

# Math 2010 Week 7

Last time:

Differentiability is defined in terms of linear approximation and error

Ex Show that a linear polynomial

$$f(\vec{x}) = c + b_1x_1 + \dots + b_nx_n$$

is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  from definition.

Rmk ①  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{x}) = b_i; \forall \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

② The linearization of  $f(\vec{x})$  at any  $\vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is

$$L(\vec{x}) = f(\vec{a})$$

Thm If  $f, g: S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are differentiable at  $\vec{a} \in S$ . Then

- ①  $f(\vec{x}) \pm g(\vec{x}), cf(\vec{x}), f(\vec{x})g(\vec{x})$  are differentiable at  $\vec{a}$
- ②  $\frac{f(\vec{x})}{g(\vec{x})}$  is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$  if  $g(\vec{a}) \neq 0$ .

③ (Special case of Chain Rule)

Let  $h(x)$  be a one-variable function and is differentiable at  $f(\vec{a})$

Then  $h \circ f$  is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$

$$\vec{a} \xrightarrow{f} f(\vec{a}) \xrightarrow{h} h \circ f(\vec{a})$$

Rmk We will discuss general case of chain rule later.

Proof of ①, ②, ③ are similar to those for one variable. (MATH 2050)

The results above give many examples of differentiable functions:

- constant functions  $f(\vec{x}) = c$

- coordinate functions  $f(\vec{x}) = x_i$

- Polynomials (Sum of products of  $x_i$ )

$$\text{eg. } 4x^3y^2 + xy^2 - xyz + z^2 \quad (\deg 5)$$

- Rational functions (Quotient of polynomials)

$$\text{eg. } \frac{x^3y + z}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 1}$$

- If  $f(\vec{x})$  is differentiable, then the followings are differentiable:

$$e^{f(\vec{x})}, \sin(f(\vec{x})), \cos(f(\vec{x}))$$

$$\ln(f(\vec{x})) \text{ where } f(\vec{x}) > 0$$

$$|f(\vec{x})| \text{ where } f(\vec{x}) \neq 0$$

$$\sqrt{f(\vec{x})} \text{ where } f(\vec{x}) > 0$$

$$\ln|f(\vec{x})| \text{ where } f(\vec{x}) \neq 0$$

eg.

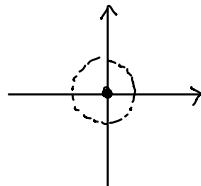
$$\frac{e^{\sqrt{4 + \sin(x^2 + xy)}}}{\ln(1 + \cos|x^2y|)}$$

Another way to check differentiability (Au 3.5.2)

Thm let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be open,  $f$  be  $C^1$  on  $S$   
then  $f$  is differentiable on  $S$

Rmk The assumption requires all  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$  exist  
on an open set, not just at a single point  $\vec{a}$

e.g.  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



$f_x, f_y$  exist and are continuous

on a small open ball  $B_\varepsilon(0,0)$

$\Rightarrow f$  is differentiable on  $B_\varepsilon(0,0)$

$\Rightarrow f$  is differentiable at  $(0,0)$

The theorem provides a simple way to verify differentiability if all  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$  can be easily shown to be continuous

e.g.  $f(x,y,z) = x e^{x+y} - \log(x+z)$

Domain of  $f = \{(x,y,z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x+z > 0\}$   
is open

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = e^{x+y} + x e^{x+y} - \frac{1}{x+z}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x e^{x+y}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = -\frac{1}{x+z}$$

All are continuous  
on domain of  $f$

$\therefore f$  is  $C^1$

$\Rightarrow f$  is differentiable

Pf of thm ( $C^1 \Rightarrow$  differentiability on  $S\mathcal{L}$ )

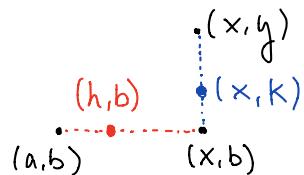
We prove it for 2-variable  $f(x,y)$ . Similar proof for more variables (Ex)

