

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Basic Notations/Definitions/Theorems

Let R be the set of all real numbers. Sometimes, we write $R = (-\infty, \infty)$. Let $a, b \in R$ with $a < b$.

I is a **non-empty interval in R** if I is one of the following forms:

$(a, b), (a, b], [a, b), [a, b], (-\infty, b), (-\infty, b], (a, \infty), [a, \infty)$ and R .

Let $R^n = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) : x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in R\}$, that is, it is the set of all n – coordinate points.

Each n –tuple (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) can be considered as a position vector from the origin $O(0,0, \dots, 0)$ to the point $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, that is \vec{OP} .

The norm/length/magnitude of the vector \vec{OP} is $\|(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2}$.

Zero Vector is denoted as $\vec{0}$ (no directions and no magnitudes).

The position vector $\vec{PQ} = \vec{OQ} - \vec{OP}$. Sometimes, we denote it as \vec{v} or \mathbf{v} .

Sometimes, we write the norm of \vec{v} as $|\vec{v}|$ or $\|\vec{v}\|$.

Notes:

Let $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n, \lambda \in R$.

1. $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) \Leftrightarrow a_i = b_i$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$
2. $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) + (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) = (a_1 + b_1, a_2 + b_2, \dots, a_n + b_n)$
3. $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) - (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) = (a_1 - b_1, a_2 - b_2, \dots, a_n - b_n)$
4. $\lambda(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = (\lambda a_1, \lambda a_2, \dots, \lambda a_n)$

Unit vector is a vector with magnitude 1.

Unit vector in the direction of a non-zero vector \vec{u} is $\frac{1}{|\vec{u}|} \vec{u}$.

Let $\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ and $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$.

We define the dot product/inner product $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i$.

Let θ be the angle between the vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} .

We can show that $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cdot \cos\theta$.

Theorem:

Suppose \vec{u} and \vec{v} are non-zero vectors.

\vec{u} and \vec{v} are perpendicular to each other $\Leftrightarrow \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

For three-dimensional case:

We let $\vec{i} = (1,0,0), \vec{j} = (0,1,0)$ and $\vec{k} = (0,0,1)$.

For any vector $\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$, we can write $\vec{u} = u_1\vec{i} + u_2\vec{j} + u_3\vec{k}$.

Let $\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$ and $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$.

We define the cross product

$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = (u_2v_3 - u_3v_2)\vec{i} + (u_3v_1 - u_1v_3)\vec{j} + (u_1v_2 - u_2v_1)\vec{k}$.

We can remember this as $\begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \end{vmatrix}$.

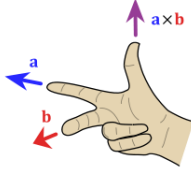
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Theorems:

Suppose \vec{u} and \vec{v} are non-zero vectors.

Let θ be the angle between the vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} .

- (i) The vectors \vec{u} , \vec{v} and $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ form a right-handed triple.



(ii) $|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}| = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cdot \sin\theta$

(iii) \vec{u} and \vec{v} are parallel to each other $\Leftrightarrow \vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \vec{0}$

Function of Several Variables

Function of Two Variables:

Let D be a non-empty subset of R^2 .

f is called a real-valued function defined on D if for every $(x, y) \in D$, we assign it to exactly one real number.

In this case, we write it as $f(x, y)$. We call $f: D \rightarrow R$ a real-valued function and D the domain.

Example:

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y) = x + y$. f is a real-valued function on R^2 .

Function of Three Variables:

Let D be a non-empty subset of R^3 . f is called a real-valued function defined on D if for every $(x, y, z) \in D$, we assign it to exactly one real number. In this case, we write it as $f(x, y, z)$.

We call $f: D \rightarrow R$ a real-valued function and D the domain.

Example:

Let $f: R^3 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y, z) = x + y - z$. f is a real-valued function on R^3 .

Function of n – Variables:

Let D be a non-empty subset of R^n . f is called a real-valued function defined on D if for every $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in D$, we assign it to exactly one real number. In this case, we write it as $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$.

We call $f: D \rightarrow R$ a real-valued function and D the domain.

Example:

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$. f is a real-valued function on R^n .

(Natural) Domain of Function of Several Variables

Example 1:

Find the (natural) domains of the functions:

(i) $f(x, y) = \sqrt{25 - x^2 - y^2}$

(ii) $g(x, y, z) = \frac{x + y + z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}$

Solutions

The (natural) domains are:

(i) $D = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x^2 + y^2 \leq 25\}$

(ii) $D = R^3 \setminus \{(0,0,0)\}$

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Example 2:

Find the (natural) domain of the function $f(x, y) = \frac{y}{\sqrt{x-y^2}}$. Find also the points (x, y) at which $f(x, y) = \pm 1$.

Solutions

The domain is $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x - y^2 > 0\}$.

$$f(x, y) = \pm 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{y}{\sqrt{x-y^2}} = \pm 1 \Leftrightarrow y^2 = x - y^2 \Leftrightarrow x = 2y^2$$

(Note: We assumed $x - y^2 > 0$)

The points (x, y) at which $f(x, y) = \pm 1$ are given by

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\} : x = 2y^2\}.$$

Graphs

Let D be a non-empty subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

f is a real-valued function defined on D .

We define the graph of f as the set

$$\{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in D, y = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}$$

Example 1:

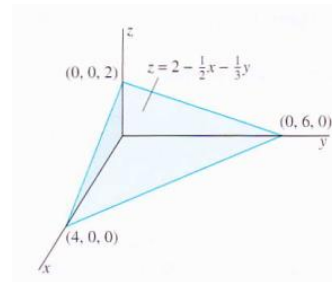
Sketch the graph of the function $f(x, y) = 2 - \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{3}y$.

Solutions

Let $z = f(x, y) = 2 - \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{3}y$ for any $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

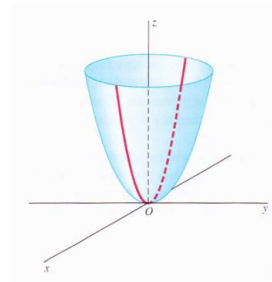
$$3x + 2y + 6z = 12$$

It is the plane with normal vector $(3, 2, 6)$ and passing through the point $(0, 6, 0)$.



Example 2:

The graph of the function $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ is the familiar circular paraboloid $z = x^2 + y^2$ shown in the figure.



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Example 3:

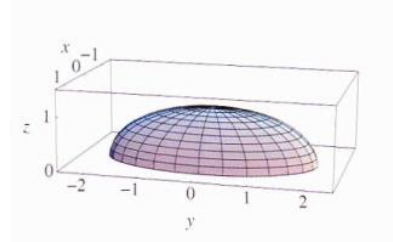
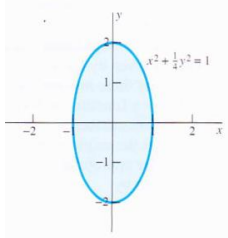
Find the domain of the function $g(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{4 - 4x^2 - y^2}$ and sketch its graph.

Solutions

The domain is

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2: 4x^2 + y^2 \leq 4\}$$

The graph is the upper half of the ellipsoid.



Level Curves/Level Surfaces/Level Sets

Let D be a non-empty subset of \mathbb{R}^n . Let $c \in \mathbb{R}$. f is a real-valued function defined on D .

We define the level set of f as the set $L_c = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in D: f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = c\}$ (where the function has the same value c).

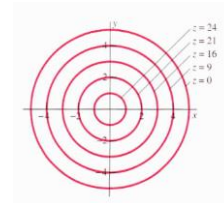
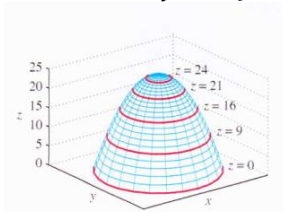
When $n = 2$, level set is commonly called level curve.

When $n = 3$, level set is commonly called level surface.

Example 1:

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y) = 25 - x^2 - y^2$. Domain = \mathbb{R}^2 . Let $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$L_c = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2: 25 - x^2 - y^2 = c\}.$$

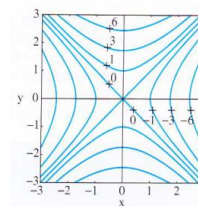
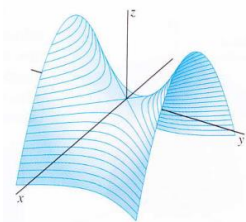


Note: $L_c = \emptyset$ if $c > 25$ and $L_{25} = \{(0,0)\}$.

Example 2:

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y) = y^2 - x^2$. Domain = \mathbb{R}^2 . Let $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$L_c = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2: y^2 - x^2 = c\}.$$



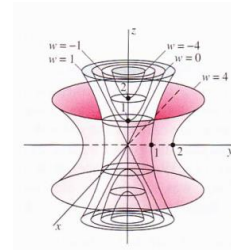
Notes:

- (i) If $c > 0$, the level curve $y^2 - x^2 = c$ is a hyperbola opens along the y - axis.
- (ii) If $c < 0$, the level curve $y^2 - x^2 = c$ is a hyperbola opens along the x - axis.
- (iii) If $c = 0$, the level curve $y^2 - x^2 = 0$ consists of two straight lines given by $y = x$ and $y = -x$.

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Example 3:

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 - z^2$.
 Domain = \mathbb{R}^3 . Let $c \in \mathbb{R}$. $L_c = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = c\}$.

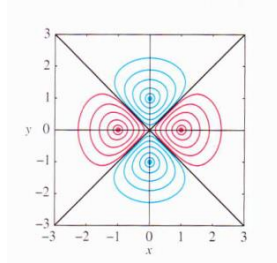
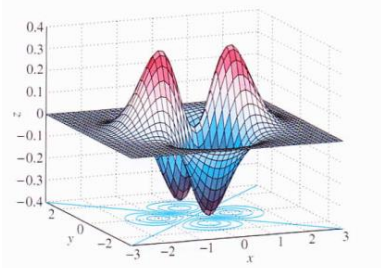


Notes:

- (i) If $c > 0$, the level surface $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = c$ is a hyperboloid of one sheet.
- (ii) If $c < 0$, the level surface $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = c$ is a hyperboloid of two sheets.
- (iii) If $c = 0$, the level surface $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 0$ is a cone lies between these two types of hyperboloids.

Example 4:

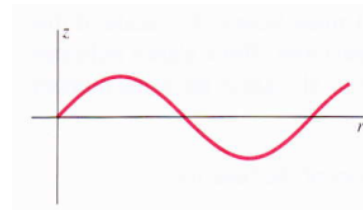
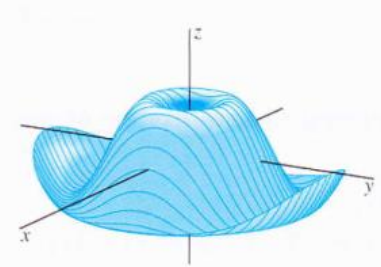
Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y) = (x^2 - y^2)e^{-x^2 - y^2}$. Domain = \mathbb{R}^2 .



Remark: The patterns of nested level curves can indicate “pits” and “peaks” on the surface.

Example 5:

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y) = \sin\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$. Domain = \mathbb{R}^2 .



$z = \sin r$ where $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$

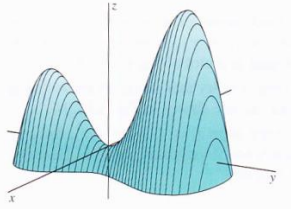
Example 6:

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y) = \frac{3}{4}y^2 + \frac{1}{24}y^3 - \frac{1}{32}y^4 - x^2$. Domain = \mathbb{R}^2 . Investigate the graph of f .

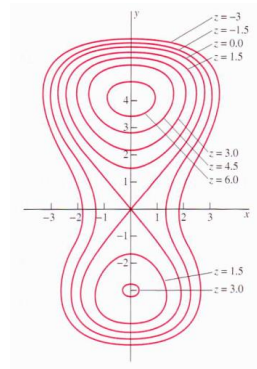
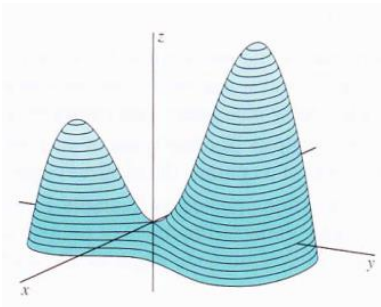
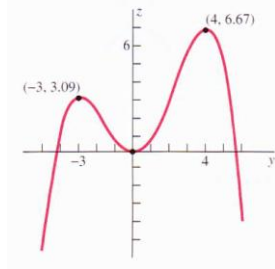
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Solutions

Note 1: If we set $y = y_0$ and let $k = \frac{3}{4}y_0^2 + \frac{1}{24}y_0^3 - \frac{1}{32}y_0^4$, then $f(x, y) = k - x^2$.
 $z = k - x^2$ is an equation of a parabola in the xz - plane.



Note 2: If we set $x = 0$, then $f(0, y) = \frac{3}{4}y^2 + \frac{1}{24}y^3 - \frac{1}{32}y^4$.
 $z = \frac{3}{4}y^2 + \frac{1}{24}y^3 - \frac{1}{32}y^4$ is a curve in the yz - plane.



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Open Sets and Closed Sets in R^n

Definitions:

Let $P(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) \in R^n$ and $r \in R$ with $r > 0$. The open ball centered at P with radius r is $\{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in R^n: \|(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) - (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)\| < r\}$. It is usually denoted as $B(P, r)$.

That is, $B(P, r) = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in R^n: \sqrt{(x_1 - p_1)^2 + (x_2 - p_2)^2 + \dots + (x_n - p_n)^2} < r\}$

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$. For any $P \in S$, we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $B(P, r) \subset S$. S is called **an open set in R^n** .

Let $\phi \neq T \subset R^n$. T is called **a closed set in R^n** if $R^n \setminus T$ is an open set in R^n .

Examples of Open Sets in R^2 :

$S_1 = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x > 1\}$, $S_2 = \{(x, y) \in R^2: 1 < x^2 + y^2 < 2\}$, $S_3 = R^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}$

Examples of Closed Sets in R^2 :

$T_1 = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x \leq 1\}$, $T_2 = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\} \cup \{(x, y) \in R^2: x^2 + y^2 \geq 2\}$, $T_3 = \{(0,0)\}$

Interior Points, Accumulation Points and Boundary Points

Definitions:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and $P \in R^n$.

P is called **an interior point** of S if we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $B(P, r) \subset S$.

P is called **an accumulation point** of S if for any $r \in R$ with $r > 0$, we can find $Q \in R^n$ with $Q \neq P$ and $Q \in B(P, r) \cap S$.

P is called **a boundary point** of S if for any $r \in R$ with $r > 0$, we must have $B(P, r) \cap S \neq \phi$ and $B(P, r) \cap (R^n \setminus S) \neq \phi$.

We define the boundary of S is $\partial S = \{ \text{all boundary points of } S \}$.

Notes:

- (i) P is **an interior point** of $S \implies P$ is **an accumulation point** of S
- (ii) P is **an accumulation point** of S and is NOT **an interior point** of S
 $\implies P$ is **a boundary point** of S
- (iii) P is **an accumulation point** of $S \iff$
 P is **an interior point** of S or P is **a boundary point** of S

Example:

Let $S = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x \leq 1\}$.

We can check that:

- (i) $(0,0)$ is an interior point of S
- (ii) $(1,0)$ is an accumulation point of S and is not an interior point of S
- (iii) $(1,0)$ is a boundary point of S

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Bounded Sets and Unbounded Sets in R^n

Definitions:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and $\phi \neq T \subset R^n$

S is **bounded** if we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $S \subset B(O, r)$ where $O(0, 0, \dots, 0)$ is the origin.

T is **unbounded** if for any $r \in R$ with $r > 0$, we have $(R^n \setminus B(O, r)) \cap T \neq \phi$ where $O(0, 0, \dots, 0)$ is the origin.

Example:

$S = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$ is bounded.

$T = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x > 1\}$ is unbounded.

