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Explore

We have seen that we can use linear approximation to represent a function like $z=f\left(x,y
ight)$ near a given point by its tangent plane. In this lecture, we will explore a way to reframe the approximation using the language of matrices. By repackaging this approximation as a matrix, we can obtain further insight about the behavior of the function near that point.

Approximating a function with a linear function is called "Linearization". You will also see applications of linearization including:

- 1. Controlling a robot arm.
- 2. Accurately serving a volleyball.
- 3. Sensitivity analysis.

2. Introduction

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