

AN APPLICATION OF DEGREE THEORY II

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Abstract: We calculate the degree of some functions.

DERECE TEORİSİNİN UYGULAMASI II

Özet: Bazı fonksiyonların dereceleri hesaplanmıştır.

Introduction

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open and bounded in \mathbb{R}^n and $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$. Recall that, f is said to smooth if there exists an open set $U \supset \Omega$ in \mathbb{R}^n and a function $F : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ such that if $F = (F_1, F_2, \dots, F_m)$, then F_k has partial derivatives of all orders for $i \leq k \leq m$ and $F|_{\Omega} = f$, where $F|_{\Omega}$ is the restriction of F to Ω [2]. Let $\bar{\Omega}$ and $\partial\Omega$ denote the closure and the boundary of Ω , respectively [2]. $B_r(x_0) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|x - x_0\| < r\}$ denotes open ball of center x_0 and radius $r > 0$, where $\|x\| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2\right)^{1/2}$.

Definition 1. Let $f : \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be smooth. Then $q \in \mathbb{R}^m$ is called a regular value of f if $x \in f^{-1}(q)$ implies that the matrix

$$Df(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

has rank m ($m \leq n$). (Otherwise, q is called a critical value of f) [2].

Note. If $q \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a regular value of f with $q \notin f(\partial\Omega)$, then $f^{-1}(q)$ is a finite set [1].

Definition 2. Let A be a finite set and $\text{card } A$ denote the Cardinality of A .

$f^{-1}(q)^+ = \{x \in f^{-1}(q) : \det DF(x) > 0\}$, and $f^{-1}(q)^- = \{x \in f^{-1}(q) : \det DF(x) < 0\}$. Then

$d(f, \Omega, q) = \text{Card } f^{-1}(q)^+ - \text{Card } f^{-1}(q)^-$ is called the (Brouwer) degree of f with respect to Ω and q [1].

Theorem 1. (Special case of Homotopy Invariance Theorem). $H : \bar{U} \times [0,1] \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be smooth and let $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded. Suppose that $f(x) = H(x,0), \forall x \in \bar{U}$ and $g(x) = H(x,1), \forall x \in \bar{U}$. Suppose that $q \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a regular value for $H|_{U \times [0,1]}, f|_U$, and $g|_U$ and also that $q \notin H(\partial U \times [0,1])$. Then $d(f, U, q) = d(g, U, q)$ [1].

It is well known (see [1]) that there is only one function

$$d : \{(f, \Omega, y) : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \text{ open and bounded, } f : \bar{\Omega} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \text{ continuous, } y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus f(\partial\Omega)\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

satisfying

- (1) $d(\text{id}, \Omega, y) = 1$ for $y \in \Omega$.
- (2) $d(f, \Omega, y) = d(f, \Omega_1, y) + d(f, \Omega_2, y)$, whenever Ω_1, Ω_2 are disjoint open subsets of Ω such that $y \notin f(\bar{\Omega} \setminus (\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2))$.
- (3) $d(h(t, \cdot), \Omega, y(t))$ is independent of $t \in J = [0,1]$ whenever $h : J \times \bar{\Omega} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is continuous, $y : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is continuous and $y(t) \notin h(t, \partial\Omega)$ for all $t \in J$.

Definition 3. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded, $f \in \overline{C^1(\Omega)}$ and $y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus f(\partial\Omega \cup S_f)$. Then we define $d(f, \Omega, 0) = \sum_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} \text{sgn det } Df(x)$ [1].

Definition 4. If $f : \overline{\Omega} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is smooth and $q \notin f(\partial\Omega)$, then $d(f, \Omega, q) = d(f, \Omega, q_1)$ where q_1 is any regular value of $f|_{\Omega}$ such that $|q_1 - q| < \min\{|f(x) - q|, x \in \partial\Omega\}$ [1].

Note that, if A is a linear map with $\det A \neq 0$, then $d(A, \Omega, 0) = \text{sgn det } A$, the sign of $\det A$.

Results

Lemma 1. Let A be a real $n \times n$ matrix and $e^A = \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{A^m}{m!}$. Then $\det e^A > 0$.