Remarks:

Usually we consider:

- (i) Limit/Differentiability at accumulation points or on open sets
- (ii) Continuity on open sets/closed sets
- (iii) Maxima/Minima on closed and bounded sets

Limits and Continuity

For One Dimensional Case:

Recall the definition for $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$:

Let $f: R \rightarrow R$ be a function and $a, L \in R$.

For any $\epsilon > 0$, we can find $\delta > 0$ (δ may depend on ϵ) such that $0 < |x - a| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \epsilon$.

For Two Dimensional Case:

Definition for $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = L$:

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be a function, $(a, b) \in R^2$ and $L \in R$.

For any $\epsilon > 0$, we can find $\delta > 0$ (δ may depend on ϵ) such that $0 < \|(x, y) - (a, b)\| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x, y) - L| < \epsilon$.

In this case, we say $f(x, y) \rightarrow L$ as $(x, y) \rightarrow (a, b)$.

Remark: $\|(x, y) - (a, b)\| = \sqrt{(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2}$

For n - Dimensional Case:

Definition for $\lim_{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = L$:

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function, $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in R^n$ and $L \in R$.

For any $\epsilon > 0$, we can find $\delta > 0$ (δ may depend on ϵ) such that

$0 < \|(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) - (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)\| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) - L| < \epsilon$.

In this case, we say $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow L$ as $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$.

Remark: $\|(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) - (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)\| = \sqrt{(x_1 - a_1)^2 + (x_2 - a_2)^2 + \dots + (x_n - a_n)^2}$

Uniqueness of Limit

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function, $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in R^n$ and $L_1, L_2 \in R$.

If $\lim_{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = L_1$ and $\lim_{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = L_2$, then $L_1 = L_2$.

Proof: Omitted (As Exercise)

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Example 1:

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y) = xy$ and $(a, b) = (2, 3)$. Show that $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = 6$.

Proof:

For any $\varepsilon > 0$, choose $\delta = \min\left\{1, \frac{\varepsilon}{7}\right\} > 0$

$$0 < \sqrt{(x-2)^2 + (y-3)^2} < \delta \Rightarrow 0 < |x-2| < \delta \Leftrightarrow 2-\delta < x < 2+\delta \text{ and } x \neq 2$$

$$0 < \sqrt{(x-2)^2 + (y-3)^2} < \delta \Rightarrow 0 < |y-3| < \delta \Leftrightarrow 3-\delta < y < 3+\delta \text{ and } y \neq 3$$

As $0 < \delta \leq 1$, both $2-\delta > 0$ and $3-\delta > 0$.

$$\text{So, } 0 < \sqrt{(x-2)^2 + (y-3)^2} < \delta \Rightarrow (2-\delta)(3-\delta) < xy < (2+\delta)(3+\delta)$$

$$(2-\delta)(3-\delta) < xy < (2+\delta)(3+\delta) \Leftrightarrow -5\delta + \delta^2 < xy - 6 < 5\delta + \delta^2$$

As $0 < \delta \leq 1$, $0 < \delta^2 \leq \delta$. So $5\delta + \delta^2 \leq 6\delta < 7\delta \leq \varepsilon$ and $-5\delta + \delta^2 > -5\delta > -7\delta \geq -\varepsilon$.

combining all results,

$$0 < \sqrt{(x-2)^2 + (y-3)^2} < \delta \Rightarrow -\varepsilon < xy - 6 < \varepsilon$$

$$\text{that is, } 0 < \sqrt{(x-2)^2 + (y-3)^2} < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x, y) - 6| = |xy - 6| < \varepsilon$$

Thus, $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = 6$.

Example 2:

Determine whether each of the following limits exists and find the limit if it exists:

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

(ii) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2y}{x^4+y^2}$

(iii) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy(x^2-y^2)}{x^2+y^2}$

Solution (i):

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ y=0}} \frac{x-y}{x+y} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x-0}{x+0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 1 = 1$$

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ x=0}} \frac{x-y}{x+y} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{0-y}{0+y} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{-y}{y} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} -1 = -1$$

So, $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x-y}{x+y}$ doesn't exist.

Solution (ii):

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ y=mx^2}} \frac{x^2y}{x^4+y^2} = \lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ y=mx^2}} \frac{mx^4}{x^4+m^2x^4} = \lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ y=mx^2}} \frac{m}{1+m^2} = \frac{m}{1+m^2}$$

$$\text{So, } \lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ y=x^2}} \frac{x^2y}{x^4+y^2} = \frac{1}{2} \neq \frac{-1}{2} = \lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0) \\ y=-x^2}} \frac{x^2y}{x^4+y^2}$$

So, $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2y}{x^4+y^2}$ doesn't exist.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Solution (iii):

Let $x = r\cos\theta$ and $y = r\sin\theta$.

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2,$$

$$xy(x^2 - y^2) = r^4 \sin\theta \cos\theta (\cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta) = \frac{1}{2}r^4 \cdot 2\sin\theta \cos\theta \cdot \cos 2\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}r^4 \cdot \sin 2\theta \cdot \cos 2\theta = \frac{1}{4}r^4 \sin 4\theta$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy(x^2 - y^2)}{x^2 + y^2} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{1}{4}r^4 \sin 4\theta}{r^2} = \frac{1}{4} \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} r^2 \sin 4\theta = 0$$

Notes:

(i) $(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \rightarrow 0^+ \Leftrightarrow r \rightarrow 0^+$

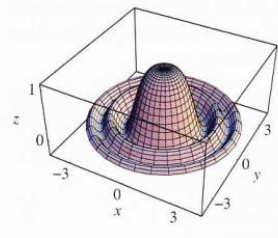
(ii) As $|\sin 4\theta| \leq 1, |r^2 \sin 4\theta| \leq r^2$.

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} r^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} r^2 \sin 4\theta = 0$$

Exercise:

Show that $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\sin(x^2+y^2)}{x^2+y^2} = 1$.

[Hint: $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin\theta}{\theta} = 1$]



Rules for Finding Limits:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set. Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ and $g: S \rightarrow R$ be functions. Let $L, M, \lambda \in R$ and $X, P \in S$. Suppose $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} f(X) = L$ and $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} g(X) = M$.

Then,

(i) $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} (f(X) + g(X)) = L + M$

(ii) $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} (f(X) - g(X)) = L - M$

(iii) $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} (f(X) \cdot g(X)) = LM$

(iv) $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} \frac{f(X)}{g(X)} = \frac{L}{M}$

(Assumed $M \neq 0$ and we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $B(P, r) \subset S$ and $g(X) \neq 0$ for any $X \in B(P, r) \setminus \{P\}$.)

(v) $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} \lambda f(X) = \lambda L$

Proof: Omitted (As Exercises)

Example 1 (re-visited)

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y) = xy$ and $(a, b) = (2, 3)$. Show that $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = 6$.

Proof:

Let $g: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $g(x, y) = x$ and $h: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $h(x, y) = y$.

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,3)} g(x, y) = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,3)} x = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x = 2 \text{ (Note: } (x, y) \rightarrow (2, 3) \Rightarrow x \rightarrow 2 \text{)}$$

Similarly, $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,3)} h(x, y) = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,3)} y = 3$.

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,3)} g(x, y) \times \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,3)} h(x, y) = 2 \times 3 = 6.$$

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Example 2:

Suppose $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ is a polynomial in x and y , say $f(x, y) = \sum_{(i,j) \in T} a_{(i,j)} x^i y^j$
where $a_{(i,j)} \in R$ for all $(i, j) \in T$, $(i, j) \in T \Rightarrow i, j \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ and T is a finite set.
We can show that $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = f(a, b)$.

Example 3:

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y) = 2x^4y^2 - 7xy + 4x^2y^3 - 5$. Find $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (-1,2)} f(x, y)$.

Solution

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (-1,2)} f(x, y) = f(-1, 2) = 8 + 14 + 32 - 5 = 49$$

Continuity

Recall:

One Dimensional Case:

Let f be a function on $x \in R$ and let $a \in R$.

Suppose:

- (i) $(a - \delta, a + \delta) \subset$ the domain of f for some $\delta > 0$
(that is, f is defined at all the points in a neighborhood of a .) **AND**
- (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ exists as a real number **AND**
- (iii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$.

Then, we say **f is continuous at a** . Otherwise, we say f is NOT continuous at a or f is discontinuous at a .

Two Dimensional Case:

Let f be a function on $(x, y) \in R^2$ and let $(a, b) \in R^2$.

Suppose:

- (i) $B((a, b), \delta) \subset$ the domain of f for some $\delta > 0$
(that is, f is defined at all the points in a neighborhood of (a, b) .) **AND**
- (ii) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y)$ exists as a real number **AND**
- (iii) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = f(a, b)$.

Then, we say **f is continuous at (a, b)** . Otherwise, we say f is NOT continuous at (a, b) or f is discontinuous at (a, b) .

n – Dimensional Case:

Let f be a function on $X \in R^n$ and let $P \in R^n$.

Suppose:

- (i) $B(P, \delta) \subset$ the domain of f for some $\delta > 0$
(that is, f is defined at all the points in a neighborhood of P .) **AND**
- (ii) $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} f(X)$ exists as a real number **AND**
- (iii) $\lim_{X \rightarrow P} f(X) = f(P)$.

Then, we say **f is continuous at P** . Otherwise, we say f is NOT continuous at P or f is discontinuous at P .

One Dimensional Case:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R$. Let f be a function on $x \in R$ and is defined on S .

We say f is continuous on S if f is continuous at x for any $x \in S$.

Two Dimensional Case:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^2$. Let f be a function on $(x, y) \in R^2$ and is defined on S .

We say f is continuous on S if f is continuous at (x, y) for any $(x, y) \in S$.

n – Dimensional Case:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$. Let f be a function on $X \in R^n$ and is defined on S .

We say f is continuous on S if f is continuous at X for any $X \in S$.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 1:

Let $f: D \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y) = 1$ where $D = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$. Show that f is continuous on D .

Proof:

For any $(a, b) \in D$, $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = 1 = f(a, b)$.

So, f is continuous at (a, b) .

Thus, f is continuous on D .

Example 2:

Let $g: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x, y) \in D \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$, where $D = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$.

Show that g is NOT continuous on R^2 .

Proof:

Suffices to show that g is NOT continuous at $(1,0)$.

$g(1,0) = 1$.

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0) \\ x < 1 \text{ and } y = 0}} g(x, y) = \lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0) \\ x < 1 \text{ and } y = 0}} 1 = 1$$

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0) \\ x > 1 \text{ and } y = 0}} g(x, y) = \lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0) \\ x > 1 \text{ and } y = 0}} 0 = 0$$

Thus, $\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0) \\ y=0}} g(x, y)$ doesn't exist. Hence, $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} g(x, y)$ doesn't exist.

Rules for Continuous Functions:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set. Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ and $g: S \rightarrow R$ be functions. Let $\lambda \in R$ and $P \in S$.

Suppose f and g are continuous at P .

Then,

(i) $f + g$ is continuous at P

(ii) $f - g$ is continuous at P

(iii) $f \cdot g$ is continuous at P

(iv) $\frac{f}{g}$ is continuous at P

(Assumed that we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $B(P, r) \subset S$ and $g(X) \neq 0$ for any $X \in B(P, r)$.)

(v) λf is continuous at P

Proof: Omitted (As Exercises)

Theorem (Composition of Continuous Functions)

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set. Let $\phi \neq I \subset R$ and I is an open interval.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ and $g: I \rightarrow R$ be functions. Let $P \in S$ and $f(P) \in I$.

Suppose f is continuous at P and g is continuous at $f(P)$.

Then, $g \circ f$ is continuous at P .

Proof: Omitted (As Exercise)

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example:

Show that $z = \sin(x^2 + y^2)$ is continuous on R^2 .

Proof:

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ and $g: R \rightarrow R$ be defined by $g(\theta) = \sin\theta$.

As f is continuous on R^2 and g is continuous on R , $z = \sin(x^2 + y^2) = g \circ f(x, y)$ is continuous on R^2 .

Partial Differentiation (Two Dimensional Case):

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^2$ and S is an open set. Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on (x, y) and $(a, b) \in S$.

We define:

- (i) $f_x(x, y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h, y) - f(x, y)}{h}$
- (ii) $f_x(a, b) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Big|_{(x,y)=(a,b)} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h, b) - f(a, b)}{h}$
- (iii) $f_y(x, y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x, y+k) - f(x, y)}{k}$
- (iv) $f_y(a, b) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \Big|_{(x,y)=(a,b)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b+k) - f(a, b)}{k}$

Rules for finding partial derivative:

- (i) To find $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$, regard y as a constant and differentiate with respect to x
- (ii) To find $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$, regard x as a constant and differentiate with respect to y

Example 1:

Compute $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ of the function $f(x, y) = x^2 + 2xy^2 - y^3$.

Solutions

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x + 2y^2 \text{ and } \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 4xy - 3y^2.$$

Example 2:

Compute $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ if $z = (x^2 + y^2)e^{-xy}$.

Solutions

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 2xe^{-xy} + (x^2 + y^2)e^{-xy} \cdot (-y) = (2x - x^2y - y^3)e^{-xy}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 2ye^{-xy} + (x^2 + y^2)e^{-xy} \cdot (-x) = (2y - xy^2 - x^3)e^{-xy}.$$

Example 3:

The volume V (in cubic centimetres (or cm^3)) of 1 mole (or $mol.$) of an ideal gas is given by $V = \frac{82.06}{p}T$, where p is the pressure (in atmospheres (or atm)) and T is the absolute temperature (in Kelvins (or K)).

Find the rates of change of the volume of 1 $mol.$ of an ideal gas with respect to pressure (assuming temperature is kept constant) and with respect to temperature (assuming pressure is kept constant) when $T = 300K$ and $p = 5 atm$.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Solutions

$$V = \frac{82.06}{p} T$$

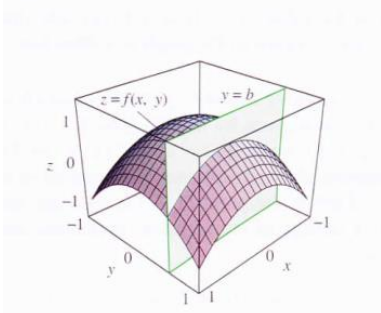
$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial T} = \frac{82.06}{p}, \left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \right|_{T=300, p=5} = \frac{82.06}{5} = 16.412 \text{ (in } cm^3/K)$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial p} = \frac{-82.06}{p^2} T, \left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial p} \right|_{T=300, p=5} = \frac{-82.06}{5^2} \times 300 = -984.72 \text{ (in } cm^3/atm)$$

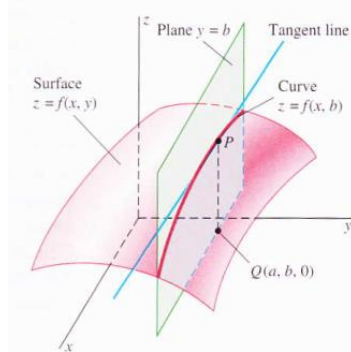
Negative sign means decreasing.
Positive sign means increasing.

Geometric Interpretation of Partial Derivatives

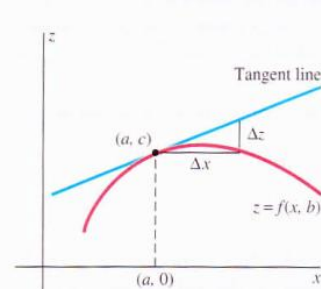
The value $f_x(a, b) = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{(x,y)=(a,b)} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h, b) - f(a, b)}{h}$ is the slope of the tangent at the point $P(a, b, c)$ to the x -curve through P on the surface $z = f(x, y)$.
Note: $c = f(a, b)$.



A vertical plane parallel to the xz -plane intersects the surface $z = f(x, y)$ in an x -curve.



