

# NOTE BOOK

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## DIFFERENTIALS

If  $y = f(x)$  is a function of one variable, then  $dy = f'(x)dx$  is called the differential. We also have differentials for more than 1 variable.

Given the function  $z = f(x, y)$ , then the differential  $dz$  is given by:

$$dz = f_x dx + f_y dy$$

This can be extended to function of 3 or more variables. For e.g. given the function  $w = g(x, y, z)$ , the differential is given by:

$$dw = g_x dx + g_y dy + g_z dz$$

EX: Let  $w = \frac{x^3 y^6}{z^2}$

$$\Rightarrow dw = \frac{3x^2 y^6}{z^2} dx + \frac{x^3 \cdot 6y^5}{z^2} dy + \frac{2x^3 y^6}{z^3} dz$$

## PARTIAL DERIVATIVES AND CONTINUITY

A function  $f(x, y)$  can have partial derivatives w.r.t. both  $x$  and  $y$  at a point without the function being continuous there. This is different from fact. of single variable, where the existence of a derivative implies continuity.

EX: Let  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0, & xy \neq 0 \\ 1, & xy = 0 \end{cases}$

Notice that  $f(0, 0) = 1$  ( $xy = 0 \rightarrow \frac{x=0}{y=0} \cdot 0 \cdot 0 = 0$ )

$\lim_{(xy) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y) \mid_{\text{along } y=x} = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} 0 = 0$

- f is not continuous at (0,0)

Along the line  $y=x$ ,  $f(x, y)$  is constantly zero (except at the origin)

But  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0,0) = 0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(0,0)$  (exists)

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0,0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h, 0) - f(0,0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{f(h,0)}^1 - \cancel{f(0,0)}^1}{h} = 0$

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$$\text{Also } \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(0,0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0,h) - f(0,0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1-1}{h} = 0$$

## THM: Differentiability implies Continuity

- If the partial derivatives  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  of a fct.  $f(x,y)$  are continuous throughout an open region  $R$ , then  $f$  is differentiable at every point of  $R$ .
- If a fct.  $f(x,y)$  is differentiable at  $(x_0, y_0)$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $(x_0, y_0)$

**EX:** The function  $f(x,y) = x^2y^3$  is everywhere differentiable, since  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2xy^3$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 3x^2y^2$  are everywhere continuous.

## REMARKS

Let  $\varepsilon = f(x,y)$

- $f$  is differentiable at  $(a,b)$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $(a,b)$ . However, the converse is not true. Continuity does not imply differentiability.
- If  $f$  is differentiable at  $(a,b)$ , then the partial derivative  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  exist at  $(a,b)$ . However, existence of partial derivatives doesn't imply differentiability. In fact, existence of partial derivatives doesn't guarantee continuity.

→ In single variable calculus, a fct.  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is differentiable at  $x=a$  if the following lim exists:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x-a} = f'(a)$$

lim exists iff  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left( \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x-a} - f'(a) \right) = 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left( \frac{f(x) - f(a) - f'(a)(x-a)}{x-a} \right) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - L(x)}{a} = 0$$

where  $L(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) \rightarrow L(x)$  is the linear approx. to  $f$  at  $x=a$

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So, roughly speaking, a single variable fct. is diff. iff the differential between  $f(x)$  and its linear  $\approx$  goes zero as we approach the point.

Now:  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$       / Let  $h(x,y) = f(a,b) + f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b)$   
 $(x,y) \rightarrow f(x,y)$       ↑ linear approx. = eqn. of the tan. plane

## FORMAL DEFINITION OF DIFFERENTIABILITY

Consider  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and suppose that the partial derivatives  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  are defined at the pt.  $(x,y) = (a,b)$ . Define the linear fct

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

We say that  $f$  is differentiable at  $(a,b)$  if:

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} \frac{f(x,y) - h(x,y)}{\|(x,y) - (a,b)\|} = 0$$

If either of the partial derivatives  $f_x(a,b)$  and  $f_y(a,b)$  do not exist, or the above limit doesn't exist or not zero, then  $f$  is not diff. at  $(a,b)$

