

Directional Derivatives and Gradients

Finding Directional Derivatives at a point (x_0, y_0) in the direction of a vector \mathbf{v}

1. Find the unit vector (\mathbf{u}) of the given vector: $\mathbf{u} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}$
2. Find $\nabla f(x, y) = f_x(x, y)\mathbf{i} + f_y(x, y)\mathbf{j}$
3. Find $\nabla f(x_0, y_0)$
4. $D_{\mathbf{u}}f(x_0, y_0) = \nabla f(x_0, y_0) \cdot \mathbf{u}$

1. Find the directional derivative of the function at P in the direction of \mathbf{v}
(Similar to p.942 #1-12)

$$f(x, y) = 5x + 2xy - 3y, \quad P(3, 5), \mathbf{v} = \frac{4}{5}\mathbf{i} + \frac{3}{5}\mathbf{j}$$

2. Find the directional derivative of the function at P in the direction of \mathbf{v}
(Similar to p.942 #1-12)

$$f(x, y) = e^{2x} - \cos y, \quad P(0, \pi), \mathbf{v} = 2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}$$

3. Find the directional derivative of the function at P in the direction of \mathbf{v}
(Similar to p.942 #1-12)

$$f(x, y, z) = x^2yz^3, \quad P(2, 1, -4), \mathbf{v} = \langle 2, 3, 1 \rangle$$

4. Find the directional derivative of the function in the direction of the unit vector $\mathbf{u} = \cos(\theta)\mathbf{i} + \sin(\theta)\mathbf{j}$
(Similar to p.942 #13-16)

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^3, \quad \theta = \frac{3\pi}{4}$$

5. Find the directional derivative of the function at P in the direction of Q
(Similar to p.942 #17-20)

$$f(x, y) = xe^y, \quad P(2,1), Q(5,3)$$

6. Find the gradient of the function at the given point
(Similar to p.942 #21-26)

$$f(x, y) = 5x^2 - y^3, \quad (3,1)$$

$$\nabla f(x, y) = f_x(x, y)\mathbf{i} + f_y(x, y)\mathbf{j}$$

7. Find the gradient of the function at the given point
(Similar to p.942 #21-26)

$$f(x, y) = \sin(x^3 - y), \quad (1,2)$$

8. Use the gradient to find the directional derivative of the function at P in the direction of Q
(Similar to p.942 #27-30)

$$f(x, y) = 5x - y^4 - 3, \quad P(2,0), Q(5,1)$$

9. Find the gradient of the function and the maximum value of the directional derivative at the given point
(Similar to p.942 #31-40)

$$f(x, y) = \frac{x^2 - y}{2y + 3}, \quad (1,2)$$

$$\text{maximum value: } \|\nabla f(x, y)\|$$

$$\text{minimum value: } -\|\nabla f(x, y)\|$$

10. Find the gradient of the function and the maximum value of the directional derivative at the given point
(Similar to p.942 #31-40)

$$f(x, y, z) = \sqrt{x^2 - y^2 + 3z^2}, \quad (1,0,2)$$