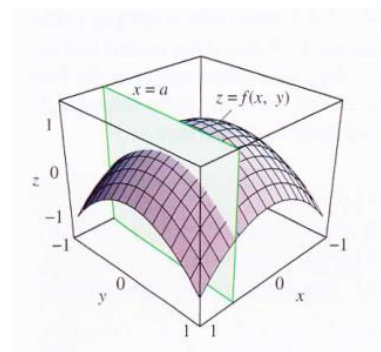
An x -curve and its tangent at P



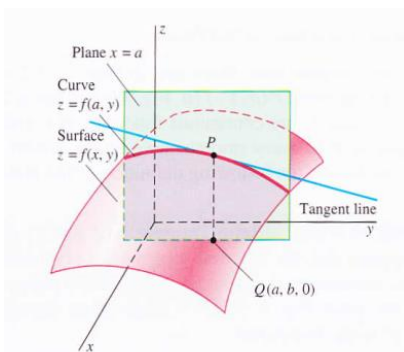
Projection into the xz -plane of the x -curve through $P(a, b, c)$ and its tangent line

The value $f_y(a, b) = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{(x,y)=(a,b)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b+k) - f(a, b)}{k}$ is the slope of the tangent at the point $P(a, b, c)$ to the y -curve through P on the surface $z = f(x, y)$.

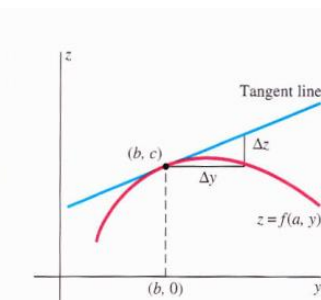
Note: $c = f(a, b)$.



A vertical plane parallel to the yz -plane intersects the surface $z = f(x, y)$ in a y -curve.



A y -curve and its tangent at P



Projection into the yz -plane of the y -curve through $P(a, b, c)$ and its tangent line

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

One Dimensional Case (The Line Tangent to a Curve)

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R$ and S is an open interval. Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on x and $a \in S$. Let $y = f(x)$.

Suppose f is differentiable on S .

An equation of the tangent to the curve $y = f(x)$ is

$$\frac{y-f(a)}{x-a} = f'(a).$$

That is, $y = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a)$.

Two Dimensional Case (The Plane Tangent to a Surface)

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^2$ and S is an open set. Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on (x, y) and $(a, b) \in S$.

Let $z = f(x, y)$. Suppose we can find $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ on S .

Let us define $C_1: (a - \delta, a + \delta) \rightarrow R^3$ by $C_1(t) = (t, b, f(t, b))$.

C_1 is a curve passing through $(a, b, f(a, b))$ on the surface $z = f(x, y)$.

$\vec{u} = C_1'(a)$ is a vector on the tangent plane to the surface $z = f(x, y)$ at $(a, b, f(a, b))$.

$\vec{u} = C_1'(a) = (1, 0, f_x(a, b))$.

Let us define $C_2: (b - \delta, b + \delta) \rightarrow R^3$ by $C_2(t) = (a, t, f(a, t))$.

C_2 is a curve passing through $(a, b, f(a, b))$ on the surface $z = f(x, y)$.

$\vec{v} = C_2'(b)$ is a vector on the tangent plane to the surface $z = f(x, y)$ at $(a, b, f(a, b))$.

$\vec{v} = C_2'(b) = (0, 1, f_y(a, b))$.

Let $\vec{n} = \vec{u} \times \vec{v}$. Then, \vec{n} will be a normal vector of required tangent plane.

$$\vec{n} = \vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & 0 & f_x(a, b) \\ 0 & 1 & f_y(a, b) \end{vmatrix} = -f_x(a, b)\vec{i} - f_y(a, b)\vec{j} + \vec{k} = (-f_x(a, b), -f_y(a, b), 1)$$

An equation of the plane tangent to the surface $z = f(x, y)$ at (a, b, c) is

$$((x, y, z) - (a, b, c)) \cdot (-f_x(a, b), -f_y(a, b), 1) = 0$$

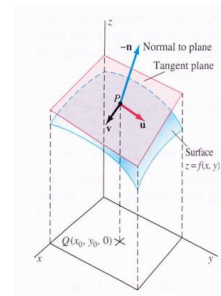
$$-f_x(a, b)(x - a) - f_y(a, b)(y - b) + z - c = 0$$

$$z = c + f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b)$$

Remark:

$$z = f(x, y)$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \Big|_{(x,y)=(a,b)} = f_x(a, b) \text{ and } \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \Big|_{(x,y)=(a,b)} = f_y(a, b)$$



Summary:

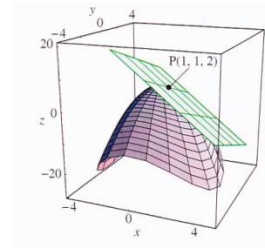
An equation of the plane tangent to the surface $z = f(x, y)$ at $(a, b, f(a, b))$ is

$$z = f(a, b) + f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b)$$

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 1:

Write an equation of the plane tangent to the paraboloid $z = 5 - 2x^2 - y^2$ at the point $P(1,1,2)$.



Solutions

$$z = f(x, y) = 5 - 2x^2 - y^2$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -4x, \quad \left. \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \right|_{(x,y)=(1,1)} = -4$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -2y, \quad \left. \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right|_{(x,y)=(1,1)} = -2$$

A normal vector of required tangent plane is $(-f_x(1,1), -f_y(1,1), 1) = (4, 2, 1)$.

An equation of required tangent is

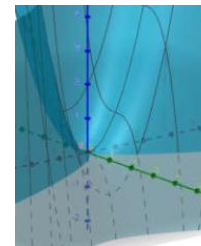
$$((x, y, z) - (1, 1, 2)) \cdot (4, 2, 1) = 0$$

$$4(x - 1) + 2(y - 1) + z - 2 = 0$$

$$z = -4x - 2y + 8$$

Example 2:

Write an equation of the plane tangent to the paraboloid $z = x^2 - y^3$ at the point $P(2,1,3)$.



Solutions

$$z = f(x, y) = x^2 - y^3$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 2x, \quad \left. \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \right|_{(x,y)=(2,1)} = 4$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -3y^2, \quad \left. \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right|_{(x,y)=(2,1)} = -3$$

A normal vector of required tangent plane is $(-f_x(2,1), -f_y(2,1), 1) = (-4, 3, 1)$.

An equation of required tangent is

$$((x, y, z) - (2, 1, 3)) \cdot (-4, 3, 1) = 0$$

$$-4(x - 2) + 3(y - 1) + z - 3 = 0$$

$$z = 4x - 3y - 2$$

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Partial Differentiation (Three Dimensional Case):

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^3$ and S is an open set.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on (x, y, z) and $(a, b, c) \in S$.

We define:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad f_x(x, y, z) &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h, y, z) - f(x, y, z)}{h} \\ \text{(ii)} \quad f_x(a, b, c) &= \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{(x,y,z)=(a,b,c)} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h, b, c) - f(a, b, c)}{h} \\ \text{(iii)} \quad f_y(x, y, z) &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x, y+k, z) - f(x, y, z)}{k} \\ \text{(iv)} \quad f_y(a, b, c) &= \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{(x,y,z)=(a,b,c)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b+k, c) - f(a, b, c)}{k} \\ \text{(v)} \quad f_z(x, y, z) &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = \lim_{l \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x, y, z+l) - f(x, y, z)}{l} \\ \text{(vi)} \quad f_z(a, b, c) &= \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right|_{(x,y,z)=(a,b,c)} = \lim_{l \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b, c+l) - f(a, b, c)}{l} \end{aligned}$$

Rules for finding partial derivative:

- (i) To find $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$, regard y and z as constants and differentiate with respect to x
- (ii) To find $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$, regard x and z as constants and differentiate with respect to y
- (iii) To find $\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$, regard x and y as constants and differentiate with respect to z

Example:

Compute $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$, $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$ of the function $f(x, y, z) = x^2y^3z^4$.

Solutions

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2xy^3z^4, \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 3x^2y^2z^4 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = 4x^2y^3z^3$$

Partial Differentiation (n – Dimensional Case):

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and $A = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in S$.

We define $e_i = \begin{cases} x_i & \text{if } i \neq j \\ x_i + h & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$ and

$$f_{x_j}(X) = f_{x_j}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) - f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{h}$$

We define $\theta_i = \begin{cases} a_i & \text{if } i \neq j \\ a_i + h & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$ and

$$f_{x_j}(A) = f_{x_j}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} \right|_{X=A} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n) - f(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)}{h}$$

Rule for finding partial derivative:

To find $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j}$, regard x_i ($i \neq j$) as constants and differentiate with respect to x_j

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 1:

Find the four partial derivatives of the function $g(x, y, u, v) = e^{ux} \sin vy$.

Solutions

$$g_x = ue^{ux} \sin vy, g_u = xe^{ux} \sin vy, g_y = ve^{ux} \cos vy, g_v = ye^{ux} \cos vy.$$

Example 2:

Find the four partial derivatives of the function $g(x, y, u, v) = x^2 y^3 - u^4 v^5$.

Solutions

$$g_x = 2xy^3, g_y = 3x^2 y^2, g_u = -4u^3 v^5, g_v = -5u^4 v^4.$$

Higher Order Partial Derivatives

We define:

- (i) $f_{xx} = (f_x)_x = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$
- (ii) $f_{xy} = (f_x)_y = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$
- (iii) $f_{yx} = (f_y)_x = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$
- (iv) $f_{yy} = (f_y)_y = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$
- (v) $f_{xxy} = (f_{xx})_y = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \right) = \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial y \partial x^2}$
- (vi) $f_{xyx} = (f_{xy})_x = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial x \partial y \partial x}$
- (vii) $f_{xyy} = (f_{xy})_y = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial y^2 \partial x}$

and others.

Example:

Show that the partial derivatives of third and fourth orders of the function $z = f(x, y) = x^2 + 2xy^2 - y^3$ are constants.

Solutions

$$f_x = 2x + 2y^2; f_y = 4xy - 3y^2;$$

$$f_{xx} = 2; f_{xy} = 4y; f_{yx} = 4y; f_{yy} = 4x - 6y;$$

$$f_{xxx} = 0; f_{xxy} = 0; f_{xyx} = 0; f_{xyy} = 4; f_{yxx} = 0; f_{yxy} = 4; f_{yyx} = 4; f_{yyy} = -6$$

Partial derivatives of fourth orders are all zeros.

So, partial derivatives of third and fourth orders are constants.

Remark

In general, f_{xy} and f_{yx} may not be the same.

We can show that if f_{xy} and f_{yx} are continuous on an open set, then $f_{xy} = f_{yx}$.

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Multivariable Optimization Problem

Global Minima and Global Maxima

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$. Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and is defined on S . Let $m, M \in R$.

We say f attains **the global minimum value** (or **the absolute minimum value**) m on S if:

- (i) $f(X) \geq m$ for any $X \in S$ AND
- (ii) we can find $U \in S$ such that $f(U) = m$

We say f attains **the global maximum value** (or **the absolute maximum value**) M on S if:

- (i) $f(X) \leq M$ for any $X \in S$ AND
- (ii) we can find $V \in S$ such that $f(V) = M$

Remark: We say $(U, f(U))$ **a global minima** and $(V, f(V))$ **a global maxima**.

Theorem 1:

Let $m_1, m_2 \in R$. Suppose $f(X) \geq m_1$ for any $X \in S$ AND $f(X) \geq m_2$ for any $X \in S$.

Suppose we can find $U_1, U_2 \in S$ such that $f(U_1) = m_1$ and $f(U_2) = m_2$.

Then, $m_1 = m_2$.

Proof:

$m_2 = f(U_2) \geq m_1$. Also, $m_1 = f(U_1) \geq m_2$. So, $m_1 = m_2$.

Theorem 2:

Let $M_1, M_2 \in R$. Suppose $f(X) \leq M_1$ for any $X \in S$ AND $f(X) \leq M_2$ for any $X \in S$.

Suppose we can find $V_1, V_2 \in S$ such that $f(V_1) = M_1$ and $f(V_2) = M_2$.

Then, $M_1 = M_2$.

Proof: Omitted (As Exercise)

Theorem:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$. Suppose S is **closed and bounded**.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and is defined on S .

Suppose f is **continuous on S**.

Then, f must attain the global minimum value and the global maximum value on S .

Proof: Will be discussed on course "Real Analysis"

Definition

$(W, f(W))$ is called a global extrema if it is a global maxima or it is a global minima

Local Minima and Local Maxima

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$. Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and is defined on S . Let $U, V \in S$.

We say $(U, f(U))$ **a local minima** (or **a relative minima**) if we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $B(U, r) \subset S$ and $f(X) \geq f(U)$ for any $X \in B(U, r)$. In this case, $f(U)$ is called **a local minimum value** (or **a relative minimum value**).

We say $(V, f(V))$ **a local maxima** (or **a relative maxima**) if we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $B(V, r) \subset S$ and $f(X) \leq f(V)$ for any $X \in B(V, r)$. In this case, $f(V)$ is called **a local maximum value** (or **a relative maximum value**).

Theorem 1:

Let $U \in S$ and U is an interior point of S .

$(U, f(U))$ is **a global minima** $\Rightarrow (U, f(U))$ is **a local minima**

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Theorem 2:

Let $V \in S$ and V is an interior point of S .

$(V, f(V))$ is a **global maxima** $\Rightarrow (V, f(V))$ is a **local maxima**

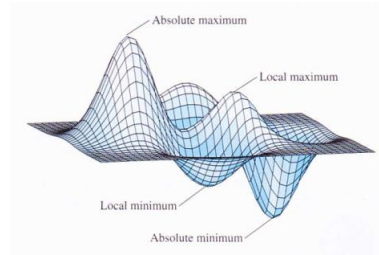
Remark: The converse of above theorems may not be true.

Diagram showing the relationship between global maxima and local maxima / between global minima and local minima (Note: the choice of the region / boundary is important)

$$f(x, y) = 3(x - 1)^2 e^{-x^2 - (y+1)^2} + (-2x + 10x^3 + 10y^5) e^{-x^2 - y^2} - \frac{1}{3} e^{-(x+1)^2 - y^2} \text{ for } (x, y) \in \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2: -3 \leq a \leq 3, -3 \leq b \leq 3\}.$$

A local maximum value MAY not be the global maximum value.

A local minimum value MAY not be the global minimum value.



Definition

$(W, f(W))$ is called a local extrema if it is a local maxima or it is a local minima

Theorem 1 (Necessary Conditions for Local Minima)

Let $\phi \neq S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. Let $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function on $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and is defined on S . Let $U \in S$ and $r \in \mathbb{R}$ with $r > 0$.

Suppose $B(U, r) \subset S$ and $f(X) \geq f(U)$ for any $X \in B(U, r)$.

That is, $(U, f(U))$ is a **local minima**.

Suppose we can find $f_{x_j}(X)$ for any $X \in B(U, r)$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Then, $f_{x_j}(U) = 0$ for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$

Theorem 2 (Necessary Conditions for Local Maxima)

Let $\phi \neq S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. Let $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function on $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and is defined on S . Let $V \in S$ and $r \in \mathbb{R}$ with $r > 0$.

Suppose $B(V, r) \subset S$ and $f(X) \leq f(V)$ for any $X \in B(V, r)$.

That is, $(V, f(V))$ is a **local minima**.

Suppose we can find $f_{x_j}(X)$ for any $X \in B(V, r)$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

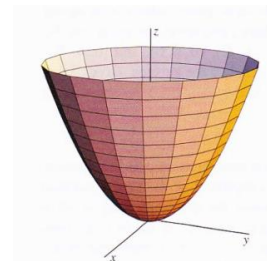
Then, $f_{x_j}(V) = 0$ for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$

Example 1:

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$.

Show that $(0,0)$ is a local minima and is the global minima on

$$D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2: x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}.$$



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Proof:

$f(0,0) = 0 \leq x^2 + y^2 = f(x, y)$ for any $(x, y) \in B(O, 1)$, so it is a local minima.

$f(0,0) = 0 \leq x^2 + y^2 = f(x, y)$ for any $(x, y) \in D$, so it is a global minima on D .

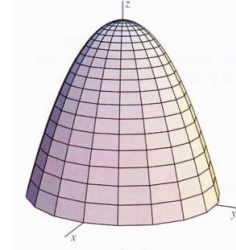
As $x^2 + y^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x, y) = (0,0)$, it is the global minima on D .