Proof. Let $M = \{B : B \text{ is } n \times n \text{ matrix}\}$, $\Omega = (0,1)$, and define $H : [0,1] \rightarrow M$ by $H(t) = e^{tA}$. Note that $H(0) = e^0 = \text{id}$, where id is the $n \times n$ matrix and $H(1) = e^A$. By property (3) of d , we have $d(H(1), \Omega, 0) = d(H(0), \Omega, 0) = d(\text{id}, \Omega, 0) = 1$. Hence, $1 = d(H(1), \Omega, 0) = d(e^A, \Omega, 0) = \text{sgn det } e^A$ and consequently $\det e^A > 0$.

Lemma 2. Let A be a real $n \times n$ matrix with $\det A > 0$. Then there exists a continuous map H from $[0,1]$ into the space of all $n \times n$ matrices such that $H(0) = \text{id}$, $H(1) = A$ and $\det H(t) > 0$ for all $t \in [0,1]$.

Proof. Let $M = \{B : B \text{ is } n \times n \text{ matrix}\}$ and $\Omega = (0,1)$. Define $H : [0,1] \rightarrow M$, by $H(t) = tA + (1-t)\text{id}$. Note that $H(0) = \text{id}$, $H(1) = A$ and H is continuous. $H(t)$ is a linear map for all $t \in [0,1]$, $d(H(t), \Omega, 0) = \text{sgn det } H(t)$. But $H(1) = A$, and by property (3) of d , $\text{sgn det } H(t) = d(H(t), \Omega, 0) = d(H(1), \Omega, 0) = \text{sgn det } A = 1$ by assumption that $\det A > 0$. Therefore $\det H(t) > 0$.

Lemma 3. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$ be open interval with $0 \in \Omega$ and $f(x) = \alpha x^k$ with $\alpha \neq 0$. Then $d(f, \Omega, 0) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } k \text{ is even,} \\ \text{sgn } \alpha, & \text{if } k \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$

Proof. $f'(x) = k\alpha x^{k-1} = 0$, $x = 0$ is a critical point. Choose $\varepsilon > 0$ with

$$|\varepsilon - 0| \leq \text{dist}(0, \{f(a), f(b)\} = f(\partial\Omega)) = \min\{|f(a)|, |f(b)|\} = r.$$

Then ε is a regular value of f and by definitions 3 and 4, we have

$$d(f, \Omega, 0) = d(f, \Omega, \varepsilon) = \sum_{x \in f^{-1}(\varepsilon)} \text{sgn det Df}(x).$$

Notice that $Df(\varepsilon) = f'(\varepsilon) = k\alpha\varepsilon^{k-1} \neq 0$. Therefore

$$d(f, \Omega, 0) = \sum_{x \in f^{-1}(\varepsilon)} \text{sgn det Df}(x) = \sum_{x \in f^{-1}(\varepsilon)} \text{sgn}(k\alpha\varepsilon^{k-1}) = \begin{cases} 1-1=0, & \text{if } k \text{ is even,} \\ \text{sgn}\alpha, & \text{if } k \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

Example 1. Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$$(x, y) \rightarrow f(x, y) = (x^2 - y^2, 2xy) \text{ and } \Omega = B_r(0).$$

Show that $d(f, \Omega, (0,0)) = 2$.

Proof. Notice that $Df(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} 2x & -2y \\ 2y & 2x \end{bmatrix}$. Hence,

$$\det Df(x, y) = \begin{vmatrix} 2x & -2y \\ 2y & 2x \end{vmatrix} = 4(x^2 + y^2) = 0$$

which shows that $(0,0)$ is a critical point. Let $p = (0,0)$ and $q = (\varepsilon, 0)$, where $0 < \varepsilon < r$.

