

11.4: Tangent Planes and Linear Approximations

Friday, September 4, 2020 8:57 AM

& Polynomial Approx Degree 2

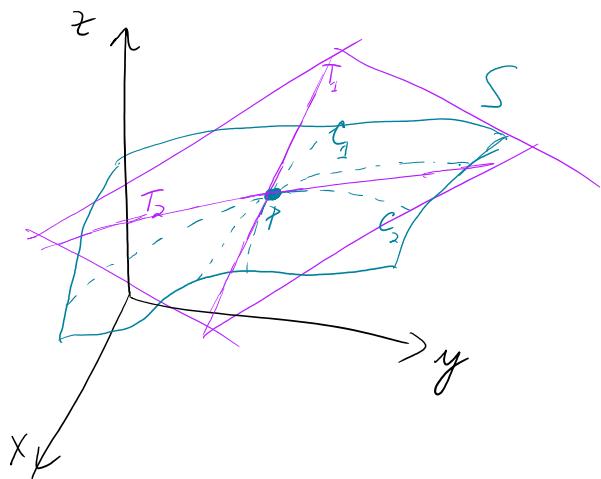
ex. $z = f(x, y) \rightsquigarrow$ surface S

$$P = (x_0, y_0, f(x_0, y_0))$$

on surface

$$(plane \quad y = y_0) \cap S = C_1$$

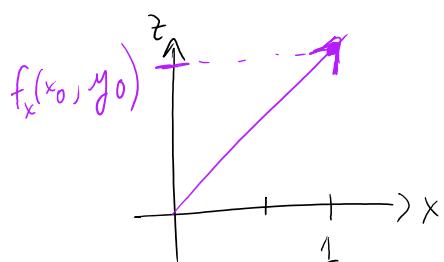
$$(plane \quad x = x_0) \cap S = C_2$$



plane is tangent
to S at point P

- Know the plane contains tan. lines in all directions,
in particular, the x & y directions.

- Recall (i) tan. line to surface $z = f(x, y)$ in x direction
has slope $f_x(x_0, y_0)$. Direction vector?



In 3D $\rightsquigarrow \vec{u} = \langle 1, 0, f_x(x_0, y_0) \rangle$
as dir. vector

- (ii) tan. line in y -direction has direction vector

$$\left\langle 0, 1, \underbrace{f_y(x_0, y_0)}_{y} \right\rangle = \vec{v}$$

- So have two dir. vectors \vec{u}, \vec{v} for the tangent plane,
so $\vec{n} = \vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ is normal vect. for tan. plane:

$$\vec{n} = \vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & 0 & u_3 \end{vmatrix} = \vec{i}(0 - u_3) - \vec{j}(u_3 - 0) + \vec{k}(1 - 0)$$

$$\vec{n} = \vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} u & v & w \\ 1 & 0 & u_3 \\ 0 & 1 & v_3 \end{vmatrix} = i(0 - u_3) - j(v_3 - 0) + k(1 - u) \\ = \langle -u_3, -v_3, 1 \rangle$$

$$\vec{n} = \langle -f_x(x_0, y_0), -f_y(x_0, y_0), 1 \rangle$$

• Know $P = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$ on plane, where $z_0 = f(x_0, y_0)$

$$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0, \quad \vec{n} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow -f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) - f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0) + z - f(x_0, y_0) = 0$$

$$\boxed{z - f(x_0, y_0) = f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0)}$$

Def. ↑ is the scalar eq'n of the tan. plane to the surface

$z = f(x, y)$ at the point $(x_0, y_0, f(x_0, y_0))$, if

f_x & f_y both continuous at (x_0, y_0) .

