

MAT1002 Lecture 15, Tuesday, Mar/19/2024

Outline

- Chain rule (14.4)
 - ↳ Formulae
 - ↳ Implicit differentiation
- Directional derivatives and gradient vectors (14.5)
 - ↳ Directional derivatives

Chain Rule

Q: Suppose production $P = P(x, y) = kx^\alpha y^{1-\alpha}$, where labour $x=x(t)$ and capital $y=y(t)$ are both functions of time t . What is $\frac{dp}{dt}$ at a given time $t=t_0$?

The general concept here is the chain rule. 中间变量是-元.

Special Case | $f(x(t), y(t))$. $Z=f(x, y)$.

Suppose

$$\begin{aligned} x &= x(t) \\ y &= y(t). \end{aligned} \quad \text{以 } t \text{ 为中间变量} \rightarrow (x, y)$$

1. $Z=f(x, y)$ is differentiable at (x_0, y_0) , and; $\rightarrow Z(x, y)$.
2. $x=x(t)$ and $y=y(t)$ are both differentiable at t_0 .

(and $x_0 = x(t_0)$, $y_0 = y(t_0)$.)

- Fix $t=t_0$, and consider a change of t -value by Δt .

This creates Δx , Δy , and Δz .

- By differentiability of f at (x_0, y_0) ,

$$\Delta z = (f_x(x_0, y_0) + \varepsilon_1) \Delta x + (f_y(x_0, y_0) + \varepsilon_2) \Delta y, \quad ①$$

where $\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow 0$ and $\varepsilon_2 \rightarrow 0$ as $(\Delta x, \Delta y) \rightarrow (0, 0)$.

- By differentiability of x and y at t_0 ,
- $$\Delta x = (x'(t_0) + \epsilon_x) \Delta t, \quad \Delta y = (y'(t_0) + \epsilon_y) \Delta t,$$
- where $\epsilon_x \rightarrow 0$ and $\epsilon_y \rightarrow 0$ as $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$.

- Then ① becomes

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta z &= (f_x(x_0, y_0) + \epsilon_1)(x'(t_0) + \epsilon_x) \Delta t \\ &\quad + (f_y(x_0, y_0) + \epsilon_2)(y'(t_0) + \epsilon_y) \Delta t,\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{\Delta z}{\Delta t} = (f_x(x_0, y_0) + \epsilon_1)x'(t_0) + (f_y(x_0, y_0) + \epsilon_2)y'(t_0) \quad ②$$

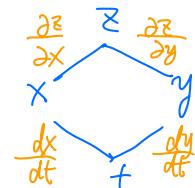
- As $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$, $(\Delta x, \Delta y) \rightarrow (0, 0)$, so $\epsilon_1 \rightarrow 0$ and $\epsilon_2 \rightarrow 0$.
- Taking $\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0}$ on both sides of ② yields

$$\left. \frac{dz}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0} = f_x(x_0, y_0)x'(t_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)y'(t_0)$$

This chain rule is summarized in short as

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}.$$

This can be remembered using the
“branch diagram”.



Example

$$t=0 \quad x=0 \\ y=1$$

Suppose that $z = x^2y + 3xy^4$, $x = \sin(2t)$ and $y = \cos t$. Find dz/dt when $t = 0$.

$$\text{Ans : 6.} \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = (0+3)x^2 = (2xy+3y^4)[2\cos 2t]$$

6

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} = (x^2+12xy^3)(-\sin t)$$

General Case ($f(x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t))$).

Suppose $w = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, $x_1 = x_1(t), \dots, x_n = x_n(t)$, all differentiable. Then w is differentiable w.r.t. t , and

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x_1} \frac{dx_1}{dt} + \dots + \frac{\partial w}{\partial x_n} \frac{dx_n}{dt}.$$

Here x_i is the i th variable of f .

Q: How if $z = f(x, y)$, but x and y are both two-variable functions, say $x = x(s, t)$ and $y = y(s, t)$? E.g., z is altitude of mountain, by you want to know $\frac{\partial z}{\partial \theta}$, where $x = r\cos\theta$ and $y = r\sin\theta$?

Special Case 2

中间变量是 x

Suppose $z = f(x, y)$, $x = x(s, t)$, $y = y(s, t)$, all diff'able.

Then z is diff'able in (s, t) , and

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}, \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} &= \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \\ &= e^x \sin y \cdot t^2 + e^x \cos y \cdot 2st \\ &= \sin st e^{st^2} t^2 + e^{st^2} \cos st \cdot 2st\end{aligned}$$

Example

Suppose that $z = e^x \sin y$, $x = st^2$ and $y = s^2t$. Find $\partial z / \partial s$ and $\partial z / \partial t$.