Exercise 1:

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y) = 1 - x^2 - y^2$.

Show that $(0,0)$ is a local maxima and is the global maxima on

$D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2: x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$.



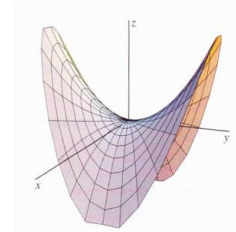
Proof: Omitted (As Exercise)

Exercise 2:

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x, y) = y^2 - x^2$.

Show that $(0,0)$ is **neither a local maxima nor a local minima**.

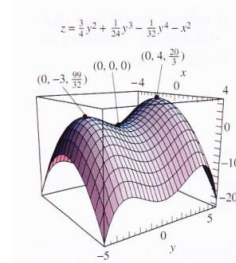
This point is called a **saddle point**.



Proof: Omitted (As Exercise)

Example 2:

Find all points on the surface $z = \frac{3}{4}y^2 + \frac{1}{24}y^3 - \frac{1}{32}y^4 - x^2$ at which the tangent plane is horizontal.



Solutions

$$z_x = -2x$$

Put $z_x = 0$, we have $x = 0$.

$$z_y = \frac{3}{2}y + \frac{1}{8}y^2 - \frac{1}{8}y^3 = \frac{-1}{8}y(y^2 - y - 12) = \frac{-1}{8}y(y - 4)(y + 3)$$

Put $z_y = 0$, we have $y = 0$ or 4 or -3 .

Required points are $(0,0,0)$, $(0,4,\frac{20}{3})$ and $(0,-3,\frac{99}{32})$

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Strategy for finding global extrema:

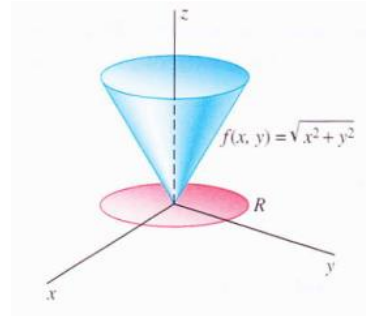
Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$

Usual Case: A continuous function f on closed and bounded region S in R^n AND $f_{x_j}(X)$ exists for all $X \in S \setminus \partial S$

- (i) Find $M_{\partial S} = \max\{f(X): X \in \partial S\}$ and $m_{\partial S} = \min\{f(X): X \in \partial S\}$
- (ii) Consider $T = \{ X \in S \setminus \partial S: f_{x_j}(X) = 0 \text{ for } j = 1, 2, \dots, n \}$
 and find $M_{S \setminus \partial S} = \max\{f(X): X \in T\}$ and $m_{S \setminus \partial S} = \min\{f(X): X \in T\}$
- (iii) The global maximum value is $\max\{M_{\partial S}, M_{S \setminus \partial S}\}$
 The global minimum value is $\min\{m_{\partial S}, m_{S \setminus \partial S}\}$

Example 1:

Let $f(x, y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ on the region R consisting of the points on and within the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ in the xy - plane. Find the global maximum value and the global minimum value of f on R .



Solutions

- (i) When $x^2 + y^2 = 1$, $f(x, y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = 1$.
 So, $M_{\partial R} = \max\{f(X): X \in \partial R\} = 1$ and $m_{\partial R} = \min\{f(X): X \in \partial R\} = 1$
- (ii) $f(x, y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$
 For $x^2 + y^2 > 0$,

$$f_x(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \cdot (2x) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

$$f_y(x, y) = \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

$$f_x(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$$

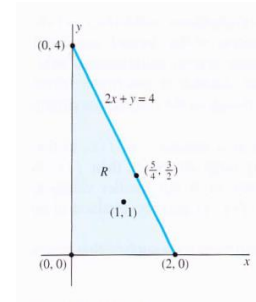
$$f_y(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = 0$$
 But $(0,0)$ doesn't satisfy $x^2 + y^2 > 0$.
 Thus, $\{ X \in \{(x, y) \in R^2: 0 < x^2 + y^2 < 1\}: f_{x_j}(X) = 0 \text{ for } j = 1, 2, \dots, n \} = \phi$

$$f(0,0) = \sqrt{0^2 + 0^2} = 0$$
- (iii) The global maximum value is $\max\{1,0\} = 1$
 The global minimum value is $\min\{1,0\} = 0$

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Example 2:

Find the maximum and minimum values attained by the function $f(x, y) = xy - x - y + 3$ at points of the triangular region R in the xy -plane with vertices at $(0,0)$, $(2,0)$ and $(0,4)$.



Solutions

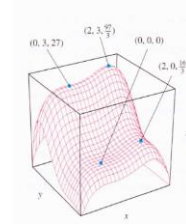
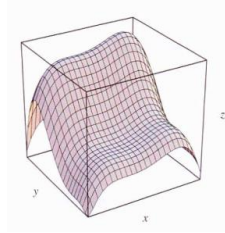
- (i) When $x = 0$, $f(0, y) = -y + 3$
 $\max\{f(X): X \in \partial R \text{ and } x = 0\} = 0 + 3 = 3$
 $\min\{f(X): X \in \partial R \text{ and } x = 0\} = -4 + 3 = -1$
 When $y = 0$, $f(x, 0) = -x + 3$
 $\max\{f(X): X \in \partial R \text{ and } y = 0\} = 0 + 3 = 3$
 $\min\{f(X): X \in \partial R \text{ and } y = 0\} = -2 + 3 = 1$
 When $2x + y = 4$,
 $f(x, y) = x(4 - 2x) - x - (4 - 2x) + 3$
 $= -2x^2 + 5x - 1 = -2\left(x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x\right) - 1$
 $= -2\left(x - \frac{5}{4}\right)^2 + \frac{17}{8}$
 When $x = 0$, $y = 4$, $f(0,4) = -1$.
 When $x = 2$, $y = 0$, $f(2,0) = 1$.
 $\max\{f(X): X \in \partial R \text{ and } 2x + y = 4\} = \max\left\{-1, 1, \frac{17}{8}\right\} = \frac{17}{8}$
 $\min\{f(X): X \in \partial R \text{ and } 2x + y = 4\} = \min\left\{-1, 1, \frac{17}{8}\right\} = -1$
 So, $M_{\partial R} = \max\{f(X): X \in \partial R\} = \max\left\{3, 3, \frac{17}{8}\right\} = 3$
 and $m_{\partial R} = \min\{f(X): X \in \partial R\} = \min\{-1, 1, -1\} = -1$
- (ii) $f(x, y) = xy - x - y + 3$
 $f_x(x, y) = y - 1$
 $f_y(x, y) = x - 1$
 $f_x(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 1$
 $f_y(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = 1$
 $(1, 1) \in R \setminus \partial R$
 $f(1, 1) = 1 - 1 - 1 + 3 = 2$
- (iii) The global maximum value is $\max\{3, 2\} = 3$
 The global minimum value is $\min\{-1, 2\} = -1$

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 3:

Find the highest point on the surface

$$z = f(x, y) = \frac{8}{3}x^3 + 4y^3 - x^4 - y^4.$$



Solutions

$$f_x(x, y) = 8x^2 - 4x^3 = 4x^2(2 - x)$$

$$f_x(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 4x^2(2 - x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } 2$$

$$f_y(x, y) = 12y^2 - 4y^3 = 4y^2(3 - y)$$

$$f_y(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 4y^2(3 - y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = 0 \text{ or } 3$$

For $f_x(x, y) = 0$ and $f_y(x, y) = 0$, we have only 4 points $(0,0)$, $(0,3)$, $(2,0)$ and $(2,3)$ for consideration.

$$f(0,0) = 0, f(0,3) = 27, f(2,0) = \frac{16}{3}, f(2,3) = \frac{97}{3}$$

When $x \rightarrow +\infty$, $f(x, y) \rightarrow -\infty$ as it is dominated by $-x^4$.

When $x \rightarrow -\infty$, $f(x, y) \rightarrow -\infty$ as it is dominated by $-x^4$.

When $y \rightarrow +\infty$, $f(x, y) \rightarrow -\infty$ as it is dominated by $-y^4$.

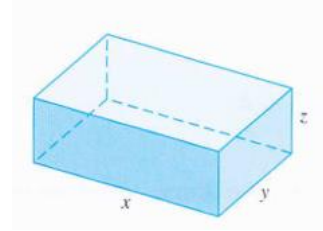
When $y \rightarrow -\infty$, $f(x, y) \rightarrow -\infty$ as it is dominated by $-y^4$.

Thus, the highest point is $(2, 3, \frac{97}{3})$.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 4:

Find the minimum cost of a rectangular box with volume 48 ft^3 if the front and back cost $\$1/\text{ft}^2$, the top and bottom cost $\$2/\text{ft}^2$, and the two ends cost $\$3/\text{ft}^2$. This box is shown in the figure.



Solutions

Let the length be x ft, the width be y ft, the height be z ft. and the cost be $\$C(x, y)$.

Then, $C(x, y) = 4xy + \frac{96}{y} + \frac{288}{x}$ (Assumed both $x > 0$ and $y > 0$).

Note:

The cost is $\$2 \cdot (2xy + xz + 3yz) = \$(4xy + 2xz + 6yz)$ and $xyz = 48$.

$$C_x(x, y) = 4y - 288x^{-2}$$

$$C_x(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 4y - 288x^{-2} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{288}{x} = 4xy$$

$$C_y(x, y) = 4x - 96y^{-2}$$

$$C_y(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 4x - 96y^{-2} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{96}{y} = 4xy$$

For both $C_x(x, y) = 0$ and $C_y(x, y) = 0$, $\frac{288}{x} = 4xy = \frac{96}{y}$.

So, $y = \frac{1}{3}x$ and $x^3 = 216$. Thus $x = 6$ and $y = 2$ (so, $z = 4$)

$$C(x, y) = 4xy + \frac{96}{y} + \frac{288}{x} = 12xy = 144$$

The minimum cost is $\$144$ when the dimensions are $6 \text{ ft.} \times 2 \text{ ft.} \times 4 \text{ ft.}$

Note: We don't need to consider the boundary.

Choose $\delta, M \in \mathbb{R}$ with $\delta > 0$ and $M > 0$.

Let $T = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2: \delta < x < M \text{ and } \delta < y < M\}$.

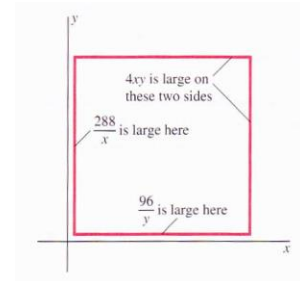
We can choose δ and M so that on the boundaries,

$\frac{96}{y} > 1000$ on the side nearest to x - axis

$\frac{288}{x} > 1000$ on the side nearest to y - axis

$4xy > 1000$ on the remaining two sides

So $C(x, y) > 1000$ on T



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Example 5:

Determine whether the function $f(x, y, z) = xy + yz - xz$ has any local extrema.

Solutions

$$f_x(x, y, z) = y - z$$

$$f_x(x, y, z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y - z = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = z$$

$$f_y(x, y, z) = x + z$$

$$f_y(x, y, z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x + z = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = -z$$

$$f_z(x, y, z) = y - x$$

$$f_z(x, y, z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y - x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$$

Put $f_x(x, y, z) = 0$ and $f_y(x, y, z) = 0$ and $f_z(x, y, z) = 0$, we have

$$x = y \text{ and } x = -z \text{ and } y = z.$$

Thus, $x = y = z = 0$.

$$f(0, 0, 0) = 0$$

$$f(t, t, t) = t^2 \geq 0 = f(0, 0, 0) \text{ for any } t \in R.$$

$$f(-t, t, -t) = -3t^2 \leq 0 = f(0, 0, 0) \text{ for any } t \in R.$$

So, $(0, 0, 0)$ is neither a local maxima nor a local minima.

So, f has no local extrema on R^3 .

Note:

$$f(t, t, t) = t^2 \rightarrow +\infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$f(t, t, t) = t^2 \rightarrow +\infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$f(-t, t, -t) = -3t^2 \rightarrow -\infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$f(-t, t, -t) = -3t^2 \rightarrow -\infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow -\infty$$

So, f has no global extrema on R^3 .

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Increments and Linear Approximation

Recall:

One Dimensional Case:

Let $f: R \rightarrow R$ be a function on x .

Suppose f is differentiable at a .

So, $f(a + h) - f(a) \approx f'(a) \cdot h$ when $h \approx 0$.

Two Dimensional Case:

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be a function on (x, y) .

Suppose f_x and f_y are continuous at points near to (a, b) . Let $z = f(x, y)$.

$f(a + h, b + k) - f(a, b + k) \approx f_x(a, b + k) \cdot h$ when $h \approx 0$

$f(a, b + k) - f(a, b) \approx f_y(a, b) \cdot k$ when $k \approx 0$

So, $f(a + h, b + k) - f(a, b) \approx f_x(a, b + k) \cdot h + f_y(a, b) \cdot k$ when $h \approx 0$ and $k \approx 0$

Assume f_x is continuous near to (a, b) . Then, $f_x(a, b + k) \approx f_x(a, b)$ when $k \approx 0$.

Thus, when $h \approx 0$ and $k \approx 0$, we have $f(a + h, b + k)$

$\approx f(a, b) + f_x(a, b) \cdot h + f_y(a, b) \cdot k$

$= f(a, b) + (f_x(a, b), f_y(a, b)) \cdot (h, k)$

Note: $\Delta z = f(a + h, b + k) - f(a, b)$; $dx = \Delta x = h$; $dy = \Delta y = k$

We define $dz = f_x(a, b) \cdot dx + f_y(a, b) \cdot dy$.

Then, $f(a + h, b + k) - f(a, b) = \Delta z \approx dz = f_x(a, b) \cdot h + f_y(a, b) \cdot k$

For $z = f(x, y)$, at general point (x, y) , $dz = f_x(x, y) \cdot dx + f_y(x, y) \cdot dy$

Example 1:

Find the differential df of the function $f(x, y) = x^2 + 3xy - 2y^2$. Then, compare df and the actual increment Δf when (x, y) changes from $P(3,5)$ to $Q(3.2,4.9)$.

Solutions

$f_x(x, y) = 2x + 3y$; $f_y(x, y) = 3x - 4y$

$df = f_x(x, y) \cdot dx + f_y(x, y) \cdot dy = (2x + 3y)dx + (3x - 4y)dy$

$f(3,5) = 4$; $f(3.2,4.9) = 9.26$;

$f_x(3,5) = 21$; $f_y(3,5) = -11$;

$dx = \Delta x = 3.2 - 3 = 0.2$; $dy = \Delta y = 4.9 - 5 = -0.1$.

For (x, y) changes from $P(3,5)$ to $Q(3.2,4.9)$,

$\Delta f = 9.26 - 4 = 5.26$

$df = 21 \times 0.2 + (-11) \times (-0.1) = 5.3$

$df \approx \Delta f$

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Example 2:

Use linear approximation to estimate $\sqrt{2 \cdot (2.02)^3 + (2.97)^2}$.

Solutions

Let f be a real valued function on (x, y) and is defined by $f(x, y) = \sqrt{2x^3 + y^2}$.

(Note: We may assume $x \geq 0$ so that it is well defined.)

Let $z = f(x, y)$.

$$f(2,3) = \sqrt{2 \times 8 + 9} = 5;$$

$$f_x(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2x^3+y^2}} \cdot 6x^2 = \frac{3x^2}{\sqrt{2x^3+y^2}}; f_x(2,3) = \frac{12}{5}$$

$$f_y(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2x^3+y^2}} \cdot 2y = \frac{y}{\sqrt{2x^3+y^2}}; f_y(2,3) = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$dx = \Delta x = 2.02 - 2 = 0.02; dy = \Delta y = 2.97 - 3 = -0.03$$

$$dz = \frac{12}{5} \times 0.02 + \frac{3}{5} \times (-0.03) = 0.03$$

$$\sqrt{2 \cdot (2.02)^3 + (2.97)^2} \approx 5 + 0.03 = 5.03$$

Note: $\sqrt{2 \cdot (2.02)^3 + (2.97)^2} \approx 5.0305$ (by calculator)

Example 3:

The volume V (in cubic centimetres (or cm^3)) of 1 mole (or $mol.$) of an ideal gas is given by $V = \frac{82.06}{p}T$, where p is the pressure (in atmospheres (or atm)) and T is the absolute temperature (in Kelvins (or K)).

