

## 4.4 (continued)

Equation of tangent plane for  $z = f(x, y)$  at  $(x_0, y_0, f(x_0, y_0))$ :

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

Ex Find tangent plane of  $z = \underbrace{x^2 + 2y^2}_{f(x, y)}$

① at  $(\underbrace{2}_{x_0}, \underbrace{-1}_{y_0}, \underbrace{6}_{f(x_0, y_0)})$

② at  $(0, 0, 0)$

$$f_x = 2x \quad f_y = 4y$$

At  $(2, -1, 6)$ ,  $f(2, -1) = 6$ ,  $f_x(2, -1) = 4$ ,  $f_y(2, -1) = -4$

$$\Rightarrow z = 6 + 4(x - 2) - 4(y + 1)$$

At  $(0, 0, 0)$ ,  $f(0, 0) = 0$ ,  $f_x(0, 0) = 0$ ,  $f_y(0, 0) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow z = 0$$

• Linear approximation: use the tangent plane of  $z = f(x, y)$  at  $(x_0, y_0, f(x_0, y_0))$  to approximate  $f$  near  $(x_0, y_0)$

Def The linear approximation of  $f(x, y)$  at  $(x_0, y_0)$  is

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

It approximates  $f(x, y)$  when  $(x, y)$  is close to  $(x_0, y_0)$

Ex Use linear approximation of  $f(x, y) = x^3 y^2$  at  $(1, 2)$

to approximate  $\underbrace{1.01^3 \times 1.98^2}_{f(1.01, 1.98)}$

$$f_x = 3x^2 y^2 \quad f_y = 2x^3 y$$

$$f(1, 2) = 4 \quad f_x(1, 2) = 12 \quad f_y(1, 2) = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow L(x, y) = 4 + 12(x-1) + 4(y-2)$$

$$f(1.01, 1.98) \approx L(1.01, 1.98) = 4 + 12(1.01-1) + 4(1.98-2)$$

$$= 4 + 12 \times 0.01 + 4 \times (-0.02) = 4.04$$

exact value = 4.03919204

$$\begin{aligned} \text{error} &\approx 0.001 \\ \sqrt{(x-x_0)^2 + (y-y_0)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{0.01^2 + 0.02^2} \approx 0.02 \end{aligned}$$

• Differentiability: justifying how good a linear approximation is.

Def  $f(x, y)$  is differentiable at  $(x_0, y_0)$  if

$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} \frac{|f(x, y) - L(x, y)|}{\sqrt{(x-x_0)^2 + (y-y_0)^2}} = 0$$

where  $L(x, y)$  is the linear approximation of  $f$  at  $(x_0, y_0)$

• Differentiability  $\Rightarrow$  continuity

• If  $f, f_x, f_y$  are continuous, then  $f$  is differentiable.

## • Differentials

$$f(x, y) - f(x_0, y_0) \approx f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0)$$

$$\Delta z \approx f_x(x_0, y_0) \Delta x + f_y(x_0, y_0) \Delta y$$

}  
↓

$$dz = f_x(x_0, y_0) dx + f_y(x_0, y_0) dy$$

"the total differential of  $z = f(x, y)$  at  $(x_0, y_0)$ "

Ex Find total differential of the volume of a cylinder:  $V = \pi r^2 h$

at  $r=2, h=3$ . Is its volume more sensitive to  $r$  or  $h$ ?

$$V(r, h)$$

$$V_r = 2\pi r h \quad V_h = \pi r^2$$

$$V_r(2, 3) = 12\pi \quad V_h(2, 3) = 4\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow dV = 12\pi dr + 4\pi dh$$

$$|12\pi| > |4\pi| \Rightarrow \text{more sensitive to } r.$$

## 4.5 The chain rule

$$\text{Recall: } \frac{d}{dt}(f(g(t))) = f'(g(t)) \cdot g'(t) = \frac{df}{dg} \cdot \frac{dg}{dt}$$

$$\text{Thm } \frac{d}{dt}(f(x(t), y(t))) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}$$

↑                      ↑  
evaluate at  $(x(t), y(t))$

"proof"

$$\begin{aligned} & f(x(t+\Delta t), y(t+\Delta t)) \\ & \approx f(x(t) + x'(t)\Delta t, y(t) + y'(t)\Delta t) \\ & \approx f(x(t), y(t)) + f_x(x(t), y(t)) \cdot x'(t)\Delta t \\ & \quad + f_y(x(t), y(t)) \cdot y'(t)\Delta t \end{aligned}$$

[need differentiability to justify]

