

Problem at the end of class on October 3.

Problem. Find z_x and z_y assuming $z = f(x, y)$ satisfies

$$xyz = \sin(xyz).$$

Solution. We have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(xyz - \sin(xyz)) \\ &= yz + xyz_x - (yz + xyz_x) \cos(xyz) \\ &= (z + xz_x)y(1 - \cos(xyz)) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(xyz - \sin(xyz)) \\ &= xz + xyz_y - (xz + xyz_y) \cos(xyz) \\ &= (z + yz_y)x(1 - \cos(xyz)). \end{aligned}$$

So, assuming

$$x \neq 0, \quad y \neq 0, \quad 1 - \cos(xyz) \neq 0,$$

(a point we will address later) we find that

$$z_x = -\frac{z}{x} \quad \text{and} \quad z_y = -\frac{z}{y}.$$