Approximate the change in V when p is increased from 5 atm to 5.2 atm and T is increased from 300K to 310K.

Solutions

$$V = \frac{82.06}{p}T; \text{ When } T = 300 \text{ and } p = 5, V = \frac{82.06}{5} \times 300 = 4923.6 \text{ (in } cm^3)$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial T} = \frac{82.06}{p}, \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \Big|_{T=300, p=5} = \frac{82.06}{5} = 16.412 \text{ (in } cm^3/K)$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial p} = \frac{-82.06}{p^2}T, \frac{\partial V}{\partial p} \Big|_{T=300, p=5} = \frac{-82.06}{5^2} \times 300 = -984.72 \text{ (in } cm^3/atm)$$

$$dp = \Delta p = 5.2 - 5 = 0.2; dT = \Delta T = 310 - 300 = 10$$

$$\Delta V \approx dV = 16.412 \times 10 + (-984.72) \times 0.2 = -32.824 \text{ (in } cm^3)$$

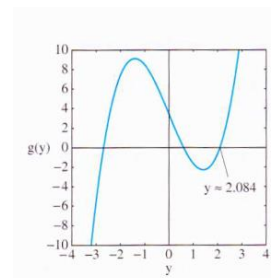
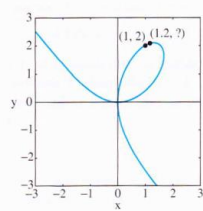
Note: $\Delta V = \frac{82.06}{5.2} \times 310 - \frac{82.06}{5} \times 300 = -31.5615 \text{ (in } cm^3)$

Example 4:

The point $(1,2)$ lies on the curve with equation

$$f(x, y) = 2x^3 + y^3 - 5xy = 0.$$

Approximate the y - coordinate of the nearby point (x, y) on this curve for which $x = 1.2$.



The graph of
 $g(y) = y^3 - 6y + 3.456$
 (Put $x = 1.2$ into
 $2x^3 + y^3 - 5xy$)

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Solutions

Let $z = f(x, y) = 2x^3 + y^3 - 5xy$, $f(1,2) = 0$ and $f(1.2, 2 + \Delta y) = 0$.

$\Delta z = 0$.

$f_x(x, y) = 6x^2 - 5y$; $f_x(1,2) = -4$; $dx = \Delta x = 1.2 - 1 = 0.2$

$f_y(x, y) = 3y^2 - 5x$; $f_y(1,2) = 7$; $dy = \Delta y$

$0 = \Delta z \approx dz = (-4) \times 0.2 + 7\Delta y$

So, $\Delta y \approx \frac{4 \times 0.2}{7} \approx 0.114$

Required y - coordinate $\approx 2 + 0.114 = 2.114$ (may take the approximate value 2.1)

Note: Required y - coordinate ≈ 2.084 (by Newton's Method)

Three Dimensional Case:

Let $f: R^3 \rightarrow R$ be a function on (x, y, z) .

Suppose f_x, f_y and f_z are continuous at points near to (a, b, c) .

$f(a + h, b + k, c + l) - f(a, b + k, c + l) \approx f_x(a, b + k, c + l) \cdot h$ when $h \approx 0$

$f(a, b + k, c + l) - f(a, b, c + l) \approx f_y(a, b, c + l) \cdot k$ when $k \approx 0$

$f(a, b, c + l) - f(a, b, c) \approx f_z(a, b, c) \cdot l$ when $l \approx 0$

So, $f(a + h, b + k, c + l) - f(a, b, c)$

$\approx f_x(a, b + k, c + l) \cdot h + f_y(a, b, c + l) \cdot k + f_z(a, b, c) \cdot l$ when $h \approx 0$ and $k \approx 0$ and $l \approx 0$

Assume f_x and f_y are continuous near to (a, b, c) .

Then, $f_x(a, b + k, c + l) \approx f_x(a, b, c)$ and $f_y(a, b, c + l) \approx f_y(a, b, c)$ when $k \approx 0$ and $l \approx 0$

Thus, when $h \approx 0$ and $k \approx 0$ and $l \approx 0$, we have $f(a + h, b + k, c + l)$

$\approx f(a, b, c) + f_x(a, b, c) \cdot h + f_y(a, b, c) \cdot k + f_z(a, b, c) \cdot l$

$= f(a, b, c) + (f_x(a, b, c), f_y(a, b, c), f_z(a, b, c)) \cdot (h, k, l)$

We define

$df = f_x(x, y, z) \cdot dx + f_y(x, y, z) \cdot dy + f_z(x, y, z) \cdot dz$

Example:

We have constructed a metal cube that is supposed to have edge length 100 mm, but each of its three measured dimensions x, y and z may be in error by as much as a millimeter. Use differentials to estimate the maximum resulting error in its calculated volume $V = xyz$.

Solutions

$V(x, y, z) = xyz$

$V_x(x, y, z) = yz$; $V_y(x, y, z) = xz$; $V_z(x, y, z) = xy$

$dV = V_x(x, y, z)dx + V_y(x, y, z)dy + V_z(x, y, z)dz = yzdx + xzdy + xydz$

$\Delta V \approx dV = 100 \times 100 \times \pm 1 + 100 \times 100 \times \pm 1 + 100 \times 100 \times \pm 1$

Note: $100 \times 100 \times 1 + 100 \times 100 \times 1 + 100 \times 100 \times 1 = 30000$

the maximum resulting error in its calculated volume

$\approx \pm 30000$ (in mm^3)

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n – Dimensional Case:

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function and $A, H \in R^n$.

Suppose $f_{x_1}, f_{x_2}, \dots, f_{x_n}$ are continuous at points near to A .

We can show that $f(A + H) \approx f(A) + (f_{x_1}(A), f_{x_2}(A), \dots, f_{x_n}(A)) \cdot H$ when $\|H\| \approx 0$.

We define the gradient of f at A as $grad f(A) = \nabla f(A) = (f_{x_1}(A), f_{x_2}(A), \dots, f_{x_n}(A))$.

Then, $f(A + H) \approx f(A) + \nabla f(A) \cdot H$ when $\|H\| \approx 0$.

At general point $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, we define the gradient of f at X as

$$grad f(X) = \nabla f(X) = (f_{x_1}(X), f_{x_2}(X), \dots, f_{x_n}(X)).$$

Then, $f(X + H) \approx f(X) + \nabla f(X) \cdot H$ when $\|H\| \approx 0$.

Linear Approximation

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function and $A, H \in R^n$.

Suppose we can find:

- (i) $\delta \in R$ with $\delta > 0$ AND
- (ii) $\nabla f(A)$

so that there exists a function $\epsilon: B(O, \delta) \rightarrow R$ such that $\epsilon(H) \rightarrow 0$ as $\|H\| \rightarrow 0$

AND $f(A + H) = f(A) + \nabla f(A) \cdot H + \epsilon(H) \cdot \|H\|$.

In this case, we say $f(A) + \nabla f(A) \cdot H$ is **the linear approximation** of $f(A + H)$ when $\|H\| \approx 0$.

Concept of Differentiability

$$\frac{f(A+H)-f(A)-\nabla f(A) \cdot H}{\|H\|} = \frac{\epsilon(H) \cdot \|H\|}{\|H\|} = \epsilon(H) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \|H\| \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{So, } \lim_{\|H\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(A+H)-f(A)-\nabla f(A) \cdot H}{\|H\|} = 0$$

Remark 1:

$$\text{The property "the linear approximation"} \Rightarrow \lim_{\|H\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(A+H)-f(A)-\nabla f(A) \cdot H}{\|H\|} = 0$$

Remark 2:

$$\text{Suppose } \lim_{\|H\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(A+H)-f(A)-\nabla f(A) \cdot H}{\|H\|} = 0.$$

$$\text{We may define } \epsilon: R^n \rightarrow R \text{ by } \epsilon(H) = \frac{f(A+H)-f(A)-\nabla f(A) \cdot H}{\|H\|}.$$

Then, $f(A + H) = f(A) + \nabla f(A) \cdot H + \epsilon(H) \cdot \|H\|$ and $\epsilon(H) \rightarrow 0$ as $\|H\| \rightarrow 0$

$$\lim_{\|H\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(A+H)-f(A)-\nabla f(A) \cdot H}{\|H\|} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{The property "the linear approximation"}$$

Definition

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function and $A \in R^n$.

Suppose we can find:

- (i) $\delta \in R$ with $\delta > 0$ AND
- (ii) $\nabla f(A)$

so that there exists a function $\epsilon: B(O, \delta) \rightarrow R$ such that $\epsilon(H) \rightarrow 0$ as $\|H\| \rightarrow 0$

AND $f(A + H) = f(A) + \nabla f(A) \cdot H + \epsilon(H) \cdot \|H\|$.

In this case, we say **f is differentiable at A**.

$$\text{Remark: } \lim_{\|H\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(A+H)-f(A)-\nabla f(A) \cdot H}{\|H\|} = 0.$$

Definition

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function and $A \in R^n$. We say f is **continuously differentiable at A** if we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $f_{x_1}, f_{x_2}, \dots, f_{x_n}$ are continuous on $B(A, r)$.

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Theorem:

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function and $A \in R^n$.

f is **continuously differentiable at A** \Rightarrow **f is differentiable at A**

Remarks:

- (i) the converse in general is not true
- (ii) **f is differentiable at A** \Rightarrow
 we can find $\nabla f(A)$, but $f_{x_1}, f_{x_2}, \dots, f_{x_n}$ may not be continuous near A

Theorem:

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function and $A \in R^n$.

f is **differentiable at A** \Rightarrow **f is continuous at A**

Definition

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be a function.

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set.

We say f is **differentiable on S** if f is differentiable at A for any $A \in S$.

Example 1

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y) = xy$.

Show that f is differentiable at $(1, 2)$.

Proof

$$f(1, 2) = 2; f_x(x, y) = y; f_x(1, 2) = 2; f_y(x, y) = x; f_y(1, 2) = 1;$$

$$\nabla f(1, 2) \cdot (h, k) = (2, 1) \cdot (h, k) = 2h + k$$

$$f(1 + h, 2 + k) = (1 + h)(2 + k) = 2 + 2h + k + hk = f(1, 2) + \nabla f(1, 2) \cdot (h, k) + hk$$

$$\text{Let } \varepsilon: R^2 \rightarrow R \text{ be defined by } \varepsilon(h, k) = \begin{cases} \frac{hk}{\sqrt{h^2+k^2}} & \text{if } (h, k) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0 & \text{if } (h, k) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

Note: $\|(h, k)\| = \sqrt{h^2 + k^2}$.

$$\text{Then, } f(1 + h, 2 + k) = f(1, 2) + \nabla f(1, 2) \cdot (h, k) + \varepsilon(h, k)\|(h, k)\|.$$

$$\lim_{\|(h,k)\| \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon(h, k) = \lim_{\|(h,k)\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{hk}{\sqrt{h^2 + k^2}} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{2} r \sin 2\theta = 0$$

Reason:

Let $h = r \cos \theta, k = r \sin \theta$ where $r \geq 0$.

$$\text{Then, } \frac{hk}{\sqrt{h^2+k^2}} = \frac{r^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{r} = \frac{1}{2} r \sin 2\theta$$

Note: $|\sin 2\theta| \leq 1$

Thus, f is differentiable at $(1, 2)$.

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Example 2

Let $f: R^2 \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x, y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$.
 Show that f is not differentiable at $(0,0)$.

Proof:

Suffices to show $f_x(0,0)$ doesn't exist.

$$f(0,0) = 0. f(0+h,0) = f(h,0) = \sqrt{h^2 + 0} = |h|. f(0+h,0) - f(0,0) = |h|.$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(0+h,0) - f(0,0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} 1 = 1$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(0+h,0) - f(0,0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{|h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} -1 = -1$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(0+h,0) - f(0,0)}{h} = 1 \neq -1 = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(0+h,0) - f(0,0)}{h}$$

So, $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h,0) - f(0,0)}{h}$ doesn't exist.

Thus, $f_x(0,0)$ doesn't exist.

Rules for Differentiation

Theorem:

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ and $g: S \rightarrow R$ be functions.

Let $\lambda \in R$ and $P \in S$.

Suppose both f and g are differentiable at P .

Then,

- (i) $f + g$ is differentiable at P
- (ii) $f - g$ is differentiable at P
- (iii) $f \cdot g$ is differentiable at P
- (iv) $\frac{f}{g}$ is differentiable at P

(Assumed that we can find $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ such that $B(P, r) \subset S$ and $g(X) \neq 0$ for any $X \in B(P, r)$.)

- (v) λf is differentiable at P

Proof: Omitted (As Exercises)

Multivariable Chain Rule

Theorem 1:

Let $x: I \rightarrow R$ and $y: I \rightarrow R$ are functions, where I is an open interval.

Suppose x and y are differentiable on I .

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^2$ and S is an open set.

Suppose $\{(x(t), y(t)): t \in I\} \subset S$.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function.

Suppose all partial derivatives of f are continuous on S .

Then we can define a function $z: I \rightarrow R$ by $z(t) = f(x(t), y(t))$ and it is differentiable on I .

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}$$

Remark: Sometimes, if we write $w = f(x, y)$, then we also write $\frac{dw}{dt} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}$

by considering $w = w(t) = f(x(t), y(t))$.

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Idea of the proof

$$\Delta z \approx dz = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \Delta y$$

$$\frac{\Delta z}{\Delta t} \approx \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta t}$$

Taking the limit $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$, we get $\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}$.

Example 1:

Suppose that $w = e^{xy}$, $x = t^2$ and $y = t^3$. Find $\frac{dw}{dt}$.

Solutions

Method 1

$$w = e^{xy} = e^{(t^2 \cdot t^3)} = e^{(t^5)}$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = e^{(t^5)} \cdot \frac{d}{dt} t^5 = 5t^4 \cdot e^{(t^5)}$$

Method 2 (By Chain Rule)

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} = ye^{xy}; \frac{dx}{dt} = 2t; \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = xe^{xy}; \frac{dy}{dt} = 3t^2$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$= ye^{xy} \cdot 2t + xe^{xy} \cdot 3t^2$$

$$= 2t^4 \cdot e^{(t^5)} + 3t^4 \cdot e^{(t^5)}$$

$$= 5t^4 \cdot e^{(t^5)}$$

Example 2:

The figure shows a melting cylindrical block of ice.

Because of the sun's heat beating down from above, its height h is decreasing more rapidly than its radius r .

If its height is decreasing at 3 cm/h and its radius is decreasing at 1 cm/h when $r = 15 \text{ cm}$ and $h = 40 \text{ cm}$, what is the rate of change of the volume V of the block at that instant?



Solutions

As $V = \pi r^2 h$, by Chain Rule, $\frac{dV}{dt} = 2\pi r h \frac{dr}{dt} + \pi r^2 \frac{dh}{dt}$.

When $r = 15$ and $h = 40$, $\frac{dh}{dt} = -3$, $\frac{dr}{dt} = -1$ (minus sign means decreasing).

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = 2\pi \cdot 15 \cdot 40 \cdot (-1) + \pi \cdot 15^2 \cdot (-3) = -1875\pi \approx -5890.49 \text{ (in cm}^3/\text{h)}.$$

The volume of the block at that instant is decreasing at the rate of $5890 \text{ cm}^3/\text{h}$.

Example 3:

Find $\frac{dw}{dt}$ if $w = x^2 + ze^y + \sin xz$, $x = t$, $y = t^2$, $z = t^3$.