Linear Approximations

close to (x_0, y_0, z_0) on surface $z = f(x, y)$, the

$$\text{tan. plane } z = f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0) + z_0$$

$$\approx f(x_0, y_0)$$

b/c plane is "close" to surface near (x_0, y_0, z_0)

ex. $z = x^2 + y^2$, $(1, 0, 1)$ on surf.

$$f_x = 2x \Rightarrow f_x(1, 0) = 2$$

$$f_y = 2y \Rightarrow f_y(1, 0) = 0$$

tan. plane approx. near $(1, 0, 1)$:

$$\begin{aligned} z &= f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0) + z_0 \\ &= 2(x - 1) + 0(y - 0) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$z = 2x - 1$$

use $z = 2x - 1$ to approx. $f(1, 0)$

- $z = z(1) - 1 = 1$ ✓ same b/c wed $(1, 0, 1)$
- $f(1, 0) = 1^2 + 0^2 = 1$ to build tan. plane

Near $(1, 0)$, $f(x, y) \approx ?$

Def. The linearization of $f(x, y)$ at (a, b) , assuming

f_x & f_y cont., is

$$z = L(x, y) = f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b)$$

(solve for z)

Recall $y = f(x)$, if x changes from a to $a + \Delta x$, the increment of y is $\Delta y = f(a + \Delta x) - f(a)$, and $f'(a)$

exists if $\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + \Delta x) - f(a)}{\Delta x} = f'(a)$ exists.

- i. $[f(a + \Delta x) - f(a) - f'(a)] = 0$, say

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(a + \Delta x) - f(a)}{\Delta x} - f'(a) \right] = 0, \text{ say}$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{f(a + \Delta x) - f(a)}{\Delta x} - f'(a)$$

$$\Rightarrow \varepsilon_{\Delta x} = f(a + \Delta x) - f(a) - f'(a)\Delta x \\ = \Delta y - f'(a)\Delta x$$

~~Def.~~ $\Rightarrow \Delta y = f'(a)\Delta x + \varepsilon_{\Delta x}$, where $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ as $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$.

Def. 1) The increment of z is

$$\Delta z = f(a + \Delta x, b + \Delta y) - f(a, b)$$

2) If $z = f(x, y)$, say f is differentiable at (a, b)

if Δz can be written

hard to we $\Delta z = \underline{f_x(a, b)\Delta x} + \underline{f_y(a, b)\Delta y} + \underline{\varepsilon_1 \Delta x} + \underline{\varepsilon_2 \Delta y}$

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

Note the above def. says f differentiable at (a, b) if the tan. plane approximates the graph of f well near the point of tangency $(a, b, f(a, b))$.

Th'm If f_x & f_y continuous in a disk cent. at (a, b) , then f differentiable at (a, b) .

(i.e. f is C^1 near (a, b))

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Differentials

For $y = f(x)$, let dx be an ind. var.

$$\text{Then } dy = f'(x) dx$$

For differentiable $z = f(x, y)$, let dx & dy ind. var.)

