

Partial derivatives

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

The partial derivative of $f(x, y)$ with respect to x at (x_0, y_0)

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{(x_0, y_0)} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h, y_0) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}$$

provided the limit exists.

$$= \frac{d}{dx} (f(x, y_0)) \Big|_{x=x_0}$$

$$f_x, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, Z_x, \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$$

Similarly the partial derivative of $f(x, y)$ with respect to y at the point (x_0, y_0) is

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{(x_0, y_0)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0, y_0 + k) - f(x_0, y_0)}{k}$$

$$= f_y$$

Exp

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

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{2y}{y + \cos x} \right)$$

$$= \frac{(y + \cos x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(2y) - 2y \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(y + \cos x)}{(y + \cos x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{(y + \cos x) \times 0 - 2y(-\sin x)}{(y + \cos x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2y \sin x}{(y + \cos x)^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{2 \cos x}{(y + \cos x)^2}$$

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0 - 0}{h} = 0$$

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{y}, & xy \neq 0 \\ 0, & xy = 0 \end{cases}, \quad \begin{array}{l} \cancel{(x, y) \neq (0, 0)} \\ \cancel{(x, y) = (0, 0)} \end{array}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{(0,0)} = (x_0, y_0)$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0 - 0}{h} = 0$$

function
is not
continuous
at $(0, 0)$
but the
partial
derivative
exists at $(0, 0)$

Ex:

$$yz - \ln z = x + y$$

where

$$z(x, y)$$

$$\text{Find } \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$$

Sol:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(yz) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\ln z) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x+y)$$

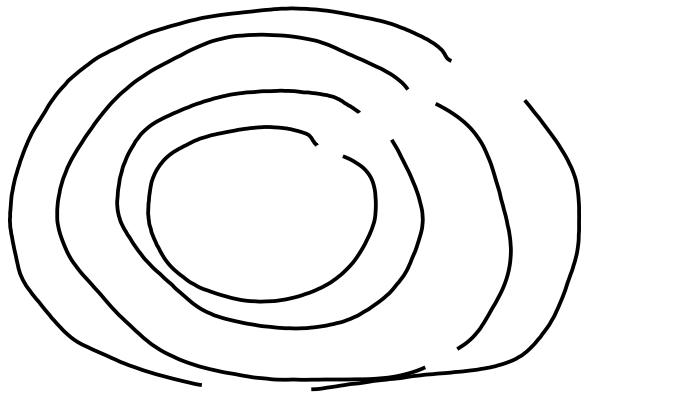
$$\Rightarrow y \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} - \frac{1}{z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 1+0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{y - \frac{1}{z}} = \frac{z}{yz-1}$$

Ex

Find the slope of a surface
 $Z = x^4y^2$ in the y -direction
 at the point $(1, 2)$.

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial y} \Big|_{(1,2)} = 4$$



$$Z = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

The partial derivatives similarly defined.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_1^0 + h, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0) - f(x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0)}{h}$$

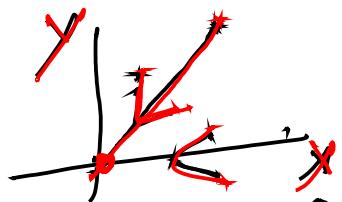
Exp

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0, & \underline{\underline{xy \neq 0}} \\ 1, & \underline{\underline{xy = 0}} \end{cases}$$

whether $f(x, y)$ is continuous at $(0, 0)$.

Along the path $y = x$,

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



Along the path $y = 0$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y) = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} 1 = 1$$

So limit does not exist.

So $f(x, y)$ is not continuous.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Big|_{(0,0)} \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - 1}{h} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \Big|_{(0,0)} \Rightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0, 0+k) - f(0, 0)}{k} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - 1}{k} = 0$$

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } xy \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } xy = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\Big|_{(0,0)} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h, 0) - f(0, 0)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0-0}{h} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\Big|_{(1,0)} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(1+h, 0) - f(1, 0)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0-0}{h} = 0$$

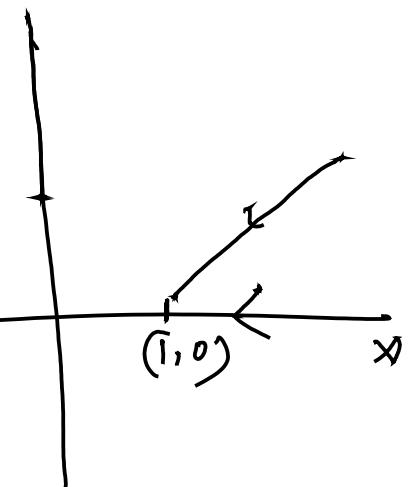
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\Big|_{(1,0)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(1, 0+k) - f(1, 0)}{k}$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{1-0}{k}$$

does not exist

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} f(x,y)$$

Along x-direction $y=0$



$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} f(x,y) = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} 0 = 0$$