Solutions

Method 1

$$w = x^2 + ze^y + \sin xz$$

$$= t^2 + t^3 e^{(t^2)} + \sin(t^4)$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = 2t + 3t^2 e^{(t^2)} + t^3 e^{(t^2)} \cdot 2t + \cos(t^4) \cdot 4t^3$$

$$= 2t + (3t^2 + 2t^4)e^{(t^2)} + 4t^3 \cos(t^4)$$

Method 2 (By Chain Rule)

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} = 2x + z \cos xz; \frac{dx}{dt} = 1$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = ze^y; \frac{dy}{dt} = 2t$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = e^y + x \cos xz; \frac{dz}{dt} = 3t^2$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = (2x + z \cos xz) \cdot 1 + (ze^y) \cdot 2t + (e^y + x \cos xz) \cdot 3t^2$$

$$= 2t + t^3 \cos(t^4) + 2t^4 e^{(t^2)} + 3t^2 e^{(t^2)} + 3t^3 \cos(t^4)$$

$$= 2t + (3t^2 + 2t^4)e^{(t^2)} + 4t^3 \cos(t^4)$$

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Theorem 2:

Let $x_i: I \rightarrow R$ is a function, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, where I is an open interval.

Suppose x_i is differentiable on I , for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set.

Suppose $\{(x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)): t \in I\} \subset S$.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function.

Suppose all partial derivatives of f are continuous on S .

Then we can define a function $z: I \rightarrow R$ by $z(t) = f(x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t))$ and it is differentiable on I .

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \cdot \frac{dx_i}{dt}$$

Theorem 3 (General Chain Rule):

Let $\phi \neq T \subset R^n$ and T is an open set.

Let $x_i: T \rightarrow R$ is a function, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Suppose all partial derivatives of x_i are continuous on T , for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^m$ and S is an open set.

Suppose $\{(x_1(A), x_2(A), \dots, x_m(A)): A \in T\} \subset S$.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function.

Suppose all partial derivatives of f are continuous on S .

Then we can define a function $z: T \rightarrow R$ by $z(A) = f(x_1(A), x_2(A), \dots, x_m(A))$ and all its partial derivatives are continuous on T .

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial t_k} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \cdot \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial t_k}$$

Example 4:

Suppose $z = f(u, v)$, $u = 2x + y$, $v = 3x - 2y$.

Given the values of $\frac{\partial z}{\partial u} = 3$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial v} = -2$ at the point $(u, v) = (3, 1)$.

Find the values of $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ at the corresponding point $(x, y) = (1, 1)$.

Solutions

At $(x, y) = (1, 1)$ and $(u, v) = (3, 1)$,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 2; \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = 3$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = 3 \times 2 + (-2) \times 3 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 1; \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = -2$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 3 \times 1 + (-2) \times (-2) = 7$$

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 5:

Let $w = f(x, y)$ where x and y are given in polar coordinates by the equations $x = r\cos\theta$ and $y = r\sin\theta$.

Calculate $\frac{\partial w}{\partial r}$, $\frac{\partial w}{\partial \theta}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial r^2}$ in terms of r , θ and the partial derivatives of w with respect to x and y .

Solutions

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} &= \cos\theta; \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} = -r\sin\theta; \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} = \sin\theta; \frac{\partial y}{\partial \theta} = r\cos\theta \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial r} &= \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} = \cos\theta \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + \sin\theta \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial \theta} &= \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial \theta} = -r\sin\theta \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + r\cos\theta \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial r^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\cos\theta \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + \sin\theta \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= \cos\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right) + \sin\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= \cos\theta \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} \right) + \sin\theta \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} \right) \\ &= \cos\theta \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} \cdot \cos\theta + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y \partial x} \cdot \sin\theta \right) + \sin\theta \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} \cdot \cos\theta + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \cdot \sin\theta \right) \\ &= \cos^2\theta \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + 2\sin\theta\cos\theta \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y \partial x} + \sin^2\theta \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \end{aligned}$$

Note: $\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y}$

Example 6:

Suppose that $w = f(u, v, x, y)$ where u and v are functions of x and y .

Find $\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial w}{\partial y}$.

[Hint: x and y play dual roles as intermediate and independent variables.]

Solutions

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \end{aligned}$$

Example 7:

Consider a parametric curve $x = x(t)$, $y = y(t)$, $z = z(t)$ that lies on the surface $z = f(x, y)$ in space.

Recall that if $\vec{T} = \left(\frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt}, \frac{dz}{dt} \right)$ and $\vec{N} = \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}, -1 \right)$, then \vec{T} is tangent to the curve and \vec{N} is normal to the surface.

Show that \vec{T} and \vec{N} are everywhere perpendicular.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{T} \cdot \vec{N} &= \left(\frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt}, \frac{dz}{dt} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}, -1 \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{dz}{dt} \\ &= \frac{dz}{dt} - \frac{dz}{dt} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

So, \vec{T} and \vec{N} are everywhere perpendicular.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Exercise

Suppose $f(x, y)$ satisfy $f(tx, ty) = t^m f(x, y)$ for any $(x, y) \in R^2$, where m is a fixed positive integer.

Show that $x \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = mf$.

[Hint: Consider $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(tx, ty)$.]

Implicit Partial Differentiation

Theorem:

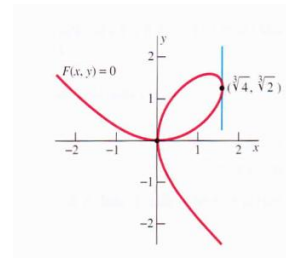
Suppose that the function $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, z)$ is continuously differentiable near to the point $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b)$ at which $F(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b) = 0$ and $\frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \neq 0$.

Then, there exists a continuously differentiable function $z = g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ such that $b = g(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ and $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)) = 0$ for (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) near (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) .

Example 1:

Consider the graph of the equation $F(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3xy = 0$,

find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ if it is well defined.



Solutions

Note: $F(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3xy$

$$0 = \frac{d}{dx} F(x, y) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 3y + (3y^2 - 3x) \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{3x^2 - 3y}{3y^2 - 3x} = -\frac{x^2 - y}{y^2 - x} \text{ (Assumed } y^2 - x \neq 0)$$

Consider $y^2 - x = 0$ and $x^3 + y^3 - 3xy = 0$, we have

$$y^6 + y^3 - 3y^3 = 0 \Rightarrow y^6 - 2y^3 = 0 \Rightarrow y^3(y^3 - 2) = 0 \Rightarrow y = 0 \text{ or } \sqrt[3]{2}$$

When $y = 0, x = 0$.

When $y = \sqrt[3]{2}, x = \sqrt[3]{4}$.

$\frac{dy}{dx}$ is undefined at points $(0,0)$ and $(\sqrt[3]{4}, \sqrt[3]{2})$.

Example 2:

Suppose $w = G(x, y), u = u(x, y)$ and $v = v(x, y)$ be given.

Suppose we know that x and y can be solved in terms of u and v .

Find $\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}$ in terms of $\frac{\partial w}{\partial u}, \frac{\partial w}{\partial v}, \frac{\partial x}{\partial u}, \frac{\partial x}{\partial v}, \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}$ and $\frac{\partial y}{\partial v}$.

Solutions

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial v}$$

In Matrix Form

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial w}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix}, \text{ so } \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial w}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\frac{\partial x}{\partial u} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} & -\frac{\partial y}{\partial u} \\ -\frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial w}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix}$$

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Directional Derivatives and Gradient Vector

Concept of partial derivative

Suppose $n = 2, 3, \dots$.

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$.

Let $E_j = (e_{j1}, e_{j2}, \dots, e_{jn})$ be defined by $e_{ji} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$

That is, only j -th coordinate is 1, other coordinates are zeros.

Note: E_j is a unit vector in the direction of the coordinate axis for x_j .

$$f_{x_j}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(X+hE_j) - f(X)}{h}$$

Concept of directional derivative

Suppose $n = 2, 3, \dots$.

Let $\phi \neq S \subset R^n$ and S is an open set.

Let $f: S \rightarrow R$ be a function on $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$.

Let \mathbf{u} be any unit vector.

We define:

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(X+h\mathbf{u}) - f(X)}{h}$$

Theorem:

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}f(X) = \nabla f(X) \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\mathbf{u}}f(X) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(X + h\mathbf{u}) - f(X)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\nabla f(X) \cdot (h\mathbf{u})}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h\nabla f(X) \cdot \mathbf{u}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \nabla f(X) \cdot \mathbf{u} = \nabla f(X) \cdot \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

Example:

Suppose $f(x, y) = \frac{1}{180}(7400 - 4x - 9y - 0.03xy)$ for any $(x, y) \in R^2$.

Find $D_{\mathbf{u}}f((200, 200))$ where \mathbf{u} is the unit vector in the direction of $\mathbf{v} = (3, 4)$.

Solutions

$$f_x(x, y) = \frac{1}{180}(-4 - 0.03y), f_x(200, 200) = \frac{-1}{18};$$

$$f_y(x, y) = \frac{1}{180}(-9 - 0.03x), f_y(200, 200) = \frac{-1}{12};$$

$$\nabla f((200, 200)) = \left(\frac{-1}{18}, \frac{-1}{12} \right)$$

$$\|\mathbf{v}\| = \|(3, 4)\| = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = 5$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}\mathbf{v} = \frac{1}{5}(3, 4) = \left(\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right)$$

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}f((200, 200)) = \nabla f((200, 200)) \cdot \mathbf{u} = \left(\frac{-1}{18}, \frac{-1}{12} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right) = \frac{-1}{10}$$

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Application:

If $f(x, y)$ denotes the temperature (in degrees Celsius) at the point (x, y) near an airport where distances x and y are measured in kilometers, then $D_{\mathbf{u}}f((200,200))$ will be the initial rate of change of temperature when the aircraft heads northeast in the direction specified by the vector \mathbf{v} at the location $(200,200)$.

Note:

$D_{\mathbf{u}}f((200,200)) = -0.1$ means "The instantaneous rate of change is decreasing at $0.1 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}/\text{km}$ ".

Significance of the Gradient Vector

Suppose θ is the angle between $\nabla f(X)$ and \mathbf{u} .

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}f(X) = \nabla f(X) \cdot \mathbf{u} = \|\nabla f(X)\| \cdot \|\mathbf{u}\| \cos\theta = \|\nabla f(X)\| \cos\theta$$

Note:

The maximum value of $D_{\mathbf{u}}f(X)$ is $\|\nabla f(X)\|$.

The maximum value is obtained when $\cos\theta = 1$, that is \mathbf{u} is in the same direction as $\nabla f(X)$.

In this case, $\mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{\|\nabla f(X)\|} \nabla f(X)$.

Geometric Meaning of the Gradient Vector

Suppose $\mathbf{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$ is a curve on the surface $F(x, y, z) = 0$ where F is continuously differentiable.

$$0 = F(x(t), y(t), z(t))$$

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} 0 = \frac{d}{dt} F(x(t), y(t), z(t)) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{dz}{dt}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt}, \frac{dz}{dt} \right) = \nabla F \cdot \mathbf{r}'$$

∇F is always perpendicular to the tangent vector of the curve on the surface.

So, ∇F is a normal vector of the tangent plane.

Application:

Suppose $F(x, y, z) = z - f(x, y)$.

$\nabla F = (-f_x(x, y, z), -f_y(x, y, z), 1)$ is a normal vector of the surface $z = f(x, y)$.

Example:

Write an equation of the plane tangent to the ellipsoid $2x^2 + 4y^2 + z^2 = 45$ at the point $P(2, -3, -1)$.

Solutions

Let $F(x, y, z) = 2x^2 + 4y^2 + z^2 - 45$ for any $(x, y, z) \in R^3$.

$$\nabla F(x, y, z) = (4x, 8y, 2z)$$

$\nabla F(2, -3, -1) = (8, -24, -2)$ is a normal vector of required tangent plane.

An equation of required tangent plane is

$$((x, y, z) - (2, -3, -1)) \cdot (8, -24, -2) = 0$$

$$8x - 24y - 2z - (16 + 72 + 2) = 0$$

$$8x - 24y - 2z - 90 = 0$$

$$4x - 12y - z - 45 = 0$$

Theorem:

Suppose F and G are continuously differentiable. The intersection of $F(x, y, z) = 0$ and $G(x, y, z) = 0$ will be some sort of curve in space.

If $P(a, b, c)$ is a point of such curve such that $\nabla F(P)$ and $\nabla G(P)$ are not collinear, then $\nabla F(P) \times \nabla G(P)$ will be a vector parallel to the tangent vector of the curve (the intersection of the two surfaces) at P .

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 1:

The point $P(1, -1, 2)$ lies on both paraboloids $F(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 - z = 0$ and $G(x, y, z) = 2x^2 + 3y^2 + z^2 - 9 = 0$.

Write an equation of the plane through P and is normal to the curve of intersection of these two surfaces.

Solutions

$$F(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 - z$$

$$\nabla F(x, y, z) = (2x, 2y, -1); \nabla F(P) = \nabla F(1, -1, 2) = (2, -2, -1)$$

$$G(x, y, z) = 2x^2 + 3y^2 + z^2 - 9$$

$$\nabla G(x, y, z) = (4x, 6y, 2z); \nabla G(P) = \nabla G(1, -1, 2) = (4, -6, 4)$$

$$\nabla F(P) \times \nabla G(P)$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 2 & -2 & -1 \\ 4 & -6 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = -14\vec{i} - 12\vec{j} - 4\vec{k} = (-14, -12, -4)$$

An equation of required tangent plane is

$$((x, y, z) - (1, -1, 2)) \cdot (-14, -12, -4) = 0$$

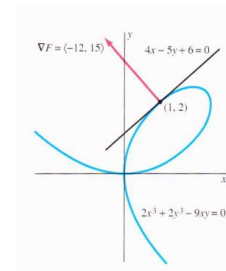
$$-14x - 12y - 4z - (-14 + 12 - 8) = 0$$

$$-14x - 12y - 4z + 10 = 0$$

$$7x + 6y + 2z - 5 = 0$$

Example 2:

Write an equation of the line tangent at the point $P(1, 2)$ to the folium of Descartes with equation $F(x, y) = 2x^3 + 2y^3 - 9xy = 0$.



Solutions

$$F(x, y) = 2x^3 + 2y^3 - 9xy$$

$$\nabla F(x, y) = (6x^2 - 9y, 6y^2 - 9x); \nabla F(P) = \nabla F(1, 2) = (-12, 15)$$

A vector normal to required tangent line is $(-12, 15)$.

For any point (x, y) on required tangent line, $(x, y) - (1, 2)$ is a vector in the direction of the required tangent line.

An equation of required tangent line is $((x, y) - (1, 2)) \cdot (-12, 15) = 0$.

$$-12(x - 1) + 15(y - 2) = 0$$

$$-12x + 12 + 15y - 30 = 0$$

$$-12x + 15y - 18 = 0$$

$$4x - 5y + 6 = 0$$

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Lagrange Multipliers and Constrained Optimization

Theorem (Two Dimensional Case)

Let $f(x, y)$ and $g(x, y)$ be continuously differentiable functions.

If the maximum value (or minimum value) of $f(x, y)$ subject to the constraint $g(x, y) = 0$ occur at a point $P(x_0, y_0)$ where $\nabla g(P) \neq (0,0)$, then $\nabla f(P) = \lambda \nabla g(P)$ for some constant λ .

Proof for the case (maximum value at $P(x_0, y_0)$)

Suppose the maximum value of $f(x, y)$ subject to the constraint $g(x, y) = 0$ occurs at a point $P(x_0, y_0)$ where $\nabla g(P) \neq (0,0)$.

We consider a curve on $g(x, y) = 0$ and passing through P , say $r: (-1,1) \rightarrow R^2$,

$r(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ and $r(0) = P(x_0, y_0)$.

$$0 = \left. \frac{d}{dt} f(x(t), y(t)) \right|_{t=0} \quad (\text{as } P \text{ is a local maxima on } g(x, y) = 0)$$

$$0 = \left. \frac{d}{dt} f(x(t), y(t)) \right|_{t=0} = \nabla f(x(t), y(t)) \cdot r'(t) \Big|_{t=0} = \nabla f(P) \cdot r'(0)$$

This is true for every curve on $g(x, y) = 0$ and passing through P .

