

14.1, 14.2 Cont'd

Let $z = f(x, y)$. We defined partial derivatives functions denoted:

$$f_x(x, y) = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(x, y)] = z_x = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = f_x$$

$$f_y(x, y) = \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [f(x, y)] = z_y = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = f_y$$

Computing partials algebraically is easy: we consider one variable to be a constant and differentiate with respect to the other.

Ex : Let $f(x, y) = x^3 + 3x^2y + y^2$. Find

$f_x(x, y)$ and $f_y(x, y)$.

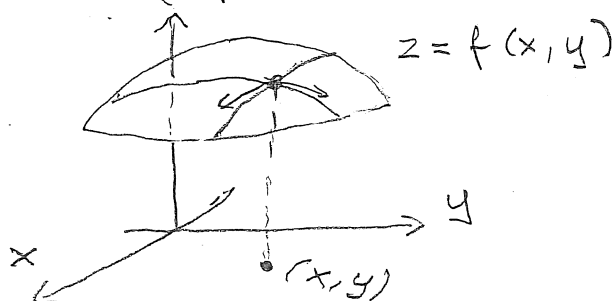
$$f_x(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [x^3 + 3x^2y + y^2] = 3x^2 + 6xy$$

↑ y constant,
take the derivative in x .

$$f_y(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [x^3 + 3x^2y + y^2] = 3x^2 + 2y$$

↑ x constant,
take the derivative in y .

Geometrically, we found slopes of $z = f(x, y)$ in the x and y directions at any point (x, y) :



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Ex: $f(t, s) = t^2 e^{t \cdot s}$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [t^2 e^{t \cdot s}] = 2te^{ts} + t^2 s e^{ts}$$

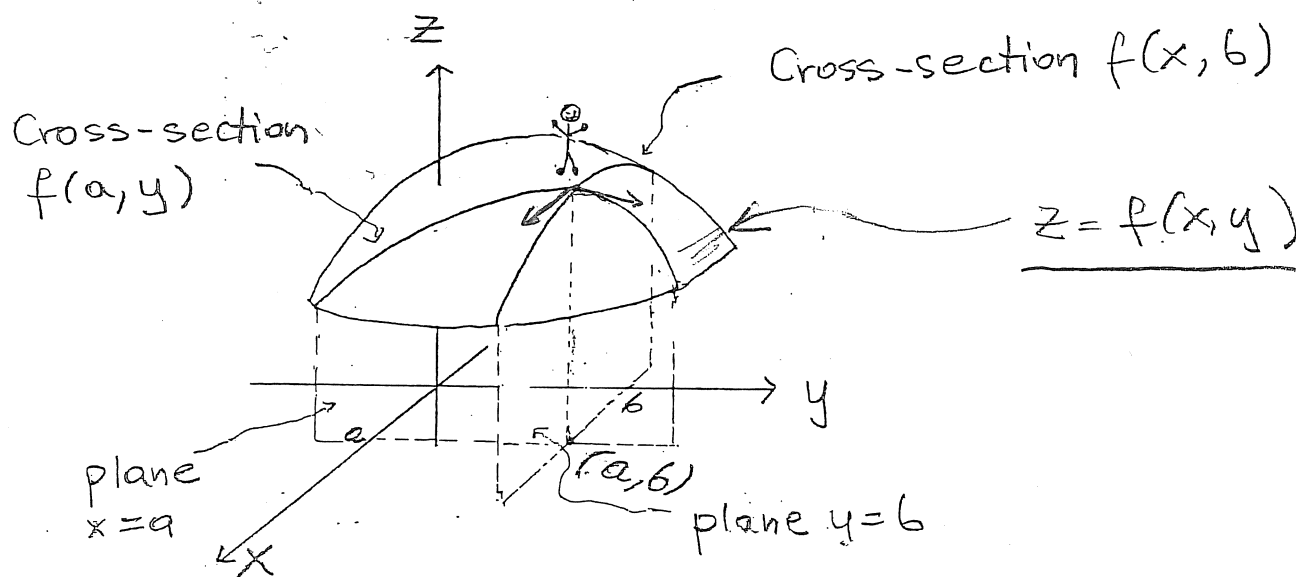
↑ s constant

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} [t^2 e^{ts}] = t^2 \cdot t e^{ts} = t^3 e^{ts}$$

↑ t constant

Practice!

