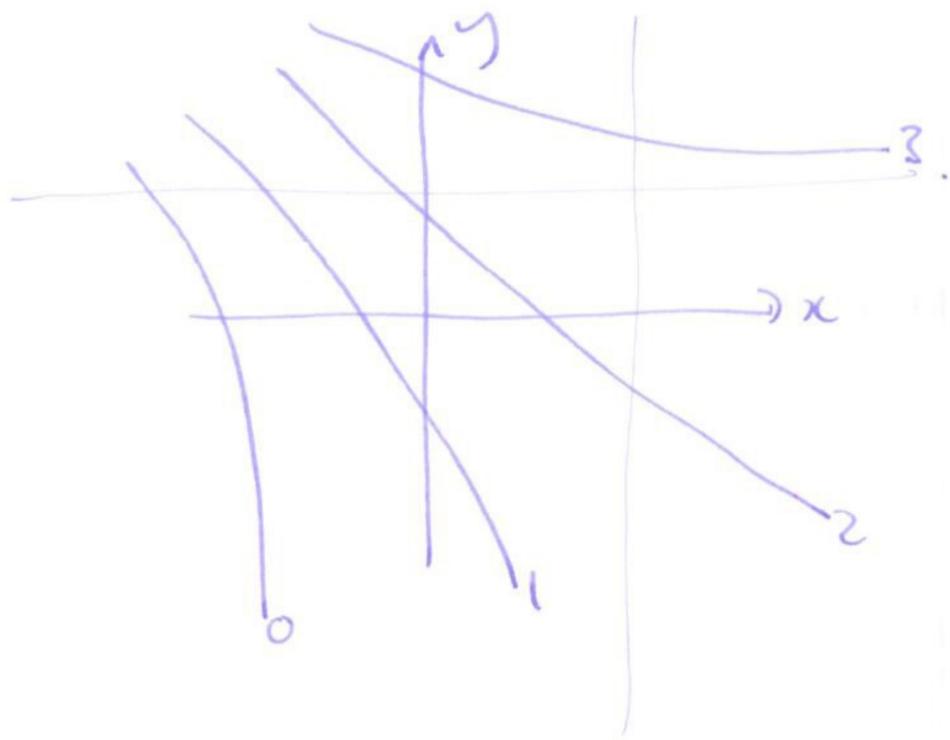


# Interpreting contour maps / level sets of $f(x, y)$ .



$f_x > 0$  (numbers on contours increasing)

$f_{xx} < 0$  (contour lines getting further apart).

$f_y > 0$  (numbers on contour lines increasing)

$f_{yy} > 0$  (contour lines getting closer together)

$f_{xy} > 0$  (contours get closer together in x-direction as we move up in y-direction)

Examples ①  $f(x, y) = x \sin(x+y)$

$$f_x = \sin(x+y) + x \cos(x+y)$$

$$f_y = x \cos(x+y)$$

②  $f(x, y) = \frac{ae^{xy}}{y}$

$$f_x = \frac{aye^{xy}}{y}$$

$$f_y = \frac{yaye^{xy} - ae^{xy}}{y^2}$$

Functions of 3 vars  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   $f(x, y, z)$

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$  "diff wrt  $z$  keeping  $x, y$  fixed".

Example  $f(x, y, z) = xy + yz + xyz$

$$f_x = y + yz \quad f_y = x + z + xz \quad f_z = y + xy$$

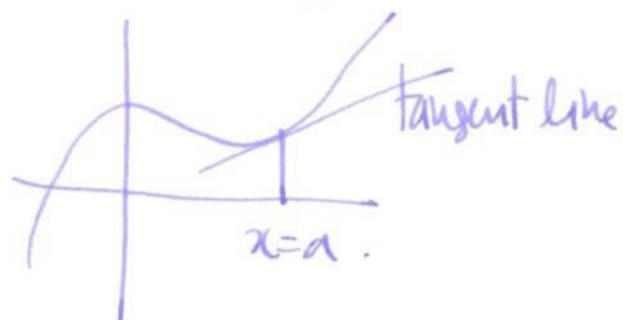
Thm If 2nd order derivatives are cts then mixed partials are equal

i.e.  $f_{xy} = f_{yx} \quad f_{xz} = f_{zx}$  etc.

