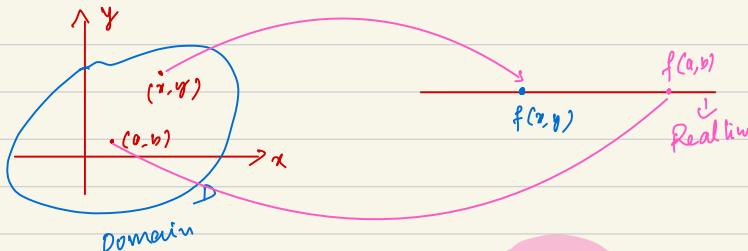
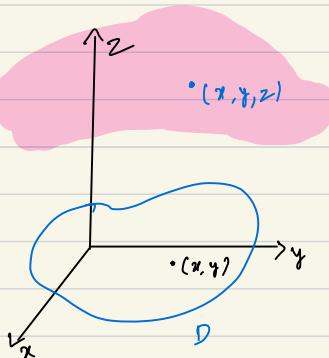


Functions of two variables



A function of two variables is a rule that assigns to each ordered pair of real numbers (x, y) in a set D a unique real number denoted by $f(x, y)$.

If f is a function of two variables with domain D , then the graph of f is the set of all points (x, y, z) in \mathbb{R}^3 s.t $z = f(x, y)$ and $(x, y) \in D$.



Definition: let $z = f(x, y)$ be a function of 2 variables x and y .

The first order partial derivatives of z wrt x and y are given by

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = z_x = f_x = p = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h, y) - f(x, y)}{h}$$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ is partial derivative of z wrt x , treating y as constant.

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = z_y = f_y = q = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x, y+h) - f(x, y)}{h}$$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ is partial derivative of z wrt y , treating x as constant.

Second ordered partial derivatives wrt x and y:

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = z_{xx} = f_{xx} = g$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = z_{yy} = f_{yy} = t$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right) = z_{xy} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = f_{xy} = s$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \right) = z_{yx} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = f_{yx} = s$$

Note: $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x}$

1) Evaluate $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ if

a) $z = x^2 y - x \sin xy$ b) $x + y + z = \log z$

Sol: a) Differentiating z partially wrt x

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} &= (\partial x) y - (x \cdot \cos(xy)) \cdot y + \sin(xy)(1) \\ \therefore \frac{z}{x} &= xy(2 - \cos xy) - \sin xy\end{aligned}$$

Differentiating z partially wrt y,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} &= x^2(1) - x \cos(xy)x = x^2 - x^2 \cos xy \\ \therefore \frac{z}{y} &= x^2(1 - \cos xy)\end{aligned}$$

b) $\log z - z = x + y \rightarrow ①$

Differentiating ① partially wrt x,

$$\frac{1}{z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 1 + 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \left(\frac{1}{z} - 1 \right) = 1$$

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \left(\frac{1-z}{z} \right) = 1$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{z}{1-z}$$

Differentiating ① partially wst y,

$$\frac{1}{z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 1 + 0$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \left(\frac{1}{z} - 1 \right) = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{z}{1-z}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{z}{1-z}$$

2) If $\theta = t^n e^{-x^2/4t}$, find value of n such that

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right) = \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t}.$$

sol: Differentiating θ partially wst r

$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} = t^n e^{-x^2/4t} \left(-\frac{\partial r}{4t} \right) = -\frac{n}{2} t^{n-1} e^{-x^2/4t}$$

$$\therefore r^2 \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} = -\frac{r^3}{2} t^{n-1} e^{-x^2/4t}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right) = -\frac{3r^2}{2} t^{n-1} e^{-x^2/4t} + \left(-\frac{r^3}{2} \right) t^{n-1} e^{-x^2/4t} \left(-\frac{2r}{4t} \right)$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right) = \left(-\frac{3}{2} t^{n-1} + \frac{r^2}{4} t^{n-2} \right) e^{-x^2/4t} \rightarrow ①$$

Differentiating θ partially wst t

$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} = n t^{n-1} e^{-x^2/4t} + t^n e^{-x^2/4t} \left(\frac{r^2}{4t^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} = \left(n t^{n-1} + \frac{1}{4} r^2 t^{n-2} \right) e^{-x^2/4t} \rightarrow ②$$

$$\text{Given : } \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} \right) = \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t}$$

$$\left(-\frac{3}{2} r^{n-1} + \frac{n^2}{4} r^{n-2} \right) e^{-r^2/4t} = \left(n r^{n-1} + \frac{1}{4} r^2 t^{n-2} \right) e^{-r^2/4t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(n + \frac{3}{2} \right) r^{n-1} e^{-r^2/4t} = 0 \Rightarrow n + \frac{3}{2} = 0$$

$$\therefore n = -\frac{3}{2}$$

3)

