

Tangent planes:

Recall: • On the xy plane, any line has equation $y = mx + b$. A vector equation for this line is

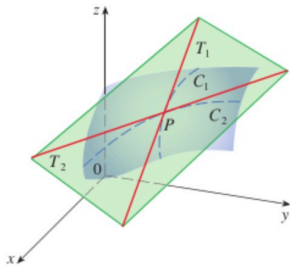
$$L(t) = \langle 0, b \rangle + t \langle 1, m \rangle = \langle t, mt + b \rangle \quad (\text{parametric: } x=t, y=mt+b \Rightarrow \text{symmetric: } x = \frac{y-b}{m} \Rightarrow y=mx+b)$$

• If $f(x)$ is differentiable at a then $y - f(a) = f'(a)(x - a)$ is the equation for the tangent line
 $\Rightarrow y = f'(a)x + f(a) - af'(a)$

• In vector form: $L(t) = \langle 0, f(a) - a \cdot f'(a) \rangle + t \langle 1, f'(a) \rangle$

• So a direction vector for the tangent line is $\langle 1, f'(a) \rangle$.

The tangent plane contains the tangent lines T_1 and T_2 .



- for a surface $z = f(x, y)$, fix a point $x = x_0, y = y_0$ and $z = z_0 = f(x_0, y_0)$, say this is the point (x_0, y_0, z_0) .
- Consider the plane $y = y_0$, and let C_1 be the trace of the surface on this plane.

• C_1 has the equation $z = f(x, y_0)$. It can be thought of as a curve on the z - x plane.

- The equation to its tangent line at (x_0, y_0) is $z = z_0 + f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0)$
- Vector equation for T_1 : $L_1(t) = \langle 0, 0, z_0 - f_x(x_0, y_0)x_0 \rangle + t \langle 1, 0, f_x(x_0, y_0) \rangle$
- Similarly, let C_2 be the trace along the $x = x_0$ plane, with tangent line T_2 . $(z = z_0 + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0))$
- It has the vector equation T_2 : $L_2(s) = \langle 0, 0, z_0 - f_y(x_0, y_0)y_0 \rangle + s \langle 0, 1, f_y(x_0, y_0) \rangle$
- So T_1 has direction vector $\vec{v}_1 = \langle 1, 0, f_x(x_0, y_0) \rangle$ and T_2 has direction vector $\vec{v}_2 = \langle 0, 1, f_y(x_0, y_0) \rangle$.
- Def: Tangent plane at (x_0, y_0, z_0) is the plane spanned by \vec{v}_1 and \vec{v}_2 .
- It has $\vec{n} = \vec{v}_1 \times \vec{v}_2$ as a normal vector.

$$\text{where } \vec{n} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & 0 & f_x(x_0, y_0) \\ 0 & 1 & f_y(x_0, y_0) \end{vmatrix} = -f_x(x_0, y_0)\hat{i} - f_y(x_0, y_0)\hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

→ Equation for the tangent plane at (x_0, y_0, z_0) is

$$-f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) - f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0) + (z - z_0) = 0$$

OR:

$$z - z_0 = f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0)$$

Linear approximations:

Def: The linear function

$L(x, y) = f(a, b) + f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b)$ is called the linearization of f at (a, b) .

- The approximation $f(x, y) \approx L(x, y) = f(a, b) + f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b)$ is called the linear approximation or the tangent plane approximation of f at (a, b) .

Important: If f_x and f_y are not CTS at a point, linear approximation there need not work.

7 Definition

If $z = f(x, y)$, then f is **differentiable** at (a, b) if Δz can be expressed in the form

$$\Delta z = f_x(a, b) \Delta x + f_y(a, b) \Delta y + \varepsilon_1 \Delta x + \varepsilon_2 \Delta y$$

where ε_1 and ε_2 are functions of Δx and Δy such that ε_1 and $\varepsilon_2 \rightarrow 0$ as $(\Delta x, \Delta y) \rightarrow (0, 0)$.

In other words: differentiable functions are those for which linear approximations work.

8 Theorem

If the partial derivatives f_x and f_y exist near (a, b) and are continuous at (a, b) , then f is differentiable at (a, b) .

Differential:

Def: For a differentiable function $z = f(x, y)$, define the differentials dx and dy to be independent variables; that is they can be given any value.

