Mathematical Basics

Machine Learning 1 — Lecture 2 12th March 2024

Robert Peharz Institute of Theoretical Computer Science Graz University of Technology

Mathematics

"Mathematics" comes from Greek:

```
μάθημα: knowledge, study, learning 
μαθηματικός: on the matter of that which is learned
```

Mathematics

"Mathematics" comes from Greek:

```
μάθημα: knowledge, study, learning 
μαθηματικός: on the matter of that which is learned
```

Wait, is machine learning just... mathematics?

Mathematics

"Mathematics" comes from Greek:

```
μάθημα: knowledge, study, learning 
μαθηματικός: on the matter of that which is learned
```

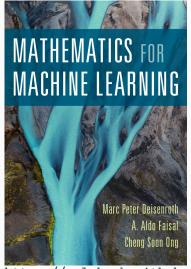
Wait, is machine learning just... mathematics?

Frankly, yes! Machine learning is mostly applied math.

I do hope you will have a boring lecture...

- This lecture is intended as a refresher at a fairly quick pace, not as a complete introduction
- Most of today's lecture should be familiar to you
- If you severely struggle following today's lecture, the remainder of the course will be very challenging!

Reading Material



I can recommend this excellent book, either for further reading or if you need to catch up.

https://mml-book.github.io/

Core Topics

The core mathematical disciplines in Machine Learning are:

- Linear algebra
- Calculus
- Probability

Euclidean Vector Space

 The Euclidean space is the set of all D-tuples x of real numbers:

$$\mathbb{R}^D = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{R} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_D \end{pmatrix} : x_1, \dots, x_D \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

- ullet By default, we will interpret all vectors $oldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ as column-vectors
- Row-vectors are denoted as x^T (x transposed)
- Thus, we also write $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_D)^T$
- D is the **dimensionality** of \mathbb{R}^D

• We can **add** and **subtract** vectors $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D)^T$, $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_D)^T$:

$$\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} = (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2, \dots, x_D + y_D)^T$$

$$\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} = (x_1 - y_1, x_2 - y_2, \dots, x_D - y_D)^T$$

• We can **scale** vectors, i.e. multiply with a scalar *a*:

$$a\mathbf{x} = (ax_1, ax_2, \dots, ax_D)^T$$



A **norm** $\|\cdot\|$ defines a notion of length to a vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$.

- Manhattan norm: $\|\mathbf{x}\|_1 := \sum_i |x_i|$
- Euclidean norm: $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \coloneqq \sqrt{\sum_i x_i^2}$
- Max norm: $\|\mathbf{x}\|_{\infty} = \max_i |x_i|$

These are special cases of the **p-norm**, $p \ge 1$

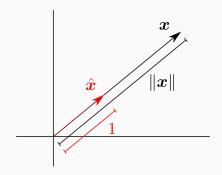
$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_{p} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{D} |x_{i}|^{p}\right)^{1/p}$$

denoted ℓ_p -norm, L_p -norm, etc.

A unit vector has length (norm) 1. We can **normalize** a vector x by dividing by its norm:

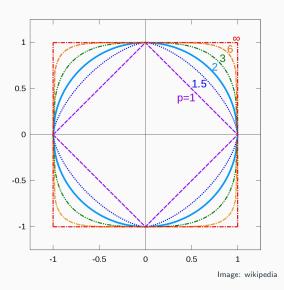
$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \mathbf{x} = \frac{\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|}$$

 \hat{x} is the unit vector "showing in the same direction" as x.



Unit Spheres

Unitspheres (sets containing all unit vectors) for various *p*-norms:



As soon as we have defined a norm $\|\cdot\|$, we can define a **distance** $d(\cdot,\cdot)$ between two vectors:

$$d(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) = \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|$$

Of course the distance depends on the used norm. The Euclidean norm $\|\cdot\|_2$ measure distance differently than the max norm $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$.