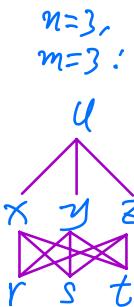
$$\begin{aligned}\text{Sol: } \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} &= \sin(s^2t) e^{st^2} t^2 + \cos(s^2t) e^{st^2} \cdot 2st . \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} &= \sin(st) e^{st^2} \cdot 2st + e^{st^2} \cos(st) \cdot s^2 . \quad = e^x \sin y \cdot 2st + e^x \cos y \cdot s^2\end{aligned}$$

General Case

Theorem (Chain Rule)

Suppose that $u = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ is a differentiable real-valued function with n variables, and suppose that for each i , $x_i = g_i(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m)$ is a differentiable real-valued function with m variables. Then u is differentiable with respect to (t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m) , and

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t_j} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial t_j} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial t_j} + \dots + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_n} \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial t_j}.$$



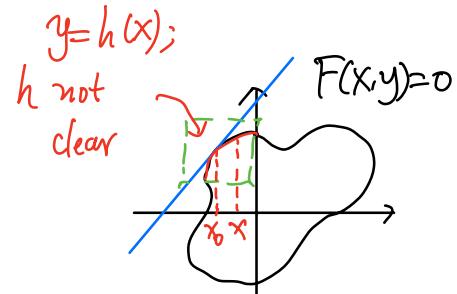
Implicit Differentiation 隱函數微分
Suppose y is an implicit function of x given by $y = h(x)$, h not clear.

Near a point (x_0, y_0) , e.g., $F(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0$.

Near (x_0, y_0) , the graph is parametrized by $x = t$, $y = h(t)$, $t \in (x_0 - \delta, x_0 + \delta)$.

Introduce $z = F(x, y)$. By considering only points on the curve, we have

$$F(x, y) = F(t, h(t)) = 0, \quad \forall t \in I := (x_0 - \delta, x_0 + \delta),$$



So

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = 0 \quad \forall t \in I. \quad (1)$$

(Can think of z as height of a mountain: Since the curve is a level curve, the height is not changing as t changes).

On the other hand, by the chain rule,

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = F_x \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + F_y \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} = F_x \cdot 1 + F_y \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}. \quad (2)$$

For $F_y \neq 0$, (1) & (2) implies that

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{t=x_0} = \left. -\frac{F_x}{F_y} \right|_{(x,y)=(x_0,y_0)}.$$

Since $x=t$, we may rewrite this as

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=x_0} = \left. -\frac{F_x}{F_y} \right|_{(x,y)=(x_0,y_0)}.$$

In short:

14.4.8

THEOREM 8—A Formula for Implicit Differentiation Suppose that $F(x, y)$ is differentiable and that the equation $F(x, y) = 0$ defines y as a differentiable function of x . Then at any point where $F_y \neq 0$,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{F_x}{F_y}. \quad (1)$$

$$x^3 + y^3 - 6xy = 0$$

$$3x^2 dx + 3y^2 dy - 6y dx - 6x dy = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{3x^2 - 6y}{6x - 3y^2}$$

Example

Find the slope of the tangent line to the curve $x^3 + y^3 = 6xy$ at the point $(3, 3)$.

Sol: $F(x,y) = x^3 + y^3 - 6xy$; $F_x = 3x^2 - 6y$, $F_y = 3y^2 - 6x$

$$\left. \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right|_{(x,y)=(3,3)} = -\frac{F_x(3,3)}{F_y(3,3)} = -1.$$

e.g. $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 1 = 0$

Similarly, a surface $F(x,y,z) = 0$ may define z implicitly as

differentiable

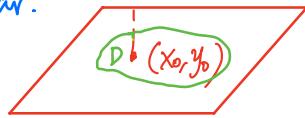
A level surface of F

a function of (x,y) near a point

(x_0, y_0, z_0) . Then $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ can

be found similarly: near (x_0, y_0, z_0) ,
the graph is a surface parametrized by

$$F(x,y,z) = 0, \quad z = h(x,y), \quad h \text{ not clear.}$$



Think of w as temperature $x = s, y = t, z = h(s,t), (s,t) \in D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$.

Let $w = F(x,y,z)$. If we only consider (x,y,z) points on the surface, then $F(s,t, h(s,t)) = 0 \quad \forall (s,t) \in D$, so $\frac{\partial w}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} = 0$.

On the other hand, by the chain rule,

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial s} = F_x \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + F_y \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} + F_z \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = F_x + F_z \frac{\partial z}{\partial s}, \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} = F_x \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + F_y \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} + F_z \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = F_y + F_z \frac{\partial z}{\partial t}. \quad (5)$$

From (3) & (4), if $F_z \neq 0$, then

$$\left. \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} \right|_{(s,t)=(x_0,y_0)} = \left. \frac{-F_x}{F_z} \right|_{(x,y,z)=(x_0,y_0,z_0)}.$$

Since $x=s$ and $y=t$ for the surface $z=h(x,y)$, we have

$$\left. \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \right|_{(x,y)=(x_0,y_0)} = \left. \frac{-F_x}{F_z} \right|_{(x,y,z)=(x_0,y_0,z_0)}.$$

The formula for $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ is similar. In short:

