

Recall the equation for a tangent line to a curve:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{slope of Tangent} &= f'(x_0) \\ \text{equation " " " } &= f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) \\ &= T_1(x) \quad \text{Taylor polynomial.} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  be a point. A plane passing through  $P$  has an equation of the form  $A(x - x_0) + B(y - y_0) + C(z - z_0) = 0$  where not all  $A, B, C \equiv 0$ .

If we solve this for  $z$ , on a not parallel plane ( $C \neq 0$ ) then we get

$$z = -\frac{A}{C}(x - x_0) - \frac{B}{C}(y - y_0) + z_0$$

$-\frac{A}{C}$  = slope of the  $xz$  slice

$-\frac{B}{C}$  = " " "  $yz$  slice

Look near  $(x_0, y_0) \in \text{domain of } f$

slicing parallel to the  $xz$  plane (through  $(x_0, y_0, 0)$ )

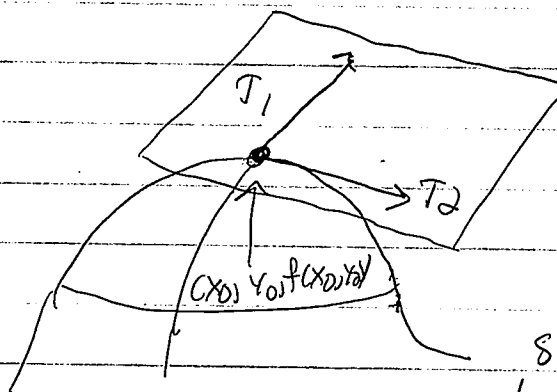
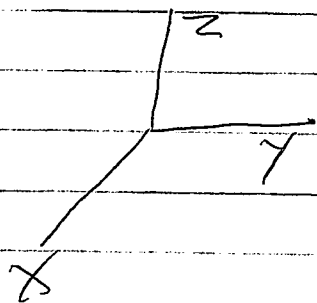
we see  $-\frac{A}{C} = \text{slope of } g(x) = f(x, y_0) \text{ at}$

$$x_0 = f_x(x_0, y_0)$$

slicing parallel to the  $yz$  plane  $(x_0, 0, 0)$

we see  $-\frac{B}{C} = \text{slope of } h(y) = f(x_0, y) \text{ at}$

$$y_0 = f_y(x_0, y_0)$$



Tangent plane  
at  $(x_0, y_0, f(x_0, y_0))$

slope of  $T_1$  is  $f_x(x_0, y_0)$   
slope of  $T_2$  is  $f_y(x_0, y_0)$

so the equation of the tangent plane is

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

Ex Find an equation for the tangent plane through  $(1, 1, 1)$  of  $z = 2x^2 - y^3$

$$f(x, y) = 2x^2 - y^3$$

$$f_x(x, y) = 4x$$

$$f_y(x, y) = -3y^2$$

$$f_x(1, 1) = 4$$

$$f_y(1, 1) = -3$$

$$z = 4(x-1) + (-3)(y-1) + 1$$

$$= 4x - 4 - 3y + 3 + 1$$

$$= 4x - 3y$$

Sufficient but not necessary

Condition for existence of a tangent plane:

iff  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  exist at and near  $(a, b)$  and

both are continuous at and near  $(a, b)$ ,

then  $f(x, y)$  has a tangent plane at  $(a, b)$

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

For a function  $f(x, y)$  with  $(a, b) \in \text{Domain}$ ,  
the linearization of  $f$  at  $(a, b)$  is the function

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

$$f(x, y) \approx L(x, y) \quad \text{for } (x, y) \text{ near } (a, b)$$

Example  $f(x, y) = (x^2 + y^2)^{1/2} + 3x$   
estimate  $f(3.01, 4.02)$

Linearize at  $(3, 4)$

$$f(3, 4) = (3^2 + 4^2)^{1/2} + 3(3) = 5 + 9 = 14$$

$$f_x = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)^{-1/2} (2x) + 3 \quad f_y = y(x^2 + y^2)^{-1/2}$$
$$f_x(3, 4) = \frac{3}{5} + 3 = 18/5 \quad f_y(3, 4) = 4/5$$

$$L(x, y) = 18/5 \cdot (x-3) + 4/5(y-4) + 14$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(3.01, 4.02) &\approx L(3.01, 4.02) \\ &= 18/5(.01) + 4/5(.02) + 14 \\ &= 18/5(.01) + 8/5(.01) + 14 \\ &= \frac{26}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{100} + 14 \\ &= 14.052 \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x, y, z) = x e^y \cos(z) \quad \text{at } (1, 0, 0) = a$$

$$f_x = e^y \cos(z) \quad f_x(a) = 1$$

$$f_y = x e^y \cos(z) \quad f_y(a) = 1$$

$$f_z = x e^y (-\sin(z)) \quad f_z(a) = 0$$

$$L(x, y, z) = f_x(a)(x-1) + f_y(a)(y-0) + f_z(a)(z-0) + f(1, 0, 0)$$

$$= (x-1) + y + 1$$

$$= x + y$$

Differential for a function of several variables.

$$z = f(x, y)$$

$$dz := f_x dx + f_y dy$$

Ex  $z = f(x, y) = x^2 y + e^y x$

$$f_x = 2xy + e^y \quad f_y = x^2 + e^y x$$

$$dz = (2xy + e^y) dx + (x^2 + e^y x) dy$$

$$w = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2 \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = 2x_i$$

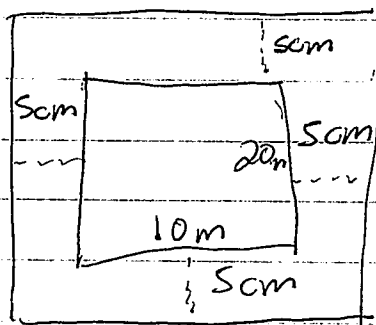
$$dw = \sum_{i=1}^n 2x_i dx_i$$

$$\Delta w := f(x_1 + \Delta x_1, x_2 + \Delta x_2, \dots, x_n + \Delta x_n) - f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

increment of  $w$ .  $\Delta w \approx dw$  for  $\Delta x_i = dx_i$  ✓

$$\Delta w \approx f(x_1 + \Delta x_1, x_2 + \Delta x_2, \dots, x_n + \Delta x_n) - f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n f_{x_i} \Delta x_i$$

not to  
scale



Use differentials to  
approximate the area  
of the strips

note  $5\text{cm} = 0.05\text{m}$

$$A = xy$$

$$\Delta x = 0.05 + 0.05 = 0.1 = \Delta y$$

$$dA =$$

$$dx =$$

$$dy =$$

$$dA =$$

note exact is

$$(10 + 0.1)(20 + 0.1) - 10 \cdot 20 = 3.01\text{m}^2$$