
Homework 8

Exercise 1 Consider the vector field $F : \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined for $(x,y) \neq (0,0)$ by

$$F(x,y) = \left(\frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right)$$

- (i) Represent graphically this vector field (you can use polar coordinates),
- (ii) Can you find a potential function for this vector field, and if so exhibit it.

Exercise 2 Consider the map

$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \ni (x,y) \mapsto x^3 - 2xy + 2y^2 - 1 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- (i) Show that the implicit function theorem can be applied at the point $(1,1) \in \mathbb{R}^2$,
- (ii) Compute the tangent at the point $(1,1)$ of the curve of equation $f(x,y) = 0$, and determine the position of this curve with respect to the tangent line at this point.

Exercise 3 Consider the map

$$f : \mathbb{R}^3 \ni (x,y,z) \mapsto x^2 - xy^3 - y^2z + z^3 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- (i) Show that the implicit function theorem can be applied at the point $(1,1,1)$. We shall call ϕ the implicit function defined on $B_\varepsilon((1,1))$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$ and which expresses z in terms of x,y for z near the value 1,
- (ii) Determine the equation of the plane tangent to the surface defined by $f(x,y,z) = 0$ at the point $(1,1,1)$.