If $z = e^{ax+by} f(ax - by)$, prove that $\mathbf{b} \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + \mathbf{a} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 2abz$

Solution: Consider $z = e^{ax+by} f(ax - by)$ (1)

Differentiating (1) with respect to x using product and chain rules,

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \{e^{ax+by} f'(ax - by)(a)\} + \{f(ax - by)e^{ax+by}(a)\}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = ae^{ax+by} \{f(ax - by) + f'(ax - by)\} \quad (2)$$

Differentiating (1) with respect to y using product and chain rules,

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \{e^{ax+by} f'(ax - by)(-b)\} + \{f(ax - by)e^{ax+by}(b)\}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = be^{ax+by} \{f(ax - by) - f'(ax - by)\} \quad (3)$$

Multiplying equation (2) by b and equation (3) by a , and adding

$$b \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + a \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = abe^{ax+by} [f'(ax - by) + f(ax - by) + f(ax -$$

$$by) - f'(ax - by)] = abe^{ax+by} [2f(ax - by)] =$$

$$2ab[e^{ax+by} f(ax - by)] = 2abz.$$

4) If $u = e^{r \cos \theta} \cos(r \sin \theta)$, $v = e^{r \cos \theta} \sin(r \sin \theta)$, P.T.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta} \quad & \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}$$

Sol: Consider $u = e^{r \cos \theta} \cos(r \sin \theta)$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = e^{r \cos \theta} \left\{ -\sin(r \sin \theta) \cdot r \sin \theta \right\} + \cos(r \sin \theta) \cdot$$

$$e^{r \cos \theta} (\cos \theta)$$

$$= e^{r \cos \theta} \left\{ \cos \theta \cos(r \sin \theta) - \sin \theta \sin(r \sin \theta) \right\}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} = e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot \cos(\theta + r \sin \theta) \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} = e^{r \cos \theta} \left\{ -\sin(r \sin \theta) \cdot r \cos \theta \right\} + \cos(r \sin \theta) \cdot$$

$$e^{r \cos \theta} (-r \sin \theta)$$

$$= -r e^{r \cos \theta} \left\{ \sin(r \sin \theta) \cos \theta + \cos(r \sin \theta) \sin \theta \right\}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} = -r e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot \sin(r \sin \theta + \theta)$$

$$-\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} = e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot \sin(r \sin \theta + \theta) \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

Consider $v = e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot \sin(r \sin \theta)$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial r} = e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot \left\{ \cos(r \sin \theta) \cdot r \sin \theta \right\} + \sin(r \sin \theta) \cdot$$

$$e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot (\cos \theta)$$

$$= e^{r \cos \theta} \left\{ \sin \theta \cos(r \sin \theta) + \cos \theta \sin(r \sin \theta) \right\}$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta} = e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot \sin(\theta + r \sin \theta) \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta} &= e^{r \cos \theta} \left\{ \cos(r \sin \theta) \cdot r \cos \theta \right\} + \\ &\quad \sin(r \sin \theta) \cdot e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot (-r \sin \theta) \\ &= r e^{r \cos \theta} \left\{ \cos(r \sin \theta) \cdot \cos \theta - \sin(r \sin \theta) \sin \theta \right\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial v}{\partial r} &= r e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot \cos(r \sin \theta + \theta) \\ \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta} &= e^{r \cos \theta} \cdot \cos(r \sin \theta + \theta) \rightarrow ④\end{aligned}$$

From ① and ④ $\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta}$

and from ② and ③ $\frac{\partial v}{\partial r} = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}$.