Along $\underline{y=x+1}$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} f(x,y) = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} 1 = 1$$

So $f(x,y)$ is not continuous.

$$f_{xy} : \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$f_{yx} : \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)$$

$$f_{xx} : \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)$$

$$f_{yy} : \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$f_{xy} = f_{yx}$$

Mixed derivative theorem

If $f(x, y)$ and its partial derivatives f_x, f_y, f_{xy} and f_{yx} are defined throughout an open region containing a point (a, b) and all the continuous at (a, b) .

Then $f_{xy}|_{(a,b)} = f_{yx}|_{(a,b)}$.

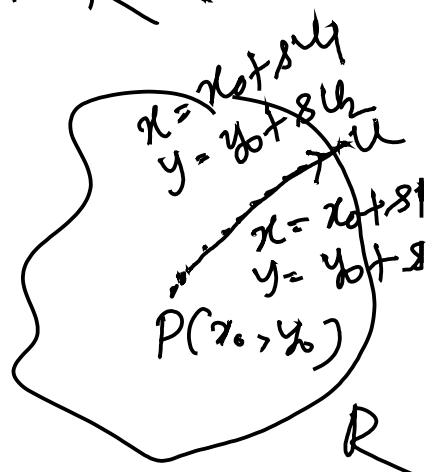
Directional derivative

If we want to investigate the rate of change of a surface $Z = f(x, y)$ along any other direction other than x -direction or y -direction

$Z = f(x, y)$ is defined throughout a region R in the xy -plane

$P(x_0, y_0)$ is a point in R .

$U = u_1 \hat{i} + u_2 \hat{j}$ is a unit vector

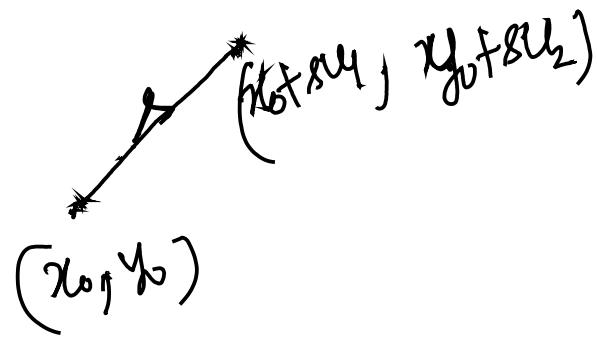


then the equations

$$x = x_0 + s u_1, \quad y = y_0 + s u_2$$

parametrize the line through P_0 in the direction of U .

$$u = c_1 \hat{i} + c_2 \hat{j}$$



Defⁿ The directional derivative of f at $P(x_0, y_0)$ in the direction of the unit vector $u = c_1 \hat{i} + c_2 \hat{j}$ is denoted by $\left(\frac{df}{ds} \right)_{u, P} = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + c_1 s, y_0 + c_2 s) - f(x_0, y_0)}{s}$ provided the limit exists.

If $u = \hat{i}$ along x -direction

$$\left. \frac{df}{ds} \right|_{\hat{i}, P} = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_P$$

If $u = \hat{j}$ along y -direction

$$\left. \frac{df}{ds} \right|_{\hat{j}, P} = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_P$$

Exp

Find the derivative

of $f(x,y) = x^2 + xy$ at $(1,2)$

in the direction of $\mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\mathbf{i} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\mathbf{j}$

Sol¹

$$\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right)_{u \rightarrow P} = \underline{(\nabla f)_{P_0}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + su_1, y_0 + su_2) - f(x_0, y_0)}{s}$$

$$= \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x_0 + su_1)^2 + (x_0 + su_1)(y_0 + su_2) - (x_0^2 + x_0 y_0)}{s}$$

$$= \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{\left(1 + \frac{s}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 + \left(1 + \frac{s}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(2 + \frac{s}{\sqrt{2}}\right) - (1^2 + 1 \cdot 2)}{s}$$

$$= \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 + \frac{2s}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{s^2}{2} + 2 + \frac{s}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{2s}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{s^2}{2} - 3}{s}$$

$$= \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{s + \frac{5s}{\sqrt{2}}}{s} = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left(8 + \frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = \boxed{\frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}}$$

