
Homework 2

Exercise 1 Let $f : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ be a parametric curve of class C^1 , and let $\varphi : (c, d) \rightarrow (a, b)$ be of class C^1 and strictly increasing, with $\varphi(c) = a$ and $\varphi(d) = b$. Show that the equality $L_f = L_{f \circ \varphi}$ holds, or in other words show that the length of the curve does not depend on the parametrization.

Exercise 2 Consider a parametric curve $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ of class C^2 , and us call the osculating plane at t the plane passing by $f(t)$ and defined by the two vectors $f'(t)$ and $f''(t)$. Obviously this plane is well defined only if these two vectors are not parallel.

(i) Determine the osculating plane at any t for the curve in \mathbb{R}^3 defined by the function

$$f : \mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto (\cos(t), \sin(t), t) \in \mathbb{R}^3,$$

(ii) More generally, for any parametric curve f of class C^2 and for any diffeomorphism φ of class C^2 , show that the osculating plane defined by f or by the new parametric curve $f \circ \varphi$ **at the same point** are equal.

Exercise 3 Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ and consider the functions $f_i : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined for $(x, y) \in \Omega$ by

$$a) f_1(x, y) = xy, \quad b) f_2(x, y) = (x + 1)(y + 3) \quad c) f_3(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2} \quad d) f_4(x, y) = \frac{x + y}{x - y}.$$

1. Determine the maximal domain Ω on which these functions are well defined,
2. Sketch the k -level sets for these functions.

Exercise 4 Consider the following functions defined on $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$

$$a) f_1(x, y) = \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}, \quad b) f_2(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2}, \quad c) f_3(x, y) = \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2 + 1}.$$

For each of them compute the limits $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\lim_{y \rightarrow 0} f_i(x, y))$, $\lim_{y \rightarrow 0} (\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f_i(x, y))$, and $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f_i(x, y)$. Discuss your result.

Exercise 5 Consider the function $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$f(x, y) := \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 y}{x^4 - 2x^2 y + 3y^2} & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

1. Study the limit $(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)$ along the path of equation $y = mx$ for any $m \in \mathbb{R}$,
2. Study the limit $(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)$ along the path of equation $y = x^2$,
3. Show that f is not continuous at $(0, 0)$.