

Chapter01: functions of Several variables

author: who's who(them)

a day

1 Functions of several variables

Let E, F be two sets.

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ The product $E \times F = \{(x, y) \mid x \in E \text{ and } y \in F\}$.

Def:

Relation R from E to F is a given subset (G or G_R) from $E \times F$
We say that y is the image of x (x is the pre-image of y)
if $(x, y) \in G$

Inverse Relation

the relation inverse R^{-1} of R is from F to E defined by:

$$yR^{-1}x \Leftrightarrow xRy$$

$$G_{R^{-1}} = s(G_R), \text{ where } s = \begin{cases} E \times F \rightarrow F \times E \\ (x, y) \rightarrow (y, x) \end{cases}$$

Def:

A function $f : E \rightarrow F$ is a relation from E to F such that :
each $x \in E$, there exist atmost an image $y \in F$
the domain of $f : Dom(f)$ is the subset:

$$Dom(f) = \{x \in E \mid \text{the image of } x \text{ exists}\}$$

if $x \in Dom(f)$, we denote $f(x)$ its image.

when $Dom(f) = E$, f is a map from E to F

$$G_F = \{(x, y) \in E \times F \mid x \in Dom(f) \text{ and } y = f(x)\}$$

If $F = R : f : E \rightarrow R$ is a real function

If $F = C : f : E \rightarrow C$ is a complex function

Definition. Let $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$, a function $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is called a function of n variables :

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$(f_1(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, f_m(x_1, \dots, x_n))$$

We denote by f_j the j -th component (or projection Pr_j) of f :

$$\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow f_j(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

another way to write it :

$$Pr_j : \forall j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j, \dots, y_m) \mapsto y_j$$

$$f = (f_1, \dots, f_m) = \sum_{j=1}^m f_j e_j \quad / \quad e_j = (0, 0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$$

If $m = 1$, f is a real function

If $m > 1$, f is a vector function

the range(of the image) of f is the subset of \mathbb{R}^n defined by:

$$range(f) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \exists x \in Dom(f), y = f(x)\}$$

Example:

1) $L(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ the set of linear maps from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R}^m $L(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m) \subset F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$
where $F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ is the set of all functions from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R}^m

2) An affine function:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$x \rightarrow A_{(m,n)}x + b$$

where: $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $A \in M_{(m,n)}(R)$

$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (x, y) \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$$

2 Operations on functions of several variables

1) $\forall f, y \in F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m), \forall_{\alpha, \beta} \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\alpha f + \beta y : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$x \mapsto \alpha f(x) + \beta y(x)$$

$(F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m); +; .)$ is a vector space

2) If $f \in F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ and $g \in F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ then:

$g \circ f \in F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ defined by:

$$\mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R}^m \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{R}^p$$

$$x \mapsto f(x) \mapsto g(f(x))$$

3) Let $f, y \in F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$, two scalar functions.

The product $f \cdot g \in F(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ defined by:

$$(f \cdot g)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x), \forall x \in Dom(f) \cap Dom(g)$$

$$\text{if } g(x) \neq 0, \forall x \in Dom(g), \frac{1}{g} : x \rightarrow \frac{1}{g}$$

$$Dom\left(\frac{1}{g}\right) \{x \in Dom(g) \mid g(x) \neq 0\}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{f}{g} \Leftrightarrow f \cdot \left(\frac{1}{g}\right)$$

Example:

1) A monomial function of degree P is :

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow \alpha x_1^{p_1} \cdot x_2^{p_2} \dots x_n^{p_n}$$

$$P_1 + P_2 + \dots + P_m = P$$

2) An homogeneous polynome:

is a function of degree P is a finite Sum of monomial functions of degree P.