• For any two vectors $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_D)^T$, $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_D)^T$, the **dot product** is defined as

$$\boldsymbol{x}^T \boldsymbol{y} \coloneqq \sum_{i=1}^D x_i y_i$$

• E.g., for $\mathbf{x} = (3, 1, 2.2)^T$ and $\mathbf{y} = (4, 0, -1)^T$

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = 3 \times 4 + 1 \times 0 + 2.2 \times (-1) = 9.8$$

• Note that the dot product and the Euclidean norm (ℓ_2 -norm) are related via

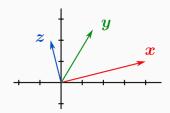
$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \sqrt{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}}$$

The dot products measures the **angle** between two vectors. In particular, the cosine of the angle ω between two vectors \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} is given via:

$$-1 \le \cos \omega =: \frac{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2} \le 1$$

If $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = 0 = \cos(\pi/2)$, then \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are **orthogonal**, written $\mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{y}$.

If additionally, $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{y}\|_2 = 1$, then \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are orthonormal.



$$\mathbf{x} = (4,1)^T \quad \mathbf{y} = (1.5, 2.5)^T \quad \mathbf{z} = (-0.5, 2)^T$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{y}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|\|\mathbf{y}\|} = \frac{4 \times 1.5 + 1 \times 2.5}{4.123 \times 2.915} = 0.7071 = \cos(\frac{\pi}{4}) \triangleq 45^{\circ}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{z}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{z}}{\|\mathbf{z}\|\|\mathbf{z}\|} = \frac{4 \times (-0.5) + 1 \times 2}{4.123 \times 2.062} = 0 = \cos(\frac{\pi}{2}) \triangleq 90^{\circ}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{y}^{T}\mathbf{z}}{\|\mathbf{y}\|\|\mathbf{z}\|} = \frac{1.5 \times (-0.5) + 2.5 \times 2}{2.915 \times 2.062} = 0.7071 = \cos(\frac{\pi}{4}) \triangleq 45^{\circ}$$

Vector Projection

Assume a normalized vector \mathbf{x} . Then $f(a) = a\mathbf{x}$ parametrizes a line L going through the origin $(-\infty < a < \infty)$.

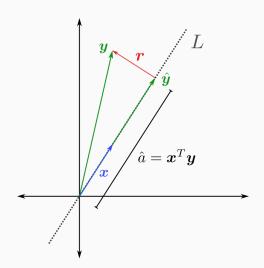
Assume another vector \mathbf{y} , not necessarily normalized. The **projection** $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ of \mathbf{y} onto L is given as

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = (\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{x} = \hat{\mathbf{a}} \mathbf{x}$$

where $\hat{a} = y^T x = x^T y$ is given by the dot product. \hat{y} is the closest vector (in Euclidean distance) to y which lies on L.

 $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is the **residual vector**, since $\mathbf{y} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{r}$. Vectors $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ and \mathbf{r} are orthogonal.



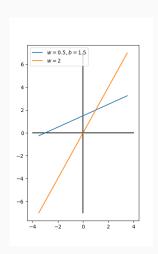


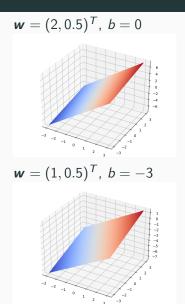
A vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ defines a linear function $f : \mathbb{R}^D \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ via the dot product:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}$$

By adding a bias b, we get an affine function:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b$$





Hyperplanes, Half-Spaces

A vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ and a bias $b \in \mathbb{R}$ define an affine function $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b$. The equation

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

defines a **hyperplane** (a D-1 dimensional sub-space).

Moreover, two half-spaces are defined via

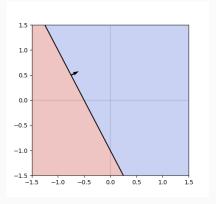
$$f(x) < 0$$
 negative half-space $f(x) > 0$ positive half-space

The vector \mathbf{w} is **orthogonal** to the hyperplane and points into the positive half-space.

Hyperplanes, Half-Spaces



In 2-D, the hyperplane is a line, cutting \mathbb{R}^D in two parts. For $\mathbf{w} = (2,1)^T$ and b=1:



blue: positive half-space red: negative half-space

In 3-D, a hyperplane is an actual 2-D plane. In higher dimensions it is a corresponding generalization, hence the name *hyper*plane.

