

Today: 1) Higher derivatives
2) Chain Rule.

Mixed partials are equal:

(Clairaut's theorem)

"it does not matter in what order you do the differentiation" as long as $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is 'smooth enough'.

ex: (the main case):

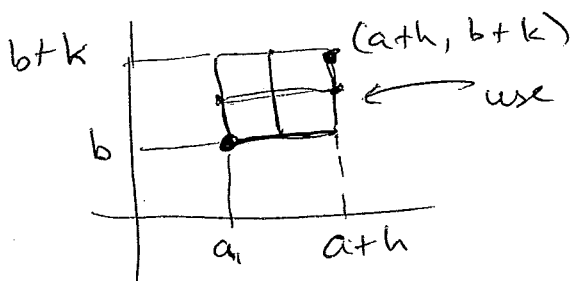
$f(x,y)$ - a function of 2 variables

• $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$, $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ exist and are continuous on a neighbourhood of (a,b)

• $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$ exist and are cont. at (a,b)

$$\text{Then } \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \Big|_{(a,b)} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} \Big|_{(a,b)}$$

Why this theorem works:



h, k - small.

use Mean Value Theorem on this rectangle.

(4 times)

(look at the proof: 12.4).

Example

$$\text{Given: } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = x^2 - 3y + 1 \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = y^2 - 3x + \cos(y) \end{array} \right.$$

Can you find f ?

Using $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$, try to find $f(x,y)$:

integrate w.r.t. x , "keep y constant":
(with respect to)

$$f(x,y) = \frac{x^3}{3} - 3y \cdot x + x + \cancel{h(y)}$$

↑
does not change
w.r.t. x

↙ unknown
function

Now take this,
differentiate w.r.t. y :

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 0 - \underline{\underline{3x}} + 0 + \frac{dh}{dy}$$

$$= y^2 - \underline{\underline{3x}} + \cos(y)$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{dh}{dy} = y^2 + \cos(y)$$

$$h(y) = \frac{y^3}{3} + \sin(y) + C$$

Answer: $f(x,y) = \frac{x^3}{3} - 3yx + x + \frac{y^3}{3} + \sin(y) + C$

↑
it will
help us
get the rsh
 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$.

What if we modified the example :

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = x^2 - 3xy + 1 \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = y^2 - 3xy + \cos(y) \end{cases}$$

Would the same solution work?

Try: $f(x,y) = \frac{x^3}{3} - 3y \cdot \frac{x^2}{2} + x + g(y)$

Plug into the second equation:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \boxed{-3 \frac{x^2}{2}} + \frac{dg}{dy} \stackrel{\text{want}}{=} y^2 - \boxed{3xy} + \cos(y)$$

Cannot find $g(y)$ s.t. $\frac{dg}{dy} = y^2 + \cos(y) - 3xy + \frac{3x^2}{2}$

So the solution to this system of equations does not exist

this depends on x !

We could tell it won't exist, at least "smooth enough"
 $f(x,y)$ could not exist:

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$$

In our example, $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^2 - 3xy + 1) \stackrel{= -3x}{\neq}$

$$\neq \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (y^2 - 3xy + \cos(y))$$

"
 -3y

Note: it's automatically "smooth enough":
our $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$
" "
 $x^2 - 3xy + 1$ $y^2 - 3xy + \cos(y)$ are

continuous everywhere

and their derivatives are continuous

So: we really have no solution here.

Chain Rule (12.5)

Also: Read: 12.6
beginning of 12.8

Recall: $f(g(x))' = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$

Problem: there is a fly in the room, zooms around with coordinates $(x(t), y(t), z(t))$ - function of time

temperature in the room $T(x, y, z)$

What is the change of temp. that the fly is experiencing

$\frac{dT}{dt}$ - derivative of temperature function the fly experiences w.r.t. time?

For the fly, temperature is a function of just one variable - time.

Answer:

$$\frac{dT^{fly}}{dt} = \frac{dT(x(t), y(t), z(t))}{dt}$$
$$= \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{dz}{dt}$$

Why this works (idea of proof).

Recall: linearization (linear approximation)

$$T(x, y, z) \approx T(x_0, y_0, z_0) + \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} \cdot (x - x_0) + \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} (y - y_0) + \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} (z - z_0)$$

at point (x_0, y_0, z_0) ; suppose the fly gets to that point at time $t = t_0$.

(x, y, z)

is close

to (x_0, y_0, z_0)

Let $\Delta T = T(x, y, z) - T(x_0, y_0, z_0) = \text{change of temp.}$
 $\Delta x = x - x_0, \dots$

We have:

$$\Delta T \approx \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} \cdot \Delta x + \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} \cdot \Delta y$$

This knows nothing about the fly.

$$+ \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} \cdot \Delta z$$

(*)

Look at the fly:

$$\Delta x \approx x'(t_0) \cdot \Delta t = \left. \frac{dx}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0} \cdot \Delta t$$

$$\Delta y \approx \left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0} \cdot \Delta t$$

$$\Delta z \approx \left. \frac{dz}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0} \cdot \Delta t$$

Plug this into (*)

$$\underline{\text{Get:}} \quad \Delta T \approx \left(\left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} \cdot \left. \frac{dx}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0} + \right.$$

$$+ \left. \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} \cdot \left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0} \right.$$

$$+ \left. \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right|_{(x_0, y_0, z_0)} \cdot \left. \frac{dz}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0} \right) \Delta t$$

$$\text{Now look at } \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta t} = \left. \frac{dT}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0}$$

Why this is not rigorous: have to worry about how good our approximations were