

Partial Derivatives

The partial derivatives of a function $f(x, y)$ at the point (a, b) in the domain of f are:

$$f_x(a, b) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+t, b) - f(a, b)}{t} \quad \text{Partial with respect to } x.$$

$$f_y(a, b) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b+t) - f(a, b)}{t} \quad \text{partial wrt } y.$$

$$\text{let } g(x) := f(x, b) \quad g'(a) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(a+t) - g(a)}{t} = f_x(a, b)$$

$$\text{let } h(y) := f(a, y) \quad h'(b) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(b+t) - h(b)}{t} = f_y(a, b)$$

Example $e^{(x^2+2y)} = f(x,y)$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x e^{(x^2+2y)}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2e^{(x^2+2y)}$$