Since partial derivatives are ordinary derivatives of cross-sections, they can be interpreted as rates of change.



$$f_x(a, b) = \left. \frac{d}{dx} \right|_{x=a} [f(x, b)] = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + \Delta x, b) - f(a, b)}{\Delta x}$$

$f_x(a, b)$ $\frac{\text{units of } z}{\text{unit of } x}$ - rate of change of z with respect to x at $x = a$ with y fixed at $y = b$.

Since

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

we can approximate:

$$(*) \quad f_x(a, b) \approx \frac{f(a + \Delta x, b) - f(a, b)}{\Delta x} \quad \text{for } \Delta x \text{ "small"}$$

Often used if we have a contour diagram or a table of values for $f(x, y)$.

All goes the same for $f_y(a, b)$:

$$f_y(a, b) = \frac{d}{dy} \Big|_{y=b} [f(a, y)] = \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b + \Delta y) - f(a, b)}{\Delta y}$$

$f_y(a, b)$ $\frac{\text{units of } z}{\text{unit of } y}$ - rate of change of z with respect to y at $y = b$ with $x = a$ fixed.

$$(*) \quad f_y(a, b) \approx \frac{f(a, b + \Delta y) - f(a, b)}{\Delta y} \quad \text{for } \Delta y \text{ "small"}$$

The approximation formulas (*) give:

$$f(a + \Delta x, b) \approx f(a, b) + f_x(a, b) \cdot \Delta x \quad \text{for } \Delta x \text{ "small"}$$

$$f(a, b + \Delta y) \approx f(a, b) + f_y(a, b) \cdot \Delta y \quad \text{for } \Delta y \text{ "small"}$$

All as in MTH 141 as one variable is fixed.

Ex Suppose that your weight, w , in pounds, is a function $w = f(c, m)$ of the number of calories, c , you consume daily and the number of minutes, m , you exercise daily.

- What are the units of $\frac{\partial w}{\partial c}(c, m)$?
- What is the practical meaning of the statement $\frac{\partial w}{\partial c}(2100, 20) = 0.007$?
- What are the units of $\frac{\partial w}{\partial m}(c, m)$?
- What is the practical meaning of the statement $\frac{\partial w}{\partial m}(2100, 20) = -0.2$?
- Assume that $w(2100, 20) = 120$, $\frac{\partial w}{\partial m}(2100, 20) = -0.2$. Estimate $w(2100, 25)$.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \nearrow \text{lb} \quad w = f(c, m) \\
 \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \quad \quad \nwarrow \text{min} \\
 \quad \quad \text{cal}
 \end{array}$$

$$(a) \quad \frac{\partial w}{\partial c}(c, m) \quad \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{cal}}$$

(With minutes of exercise fixed, how fast is your weight increasing when number of calories increases.)

$$(b) \quad \frac{\partial w}{\partial c}(2100, 20) = 0.007 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{cal}}$$

When you exercise 20 min daily and consume 2100 calories daily, your weight is increasing at the (instantaneous) rate of $0.007 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{cal}}$ if you increase your calories (and keep 20 min constant).

$$(c) \quad \frac{\partial w}{\partial m}(c, m) \quad \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{min}}$$

(With calories fixed how fast is your weight decreasing as you increase minutes of exercise.)

$$(d) \quad \frac{\partial w}{\partial m} (2100, 20) = -0.2 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{min}}$$