Suppose  $(a,b) \in S\mathcal{L}$  and  $B_\delta(a,b) \subseteq S\mathcal{L}$ . For  $(x,y) \in B_\delta(a,b)$ ,

$$f(x,y) - f(a,b) = f(x,y) - f(x,b) + f(x,b) - f(a,b) \quad (\text{MVT})$$

$$= f_y(x,k)(y-b) + f_x(h,b)(x-a) \text{ for some } k \text{ between } b, y \text{ and } h \text{ between } a, x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{\epsilon(x,y)}{\|(x,y)-(a,b)\|} \right| &= \left| \frac{f(x,y) - f(a,b) - f_x(a,b)(x-a) - f_y(a,b)(y-b)}{\sqrt{(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2}} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{[f_y(x,k) - f_y(a,b)](y-b) + [f_x(h,b) - f_x(a,b)](x-a)}{\sqrt{(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2}} \right| \\ &\leq \left| \frac{[f_y(x,k) - f_y(a,b)](y-b)}{\sqrt{(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2}} \right| + \left| \frac{[f_x(h,b) - f_x(a,b)](x-a)}{\sqrt{(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2}} \right| \quad \text{by triangle inequality} \\ &\leq |f_y(x,k) - f_y(a,b)| + |f_x(h,b) - f_x(a,b)| \end{aligned}$$



Take  $(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)$ , then  $(x,k), (h,b) \rightarrow (a,b) \Rightarrow \text{R.H.S} \rightarrow 0$  by continuity of  $f_x, f_y$

By sandwich theorem,  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} \left| \frac{\epsilon(x,y)}{\|(x,y)-(a,b)\|} \right| = 0 \Rightarrow f \text{ is differentiable at } (a,b)$

## Gradient and Directional derivative

Defn Let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be open,  $\vec{a} \in S$ ,  $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Define the gradient vector of  $f$  at  $\vec{a}$  to be

$$\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}(\vec{a}), \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n}(\vec{a}) \right)$$

e.g  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 2xy$

$$\vec{\nabla} f(x, y) = (f_x, f_y) = (2x+2y, 2x)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} f(1, 2) = (6, 2)$$

Rmk Using  $\vec{\nabla} f$ , linearization of  $f$  at  $\vec{a}$  can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} L(\vec{x}) &= f(\vec{a}) + \sum \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{a})(x_i - a_i) \\ &= f(\vec{a}) + \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{a}) \end{aligned}$$

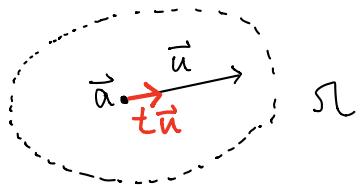
Defn Let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be open,  $\vec{a} \in S$ ,  $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

let  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be an unit vector (i.e.  $\|\vec{u}\| = 1$ )

Define the directional derivative of  $f$  in the direction of  $\vec{u}$  at  $\vec{a}$  to be

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{a}) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t\vec{u}) - f(\vec{a})}{t}$$

= the rate of change of  $f$  in the direction of  $\vec{u}$  at the point  $\vec{a}$



Rmk Let  $e_i = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
i-th term

Then  $D_{e_i} f(\vec{a}) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{a})$

e<sub>2</sub> e<sub>2</sub> = (0, 1) ∈ ℝ<sup>2</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} D_{e_2} f(a, b) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f((a, b) + t e_2) - f(a, b)}{t} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b+t) - f(a, b)}{t} \\ &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b) \end{aligned}$$

Thm Suppose f is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$   
let  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a unit vector. Then

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{a}) = \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u}$$

Recall that if  $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then

the direction of  $\vec{v}$  is defined to be

the unit vector  $\frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|}$

e.g. let  $f(x, y) = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$

Find the rate of change of f at  $(1, \sqrt{2})$   
in the direction of  $\vec{v} = (1, -1)$

Sol let  $\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|} = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$

$$\text{Recall: } (\sin^{-1} z)' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-z^2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{y} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^2}} \cdot \frac{-x}{y^2} \end{aligned}$$

Note f,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  are continuous near  $(1, \sqrt{2})$

⇒ f is C<sup>1</sup> near  $(1, \sqrt{2})$

⇒ f is differentiable at  $(1, \sqrt{2})$

$$\therefore \text{Answer} = D_{\vec{u}} f(1, \sqrt{2})$$

$$= \vec{\nabla} f(1, \sqrt{2}) \cdot \vec{u}$$

$$= \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(1, \sqrt{2}), \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(1, \sqrt{2}) \right) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$$

$$= (1, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) \cdot (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{2}$$

PF (differentiable  $\Rightarrow D_{\vec{u}}f(\vec{a}) = \vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u}$ )