3) Polynomial function : polynomial function is a finite sum of homogeneous polynomial functions

4) Rational Function: A rational function is the quotient of two polynomial functions

Definition. the graph function of f from $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$:

Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\text{Dom}(f)$ is the domain of the graph G_f of f is the subset of $\mathbb{R}^n + \mathbb{R}^m \cong \mathbb{R}^{n+m}$ defined by :

$$G_f = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m : x \in \text{Dom}(f) \text{ and } y = f(x)\}$$

Remark

if we consider the function

$$\begin{aligned} f : \text{Dom}(f) &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+m} \\ x &\mapsto (x, f(x)) \end{aligned}$$

then the $\text{range}(\tilde{f}) = Gr_{\tilde{f}}$

\tilde{f} is parametrization of Gr_f

Examples:

1)

Affine function

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto ax + b \end{aligned}$$

(graph)

$$Gr_f = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x \in R \text{ and } y = ax + b\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ x &\mapsto (x, ax + b) \end{aligned}$$

2)

Let $A(x_a, y_a, z_a); C(x_c, y_c, z_c)$ two points in the space (\mathbb{R}^3)

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ x &\mapsto (x, ax + b) \end{aligned}$$

We will get a function:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto f(x, y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x - x_a \\ y - y_a \\ z - z_a \end{pmatrix} &= t \begin{pmatrix} x - x_c \\ y - y_c \\ z - z_c \end{pmatrix} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x = x_a + t(x_c - x_a) \\ y = y_a + t(y_c - y_a) \\ z = z_a + t(z_c - z_a) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{f} &= \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \\ t &\mapsto (x(t), y(t), z(t)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } x_c \neq x_a \text{ then } t = \frac{x - x_a}{x_c - x_a}$$

$$\begin{cases} y = y_a + \frac{x - x_a}{x_c - x_a}(y_c - y_a) \\ z = z_a + \frac{x - x_a}{x_c - x_a}(z_c - z_a) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f &: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ x &\mapsto \left(y_a + \frac{x - x_a}{x_c - x_a}(y_c - y_a), z_a + \frac{x - x_a}{x_c - x_a}(z_c - z_a) \right) \\ f &: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ x &\mapsto (ax + b, cx + d) \end{aligned}$$

2)

$$\begin{aligned} f &: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y) &\mapsto \sqrt{16 - 4x^2 - y^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$Dom(f) = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 4x^2 + y^2 \leq 16\}$$

(draw the domain of definition in a plane)

$$\begin{aligned} range(f) &= \{z \in \mathbb{R} \mid \exists (x, y) \in Dom(f) \text{ s.t. } z = \sqrt{16 - 4x^2 - y^2}\} \\ 4x^2 + y^2 \geq 0 &\implies -4x^2 - y^2 \leq 0 \\ &\implies 0 \leq -4x^2 - y^2 \leq 16 \\ &\implies 0 \leq \sqrt{16 - 4x^2 - y^2} \leq 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$z \in range(f) \implies z \in [0, 4]$$

$\text{range } f \subset [0, 4]$

$$\begin{aligned} z \in [0, 4] &\implies \exists (x, y) \in \text{Dom}(f) : z = f(x, y) \\ \forall z \in [0, 4], \exists (x, y) &= (0, \sqrt{16 - z^2}) \in \text{Dom}(f) : z = f(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

then $\text{range}(f) = \text{Im}(f) = [0, 4]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gr}_f &= \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid (x, y) \in \text{Dom}(f) \text{ and } z = \sqrt{16 - 4x^2 - y^2}\} \\ \text{Gr}_f &= \left\{ (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid (x, y) \in \text{Dom}(f) \text{ and } \begin{cases} 16 = z^2 + 4x^2 + y^2 \\ z \geq 0 \end{cases} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

(draw the surface here in a 3d space)

3 Limits and continuity:

Definition. Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $l \in \mathbb{R}$ and $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) &= l \\ \Leftrightarrow \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0, \forall x \in \text{Dom}(f); 0 < d(x, a) < \delta &\implies |f(x) - l| \leq \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = +\infty (\text{resp } -\infty)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \alpha > 0, \exists \delta > 0, \forall x \in \text{Dom}(f); 0 < d(x, a) < \delta \implies f(x) > \alpha (\text{resp } f(x) < -\infty)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} d : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ = [0, +\infty] \\ (x, y) &\mapsto d(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

is one of the following:

the euclidian distance

$$\begin{aligned} d_2((x_1, \dots, x_n), (y_1, \dots, y_n)) &= \sqrt{(y_1 - x_1)^2 + \dots + (y_n - x_n)^2} \\ d_1((x_1, \dots, x_n), (y_1, \dots, y_n)) &= |y_1 - x_1| + \dots + |y_n - x_n| \\ d_\infty((x_1, \dots, x_n), (y_1, \dots, y_n)) &= \{|y_i - x_i|^2 + \dots + (y_n - x_n)^2\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } n = 1 \implies d_1 = d_2 = d_\infty$$

