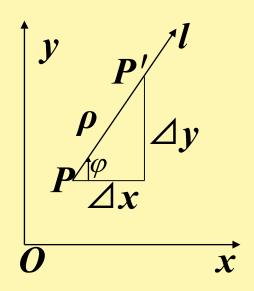
# 第六节 方向导数与梯度

- 一、方向导数
- 1 方向导数的定义

设函数z=f(x, y)在点P(x, y)的某一邻域U(P)内有定义,射线l与x轴正向的转角为 $\varphi$   $P'(x+\Delta x, y+\Delta y)$ 为l上的另一点  $P' \in U(P)$ 

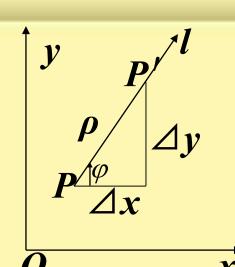


函数的增量 $f(x+\Delta x, y+\Delta y)-f(x, y)$ 

与P、P' 两点间的距离即

$$\rho = \sqrt{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2}$$
的比值,

当P' 沿着l 趋于P时,比的极限存在,



则称这极限为函数f(x, y)在点P沿方向l的方向导数

记作 
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l}$$
,即  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y) - f(x, y)}{\rho}$ 

$$= \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(x + \rho \cos \varphi, y + \rho \sin \varphi) - f(x, y)}{\rho}$$

$$= \lim_{P' \to P} \frac{f(P') - f(P)}{|PP'|}$$

- 2 方向导数与偏导数之间的关系
- (1) 当函数f(x, y)在点P(x, y)的偏导数  $f_x \setminus f_y$ 存在时,

函数f(x, y)在点P沿着x轴正向 $e_1$ ={1, 0}

的方向导数:  $\cos \varphi = 1, \sin \varphi = 0$ ,

因为
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial e_1} = \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(x + \rho \cos \varphi, y + \rho \sin \varphi) - f(x, y)}{\rho}$$

$$= \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(x+\rho, y) - f(x, y)}{\rho} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$$

f(x, y) 在点P沿x轴负向 $e_1' = \{-1, 0\}$ 的方向导数:

$$\cos\varphi=-1,\sin\varphi=0,$$

因为 
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial e'_1} = \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(x + \rho \cos \varphi, y + \rho \sin \varphi) - f(x, y)}{\rho}$$

$$= \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(x - \rho, y) - f(x, y)}{\rho} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$$

$$y$$
轴负向 $e_2' = \{0, -1\}$  的方向导数:  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial e_2'} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ 

(2) 即使沿任何方向的方向导数都存在,也不能保证  $f_x$ 、 $f_v$ 存在

$$z = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$
 在点(0,0)处

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(0 + \rho \cos \varphi, 0 + \rho \sin \varphi) - f(0,0)}{\rho}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{\( \frac{\frac{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma}}{\gamma}}{\gamma} = \sqrt{\left(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2}}}{\rho}$$

$$=\lim_{\rho\to 0}\frac{\rho}{\rho}=1$$

但  $f_x(0, 0)$  、 $f_v(0, 0)$  不存在

### 3 方向导数的计算方法

定理 如果函数z = f(x,y)在点P(x,y)是可微分的,那末函数在该点沿任意方向L的方向导数

都存在,且有 
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\cos\varphi + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\sin\varphi$$
,

其中  $\varphi$  为x轴正向到方向 L 的转角. y

设方向L的方向角为 $\alpha$ , $\beta$ 

若
$$\varphi$$
为锐角:  $\alpha = \varphi$   $\beta = \frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi$ 

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cos \alpha + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cos \beta$$

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$$= \{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\} \cdot \{\cos \alpha, \cos \beta\} \quad \phi$$
为其他情形也成立

证明 由于函数可微,则增量可表示为

$$f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y) - f(x, y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \Delta y + o(\rho)$$
  
两边同除以 $\rho$  得到

$$\frac{f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y) - f(x, y)}{\rho} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\Delta x}{\rho} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\Delta y}{\rho} + \frac{o(\rho)}{\rho}$$

方向导数

$$\cos \alpha$$

$$\cos \beta$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y) - f(x, y)}{\rho}$$
$$= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cos \alpha + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cos \beta.$$

例 1 求函数 $z = xe^{2y}$ 在点P(1,0)处沿从点P(1,0) 到点Q(2,-1)的方向的方向导数.

