

02/22/05

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Yesterday Definition  
The plane

$$z = f(a, b) + m(x-a) + n(y-b)$$

approximates to first order the graph

of  $f$  @  $(a, b)$  iff

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} \frac{f(x,y) - [f(a,b) + m(x-a) + n(y-b)]}{\|(x,y) - (a,b)\|} = 0$$

Observation 1.

If such a "well-approximating" plane exists, then  
it is unique, and

$$\begin{cases} m = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b) \\ n = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b) \end{cases}$$

Example

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 y^2}{x^2 + y^2}, & (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0, & (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

Note that  $f$  is continuous everywhere.

[ Check continuity @  $(0,0)$ :

$$0 \leq |f(x,y)| \leq \left| \frac{xy^2}{y^2} \right| = |x|$$

Pinching lemma  $\Rightarrow$   $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y) = 0 = f(0,0)$   
 $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} |x| = 0$

Q Is there a well-approximating plane to the graph of  $f$  @  $(0,0)$  ?

A If such a plane exists, its equation is given by

$$z = f(0,0) + m(x-0) + n(y-0),$$

$$\text{where } \begin{cases} m = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0,0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h,0) - f(0,0)}{h} = 0 \\ n = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(0,0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0,h) - f(0,0)}{h} = 0 \end{cases}$$

Conclusion: If such a plane exists, it

must be the plane

$$z = 0. \quad (\text{the } xy\text{-plane}).$$

$z$

$x$

Verify the condition:

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{f(x,y) - 0}{\|(x,y)\|} \stackrel{?}{=} 0,$$

in other words

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\frac{xy^2}{x^2+y^2}}{(x^2+y^2)^{1/2}} = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy^2}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}} \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

FALSE!

$$(x, y) \rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right)$$

$$x = t$$

$$y = t, \quad t \rightarrow 0$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{t - t^2}{(t^2 + t^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{1}{2^{3/2}} \neq 0 !$$

Therefore, if a well approximating plane existed,  
it would have been  $z = 0$ .

But this one does not do the job.

Conclusion  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is differentiable at  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2$   
iff the following two conditions are satisfied:

1)  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b), \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b)$  exist.  $\square$

2) 
$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (a, b)} \frac{f(x, y) - \left\{ f(a, b) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b) \cdot (x - a) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b) \cdot (y - b) \right\}}{\| (x, y) - (a, b) \|} = 0$$

Compare to the situation of  $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

If  $\frac{dg}{dt}(3) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(t+3) - g(3)}{t}$  exists  $(\infty)$ ,

$$\text{then } \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{g(x) - \left\{ g(3) + \frac{dg}{dt}(3) \cdot (x-3) \right\}}{x-3}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left( \frac{g(x) - g(3)}{x-3} - \frac{dg}{dt}(3) \right)$$

$$= \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{g(x) - g(3)}{x-3} \right) - \frac{dg}{dt}(3)$$

$$= \frac{dg}{dt}(3) - \frac{dg}{dt}(3) = 0$$

So condition  $\beta)$  is automatically satisfied!

Explanation  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$\alpha)$

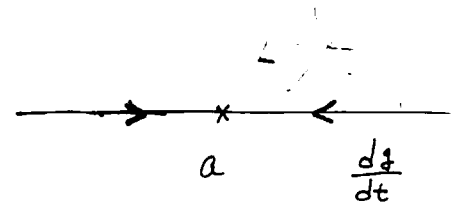
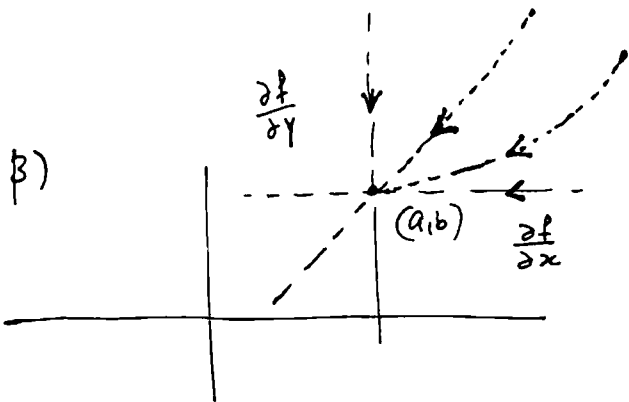
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a,b) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+t, b) - f(a, b)}{t}$$

exist!

