

Partial ~~differentiation~~ derivatives of two independent variablesQ1. Prove that $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$ when $u = \sin^{-1}(\frac{x}{y}) + \tan^{-1}(\frac{y}{x})$ Soln. We have, $u = \sin^{-1}(\frac{x}{y}) + \tan^{-1}(\frac{y}{x})$ Diff. both sides with respect to x , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(\frac{x}{y})^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{1+(\frac{y}{x})^2} \left(-\frac{y}{x^2}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} \times \frac{1}{y} - \frac{1}{x^2+y^2} \times \frac{xy}{x^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{y\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} - \frac{y}{x^2+y^2} \end{aligned}$$

Again, diff. with respect to y in both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(\frac{x}{y})^2}} \left(-\frac{x}{y^2}\right) + \frac{1}{1+(\frac{y}{x})^2} \times \frac{1}{x} \\ &= -\frac{x}{y^2\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} + \frac{x}{x^2+y^2} \times \frac{1}{x} \\ &= -\frac{x}{y^2\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} + \frac{1}{x+y^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} &= \frac{x}{y\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} - \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} + \frac{xy}{y^2\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} - \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} \\ &= \frac{x}{y\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} - \frac{xy}{y^2\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} - \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} + \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} \\ &= \frac{x}{y\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} - \frac{x}{y\sqrt{y^2-x^2}} - \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} + \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$$

Proved.

Partial derivative of two independent variables.

Q.2. If $u = \log \frac{x^2+y^2}{x+y}$, prove that $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 1$

Soln: We have, $u = \frac{\log(x^2+y^2) - \log(x+y)}{\log(x+y)}$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{x^2+y^2} - \frac{1}{x+y}$$

Diff. both sides with respect to x , we get

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{x^2+y^2} \times 2x - \frac{1}{x+y} \times 1$$

$$\therefore x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{2x^2}{x^2+y^2} - \frac{x}{x+y} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Also, $u = \frac{\log(x^2+y^2) - \log(x+y)}{\log(x+y)}$
Diff. both sides with respect to y , we get

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{x^2+y^2} \times 2y - \frac{1}{x+y} \times 1$$

$$\therefore y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{2y^2}{x^2+y^2} - \frac{y}{x+y} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Adding (1) and (2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} &= 2 \left[\frac{x^2}{x^2+y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2+y^2} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{x+y} + \frac{y}{x+y} \right] \\ &= 2 \frac{x^2+y^2}{x^2+y^2} - \frac{x+y}{x+y} = 2 - 1 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 1$ proved