

MATH 333
Lab03Derivatives

Objective

The objective of this project is to illustrate some of the relationships between partial derivatives and tangent lines to surfaces using *Mathematica*.

Narrative

If you have not already done so, read Section 14.3 in the text.

In this project we use the commands **Plot3D** and **ParametricPlot3D**. These commands allows us to plot the graphs of a surface and parametrized space curves in the x and y -directions. Also, we illustrate how we can visualize the partial derivatives as slopes to tangent lines in these directions.

Task

(a) Type the command lines below into *Mathematica*; they produce a plot of the graph of $f(x, y) = -5x/(x^2 + y^2 + 1)$.

```
(* Partial Derivatives *)  
  
f[x_, y_] = -5*x/(x^2 + y^2 + 1);  
  
plot0 = Plot3D[f[x, y], {x, -2, 4}, {y, -2, 4},  
  PlotStyle -> Directive[Green, Opacity[.7]]]
```

(b) Continue by typing the commands below into *Mathematica*; they set the value at which we will be drawing tangent lines.

```
a = 2;  
b = 2.5;
```

(c) Continue by typing the commands below; they plot the graph of f over a slightly smaller domain, plot the x -curve (in blue) of f through the point $(a, b, f(a, b))$, compute f_x and $f_x(a, b)$, and then draw the tangent line (in red) to the x -curve of f .

```
plot1 = Plot3D[f[x, y], {x, -2, 4}, {y, -2, b},  
  PlotStyle -> Directive[Green, Opacity[.8]]];  
curve1 = ParametricPlot3D[{t, b, f[t, b]}, {t, -2, 4},  
  PlotStyle -> Directive[Blue, Thickness[.01]]];  
f1 = Derivative[1, 0][f];  
slope1 = f1[a, b];  
tanline1 = ParametricPlot3D[{t + a, b, slope1*t + f[a, b]}, {t, -2, 4},  
  PlotStyle -> Directive[Red, Thickness[.01]]];  
Show[plot1, curve1, tanline1, ViewPoint -> {6, 10, 4},  
  AxesLabel -> {x, y, z}, BoxRatios -> {1, 1, 1}]
```

(d) Continue by typing the commands below; they again plot the graph of f over a slightly smaller domain, plot the y -curve (in blue) of f through the point $(a, b, f(a, b))$, compute f_y and $f_y(a, b)$, and then draw the tangent line (in red) to the y -curve of f .

```

plot2 = Plot3D[f[x, y], {x, -2, a}, {y, -2, 4},
  PlotStyle -> Directive[Green, Opacity[.8]]];
curve2 = ParametricPlot3D[{a, t, f[a, t]}, {t, -2, 4},
  PlotStyle -> Directive[Blue, Thickness[.01]]];
f2 = Derivative[0, 1][f];
slope2 = f2[a, b];
tanline2 = ParametricPlot3D[{a, t + b, slope2*t + f[a, b]}, {t, -2, 4},
  PlotStyle -> Directive[Red, Thickness[.01]]];
Show[plot2, curve2, tanline2, ViewPoint -> {10, 6, 2},
  AxesLabel -> {x, y, z}, BoxRatios -> {1, 1, 1}]

```

(e) Finally, type the command line below into *Mathematica*; it plots the original surface, both curves and both tangent lines. Adjust the graphics to get a good view.

```

Show[plot0, curve1, tanline1, curve2, tanline2,
  AxesLabel -> {x, y, z}, BoxRatios -> {1, 1, 1}]

```

At this point, make a hard copy of your typed input and *Mathematica*'s responses. Then, ...

(f) By hand, label each x -curve on the graphics you created as “ x -curve”, the tangent to each x -curve as “tangent to x -curve”, each y -curve on the graphics you created as “ y -curve”, and the tangent to each y -curve as “tangent to y -curve”.