解 这里方向  $\vec{l}$  即为 $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \{1,-1\}$ ,

所以 
$$\cos \alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \cos \beta = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

所求方向导数 
$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial l} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\Big|_{(1,0)} \cdot \cos \alpha + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\Big|_{(1,0)} \cdot \cos \beta$$

$$= -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}.$$

#### 推广可得三元函数方向导数的定义

对于三元函数u = f(x, y, z),它在空间一点 P(x, y, z)沿着方向 L 的方向导数 ,可定义为

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \lim_{P' \to P} \frac{f(P') - f(P)}{|PP'|}$$

$$= \lim_{\rho \to 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y, z + \Delta z) - f(x, y, z)}{\rho},$$

( 其中
$$\rho = \sqrt{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2 + (\Delta z)^2}$$
)

设方向 L 的方向角为 $\alpha$ , $\beta$ , $\gamma$ 

$$\Delta x = \rho \cos \alpha$$
,  $\Delta y = \rho \cos \beta$ ,  $\Delta z = \rho \cos \gamma$ 

### 推广可得三元函数方向导数的定义

对于三元函数u = f(x, y, z),

当函数在空间一点P(x,y,z)可微时,那末函数在该点沿任意方向 L 的方向导数都存在

设方向 L 的方向角为 $\alpha$ , $\beta$ , $\gamma$ 

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cos \alpha + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cos \beta + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \cos \gamma.$$



例 2 设  $\vec{n}$  是 曲 面  $2x^2 + 3y^2 + z^2 = 6$  在 点 P(1,1,1) 处 的 指 向 外 侧 的 法 向 量 , 求 函 数

$$u = \frac{1}{z} (6x^2 + 8y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
 在此处沿方向 $\vec{n}$ 的方向导数.

分析: 
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \vec{n}}\Big|_{P} = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\cos\alpha + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\cos\beta + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}\cos\gamma\right)\Big|_{P}$$

$$|F_x'|_P = 4x|_P = 4, \quad |F_y'|_P = 6y|_P = 6, \quad |F_z'|_P = 2z|_P = 2,$$

故 
$$\vec{n} = \pm \{F'_x, F'_y, F'_z\} = \pm \{4, 6, 2\}$$

指向外侧: 
$$\vec{n} = \{4, 6, 2\}$$
  $|\vec{n}| = \sqrt{4^2 + 6^2 + 2^2} = 2\sqrt{14}$ ,

方向余弦为 
$$\cos \alpha = \frac{2}{\sqrt{14}}$$
,  $\cos \beta = \frac{3}{\sqrt{14}}$ ,  $\cos \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}}$ .

$$\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_{P} = \frac{6x}{z\sqrt{6x^2 + 8y^2}} \bigg|_{P} = \frac{6}{\sqrt{14}};$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{P} = \frac{8y}{z\sqrt{6x^2 + 8y^2}} \bigg|_{P} = \frac{8}{\sqrt{14}};$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right|_{P} = -\frac{\sqrt{6x^2 + 8y^2}}{z^2} \bigg|_{P} = -\sqrt{14}.$$

| 故 
$$\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial \vec{n}} \right|_{P} = \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cos \alpha + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cos \beta + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cos \gamma \right) \Big|_{P} = \frac{11}{7}.$$

## 二、梯度(gradient)

1 梯度的定义

定义设函数z=f(x, y)在区域D内具有一阶连续偏导数,则对每点 $P(x, y) \in D$ ,都可定义一个向量

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$$
  $\overrightarrow{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$   $\overrightarrow{j}$  这个向量称为函数 $z = f(x, y)$ 在点 $P(x, y)$ 的梯度,记作:

grad 
$$f(x,y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\vec{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\vec{j} = \{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\}$$

说明: (i) 梯度是一向量.

(ii) 对于三元函数 f(x, y, z) 可类似地定义:

grad 
$$f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\vec{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\vec{j} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\vec{k} = \left\{ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right\}$$

## (iii)梯度也可记作

grad 
$$f(P) = \nabla f(P) = \{f_x(P), f_y(P), f_z(P)\}\$$

其中 
$$\nabla = \{\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\}$$

称为向量微分算子或 Nabla算子或Hamilton算子.