When you exercise 20 min daily and consume 2100 calories your weight is changing at the (instantaneous) rate of $-0.2 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{min}}$ as you increase minutes of exercise. In other words, for each additional minute you will loose approximately 0.2 lb.

$$(e) \quad \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{cal}}}{w}(\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{min}}}{2100}, \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{lb}}}{20}) = 120, \quad \frac{\partial w}{\partial m} (2100, 20) = -0.2 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{min}}$$

Given that, estimate:

$$w(2100, 25)$$

$$w(2100, 25) \approx 120 \text{ lb} + (-0.2) \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{min}} \cdot 5 \text{ min} = 119 \text{ lb}$$

Approximately as $\frac{\partial w}{\partial m} (2100, 20) = -0.2 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{min}}$ is

the instantaneous rate at $c=2100$ and $m=20$ and it may not stay constant between $(2100, 20)$ and $(2100, 25)$.

Ex

For Problems (a), (b) refer to Table 9.5 giving the wind-chill factor, C in $^{\circ}\text{F}$, as a function $f(w, T)$ of the wind speed, w , and the temperature, T . The wind-chill factor is a temperature which tells you how cold it feels, as a result of the combination of wind and temperature.

TABLE 9.5 Wind-chill factor ($^{\circ}\text{F}$)

mph \ $^{\circ}\text{F}$	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0
5	33	27	21	16	12	7	0	-5
10	22	16	10	3	-3	-9	-15	-22
15	16	9	2	-5	-11	-18	-25	-31
20	12	4	-3	-10	-17	-24	-31	-39
25	8	1	-7	-15	-22	-29	-36	-44

- (a) Estimate $f_w(10, 25)$. What does your answer mean in practical terms?
 (b) Estimate $f_T(5, 20)$. What does your answer mean in practical terms?

$C = f(w, T)$
 $\nearrow$ wind-chill in $^{\circ}\text{F}$
 $\uparrow$ wind speed in mph
 $\nwarrow$ temperature outside in $^{\circ}\text{F}$

(a) $f_w(10, 25)$

T stays constant at 25°F , wind speed changes.
 The best estimate:

Increasing w : $\frac{2^{\circ}\text{F} - 10^{\circ}\text{F}}{5\text{mph}} = -\frac{8}{5} \frac{^{\circ}\text{F}}{\text{mph}}$

Decreasing w : $\frac{10^{\circ}\text{F} - 21^{\circ}\text{F}}{5\text{mph}} = -\frac{11}{5} \frac{^{\circ}\text{F}}{\text{mph}}$

$$f_w(10, 25) \approx -\frac{8}{5} \frac{^{\circ}\text{F}}{\text{mph}} = -1.6 \frac{^{\circ}\text{F}}{\text{mph}}$$

$$\approx -\frac{11}{5} \frac{^{\circ}\text{F}}{\text{mph}} = -2.2 \frac{^{\circ}\text{F}}{\text{mph}}$$

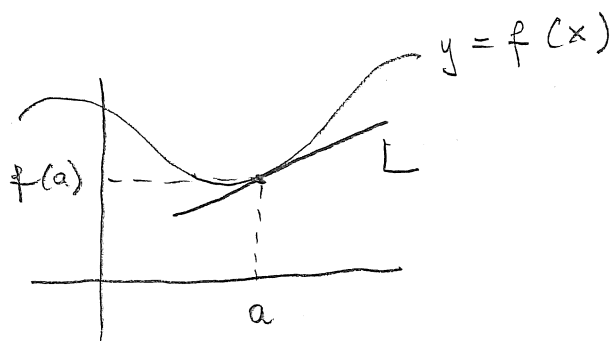
Or average them:

$$f_w(10, 25) \approx \frac{-3.8}{2} = -1.9 \frac{^{\circ}\text{F}}{\text{mph}}$$

Similarly partial derivatives can be estimated for a given function $z = f(x, y)$ from its contour diagram. Do practice problems for 14.1, 14.2!