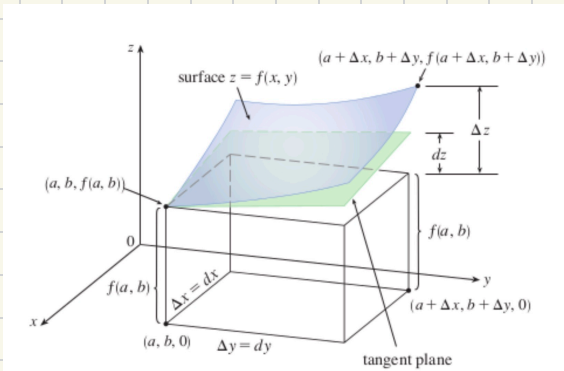
Then the differential dz (also called total differential), is defined by

$$dz = f_x(x, y) dx + f_y(x, y) dy = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} dy$$

Remarks: Let $dx = \Delta x = x - a$ and $dy = \Delta y = y - b$ then

$$dz = f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b).$$

- So that $f(x, y) \approx f(a, b) + dz$.
- dz represents the change in height of the tangent plane.
- Δz represents the change in height of the surface when (x, y) changes from (a, b) to $(a + \Delta x, b + \Delta y)$.



Example 4

(a) If $z = f(x, y) = x^2 + 3xy - y^2$, find the differential dz .

(b) If x changes from 2 to 2.05 and y changes from 3 to 2.96, compare the values of Δz and dz .

$$(a) \quad f_x = 2x + 3y, \quad f_y = 3x - 2y$$

$$\Rightarrow dz = (2x + 3y) dx + (3x - 2y) dy$$

$$(b) \quad (a, b) = (2, 3) \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta x = 2.05 - 2 = 0.05, \quad \Delta y = 2.96 - 3 = -0.04$$

$$\text{Actual change in height is } f(2.05, 2.96) - f(2, 3) \approx 0.6449$$

$$\text{Approximate change: } dz = f_x(2, 3) \Delta x + f_y(2, 3) \Delta y$$

$$= (4 + 9)(0.05) + (6 - 6)(-0.04)$$

$$= 13 \times 0.05 = 0.65$$

Section 14.4: Chain Rules

Recall: $y = f(x)$, $x = g(t) \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$

1 The Chain Rule (Case 1)

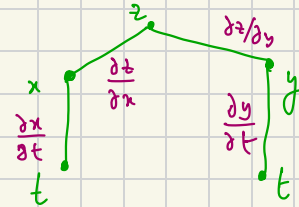
Suppose that $z = f(x, y)$ is a differentiable function of x and y , where $x = g(t)$ and $y = h(t)$ are both differentiable functions of t . Then z is a differentiable function of t and

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

$$z = f(x, y) = f(g(t), h(t))$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dt} = f_x \cdot \frac{dg}{dt} + f_y \cdot \frac{dh}{dt}$$

z is the dependent var.
 x, y are intermediate var.
 t independent var.



Example 1

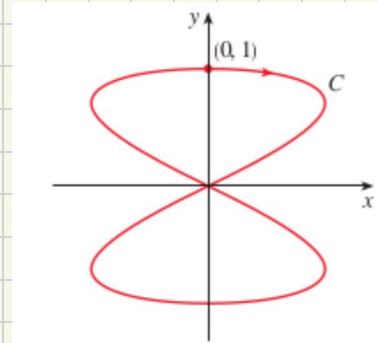
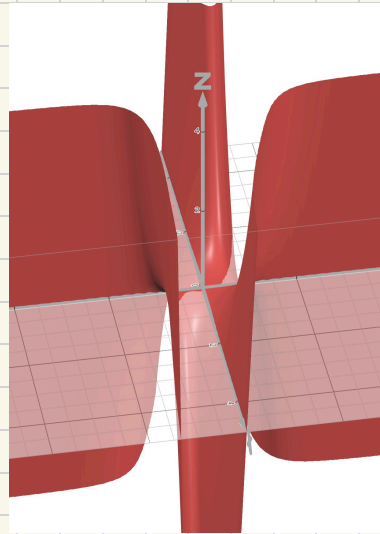
If $z = x^2y + 3xy^4$, where $x = \sin 2t$ and $y = \cos t$, find dz/dt when $t = 0$.

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

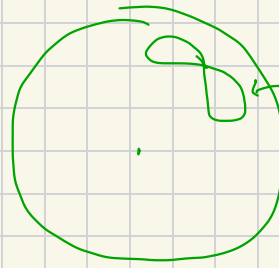
$$= (2xy + 3y^4) (2 \cos 2t) + (x^2 + 12xy^3) (-\sin t)$$

$$x(0) = 0, y(0) = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow z'(0) &= (0 + 3) (2 \cdot 1) + (0 + 0) (0) \\ &= 6. \end{aligned}$$



Eg:

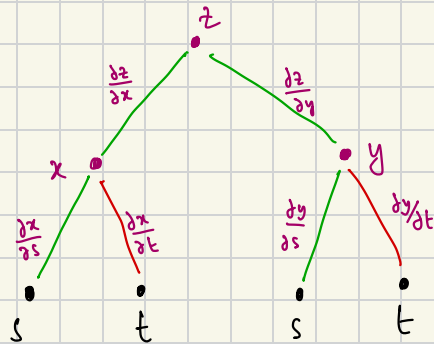


a curve "on" the
sphere.

