

# the Jacobian

## example

Let  $f$  be a transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the following Jacobian matrix:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 3x^2 - 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 3y^2 - 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

What is the determinant of  $f$ ? How will  $f$  stretch or squish the space around the point  $(1, -1)$ ?

# Where the Hessian, gradient and Jacobian meet

- The **gradient** points in the direction of steepest ascent.
- The **Jacobian** describes how the components of a vector function change with respect to changes in input variables
- The **Hessian** describes the local curvature of a scalar function

Matrix	Purpose	Function Type	Size
<b>Gradient</b> $\nabla f$	First-order derivatives	$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	$n \times 1$
<b>Jacobian</b> $J$	First-order derivatives of vector functions	$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$	$m \times n$
<b>Hessian</b> $H$	Second-order derivatives	$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	$n \times n$

- Gradient is the Jacobian of a scalar function  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ :  $\nabla f = J$
- Hessian is the Jacobian of the Gradient  $\nabla f$ :  $H = J_{\nabla f}$