

Partial Derivatives Review

Please staple your work and use this page as a cover page.

1. For each of the following functions, find all partial first derivatives.

(a) $f(x, y) = \ln(xy^3) - \frac{5}{y}$

(b) $f(x, y) = \frac{x \sec y - 4x}{e^{2y} + 1}$

(c) $f(x, y, z) = \sqrt{yz} \cos^3(xz)$

2. Find and classify all critical points of $f(x, y) = x^3 + y^2 - 3xy^2$ (if you obtain an inconclusive result from the Second Derivative Test, you can leave that as your answer).

3. Let $f(x, y) = e^{x/y} - xy$.

(a) Find $\vec{\nabla} f$, the gradient of f .

- (b) Find the maximum value of the derivative of f at $(3, 1)$, and say what the direction of steepest ascent is at this point.

- (c) Find an equation for the tangent plane to the surface $z = f(x, y)$ at the point $(3, 1)$.

4. Suppose we are on a hill modeled by the surface $z = f(x, y)$, and assume that north is the positive y -direction. At the point $(-1, 7)$, we know the slope in the north direction is $\frac{1}{2}$, and the slope in the southeast direction is $3\sqrt{2}$. What is the initial slope at this point in the east direction?