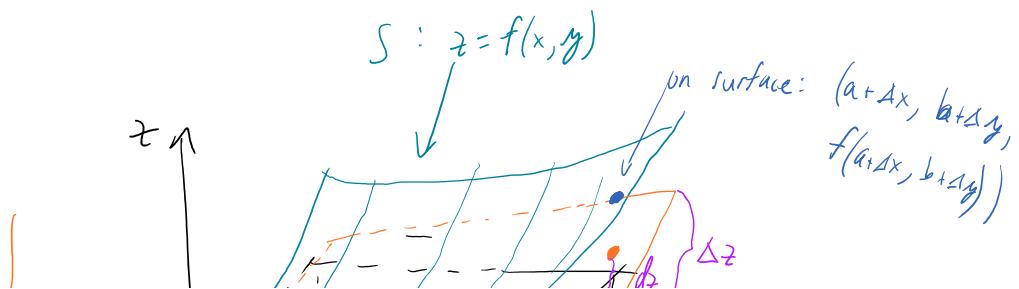
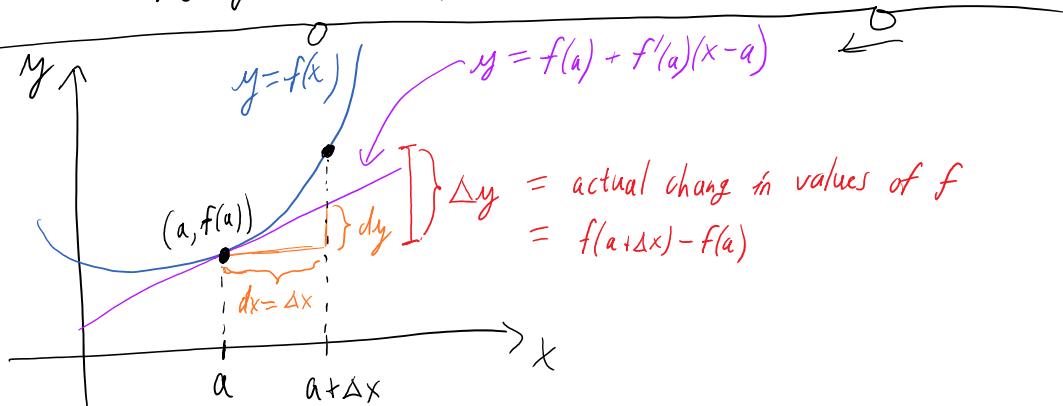
$$\text{and } dz = f_x(x, y) dx + f_y(x, y) dy$$

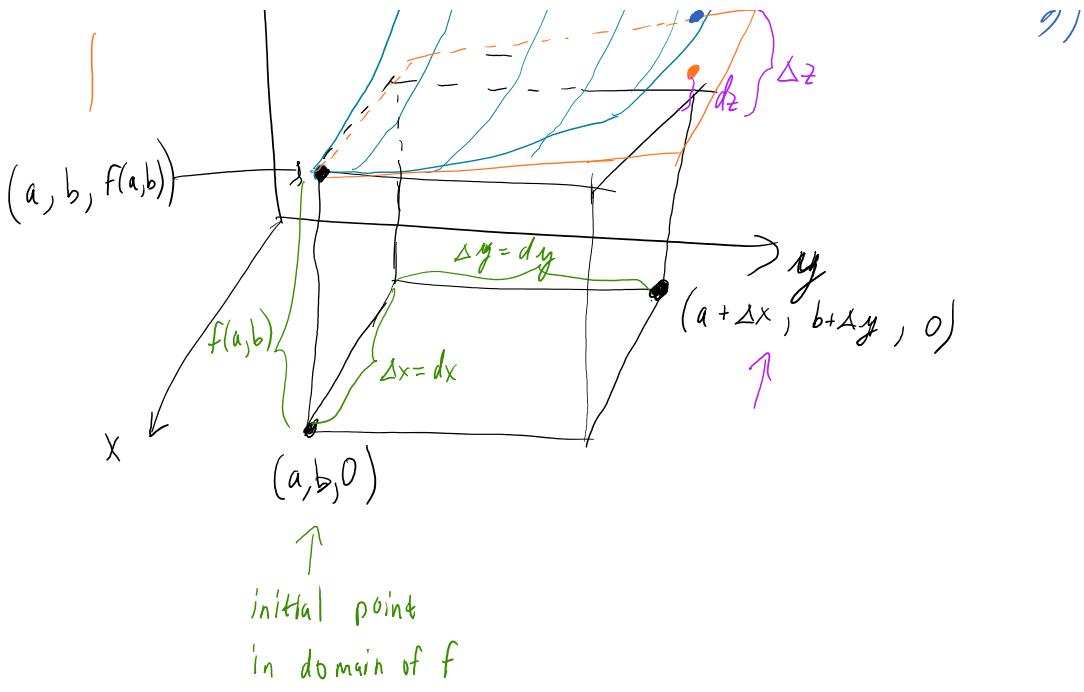
Def. dz is the (total) differential.

