

\* Last time: functions of several variables and their visualizations

- Draw graphs and level curves to parts d, e of last exercise
- Last page of Notes from last time
- Emphasize that level curves are easier than graphs!

\* Today: Sections 14.3 & 14.5 of your textbook (skipping 14.2!)

### Partial derivatives

Given a function of two variables, one can consider partial derivatives at a point  $(a, b)$ , denoted by  $f_x(a, b)$  and  $f_y(a, b)$ :

$$f_x(a, b) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h, b) - f(a, b)}{h}, \quad f_y(a, b) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b+h) - f(a, b)}{h}$$

Explicitly, to compute  $f_x(a, b)$ , we set  $y=b$  to obtain a function of 1 variable  $g(x) := f(x, b)$ , and then take the usual derivative of  $g(x)$  w.r.t.  $x$  at  $a$ .

Likewise, to compute  $f_y(a, b)$ , set  $h(y) := f(a, y)$  and compute  $h'(y)|_{y=b}$ .

Ex 1: If  $f(x, y) = \cos(x^2 y) + e^{x^2 y^3 + y}$ , find  $f_x(1, 0)$  and  $f_y(1, 0)$

$$f_x(x, y) = -\sin(x^2 y) \cdot 2xy + e^{x^2 y^3 + y} \cdot 2xy^3 \Rightarrow f_x(1, 0) = 0$$

$$f_y(x, y) = -\sin(x^2 y) \cdot x^2 + e^{x^2 y^3 + y} \cdot (3x^2 y^2 + 1) \Rightarrow f_y(1, 0) = 1$$

Ex 2: If  $f(x, y, z) = z^2 \cos(x + e^z) + e^{xz} \sqrt{y^2 + z^4}$ , find  $f_x(1, 1, 1)$ ,  $f_y(1, 1, 1)$ ,  $f_z(1, 1, 1)$ .

! Here we note that partial derivatives are defined completely analogously by fixing all coordinates, except for the one we differentiate w.r.t.

### Geometric interpretation

If we intersect the graph of the function  $f(x, y)$  with the plane  $y=b$ , then inside this plane we get a graph of the  $f$ -n  $g(x)$ , therefore,  $f_x(a, b) = g'_x(a)$  is a slope of the tangent line to this graph at  $x=a$ .

Likewise, intersecting the graph with the plane  $x=a$ , we get a graph of the  $f$ -n  $h(y)$ , hence,  $f_y(a, b) = h'_y(b)$  is a slope of the tangent line to this graph at  $y=b$ .

## Higher Derivatives

If  $f$  is a function of two variables, then  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  are also  $f$ 's of two variables, so we can consider their partial derivatives as well:

$$\begin{aligned} (f_x)_x, (f_x)_y, (f_y)_x, (f_y)_y &\leftarrow \text{second partial derivatives of } f \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \end{aligned}$$

Ex 3: Find the second partial derivatives of  $f(x, y) = \cos(xe^y)$

$$f_x(x, y) = -\sin(xe^y) \cdot e^y$$

$$f_y(x, y) = -\sin(xe^y) \cdot xe^y$$

$$f_{xx}(x, y) = -\cos(xe^y) \cdot e^y \cdot e^y = -\cos(xe^y) \cdot e^{2y}$$

$$f_{xy}(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (-\sin(xe^y) \cdot e^y) = -\cos(xe^y) \cdot x \cdot e^{2y} - \sin(xe^y) \cdot e^y$$

$$f_{yx}(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (-\sin(xe^y) \cdot xe^y) = -\cos(xe^y) \cdot x \cdot e^{2y} - \sin(xe^y) \cdot e^y$$

$$f_{yy}(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (-\sin(xe^y) \cdot xe^y) = -\cos(xe^y) \cdot x^2 e^{2y} - \sin(xe^y) \cdot xe^y$$

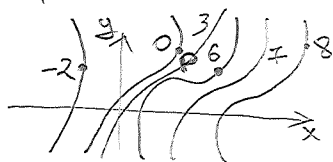
! Note that  $f_{xy} = f_{yx}$  above.