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a,b) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b+t) - f(a, b)}{t}$$

$\alpha)$

$$g'(a) = \lim_{t \rightarrow a} \frac{g(t+a) - g(a)}{t}$$



More ways to approach  $(a,b)$ !

Several possible directions  
[Infinitely many!]

not necessarily "compatible"

with the directions  
along which you compute

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$$

Only one direction,  
Compatible with  
Computing  $\frac{df}{dt}(a)$

Similarly for  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Definition

$f$  is differentiable at  $\underline{a} = (x_0, y_0, z_0) \in \mathbb{R}^3$

iff the following two conditions  
are satisfied:

$\alpha)$   $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(\underline{a}), \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(\underline{a}), \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(\underline{a})$  exist

$\beta)$   $\lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow \underline{a}} \frac{f(x,y,z) - \left\{ f(x_0, y_0, z_0) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(\underline{a})(x-x_0) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(\underline{a})(y-y_0) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(\underline{a})(z-z_0) \right\}}{\|(x,y,z) - \underline{a}\|}$

$= 0.$

GENERAL CASE :  $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ .

1. Matrices and linear maps.

Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nm} \end{pmatrix}$  or  $n \times m$  matrix.

Then  $A$  determines a MAP.

$$[A] : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \quad \underline{\text{OR}} \quad T_A : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

given by  $T_A(x_1, \dots, x_m) = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$

where  $A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}$

Example 1)  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$   $2 \times 3$  matrix

$$T_A : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$T_A(x, y, z) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x-z \\ 2x+y+z \end{pmatrix} = (x-z, 2x+y+z)$$

2)  $A = (3)$ .  $T_A : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $T_A(x) = 3x$

i.e.  $[(3)] : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $[(3)](x) = 3x$ .



Proposition

$A = n \times m$  matrix,  $B = k \times n$  matrix

$$\mathbb{R}^m \xrightarrow{T_A} \mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{T_B} \mathbb{R}^k$$

Then  $T_B \circ T_A = T_{BA}$

where  $BA =$  matrix multiplication of  $B$  and  $A$

Main Feature (check!)

LINEARITY  $\begin{cases} T_A(\underline{x} + \underline{y}) = T_A(\underline{x}) + T_A(\underline{y}), \quad \forall \underline{x}, \underline{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m \\ T_A(c\underline{x}) = c T_A(\underline{x}), \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{R}, \underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m \end{cases}$

Proposition [Homework]

Prove that any map  $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  which satisfies the linearity conditions is

of the type  $T = T_A$ , with  $A =$  some  $n \times m$  matrix.

## 2. Definition of Differentiability

Definition 1  $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is differentiable

at  $a \in \mathbb{R}^m$  iff there exists a

linear map  $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a) - T(x-a)}{\|x-a\|} = 0.$$

We set  $\boxed{f'(a) = T}$  if such a  $T$  exists.

Observation 2 If such a linear map exists,

then  $T = [Df(a)]$ ,

$$Df(a) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1}(a) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_m}(a) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_1}(a) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_m}(a) \end{pmatrix}$$

is the matrix of partial derivatives.

Based on this observation  $\longrightarrow$

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Definition 2  $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is differentiable

at  $a \in \mathbb{R}^m$  iff :

$\alpha)$   $\frac{\partial f_j}{\partial x_i}(a)$  exist,  $1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n.$

$\beta)$   $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a) - [Df(a)](x-a)}{\|x-a\|} = 0$

We say that  $f'(a)$  is the linear map

$[Df(a)]: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n.$

↑  
matrix  
of partial  
derivatives.

A FUNCTION  $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

IS DIFF AT  ~~$x_0$~~   $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$

$x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$  IFF

$f$  can be approximated (to first order)

by a linear map  $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

near  ~~$x_0$~~   $x_0$ .

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If  ~~$f$  is diff.~~ such a  $T$  exists,

it is given by the matrix of partial

derivatives at  $x_0$ :

$$T = [Df(x_0)].$$

Example

Let  $M$  a  $n \times m$  matrix, and

$$f = T_M: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \quad f(x) = Mx, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^m.$$

Prove that  $f$  is differentiable at  $a \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

→ need to show that there exists

linear map  $T_A: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $A = n \times m$  matrix

such that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{T_M(x) - T_M(a) - T_A(x-a)}{\|x-a\|} = 0$$



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{T_M(x-a) - T_A(x-a)}{\|x-a\|} = 0$$

⇒ simply take  $A = M$  !

Therefore  $f'(a) = [M] = f$

Answer  $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $f'(a) = f$ , when  $f$  is a linear map.