5) If $u = \log(x^3 + y^3 - x^2y - xy^2)$, then S.T.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{-4}{(x+y)^2}.$$

Sol: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{3x^2 - 2xy - y^2}{x^3 + y^3 - x^2y - xy^2} \rightarrow ①$, $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{3y^2 - x^2 - 2xy}{x^3 + y^3 - x^2y - xy^2} \rightarrow ②$

$$\begin{aligned} ① + ② &\Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{(3x^2 - 2xy - y^2) + (3y^2 - x^2 - 2xy)}{x^3 + y^3 - x^2y - xy^2} \\ &= \frac{3(x^2 + y^2) - 4xy - (x^2 + y^2)}{(x+y)(x^2 + y^2 - xy) - xy(x+y)} = \frac{2(x^2 + y^2) - 4xy}{(x+y)(x^2 + y^2 - xy - xy)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{2(x^2 + y^2 - 2xy)}{(x+y)(x^2 + y^2 - 2xy)} = \frac{2(x-y)^2}{(x+y)(x-y)^2} = \frac{2}{x+y}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)^2 u \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) u \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Note: } \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)^2 u \neq \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)^2 \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \neq \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)^2 \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)^2 u \end{array} \right. \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) \left(\frac{2}{x+y} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2 \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{1}{x+y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{1}{x+y} \right) \right]$$

$$= 2 \left[-\frac{1}{(x+y)^2} - \frac{1}{(x+y)^2} \right] = -\frac{4}{(x+y)^2}$$

6) If $u = e^{xyz}$, S.T. $\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x \partial y \partial z} = (1 + 3xyz + x^2y^2z^2)e^{xyz}$

Sol: $u = e^{xyz}$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = e^{xyz} \cdot yz \rightarrow ①$$

Differentiating ① partially w.r.t y

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (yz \cdot e^{xyz}) = z \left[y \cdot xz e^{xyz} + e^{xyz} \cdot 1 \right]$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} = z (xyz e^{xyz} + e^{xyz}) = (xyz^2 + z) e^{xyz} \rightarrow ②$$

Differentiating ② partially w.r.t z

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial z \partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} ((xyz^2 + z) e^{xyz})$$

$$= (2xyz + 1) e^{xyz} + (xyz^2 + z) e^{xyz} \cdot xy$$

$$= e^{xyz} [2xyz + 1 + x^2 y^2 z^2 + xyz]$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x \partial y \partial z} = e^{xyz} [1 + 3xyz + x^2 y^2 z^2]$$

7) If $u = \log r$, where $r^2 = (x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 + (z-c)^2$. S.T.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{r^2}$$

Sol: $r^2 = (x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 + (z-c)^2$

Differentiating partially w.r.t x,

$$2x \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = 2(x-a) \Rightarrow \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{x-a}{r} \rightarrow ①$$

$$\frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial y} = \frac{y-b}{r}, \quad \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial z} = \frac{z-c}{r}$$

$$u \quad \left| \frac{du}{dr} = \frac{1}{r} \right.$$

$$\text{Now, } u = \log r$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{r} \left(\frac{x-a}{r} \right)$$

$$x \quad y \quad z$$

$$\frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial x} \quad \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial y} \quad \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial z}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{x-a}{r^2} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{x-a}{r^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{r^2(1) - (x-a) 2r \left(\frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial x} \right)}{r^4} = \frac{r^2 - 2(x-a)^2}{r^4}$$

$$||| \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{r^2 - 2(y-b)^2}{r^4}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{r^2 - 2(z-c)^2}{r^4}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{3r^2 - 2[(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 + (z-c)^2]}{r^4}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{3r^2 - 2r^2}{r^4} = \frac{1}{r^2}$$

Exercise:

1) Evaluate the following at the mentioned points.

1) $f(x, y) = \tan(y/x)$; $f_x(2, 3)$

Sol: $f_x(2, 3) = -\frac{3}{13}$

2) $f(x, y) = x^3 + 2x^2y^2 + y^3$; $f_{yx}(1, 2)$

Sol: $f_{yx}(1, 2) = 16$

2) Find the first order partial derivatives of the following functions

1) $f(x, y) = x \cos y + ye^x$

$f_x = \cos y + y e^x$

2) $f(x, y) = e^{xy} \ln(y)$

$f_x = y e^{xy} \ln(y)$

$f_y = -x \sin y + e^x$

$f_y = x e^{xy} \ln(y) + e^{xy}$

3) $f(x, y) = \frac{2y}{y + \cos x}$

$f_x = \frac{2y \sin x}{(y + \cos x)^2}$, $f_y = \frac{2 \cos x}{(y + \cos x)^2}$

3) Verify that $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x}$ for the following functions or

verify Clairaut's theorem for the given functions:

1) $u = x^y + y^x$

$u_{xy} = u_{yx} = y^{y-1} \log x + x^{y-1} + x^{-1} y^{y-1} \log y + y^{x-1}$

2) $u = \sin(3x+2y)$ ($u_{xy} = u_{yx} = -6 \sin(3x+2y)$)

$$3) u(x, y) = \log_e \left(\frac{x^2 + y^2}{xy} \right)$$

$$u_{xy} = u_{yx} = \frac{-4xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$$

4) Verify if the given functions are harmonic.

$$1) f(x, y) = e^x \cos y$$

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

$$5) \text{ If } v = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-1/2}, \text{ S.T. } \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

$$6) \text{ If } u = \log(x^3 + y^3 - x^2y - xy^2), \text{ S.T. } \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{-4}{(x+y)^2}$$

$$7) \text{ If } u = c^{xyz}, \text{ S.T. } \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x \partial y \partial z} = (1 + 3xyz + x^2y^2z^2)c^{xyz}$$

$$8) \text{ If } u = \log r, \text{ where } r^2 = (x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 + (z-c)^2, \text{ S.T.}$$

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} + u_{zz} = \frac{1}{r^2}.$$

* Differential or Total differential or Exact differential

For a differentiable function of one variable, $y = f(x)$ we define the differential dx to be an independent variable, i.e. dx can be given the value of any real no. The differential of y is defined as

$$dy = f'(x) dx$$

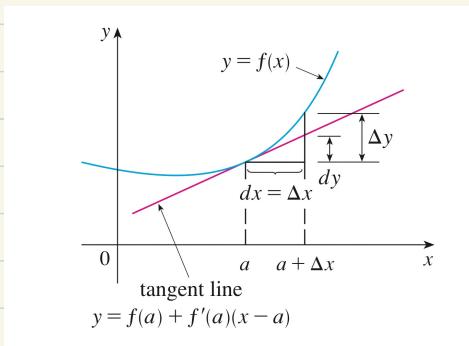


Fig: 1

Figure 1 shows the relationship b/w the increment Δy and differential dy . Δy represents the change in height of curve $y = f(x)$ and dy represents the change in height of the tangent line when x changes by an amount $dx = \Delta x$.

For a function of 2 variables, $z = f(x, y)$ we define dx and dy to be independent variables, i.e. they can be given any values. Then the **differential dz , also called the total differential**, is defined by

$$dz = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} dy$$

If $w = f(x, y, z)$ is a function of 3 variables then the differential dw is given by

$$dw = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} dz$$

Chain rule :

Recall that chain rule for functions of a single variable gives the rule for differentiating a composite function. If $y = f(x)$ and $x = g(t)$, where f and g are differentiable functions then y is indirectly a differentiable function of t and

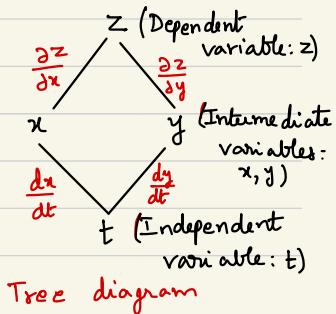
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

For functions of more than one variable, the Chain rule has several versions, each of them giving a rule for differentiating a composite function.

* **Chain rule (case 1) :** If $z = f(x, y)$ is a differentiable function of x and y , where $x = g(t)$ and $y = h(t)$ are functions of t . Then z is a differentiable function of t called as **total derivative of z** given by

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

(To remember the chain rule it's helpful to draw tree diagram.)



Tree diagram

*Chain rule (case 2): If $z = f(x, y)$ is a differentiable function of x and y where $x = g(s, t)$ and $y = h(s, t)$ are functions of s and t then

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \quad \& \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

Tree diagram for the above case:

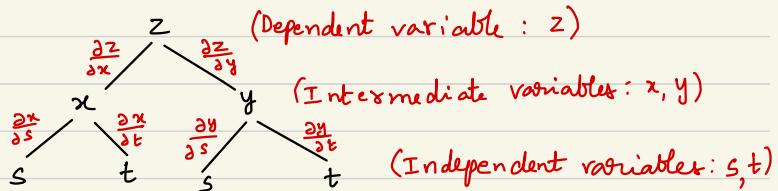


Fig: 2

RESEMBLES THE ONE-DIMENSIONAL CHAIN RULE IN EQUATION 1.

