

# 18.022 Practice Problems, 10/30/2013

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1.

- (a) Compute the second-order Taylor polynomial for the function  $f(x) = \operatorname{atan} x$  at the point  $x = 1$ .

Note that an alternative way to phrase this problem would be the following: Compute the unique second-order polynomial  $P(\Delta) = a_0 + a_1\Delta + a_2\Delta^2$  that agrees most closely with the function  $f(\Delta) = \operatorname{atan}(1 + \Delta)$  for small values of  $|\Delta|$ .

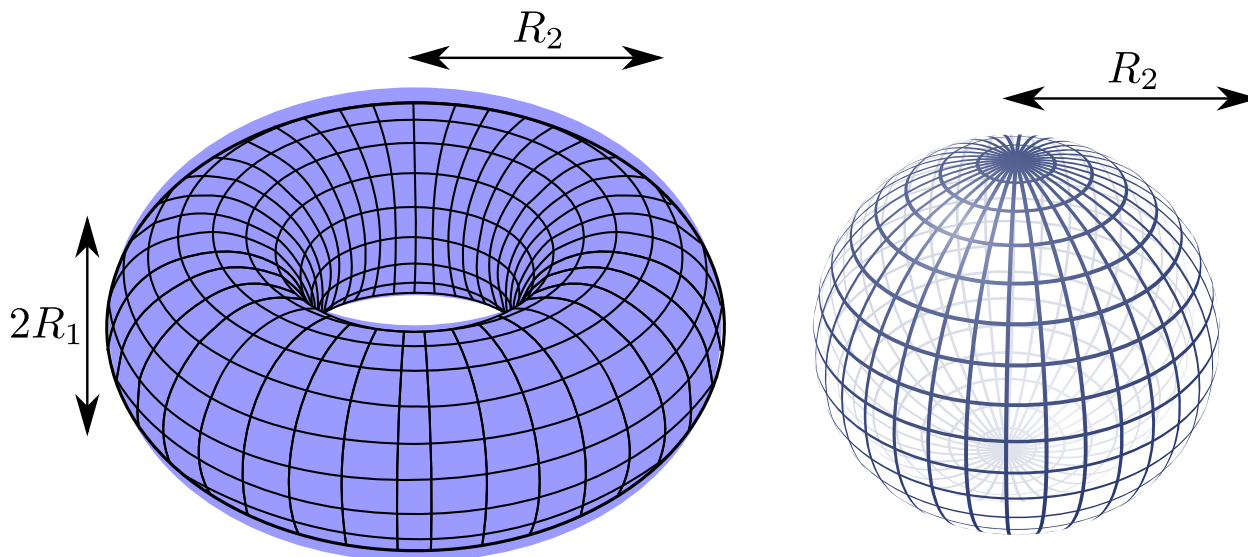
- (b) Compute the second-order Taylor polynomial for the function  $f(x, y) = y \operatorname{atan} x$  at the point  $(x, y) = (1, 2)$ . Find an alternative description of this polynomial in analogy with the alternative statement of the problem of part (a).

- (c) Compute the second-order Taylor polynomial for the function  $f(x, y, z) = y \operatorname{atan} \frac{x}{z}$  at the point  $(x, y, z) = (1, 2, \sqrt{3})$ . Find an alternative description of this polynomial in analogy with the alternative statement of the problem of part (a).

2. (Colley problem 4.1.20) If you measure the radius of a cylinder to be 2 inches with an error of  $\pm 0.1$  inches and the height of the cylinder to be 3 inches with a possible error of  $\pm 0.05$  inches, give bounds for the experimental error in your determination of the cylinder's (a) volume, (b) surface area.

3. (Colley, problem 4.2.29) What point on the plane  $3x - 4y - z = 24$  is closest to the origin?

4. Suppose you are running a donut shop. Your donut is a toroidal volume of fried dough with inner radius  $R_1$  and outer radius  $R_2$  (measured in centimeters). Each time you make a donut, you also make a "donut hole" (a sphere of radius  $R_2$ ). You sell both the donut and the donut hole together.



The *cost* you incur in making your product is proportional to the quantity of dough you need to make both the donut and the hole (i.e. to the *volume* of the torus plus the volume of the hole). On the other hand, the *price* at which you sell your product is proportional to the *surface area* of the donut plus the surface area of the hole.<sup>1</sup>

Suppose the cost per unit volume of your dough is  $\alpha$  (dollars per cubic centimeter), while the price per unit surface area of your product is  $\beta$  (dollars per square centimeter). How should you choose  $R_1, R_2$  to maximize the profit  $P(R_1, R_2)$  you make on each sale?

<sup>1</sup>This is because the larger the surface area of the donut, the more sugar glaze you can slather on it, and customers are willing to pay more for a deeper sugar fix.