So, $\nabla f(P)$ is normal to any tangent vector of every curve that is on $g(x, y) = 0$ and is passing through P .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also, } 0 &= g(x(t), y(t)). \text{ We have } 0 = \frac{d}{dt} g(x(t), y(t)) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} g(x(t), y(t)) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \nabla g(x(t), y(t)) \cdot r'(t) \Big|_{t=0} = \nabla g(P) \cdot r'(0) \end{aligned}$$

This is true for every curve on $g(x, y) = 0$ and passing through P .

So, $\nabla g(P)$ is normal to any tangent vector of every curve that is on $g(x, y) = 0$ and is passing through P .

As $\nabla g(P) \neq (0,0)$, $\nabla f(P)$ and $\nabla g(P)$ must be parallel to each other.

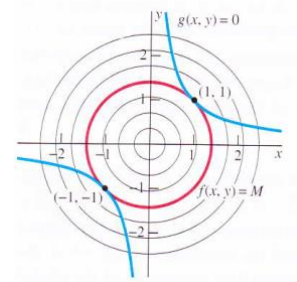
So, $\nabla f(P) = \lambda \nabla g(P)$ for some constant λ .

Remark: We may generalize to n –dimensional case.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 1:

Find the points of the rectangular hyperbola $xy = 1$ that are closest to the origin $(0,0)$.



Solutions

Let $d(x, y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ for any $(x, y) \in R^2$.

Let $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ for any $(x, y) \in R^2$.

Let $g(x, y) = xy - 1$ for any $(x, y) \in R^2$.

$d(x_0, y_0)$ is a solution for “Minimize $d(x, y)$ subject to $g(x, y) = 0$ ” \Leftrightarrow

$f(x_0, y_0)$ is a solution for “Minimize $f(x, y)$ subject to $g(x, y) = 0$ ”

Consider the problem “Minimize $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ subject to $g(x, y) = 0$ ”,

$\nabla f(x, y) = (2x, 2y)$, $\nabla g(x, y) = (y, x)$

Put $\nabla f(x, y) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y)$, we have $(2x, 2y) = \lambda(y, x)$

$$\begin{cases} 2x = \lambda y \\ 2y = \lambda x \end{cases}$$

So, $4y = \lambda(2x) = \lambda(\lambda y) = \lambda^2 y \Rightarrow (\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 2)y = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 2$ or -2 or $y = 0$

$y = 0$ must be rejected as $xy = 1$

For $\lambda = 2$, $x = y$, so $x^2 = 1$ (as $xy = 1$), $x = 1$ or -1 . The two points are $(1,1)$ and $(-1, -1)$.

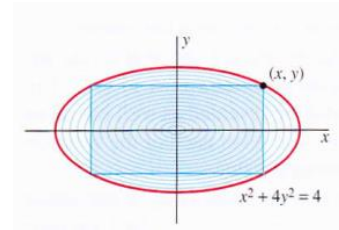
For $\lambda = -2$, $x = -y$, so $-y^2 = 1$ (as $xy = 1$), $y^2 = -1$. No real solutions.

Thus, the two points are $(1,1)$ and $(-1, -1)$.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 2:

What is the maximal cross-sectional area of a rectangular beam cut as indicated from an elliptical log with semi-axes of lengths $a = 2 \text{ ft.}$ and $b = 1 \text{ ft.}$?



Solutions

An equation of the given ellipse is $\frac{x^2}{2^2} + y^2 = 1$.

Let $A(x, y) = 4xy$ for any $(x, y) \in R^2$.

Let $g(x, y) = \frac{1}{4}x^2 + y^2 - 1$ for any $(x, y) \in R^2$.

We consider "Maximize $A(x, y)$ subject to $g(x, y) = 0$ ".

$$\nabla A(x, y) = (4y, 4x), \nabla g(x, y) = \left(\frac{1}{2}x, 2y\right)$$

$$\text{Put } \nabla A(x, y) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y), \text{ we have } (4y, 4x) = \lambda \left(\frac{1}{2}x, 2y\right)$$

$$\begin{cases} 4y = \frac{1}{2}\lambda x \\ 4x = 2\lambda y \end{cases}$$

$$8x = \lambda(4y) = \lambda\left(\frac{1}{2}\lambda x\right) = \frac{1}{2}\lambda^2 x \Rightarrow 16x = \lambda^2 x \Rightarrow (\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 4)x = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 4 \text{ or } -4 \text{ or } x = 0$$

But $x = 0$ must be rejected, otherwise $x = 0 = y$ (But it doesn't satisfy $\frac{1}{4}x^2 + y^2 = 1$)

$$\text{For } \lambda = 4, 4y = 2x, x = 2y. \text{ Also, we have } \frac{1}{4}x^2 + y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y^2 + y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow 2y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y = \frac{\pm 1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

The four points on the ellipse for this case are $\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right), \left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}\right), \left(\frac{-2}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$ and $\left(\frac{-2}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$.

For $\lambda = -4, 4y = -2x, x = -2y$.

$$\text{Also, we have } \frac{1}{4}x^2 + y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y^2 + y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow 2y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y = \frac{\pm 1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

The four points on the ellipse for this case are $\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right), \left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}\right), \left(\frac{-2}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$ and $\left(\frac{-2}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$.

The maximal cross-sectional area is $4 \times \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 4$ (in ft^2 .)

Remark:

Area of the ellipse is $\pi ab = 2\pi$.

$$\frac{4}{2\pi} \times 100\% \approx 63.66\%$$

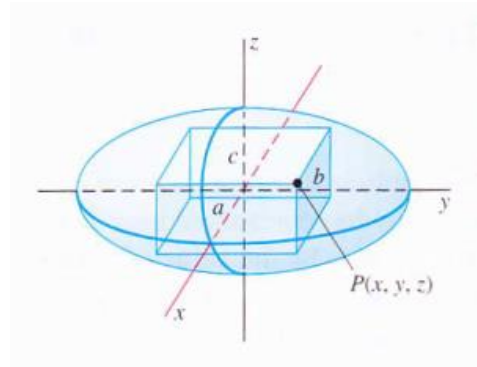
Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 3:

Find the maximum volume of a rectangular box inscribed in the ellipsoid

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1 \text{ with its faces parallel to the coordinate planes.}$$

(Assumed $a > 0, b > 0$ and $c > 0$.)



Solutions

Let $V(x, y, z) = 8xyz$ for any $(x, y, z) \in R^3$.

Let $g(x, y, z) = \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} - 1$ for any $(x, y, z) \in R^3$.

We consider “Maximize $V(x, y, z)$ subject to $g(x, y, z) = 0$ ”.

$$\nabla V(x, y, z) = (8yz, 8xz, 8xy), \nabla g(x, y, z) = \left(\frac{2x}{a^2}, \frac{2y}{b^2}, \frac{2z}{c^2}\right)$$

Put $\nabla V(x, y, z) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y, z)$, we have $(8yz, 8xz, 8xy) = \lambda \left(\frac{2x}{a^2}, \frac{2y}{b^2}, \frac{2z}{c^2}\right)$

$$\begin{cases} 8yz = \frac{2\lambda x}{a^2} \\ 8xz = \frac{2\lambda y}{b^2} \\ 8xy = \frac{2\lambda z}{c^2} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{2\lambda x^2}{a^2} = \frac{2\lambda y^2}{b^2} = \frac{2\lambda z^2}{c^2} = 8xyz \Rightarrow \frac{x^2}{a^2} = \frac{y^2}{b^2} = \frac{z^2}{c^2}$$

Also, $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$. Thus, $\frac{x^2}{a^2} = \frac{y^2}{b^2} = \frac{z^2}{c^2} = \frac{1}{3}$.

Assume $x > 0, y > 0$ and $z > 0$, we have $x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}a, y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}b$ and $z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}c$.

The maximum volume is $8 \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}a \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}b \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}c = \frac{8\sqrt{3}}{9}abc$.

Remark:

The volume of the ellipsoid is $\frac{4}{3}\pi abc$.

$$\frac{\frac{8\sqrt{3}}{9}abc}{\frac{4}{3}\pi abc} \times 100\% = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3\pi} \times 100\% \approx 36.76\%$$

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With 2 Constraints

Theorem (Three Dimensional Case)

Let $f(x, y, z)$, $g(x, y, z)$ and $h(x, y, z)$ be continuously differentiable functions.

If the maximum value (or minimum value) of $f(x, y, z)$ subject to the constraints $g(x, y, z) = 0$ and $h(x, y, z) = 0$ occur at a point $P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ where $\nabla g(P) \neq (0,0,0)$ and $\nabla h(P) \neq (0,0,0)$, then

$\nabla f(P) = \lambda_1 \nabla g(P) + \lambda_2 \nabla h(P)$ for some constants λ_1 and λ_2 .

Proof for the case (maximum value at $P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$)

Suppose the maximum value of $f(x, y, z)$ subject to the constraints $g(x, y, z) = 0$ and $h(x, y, z) = 0$ occurs at a point $P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ where $\nabla g(P) \neq (0,0,0)$ and $\nabla h(P) \neq (0,0,0)$.

We consider a curve that is on the intersection of $g(x, y, z) = 0$ and $h(x, y, z) = 0$ and is passing through P , say $r: (-1,1) \rightarrow R^3$, $r(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$ and $r(0) = P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$.

Similar to the proof for one constraint case, we have

$$\nabla f(P) \cdot r'(0) = 0$$

$$\nabla g(P) \cdot r'(0) = 0$$

$$\nabla h(P) \cdot r'(0) = 0$$

As $\nabla g(P) \neq (0,0,0)$ and $\nabla h(P) \neq (0,0,0)$, they are also non-parallel, $r'(0)$ must lie on the plane spanned by $\nabla g(P)$ and $\nabla h(P)$.

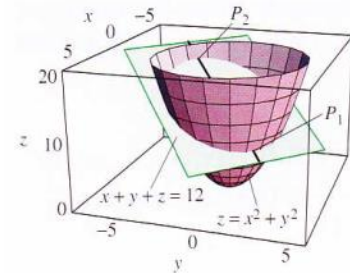
So, $\nabla f(P) = \lambda_1 \nabla g(P) + \lambda_2 \nabla h(P)$ for some constants λ_1 and λ_2 .

Remark: We may generalize to case with more constraints.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 4:

The plane $x + y + z = 12$ intersects the paraboloid $z = x^2 + y^2$ in an ellipse. Find the highest and lowest points on this ellipse.



Solutions

Let $f(x, y, z) = z$ for any $(x, y, z) \in R^3$.

Let $g(x, y, z) = x + y + z - 12$ for any $(x, y, z) \in R^3$.

Let $h(x, y, z) = z - x^2 - y^2$ for any $(x, y, z) \in R^3$.

We consider “Maximize $f(x, y, z)$ subject to $g(x, y, z) = 0$ and $h(x, y, z) = 0$ ” AND “Minimize $f(x, y, z)$ subject to $g(x, y, z) = 0$ and $h(x, y, z) = 0$ ”.

$$\nabla f(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 1); \nabla g(x, y, z) = (1, 1, 1); \nabla h(x, y, z) = (-2x, -2y, 1)$$

$$\nabla f(x, y, z) = \lambda_1 \nabla g(x, y, z) + \lambda_2 \nabla h(x, y, z)$$

$$(0, 0, 1) = \lambda_1 (1, 1, 1) + \lambda_2 (-2x, -2y, 1)$$

$$\text{So, } \begin{cases} \lambda_1 - 2\lambda_2 x = 0 \\ \lambda_1 - 2\lambda_2 y = 0 \\ \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 1 \end{cases}$$

From the first two equations, we have $x = \frac{\lambda_1}{2\lambda_2} = y$.

$$g(x, y, z) = 0 \Rightarrow x + y + z - 12 = 0 \Rightarrow z = 12 - 2x$$

$$h(x, y, z) = 0 \Rightarrow z - x^2 - y^2 = 0 \Rightarrow z = 2x^2$$

$$\text{Put } 2x^2 = 12 - 2x \Rightarrow x^2 + x - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow (x + 3)(x - 2) = 0 \Rightarrow x = -3 \text{ or } 2.$$

The points are $(-3, -3, 18)$ and $(2, 2, 8)$.

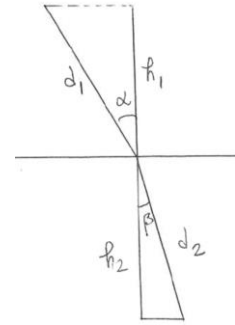
The highest point is $(-3, -3, 18)$ and the lowest point is $(2, 2, 8)$.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Applications

Example 1 (Shell's Law):

A traveller (initially started at a fixed point h_1 units above a line L) has to go through the line to get to another fixed point h_2 units below the line L in minimum time. Suppose his speed is constantly v_1 above the line and constantly v_2 below the line. Show that the condition for the minimum time path is $\frac{v_1}{v_2} = \frac{\sin\alpha}{\sin\beta}$, where α is the angle of incidence and β is the angle of reflection.



Proof

$$\cos\alpha = \frac{h_1}{d_1}; d_1 = h_1 \sec\alpha; \cos\beta = \frac{h_2}{d_2}; d_2 = h_2 \sec\beta$$

$$\text{Let } T(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{d_1}{v_1} + \frac{d_2}{v_2} = \frac{h_1}{v_1} \sec\alpha + \frac{h_2}{v_2} \sec\beta.$$

Note that: $h_1 \tan\alpha + h_2 \tan\beta$ must be a constant (From a fixed point to another fixed point), say C .

$$\text{Let } g(\alpha, \beta) = h_1 \tan\alpha + h_2 \tan\beta - C.$$

We consider "Minimize $T(\alpha, \beta)$ subject to $g(\alpha, \beta) = 0$ ".

$$\nabla T(\alpha, \beta) = \left(\frac{h_1}{v_1} \tan\alpha \cdot \sec\alpha, \frac{h_2}{v_2} \tan\beta \cdot \sec\beta \right); \nabla g(\alpha, \beta) = (h_1 \sec^2\alpha, h_2 \sec^2\beta)$$

$$\nabla T(\alpha, \beta) = \lambda \nabla g(\alpha, \beta) \Rightarrow \left(\frac{h_1}{v_1} \tan\alpha \cdot \sec\alpha, \frac{h_2}{v_2} \tan\beta \cdot \sec\beta \right) = \lambda (h_1 \sec^2\alpha, h_2 \sec^2\beta)$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{h_1}{v_1} \tan\alpha \cdot \sec\alpha = \lambda h_1 \sec^2\alpha \\ \frac{h_2}{v_2} \tan\beta \cdot \sec\beta = \lambda h_2 \sec^2\beta \end{cases}$$

$$\text{So, } \lambda = \frac{\sin\alpha}{v_1} = \frac{\sin\beta}{v_2}.$$

$$\text{Thus, } \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \frac{\sin\alpha}{\sin\beta}$$

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 2 (Arithmetic-Geometric Mean Inequality):

- (i) Suppose that x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are positive. Show that the minimum value of $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n$ subject to the constraint $x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n = 1$ is n .
- (ii) Given n positive numbers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n , let $x_i = \frac{a_i}{(a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n)^{1/n}}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and apply the result in part (i) to deduce the arithmetic-geometric mean inequality:

$$\sqrt[n]{a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n} \leq \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n}$$

Proof of (ii)

As $x_i = \frac{a_i}{(a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n)^{1/n}}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i}{(a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n)^{1/n}} = \frac{a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n}{a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n} = 1$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i}{(a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n)^{1/n}} = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{(a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n)^{1/n}}$$

By part(i), $\frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{(a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n)^{1/n}} \geq n$

$$\text{Thus, } \sqrt[n]{a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n} \leq \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n}$$

Proof of (i)

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ be defined by $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n$ and let $g: R^n \rightarrow R$ be defined by

$$g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n - 1. \text{ Let } q_i = \frac{x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n}{x_i} \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

We consider "Minimize $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ subject to $g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ ".

$$\nabla f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (1, 1, \dots, 1), \nabla g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n)$$

$$\nabla f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \lambda \nabla g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\Rightarrow (1, 1, \dots, 1) = \lambda(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n) \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = \lambda \cdot x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n$$

Also $x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n - 1 = 0$, we have $x_1^n = 1$. Hence, $x_1 = 1$ (as $x_1 > 0$)

Thus, $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = 1$ and $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = n$.