Theorem: If  $f_{xy}$ ,  $f_{yx}$  are continuous, then  $f_{xy} = f_{yx}$ .

Ex 4: Verify that the function  $u(x, t) = \sin(x-at)$  satisfies the wave equation  $u_{tt} = a^2 \cdot u_{xx}$

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} &= -a^2 \cdot \sin(x-at) \\ u_{xx} &= -\sin(x-at) \end{aligned} \Rightarrow u_{tt} = a^2 \cdot u_{xx}$$

Ex 5: Given level curves of  $f$  below determine if  $f_x$ ,  $f_y$  are positive or negative at pt P.



Chain Rule

Let us start by recalling the chain rule from high school

$y = f(x), x = g(t) \Rightarrow y = f(g(t))$  - representing  $y$  as a function of  $t$ .

Then:  $\frac{d}{dt} y = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = f'(g(t)) \cdot g'(t)$  ← Ex:  $y = e^{t^2}$ .

Now, we want an analogous rule in the case when each function involves several variables.

Case 1:  $z = f(x, y), x = g(t), y = h(t) \Rightarrow z = f(g(t), h(t))$  - function of  $t$ .

$\frac{dz}{dt} = f_x(g(t), h(t)) \cdot g'(t) + f_y(g(t), h(t)) \cdot h'(t) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$

Ex 6: If  $z = x^2 + e^{3y}, x = \sin(t^2), y = \cos(t^2)$ , find  $\frac{dz}{dt} |_{t=0}$ .

One way: express  $z$  in terms of  $t$  and then differentiate

$z = \sin(t^2)^2 + e^{3\cos(t^2)} \Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dt} = 2 \cdot \sin(t^2) \cdot \cos(t^2) \cdot 2t + e^{3\cos(t^2)} \cdot (-3\sin(t^2)) \cdot 2t$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dt} |_{t=0} = 0$

Second way:  $\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{dz}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{dz}{dy} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} = 2 \cdot \sin(t^2) \cdot \cos(t^2) \cdot 2t + e^{3\cos(t^2)} \cdot (-3\sin(t^2)) \cdot 2t$  - same expression

Case 2:  $z = f(x, y), x = g(s, t), y = h(s, t) \Rightarrow z = f(g(s, t), h(s, t))$  - function of  $s, t$ .

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

Ex 7: If  $z = \cos x \cdot e^y, x = s^2 + t, y = st$ , find  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial s}, \frac{\partial z}{\partial t}$ .

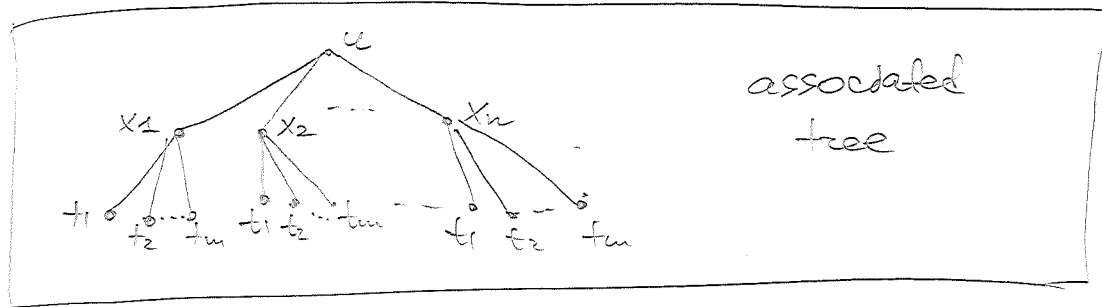
$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} = -\sin(x) \cdot e^y \cdot 2s + \cos(x) \cdot e^y \cdot t$   
 $= -\sin(s^2 + t) \cdot e^{st} \cdot 2(s^2 + t) + \cos(s^2 + t) \cdot e^{st} \cdot t$

