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Lec 15. Topics for Exam 2 2025. 1. 15

- functions of ~~several~~ several variables

contour plots

- Partial derivatives $f_x = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$

- Gradient : $\nabla f = \langle f_x, f_y, f_z \rangle$

Approximation : $\Delta f \approx f_x \Delta x + f_y \Delta y + f_z \Delta z$
 $= \nabla f \cdot \Delta \vec{r}$



tangent plane \rightarrow normal vector $= \nabla f$

Partial differential equations.

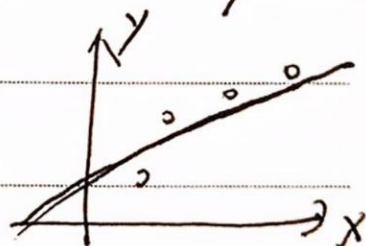
- minimum/maximum : ~~critical problems~~

critical points all partial derivative = 0

second derivative test : i. / boundary point

- least squares approximation

$$D = \sum (y_i - (ax + b))^2$$



- Differentials.

$$df = f_x dx + f_y dy + f_z dz$$



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↓ chain rule, if $x = x(u, v)$ $y = y(u, v)$ $z = z(u, v)$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} \quad \text{changes variables}$$

- Non-independent variable $g(x, y, z) = c$

① substitute

constraint

→ ② min/max problems: lagrange multipliers

$$\rightarrow \nabla f = \lambda \nabla g \quad \begin{cases} f_x = \lambda g_x \\ f_y = \lambda g_y \\ f_z = \lambda g_z \end{cases} + g = c$$

→ constrained partial derivatives:

$f(x, y, z)$ where $g(x, y, z) = c$

To find $\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)_y$ ← y is constant, z varies, $x = x(y, z)$

Rate of change of f with respect to z ?

1) use differentials:

$$df = f_x dx + f_y dy + f_z dz, \quad dy = 0, \quad dx = (?) dz$$

$$dg = g_x dx + g_y dy + g_z dz = 0 \Rightarrow dx = -\frac{g_z}{g_x} dz$$

$$\text{plug in to } df \Rightarrow df = f_x \left(-\frac{g_z}{g_x}\right) dz + f_z dz$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)_y = \dots$$



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2) using chain rule:

$$\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)_y = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial z}\right)_y + \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right)_y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$$

$$+ \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial z}\right)_y \rightarrow 1$$

$$0 = \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial z}\right)_y = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial z}\right)_y + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right)_y + \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial z}\right)_y$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial z}\right)_y + \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial z}\right)_y$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial z}\right)_y = -\frac{g_z}{g_x}$$

- direction derivative

$$\frac{df}{ds} \bigg|_{\hat{u}} = \nabla f \cdot \hat{u}$$