

Math 128

Midterm Examination 1 – September 23, 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_

6 problems, 100 points.

**Instructions:** Show all work – partial credit will be given, and “Answers without work are worth credit without points.” You don’t have to simplify your answers. You may use a simple calculator that is not graphing or programmable. You may have a 3x5 card, but no other notes.

1. (18 points) Compute the following partial derivatives

(a)  $h_z$ , where  $h(x, y, z) = \frac{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}{xyz}$

Using the quotient rule,

$$h_z = \frac{2z \cdot xyz - (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)xy}{(xyz)^2}.$$

(b)  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln(e^{x^2y} + e^{y^2x})$

Using the chain rule twice,

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{e^{x^2y} + e^{y^2x}} \cdot (e^{x^2y} \cdot 2xy + e^{y^2x} \cdot y^2).$$

(c)  $f_{xy}$ , where  $f(x, y) = 3 \sin xy$

We first compute  $f_x$ :

$$f_x = 3y \cos xy.$$

And then  $f_{xy} = f_{yx}$ :

$$f_{xy} = 3 \cos xy - 3xy \sin xy.$$

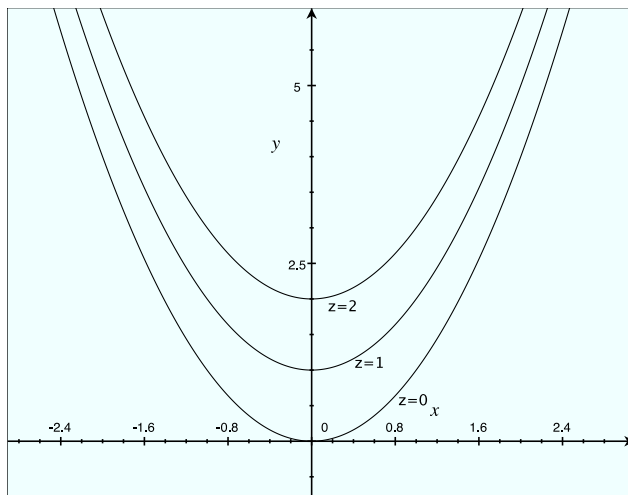
2. (12 points) Sketch the level curves of  $z = y - x^2$  at the levels  $z = 0, 1, 2$ . Make sure to label your graph.

We graph

$$0 = y - x^2, \quad 1 = y - x^2, \quad 2 = y - x^2,$$

which, after moving the  $y$ 's to the right hand side and multiplying by  $-1$  are

$$y = x^2, \quad y = x^2 + 1, \quad y = x^2 + 2.$$



3. (20 points) Let  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 4y^3 - 6xy + 10$ .

(a) Find the partial derivatives  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ .

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x - 6y, \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 12y^2 - 6x.$$

(b) Find the critical points for  $f$ .

We set  $2x - 6y = 0$  and  $12y^2 - 6x = 0$ . Dividing the first equation by 2 and moving  $y$  to the right gives us  $x = 3y$ . Substituting this into the other equation gives us  $12y - 6x = 12y^2 - 18y = 0$ . We factor this last equation as  $6y(2y - 3) = 0$ . Thus,  $y = 0$  or  $y = \frac{3}{2}$ , and since  $x = 3y$ , we have the critical points  $(0, 0)$  and  $(\frac{9}{2}, \frac{3}{2})$ .

(c) Calculate the 2nd derivatives  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$ , and  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} 2x - 6y = 2 \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} 12y^2 - 6x = -6 \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} 12y^2 - 6x = 24y. \end{aligned}$$

- (d) *Using the 2nd derivative test, determine which points are relative maxima, relative minima, and saddle points.*

From the calculation of the 2nd derivative, we have the discriminant

$$D(x, y) = f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2 = 48y - 36.$$

Plugging in the critical points, we get that

$D(0, 0) = 0 - 36 = -36 < 0$ , hence  $(0, 0)$  is a critical point.

$D(\frac{9}{2}, \frac{3}{2}) = 48 \cdot \frac{3}{2} - 36 = 36 > 0$ , and since  $f_{xx} = 2 > 0$ , that  $(\frac{9}{2}, \frac{3}{2})$  is a relative minimum.

4. *A small company has a local monopoly on two competing products: model houses, and model hotels. It costs them \$200 to build each model house, \$300 for each hotel. The total revenue from selling  $x$  houses and  $y$  hotels is  $1000x + 1200y - 2xy - x^2 - 2y^2$ .*

- (a) *(5 points) What is the profit  $P(x, y)$  from selling  $x$  houses and  $y$  hotels?*

Profit = Revenue - Cost, thus

$$P(x, y) = 1000x + 1200y - 2xy - x^2 - 2y^2 - (200x + 300y) = 800x + 900y - 2xy - x^2 - 2y^2.$$

- (b) *(5 points) Calculate the partial derivatives  $P_x$  and  $P_y$ .*

$$P_x = 800 - 2x - 2y$$

$$P_y = 900 - 2x - 4y.$$

- (c) *(5 points) Find the number of houses and hotels the company should build to maximize their profit.*

We set  $P_x = P_y = 0$  and solve for  $x$  and  $y$ . First:  $P_x = 0 = 800 - 2x - 2y$ . When we divide by 2 and move the  $2x$  and  $2y$  to the other side, we get  $x + y = 400$ , or  $x = 400 - y$ . Then:  $P_y = 0 = 900 - 2x - 4y$ . But we plug in  $x = 400 - y$  to give  $0 = 900 - 800 + 2y - 4y = 100 - 2y$ . Thus,  $100 = 2y$ , or  $y = 50$  and  $x = 400 - y = 350$ .