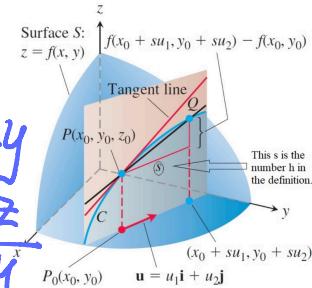
$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z} \text{ and } \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z}, \text{ whenever } F_z \neq 0.$$

Exercise

Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ if $x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 6xyz = 1$.

$$f_x = 3x^2 + 6yz \quad f_z = 3z^2 + 6xy$$

Directional Derivatives and Gradient Vectors



Q: Luigi is climbing a mountain and is now at horizontal position (x_0, y_0) , how fast will the altitude increase or decrease if he move in the direction $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle$? $f_y = 3y^2 + 6xz$ $- \frac{y^2 + 2xz}{z^2 + 2xy}$

A: Directional derivative.

Definition

方向导数

Let (x_0, y_0) be an interior point of the domain of a two-variable function f , and let \vec{u} be a unit vector in \mathbb{R}^2 . The (directional) derivative of f at (x_0, y_0) in the direction of \vec{u} , denoted by $D_{\vec{u}}f(x_0, y_0)$, is defined by

$$D_{\vec{u}}f(x_0, y_0) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + hu_1, y_0 + hu_2) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}.$$

In vector notation (which may generalize to n -variable functions) :

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{x}_0 + h\vec{u}) - f(\vec{x}_0)}{h}.$$

Try writing down an explicit def for $n=3$.

Remark

Note that both partial derivatives are special cases of directional derivatives: $f_x = D_{\vec{u}_1} f$ and $f_y = D_{\vec{u}_2} f$, where $\vec{u}_1 = \langle 1, 0 \rangle$ and $\vec{u}_2 = \langle 0, 1 \rangle$.

Q: If f is differentiable, given (x_0, y_0) and \vec{u} (unit), how to compute $D_{\vec{u}}(x_0, y_0)$?

Define $g(t) := f(x_0 + t u_1, y_0 + t u_2)$. Then $g(0) = f(x_0, y_0)$, and

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(h) - g(0)}{h} = g'(0).$$

On the other hand, by the chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned} g'(0) &= f'_x(x_0, y_0) \cdot x'(0) + f'_y(x_0, y_0) \cdot y'(0) \\ &= f'_x(x_0, y_0) u_1 + f'_y(x_0, y_0) u_2 = \nabla f(x_0, y_0) \cdot \vec{u}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\nabla f := \langle f_x, f_y \rangle$ is the gradient vector. 梯度.

Theorem

If f is a differentiable two-variable function, then

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(x_0, y_0) = f_x(x_0, y_0) u_1 + f_y(x_0, y_0) u_2.$$

In other words,

$$f_x = D_i f, \quad f_y = D_j f$$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(x_0, y_0) = \nabla f(x_0, y_0) \cdot \vec{u},$$

where $\nabla f := \langle f_x, f_y \rangle$.

Remark Def

The vector ∇f defined above is called the **gradient** or the **gradient vector** of f .

Example

$$\vec{u} = \left\langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle = -1$$

Find the directional derivative of $f(x, y) := xe^y + \cos(xy)$ at the point $(2, 0)$ in the direction of $\vec{v} = \langle 3, -4 \rangle$.

Solution
-1.

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(2, 0) = \nabla f \cdot \vec{u}|_{(2, 0)} = \langle 1, 2 \rangle \cdot \left\langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle$$
$$f_x = e^y - y \sin xy$$

In general, for an n -variable function $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, $f_x = xe^y - y \sin xy$
 $\nabla f := \langle f_x, \dots, f_n \rangle$. If f is diff'ble at a point $\vec{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$,
then it is still true that $f_x(2, 0) = 1$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}_0) = \nabla f(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \vec{u}. f_y(2, 0) = 2$$

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

Let \vec{u} be any unit vector. $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle$

$D_{\vec{u}} f(0, 0) =$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(0, 0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(hu_1, hu_2) - f(0, 0)}{h}$$
$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{h^2 u_1 u_2^2}{h^2 u_1^2 + h^4 u_2^4} - 0}{h} \xrightarrow{h \neq 0} \frac{u_1 u_2^2}{u_1^2 + h^2 u_2^4} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{u_1 u_2^2}{u_1^2} & \text{if } u_1 \neq 0 \\ \frac{u_2^2}{u_1} & \text{if } u_1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

Hence, all directional derivatives exist for f at $(0, 0)$.

For f direction derivative

exists & unit $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^2$

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

f is not cts at $(0, 0) \rightarrow$ not diff

If $u_1 = 0$ original formulae

$$\vec{u} = \langle 0, \pm 1 \rangle = 0$$

But f is not even continuous at $(0,0)$ as we have seen
in Lecture 14, let alone differentiable.

“ Existence of all directional derivatives
 $\not\Rightarrow$ differentiability ”