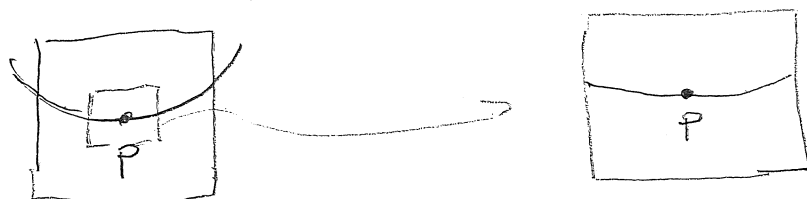
14.3 Differentiability, Tangent Plane, Local Linearization

A function of one variable, $y = f(x)$, is called differentiable at $x = a$ if $f'(a)$ exists which is when the graph $y = f(x)$ has the tangent line at $(a, f(a))$:

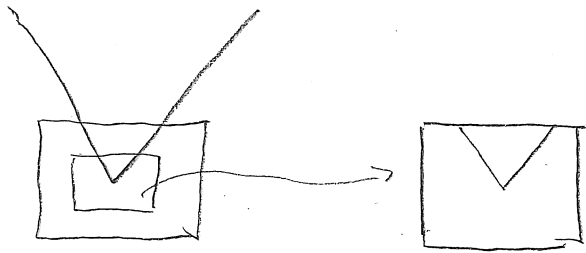


$$f'(a) = m_{\text{tan}}^{(a, f(a))}$$

The tangent line exists if the graph of $y = f(x)$ "flattens" to a straight line when we look at smaller and smaller portions of the graph around the point $P = (a, f(a))$:

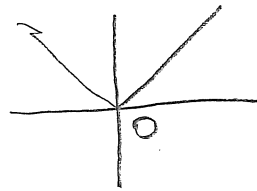


Not every curve around each point "flattens" to a straight line:



Ex: $f(x) = |x|$

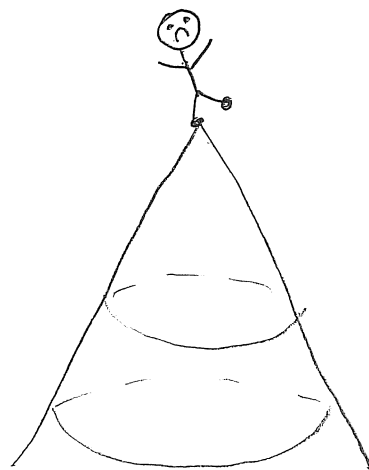
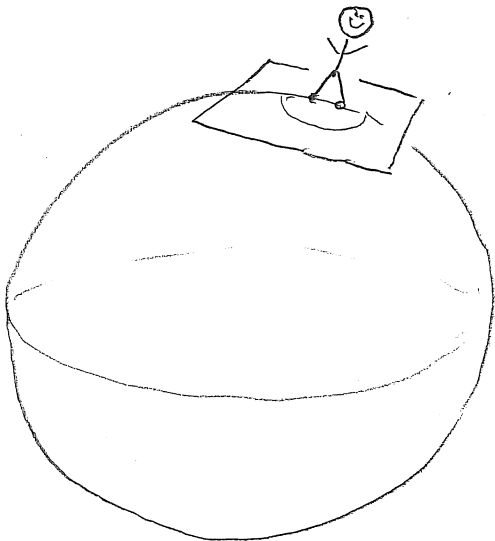
at $a = 0$:



No tangent line.

Curves that "flatten" to straight lines as we look at smaller and smaller portions are called "smooth".

