

13. exercise sheet for Mathematics for advanced materials science



13.1. (Gradient fields)

(4 credits)

Consider the function $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$, $(x, y) \mapsto x^3y - 3xy$. The figure below shows a *contour plot* of *f*, that is, imagine the graph of *f* as a mountainous area above the plane \mathbb{R}^2 and the drawn lines are the paths on which a hiker would not change his or her altitude.



Please submit your solutions digitally at the corresponding TeachCenter course. The deadline is 27.01.2022, 12:15 o'clock. https://tc.tugraz.at/main/course/view.php?id=3543 https://www.math.tugraz.at/~mtechnau/teaching/2021-w-mams.html

(b) For at least 5 points (x, y) ∈ (-2, 2)×(-1, 1), compute the gradient grad f (x, y) and sketch it into in the figure. The base of the arrows you draw should be anchored at (x, y) and not (0,0), however. The grey arrow shows what is meant for the choice (x, y) = (-1/10, 1/10). You are not required (but encouraged!) to draw the *length* of the vectors accurately, but the general *direction* of the vectors should be correct.

(4 credits)

13.2. (*Polar coordinates, differentiation*) Consider the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\vec{0}\} \to \mathbb{R}, \quad (x, y) \mapsto \frac{2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2},$$

as well as the well-known polar coordinate map $\vec{P} : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$, $(r, \varphi) \mapsto (r \cos \varphi, r \sin \varphi)$. Let $\vec{v} = (1/\sqrt{2}, 1/\sqrt{2})$. Compute the following quantities.



13.3. (*Rotation of vector fields*) (4 credits) Consider the vector fields $\vec{F} : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$, $\vec{x} \mapsto (2x_1, -1, 0)$, and $\vec{G} : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$, $\vec{x} \mapsto (x_1 - x_2, x_2^2 x_3, x_3)$.



(b) Does there exist a function $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $\vec{F} = \operatorname{grad} f$? If not, give a quick

justification; otherwise exhibit such an f.

(c) Does there exist a function $g: \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $\vec{G} = \operatorname{grad} g$? If not, give a quick justification; otherwise exhibit such an f.

13.4. (*Heat equation, II*) (4 credits) Provide a function $u: [0,1] \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \to \mathbb{R}$ with the three following properties:

- *u* solves the heat equation from exercise 13.4 on $(0, 1) \times \mathbb{R}_{>0}$.
- u(t,0) = 0 = u(t,1) for all $t \ge 0$.
- $u(0, x) = \sin(2\pi x) 3\sin(3\pi x)$ for all $x \in [0, 1]$.

(Hint: a close look at exercise 13.4 should reveal that solving this exercise does not require any hard calculations or fancy techniques.)