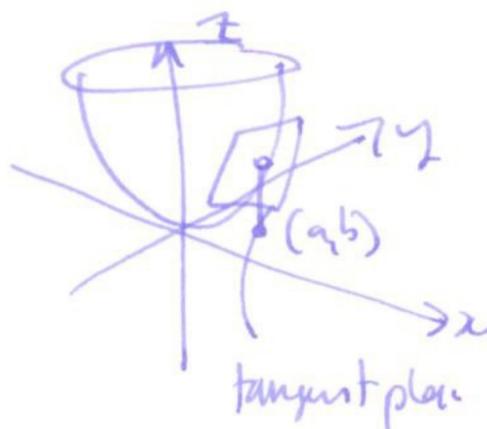
# § 14.4 Differentiability, linear approximations and tangent planes

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

$y = f(x)$



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



linear approximation at  $x = a$

is  $L(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a)$

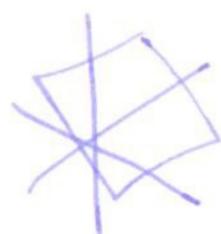
tangent line is  $y = L(x)$

linear approximation at  $(x, y) = (a, b)$

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

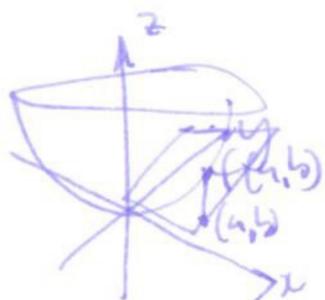
tangent plane is  $z = L(x, y)$

explanation consider plane  $z = cx + dy$



slope in  $x$ -direction is  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = c$

slope in  $y$ -direction is  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = d$



at  $(a, b)$  slope in  $x$ -direction is  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b) = f_x(a, b)$

$y$ -direction is  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b) = f_y(a, b)$

Example find tangent plane to  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$  at  $(1, 1)$

$f(1, 1) = 2$   $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x$   $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2y$  so  $L(x, y) = f(1, 1) + f_x(1, 1)(x - 1) + f_y(1, 1)(y - 1)$

$L(x, y) = 2 + 2(x - 1) + 2(y - 1)$

Defn  $f(x, y)$  is locally linear at  $(a, b)$  if  $L(x, y)$  approximates  $f(x, y)$  to

first order, i.e.  $f(x, y) = L(x, y) + \underbrace{\epsilon(x, y)}_{\substack{\text{any function st. } \epsilon(x, y) \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{as } (x, y) \rightarrow (a, b)}} \sqrt{(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2}$  for  $(x, y)$  close to  $(a, b)$

Problem  $f_x, f_y$  exist  $\Rightarrow f$  locally linear.

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

- $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a,b)$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a,b)$  exist
- $f(x,y)$  is locally linear at  $(a,b)$

in this case the tangent plane is  $z = L(x,y) = f(a,b) + f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b)$

Thm If  $f_x(x,y)$  and  $f_y(x,y)$  exist and are continuous close to  $(a,b)$  then  $f(x,y)$  is differentiable at  $(a,b)$ .

Bad example  $z^2 = x^2 + y^2$  not differentiable at  $(0,0)$

$$z = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} &= \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)^{-1/2} \cdot 2x = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} = \frac{r \cos \theta}{r} = \cos \theta \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} &= \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)^{-1/2} \cdot 2y = \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} = \frac{r \sin \theta}{r} = \sin \theta \end{aligned} \right\} \text{not def at } (0,0)$$

§14.5 Gradient

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

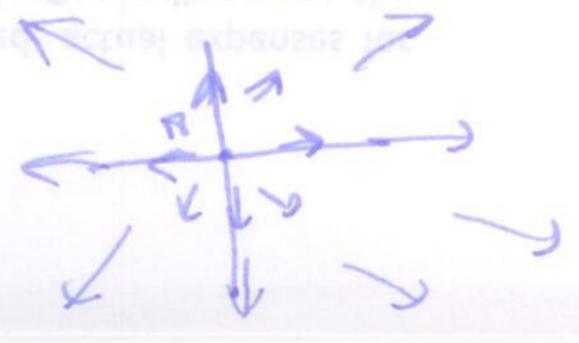
the gradient of  $f$  is  $\nabla f = \langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \rangle$

$$\nabla f(a,b) = \langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a,b), \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a,b) \rangle$$

3d:  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   $f(x,y,z)$   $\nabla f(a,b,c) = \langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a,b,c), \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a,b,c), \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(a,b,c) \rangle$

note:  $\nabla f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  point vector  $\nabla f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  point vector.

key facts: • The gradient vector points in the direction of fastest rate of increase  
•  $\|\nabla f\| =$  fastest rate of increase



Example  $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$   $\nabla f = \langle 2x, 2y \rangle$