Matrices

A **matrix** is a rectangular array of real (or complex) numbers. With $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$, a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ can be written as

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1N} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{M1} & a_{M2} & \dots & a_{MN} \end{pmatrix}$$

where M is the number of **rows** and N is the number of **columns**. The **entry** a_{ij} is a scalar located at the i^{th} row and j^{th} column.

Like vectors, matrices are added element-wise:

$$A + B = C = \begin{pmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1N} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{M1} & c_{M2} & \dots & c_{MN} \end{pmatrix}$$

where $c_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij}$.

Row and Column Vectors

A matrix can be understood as a collection of *M* row-vectors, or as a collection of *N* column-vectors:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1N} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{M1} & a_{M2} & \dots & a_{MN} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{a}_{1:}^T \\ \boldsymbol{a}_{2:}^T \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{a}_{M:}^T \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{a}_{:1} & \boldsymbol{a}_{:2} & \dots & \boldsymbol{a}_{:N} \end{pmatrix}$$

where

$$m{a}_{i:}^{T} = (a_{i1}, a_{i2}, \dots, a_{iN}) \\ m{a}_{:j} = (a_{1j}, a_{2j}, \dots, a_{Mj})^{T}$$

row-vectors column-vectors

Note: we use the "colon-notation" $a_{i:}$, $a_{:j}$ to address rows and columns, similar as in python. Read "i-everything" or "everything-j".

The **transpose** A^T of a matrix A is a matrix A^T whose rows are the columns of A, (or, whose columns are the rows of A). For example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 5 & 7 \\ 11 & 13 & 17 & 19 \\ 23 & 29 & 31 & 37 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^{T} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 11 & 23 \\ 3 & 13 & 29 \\ 5 & 17 & 31 \\ 7 & 29 & 37 \end{pmatrix}$$

A matrix A which has the same number of rows and columns is called a **square matrix**. For example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 8 & 13 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

A square matrix A for which it holds that $A = A^T$ is called **symmetric**. For example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 7 \\ 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 7 & 9 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

A square matrix which contains only 0's, except on the main diagonal, is called a **diagonal** matrix. For example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3.1415 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -7 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 42 \end{pmatrix}$$

Of course, a diagonal matrix is symmetric.

Matrix multiplication is defined in terms of the **dot products** between row-vectors and column vectors. In particular let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times R}$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{R \times N}$ (note the same R):

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{a}_{1:}^T \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{a}_{M:}^T \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{b}_{:1} & \dots & \boldsymbol{b}_{:N} \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the matrix product C = AB is given as a matrix $C \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$

$$C = AB = \begin{pmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1N} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{M1} & c_{M2} & \dots & c_{MN} \end{pmatrix}$$

where $c_{ij} = \boldsymbol{a}_{i:}^T \boldsymbol{b}_{:j} = \sum_{k=1}^R a_{ik} b_{kj}$

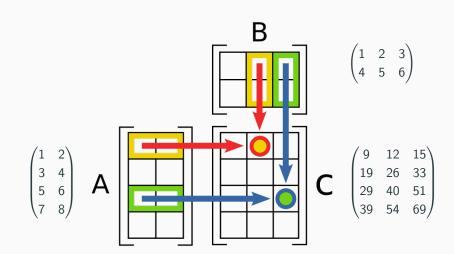


Image: wikipedia

Properties of Matrix Product

For matrices A, B, C, D with compatible dimensions, the following properties hold:

•
$$(AB)C = A(BC)$$

associativity

$$\bullet \ A(B+C) = AB + AC$$

distributivity

•
$$(AB)^T = B^T A^T$$

AA^T is always symmetric

Attention: matrix multiplication is **not commutative**, i.e. in general:

$$AB \neq BA$$

By interpreting vectors as "thin" matrices we can also multiply

• $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ and vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$, yielding $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^M$:

$$y = Ax$$

• $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{M}$ and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$, yielding $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{N}$:

$$\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{x}^T A$$

Matrices as Linear Functions

Recall that the **dot product** with vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ defines a linear function $f(\mathbf{x}) \colon \mathbb{R}^D \mapsto \mathbb{R}, \ f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}$.

