

Intuition:

By this point, we should be familiar with partial derivatives in higher dimension. Now the question is, how should we differentiate a composite function. For example, if $y=f(x)$ and $x=g(t)$, what is $\frac{dy}{dt}$? We know how to do this using chain rule from first year calculus. If $z=f(x,y)$, $x=g(t)$ and $y=h(t)$, then z is a function of t . What is $\frac{dz}{dt}$? This leads to our discussion of chain-rule in higher dimension.

Useful Formulas:**1. The Chain Rule(General Version):**

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

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

2. Implicit Function Theorem:

If F is defined on a disk containing (a,b) , where $F(a,b) = 0$, $F_y(a,b) \neq 0$, and F_x and F_y are continuous on the disk, then the equation $F(x,y) = 0$ defines y as a function of x near the point (a,b) and the derivative of this function is given by

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

3. Suppose that z is given implicitly as a function $z=f(x,y)$ by an equation of the form $F(x,y,z)=0$. This means that $F(x,y,f(x,y))=0$ for all (x,y) in the domain of f , then

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial z}}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial z}}$$

Questions:

1. Use the Chain Rule to find dz/dt : $z = xy^3 - x^2y$, $x = t^2 + 1$, $y = t^2 - 1$
2. Use the Chain Rule to find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial s}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial t}$: $z = (x - y)^5$, $x = s^2t$, $y = st^2$
3. Suppose that $z=f(x,y)$ has continuous second order partial derivatives and $x = s^2 - t^2$, $y = 2st$. Use the chain rule to find the function $g(s,t)$ satisfying the following equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial s^2} + \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial t^2} = g(s,t) \left(\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

4. Let $p(t) = f(g(t), h(t))$, where f is differentiable, $g(2) = 4$, $g'(2) = -3$, $h(2) = 5$, $h'(2) = 6$, $f_x(4, 5) = 2$, $f_y(4, 5) = 8$. Find $p'(2)$
5. Find the equations of all planes that pass through the points $(1,1,1)$ and $(2,0,1)$ and also are tangent to the surface $\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{2} + z^2 = 1$
 - (a) Let $F(x, y, z) = \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{2} + z^2$. What is F_x , F_y , and F_z
 - (b) Notice the surface $\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{2} + z^2 = 1$ is the level surface of the function $F(x, y, z)$. What is the equation of the tangent plane to the level surface at (a,b,c) ?
 - (c) Can you simplify the equation, given that the point (a,b,c) is on the surface(i.e. satisfies the equation)?
 - (d) Deduce an equation of a,b,c , given the conditions the points on the plane passed through the points $(1,1,1)$ and $(2,0,1)$