**Ex:** Study the differentiability of the following fct at  $(0,0)$

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x\sqrt{y}}{x^2+y^2} & (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0 & (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\partial f(0,0)}{\partial x} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h,0) - f(0,0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{h\sqrt{0}}{h^2+0} - 0}{h} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f(0,0)}{\partial y} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0,h) - f(0,0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0 - 0}{h} = 0$$

$$\text{Now, let's check if } \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{f(x,y) - [f(0,0) - f_x(0,0)(x-0) - f_y(0,0)(y-0)]}{\sqrt{(x-0)^2 + (y-0)^2}}$$

$$= \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\frac{x\sqrt{y}}{x^2+y^2} - 0 - 0 - 0}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x\sqrt{y}}{(x^2+y^2)\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}$$

Now, let's see along  $y=0$  and  $y=x$   $\downarrow$

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Along  $x=0$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x\sqrt{y}}{(x^2+y^2)\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 0 = 0$

Along  $y=x$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x\sqrt{x}}{(x^2+x^2)\sqrt{2x^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2x\sqrt{2x}} = \infty$

The fct. is not diff at  $(0,0)$

**EX2:** Show that the fct.  $f(x,y) = xy + 2x + y$  is diff at  $(0,0)$

$$f_x(x,y) = y + 2 \Rightarrow f_x(0,0) = 2$$

$$f_y(x,y) = x + 1 \Rightarrow f_y(0,0) = 1$$

$$f(0,0) = 0$$

$$h(x,y) = f(0,0) + f_x(0,0)(x) + f_y(0,0)y = 0 + 2x + y = 2x + y \quad \text{and}$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{f(x,y) - h(x,y)}{\sqrt{(x^2-0)^2 + (y-0)^2}} = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy + 2x + y - 2x - y}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{polar} \\ \text{coordinates} \end{matrix} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{r \cos \theta r \sin \theta}{\sqrt{r^2}} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{r^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta}{|r|}$$

$$\text{But } -1 \leq \cos \theta \sin \theta \leq 1 \Rightarrow -|r| \leq \frac{r^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta}{|r|} \leq |r|$$

$$\text{Since } \lim_{-|r|} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} |r| = 0,$$

$$\text{By sandwich thm, } \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{r^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta}{|r|} = 0$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{f(x,y) - h(x,y)}{\|(x-y) - (0,0)\|} = 0 \quad \text{and}$$

hence  $f$  is diff at  $(0,0)$

## GRAPHICAL INTERPRETATION OF PARTIAL DERIVATIVES

Given a fct.  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , we know that  $f(x_0)$  gives the slope of the tg. line to the graph of  $f$  at  $x_0$ .

# CALCULUS 2

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Now let  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Fix  $y=b$  (plane)

Let  $g(x) = f(x, b)$

$$\text{Then } \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b) = \frac{dg}{dx}(a)$$

it is the slope of the tg line to the curve  
that results from the intersection of the plane  $y=b$   
and the surface at the pt.  $(a, b)$

graph of  $y$

Fix  $x=a$

let  $h(y) = f(a, y)$  (fct. of  $y$ )

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b) = \frac{dh}{dy}(b)$$

$\Rightarrow$  The partial derivative of  $f$  w.r.t.  $y$  at  $(a, b)$   
is the slope of the tg. line at the intersection  
of the graph of  $y$  with the plane  $x=a$

Ex:

The plane  $x=1$  intersects the paraboloid  $z=x^2+y^2$   
in a parabola.

Find the slope of the tg line to the parabola at  $(1, 2, 5)$

Sol. The slope is given by  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}(1, 2)$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \Big|_{(1, 2)} = 2y \Big|_{(1, 2)} = (2)(2) = 4$$

To check, we can treat the parabola as the graph  
of single-variable fct.  $z = y^2 + 1$  in the plane  $x=1$   
and ask for the slope at  $y=2$ .

The slope is given by the ordinary derivative:

$$\frac{dz}{dy} \Big|_{y=2} = \frac{d}{dy}(1+y^2) \Big|_{y=2} = 2y \Big|_{y=2} = 4$$