Similarly, the **matrix-vector product** with matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ defines a **linear function** $f : \mathbb{R}^N \mapsto \mathbb{R}^M$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$$

We get an **affine function** by adding an M-dimensional bias vector \mathbf{b} :

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) = A\boldsymbol{x} + \boldsymbol{b}$$

The diagonal matrix I which contains only 1's in the diagonal is called the **identity matrix**. There is an identity matrix for each $M \in \mathbb{N}$. For M = 3:

$$I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The identity matrix represents the identity function, since

$$Ix = x$$

Let A be a square matrix. If there exists a matrix A^{-1} such that

$$A^{-1}A = I$$

then A^{-1} is called the **inverse** (matrix) of A.

If the inverse matrix exists, then it also holds that

$$AA^{-1} = I$$

The computational complexity of computing the inverse of a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M}$ is $\mathcal{O}(M^3)$.

Linear Basis, Linear Subspace

Let $x_1, x_2, ..., x_K$ be K vectors in \mathbb{R}^D . A linear combination of these vectors yields another vector written as

$$\sum_{k=1}^{K} z_k \mathbf{x}_k$$

with coefficients $z_k \in \mathbb{R}$.

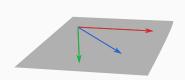
The vectors x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_K are called **linearly independent**, when none of them can be expressed as a linear combination of the other vectors.

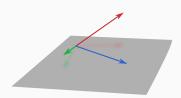
That is, for each $1 \le i \le K$ and any coefficients z_k

$$\mathbf{x}_i \neq \sum_{k=1, k \neq i}^K z_k \mathbf{x}_k$$

Linearly dependent vectors

Linearly independent vectors





Basis Definition

Let $b_1, b_2, ..., b_D$ be D linearly independent vectors in \mathbb{R}^D . Any such collection $b_1, b_2, ..., b_D$ is called a basis of \mathbb{R}^D .

For any basis, it is possible to express any vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ as a linear combination

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{d=1}^{D} \mathbf{b}_d z_d,$$

with **unique** coefficients z_d .

The coefficient vector $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_D)^T$ represents \mathbf{z} in the basis $\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_D$, i.e. a **change of basis**.

How to find z?

Let $\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_D$ be a basis of \mathbb{R}^D . We can collect the basis vectors as columns of a basis matrix B:

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{b}_1 & \boldsymbol{b}_2 & \dots & \boldsymbol{b}_D \end{pmatrix}$$

Then we can express any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ as

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{d=1}^{D} \mathbf{b}_d z_d = B \mathbf{z}.$$

Thus z is given as:

$$B^{-1}\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{z}$$

Note: B^{-1} exists if and only if $\boldsymbol{b}_1, \boldsymbol{b}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{b}_D$ are a basis.

Things become particularly nice if the basis vectors are **orthonormal**, i.e. if they are

- normalized (i.e. $\|\boldsymbol{b}_i\|_2 = 1$)
- orthogonal

This can be compactly described as

$$\boldsymbol{b}_{i}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{b}_{j} = \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
Kronecker delta

In this case $B = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{b}_1 & \boldsymbol{b}_2 & \dots & \boldsymbol{b}_D \end{pmatrix}$ is called an **orthonormal** matrix.

Properties of Orthonormal Matrices

Let B be an orthonormal matrix.

• Since $\boldsymbol{b}_i^T \boldsymbol{b}_j = \delta_{ij}$ it holds that

$$B^TB = I$$

- Thus $B^{-1} = B^T$
- Thus also $BB^T = I$

Properties of Orthonormal Matrices cont'd

Multiplication with B corresponds to a **rotation** of a vector.

Hence, multiplication with B (or B^T) leaves the dot product (angle) between two vectors unchanged:

$$(B\mathbf{x})^{\mathsf{T}}(B\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}}(B^{\mathsf{T}}B)\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{y}$$

$$(B^T \mathbf{x})^T (B^T \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x}^T (BB^T) \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}$$

Properties of Orthonormal Matrices cont'd

Also the (quadratic) Euclidean norm of a vector is unchanged:

$$||B\mathbf{x}||_2^2 = (B\mathbf{x})^T (B\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = ||\mathbf{x}||_2^2$$

$$||B^T x||_2^2 = (B^T x)^T (B^T x) = x^T x = ||x||_2^2$$

Change of Basis for Orthonormal Matrices

Recall from before that for any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ as

$$\mathbf{x} = B\mathbf{z}$$
$$B^{-1}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}$$

For orthonormal matrices $B^T = B^{-1}$, thus

$$\mathbf{x} = B\mathbf{z}$$
 $B^T\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}$

Linear Subspace

So far we considered a **complete** basis:

$$\boldsymbol{b}_1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{b}_D$$

describing the same vector space \mathbb{R}^D .