2 The Chain Rule (Case 2)

Suppose that $z = f(x, y)$ is a differentiable function of x and y , where $x = g(s, t)$ and $y = h(s, t)$ are differentiable functions of s and t . Then

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



Example 3

If $z = e^x \sin y$, where $x = st^2$ and $y = s^2t$, find $\partial z / \partial s$ and $\partial z / \partial t$.

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

3 The Chain Rule (General Version)

Suppose that u is a differentiable function of the n *intermediate* variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n and each x_j is a differentiable function of the m *independent* variables t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m . Then u is a function of t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m and

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

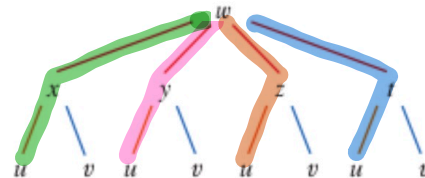
for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Example 4

Write out the Chain Rule for the case where $w = f(x, y, z, t)$ and $x = x(u, v)$, $y = y(u, v)$, $z = z(u, v)$, and $t = t(u, v)$.

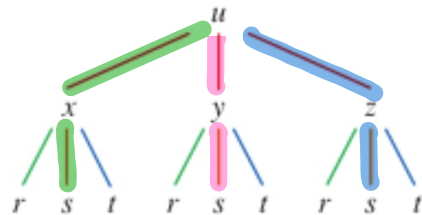
$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial u}$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial v}$$



Example 5

If $u = x^4 y + y^2 z^3$, where $x = rse^t$, $y = rs^2 e^{-t}$, and $z = r^2 s \sin t$, find the value of $\partial u / \partial s$ when $r = 2$, $s = 1$, $t = 0$.



$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 4x^3 y, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = x^4 + 2yz^3, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 3y^2 z^2$$

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial s} = re^t, \quad \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} = 2rse^{-t}, \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = r^2 \sin t$$

$$x(2, 1, 0) = 2, \quad y(2, 1, 0) = 2, \quad z(2, 1, 0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(2, 1, 0) = 4 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 2 = 64, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(2, 1, 0) = 16, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}(2, 1, 0) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial s}(2, 1, 0) = 2, \quad \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}(2, 1, 0) = 4, \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial s}(2, 1, 0) = (64)(2) + (16)(4) + (0)(0) = \boxed{192}$$

Implicit Differentiation

Context: Suppose that $F(x, y) = 0$ defines y implicitly as a differentiable function of x .

• That is $y = f(x)$ where $F(x, f(x)) = 0$ for all x in the domain of f .

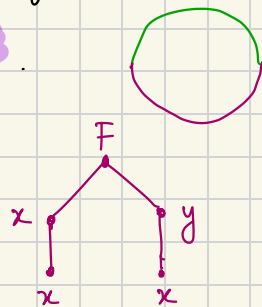
Eg: $F(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - r^2$ and $f(x) = \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$ or $f(x) = -\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$.

From the chain rule: (think of x as a function x as well)

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{dx}{dx}}_{=1} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

So if $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \neq 0$:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-\partial F / \partial x}{\partial F / \partial y} = \frac{-F_x}{F_y}$$



Example 8

Find y' if $x^3 + y^3 = 6xy$.

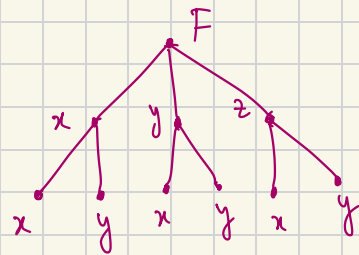
$$\underline{A:} \quad F(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 6xy \quad \Rightarrow \quad F_x = 3x^2 - 6y, \quad F_y = 3y^2 - 6x$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = y' = -\frac{F_x}{F_y} = -\frac{(3x^2 - 6y)}{(3y^2 - 6x)} = -\frac{(x^2 - 2y)}{(y^2 - 2x)}$$

- Now, suppose that $z = f(x, y)$ is given implicitly by $F(x, y, z) = 0$. That is $F(x, y, f(x, y))$ in the domain of f . (x and y are independent so $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ and $\frac{dx}{dy} = 0$)
- Suppose that F and f are differentiable, then by chain rule:

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial x}{\partial x}}_{=1} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}}_{=0} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = f_x = -\frac{F_x}{F_z}$$



Similarly, $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial x}{\partial y}}_{=0} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial y}{\partial y}}_{=1} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = f_y = -\frac{F_y}{F_z}$$

Example 9

Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ if $x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 6xyz + 4 = 0$.

$$F(x, y, z) = x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 6xyz + 4$$

$$F_x = 3x^2 + 6yz \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z} = -\frac{(3x^2 + 6yz)}{(3z^2 + 6xy)}$$

$$F_y = 3y^2 + 6xz$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z} = -\frac{(3y^2 + 6xz)}{(3z^2 + 6xy)}$$

$$F_z = 3z^2 + 6xy$$