How about surfaces in 3D and graphs of functions $z = f(x, y)$? A "nice", "smooth" surface "flattens" to a plane when we look at small portions of it:

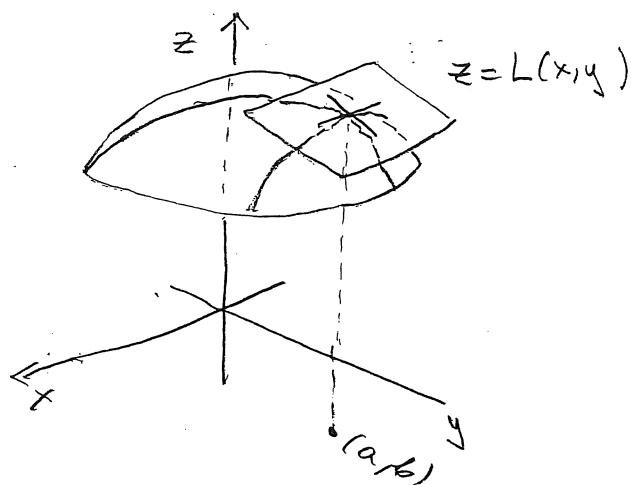


That plane it calls the tangent plane.

Let $z = f(x, y)$, $(x, y) = (a, b)$ be given.

$f(x, y)$ is called differentiable at (a, b) if

$z = f(x, y)$ has a tangent plane at $(a, b, f(a, b))$:



Let's denote by $L(x, y)$ the linear function whose graph

$$z = L(x, y)$$

is the tangent plane.

What is the formula for $L(x, y)$; that is,

what is the equation of the tangent plane?

The tangent lines to the cross-sections $f(x, b)$ and $f(a, y)$ have to be on the tangent plane. Those tangent lines have slopes $f_x(a, b)$ and $f_y(a, b)$. Thus,

the slope of $z = L(x, y)$ in the x -direction is $f_x(a, b)$, the slope in the y direction is

$f_y(a, b)$. The plane passes through $(a, b, f(a, b))$.

Thus the equation of the tangent plane at (a, b) is:

$$\underline{z = f(a, b) + f_x(a, b)(x-a) + f_y(a, b)(y-b) .}$$

The linear function whose graph is the tangent plane:

$$L(x, y) = f(a, b) + f_x(a, b)(x-a) + f_y(a, b)(y-b) .$$

Clearly :

$$f(x, y) \approx L(x, y) \text{ for } (x, y) \text{ close to } (a, b) .$$

$L(x, y)$ is called the local linearization of $f(x, y)$ at (a, b) .

Ex : Find the equation of the tangent plane (assuming it exists) to

$$z = f(x, y), \quad f(x, y) = ye^{\frac{x}{y}} \text{ at } (1, 1, e) .$$

$$z = e + f_x(1, 1)(x-1) + f_y(1, 1)(y-1)$$

$$f_x = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [ye^{\frac{x}{y}}] = \underline{e^{\frac{x}{y}}}, \quad f_x(1, 1) = e$$

$$f_y = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [ye^{\frac{x}{y}}] = e^{\frac{x}{y}} + y \cdot \left(-\frac{x}{y^2}\right) e^{\frac{x}{y}} = \underline{e^{\frac{x}{y}} - \frac{x}{y} e^{\frac{x}{y}}}$$

$$f_y(1, 1) = e - e = 0$$

$$L: \quad z = e + e(x-1) = ex$$

$z = ex$

Since

$$f(x,y) \cong L(x,y) \quad \text{for } (x,y) \text{ close to } (a,b),$$

we have the following approximation formula:

$$\underline{f(x,y) \cong f(a,b) + f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b)}$$

for $(x-a), (y-b)$ "small".