If we use only K < D basis vectors

$$\boldsymbol{b}_1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{b}_K,\boldsymbol{b}_{K+1},\ldots,\boldsymbol{b}_D$$

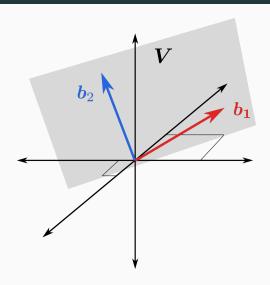
we describe a *K*-dimensional **linear subspace**.

Let $B = (\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_K)$ be a $D \times K$ -matrix with orthonormal vectors as columns, where K < D.

The **linear subspace** spanned by *B* is defined as all possible linear combinations of *B*'s columns:

$$\mathbf{V} = \left\{ \mathbf{v} = B\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_K)^T \in \mathbb{R}^K \right\}$$

Note that V still contains tuples of length D, but it is a K-dimensional space, i.e. in one-to-one correspondence with \mathbb{R}^K .



2-dimensional subspace \boldsymbol{V} of \mathbb{R}^3 spanned by 2 vectors \boldsymbol{b}_1 and \boldsymbol{b}_2 .

Let $B = (\boldsymbol{b}_1, \boldsymbol{b}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{b}_K)$ be a matrix with K orthonormal vectors as columns, spanning a K-dimensional subspace \boldsymbol{V} of \mathbb{R}^D .

We can **project** an arbitrary vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ onto \mathbf{V} by

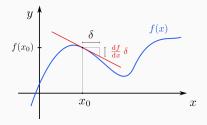
- computing the projection coefficients $B^T x =: z \in \mathbb{R}^K$
- computing the **projection**/reconstruction $Bz =: \hat{x} \in V$
- thus, $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \underbrace{BB^T}_{\text{projection matrix}} \mathbf{x}$
- \hat{x} is the **closest point** in V (in Euclidean distance) to x
- the **residual** $r = x \hat{x}$ is always orthogonal to \hat{x}

Differential Calculus

Let $f: \mathbb{R} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ be a univariate function. If it exists, the **derivative** at a point x is defined as

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}f}{\mathrm{d}x}(x) = f'(x) = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

- rate of change
- slope of the tangent line at some point x_0 , i.e. best local linear approximation: $f(x) \approx f_{linear}(x) = \underbrace{f(x_0)}_{f(x_0)} + \underbrace{f'(x_0)}_{f(x_0)} \underbrace{(x x_0)}_{f(x_0)}$



Standard Rules for Derivatives

Let f and g be differentiable univariate functions and a, b arbitrary constants.

• Derivative is linear:

$$(af + bg)'(x) = af'(x) + bg'(x)$$
$$\left(\frac{d(af + bg)}{dx} = a\frac{df}{dx} + b\frac{dg}{dx}\right)$$

• Product rule:

$$(fg)'(x) = f'g(x) + fg'(x)$$
$$\left(\frac{dfg}{dx} = \frac{df}{dx}g + \frac{dg}{dx}f\right)$$

• Chain rule:

$$f(g(x))' = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$
$$\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}f \circ g}{\mathrm{d}x} = \frac{\mathrm{d}f}{\mathrm{d}g}\frac{\mathrm{d}g}{\mathrm{d}x}\right)$$

Note: $f \circ g$ denotes function composition: $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$

Derivatives of some well-known functions

Name	f(x)	f'(x)
Constant	а	0
Affine	ax + b	а
Polynomial	x^k	$k x^{k-1}$
Exponential	$\exp(x), e^x$	$\exp(x), e^x$
	b^{\times}	$b^{\times} \log b$
Logarithm	$\log x$	$\frac{1}{x}$
Sine	sin(x)	cos(x)
Cosine	cos(x)	-sin(x)

Note: log denotes the natural logarithm in this course.