

# Lecture 2

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## Continuity

$f(x, y)$  is continuous at  $(x_0, y_0)$  if

1.  $f(x_0, y_0)$  is well defined.
2.  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} f(x, y) = L$  exists.
3.  $L = f(x_0, y_0)$

Mathematically,

If for every  $\epsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$  such that  $|f(x, y) - f(x_0, y_0)| < \epsilon \forall (x, y)$  such that  $0 < |(x, y) - (x_0, y_0)| < \delta$

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Ex:  $Z = f(x, y) = x^2$

at  $(x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$ ,

$$f(0, 0) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  the function is well defined.

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} x^2 = 0$$

&

$$f(0, 0) = L$$

$\Rightarrow$  The function is continuous at  $(0, 0)$ .

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Ex:  $Z = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{x^3 - y^3}{x^3 + y^3} & , (x, y) \neq 0 \\ 0 & , (x, y) = 0 \end{array} \right\}$  Check the continuity at  $(0, 0)$ .

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^3 - y^3}{x^3 + y^3}$$

Approaching from path 1: (first  $y \rightarrow 0$ , then  $x \rightarrow 0$ )

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3 - y^3}{x^3 + y^3} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 1 = 1$$

Approaching from path 2: (first  $x \rightarrow 0$ , then  $y \rightarrow 0$ )

$$= \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3 - y^3}{x^3 + y^3} \right) = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} -1 = -1$$

Approaching from path 3: (along the line  $y = mx$ )

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3 - m^3 x^3}{x^3 + m^3 x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - m^3}{1 + m^3} = \frac{1 - m^3}{1 + m^3}$$

⇒ limit does not exist at  $(0, 0)$

⇒ The function is not continuous at  $(0, 0)$ .

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## Derivative

We use the notation  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  to represent partial derivative of  $Z = f(x, y)$  with respect to  $x$ .

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x, y) - f(x, y)}{\Delta x}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x, y + \Delta y) - f(x, y)}{\Delta y}$$

- $\frac{\partial Z}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial Z}{\partial y}$  are called first order partial derivatives.
  - $\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial x^2}, \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial y^2}, \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial x \partial y}, \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial y \partial x}$  are second order partial derivatives.
  - $\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial Z}{\partial y} \right)$
  - If  $\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial y \partial x}$  then function is continuous & differentiable.
  - Similarly we can define  $k^{th}$  power derivative  $\frac{\partial^k Z}{\partial x^r \partial y^{k-r}}$
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Ex:  $Z = x^2 + y^2$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial Z}{\partial x} &= \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x, y) - f(x, y)}{\Delta x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x + \Delta x)^2 + y^2 - (x^2 + y^2)}{\Delta x} \\ &= \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta x^2 + 2x\Delta x}{\Delta x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \Delta x + 2x = 2x \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{\partial Z}{\partial x} = 2x\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial Z}{\partial y} &= \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x, y + \Delta y) - f(x, y)}{\Delta y} = \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + (y + \Delta y)^2 - (x^2 + y^2)}{\Delta y} = 2y \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{\partial Z}{\partial y} = 2y\end{aligned}$$

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Ex:  $Z = x^3 + y^3 - 3axy$ ,  $a$  is constant

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial x} = 3x^2 - 3ay$$

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial y} = 3y^2 - 3ax$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial x^2} = 6x$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial y^2} = 6y$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial x \partial y} = -3a$$

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