The minimum value is n .

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Critical Points of Functions of One Variable

Second Derivative Test

Let f be a real-valued function on x and let $c, \delta \in R$ with $\delta > 0$.

Suppose f'' is continuous on $(c - \delta, c + \delta)$ AND $f'(c) = 0$.

We have:

- (i) If $f''(c) > 0$, then $(c, f(c))$ is a local minima.
- (ii) If $f''(c) < 0$, then $(c, f(c))$ is a local maxima.
- (iii) If $f''(c) = 0$, then we have NO conclusions on the nature of $(c, f(c))$.

Critical Points of Functions of Two Variables

Definition

Let $r \in R$ with $r > 0$ and $P(a, b) \in R^2$.

Suppose $f(x, y)$ is a continuously differentiable function defined on an open ball $B(P, r)$.

Note: $f_{xy}(P) = f_{yx}(P)$.

We say P is a **critical point** of f if $\nabla f(P) = (0, 0)$.

Let $A = f_{xx}(P)$, $B = f_{xy}(P) = f_{yx}(P)$, $C = f_{yy}(P)$.

Let $\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} A & B \\ B & C \end{vmatrix} = AC - B^2$.

Theorem (Two Variables Second Derivative Tests)

- (i) If $A > 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, then $(a, b, f(a, b))$ is a local minima
- (ii) If $A < 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, then $(a, b, f(a, b))$ is a local maxima
- (iii) If $\Delta < 0$, then $(a, b, f(a, b))$ is neither a local minima nor a local maxima.
It is called a saddle point.

Proof: Will be discussed later

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 1:

Locate and classify the critical points of $f(x, y) = 3x - x^3 - 3xy^2$.

Solution

As f is a polynomial in x and y , f is continuously differentiable on R^2 .

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (3 - 3x^2 - 3y^2, -6xy)$$

$$f_x(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 3 - 3x^2 - 3y^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 1$$

$$f_y(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow -6xy = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } y = 0$$

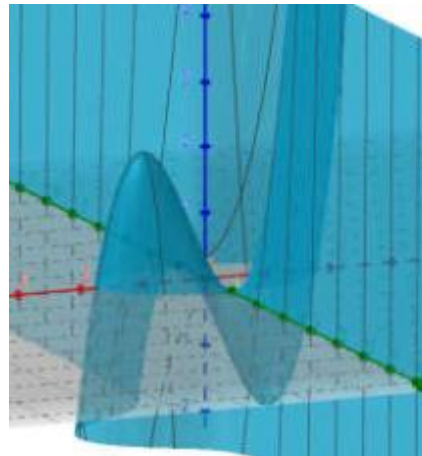
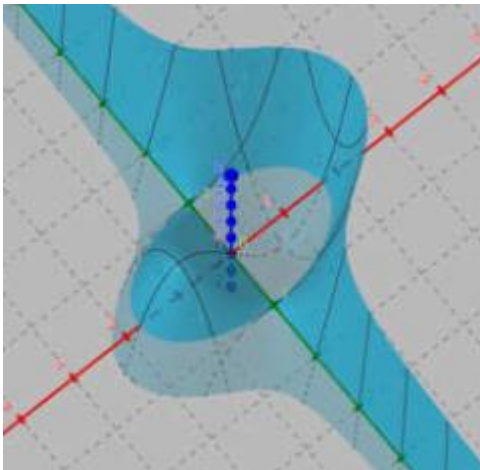
$$\nabla f(x, y) = (0, 0) \Leftrightarrow (x, y) = (0, 1) \text{ or } (0, -1) \text{ or } (1, 0) \text{ or } (-1, 0)$$

The critical points of f on R^2 are $(0, 1)$, $(0, -1)$, $(1, 0)$ and $(-1, 0)$.

$$f_{xx}(x, y) = -6x; f_{xy}(x, y) = f_{yx}(x, y) = -6y; f_{yy}(x, y) = -6x$$

$$\Delta(x, y) = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx}(x, y) & f_{xy}(x, y) \\ f_{yx}(x, y) & f_{yy}(x, y) \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -6x & -6y \\ -6y & -6x \end{vmatrix} = 36x^2 - 36y^2$$

- (i) Consider the critical point $(1, 0)$
 $f_{xx}(1, 0) = -6 < 0$, $\Delta(1, 0) = 36 > 0$, $(1, 0, 2)$ is a local maxima
- (ii) Consider the critical point $(-1, 0)$
 $f_{xx}(-1, 0) = 6 > 0$, $\Delta(-1, 0) = 36 > 0$, $(-1, 0, -2)$ is a local minima
- (iii) Consider the critical point $(0, 1)$
 $f_{xx}(0, 1) = 0$, $\Delta(0, 1) = -36 < 0$, $(0, 1, 0)$ is a saddle point
- (iv) Consider the critical point $(0, -1)$
 $f_{xx}(0, -1) = 0$, $\Delta(0, -1) = -36 < 0$, $(0, -1, 0)$ is a saddle point



Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 2:

Locate and classify the critical points of $f(x, y) = 6xy^2 - 2x^3 - 3y^4$.

Solution

As f is a polynomial in x and y , f is continuously differentiable on R^2 .

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (6y^2 - 6x^2, 12xy - 12y^3)$$

$$f_x(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 6y^2 - 6x^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 = y^2 \Leftrightarrow x = y \text{ or } x = -y$$

$$f_y(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 12xy - 12y^3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 12y(x - y^2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = 0 \text{ or } x = y^2$$

For $x = y^2$ and $x = y$, we have $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ or $(x, y) = (1, 1)$

For $x = y^2$ and $x = -y$, we have $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ or $(x, y) = (1, -1)$

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (0, 0) \Leftrightarrow (x, y) = (0, 0) \text{ or } (1, 1) \text{ or } (1, -1)$$

The critical points of f on R^2 are $(0, 0)$, $(1, 1)$ and $(1, -1)$.

$$f_{xx}(x, y) = -12x; f_{xy}(x, y) = f_{yx}(x, y) = 12y; f_{yy}(x, y) = 12x - 36y^2$$

$$\Delta(x, y) = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx}(x, y) & f_{xy}(x, y) \\ f_{yx}(x, y) & f_{yy}(x, y) \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -12x & 12y \\ 12y & 12x - 36y^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

(i) Consider the critical point $(0, 0, 0)$

$$f_{xx}(0, 0) = 0, \Delta(0, 0) = 0$$

The test fails.

$$f(0, 0) = 0$$

$$f(0, y) = -3y^4 < 0 \text{ when } y \neq 0 \text{ and } y \approx 0$$

$$f(x, 0) = -2x^3 > 0 \text{ when } x < 0 \text{ and } x \approx 0$$

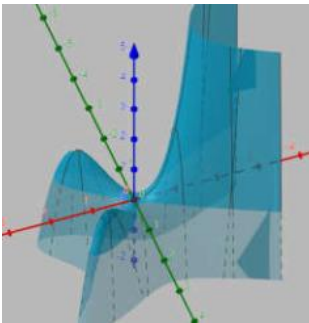
$(0, 0, 0)$ is neither a local maxima nor a local minima. It is a saddle point.

(ii) Consider the critical point $(1, 1)$

$$f_{xx}(1, 1) = -12 < 0, \Delta(1, 1) = \begin{vmatrix} -12 & 12 \\ 12 & -24 \end{vmatrix} = 144 > 0, (1, 1, 1) \text{ is a local maxima}$$

(iii) Consider the critical point $(1, -1)$

$$f_{xx}(1, -1) = -12 < 0, \Delta(1, -1) = \begin{vmatrix} -12 & -12 \\ -12 & -24 \end{vmatrix} = 144 > 0, (1, -1, 1) \text{ is a local maxima}$$



Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 3:

Locate and classify the critical points of $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^4$.

Solution

As f is a polynomial in x and y , f is continuously differentiable on R^2 .

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (2x, -4y^3)$$

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (0, 0) \Leftrightarrow (2x, -4y^3) = (0, 0) \Leftrightarrow (x, y) = (0, 0)$$

The critical point of f on R^2 is $(0, 0)$

$$f_{xx}(x, y) = 2; f_{xy}(x, y) = f_{yx}(x, y) = 0; f_{yy}(x, y) = -12y^2$$

$$\Delta(x, y) = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx}(x, y) & f_{xy}(x, y) \\ f_{yx}(x, y) & f_{yy}(x, y) \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -12y^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$f_{xx}(0, 0) = 2, \Delta(0, 0) = 0$$

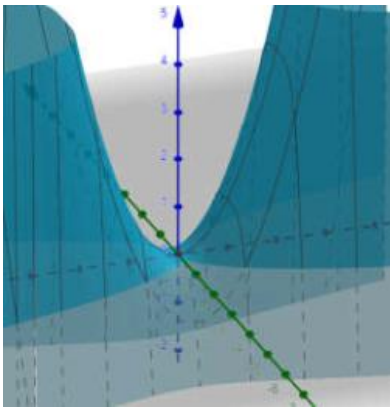
The test fails.

$$f(0, 0) = 0$$

$$f(0, y) = -y^4 < 0 \text{ when } y \neq 0 \text{ and } y \approx 0$$

$$f(x, 0) = x^2 > 0 \text{ when } x \neq 0 \text{ and } x \approx 0$$

$(0, 0, 0)$ is neither a local maxima nor a local minima. It is a saddle point.



Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Example 4:

Locate and classify the critical points of $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^4$.

Solution

As f is a polynomial in x and y , f is continuously differentiable on R^2 .

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (2x, 4y^3)$$

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (0, 0) \Leftrightarrow (2x, 4y^3) = (0, 0) \Leftrightarrow (x, y) = (0, 0)$$

The critical point of f on R^2 is $(0, 0)$

$$f_{xx}(x, y) = 2; f_{xy}(x, y) = f_{yx}(x, y) = 0; f_{yy}(x, y) = 12y^2$$

$$\Delta(x, y) = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx}(x, y) & f_{xy}(x, y) \\ f_{yx}(x, y) & f_{yy}(x, y) \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 12y^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

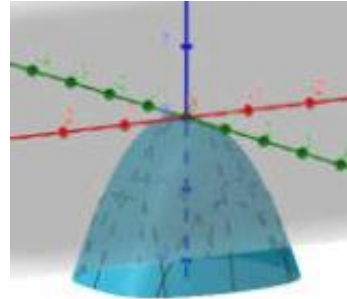
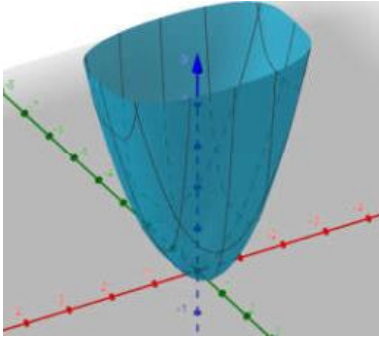
$$f_{xx}(0, 0) = 2, \Delta(0, 0) = 0$$

The test fails.

$$f(0, 0) = 0$$

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^4 \geq 0 \text{ for any } (x, y) \in R^2$$

$(0, 0, 0)$ is a local minima.



Exercise 5:

Locate and classify the critical points of $f(x, y) = -x^2 - y^4$.

Answer

The critical point of f on R^2 is $(0, 0)$.

$(0, 0, 0)$ is a local maxima.

Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Behaviour of Quadratic Form

Let $Q(h, k) = Ah^2 + 2Bhk + Ck^2$.

Suppose $A \neq 0$. Let $\Delta = AC - B^2$.

Then, $Q(h, k) = \frac{1}{A} [(Ah + Bk)^2 + \Delta k^2]$.

Theorems:

(i) If $A > 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, then $(0,0,0)$ is a local minima.

Proof:

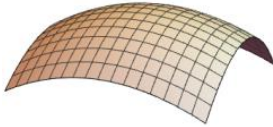
$$Q(h, k) \geq 0 = Q(0,0)$$



(ii) If $A < 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, then $(0,0,0)$ is a local maxima.

Proof:

$$Q(h, k) \leq 0 = Q(0,0)$$



(iii) If $\Delta < 0$, then $(0,0,0)$ is neither a local minima nor a local maxima.

Proof:

Case 1: $A > 0$

We can choose $k > 0$ and $k \approx 0$ so that $(Ah + Bk)^2 + \Delta k^2 > 0$ and $\|(h, k)\|$ is small.

We can choose $h > 0$ and $h \approx 0$ so that $(Ah + Bk)^2 + \Delta k^2 < 0$ and $\|(h, k)\|$ is small.

Case 2: $A < 0$

Omitted (As Exercise)



Lecture Notes for Chapter 12: Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables

Taylor's Formula for One Variable

Let $\phi \neq I \subset \mathbb{R}$ and I is an open interval. Let $a, x \in I$.

Suppose f is a function defined on I .

Suppose f, f', f'', f''', \dots are continuous on I .

$$\text{Then, } f(x) = f(a) + \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{f^{(i)}(a)}{i!} (x-a)^i \right] + R_{n+1}$$

where $R_{n+1} = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(c)}{(n+1)!} (x-a)^{n+1}$ for some c between a and x .

Roughly Speaking, $f(x) \approx f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) + \frac{1}{2!} f''(a)(x-a)^2$ when $x-a \approx 0$

Taylor's Formula for Two Variables

Let $f(t) = F(a+th, b+tk)$.

$$\text{Then, } F(a+h, b+k) = f(1) = f(0) + \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{f^{(i)}(0)}{i!} \right] + R_{n+1}$$

$$f(0) = F(a, b)$$

$$f'(t) = F_x(a+th, b+tk) \cdot h + F_y(a+th, b+tk) \cdot k$$

$$f'(0) = F_x(a, b) \cdot h + F_y(a, b) \cdot k$$

$$f''(t) = \frac{d}{dt} [F_x(a+th, b+tk) \cdot h + F_y(a+th, b+tk) \cdot k]$$

$$= F_{xx}(a+th, b+tk) \cdot h^2 + 2F_{xy}(a+th, b+tk) \cdot hk + F_{yy}(a+th, b+tk) \cdot k^2$$

$$f''(0) = F_{xx}(a, b) \cdot h^2 + 2F_{xy}(a, b) \cdot hk + F_{yy}(a, b) \cdot k^2$$

We can show that

$$F(a+h, b+k) = F(a, b) + \left[\sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{n!}{j!(n-j)!} \cdot \frac{\partial^n F}{\partial x^{n-j} \partial y^j} \Big|_{(x,y)=(a,b)} \cdot h^{n-j} k^j \right] + R_{N+1}$$

Roughly Speaking,

$$F(a+h, b+k)$$

$$\approx F(a, b) + F_x(a, b) \cdot h + F_y(a, b) \cdot k + \frac{1}{2} [F_{xx}(a, b) \cdot h^2 + 2F_{xy}(a, b) \cdot hk + F_{yy}(a, b) \cdot k^2] \text{ when } \|(h, k)\| \approx 0$$

Suppose $\nabla F(a, b) = (0, 0)$.

$$\text{Then, } F(a+h, b+k) \approx F(a, b) + \frac{1}{2} [F_{xx}(a, b) \cdot h^2 + 2F_{xy}(a, b) \cdot hk + F_{yy}(a, b) \cdot k^2] \text{ when } \|(h, k)\| \approx 0$$

Let $A = F_{xx}(a, b)$, $B = F_{xy}(a, b) = F_{yx}(a, b)$ and $C = F_{yy}(a, b)$.

$$F(a+h, b+k) - F(a, b) \approx \frac{1}{2} [Ah^2 + 2Bhk + Ck^2] \text{ when } \|(h, k)\| \approx 0$$

It behaves like a quadratic form. Thus,

- (i) If $A > 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, then $(a, b, F(a, b))$ is a local minima.
- (ii) If $A < 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, then $(a, b, F(a, b))$ is a local maxima.
- (iii) If $\Delta < 0$, then $(a, b, F(a, b))$ is neither a local minima nor a local maxima. It is called a saddle point.