Main Tool:

Theorem  $C^1 \Rightarrow \text{DIFF}$   $\nearrow$   $F = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$

A) Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

$B_r(a)$

(IF)  $\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}$  exist, ( $1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m$ )



and are continuous in a ball  $B_r(a)$ , for some  $r > 0$   
[ i.e. "near"  $a$  ]

then  $f$  is ~~cont~~ differentiable at  $a$ .

B) If  $\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}$  exist and are

continuous everywhere,  $\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j} : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

then  $f$  is differentiable everywhere.

Example

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x, y) = x \sin y$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y) = \sin y$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, y) = x \cos y.$$

Clearly (WHY?)

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous everywhere.

$\Rightarrow f$  is continuous everywhere.

## II. Main Application of Differentiability:

### I) Computing Directional Derivatives.

Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

~~A general idea~~

For  $0 \neq \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,

Definition

$$\partial_{\vec{v}} f(a) := \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + t\vec{v}) - f(a)}{t}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{v}}(a)$$

$$D_{\vec{v}} f(a)$$

provided the  
limit exist.

Geometric Interpretation: Rate of change of  $f$   
in the  $\vec{v}$  direction.

NB preferably  $\vec{v}$  is taken to be a  
unit vector.



Theorem

Assume  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is differentiable at  $a \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

Let  $0 \neq \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  a non-zero vector.

Then  $\partial_{\vec{v}} f(a)$  exists, and is given by the formula:

$$\boxed{\partial_{\vec{v}} f(a) = \nabla f(a) \cdot \vec{v}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a) \cdot v_1 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a) v_2 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(a) v_3$$

Proof.  $f$  differentiable at  $a$ , means

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a) - [Df(a)] \cdot (x-a)}{\|x-a\|} = 0.$$

Let  $x = a + t\vec{v}$ ,  $t \rightarrow 0$ , get:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+t\vec{v}) - f(a) - [Df(a)] \cdot (t\vec{v})}{\|t\vec{v}\|} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{f(a+t\vec{v}) - f(a)}{t} - [Df(a)](\vec{v}) \right) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Leftrightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+t\vec{v}) - f(a)}{t} &= [Df(a)](\vec{v}) \\ &\parallel \\ &\partial_{\vec{v}} f(a) \end{aligned} \quad \parallel \quad \begin{aligned} &\left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a), \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a), \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(a) \right) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &\parallel \\ &\nabla f(a) \cdot \vec{v} \end{aligned}$$

Note If  $f$  differentiable at  $a \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,

$$\partial_{\vec{v}} f(a) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a) \cdot v_1 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a) \cdot v_2 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(a) \cdot v_3$$

DIRECTIONS KNOW ABOUT EACH OTHER!

2) Directions of <sup>greatest.</sup> maximal increase ..

$\vec{v}_+$  = unit vector such that

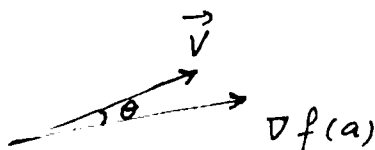
$\partial_{\vec{v}} f$  = maximum

||

$$\nabla f(a) \cdot \vec{v} = \|\nabla f(a)\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| \cdot \cos \theta$$

$$= \|\nabla f(a)\| \cdot \cos \theta$$

maximum if  $\theta = 0$



i.e.  $\vec{v}_+ = \frac{\nabla f(a)}{\|\nabla f(a)\|}$

Direction of greatest increase

Similarly, direction of greatest decrease is

$$\vec{v}_- = - \frac{\nabla f(a)}{\|\nabla f(a)\|}$$

Corollary The greatest possible ~~error~~ rate of change along a unit vector is

$$\partial_{\vec{v}_+} f(a) = \nabla f(a) \cdot \vec{v}_+ = \nabla f(a) \cdot \frac{\nabla f(a)}{\|\nabla f(a)\|} = \frac{\|\nabla f(a)\|^2}{\|\nabla f(a)\|} = \|\nabla f(a)\|$$

Corollary

The greatest possible increase along a unit vector is : ↗ (rate of change)

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{\vec{V}_+} f(a) &= \nabla f(a) \cdot \vec{V}_+ \\ &= \nabla f(a) \cdot \frac{\nabla f(a)}{\|\nabla f(a)\|} \\ &= \frac{\|\nabla f(a)\|^2}{\|\nabla f(a)\|} \\ &= \|\nabla f(a)\| \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a)\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a)\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(a)\right)^2} \end{aligned}$$