

HANDOUTS

NOTES ON ASSIGNMENT 5

Assignment 6

Announcements

EXAM 1: MONDAY, MARCH 7

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RE-EXAMINE $f(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x^2 + 2y^2}$ FOR $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$

$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)} f(x, y)$ DOES NOT EXIST.

Let $\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{0}$ along line $y = mx$ $\vec{x} = (x, y)$, $\vec{0} = (0, 0)$

Then

$$f(x, y) = f(x, mx) = \frac{mx}{1 + 2m^2}$$

m	$m/(1 + 2m^2)$
0	0
1	1/3
2	2/9
-1	-1/3

DERIVATIVE

$$f: \mathbb{R}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1 \quad f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$\vec{f}: \mathbb{R}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \quad \vec{f}'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{f}(x+h) - \vec{f}(x)}{h}$$

What about $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$

$$f'(\vec{x}) = \lim_{\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}} \frac{f(\vec{x} + \vec{h}) - f(\vec{x})}{\vec{h}}$$

DIVISION by \vec{h} makes no sense
Infinitely many ways $\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}$

PARTIAL SOLUTION

CONSIDER 2 SPECIAL CASES for \vec{h}

① $\vec{h} = (t, 0)$

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

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, f_x, D[1](f)$$

PARTIAL DERIVATIVE WITH
Respect to x

TREAT y as a constant

Use usual rules of
differentiation on x

② $\vec{h} = (0, t)$

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

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, f_y, D[2](f)$$

Partial Derivative with
respect to y

Example $f(x, y) = x^2 y$

point (3, 4)

$$f_x(x, y) = 2xy$$

$$f_y(x, y) = x^2$$

$$f_x(3, 4) = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = 24$$

$$f_y(3, 4) = 9$$

WORK OUT FROM DEFINITION

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

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+t)^2 y - x^2 y}{t}$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x^2 + 2xt + t^2)y - x^2 y}{t}$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{2xt + t^2 y}{t}$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (2xy + ty)$$

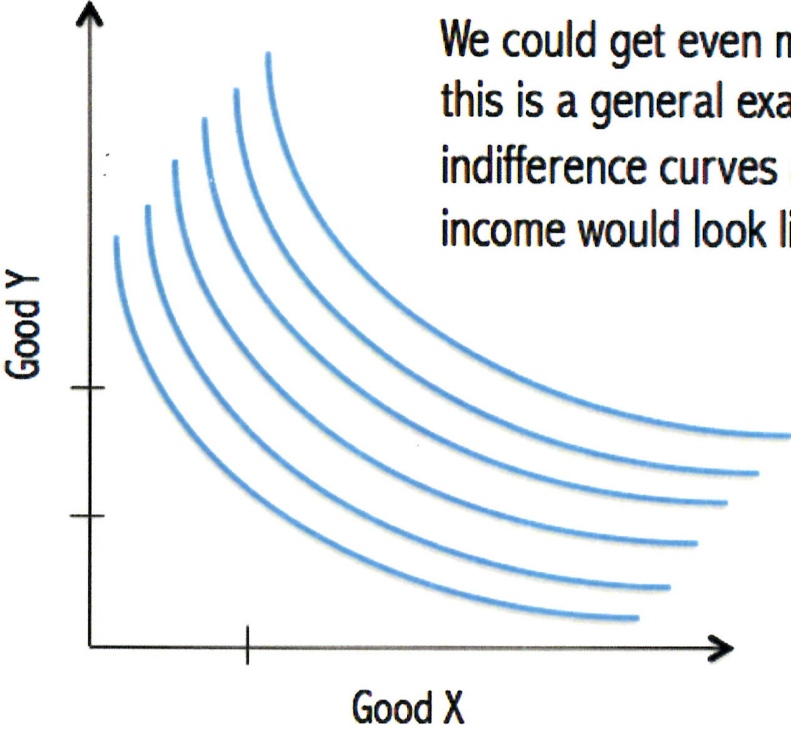
$$= 2xy$$

What is geometric meaning?

Topographic Curve



Indifference Curves



We could get even more detailed, but this is a general example of what indifference curves at different levels of income would look like for one person.