

Vector Calculus

Partial Differentiation

Differentiating a multivariable function w.r.t one variable while treating other variables as constants.

$$f(x, y) = x^2y + 3xy^2$$

$$\text{PD w.r.t } x: \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2xy + 3y^2$$

Used in
• Optimisation problems to find local extrema

$$\text{PD w.r.t } y: \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x^2 + 6xy$$

Gradient :

Vector that contains all the first partial derivatives of $f(x, y)$ at a point in direction of steepest ascent of function

Notation : for $f(x, y)$

row vector
vector of partials

$$\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)$$

gradient

Example: $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$

$$\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = (2x, 2y)$$

Properties:

$$\text{mag}(\nabla f) = \begin{matrix} \uparrow \text{mag} \end{matrix} \text{ rate of increase} \begin{matrix} \uparrow \text{ascent} \end{matrix}$$

Jacobians Matrix

$$J_f = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

matrix of partial derivatives

example: $f(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2y \\ e^x \cos y \end{pmatrix}$

$$J(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} 2xy & x^2 \\ e^x \cos y & -e^x \sin y \end{pmatrix}$$

High Order Derivatives:

Derivatives of partial derivatives.

2nd order derivatives and higher

Example: $f(x, y) = x^2y + 3xy^2$

• Pure Second OD

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2y + 3xy^2) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2xy + 3y^2)\end{aligned}$$

→ Used for
studying
curvature &
surfaces

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 2y}$$

→ Optimisation to
study/classify
critical
points

• Mixed Second OD

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2y + 3xy^2) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (2xy + 3y^2)\end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = 2x + 6y}$$

Taylor Analysis.

Infinite series representation of smooth function as
a sum of terms calculated from function's derivatives
at a single point

“Approximate the function near that point by
expressing it in polynomial series”

$f(x) \rightarrow$ Infinitely differentiable at point a
Taylor series of f around a is :

$$f(x) = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)(x-a)}{1!} + \frac{f''(a)(x-a)^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)(x-a)^n}{n!} + \dots$$

Or in summation

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)(x-a)^n}{n!}$$

Uses:

- Approximate using polynomials that are easier to compute
→ ML

- $f(a)$ - value of f at point a
- $\frac{f'(a)(x-a)}{1!} \rightarrow$ linear approximation (slope of tangent line)
- $\frac{f''(a)(x-a)^2}{2!} \rightarrow$ represents quadratic curvature
- ↑ order term - capture increasingly finer details about functions behaviour near a

example:

$$f(x) = e^x$$

expand around $a=0$

$$e^x = 1 + \frac{e^x(x-0)}{1!} + \frac{e^x(x-0)^2}{2!} + \frac{e^x(x-0)^3}{3!} + \dots$$

$$\rightarrow e^x = 1 + \frac{e^x}{1!} + \frac{e^x}{2!} + \frac{e^x}{3!} + \dots$$

Maclaurin series

special TS $\rightarrow a=0$

Multivariate Taylor Series:

extension of Taylor Series to functions of more than one variable

" for a function $f(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n)$ that is smooth (infinitely differentiable) at a point

$a = (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)^T$ the MTS expands as:

$$f(a) \approx f(a) + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f(a)}{\partial x_i} (x_i - a_i) + \frac{1}{2!} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 f(a)}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (x_i - a_i)(x_j - a_j) + \dots$$

1st order MT Expansion,

(Linear approximation to f near a)

$$f(x) \approx f(a) + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f(a)}{\partial x_i} (x_i - a_i)$$

Tangent plane appⁿ for function of multiple variables

example: Construct Taylor Series through second order for $f(x, y) = x^2y + y^2$ at $(x, y) = (1, 3)$

$$f(1, 3) = 3 + 9 = 12$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2xy + 0$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{1,3} = 6$$

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

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{1,3} = 1 + 6 = 7$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 2y$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \right|_{1,3} = 6$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 2$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \right|_{1,3} = 2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = 2x$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \right|_{1,3} = 2$$

$$f(x, y) = 12 + 6(x-1) + 7(y-3) + \frac{1}{2!} (6(x-1)^2 + 2(y-3)^2 + 2(x-1)(y-3))$$

$$+ 2(x+1)(y-3) \dots$$

for a function $f(x,y) = x^2 + xy + y^2$, expand it around $(0,0)$

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

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x + y \quad \Big|_{0,0} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x + 2y \quad \Big|_{0,0} = 0 \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = 1$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 2 \quad \Big|_{0,0} = 2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 2 \quad \Big|_{0,0} = 2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = 1 \quad \Big|_{0,0} = 1$$

$$f(x) = 0 + 0(x-0) + (y-0)^0 + \frac{1}{2!} (2(x-0)^2 + 2(y)^2 + xy) \dots$$

$$= \frac{2x^2 + 2y^2 + xy}{2!} \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + xy$$

Other way

using Hessian Matrix

$$H(x,y) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ at } (0,0)$$

2nd order Taylor Series: General Formula

$$f(x) \approx f(a) + \nabla f(a)^T (x-a) + \frac{1}{2} (x-a)^T H(a) (x-a)$$

for example:

$$f(x, y) = 0 + \frac{1}{2} (x \ y) \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$