Let  $L(\vec{x})$  be linearization of  $f(\vec{x})$  at  $\vec{a}$

$$f(\vec{x}) = L(\vec{x}) + \varepsilon(\vec{x})$$

$$= f(\vec{a}) + \vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{a}) + \varepsilon(\vec{x})$$

Put  $\vec{x} = \vec{a} + t\vec{u}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{a} + t\vec{u}) &= f(\vec{a}) + \vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot (t\vec{u}) \\ &\quad + \varepsilon(\vec{a} + t\vec{u}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\vec{u}}f(\vec{a}) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t\vec{u}) - f(\vec{a})}{t} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot (t\vec{u}) + \varepsilon(\vec{a} + t\vec{u})}{t} \\ &= \vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u} + \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\varepsilon(\vec{a} + t\vec{u})}{t} \end{aligned}$$

Differentiability of  $f$  at  $\vec{a}$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{|\varepsilon(\vec{a} + t\vec{u})|}{\|\vec{a} + t\vec{u} - \vec{a}\|} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left| \frac{\varepsilon(\vec{a} + t\vec{u})}{t} \right| = 0$$

By Sandwich theorem,

$$D_{\vec{u}}f(\vec{a}) = \vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u} + 0 = \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u}$$

## Geometric Meanings of $\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a})$

If  $f$  is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\|\vec{u}\| = 1$ ,

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{a}) = \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u}$$

By Cauchy-Schwarz

$$|\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u}| \leq \|\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a})\| \|\vec{u}\| = \|\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a})\|$$

Also, if  $\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) \neq \vec{0}$ , then

$$-\|\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a})\| \leq \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u} \leq \|\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a})\|$$

↑

↑

$$\stackrel{"="}{\Leftrightarrow} \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) = k \vec{u} \quad \stackrel{"="}{\Leftrightarrow} \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a}) = k \vec{u}$$

for some  $k < 0$

for some  $k > 0$

At  $\vec{a}$ ,  $f$  increases (decreases) most rapidly

in the direction of  $\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a})$  ( $-\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a})$ )

at a rate of  $\|\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{a})\|$

## Properties of Gradient

If  $f, g : \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are differentiable  
open

$c$  is a constant. Then

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \vec{\nabla}(f+g) = \vec{\nabla}f + \vec{\nabla}g$$

$$\vec{\nabla}(cf) = c \vec{\nabla}f$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \vec{\nabla}(fg) = g \vec{\nabla}f + f \vec{\nabla}g$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \vec{\nabla}\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = \frac{g \vec{\nabla}f - f \vec{\nabla}g}{g^2} \quad \text{if } g \neq 0$$

Pf Follow easily from partial differentiations.

Rmk In definition of  $D_{\vec{u}}f(\vec{a})$ ,

$\vec{u}$  is assumed to be a unit vector

It can also be generalized to  $D_{\vec{v}}f(\vec{a})$

for any  $\vec{v}$  (any length).

In that case

$$D_{\vec{v}}f(\vec{a}) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t\vec{v}) - f(\vec{a})}{t}$$

and  $D_{\vec{v}}f(\vec{a}) = \vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}$

Note

$$D_{\vec{v}}f = \begin{cases} \|\vec{v}\| D_{\vec{u}}f & \text{if } \vec{v} \neq \vec{0}, \vec{u} = \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|} \\ 0 & \text{if } \vec{v} = \vec{0} \end{cases}$$

## Total Differential (of a real-valued function)

Let  $f: S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be differentiable at  $\vec{a} \in S$

Consider linearization at  $\vec{a}$ :

$$f(\vec{x}) = f(\vec{a}) + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{a})(x_i - a_i) + \varepsilon(\vec{x})$$

Denote  $\Delta f = f(\vec{x}) - f(\vec{a})$ ,  $\Delta x_i = x_i - a_i$

Then  $\Delta f \approx \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{a}) \Delta x_i$

The approximation is good up to 1st order since

$$\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{a}} \frac{\varepsilon(\vec{x})}{\|\vec{x} - \vec{a}\|} = 0 \quad \text{1st order}$$

