vec{PQ} = \left\langle -\frac{3}{2}, 2 \right\rangle \Rightarrow |\vec{PQ}| = \sqrt{\frac{9}{4} + 4} = \sqrt{\frac{25}{4}} = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{PQ}}{|\vec{PQ}|} = \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$2 \cdot \vec{PQ} = \langle -3, 4 \rangle \Rightarrow |2\vec{PQ}| = 5$$

$$\vec{u} = \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$\nabla f = \langle e^y, xe^y \rangle$$

$$\nabla f|_{(2,0)} = \langle 1, 2 \rangle$$

$$D_u f(2,0) = \langle 1, 2 \rangle \cdot \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle = -\frac{3}{5} + \frac{8}{5} = 1$$

In the direction of $\nabla f = \langle 1, 2 \rangle$ f has the max. rate of change. $|\nabla f| = \sqrt{1+4} = \sqrt{5}$ is the max. rate of change.

Ex.: Find all points at which the direction of fastest change of the function $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 4y$ is $\vec{i} + \vec{j}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f &= \langle 2x-2, 2y-4 \rangle \Rightarrow \nabla f = k \cdot \langle 1, 1 \rangle \quad (k: \text{constant}) \\ \langle 2x-2, 2y-4 \rangle &= k \langle 1, 1 \rangle \Rightarrow 2x-2=k, \quad 2y-4=k \\ \Rightarrow 2x-2 &= 2y-4 \Rightarrow x-1=y-2 \Rightarrow y=x+1 \quad \text{all points on this line.} \end{aligned}$$

Ex.: The second directional derivative of $f(x,y)$ is $D_{\vec{u}}^2 f(x,y) = D_{\vec{u}} [D_{\vec{u}} f(x,y)]$. If $f(x,y) = x^3 + 5x^2y + y^3$ and $\vec{u} = \langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \rangle$, calculate $D_{\vec{u}}^2 f(2,1)$.

$$\nabla f = \langle 3x^2 + 10xy, 5x^2 + 3y^2 \rangle$$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(x,y) = \nabla f \cdot \vec{u} = \frac{9}{5}x^2 + 6xy + 4x^2 + \frac{12}{5}y^2 = \frac{29}{5}x^2 + 6xy + \frac{12}{5}y^2$$

$$\nabla(D_{\vec{u}} f(x,y)) = \langle \frac{58}{5}x + 6y, 6x + \frac{24}{5}y \rangle \Rightarrow \nabla(D_{\vec{u}} f(x,y)) \Big|_{(2,1)} = \langle \frac{146}{5}, \frac{84}{5} \rangle$$

$$D_{\vec{u}}^2 f(2,1) = \langle \frac{146}{5}, \frac{84}{5} \rangle \cdot \langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \rangle = \frac{774}{25}$$

Ex.: Find the equations of the tangent plane and normal line at the point $(-2, 1, -3)$ to the ellipsoid

$$\frac{x^2}{4} + y^2 + \frac{z^2}{9} = 3$$

$$F(x,y,z) = \frac{x^2}{4} + y^2 + \frac{z^2}{9}$$

$$\nabla F = \langle \frac{x}{2}, 2y, \frac{2z}{9} \rangle \Rightarrow \nabla F \Big|_{(-2,1,-3)} = \langle -1, 2, -\frac{2}{3} \rangle$$

$$-1 \cdot (x+2) + 2 \cdot (y-1) + (-\frac{2}{3}) \cdot (z+3) = 0 \Rightarrow 3x - 6y + 2z + 18 = 0$$

$$x = -2 + (-1)t, \quad y = 1 + 2t, \quad z = -3 + (-\frac{2}{3})t \quad (\text{normal line})$$

Ex.: Find the equations of the tangent plane and the normal line to the surface $xy^2z^3=8$ at the point $(2, 2, 1)$

$$F(x, y, z) = xy^2z^3 \Rightarrow \nabla F = \langle y^2z^3, 2xy^2z^3, 3xy^2z^2 \rangle \Rightarrow \nabla F|_{(2,2,1)} = \langle 4, 8, 24 \rangle$$

$\vec{n} = \langle 1, 2, 6 \rangle$

$$4(x-2) + 8(y-2) + 24(z-1) = 0 \Rightarrow x + 2y + 6z = 12 \quad (\text{Tangent plane})$$

$$x = 2 + t, \quad y = 2 + 2t, \quad z = 1 + 6t \quad (\text{Normal line})$$

Ex.: Find an equation of the tangent plane to the surface $z = x \sin(x+y)$ at the point $(-1, 1, 0)$.

$$F(x, y, z) = x \sin(x+y) - z$$

$$z_x = \sin(x+y) + x \cdot \cos(x+y), \quad z_y = x \cdot \cos(x+y)$$

$$z_x|_{(-1,1)} = -1, \quad z_y|_{(-1,1)} = -1$$

$$-1(x+1) - 1(y-1) - (z-0) = 0 \Rightarrow x + y + z = 0$$

Ex.: Find parametric equations to the tangent line to the curve of intersection of the paraboloid $z = x^2 + y^2$ and the ellipsoid $4x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$ at the point $(-1, 1, 2)$.

$$F(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 - z \Rightarrow \nabla F = \langle 2x, 2y, -1 \rangle \Rightarrow \nabla F|_P = \langle -2, 2, -1 \rangle$$

$$G(x, y, z) = 4x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \Rightarrow \nabla G = \langle 8x, 2y, 2z \rangle \Rightarrow \nabla G|_P = \langle -8, 2, 4 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -4, 1, 2 \rangle$$

$$\vec{a} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ -2 & 2 & -1 \\ -4 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = \langle 5, 8, 6 \rangle$$

$$\begin{cases} x = -1 + 5t \\ y = 1 + 8t \\ z = 2 + 6t \end{cases}$$