

Question #35544, Math, Calculus

Compute $\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}{1 + e^{\alpha\beta}}$

Solution.

In computing partial derivatives we can use all the rules for ordinary derivatives.

Using the quotient rule

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \frac{u}{v} = \frac{\frac{\partial u}{\partial \alpha} v - u \frac{\partial v}{\partial \alpha}}{v^2},$$

where $u = \alpha^2 + \beta^2$, $v = 1 + e^{\alpha\beta}$ and treating β like a constant, we receive

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}{1 + e^{\alpha\beta}} &= \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)(1 + e^{\alpha\beta}) - (\alpha^2 + \beta^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} (1 + e^{\alpha\beta})}{(1 + e^{\alpha\beta})^2} = \\ &= \frac{2\alpha(1 + e^{\alpha\beta}) - \beta e^{\alpha\beta}(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)}{(1 + e^{\alpha\beta})^2} = \frac{2\alpha}{1 + e^{\alpha\beta}} - \frac{\beta(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)e^{\alpha\beta}}{(1 + e^{\alpha\beta})^2} \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}{1 + e^{\alpha\beta}} = \frac{2\alpha}{1 + e^{\alpha\beta}} - \frac{\beta(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)e^{\alpha\beta}}{(1 + e^{\alpha\beta})^2}$