类似微分算子: 
$$D = \frac{d}{dt}$$
,  $Dy = \frac{dy}{dt}$ , 
$$D^n = \frac{d^n}{dt^n}$$
,  $D^n y = \frac{d^n y}{dt^n}$ 

2 梯度的性质 (与方向导数的关系)

设 $\vec{e} = \cos \alpha \vec{i} + \cos \beta \vec{j}$ 是方向 $\vec{i}$ 上的单位向量,由方向导数公式知

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cos \alpha + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cos \beta = \{ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \} \cdot \{ \cos \alpha, \cos \beta \}$$

$$= \operatorname{grad} f(x, y) \cdot \vec{e} = |\operatorname{grad} f(x, y)| \cos \theta,$$

$$\sharp \dot{\theta} = (\operatorname{grad} f(x, y), \vec{e})$$

当  $\cos(\operatorname{grad} f(x,y),\vec{e}) = 1$ 时,沿梯度方向的  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial l}$ 有最大值. 且最大值为梯度的模  $|\operatorname{grad} f(x,y)|$  当  $\cos(\operatorname{grad} f(x,y),\vec{e}) = -1$ 时,与梯度方向相反  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial l}$ 有最小值.  $-|\operatorname{grad} f(x,y)|$ 

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial l} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cos \alpha + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cos \beta = \left\{ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right\} \cdot \left\{ \cos \alpha, \cos \beta \right\}$$

结论: 函数z=f(x,y)在某点P(x,y)处沿梯度方向的方向导数最大(函数增长最快),而它的最大值为梯度的模.

即: 
$$\left| \operatorname{grad} f(x, y) \right| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2} = \max \frac{\partial f}{\partial l}$$

经过与二元函数的情形完全类似的讨论可知, 三元函数的梯度也是这样一个向量,它的方向与 取得最大方向导数的方向一致,而它的模为方向 导数的最大值。

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例3 求函数 $f(x, y, z)=x^2+y^2+z^2$ 在点 $M_0(1, -1, 2)$ 处方向导数的最大值,及 $M_0$ 在取得方向导数最大值的方向与坐标轴夹角的余弦.

解:

grad 
$$f = \{2x, 2y, 2z\}$$
,

$$\operatorname{grad} f(1, -1, 2) = \{2, -2, 4\}$$

$$\max \frac{\partial f}{\partial l}\Big|_{(1,-1,2)} = |\operatorname{grad} f(1,-1,2)| = 2\sqrt{6},$$

$$l^{\circ} = \{\cos\alpha, \cos\beta, \cos\gamma\} = \left\{\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}\right\}.$$

复习: 曲面方程 F(x,y,z)=0

在点 $(x_0, y_0, z_0,)$ 处的法向量:

$$\vec{n} = \pm \{F_x(x_0, y_0, z_0), F_y(x_0, y_0, z_0), F_z(x_0, y_0, z_0)\}$$

比较: 平面上的曲线方程 F(x,y)=0

在点 $(x_0, y_0)$ 处的法向量:

在点
$$(x_0, y_0)$$
处切线的斜率:  $\frac{dy}{dx}\Big|_{x=x_0} = -\frac{F_x(x_0, y_0)}{F_y(x_0, y_0)}$ 

法线斜率: 
$$\frac{F_y(x_0, y_0)}{F_x(x_0, y_0)}$$
 法向量为  $\pm \{1, \frac{F_y(x_0, y_0)}{F_x(x_0, y_0)}\}$ 

即: 
$$\pm \{F_x(x_0, y_0), F_y(x_0, y_0)\}$$
, 切向量 $\vec{T} = \pm \{F_y, -F_x\}$ 

### 3. 梯度的几何意义

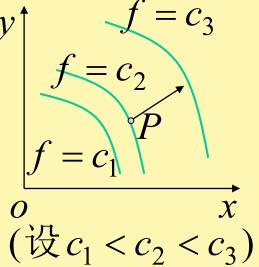
z = f(x, y) z = C在 xoy 面上的投 对函数 z = f(x, y),曲线 影  $L^*: f(x,y) = C$ 称为函数 f 的等值线.

设 $f_x$ , $f_v$ 不同时为零, 则 $L^*$ 上点P处的法向量为

$$\pm \{f_x, f_y\} = \pm \operatorname{grad}f|_{P}$$

同样,对应函数 u = f(x, y, z), 有等值面(等量面) f(x, y, z) = C, 当各偏导数不同时为零时,其上

点P处的法向量为  $\pm gradf$ <sub>p</sub> 函数在一点的梯度垂直于该点等值面(或等值线), 指向函数增大的方向.



# 内容小结

1、理解方向导数与梯度的概念,并掌握其计算方法.

习题 7-6