Classically, this 1st order approximated change is denoted by

$$df = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{a}) dx_i$$

and is called the total differential of  $f$  at  $\vec{a}$

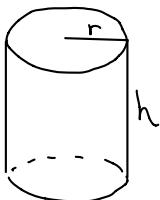
Rmk In more advanced level,  $df$  and  $dx$  can be interpreted as linear maps from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

e.g. Let  $V(r, h) = \pi r^2 h$

$V$  is  $C^1 \Rightarrow$  differentiable

$$dV = \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} dr + \frac{\partial V}{\partial h} dh$$

$$= 2\pi rh dr + \pi r^2 dh$$



$V$  = volume of cylinder

For application:

Suppose we want to approximate change of  $V$  when  $(r, h)$  changes from  $(r, h) = (3, 12)$  to  $(3 + 0.08, 12 - 0.3)$

$$\text{Let } dr = \Delta r = 0.08,$$

$$dh = \Delta h = -0.3$$

Then  $\Delta V \approx dV \leftarrow \text{approximated change}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\text{actual change}}{\rightarrow} = 2\pi rh dr + \pi r^2 dh \\ & = 2\pi(3)(12)(0.08) + \pi(3)^2(-0.3) \\ & = 3.06\pi \approx 9.61 \end{aligned}$$

### Properties of total differential

If  $f, g : \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are differentiable open

$c$  is a constant. Then

$$\textcircled{1} \quad d(f+g) = df + dg$$

$$d(cf) = c df$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad d(fg) = g df + f dg$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad d\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = \frac{g df - f dg}{g^2}$$

Pf Follow easily from partial differentiations.

Summary: Differentiating a real-valued function  $f(\vec{x}) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  at  $\vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

### Different types of derivatives

• Directional derivative:  $D_{\vec{u}}f(\vec{a}) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t\vec{u}) - f(\vec{a})}{t}$  for  $\|\vec{u}\| = 1$

• Partial derivative:  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{a}) = D_{e_i}f(\vec{a})$  e<sub>i</sub> = (0, ..., 0, 1, 0, ..., 0)

• Gradient:  $\vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}(\vec{a}), \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n}(\vec{a}) \right)$

• Total differential:  $df = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{a}) dx_i$

• Higher derivatives: e.g.  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} = f_{x_1 x_2}$

$f$  is  $C^k$  means  $f$  and all its partial derivatives up to order  $k$  exists and are continuous

### Linear approximation of $f(\vec{x})$ near $\vec{a}$

•  $L(\vec{x}) = f(\vec{a}) + \vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{a})$

•  $f(\vec{x}) = L(\vec{x}) + \varepsilon(\vec{x})$

•  $f$  is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$  if  $\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{a}} \frac{\varepsilon(\vec{x})}{\|\vec{x} - \vec{a}\|} = 0 \Rightarrow df \approx \Delta f$

### Relations among derivatives

①  $C^\infty \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow C^{k+1} \Rightarrow C^k \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow C^1 \Rightarrow C^0$

②  $f$  is  $C^1$  on an open set containing  $\vec{a}$



$f$  is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$

$$\Downarrow \quad D_{\vec{u}}f(\vec{a}) = \vec{\nabla}f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u}$$



$D_{\vec{u}}f(\vec{a})$  exists for any unit vector  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad \cancel{\Rightarrow} \quad f$  is continuous at  $\vec{a}$



$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{a})$  exists for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  X

③ All the  $\Rightarrow$  in the reverse direction are false. See next page for counter examples

Verify the following (counter-) examples :

eg 1  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x=0 \end{cases}$$

$f$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$  but

$f'(x)$  is not continuous at  $x=0$ .

Similarly,

$g(x) = x^{2k-2} f(x)$  is  $k$ -time differentiable

but  $g^{(k)}(x)$  is not continuous at  $x=0$ .

Hence,  $k$ -time differentiable  $\not\Rightarrow C^k$

In particular,  $C^{k-1} \not\Rightarrow C^k$

For multivariable, let  $h(\vec{x}) = g(x_1)$

eg 2

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy^2}{x^2 + y^4} & \text{if } (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0 & \text{if } (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

$D_{\vec{u}} f(0,0)$  exists for any unit vector  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^2$   
but  $f$  is not continuous at  $(0,0)$

eg 3  $f(x,y) = |x+y|$

$f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  but  $f_x(0,0), f_y(0,0)$  DNE

eg 4

$$f(x,y) = \sqrt{|xy|}$$

$f_x(0,0), f_y(0,0)$  exist

but  $D_{\vec{u}} f(0,0)$  DNE for  $\vec{u} \neq \pm \vec{e}_1, \pm \vec{e}_2$ .