$\hookrightarrow \frac{d}{dt}(f(x(t), y(t)))$

Ex Values of  $f, f_x, f_y$  are given by

	$f$	$f_x$	$f_y$
$(0,0)$	1	-1	2
$(0,1)$	2	0	-2
$(1,1)$	3	-3	6

Calculate  $\left. \frac{d}{dt} f(t, t^2) \right|_{t=0}$ ,  $\left. \frac{d}{dt} f(t, t^2) \right|_{t=1}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(t, t^2) = f_x(t, t^2) \cdot \overset{x(t)=t}{1} + f_y(t, t^2) \cdot \overset{y(t)=t^2}{2t}$$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} f(t, t^2) \right|_{t=0} = f_x(0,0) \cdot 1 + f_y(0,0) \cdot 2 \cdot 0 = -1$$

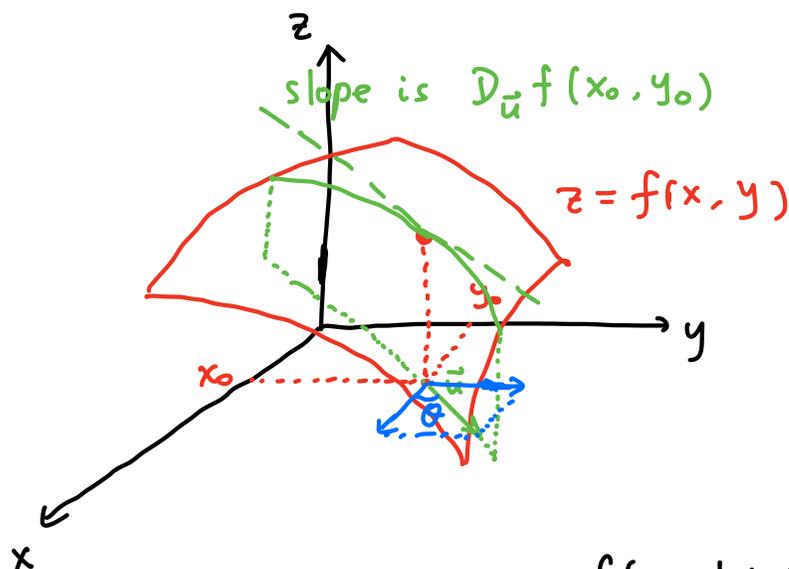
$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} f(t, t^2) \right|_{t=1} = f_x(1,1) \cdot 1 + f_y(1,1) \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = -3 + 6 \cdot 2 = 9$$

• Other version of chain rule

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( f(x(u, v), y(u, v)) \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left( f(x(u, v), y(u, v)) \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial v}$$

## 4.6 Directional derivatives and the gradient



Def Let  $\vec{u} = \langle \cos\theta, \sin\theta \rangle$  be a unit vector. The directional derivative of  $f$  in the direction of  $\vec{u}$  is

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h \cos\theta, y_0 + h \sin\theta) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}$$

Use linear approximation,

$$f(x_0 + h \cos\theta, y_0 + h \sin\theta) - f(x_0, y_0)$$

$$\approx f_x(x_0, y_0) h \cos\theta + f_y(x_0, y_0) h \sin\theta$$

$$= (f_x(x_0, y_0) \cos\theta + f_y(x_0, y_0) \sin\theta) h$$

$$\Rightarrow D_{\vec{u}} f(x_0, y_0) = f_x(x_0, y_0) \cos\theta + f_y(x_0, y_0) \sin\theta$$

(justify by differentiability)

$$= \langle f_x(x_0, y_0), f_y(x_0, y_0) \rangle \cdot \vec{u}$$

$$\vec{u} = \langle \cos\theta, \sin\theta \rangle$$

Def The gradient of  $f$  is

$$\nabla f(x, y) = \langle f_x(x, y), f_y(x, y) \rangle$$

With this notation,

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(x_0, y_0) = \nabla f(x_0, y_0) \cdot \vec{u}$$

Ex Let  $f(x, y) = 2x^2 - xy$ ,  $\vec{u} = \langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \rangle$

① Find  $\nabla f$

② Find  $D_{\vec{u}} f(1, -3)$

$$f_x = 4x - y \quad f_y = -x$$

$$\nabla f = \langle 4x - y, -x \rangle$$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(1, -3) = \nabla f(1, -3) \cdot \langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \rangle$$

$$= \langle 7, -1 \rangle \cdot \langle \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \rangle = 7 \cdot \frac{3}{5} - \frac{4}{5} = \frac{17}{5}$$