Proposition:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = l \Leftrightarrow \forall (x_n) \subset \text{Dom}(f) \mid \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_n = a \text{ then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = l$$

Remark

If the limit l exists it is **unique**

Definition. Let

$$\begin{aligned} f &= (f_1, \dots, f_n) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \\ x &\mapsto (f_1(x), \dots, f_n(x)) \\ \forall_{j \in \{1, \dots, m\}} \quad l_j &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f_j(x) \\ If \quad \forall_j; l_j \in \mathbb{R}; \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) &= l = (l_1, \dots, l_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m \\ If \quad \exists_j; l_j = \pm\infty \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) &= \infty \end{aligned}$$

therefore: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ doesn't exist

Definition. $f = (f_1, \dots, f_n) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

f is continuous at a point a / $a \in \text{Dom}(f)$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a) / x \in \text{Dom}(f)$$

Example:

f continuous at $x = a$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall_{(x_n)} \subset \text{Dom}(f) / \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_n = a, \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} f(x_n) = f(a)$$

Remark:

To prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ doesn't exist.

we can use two methods:

1st method

We can give two sequences $(x_n), (y_n)$ from $\text{Dom}(f)$ that converges to a $\begin{cases} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = a \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = a \end{cases}$

and $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} f(x_n) \neq \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} f(y_n)$

2nd method

We give two paths (Continuous maps $[0, 5[$ to $\text{Dom}(f)$) on $\text{Dom}(f)$. $\gamma(0) = a$

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_1 [0, \delta_1[\rightarrow \text{Dom}(f), \gamma_1(0) = a \\ \gamma_2 [0, \delta_2[\rightarrow \text{Dom}(f), \gamma_2(0) = a \end{cases}$$

If $\lim_{t \xrightarrow{>} o} f(\gamma_1(t)) \neq \lim_{t \xrightarrow{>} o} f(\gamma_2(t))$, then limit doesn't exist

3.1 Example:1

$$f(x, y) = \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_1 : [0, +\infty[\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ t \mapsto (t, 0) \\ \gamma_2 : [0, +\infty[\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ t \mapsto (0, t) \end{cases}$$

$$f(\gamma_1(t)) = \frac{t^2 - 0^2}{t^2 + 0^2} = 1$$

$$f(\gamma_2(t)) = \frac{0^2 - t^2}{0^2 + t^2} = -1$$

Since $\lim_{t \xrightarrow{>} o} f(\gamma_1(t)) \neq \lim_{t \xrightarrow{>} o} f(\gamma_2(t))$

Properties:

1) The Linearity:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = l_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = l_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\text{then } \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x)] = \alpha l_1 + \beta l_2$$

2) The product

$$f \times g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{If } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = l_1, \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = l_2$$

$$\text{Then } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f \cdot g)(x) = l_1 l_2$$

$$\text{And If } g(x) \neq 0, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{l_1}{l_2}$$

3)

If $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ continuous at a and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow f(x)} g(x) = l \quad / \quad g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^R$$

$$\text{then } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} (g \circ f)(x) = l$$

Definition. 1) Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\phi \neq V \subset \text{Dom}(f)$

We say that f is continuous on V if:

$$\forall (x_n) \subset V(x_n) \xrightarrow{C.V} x \in \text{dom}(f) \implies \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} f(x_n) = f(x)$$

2) $f = (f_1, \dots, f_n) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ continuous on $V \subset \text{Dom}(f) = \bigcap_{j=i}^n \text{Dom}(f_j) \Leftrightarrow \forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\} f_j : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous on V

