

Assignment 2 (1MS)

1) If $z = f(y/x)$ Show that $x^2 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} + 2xy \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} + y^2 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = 0$

Soln.

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{y}{x^2} \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} = 2xy \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} = \frac{2y}{x^3}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{-1}{x^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{x} \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = \frac{d}{dy} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{d}{dy} \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{-1}{x^2}$$

$$\therefore x^2 \left(\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} \right) + 2xy \left(\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} \right) + y^2 \left(\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

$$= x^2 \left(\frac{2y}{x^3} \right) + 2xy \left(\frac{-1}{x^2} \right) + y^2 (0)$$

$$= \frac{2y}{x} - \frac{2y}{x} + 0 = 0 + 0 = 0 \quad (\text{Q.E.D.})$$

2) $z = \frac{a^2}{x^2 + y^2 - a^2}$

$z = \frac{a^2}{u}$ let $u = a^2 + y^2 - a^2$

then

$$dz = \left(\frac{dz}{dx} \right) dx + \left(\frac{dz}{dy} \right) dy$$

$$= \left(\frac{-a^2}{u^2} \times 2x \right) dx + \left(\frac{-a^2}{u^2} \times 2y \right) dy$$

because x and y have the same percentage error
therefore $dx = \beta x$ and $dy = \beta y$.

$$dz = \rho \left(\frac{-a^2}{u^2} \times 2x \right) dx + \rho \left(\frac{-a^2}{u^2} \times 2y \right) dy.$$

Factorise.

$$dz = -\frac{2a^2}{a^2} \rho (x^2 + y^2).$$

Hence

$$\frac{dz}{z} = \frac{-2a^2}{u^2} \rho (x^2 + y^2) \times \frac{1}{a^2} \quad \left(\text{Recall } z = \frac{a^2}{u} \right).$$

$$\therefore \frac{dz}{z} = -\frac{2\rho}{u} (u + a^2)$$

$$\text{Recall } u = x^2 + y^2 - a^2$$

$$\therefore x^2 + y^2 = u + a^2.$$

$$= -2\rho \left(1 + \frac{a^2}{u} \right).$$

$$\text{Recall } z = \frac{a^2}{u}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dz}{z} = -2\rho (1 + z) \quad (\text{Percentage Error})$$

P. E. D