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

Aside If we take $dx = \Delta x = x - a$, and $dy = \Delta y = y - b$, have $dz = f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b)$, so in differential notation, the linear approx. is

$$f(x, y) \approx f(a, b) + dz$$





Ex. $z = f(x, y) = x^2 + 3xy - y^2$

(a) Find dz

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

Sol'n: (a) $dz = f_x(x, y)dx + f_y(x, y)dy$
 $= (2x + 3y)dx + (3x - 2y)dy$

(b) $x = 2, \Delta x = 0.05 = dx$

$y = 3, \Delta y = -0.04 = dy$

$$dz = [2(2) + 3(3)](0.05) + [3(2) - 2(3)](-0.04)$$

$$= \underline{\underline{0.65}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta z &= f(a + \Delta x, b + \Delta y) - f(a, b) \\
 &= f(2.05, 2.96) - f(2, 3) \\
 &= \left[(2.05)^2 + 3(2.05)(2.96) - (2.96)^2 \right] - \left[2^2 + 3(2)(3) - 3^2 \right] \\
 &= \underline{0.6449}
 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \Delta z \approx dz$, but dz easier to compute

Ex. The radius & height of a right circular cone are measured as 10 cm and 25 cm resp., with a possible error in meas. of as much as 0.1 cm in each. Use differentials to estimate the max. error in the calculated volume of the cone.

Soln: $V = \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h$

$$dV = V_r dr + V_h dh$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\pi}{3} h (2r) dr + \frac{\pi}{3} r^2 dh. \quad \text{Note } |2r| \leq 0.1 = dr \\
 &\quad |\Delta h| \leq 0.1 = dh
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{3} (25)(2 \cdot 10)(0.1) + \frac{\pi}{3} 10^2 (0.1)$$

$$= \boxed{20\pi \text{ cm}^3}$$

Func. of ≥ 3 Var.

Linear approx. of $f(x, y, z)$ at (a, b, c) is

$$L(x, y, z) = f_x(a, b, c)(x-a) + f_y(a, b, c)(y-b) + f_z(a, b, c)(z-c) + f(a, b, c)$$

$$\approx f(x, y, z)$$

Def. The increment of $w = f(x, y, z)$ is

$$\Delta w = f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y, z + \Delta z) - f(x, y, z), \text{ and}$$

the differential of w is

$$dw = w_x dx + w_y dy + w_z dz.$$

Degree 2 Taylor Approximations

$f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$, f is $C^2(D)$, i.e.

all 2nd partials of f are cont. on D , where $(a, b) \in D$.

For (x, y) near (a, b) , $f(x, y) \approx P_2(x, y)$, where

$$P_2(x, y) = f(a, b) + f_x(a, b)(x-a) + f_y(a, b)(y-b)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \left[f_{xx}(a, b)(x-a)^2 + 2f_{xy}(a, b)(x-a)(y-b) + f_{yy}(a, b)(y-b)^2 \right]$$

ex (mathinsight.org) Approximate f by P_2 , where

$$f(x, y) = e^{x+y} \text{ at } (0, 0) = (a, b).$$

Sol'n: $f_x = e^{x+y} = f_y$ $f(0, 0) = 1$

$$f_{xx} = e^{x+y} = f_{yy} \quad f_x(0, 0) = 1 = f_y(0, 0) = f_{xy}(0, 0) = f_{yx}(0, 0) \\ = f_{xx}(0, 0) = f_{yy}(0, 0)$$

$$f_{xy} = e^{x+y}$$

$$\therefore P_2(x, y) = 1 + 1(x - 0) + 1(y - 0)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \left[(x - 0)^2 + 2(x - 0)(y - 0) + (y - 0)^2 \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{x+y} \approx 1 + x + y + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + xy + \frac{1}{2}y^2 \quad \text{near } (0, 0)$$