

$$f(x, y) = x^2 y$$

$$\vec{v} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Consider function and a vector \vec{v} (normalized)

$$\nabla_{\vec{v}} f(-1, -1) = \nabla f \cdot \vec{v}$$

Directional derivative at a specified point, say $(-1, -1)$ is given by the formula

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} \partial f / \partial x \\ \partial f / \partial y \end{bmatrix}$$

Gradient is computed using the formula. For the given function, the gradient at $(-1, -1)$ is

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2xy \\ x^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Now, substituting in the second equation above, we get the directional derivative as

For more details, watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4tdyIGIEtNU>

Multi-variable chain rule for differentiation

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(x(t), y(t)) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}$$

Watch the details at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NO3AqAaAE6o>