4 The case of $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Euclidian distance

$$d_1((x_1, x_2), (y_1, y_2)) = |y_1 - x_1| + |y_2 - x_2|$$

$$d_2((x_1, x_2), (y_1, y_2)) = \sqrt{(y_1 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - x_2)^2}$$

$$d_\infty((x_1, x_2), (y_1, y_2)) = \text{Sup}(|y_1 - x_1|, |y_2 - x_2|)$$

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : d((x, y), (0, 0)) < 1\}$$

$d = d1$ (graph that represents $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : d((x, y), (0, 0)) < 1\}$ expression using d1 distance def)

$d = d2$ (graph that represents $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : d((x, y), (0, 0)) < 1\}$ expression using d2 distance def)

$d = d_\infty$ (graph that represents $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : d((x, y), (0, 0)) < 1\}$ expression using d infity distance def)

limit:

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = l \quad /l \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0; 0 < d((x, y), (a, b)) < \delta \implies |f(x, y) - l| < \epsilon$$

Example:

$$f(x, y) = \frac{x^3}{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x, y)| &= \left| \frac{x^3}{x^2 + y^2} \right| = |x| \frac{x^2}{x^2 + y^2} \leq |x| \\ &\leq |x| + |y| \\ &d_1((x, y), (0, 0)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta = \epsilon > 0, \forall (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 - \{(0, 0)\}, \quad 0 < |x| + |y| < \delta \implies f(x, y) < \epsilon$$

Using polar coordinates:

$$Let : \quad \begin{cases} x = a + r\cos(\theta) & ; \theta \in \mathbb{R} \\ y = b = r\sin(\theta) & r > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d_2 = ((x, y), (a, b)) &= \sqrt{(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(r\cos(\theta))^2 + (r\sin(\theta))^2} \\ &= \sqrt{r^2} = r \end{aligned}$$

$$l = \bar{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty, \infty\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x, y) = l &\Leftrightarrow \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0, 0 < r < \delta \\ &\implies |f(a + r\cos(\theta), b + r\sin(\theta)) - l| < \epsilon \\ &\Leftrightarrow \forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}; \lim_{r \xrightarrow{>} 0} f(a + r\cos(\theta), b + r\sin(\theta)) = l \end{aligned}$$

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2} \\ (a, b) &= (0, 0) \\ f(a + r\cos(\theta), b + r\sin(\theta)) &= \frac{r^2 \cos^2(\theta) - r^2 \sin^2(\theta)}{r^2 \cos^2(\theta) + r^2 \sin^2(\theta)} \\ &= \cos^2(\theta) - \sin^2(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

$$\theta = 0, l = 1$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}, l = -1$$

\implies limit doesn't exist

Example02:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= \frac{x^3 + y^3}{x^2 + y^2} \\ f(r\cos(\theta), r\sin(\theta)) &= \frac{r^3 (\cos^3(\theta) + \sin^3(\theta))}{r^2} \\ &= r(\cos^3(\theta) + \sin^3(\theta)) \end{aligned}$$

$$0 \leq |f(r\cos(\theta), r\sin(\theta))| = r$$

$$|\cos^3(\theta) + \sin^3(\theta)| \leq 2r \rightarrow 0$$

So $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^3 + y^3}{x^2 + y^2} = 0$

5 The case of $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0, z_0)} f(x, y, z) = l$$

Using cylindrical coordinates:

$$\begin{cases} x = x_0 + r\cos(\theta) & ; r > 0 \\ y = y_0 + r\sin(\theta) & \theta \in \mathbb{R} \\ z = z \end{cases}$$

$$d_2((x, y, z), (x_0, y_0, z_0)) = \sqrt{(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2 + (z - z_0)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{r + (z - z_0)^2}$$

We note $g_\theta = f(x_0 + r\cos(\theta), y_0 + r\sin(\theta), z)$

$$\forall \epsilon > 0; \exists \delta > 0; d_2((r, z), (0, z_0)) < \delta \implies |g_\theta(r, z) - l| < \epsilon$$

$$\lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0, z_0)} f(x, y, z) = l$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}, \lim_{(r,z) \rightarrow (0, z_0)} g_\theta(r, z) = l$$

