

From last time: • The linearization of $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ at (a,b) is:

$$L(x,y) = f(a,b) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a,b)(x-a) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a,b)(y-b).$$

- f is differentiable at (a,b) if

[1]. $\lim_{(\Delta x, \Delta y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{f(x+\Delta x, y+\Delta y) - L(x+\Delta x, y+\Delta y)}{\sqrt{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2}} = 0.$

Today: the chain rule.

- Recall: given $\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{R}$ $h(t) = g(f(t))$, we can compute $h'(t)$ in terms of g and f :

$$h'(t) = g'(f(t)) f'(t).$$

- Multivariable set-up

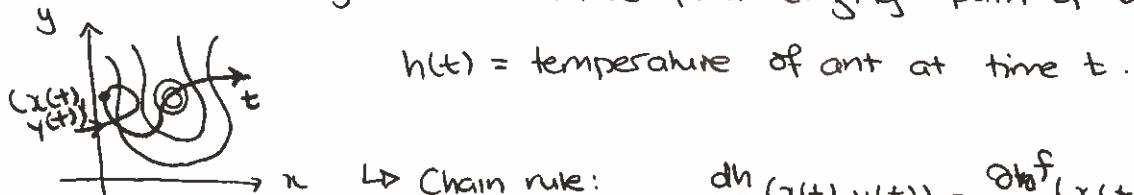
Fix $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (assume differentiable)
 $x, y: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

and let $h(t) = f(x(t), y(t))$, so $h: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Can we calculate $h'(t)$ in terms of x, y ?

e.g. $f(x,y)$ = pos temperature in terms of position.

$(x(t), y(t))$ - curve parametrizing path of an ant.



$h(t) =$ temperature of ant at time t .

↪ Chain rule:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dh}{dt}(x(t), y(t)) &= \frac{\partial h}{\partial x}(x(t), y(t)) \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}(t) \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y}(x(t), y(t)) \frac{dy}{dt}(t). \end{aligned}$$

Sketch of proof:

$$\frac{h(x(t+\varepsilon), y(t+\varepsilon)) - h(x(t), y(t))}{\varepsilon} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{dh}{dt}(t).$$

But also:

$$\frac{f(x(t+\varepsilon), y(t+\varepsilon)) - f(x(t), y(t))}{\varepsilon} = \frac{f(x(t+\varepsilon), y(t+\varepsilon)) - f(x(t), y(t+\varepsilon))}{\varepsilon} + \frac{f(x(t), y(t+\varepsilon)) - f(x(t), y(t))}{\varepsilon}. \quad (*)$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f(x(t), y(t+\varepsilon)) - f(x(t), y(t))}{\varepsilon} &= \frac{g(y(t+\varepsilon)) - g(y(t))}{\varepsilon} \\ &= \frac{g(y(t) + (\underbrace{y(t+\varepsilon) - y(t)}_{\varepsilon'}) - g(y(t))}{\varepsilon} \quad \underbrace{y(t+\varepsilon) - y(t)}_{\varepsilon'} \\ &\quad \downarrow \varepsilon' \rightarrow 0 \quad \downarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow 0 \\ &= g'(y(t)) \\ &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x(t), y(t)). \end{aligned}$$

So $(*) \xrightarrow[\varepsilon \rightarrow 0]{} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x(t), y(t)) \frac{dx}{dt}(t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x(t), y(t)) \frac{dy}{dt}(t)$. \square

Short-hand notation: \downarrow evaluate at t_0 .

$$\cdot \frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}$$

\uparrow evaluate at $(x(t_0), y(t_0))$

$$\cdot \frac{dt}{dt} = \cancel{\frac{dz}{dx}} \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

here $z = h(t)$
 $= f(x, y)$ } not literally the same
 function
 (confusing!)

Example: $x(t) = \sqrt{2} \cos t, \quad y(t) = \sqrt{2} \sin t$

$$f(x, y) = (x+y^2)^2, \quad h(t) = f(x(t), y(t)).$$

Find $\frac{dh}{dt}(\pi/4)$.

Chain Rule: $\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$

\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow
 at $(\pi/4)$ at $(x(\pi/4), y(\pi/4))$ at $(1, 1)$
 $= (1, 1)$
 at $\pi/4$.

$f_x(x, y) = 2(x+y^2) \Rightarrow f_x(1, 1) = 4.$

$f_y(x, y) = 4y(x+y^2) \Rightarrow f_y(1, 1) = 8$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\sqrt{2} \cos(t) \Rightarrow x'(\pi/4) = -1$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \sqrt{2} \sin(t) \Rightarrow y'(\pi/4) = 1.$$

$$\therefore \frac{dh}{dt}(\pi/4) = 4(-1) + 8(1) = 4.$$

Rmk: Also, can write $h(t) = (\sqrt{2} \cos t + 2 \sin^2 t)^2$, so we can calculate $\frac{dh}{dt}$ directly to double check.

[2] Question: let $w(t) = F(u(t), v(t))$.

Assume $u(1) = 0, v(1) = 3, u'(1) = 2, v'(1) = 0$

$$F_u(0, 3) = 1; F_u(2, 0) = -1, F_v(2, 0) = 8.$$

Find $\frac{dw}{dt}(1)$.

§ GENERALIZATIONS.

1) curves in \mathbb{R}^n : $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$x_i: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ for } (i=1, 2, \dots, n).$$

$$\hookrightarrow h(t) = f(x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)).$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \frac{dx_1}{dt} + \dots + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \frac{dx_n}{dt}.$$

2) x, y depend on two variables instead of 1:

$$x: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad y: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

$$(s, t) \mapsto x(s, t).$$

$$\hookrightarrow h(s,t) = f(x(s,t), y(s,t)).$$

$$\hookrightarrow \frac{\partial h}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}; \quad \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}.$$

Example: Suppose $x(s,t)$, $y(s,t)$ are differentiable.

and consider $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Let $h(s,t) = f(x(s,t), y(s,t))$
 $(x,y) \mapsto \cos(x+y).$

② What can you say about $\frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \frac{\partial h}{\partial s}(\pi, \pi)$?