A critical point occurs at 50 hotels and 350 houses.

- (d) *(3 points) Explain briefly why your answer in (c) is a maximum.*

We didn't get the tools for a complete answer to this question. I gave full credit for a variety of answers. For example:

- i. Finding the discriminant, we get  $P_{xx} = -2$ ,  $P_{yy} = -4$ , and  $P_{xy} = -2$ , thus, that  $D = 8 - 4 = 4$ . Since  $D > 0$  and  $P_{xx} < 0$ , this is a relative max.
- ii. The function is an upside-down paraboloid based at the critical point, so has max there.
- iii. Careful arguments about profit being unlikely to go to  $\infty$ , hence the given point must be a max.

5. Consider the function  $z = 3x + y$  on the ellipse  $4x^2 + y^2 = 25$ .

- (a) (5 points) Set up a Lagrange multiplier function  $F(x, y, \lambda)$  for  $z$  subject to this constraint.

$$F(x, y, \lambda) = 3x + y + \lambda(4x^2 + y^2 - 25).$$

- (b) (12 points) Find all critical points for  $F$ .

We calculate the derivatives:

$$F_x = 3 + 8\lambda x$$

$$F_y = 1 + 2\lambda y$$

We then solve for  $\lambda$ . First, note that if  $x$  or  $y$  is zero, then  $F_x = 3$  or  $F_y = 1$ , so it is not a critical point. Thus, we can safely divide by  $x$  and  $y$ .

Solving in  $F_x = 0$ , we get that  $-3 = 8\lambda x$ , so that  $\lambda = -\frac{3}{8x}$ .

Similarly, from  $F_y = 0$  we get that  $\lambda = -\frac{1}{2y}$ . Solving, we get that

$-6y = -8x$ , or that  $y = \frac{4}{3}x$ . Plugging into the constraint, we get that

$$4x^2 + \frac{16}{9}x^2 = \frac{36 + 16}{9}x^2 = \frac{52}{9}x^2 = 25,$$

so that  $x^2 = \frac{9 \cdot 25}{52}$ , or  $x = \pm \frac{15}{2\sqrt{13}}$ . Then  $y = \frac{4}{3}x$ . Thus, the critical points are

$$\left( \frac{15}{2\sqrt{13}}, \frac{10}{\sqrt{13}}, -\frac{3\sqrt{13}}{20} \right)$$

$$\left( -\frac{15}{2\sqrt{13}}, -\frac{10}{\sqrt{13}}, \frac{3\sqrt{13}}{20} \right)$$

- (c) (5 points) Determine the maximum and minimum value of  $z$  on the ellipse  $4x^2 + y^2 = 25$ .

By Lagrange's Theorem, the maximum and minimum must both occur at the  $x$  and  $y$  values of the critical points from part (b). We evaluate the function:

$$\begin{aligned} z\left(\frac{15}{2\sqrt{13}}, \frac{10}{\sqrt{13}}\right) &= 3\frac{15}{2\sqrt{13}} + \frac{10}{\sqrt{13}} = \frac{65}{2\sqrt{13}} \\ z\left(-\frac{15}{2\sqrt{13}}, -\frac{10}{\sqrt{13}}\right) &= -3\frac{15}{2\sqrt{13}} - \frac{10}{\sqrt{13}} = -\frac{65}{2\sqrt{13}} \end{aligned}$$

so that  $\frac{65}{2\sqrt{13}}$  is the maximum value and  $-\frac{65}{2\sqrt{13}}$  is the minimum.

6. (10 points) Consider the function  $z = f(x, y) = x^2 - xy + y^2$ .

- (a) What is the slope of the tangent line to  $f$  in the cross section  $x = 1$  at the point  $(1, 2, 3)$ ?

Since the partial derivative  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  holds  $x$  fixed while differentiating with respect to  $y$ , it holds  $x$  fixed and finds the rate of change with respect to  $y$ . We plug in  $y = 2$  to find the rate of change at this particular point. Thus,

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\Big|_{x=1, y=2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(x^2 - xy + y^2)\Big|_{x=1, y=2} = -x + 2y\Big|_{x=1, y=2} = 3$$

is the slope of the given tangent line.

- (b) The real number  $f_x(2, 3) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=2, y=3}$  is the slope of a tangent line to  $f$  at some point, in some cross sectional plane. What is the point, and what is the equation of the cross section plane?

Working backwards from part (a), we are looking at  $f_x$ , which fixes  $y$  while differentiating with respect to  $x$ . Thus, we are looking in a plane  $y = \text{something}$ , and in particular, in the plane  $y = 3$ .

We are looking at the point  $(2, 3, f(2, 3)) = (2, 3, 2^2 - 2 \cdot 3 + 3^2) = (2, 3, 7)$ .