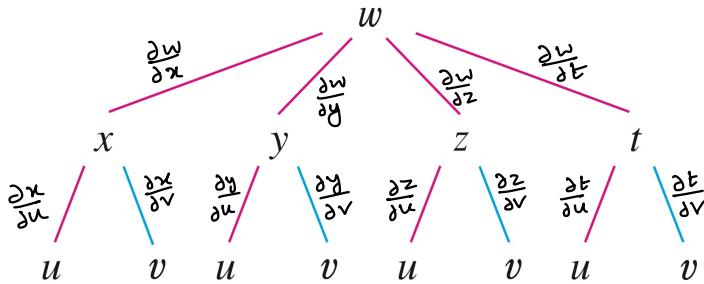
To remember the Chain Rule, it's helpful to draw the **tree diagram** in Figure 2. We draw branches from the dependent variable z to the intermediate variables x and y to indicate that z is a function of x and y . Then we draw branches from x and y to the independent variables s and t . On each branch we write the corresponding partial derivative. To find $\partial z / \partial s$, we find the product of the partial derivatives along each path from z to s and then add these products:

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}$$

Similarly, we find $\partial z / \partial t$ by using the paths from z to t .

Ex: Write out the chain rule for the case $w = f(x, y, z, t)$ and $x = x(u, v)$, $y = y(u, v)$, $z = z(u, v)$ and $t = t(u, v)$.

Sol:

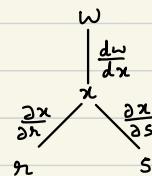


$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial u}$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial v}$$

If w is a function of x alone i.e. $w = f(x)$ and $x = \phi(u, v)$ then our equations are even simpler.

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} = \frac{dw}{dx} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial x} \quad \& \quad \frac{\partial w}{\partial s} = \frac{dw}{dx} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s}$$



* Implicit differentiation or differentiation of implicit functions

The chain rule can be used for the process of implicit differentiation. An implicit function with x as an independent variable and y as the dependent variable is generally of the form $z = f(x, y) = 0$.

This gives $\frac{dz}{dx} = 0$.

Using case ① of chain rule, take $t=x$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dx} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot 1 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}} = -\frac{f_x}{f_y}$$

, if $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \neq 0$.

Consider $x^3 + y^3 - 6xy = 0$

ex: Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ if $x^3 + y^3 = 6xy$.

$$\text{Sol: } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 6xy = 0 \\ f_x = 3x^2 - 6y, \quad f_y = 3y^2 - 6x \end{array} \right.$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{f_x}{f_y} = -\frac{(3x^2 - 6y)}{3y^2 - 6x}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{(3x^2 - 6y)}{3y^2 - 6x} = -\frac{(x^2 - 2y)}{y^2 - 2x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{3x^2 + 3y^2}{dx} \frac{dy}{dx} - 6x \frac{dy}{dx} \\ & - 6y = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} (3y^2 - 6x) = -3x^2 + 6y \\ & \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-3x^2 + 6y}{3y^2 - 6x} = \frac{-x^2 + 2y}{y^2 - 2x} \end{aligned}$$

Now, if z is given implicitly as a function $z=f(x, y)$

by an equation of the form $F(x, y, z) = 0$.

We can use chain rule to differentiate the equation

$F(x, y, z) = 0$ as follows:

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\text{But } \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x) = 1 \quad \text{and } \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(y) = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(1) + 0 + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial z}} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z}, \quad \text{, } \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial z}} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z}$$

Ex: Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ if $x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 6xyz = 1$.

Sol: Let $F(x, y, z) = x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 6xyz - 1 = 0$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z} = -\frac{(3x^2 + 6yz)}{3z^2 + 6xy} = -\frac{(x^2 + 2yz)}{z^2 + 2xy} \rightarrow ①$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z} = -\frac{(3y^2 + 6xz)}{3z^2 + 6xy} = -\frac{(y^2 + 2xz)}{z^2 + 2xy}$$

or

Differentiating the given eq. partially wst x

$$3x^2 + 3z^2 \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + 6yz + 6xy \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} (3z^2 + 6xy) = - (3x^2 + 6yz)$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{(3x^2 + 6yz)}{3z^2 + 6xy} = -\frac{(x^2 + 2yz)}{z^2 + 2xy} \rightarrow ②$$

① and ② are equal but evaluating $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ by implicit differentiation formula is easier.