
Non-programmable calculators are permitted. This test is closed book.

Supply your answers on this sheet, but TA's have extra paper if you need it.

PLEASE PRINT

First name

Last name

Student number

Please show your work where appropriate!

1. [5] You are asked to **determine the (K, L) settings** that will minimize the total cost TC , with the constraint that the production levels Q must remain at a constant value of $Q_0 = 32$. The model for total cost is $TC = 9L + 72K$ and the production function uses the standard Cobb-Douglas model, with $A=1, \alpha=1/4$, and $\beta=1/2$. $\therefore Q = K^{1/4}L^{1/2}$

$Q_0 = 32 = K^{1/4}L^{1/2} \Rightarrow K = 32^4 / L^2$

$TC = 9L + 72\left(\frac{32^4}{L^2}\right) = 9L + 72 \cdot 32^4 L^{-2}$

$\frac{dTC}{dL} = 0 \Rightarrow 9 - 144 \cdot 32^4 L^{-3} = 0$

$\therefore L^3 = \frac{144 \cdot 32^4}{9}$

and: $L = 256$

USE ANY METHOD

$K = \frac{32^4}{(256)^2} = 16$

$\therefore (K, L) = (16, 256)$

2. [4] Let $y^3 + 3xy^2 + 3x^2y + x^3 - 8y + 4x = 0$. Determine dy/dx at the point (1, 1).

$f(x,y)$; so $f_x = 3y^2 + 6xy + 3x^2 + 4$; $f_y = 3y^2 + 6xy + 3x^2 - 8$

$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = - \frac{f_x}{f_y} = - \frac{3y^2 + 6xy + 3x^2 + 4}{3y^2 + 6xy + 3x^2 - 8}$

at (1,1) $\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = - \frac{3 + 6 + 3 + 4}{3 + 6 + 3 - 8} = \boxed{-4}$

3. [4] Let: $z = f(x, y) = x^3 - x^2y + xy^2 - y^3$ and $y = g(x) = 3x - 8$. Find dz/dx , the total derivative, **using any method**. Express the answer as a function of x only. Do not DEVELOP the expression.

$f_x = 3x^2 - 2xy + y^2$; $f_y = -x^2 + 2xy - 3y^2$; $dy/dx = 3$

$\frac{dz}{dx} = f_x + f_y \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right) = 3x^2 - 2xy + y^2 + 3(-x^2 + 2xy - 3y^2)$

$\frac{dz}{dx} = 3x^2 - 2x(3x-8) + (3x-8)^2 - 3x^2 + 6x(3x-8) - 9(3x-8)^2$

leave as is ...

4. Let $f(w, x, y) = \sqrt{w^3 - x^2 - y}$ be a 3-variable function that needs to be optimized (i.e. you need to determine a max./min.). Suppose also that the independent variables are linked together by the equation $wxy^3 + w^3xy = wx^3y$.

$\rightarrow wxy^3 + w^3xy - wx^3y = 0$

- a. [1] WRITE the Lagrangian Λ for the problem (without solving).

b. [3] Write down the equation $\Lambda_w = \frac{\partial \Lambda}{\partial w} = 0$

a. $\Lambda = \sqrt{w^3 - x^2 - y} - \lambda (wxy^3 + w^3xy - wx^3y)$

b. $\Lambda_w = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{3w^2}{2\sqrt{w^3 - x^2 - y}} - \lambda xy^3 - 3\lambda w^2xy + \lambda x^3y = 0$

5. [6] Let $z = f(x, y) = \sqrt{2x^2 + xy + y^2}$. Use the differential dz to estimate the change in z (i.e. Δz) when moving from $(x, y) = (2, -2)$ to $(1.9, -1.9)$. Compare the result with the actual value of Δz .

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f_x &= \frac{4x + y}{2\sqrt{2x^2 + xy + y^2}} & ; & & f_y &= \frac{x + 2y}{2\sqrt{2x^2 + xy + y^2}} \end{aligned} \right| \begin{aligned} dx &= -0.1 \\ dy &= 0.1 \end{aligned} \left. \begin{aligned} f_x &|_{(2,-2)} = \frac{4(2) - 2}{2\sqrt{8 - 4 + 4}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}} \\ f_y &|_{(2,-2)} = \frac{2 - 4}{2\sqrt{8}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$dz = f_x dx + f_y dy$$

$$dz = \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}}(-0.1) + \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{8}}\right)(0.1) \approx -0.141$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } \Delta z &= f(1.9, -1.9) - f(2, 2) \\ &= \sqrt{2(1.9)^2 + (1.9)(-1.9) + (-1.9)^2} - \sqrt{8} = -0.141 \end{aligned}$$

6. [5] Let $z = f(x, y) = 4x^3 + 3y^2 - 12xy + 144x - 120y + 16$. Determine the (x, y) coordinates of the critical point(s). Do NOT determine if these are a max, min, or saddle.

$$\begin{aligned} f_x = 0 &\Rightarrow 12x^2 - 12y + 144 = 0 \Rightarrow y = x^2 + 12 \\ f_y = 0 &\Rightarrow 6y - 12x - 120 = 0 \Rightarrow y = 2x + 20 \end{aligned} \left. \begin{aligned} x^2 + 12 &= 2x + 20 \\ x^2 - 2x - 8 &= 0 \\ (x-4)(x+2) &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$x = 4 \Rightarrow y = 28$$

$$x = -2 \Rightarrow y = 16$$

$$\therefore (4, 28) \text{ and } (-2, 16)$$

7. [5] Let $z = f(x, y) = 2x^3 - y^3 - 6x + 12y + 18$. Determine the nature (i.e. min., max. or saddle) of the critical point $(-1, 2)$. Make sure to do all the work necessary to justify your answer.

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 6x^2 - 6 \quad ; \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} = 12x \Rightarrow \left. \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x=-1} = -12 < 0 \quad \text{max. ?}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -3y^2 + 12 \quad ; \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = -6y \Rightarrow \left. \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} \right|_{y=2} = -12 < 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (-3y^2 + 12) = 0$$

$$\therefore D = (-12)(-12) = 144 > 0 \quad \checkmark \text{ max. conf.}$$

8. [2] Let $Q = f(K, L) = 4K^{1/4} L^{1/2}$ be the rule for a production function, where K corresponds to **input capital**, L corresponds to **input labour** and Q corresponds to **output production**. Assuming $Q = Q_0 = 8$:

Determine MRS using ANY METHOD

$$Q_0 = 8 = 4K^{1/4} L^{1/2} \Rightarrow K^{1/4} = \frac{2}{L^{1/2}} \Rightarrow K = \frac{16}{L^2} = 16L^{-2}$$

$$\frac{dK}{dL} = -32L^{-3} = -\frac{32}{L^3}$$

$$\therefore \text{MRS} = \frac{32}{L^3}$$