Example:

$$f(x, y, z) = \frac{x^2 + y^2 - z^2}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$g_\theta(r, z) = \frac{r^2 - z^2}{r^2 + z^2}$$

Since $\lim g_\theta(r, z)$ does not exist, then $\lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (0,0,0)} \frac{x^2 + y^2 - z^2}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$ doesn't exist

5.1 using spherical coordinates:

$$\begin{cases} x = x_0 + r\cos(\theta)\cos(\varphi) \\ y = y_0 + r\cos(\theta)\sin(\varphi) \\ z = z_0 + r\sin(\theta) \end{cases}$$

$$g_{\theta,r}(r) = f(x, y, z)$$

$$d_2((x, y, z), (x_0, y_0, z_0)) = r$$

(graph of a line in space and its projection on the (x,y,0) plane varphi and theta and)

So;

$$\lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0,z_0)} f(x, y, z) = l$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \theta, \varphi, \quad \lim g_{\theta,r}(r) = l$$

Example:

$$f(x, y, z) = \frac{x^2 + y^2 - z^2}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

6 partials derivatives:

the process of "partial differentiation" consists of deriving a function of several variables with respect to one of its several independent variables with respect to one of its several indepedent variables

the result referred to as the "partial derivative of f with respect to the chosen independent variable.

Definition. let $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; \quad (a, b) \in \text{dom}(f)$

1) if the limit $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h,b) - f(a,b)}{h} \in \mathbb{R}$ we call them the first partial derivable of f with respect the first independent variable x , noted by : $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b)$

2) if the limit $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h,b) - f(a,b)}{h} \in \mathbb{R}$, we call them the first partial derivative of f at (a,b) with respect the second independant variable, denoted by : $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b)$

3) we defined two function, $f_x = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ by:

$$f_x = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h, y) - f(x, y)}{h}$$

example:

1) $f(x, y) = \phi(x)\psi(y)$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y) : \mathbb{R}^2$$

7 Geometric interpretation:

(graph) /** **/

the tangent line of the curve $z = f(x, b)$ at $(a, f(a, b))$
is directed by $(1, 0, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b))$

$$\begin{cases} z = f(a, b) + (x - a)\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b) \\ y = b \end{cases}$$

→ the tangent line of the cuvrve $z = f(a, y)$ at $(a, b, f(a, b))$

$$\begin{cases} z = f(a, b) + (y - b)\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b) \\ y = b \end{cases}$$

→which is directed by: $(0, 1, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b))$

the tangent plane of the graph of f at $(a, b, f(a, b))$, denoted by $T_{(a,b,f(a,b))}Gr_f$ is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : (x, y, z) = (a, b, f(a, b)) + (x - a)(1, 0, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b))(y - b)(0, 1, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b))\} \\ T_{(a,b,f(a,b))}Gr_f = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : z = f(a, b) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b)(x - a) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b)(y - b)\} \end{aligned}$$

Definition. 1) Let

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\forall i \in 1, 2, \dots, n f_{x_i} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} (x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + he_i) - f(x)}{h}$$

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$ is the i -th first derivative of f or the first partial derivative of f = $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_1, \dots, x_i + h, \dots, x_n) - f(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{h}$
with respect the i -th independent variable

when $m > 1$: $f = (f_1, \dots, f_m) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}; \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = (\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_i}, \dots, \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_i}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

the tangent plan of : $Gr_f = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^n \mathbb{R}^m : y = f(x)\}$ at $(a, f(a)) / a \in \mathbb{R}^n$,
denoted by $T_{(a,f(a))}Gr_f$ is :

$$T_{(a,f(a))}Gr_f = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^n \mathbb{R}^m : y = f(a) + \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - a_i) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(a)\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m = R^{n+m}$$

7.1 Example:1

$$f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x, y, z) \mapsto xy + yz^2 + xy$$

Definition. Second "order" partial derivatives

1) Let $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ its first partial derivatives :

$$f_{xx} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)(x, y) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x+h, y) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y)}{h}$$

$$f_{xy} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)(x, y) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y+h) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y)}{h}$$

$$f_{yx} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)(x, y) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x+h, y) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, y)}{h}$$

$$f_{yy} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)(x, y) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, y+h) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, y)}{h}$$

2) Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}; i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ its first partial

$$\forall i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_1, \dots, x_i+h, \dots, x_n) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n)}{h}$$

when $i = j$ $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$ is called the second partial derivative of f with respect x_i

when $i \neq j$ $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$ is called the mixed second partial derivative of f with respect x_i

there are n^2 second partial derivatives of f

3) If $f = (f_1, \dots, f_n) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

$$\forall i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}; \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} = \left(\frac{\partial^2 f_1}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}, \dots, \frac{\partial^2 f_m}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right)$$

Definition. Shwarz's theorem

Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

If $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}$ continuous on open subset $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ then $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}$

Definition. Higher order parital derivatives Let $p \in \mathbb{N}^*; f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1^{P_1} \partial x_2^{P_2} \dots \partial x_n^{P_n}}, \quad \forall P_1, \dots, P_n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{such that } P_1 + P_2 + \dots + P_m = P$$

7.2 Example:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial x^p \partial y^q} / p + q = 3$$

8 Differentials of a function

If

$$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad x \mapsto f(x)$$

and f' is its derivative function, then the differential of f , denoted df , is the function

$$df : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow L(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) = \{\phi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \phi \text{ linear}\},$$

$$x \mapsto d_x f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad h \mapsto f'(x) \cdot h$$

Definition. Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a function such that all first partial derivatives exist. Then the differential of f is the function

$$df : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow L(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m),$$

$$x \mapsto d_x f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m, \quad h = (h_1, \dots, h_n) \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n h_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x)$$

Remark: If

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \text{ is linear, then } \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \quad d_x f = f$$

In Particular: $f = pr_i \quad (x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto x_i$

$$\forall x, d_x f = f = pr_i = dx_i \quad \text{so: } : pr_i = dx_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(h_1, \dots, h_n) \mapsto h$$

$$\text{if m = 1: } d_x f = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x) dx_i$$

8.1 Example:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}(x, y) \mapsto f(x, y)$$

$$\begin{cases} d_{(x,y)} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, y) dy \\ df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy \end{cases}$$

$$f(x, y) = xy; \quad d(x, y)f = ydx = xdy$$

$$\text{application } w = f(x_1, \dots, x_n); \quad \Delta w = f(x_1 + \Delta x_1, \dots, x_n + \Delta x_n)$$

then :

$$\Delta w = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \Delta x_i \rightarrow f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Definition. Differentiability Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, and $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$

we say that f is differentiable at a if there exist a linear map such that

$$L_a : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m h \mapsto L_a(h)$$

$$h \mapsto L_a(h)$$

such that :

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0_{\mathbb{R}^n}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{h_1^2 + \dots + h_n^2}} (f(a+h) - f(a) - L_a(h))$$

(example for $n=1, m=1$)

Remark: If f is differentiable at (a_1, \dots, a_n) , then :

$\forall i \in 1, \dots, n$ if we consider $h = (0, \dots, 0, t, 0, \dots, 0) = te_i$

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{|t|} (f(a+te_i) - f(a) - L_a(te_i)) \\ & \Leftrightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} (f(a+te_i) - f(a) - L_a(te_i)) = L_a(e_i) \\ & \Leftrightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} (f(a_1, a_2, \dots + (a_i + t), \dots, +a_n) - f(a_1, \dots, a_n) \\ & \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(a) = L_a(e_i) \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\} L_a(h) = L_a(\sum_{i=1}^n h_i e_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n h_i L_a(e_i) \\ & \quad = \sum_{i=1}^n h_i ; \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = d_a f(h) \\ & So, L_a = d_a f \end{aligned}$$

so, f is differentiable at a iff all its first partial derivatives exist and

$$\forall h \in \mathbb{R}^n : f(a+h) = f(a) + d_a f(h) + o(h)$$

$$\text{where } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0_{\mathbb{R}^n}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{h_1^2 + \dots + h_n^2}} o(h) = 0$$