$\varepsilon = |f(x, y) - q| \leq \min\{|f(x, y) - p|\} \leq \min|f(x, y)| = r$, $(x, y) \in \partial\Omega$. $f(x, y) = q = (\varepsilon, 0)$. It

follows that $x^2 - y^2 = \varepsilon$ and $2xy = 0$. Hence $y = 0$ and $x = \pm\sqrt{\varepsilon}$. So $q_1 = (\sqrt{\varepsilon}, 0)$ and

$q_2 = (-\sqrt{\varepsilon}, 0)$ are regular points of f . Since

$$\det Df(q_1) = \begin{vmatrix} 2\sqrt{\varepsilon} & 0 \\ 0 & 2\sqrt{\varepsilon} \end{vmatrix} = 4\varepsilon > 0 \text{ and } \det Df(q_2) = \begin{vmatrix} -2\sqrt{\varepsilon} & 0 \\ 0 & -2\sqrt{\varepsilon} \end{vmatrix} = 4\varepsilon > 0$$

we get $d(f, \Omega, p) = \sum_{(x,y) \in f^{-1}(q)} \text{sgn det Df}(x) = 1 + 1 = 2$. Therefore, $d(f, \Omega, p) = 2$.

Example 2. Let $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$, $f(x, y) = (e^x \cos y, e^x \sin y)$, $\Omega = (-a, a) \times (-b, b)$, where $a, b > 0$ and $p = (1, 0)$. Show that $d(f, \Omega, (1, 0)) = 2m + 1$, where $m \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. Note that $Df(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} e^x \cos y & -e^x \sin y \\ e^x \sin y & e^x \cos y \end{bmatrix}$. We have

$$\det Df(x, y) = \begin{vmatrix} e^x \cos y & -e^x \sin y \\ e^x \sin y & e^x \cos y \end{vmatrix} = e^{2x} (\cos^2 y + \sin^2 y) = e^{2x} \neq 0.$$

Hence $\det Df(x) > 0$. Let $f(x, y) = p = (1, 0)$. It follows from $e^x \cos y = 1$ and $e^x \sin y = 0$ that $x = 0$ and $y = \pm 2n\pi$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $2\pi m < b < 2\pi(m+1)$. Then

$$d(f, \Omega, p) = \sum_{(x,y) \in f^{-1}(1,0)} \text{sgn} \det Df(x, y) = 2m + 1,$$

since there are $2m+1$ points in the interval $(-b, b)$.

Theorem 2. Let $\Omega = (a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$ and $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous map such that $f(a)f(b) \neq 0$.

Then $d(f, \Omega, 0) = \frac{1}{2} \{ \text{sgn} f(b) - \text{sgn} f(a) \}$.

Proof. Let $f(a)f(b) \neq 0$ and g be a linear function between $(a, f(a))$ and $(b, f(b))$, i.e.,

$$g(x) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} (x - a) + f(a).$$

Define a homotopy $H : [0, 1] \times [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, by $H(t, x) = t f(x) + (1 - t)g(x)$. Hence

$H(0, x) = g(x)$, $H(1, x) = f(x)$. It follows easily that $H(t, a) \neq 0 \neq H(t, b)$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$. We have

$Dg(x) = g'(x) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$. Note that 0 is a regular value of g , f and H . By Theorem 1.1, we get

$d(f, \Omega, 0) = d(g, \Omega, 0)$. By definition 4, $d(g, \Omega, 0) = \sum_{x \in g^{-1}(0)} \text{sgn} \det Dg(x)$.

Since $g'(x) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$ and $b - a > 0$, we need to consider the sign of $f(b) - f(a)$.

If $f(b)f(a) > 0$, then $\text{sgn } f(b) - \text{sgn } f(a) = 0$,

If $f(b)f(a) < 0$, then $\text{sgn } f(b) - \text{sgn } f(a) = \pm 2$.

Hence ,

$$d(f, \Omega, 0) = d(g, \Omega, 0) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } f(a)f(b) > 0, \\ 1, & \text{if } f(a)f(b) < 0 \text{ and } f(b) > 0, \\ -1, & \text{if } f(a)f(b) < 0 \text{ and } f(b) < 0, \end{cases}$$

which shows that $d(f, \Omega, 0) = \frac{1}{2} \{ \text{sign } f(b) - \text{sign } f(a) \}$.

References

- [1] N.G.Lloyd, Degree Theory, Cambridge University, 1978.
- [2] J.T. Schwartz, Nonlinear functional analysis, Gordon and Breach, New York, 1969.