In other words:

$$f(a+\Delta x, b+\Delta y) \cong f(a,b) + f_x(a,b)\Delta x + f_y(a,b)\Delta y,$$

$\Delta x = x-a, \Delta y = y-b.$

Ex: An unevenly heated plate has temperature $T(x,y)$ in $^{\circ}\text{C}$ at the point (x,y) . If

$$T(2,1) = 135, \quad T_x(2,1) = 16, \quad T_y(2,1) = -15,$$

estimate the temperature at $(2.04, 0.97)$.

$$T(2.04, 0.97) \cong T(2,1) + T_x(2,1) \cdot \Delta x + T_y(2,1) \cdot \Delta y =$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \nearrow & & \uparrow \\ \Delta x = 0.04 & & \Delta y = -0.03 \end{array}$$

$$\cong 135 + 16 \cdot 0.04 + (-15) \cdot (-0.03) = 136.09^{\circ}\text{C}$$

The Differential

Let $z = f(x, y)$. We have:

$$f(x, y) \approx f(a, b) + f_x(a, b) \cdot \Delta x + f_y(a, b) \cdot \Delta y$$

Denote

$$\Delta f = f(x, y) - f(a, b).$$

Then:

$$\Delta z = \Delta f \approx f_x(a, b) \cdot \Delta x + f_y(a, b) \cdot \Delta y$$

The infinitesimal version of this formula is called the differential, df or dz , of $f(x, y)$ at (a, b) :

$$df = f_x(a, b) dx + f_y(a, b) dy$$

In general:

$$df = f_x dx + f_y dy$$

Ex: Compute the differential of

$$z = x \sin(xy).$$

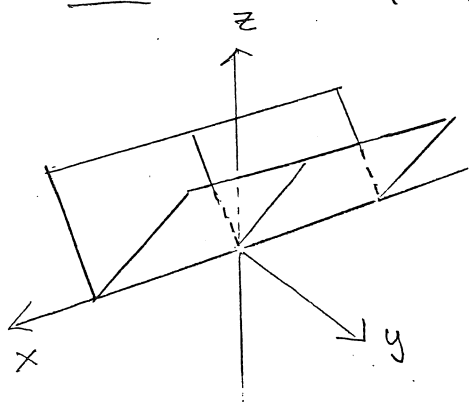
$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \sin(xy) + xy \cos(xy), \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = x^2 \cos(xy)$$

Thus:

$$dz = (\sin(xy) + xy \cos(xy)) dx + (x^2 \cos(xy)) dy$$

When is a given function $z = f(x, y)$ differentiable at (a, b) ? Is it enough that $f_x(a, b), f_y(a, b)$ exist? Not really. Let's look at a couple of examples.

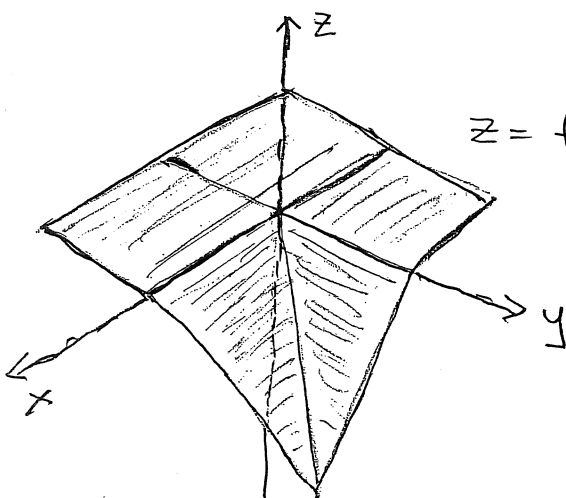
Ex $z = f(x, y), f(x, y) = |y|.$



$f_x(0, 0) = ? \quad f_y(0, 0) = ?$

Look at cross-sections:
 $f(x, 0), f(0, y).$

Clearly, $f_x(0, 0) = 0$, $f_y(0, 0)$ does not exist.
No tangent plane at $(0, 0)$ (or any point $(a, 0)$).
It can happen, however, that $f_x(a, b), f_y(a, b)$ both exist and there is no tangent plane:



$z = f(x, y)$. What about $f_x(0, 0), f_y(0, 0)$?

What about differentiability of $f(x, y)$ at $(0, 0)$?

Differentiability for $f(x, y)$ is a bit complicated.