$\frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = -\sin(x) \cdot e^y \cdot 1 + \cos(x) \cdot e^y \cdot s$   
 $= -\sin(s^2 + t) \cdot e^{st} + \cos(s^2 + t) \cdot e^{st} \cdot s$

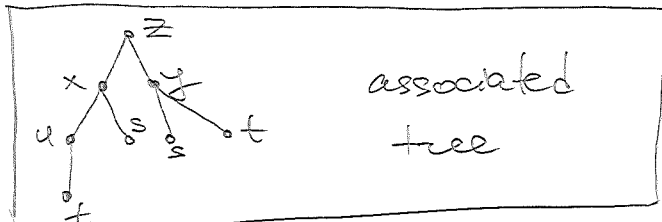
Case 3: Let  $u = u(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $x_1 = f_1(t_1, \dots, t_m), \dots, x_n = f_n(t_1, \dots, t_m)$ .

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t_i} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} \cdot \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial t_i} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} \cdot \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial t_i} + \dots + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_n} \cdot \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial t_i}$$

Ex 8: If  $u = x^2y + y^2z^3$ , while  $x = ze^{s^2}$ ,  $y = \sin(\tau + s) \cdot t^2$ ,  $z = e^{\tau-s} \cdot \cos(t)$   
 Find the value  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial s}$  when  $\tau = 1, s = 0, t = 1$ .



Ex 9: If  $z = e^{x \sin(y)}$ ,  $x = u^2s$ ,  $y = s^2t^3$ ,  $u = e^t$ , find  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial s}$ ,  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial t}$ .



$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = e^{e^{2t} \cdot s} \cdot \sin(s^2 t^3) \cdot e^{2t} + e^{e^{2t} \cdot s} \cdot \cos(s^2 t^3) \cdot 2st^3$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = e^{e^{2t} \cdot s} \cdot \sin(s^2 t^3) \cdot 2e^t s \cdot e^t + e^{e^{2t} \cdot s} \cdot \cos(s^2 t^3) \cdot 3s^2 t^2$$

! Explain how associated tree allows easily to write down the answer.

Implicit differentiation

Suppose  $y$  is a function in  $x$ , which we do not know explicitly, but rather know implicitly via  $F(x, y) = 0$  for a given  $F(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

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$$\text{Then } 0 = F(x, y) = F(x, f(x)) \Rightarrow 0 = \frac{d}{dx} F(x, f(x)) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot 1 + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \underbrace{f'(x)}_{dy/dx}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{-\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}} \Rightarrow \boxed{y' = -\frac{F_x}{F_y}}$$

Ex 10: Find  $y'$  if  $x^3 + e^{2y} = 2x^2y^2$

This is equivalent to  $F(x, y) = 0$ , where  $F(x, y) = x^3 + e^{2y} - 2x^2y^2$ .

$$\text{So: } \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_y} = -\frac{3x^2 - 4xy^2}{2e^{2y} - 4x^2y}$$

Likewise, if  $z = f(x, y)$  and  $f$  is not given explicitly, but rather we have an implicit relation  $F(x, y, z) = 0$ , then we can compute  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ ,  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$  in the same fashion.

$$0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (F(x, y, f(x, y))) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot 1 + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot 0 + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (F(x, y, f(x, y))) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot 0 + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot 1 + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \quad \Bigg\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{F_x}{F_z}, \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{F_y}{F_z}}$$

Ex 11: Find  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ ,  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$  if  $x^3 + y + z^4 = 2 - 3\cos(2x)e^{3y}z$

Rewrite as  $F(x, y, z) = 0$  with  $F(x, y, z) = x^3 + y + z^4 - 2 + 3\cos(2x)e^{3y}z$ .

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{3x^2 - 6\sin(2x)e^{3y}z}{4z^3 + 3\cos(2x)e^{3y}}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{1 + 9\cos(2x)e^{3y}z}{4z^3 + 3\cos(2x)e^{3y}}$$