

Name: Key
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 MAC 2313.9728
 Cyr

Quiz 7

You must show all work to receive full credit!!

Problem 1. (4 points) Find the directional derivative of the function $f(x, y, z) = xy^2 \arctan z$ at the point $(2, 1, 1)$ in the direction of the vector $\mathbf{v} = \langle 4, -1, 1 \rangle$.

$$\nabla f = \left\langle y^2 \arctan z, 2xy \arctan z, \frac{xy^2}{1+z^2} \right\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla f(2, 1, 1) = \left\langle 1 \cdot \frac{\pi}{4}, 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{2 \cdot 1^2}{1+1^2} \right\rangle = \left\langle \frac{\pi}{4}, \pi, 1 \right\rangle$$

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{v}}\| = \sqrt{16+1+1} = \sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{2}, \text{ so } \hat{\mathbf{u}} = \frac{\langle 4, -1, 1 \rangle}{3\sqrt{2}}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\hat{\mathbf{u}}} f(2, 1, 1) &= \nabla f(2, 1, 1) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}} = \frac{\langle \pi/4, \pi, 1 \rangle \cdot \langle 4, -1, 1 \rangle}{3\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\pi - \pi + 1}{3\sqrt{2}} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}}} \quad \left(\text{or } \frac{\sqrt{2}}{6} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2. (6 points) Find and classify the critical points of the function

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^4 + 2xy.$$

$$f_x = 2x + 2y = 0 \Rightarrow 2y = -2x \Rightarrow y = -x$$

$$f_y = 4y^3 + 2x = 0 \Rightarrow 4(-x)^3 + 2x = -4x^3 + 2x = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x(-2x^2 + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } x^2 = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow x = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\text{Critical points: } (0, 0), \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right), \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$$

$$f_{xx} = 2, f_{yy} = 12y^2, f_{xy} = 2, \text{ so } D = f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = 24y^2 - 4.$$

$$D(0, 0) = -4 < 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{(0, 0) \text{ is a saddle point}}$$

$$D\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = 8 > 0 \text{ and } f_{xx} = 2 > 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \text{ is a local min}}$$

$$D\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = 8 > 0 \text{ and } f_{xx} = 2 > 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \text{ is a local min}}$$